swimmers shine at OMPA

By Jon Kingdon

ith the clarion call of car horns blaring throughout Lamorinda last weekend, it could only mean one thing - the 62nd annual Orinda/Moraga Pools Association Championship Meet. With 1,698 swimmers, 600 volunteers and up to 5,000 fans, this is an event that always seems to bring out the best in the competitors with a large majority of the swimmers improving on their best times coming into the meet. There were 476 swimmers that qualified for the county meet to go along with 378 more swimmers who met or surpassed the qualifying times for the upcoming county meet. Soren Jensen who swims for the Orinda Country Club recorded a time of 26.52 in the 15-18 Kate Minden, citing their spirit and commitment to swimming: "They are more than just boys backstroke, which was amazingly 10.39 seconds better than his seeded time.

Kate Rochios, Moraga Country Club (MCC), 13-14 Girls Backstroke start.

For the 18th straight year, Orinda Country Club (4876) came in first, followed by Meadow (3044.5) and Sleepy Hollow (2855.5).

Advertising

Matt Ehrenberger just completed his 25th year as the head coach for Sleepy Hollow appreciates how special this meet is: "My swimmers know that this is not just another meet. This is their Olympics, a culmination of 15 weeks of hard work for them and their team. It's a way for them to confirm that they can be what they want to be. These swimmers have been starting their workouts at 7:30 and it needs to be more than about swimming. It has to do with their team and their teammates."

Ehrenberger highlighted three of his seniors, Christian Meckfessel, Zoe Zabetian and about swimming. Committed and hard workers. They have been solid swimmers all the way through along with impeccable character." ... continued on page A12



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Emergency moratorium on accessory structure setback exemptions adopted By Sora O'Doherty

Photo Sora O'Doherty

t a special meeting on July sory structures pending a study of 31, all five members of the zoning regulations needed to alle-Orinda City Council voted to pass viate a current and actual threat to an urgency ordinance imposing a the public health, safety and wel-45-day moratorium on exceptions fare. The emergency action was prompted by public outcry over

two accessory structures under construction at 71 Meadow View Road, but the action will have no effect on that project because it

was authorized under existing law. Drummond Buckley, director of planning, said that he did not recall a case of similar complaints about an accessory structure in the two years that he has been back working for Orinda. Buckley explained that an accessory structure includes structures that are habitable but are not the same as accessory dwelling units, which are governed by a different section of the municipal code.

Accessory structures were allowed an exemption from the minimum setback for side and rear property lines without street frontage and could be built as close as 5 feet to the property line. For means it has all of the following: accessory structures built within the required setback, the law set the maximum height at 15 feet of any portion within the setback, the maximum size at 400 square feet, and the total of multiple units at 800 square feet. With the moratorium on building with the setback, the other requirements were also removed as they were only applicable to structures within the setback.

Accessory dwelling units, garages, and additions to existing accessory structures to provide new accessory dwelling units must conform to the setback requirement applicable to their zone. According to Buckley, to be an ADU, the structure needs to be an "independent living facility" which

A kitchen, a bathroom, a place to sleep, and direct access to the exterior. To be considered a kitchen, there needs to be a sink, counter and either a 220 volt connection or gas hookup.

The neighbors of 71 Meadow View Road are extremely upset that the owner has gradually progressed his project from an office and a workout room to the current two 400-square foot units that loom over the border fence and have windows looking directly into the bedrooms next door. The owner, the neighbors say, has announced his intention to offer the units as Airbnb, although they say that Buckley has told them that only one unit can be so employed. ... continued on page A6

Civic News A1-A12

to setback requirements for acces-

Fritzky resigns from Moraga Town Council - page A4.

Fire Districts

Concerns raised regarding Indian Valley – page A8.

B1-B8 Life in Lamorinda

CAIFF opens at Rheem Aug. 24 - page B1.



Sports

Strong start at Lafayette Swim Conference Championship page C1.

C1-C4 Our Homes

Feng Shui tips to keep you grounded page D1

D1-D16



Lafayette

Public Meetings

City Council

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

Planning Commission

Monday, Aug. 20, 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

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

Eight school board seats open up in LAFSD and **AUHSD** combined

This November there will be four seats up for election on the Lafayette School District governing board, with three four-year terms open, currently filled by Teresa Gerringer, Suzy Pak and David Gerson and one two-year term, currently held by Rob Sturm who was appointed to the position to replace Mark Kindhouse who left the area in a career move last year.

The Acalanes Union High School District's governing board also has four spots available, with three four-year terms currently held by Susan Epstein, Nancy Kendzierski and Bob Hockett and one two-year term, currently filled by Richard Whitmore who stepped in following Craig Cheslog's resignation in December.

Qualified citizens have until Aug. 10 to file papers. Should one or more incumbents not file, that date will be extended to Aug. 15.

– P. Fisher

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Trial turn restrictions on County Supervisors' agenda

By Pippa Fisher

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n an effort to ease congestion on Reliez Valley Road, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors is expected to place the proposed pilot program for turn restrictions on the Pleasant Hill Road corridor on the Aug. 14 meeting agenda as a strictions were adopted, navigation will be approved without further consent calendar item.

the congestion in their neighborhood, mostly, they say, caused by applications such as Waze would consideration.

Residents of Reliez Valley no longer be able to route com-Road have long complained about muters through Reliez Valley Road during the morning commute.

If the supervisors pass the concommuters "cutting through" from sent item on Aug. 14, the trial pe-Taylor Boulevard. If the signed re- riod for testing the turn restrictions

These restrictions in the county unincorporated areas would be limited to between 7 and 8:30 a.m. on weekday mornings and school buses would be exempted. The trial project would be in place very soon after the vote and would remain in place until the end of the year.

Lafayette celebrates the past 50 years, enjoys the present and looks to the future

By Pippa Fisher



Mayor Don Tatzin walks with the parade.

he "Love Lafayette" slogan seemed particularly apt at the tive Director Jay Lifson was hard party celebrating Lafayette's 50 years of incorporation as a city. In smoothly. It certainly came togeththe sunshine both young families and old-timers enjoyed the joyful celebration but at a meeting beforehand during which many shared memories and thoughts on the city, the recurrent theme seemed to be

The Lafayette Library and Learning Center Community Room was filled to capacity and then some, with people standing and spilling out of the room. Many ex-mayors and current and excouncil members shared memories along with residents, recalling simpler times.

volunteerism.

Many explained that they moved to the city for the schools and relatively affordable housing 50 years ago. Several commented on the world-class restaurants that now line Lafayette's streets. And many spoke of the numerous volunteers within the city - schools, sports as well as city committees and commissions – that contribute to the "virtuous cycle" and make Lafayette a better place.

A few speakers reflected on the challenges facing the city today such as that of affordable housing.

Lafayette resident Fred Ravazzo, who has lived in Lafayette for 84 years, remembered his childhood in the 1930s, being raised by his Italian parents who had moved out to Lafayette from San Francisco to farm, growing tomatoes. "It was wide open country," he said.

When Mayor Don Tatzin gave his closing remarks he got a standing ovation as the crowd showed their appreciation for a man who exemplifies Lafayette volunteerism, having given his time to the city for over 33 years.

Following the indoor gathering came the main event, with booths, live music from Dave Martin's House Party band, a kid zone and a seemingly endless stream of barbecued ribs and chicken from Back Forty Texas BBQ.

er seamlessly but, in the Lafayette way, it couldn't have happened without volunteers. "The city of Lafayette counts

on the chamber to plan and manage community events. This event was a team effort with many of our community partners stepping in and volunteering," Lifson noted. Later a parade featuring a

marching band, horses and even a train made its way from School Street along First Street to the delight of the crowd.

A time capsule, which was filled to ensure a glimpse of Lafavette as it is today, is saved for the future. Proclamations and announcements from Tatzin rounded out the event.

"The goal was to create a speall could remember," Lifson said. ture."



An 84-year resident, Fred Ravazzo, recalls simpler times living in Lafayette.

"Our residents were invited to remind us of the past, celebrate the at work making sure things went cial day, casual and fun, that we milestone and think about the fu-



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Experts discuss state of retail in Lafayette

www.lamorindaweekly.com

By Pippa Fisher



From left, John Cumbelich, Basil Christopoulos, Craig Semmelmeyer, and Steve Cortese discuss the state of retail in Lafayette in front of the city council and planning commission at a packed meeting July 23.

Photo Jeff Heyman/City of Lafayette

Of those stores that remain

meyer said many were problem-

atic, either because of ADA ac-

cessibility or parking issues or

because they may only be quali-

fied to be what they were before,

ed out that the narrow definition

of what can go into a retail space

in Lafayette precludes quasi-

retail operations, such as title

companies, real estate companies and dentists, which means that,

for example, a vape shop goes in

erty is better than a bad tenant.

downtown area has to be some-

pedestrian experience. And all agreed that Lafayette is ideally

Not surprisingly the panel

city codes to relax parking re-

parking. Cortese got a round of

Christopoulos, however, re-

tiate between uses when it comes

the people who move here most

highest priority. "If we allow the

future. Meanwhile residents are

heard on the subject at www.la-

The city plans to continue

In summing up, Mayor Don

All four experts concurred

Cumbelich agreed. He point-

flexible with usage.

That is the state of retail in must be experiential. To do that Lafayette and in the larger the city must bring in high qualregion? What is the cause of all ity tenants. "Tennant mix is evthe vacant stores in Lafayette? erything," Cortese said. And how can Lafayette attract quality businesses to fill them? vacant in Lafayette, Semmel-These were the questions posed to a panel of four commercial real estate experts at the July 23 city council meeting. Their answers touched on several considerations from high quality tenant and he suggested the need to be

mix to convenient parking. The council members joined members of the planning commission to listen to the discussion of these questions moderated by City Planning and Building Services Director Niroop Srivatsa. It was standing room only at the meeting, which brought in residents and business owners from next to a toy store. Christopoulos Lafayette and from farther afield pointed out that an empty propin the Lamorinda area.

The panel included Steve Cortese of Cortese Real Prop- that in order to attract people, the erty, whose notable local projects include the development and where people want to go and management of La Fiesta Square spend time and to that end they and Lafayette Mercantile, Basil recommended creating a better Christopoulos, president of C&H Development Company, whose local properties include the La- poised to create a social environfayette Town Center, John Cum- ment – a village – in a way that belich, chief executive officer of the internet cannot. John Cumbelich and Associates, and Craig Semmelmeyer, found- raised the parking issues in Laer and principal of Main Street fayette and the need to change Property Services.

Srivatsa pointed out that the quirements or to encourage four had a combined 120 years of people to open up their private retail experience.

The four experts agreed that, applause when he said that the overall, Lafayette was positioned city needs a public parking gawell for success based on its ex-rage. cellent demographics and high quality anchor tenants such as minded everyone that full parkgrocery stores, which draw peo- ing lots are actually great for ple back to the retail area several retail. The need is to not differentimes per week.

Semmelmeyer explained that to retail versus restaurant or serthe retail power centers of the vice. mall and the big box stores are the ones suffering today as a re- Tatzin noted that Lafayette's sult of the internet, much more great demographics are driven by than Lafayette, and said there is tremendous opportunity here. often for the great schools – peo-"Today is the time to realize the ple who place education as their

wind is at your back," he said. Cortese however, warned schools to slip, it has ramificaagainst the practice of some tions," he said. landlords who try to fill their spaces without consideration for the retail workshop series in the quality. He pointed out that in a time when anyone can purchase encouraged to make their voices anything online without leaving home, what they need to offer fayettelistens.com.

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Moraga

Public Meetings

City Council Wednesday, Aug. 22, 7 p.m. (Aug. 8 cancelled) Council Chambers and Community

Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Aug. 20, 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

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 now on page A8



Teresa Onoda will not seek re-election

By Sophie Braccini



Teresa Onoda at a 2017 council Photo Andy Scheck meeting

Tice mayor and former mayor Teresa Onoda said that she would not run again for her seat on the Moraga Town Council in the

Nov. 6 general election, indicating that she felt her mission had been accomplished, and that she had other personal matters to attend. town she loves in creative ways.

elected four years ago she had specific objectives such as the passage of updates to the ridgeline and hillside development regulations, the creation of an arts committee, and the opening of an open space passive park at West Commons. All have been accomplished and she says that the good karma she brought to the town would continue to bring benefits in the future.

The plein-air painter says that envisions the creation of clay balls

she will continue to serve the town in creative ways, beyond the confines of the Brown Act that regulates public officials' actions. She She plans to stay involved with the started a group called "We Will" a few months ago, a women-led Onoda says that when she was movement to purchase sculptures to beautify the town, with an eye on revitalization as well.

As she thinks about the future, Onoda remembers the creative think tanks she belonged to in college. "We would meet once a week and generate wild creative ideas," she said, adding that she wants something similar in Moraga. She is already filled with creative ideas. When the rainy season arrives she

infused with wildflower seeds that would be thrown around town to create impromptu displays the following spring; she has already talked to Moraga Police Chief Jon King about adorning the back of stop signs with bird houses or small sculptures; and she would like to start a poetry group that could write poems on sidewalks.

Onoda says that her involvement with town affairs was a unique opportunity and that she was glad she could do it. Onoda hopes her work will inspire others to follow in her civic-minded footsteps. Her passion for the town stays intact - it will just be expressed in other

Jeanette Fritzky resigns from town council

By Sophie Braccini



Moraga Town Council Member Jeanette Fritzky

Photo provided

body of the town a year and a half ago, resigned from her post on the Moraga Town Council for medical reasons at the end of July to focus decide at its Aug. 22 meeting if a on getting healthy.

ballot, noting that the number of plete her tenure, which ends in cally fit and otherwise healthy —

Teanette Fritzky, who was elect-seats up for election was set at this ded to sit on Moraga's highest time and regulations do not permit the addition of a third position on the ballot.

> The four-member council will special election will be called to

2020. Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg indicated in a letter to the town that the council has 60 days from Aug. 22 to decide whether it for a special election.

Fritzky published a letter to announce her resignation in the hopes to make public the ailment that is afflicting her: lung cancer. A lesser-known form of the disease that touches never-smokers has been affecting a growing number of people, especially those of Asian descent. In her letter she wrote that approximately 25 percent of lung cancer patients are lifelong neversmokers, which means that lung cancer in never-smokers would rank as the seventh most common cause of cancer mortality around the world, if considered as a separate category. She added that an in-

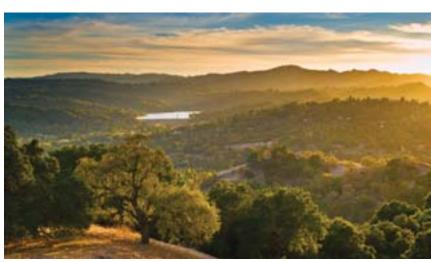
and in women, particularly those of Asian descent, and at late stages of the disease.

Fritzky had symptoms of will appoint a replacement or call coughing for a while that were mistaken as allergies or other ailments. She now has to deal with a diagnosis of stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer. She said that as a result she finds that she no longer has the energy, will, or commitment to apply to her position as council member that she used to revere.

Mayor Dave Trotter, who was very saddened by the news, said that her seat on the council would be replaced in a timely manner. He noted how when Council Member Brandt Andersson of Lafayette resigned, the council then decided to interview candidates and appointed someone to replace him, a process that is much less expensive than Town Clerk Marty McInturf appoint Fritzky's replacement, or creasing percentage of these cases calling for a special election. He said the decision came too late to if the position will be filled by apare diagnosed in younger patients confirmed that the different options put Fritzky's seat on the November pointment for two years to com- — including those who are physi- would be considered at the Aug. 22 council meeting.

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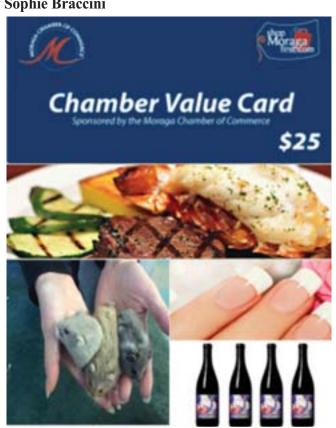


Hacienda Nights Food Trucks & Fun! 8/10 & 8/24



Moraga chamber begins economic development plan roll-out

By Sophie Braccini



Some of the participating businesses on the Moraga value card.

Photo provided

aga Chamber of Commerce at revenue to the local merchants the beginning of the year he an- while providing seed money to nounced several new programs the chamber to support more loto materially support local eco- cal economic development. nomic vitality. The chamber is

Then Bob Fritzky took the puzzle to boost local commerce presidency of the Mor- by bringing more visibility and

The program has initially enrolling out a new value card to rolled 18 local retailers and ser-valid for an entire year. set in place the first piece of a vices that are providing a wide

range of interesting promotions to the owners of the \$25 value card. The card includes classic discounts of 10 to 20 percent at places such as Moraga Hardware and Lumber, Rheem Pet shoppe, UPS Store, Spell-It-Out-Photo, Round Table Pizza, Michael's Ristorante, Captain Vineyards, Osh, Glam Palace, Chef Chao and more; while other retailers offer additional or free service such as a free two-month trial membership at 24 Hour Fitness, a free order of wings at Pennini's, a complimentary beverage at Olivia's Nail Bar, a free safety check with regular service at Moraga Motors, a free 30-minute upgrade for a 60-minute massage at Massage Envy, and free longterm insurance and care consultation service with Karen Lew - New York Life. DocuSign is also taking part, although it is not a Moraga business. It offers both a free consultation and a 20 percent discount to new custom-

Kathe Nelson, the chamber's executive director, believes the card is an excellent value to shoppers, noting that the card is

... continued on page A10

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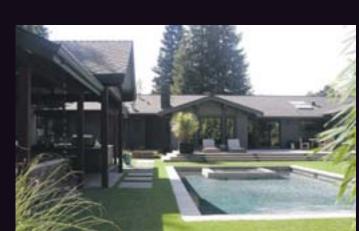
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Orinda

Public Meetings

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

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Aug. 14, 7 p.m. Library Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Citizens' Infrastructure **Oversight Commission**

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

School Board Meetings Orinda Union School District

Regular Board Meeting 8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda www.orindaschools.org See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

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Orinda considers options to fix ongoing parking problems

By Sora O'Doherty

Cal DRE#01805218



Photo Sora O'Doherty

rinda is again trying to solve its parking problems, this time focusing on commuter parking lots, a long-term shuttle program, and residential permit programs. The city council unanimously approved a new \$12,500 contract with Harris & Associates to prepare a report on the proposed in-lieu parking fee and a \$40,000 contract with Park Engineering, Inc. to provide as-needed parking program management. At the same time, the city introduced a parking permit fee and increased parking violation fees for the first time since 2011. Orinda had undertaken a parking study, which concluded in 2016, but failed to lead to action. (See Lamorinda Weekly, June 29, 2016: http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1009/Orindas-Downtown-Parking-Action-Plan-Stalls.html.)

One of the most controversial matters currently under consideration is in lieu fees. Such fees are proposed by staff in circumstances where a development cannot meet its on-site parking requirements. Currently such requirements can

be waived, and sometimes are, but the city lacks the ability to impose a fee in lieu. According to the staff report prepared by Senior Civil Enby Director of Public Works and Engineering Larry Theis, such fees could be put to good use funding alternatives that would themselves improve the parking situation, infor parking lots, shuttle services, and enhanced bike and pedestrian

The city recently started a pilot program of issuing residential parking permits to residents of Brookwood Road, designed to combat all-day BART parking on that street. If successful, the program will be extended to other areas, such as Bates, Davis, Southwood, Northwood and Muth neighborhoods. The problem with such programs is that they might not solve ing. the BART parking problem, just

push it off into other areas. To address the BART parking issue, the city is looking into entering agreements with some local churches, gineer Jason Chen and submitted whose parking lots are underused on weekdays, to allow BART parking for a fee. It is proposed that the fees be divided between the church and the city, and that such facilities be limited to Orinda residents only. cluding acquiring or leasing land Despite the problem of BART parking for Orinda, BART is seeking to increase ridership at its Orinda station, currently the second least used station in the system.

Another significant issue is parking for employees who work in downtown Orinda. An employee parking permit program is under consideration. Other parking measures being considered include creating additional parking spaces in downtown Orinda with low cost efforts, such as signing and strip-... continued on page A10

Public asks city council to agendize gun safety; council agrees

By Sora O'Doherty

now on page A8

Council to put two proposed or- does not go far enough, Ayers said. dinances on an upcoming agenda, ordinance deals with safe gun storgun dealers, although currently there are no licensed gun dealers in during a robbery in October 2016.

Aing Orinda for Gun Safety, drafted by the Giffords Law Center on July 24 asked the Orinda City to prevent gun violence. State law

Carol Brown, president of the council agreed to do so. One the Orinda Union School District board, but speaking as a private citage, the other on the regulation of izen, spoke in support of gun safety. Brown was shot in her driveway

Spaulding who said that with rights come responsibilities, and added that the proposed ordinances were of symbolic importance. Diane Bianchi of the League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley presented the League's positions on the proliferation of hand guns and semi-

fter Elaina Ayers, represent- Orinda. The proposed laws were Several others spoke in support automatic weapons. Co-chairs of of the ordinances, including Tom the Miramonte Parents Club and said she was happy to agendize Lamorinda Pediatrics offered letters of support to the council, and Rebecca Baurer-Kahan, an Orinda unanimously to place the matters resident and candidate for the California Assembly, also advocated for the gun ordinances. She particularly stressed the danger of gun thefts.

Council Member Darlene Gee safe storage and regulation for gun dealers, and the council agreed on a future agenda. The town of Moraga adopted a safe gun storage ordinance last February.

Emergency moratorium

View Road, Gurdip Birdee, con- properties at his expense. "Having urgency ordinance. tacted after the meeting, said that already maximized their building both his side and rear neighbors footprints, these same people now "very responsive," and Buckley was have already taken full advan- want to make it more difficult for at pains to explain that he had had no tage of the 5-foot setback. "The other Orinda homeowners to also ability to refuse the application, as it fascia board of Mr. Pedder's maximize improvements to their met all the requirements of existing house at 73 Meadow View Road properties," he concluded. is only 5 feet from the fence line. The garage wall of Mr. Anjedani's house at 69 Meadow View Road is at the property line," adding that 69 Meadow View was given an easement by the previous owner of Birdee's property to make it easier to enter and exit the garage.

"Had these neighbors not been allowed to build up to the common property line," he said, "they would gues that his neighbors are try- he declared, and said that he hoped

The owner of 71 Meadow ing to preserve space between the that the council would approve the

public appeared at the special meeting, but Gary Johnson was the main speaker. "This should never have happened," he said. "I've lived for 20 years across the street from this project," he added. Johnson described the project: "It looms 15 feet above the fence five feet from the property line." The neighbor's bedrooms, he said, get no light. "If have had more space." Birdee ar- my neightbors did that, I'd move,"

... continued fom page A1

Johnson described Buckley as law. This, he said, made it a min-A number of members of the isterial decision, and not one about which he had any discretion. Kendra Marcus asked for an explanation of a "ministerial decision." This was provided by city attorney Richard Taylor. Some parts of the municipal code set forth explicit requirements, and if an application meets those requirements, the city has no discretion to refuse the application. Other parts of the code set forth objective standards, and in those cases staff have discretion to determine if the application meets the standards.

Mayor Mayor Amy Worth, appearing telephonically, said that there had been no intention for accessory structures to be habitable, but Buckley reiterated that they are allowed to be habitable. For example, he said, you can sleep in a pool house. Worth was also concerned about a limit on the number of structures allowed. The mayor was also concerned about accessory structures in the R6 District. The attorney informed her that a moratorium could be imposed, but not at that meeting because it had not been included on the agenda. Buckley and council member Dean Orr pointed out that the number of structures in R6 would effectively be controlled by the limitation on FAR, the floor area ratio to the size of the lot. In the R6 District, the minimum setback from one side property lines continues to also apply to accessory structures. However, owing to the small lot size in the R6 District, accessory structures are less common.

Although the moratorium is for 45 days, the matter will appear again on an August agenda for further discussion.

Recognitions



Photos by Sora O'Doherty

The Orinda City Council recognized the contribution of the Orinda Association for its work on the Fourth of July parade. Front row, from left: Mayor Amy Worth, Joe Garvey, Cindy Powell, Carlos Baltadano; middle row: Kathy Enzerink, Diane Lautz, Andy Radlow; back row: Chris Laszcz-Davis, Vice Mayor



The Orinda City Council recognized the contribution of the Lamorinda Area Radio Interest Group for its work on the Fourth of July parade. LARIG is a group of two dozen amateur radio volunteers, each licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. LARIG worked its first event at the 2003 Orinda Fourth of July parade when local Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers (including Orinda's Dr. Gene Gottfried), took over a service previously provided by Contra Costa County auxiliary sheriff personnel. Front row, from left: Cathy Dausman, Patti Young, Mary Solon, Dan Lamey; back row: Vice Mayor Inga Miller, Mayor Amy Worth, and council members Darlene Gee and Dean Orr.



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Downtown Development Subcommittee gets ready for action on Streetscape Master Plan By Sora O'Doherty

rinda residents have a lot of mond Buckley, and Victoria Eisen ing Streetscape Master Plan should tracted to complete the Streetscape be researched – so much so that the Master Plan, joined subcommittee Downtown Development Subcom- members Vice Mayor Inga Miller mittee of the city council vowed to and Council Member Eve Phillips hold its next meeting in a bigger for the meeting.

room. Associate Planner Adam

ideas about how the upcom- of Eisen Letunic, the firm con-

www.lamorindaweekly.com

stakeholder groups. Planning has a tween each group. Before the in- will run over into the evening to aclist of 15 groups, updated from the previous interviews with the Urban Land Institute on downtown development. What is envisioned is a five-hour "speed-dating" session, in which 15-minute interviews The first subject for discussion will be held with each stakeholder

terviews, each group will be asked to respond to a questionnaire, so that interviews can be very specific.

Timing was an issue, and after some discussion, it was decided be other public events and lots of that it would be best to hold all the other ways to chime in," she said. interviews the same day, but start Foster, Planning Director Drum- was the planned interviews with group, with a five-minute break be- in the afternoon so that the process

commodate any groups that might be unable to appear during the day. Eisen fielded questions: Do you have to be there? "No, there will

... continued on page A10

Changes at Orinda Chamber of Commerce and Lamorinda Weekly

By Sora O'Doherty



Sophie Braccini

Photo Andy Scheck fter serving as the executive Adirector of the Orinda Cham-

ber of Commerce for the past two

and a half years, Sophie Braccini

is leaving to take up a position with UC Berkeley. Braccini, who on my life. I've met so many dihas been a staff writer for Lamorinda Weekly since its beginning 11 years ago, will leave her duties as civic reporter for Moraga, but will continue to contribute occasional feature stories about life in Lamorinda.

Prior to 2007, Braccini worked in translation, localization and functionality on technical brochures, games, and computer applications, making sure that translations into French were not only literally correct, but culturally appropriate as well. She and her husband raised a son and two daughters, all Campolindo graduates.

"Both jobs had a deep impact of Orinda, and working with City verse and wonderful people," Braccini explained. "I knew some business people because of the stories I wrote for the paper," she continued, "but I now have increased respect for business owners and the challenges they face every day."

The executive director position is the only paid position at the chamber, and its role is to make

businesses more visible. Braccini enjoyed building relationships with other entities, such as Rotary, the Orinda Association, and the Orinda Community Foundation. She particularly enjoyed her role as an advocate to the city Manager Steve Salomon, whom she describes as "an individual of great quality."

"As a resident of Orinda, I appreciate the time that (Sophie has) spent keeping residents informed about everything that is going on in our cities/towns, and I have especially always enjoyed (her) coverage of the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority and all things concerning recycle/ reuse and garbage," said former Orinda Mayor Victoria Smith. "As a member of the Chamber, I thank (her) for all that (she has) done to make our community vibrant and informed, and to really

build a sense of community in Orinda."

Orinda Chamber President Roy Hodgkinson said that Braccini "has expanded the services to our Chamber member businesses, their owners, staff, and families with initiatives such as the Non-profit Forum, Senior Health Fair, and through her strong relationships with the city of Orinda."

While Braccini notes that she will miss her job and the people she's been interacting with, she is excited to try something new. Anyone interested in the job of executive director should contact Hodgkinson at president@orindachamber.org for more information.

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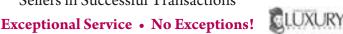
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Fire Districts

Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire **District** Board of Directors Wednesday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m. Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas. Visit www.mofd.org

ConFire Board of Directors Tuesday, Sept. 18, 1:30 p.m. Board Chamber room 107, Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez For meeting times and agendas visit http://alturl.com/5p9pu.

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

Indian Valley safety concerns frustrate Canyon residents

By Nick Marnell



Photo Andy Scheck

anyon residents flocked to the July 18 Mor-locked. aga-Orinda Fire District board meeting to speak out against the proposed Moraga development at Indian Valley, many arguing that the district is recommending an unsafe fire access road that enters the development too close to its

Indian Valley is a planned 71-home subdivision located off of Canyon Road in Moraga, north of the Valle Vista Staging Area and near the community of Canyon. The Indian Valley application was submitted to the town in December 2016, and the application for the conceptual development plan is under review, according to Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg.

Fire Chief Dave Winnacker said that the district has provided comments on the conceptual design of Indian Valley, including the access road requirements. He referenced a Feb. 1 letter from Fire Marshal Kathy Leonard to the Moraga acting planning director in which Leonard explained that the conceptual design of the development had one public road and an emergency vehicle access road as a second entrance at the access road entrance to the development." into the project, but that the EVA was gated and Other residents urged the Indian Valley develop-

"Locked gates slow fire agency response times and force residents to have only one way out if they have to evacuate," Leonard wrote. She recommended the elimination of the EVA for a road with no gates or locks that can be used by either the public or by responders. The access road Leonard recommended lies about 100 feet from the main entrance to the development, as the district determined that other possible locations for the access road were unsafe.

But Canyon residents complained that the second proposed access road should be separated from the entrance by approximately 0.6 miles, citing their interpretation of the fire code. "The plan approved by MOFD has these two access points very close together and this compromises safety," said community resident Jonathan Goodwin. "One disruption could block both access points and entrap residents while preventing ingress of emergency personnel."

"Canyon Road is very unsafe," added another community resident. "There is a blind curve er to add an access road on the far north side of the canyon or to consider reducing the number of housing units to 25, obviating the need for a second access road.

"If the development cannot be built safely, it should not be built at all," Goodwin said.

Winnacker stood by the recommendation of his fire marshal: The development requires two fire apparatus access roads, plus other mitigation efforts including a dedicated water supply, hydrants outside and within the project, paved code-compliant roads, risk-reducing vegetation management and fire-resistive construction. Winnacker said those requirements have been submitted to the town.

"Our requirements as applied will result in the development being as safe as it can be," Winnacker said.

Indian Valley remains a long-range project for the town. "My best guess is, we're looking at a year, maybe two, before this thing gets anywhere close," Moraga Council Member Kimberleigh Korpus told the MOFD board. Korpus said that the next step is the preparation of an environmental impact report.

Work progressing on Lafayette Fire Station 16, March opening still planned By Nick Marnell



Workers prepare fire station pad for underground utilities in this late July photo. Retaining wall is at left.

Photo courtesy Steve Hill, ConFire

he construction site may not appear to be a buzz of activity, but a Contra Costa County Fire Protection District official assured Lafayette residents that work on Fire Station 16 is moving along on schedule.

Since the district mitigated the removal of two protected oak trees on the site this spring, no major problems have unfurled, and only minor change orders have been approved, according to Assistant Fire Chief Aaron McAlister. One additional tree was targeted as a potential problem near the foundation, but the chief said a final decision on whether to remove that tree will not drag out new facility in March. the project.

A large retaining wall was completed on the south side of the station site, and work is now being done on the pad foundation, which lies at one height for the building and at a lower height for the apparatus bay. "It's the hardest pad I've ever run into," said a construction worker at the end of July. "And that's what you want."

McAlister said that the workers will next put in the underground utilities, and that a permanent foundation will be poured in the middle of August.

The chief said that the district still expects to open the

Moraga Police Dep	partment Incident Summary	Civil	900 Block Country Club Dr.	Medical Hospital	1100 Block Larch Ave.
Report July 3 to Ju	uly 8		20 Block Sarah Ln.	Mentally Ill Commit	50 Block York Pl.
Alarms	18		Campolindo High School	Ordinance Violation	300 Block Rheem Blvd.
911 Calls (includes har	ng-ups) 6	Disturbance-Domestic	200 Block Fernwood Dr.		20 Block El Camino Flores
Traffic	86		10 Block Josefa Pl.	Other Misdemeanor	200 Block Scofield Dr.
Suspicious Circumstan			1300 Block Camino Peral		Larch Ave./Canyon Rd.
Suspicious Subject	5	Dui Misd	Moraga/Buch.	Other Non Criminal	300 Block Rheem Blvd.
Suspicious Vehicle	3	Excessive Speed	Rheem Blvd./Fernwood Dr. (3)	Petty Theft From Veh	50 Block Rick Ct.
Service to Citizen	47		Rheem Blvd./St. Mary's Rd. (2)	Public Assembly Check	St. Marys College (3)
Patrol Request/ Security		Found Adult	Sanders Dr./Canyon Rd.	Reckless Driving	Canyon Rd./Larch Ave.
Vacation House Check		Found Property	Police Department	Traffic Hazard	Rheem Bumoraga Rd.
	11	Hailed By Citizen	Campolindo High School		600 Block Moraga Rd
Supplemental Report	11	Juvenile Disturbance	Hacienda		Moraga Rd./Via Granada
Welfare Check	4	Lost Property	Rheem Theater	Uncontrollable Juvenile	Campolindo High School
Animal Cruelty	Rheem Valley Shopping Center	Loud Music	Campolindo High School	Unwanted Guest	30 Block Freitas Dr.
	Homegoods		1200 Block Rimer Dr.	Verbal Dispute	10 Block El Camino Flores
Beat Info	Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.	Loud Noise	El Camino Flores/Baitx Dr.	Warrant Arrest	200 Block Corliss Dr.
Child Molest	Pd Mor Police Department	Loud Party	Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.		Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.
Orinda Palias Dan	artmant Incident Summary	Found Property	San Pablo Dam Rd /Bear Creek Rd		Kittiwake Rd /Manzanita Dr

Cilila Molest	ra wor ronce Department	Loud Party	Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.		Moraga way/Ivy Dr.
Orinda Police Dep Report July 15 to	oartment Incident Summary July 28	Found Property	San Pablo Dam Rd./Bear Creek Rd. Orinda Country Club		Kittiwake Rd./Manzanita Dr. Tumbling Brook Rd./Vista Del
Alarms	65	H&S/Poss Of Contr Sub	First Republic Bank	Orinda	
911 Calls (includes ha		Hailed By Citizen	50 Block Moraga Way	Panhandling	Camino Pablo/Eb 24 Off
Traffic	80	Hit And Run Misdemean	or Camino Pablo/Eb Sr 24	Petty Theft	Safeway (2)
Suspicious Circumstan			10 Block Camino Sobrante	Petty Theft From Vehicle	200 Block Glorietta Blvd.
Suspicious Subjects	11		Europa Hofbrau	Public Assembly Check	10 Block Camino Sobrante (5)
Suspicious Vehicles	14	Indecent Exposure	50 Block Oakwood Rd.	Public Nuisance	Camino Pablo/Miner Rd.
Patrol Request/ Securit		Juvenile Disturbance	El Ribero/Camino Sobrante	Reckless Driving	Miramonte High School
Service to Citizen	59		Glorietta Elementary School		Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd. (2)
Supplemental Report			Glorietta Blvd./Rheem Blvd.		30 Block Spring Rd.
Vacation House Check		Loud Noise	Safeway		500 Block Moraga Way
Welfare Check	9		Scenic Dr./Orchard Rd. (3)		Wilder Blvd./Eb Sr 24
Accident Property	80 Block Moraga Way		100 Block Hillcrest Dr.		Moraga Way/Brookside Rd.
Accident Property	Camino Pablo/Brookwood Rd.		10 Block Martha Rd.	Traffic Hazard	Rheem Blvd./Moraga Via
	Miramonte High School		10 Block Wildwood Rd.		Las Vegas Rd./St Stephens Dr.
	400 Block Moraga Way		Brookside Rd./Orchard Rd.		100 Block Glorietta Blvd.
Attempt	200 Block Glorietta Blvd.		10 Block Crest View Dr.		10 Block Camino Sobrante
Auto Burglary	CVS		50 Block Berkeley Av		Camino Pablo/Eb Sr 24
Tuto Burgiary	Orinda Theater	T 1D :	Safeway	T. 65. G.	Orinda Park Pool
	Wilder Sports Fields	Loud Party	Monte Vista Ridge Rd./Monte Vista	Traffic Stop	St Stephens Dr./Tahos Rd.
	60 Block Moraga Way	Medical Hospital	Orinda Community Center	Trespass W/ Vehicle	500 Block Bear Creek Rd.
Civil Problem	50 Block Monte Vista Rd.		10 Block Mariposa Ln.	Vandalism	Theatre Square (2)
Conspiracy	Sr 24 At Fish Ranch Rd.		10 Block Altarinda Rd.	Vanland Diamento	60 Block Moraga Way 20 Block Knickerbocker Ln.
Death Non Criminal	10 Block La Noria	Missing Adult	Safeway Bank Of America	Verbal Dispute	10 Block De Soto Ct.
Disturbance-Domestic	60 Block Sunnyside Ln.	Occupied Stalled Vehicle			Police Department
	70 Block Van Ripper Ln.	Occupied Statied Vehicle	Orinda Way/Camino Pablo	Violation Dom. Viol. Ord	*
Disturbing The Peace	70 Block El Toyonal	Ordinance Violation	Safeway	Walk Through	Theatre Square
Drunk In Public	60 Block Moraga Way	Ordinance violation	Overhill Rd./Scenic Dr.	Warrant Arrest	10 Block Hillcrest Dr.
Dui Misdemeanor	Miner Rd./Brookbank Rd.		100 Block Hillcrest Dr.	wanan Anest	Bryant Way/Davis Rd.
Fireworks	Fern Way/Monte Veda Dr.		10 Block Monterey Terrace	Warrant Service	30 Block Zander Dr.
			To Block Monterey Terrace	warrant Scrvice	JU DIOCK Zander DI.

www.lamorindaweekly.com Miner Road closure to end Aug. 10 after problem vegetation removed



PG&E electrical lines along Miner Road are highlighted in yellow. Photo courtesy City of Orinda

o outline a vegetation removal mental impact review. project along Miner Road, the city of Orinda held a July 26 neighborhood meeting that included representatives from Pacific Gas and negative feedback from the com-Electric Co., the city and the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. PG&E and the city explained that 110 trees needed either pruning or removal along the road in order to maintain a safe distance from electrical power lines and to provide adequate clearance for emergency vehicles.

At the meeting, not one neighbor complained about removing the trees, all located on private property. Not one neighbor threatened to sue the utility or the city. Not one neighbor objected that the project out of north Orinda." was approved without an environ-

Mainly because not one neighbor showed up.

"We have received very little munity," said Larry Theis, Orinda director of public works and engineering, noting that the city had done extensive outreach explaining the need for the project through council meetings, signage and social media.

MOFD Fire Chief Dave Winnacker concurred. "People have gone out of their way to assure me that this is a benefit to their community," the chief said. "It's a big help for us to secure these routes

According to PG&E represen- removal.

tative Matthew McLain, a contractor will prune 84 trees along Miner Road and remove 26 of them. The work began Aug. 6 at the top of Miner and required the closure of the road. McLain said the company will finish the job by Aug. 10.

"After this, we will be done in Orinda," McLain said.

Theis said that because the paving of Miner Road will begin in the fall or next spring, the problem vegetation needed to be removed so that the construction work could be safely completed. The city also required that the work end before the start of school.

The city received no compensation from PG&E for the vegetation

Highway 24 gridlock: Why no local notifications or traffic control?

By Nick Marnell



The reason for the major congestion

Photo courtesy KTVU single vehicle accident on police officer attempted to con-Highway 24 near the Orinda duct a traffic stop near St. Stephens BART station on July 21 caused a Drive. As the officer approached traffic standstill on the westbound the vehicle, it sped off and entered freeway, with local residents comwestbound Highway 24; the car plaining about two-hour delays to was later found wrecked on the drive between Pleasant Hill and freeway. One occupant died, the other was arrested and is being held Orinda, gridlock on downtown Lafayette streets and no traffic control at the Martinez Detention Facility. on either the highway or the on-off The incident remains under investi-

According to the Contra Costa The California Highway Patrol County Sheriff's Office, at 9:02 cited the accident investigation as that Saturday morning an Orinda the main reason for the traffic con-

gestion. "So many steps have to be traffic control on the highway. "For lied on the Sigalert, did not issue taken and followed," said CHP officer Brandon Correia. "The Sheriff's Office had to conduct quite a large investigation and collect evidence and photos. In some cases, such as this, we have to shut the freeway down to preserve the scene and all evidence."

The freeway stayed clogged for nearly six hours, with traffic funneled from five lanes to one at the Camino Pablo exit. Orinda and Lafayette residents received no alerts on Nixle, a community notification service provided by public agen-

Correia said the CHP does not use Nixle, but neither did the Orinda or Lafayette police departments. "The city of Orinda or Orinda Police do not do Nixle alerts for the CHP," said Mark Nagel, Orinda chief of police. "This occurred in their jurisdiction. I know it was in Orinda, but all of the traffic matters fell to the CHP."

freeway control, we don't stand on the road and hand direct traffic," Correia said. "We use our cone patterns, flare patterns, and patrol vehicles' emergency lights to direct traffic." Nagel said that his officers were removed from the scene, per protocol. "CHP was on scene and incident," Nagel said.

The brunt of the congestion occurred in Lafayette, especially on the downtown streets. The CHP issued a Sigalert, a notification of a major traffic incident, but Correia said that the CHP did not expect the high level of traffic activity in the city or on the on-off ramps to the freeway. "I'm not sure if it was communicated to Lafayette Police how much of a backup from the on-off ramps was created into their city and what they could have possibly done or not done to assist with that," Correia said.

Which explains why Lafayette Nor was there any apparent Police Chief Ben Alldritt, who re-

a local Nixle notification. "But I will next time," Alldritt said. "It was a lesson learned by me about people's expectations."

Orinda officials also pledged to review their incident notification procedures. "We are aware of the issue, and the police chief and I doing traffic control for the entire are working on a way to better notify residents," said City Manager Steve Salomon.

> Fire and medical responses in Lamorinda were not affected that day. The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District had no involvement with the incident, and the traffic had no impact on other responses that day, according to a district spokesman. And the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, the responding agency to the traffic accident, experienced no adverse impacts because of the congestion. "We always have the ability to respond," said MOFD Chief Dave Winnacker.





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Friday Night Pre-Party, September 7th, 5:30pm

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These events benefit the Seniors Around Town transportation program, Educational Foundation of Orinda and other local charities. We would like to thank our partners for helping make these events happen: Orinda Association, Rotary Club of Orinda, Orinda Historical Society Museum, Orinda Community Foundation, Orinda Chamber of Commerce, EFO, Lamorinda Arts Council and Seniors Around Town.

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Moraga chamber ... continued from page A5 Vanessa Schneider, who recently per card will go to the chamber

the Rheem Shopping Center, explains that she first heard about the chamber and the program at the community fair where she had the community.

tronic version so people do not have to remember to bring the card with them. Lynn McAuliffe with Champagne Design has pro- as well as the chamber. vided the development for the electronic card as well as all the chased at 5A Rent-A- Space, graphic work for the program pro Moraga Country Club or Rheem bono, Nelson says.

Nelson explains that the \$25 moragachamber.org.

opened Olivia's Nail Salon in to help with its bottom line. The "war chest" will also serve as seed money for other plans. The chamber will initiate a study with Saint Mary's College MBA stua booth and decided it would be dents to analyze the needs and a good way to both promote her propose a vision for developing new business and contribute to the Rheem Theatre. The chamber is also offering other economic The chamber is managing the development services by granting card and will soon offer an elec- of money to business owners who want to update their storefronts. Nelson explains that funds will come from larger local businesses

The \$25 card can be pur-Valley Pet Shoppe, or online at

Parking plans moving ahead

For example, more parking could Latimer also opposed the in-lieu be made available by creating angle parking at the south end of Orinda Way in the Village District.

Sophie Braccini, executive director of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, said that the chamber staff and found it very pragmatic. Heidi Heidenriech Habestzer was against the in-lieu fees. Rachelle

fees and had great concerns about letting employees park in residential neighborhoods, and Owen Murphy was concerned about inlieu fees as well.

"Why? Why now? Who is pushwas encouraged by the approach of ing for this?" he asked, adding that the primary beneficiary appears to be developers. On the other hand, Council Member Darlene Gee

wondered why the proposed in-lieu fees are so low. She also wondered why there was a new parking study when the Streetscape Master Plan study was under way and how they would interact. Council Member Dean Orr wanted to make it clear that if Orinda opens church parking lots the program must be limited to Orinda residents only.

... continued fom page A6

Downtown Development Subcommittee

... continued from page A7

In addition to the big public events, Eisen said, the firm will be at the farmers' market, the food truck night, and other smaller events to engage with the public. Right now, Eisen added, the firm is reviewing older documents and creating bulleted lists in preparation for its briefing book that will offer maps, charts and narrative about downtown Orinda. Eartha Newsong and Kay Jenkins were concerned about how Eisen Letunic would get the input of seniors and disabled persons. Newsong suggested that Eisen contact Seniors Around Town for how best to gather input from seniors, some of whom may be housebound. There are also about six city commissions and committees whose input will be sought. The Parks and Recreation Commission scheduled a meet-

ing regarding the plan on Aug. 8

the planning commission as well. CZ Turner, chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission, said that some of the things under discussion are already being done by his cess. commission. Buckley and Foster will attend those meetings. Ted Urban, a member of the Art in Public Places committee, summarized the four steps for the Streetscape Plan: 1) get input from the public; 2) go to meetings of the committees and commissions to get their input; 3) the matter appears before the planning commission; and 4) the matter returns to the city council for ac-

Urban raised another issue: the scope of the project. He wondered why zoning and land use were not included. Phillips explained that one of the things that came out of the ULI study was the idea that 30

and the matter must come before years of trying to do something big hadn't worked, so the approach should be to do smaller things that might actually work, which can help to establish trust in the pro-

> Orinda Chamber of Commerce president Roy Hodgkinson said the chamber is receiving questions about the project, such as, why is this project a priority? And why is it being done now? He urged public relations and marketing, along with civic engagement, to reach an agreed upon five-year plan.

> Miller explained that the city has received a grant for this project that needs to be used in a timely manner and Tom D'Amato agreed with the approach of trying to get something done, even if everything can't be accomplished.

> He urged, "Don't let perfect



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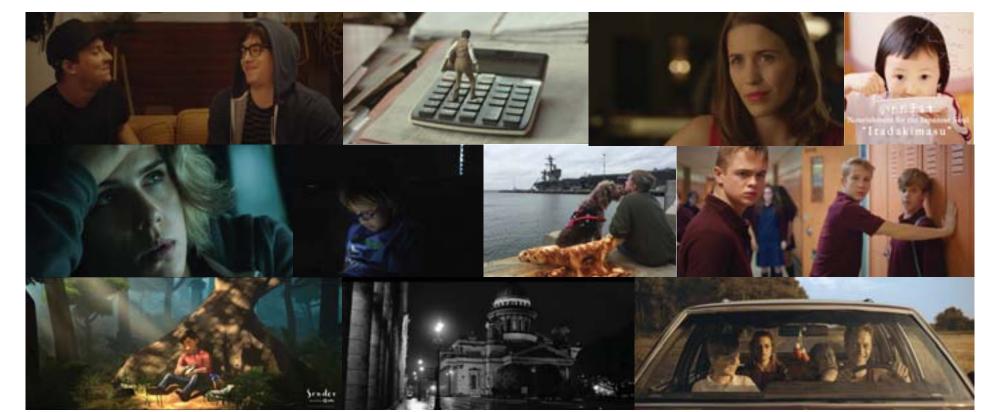
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Letters to the Editor

Teen drinking

May 23 of 2019 will mark the 10year anniversary of the tragic death next unlucky teenager? I certainly of Joseph Loudon at a teen party that involved underage drinking. For those who still remember, Joseph Loudon was a much-loved teenager who played three team sports and had a 3.8 GPA. After the tragedy, the summer of 2009 were the darkest months in Orinda a good chance they will host a teen where there were lots of grief, sadness, finger pointing and law suits. However, how quickly did the teenagers and parents forget? Everyone has moved on, and teenagers are back to hosting or attending teen parties whenever parents are out of town. My own son did just that, and I only found out because your teenagers the chance to bethe police were called. However, come the next victim, don't leave there was no police report, no in- them home unsupervised. I cervestigation on how underage kids tainly learned my lesson. Even for get access to alcohol, and bottom teenagers going to a party, parents line was no one was in trouble. I get it. Who wants our kids to be in ing, and make sure that the party trouble or have any record of sub- has adult supervision. stance abuse? However, my son confessed to me that he has been Resident of Orinda going to these teen parties, and that he had witnessed a girl having (Editor's note: The author of this to go to hospital for alcohol poi- letter requested anonymity due to soning. It occurred to me that this concern over the mention of their is another Joseph Loudon tragedy own child's activity.)

waiting to happen if these unsupervised teen parties don't stop. The only question is, who is the don't want that to be my son. Ask yourself, do you want your child to be the next victim? If not, then next time you have to leave town for any reason, please think hard before leaving your teenagers home alone unsupervised. There's party that will involve alcohol and/or drugs. Most of the teenagers that I know are great kids, but that does not mean these teenagers will know what is best for themselves and they do not think about what can happen to them. But we adults do, so PLEASE, don't give should find out where they are go-

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Big weekend at Miramonte starts Aug. 17

By Sora O'Doherty

Parks hopes to fill the stands on Aug. 17, which will also be the the annual sprint distance Nor-Cal annual Mat's Day when students Kids Triathlon. Kids ages 4 to 14 big gym so that students can enjoy the opening night of Matador foot- a relay division this year. Registraball. The game will begin at 7 tion ends Aug. 16 at noon and regp.m. and all students and families istration information can be found are invited to cheer on the team. online at https://www.trisignup. Snacks will be available at the com/Race/CA/Orinda/NorCalKidsnack shack. Leadership will be sTriathlon. planning spirit activities for the evening and the school is hoping Barbecue from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, to make this a big night for all Aug. 19 in the senior parking lot. Orinda to celebrate the beginning After this busy weekend, students of the school year. The annual throughout Lamorinda will report athletic health screening will also for the first day of school on Monbe held from 3 to 6 p.m. Aug. 17 day, Aug. 20.

iramonte Principal Julie in the Miramonte Band Room.

The following day, from 9 for the first home football game a.m. to noon, Miramonte will host receive their schedules and ensure are invited to participate in this fun they are ready for the first day of event that encourages exercise in a school. This year, Mat's Day will fun environment. Offered for 2018 be offered in the evening in the are individual divisions from ages 4 to 14 years old. There will not be

Miramonte will host the Senior



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Onslaught of onlookers at OMPA

... continued from page A1

Meckfessel who will be swimming for Cal Poly SLO next year has been swimming for Sleepy Hollow since he was 6 and appreciates how special this meet is: "My best memory goes back to when I competed for the first time when I was 6 years old, standing on the block waiting for the starting gun with the people screaming. It's a selfless event where kids have fun and there is lots of spirit. Coach Ehrenberger is one of the greatest people I have met. He raised so many of us and has been a role model for me, teaching us to have pride in ourselves and in everything that we would do in and out of the pool."

Minden who will be attending UCLA next year came away with a similar reaction to Ehrenberger: "He has also been a role model to me and has shaped me who I am today. This meet is so special beseason and the whole community is involved and is a little sad because this is my last meet for Sleepy Hollow." Even though the County Meet is still to come, Minden sees OMPA as the penultimate event of the season: "The county meet does not include our entire team. Here

we root for all of our swimmers in because all of the teams are here every event."

Meckfessel attributes the better times to a couple of factors: "For this meet, we do things like shaving down and there is real inspiration from the intense support from the crowd. Along with the swimming, the competition, the atmosphere and the training, it's the people that have been most special to me. Nothing makes people closer than being half-naked and working out at 6 a.m."

Katrina Drake who swims for Orinda Country Club and will be playing water polo at UCLA next year set meet records in the 100 IM, the 100 free and the 200-meter relay. Drake also finished in first in the back stroke. Though she did not set the meet record in this event, the record she did not beat was the one she set last year.

Drake whose Miramonte High cause it is the culmination of our School water polo team won the championship this year had similar success at the OMPA meet. "Water polo is strictly a team effort. Swimming with the Orinda team is a combination of an individual and team event. This is a special event albeit a little bitter sweet because it is my last time to compete here

unlike the dual meets and there is such support from the community. Coach (Steve) Haufler has played a huge part in my success as did Matt Ehrenberger when I began at Sleepy Hollow. Simply, Steve puts all of his heart into making us better swimmers."

For the seventh straight year, the East Bay Sea Serpents, a team comprised of special needs athletes competed in their relay prior to the other clubs relays to great fanfare from the crowd. Speaking for the team, Mitch Reed raved about the experience: "Our kids really look forward to this meet. There is great crowd support. Each swimmer can have their own success whether is just finishing a lap or learning a new stroke."

Steve Christensen, whose daughter Alexandra has been with the team for three years, shared his feelings: "The program allows Alexandra to be included and involved with the team. I have seen improvement in so many areas. She has become more physical and even eats and sleeps better. It's been a magical experience for our family."



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21st California Independent Film Festival opens Aug. 24

www.lamorindaweekly.com

By Sophie Braccini



"Angels in Our Midst" plays Tuesday Aug. 28 at 6 p.m. Rheem Theatre

Festival will open again at the

Rheem Theatre – something that

had been quite improbable until

just a few months ago - and will

be held in a completely refreshed

performance hall, with opening night bringing Lamorinda's movie

buffs together for a evening of celebration before viewing a modern

fairy tale from Austria, "The Sal-

zburg Story." Continuing through

Aug. 30, both at Rheem and at the

Orinda Theatre, the festival will

show movies, short films and docu-

CAIFF is one of the most

makers themselves, so when they

entertainment, diversity, surprises,

actors to invite who will give the

audience an inside and exclusive

rector Alexander Peter Lercher will

come to Moraga along with lead ac-

tress Kelly Bishop – a Tony Award

Austrian-born and raised, Lercher

He created what he calls a cross-

cultural romantic drama where two

from each other. "The Salzburg

into another world.

At opening night, Austrian di-

view of the movie world.

creativity.

with cinematic art professionals dy invasion and European theater;

and open their minds to a world of and many more films will be show-

weekend and the following week the festival will offer dozens of other features, such as "Up To Snuff," which is a journey into the life of American composer W.G. Snuffy Walden. "Hunting Lands" is an American movie about the redemption of the veteran turned recluse; a Japanese documentary, "Nourishment for the Japanese Soul" or "Itadakimasu" explains why happiness is found at the dinner table (a world premiere); and the American documentary "Angels in Our mentaries from around the world, Midst" tells the story of World War inviting the community to meet II American nurses in the Norman-

Another not-to-be-missed porunique cultural experiences offered tion of CAIFF are the short films, in Lamorinda with a full week of including the "Ties To The Bay" productions from the across the series that features Lafayette in a U.S. and around the world, many 10-minute film that explains how in of which are not yet released in this this city the schools are great, the country. Derek Zemrak and partner property values are sky-high, and Leonard Pirkle manage the two the quality of life appears unsurlocal movie theaters and are film passed – yet looks can be deceiving. The festival will also feature start screening submissions for the a Canadian short films series that festival with their committee, up to includes humor, mystery and more a year in advance, they think about surprises.

The festival also provides an and also which filmmakers and opportunity for budding professionals to compete and stretch their creativity. The public chooses the winner of the second playwright composition competition, and each year the Iron Filmmaker and soundtrack competitions attract submissions from around the winner and "Gilmore Girls" star. world.

A festival would not be comlived in London and California. plete without awards and receptions. The 21st CAIFF will honor Doug Jones with a Lifetime people from different cultures learn Achievement Award and Leonard Maltin, one of the world's most Story" will take American viewers respected film critics, with the Golden Slate Award. Many of the

Now in its 21st year, this year's

After the glitter and sequins festivities will take place at Cine California Independent Film of opening night settle, during the Cuvée, the charming wine bar next to the Orinda Theatre.

Go online for information about the CAIFF program and how to purchase tickets at www.caiff.





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Moraga Teen takes on fight for safer gun laws

CIVIC PARK

Walnut Creek

By Sophie Braccini



SAT. AUG 25 STRIKE DOWN GUN VIOLENCE

RALLY WITH STUDENTS AND PARENTS TO END **GUN VIOLENCE**

For more information visit www.standupforchange.info

Poster promotes Aug. 25 rally to fight gun violence Image provided

7asch Gerber is not your average Lamorinda student. The energetic teen is back from a year in Taiwan where Gerber lived with different families and learned Mandarin as part of a program sponsored by the Moraga Rotary. Back to Moraga and ready to enter Campolindo High School as a junior, the passionate 16-year-old has spent the last months preparing for a rally to end gun violence, scheduled from noon to 2 p.m. on Aug. 25 at Civic Park in Walnut Creek, and has partnered with several organizations to make an impact.

Last year and at the beginning of the year while Gerber was in Taiwan studying, news about the school shootings in the United States were not making the headlines there. Gerber heard about it, however, and was very distressed by the news, and upon returning home, noticed that nothing had changed from a political standpoint – such as laws like the bill allowing gun standupforchange.info.

owners to carry concealed weapons across state lines that the House passed last December still garnered a lot of political support.

Gerber decided that being passive was not an option and sprung into action. The future Campo student is not against the second amendment, but believes that weapons should not be left in the hands of people who can hurt others. Gerber explains that the right to carry a gun should be treated the same way freedom of speech is applied: one is free to speak - or own a weapon unless there is a risk of it being used in harmful ways.

The articulate and passionate teen has done research on the topic, and, without being an expert, has acquired a substantial body of knowledge. Gerber explains that one of the things that need to be changed is the possibility for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to conduct gun violence research, something that was stopped some 20 years ago by the Dickey Amendment. Car safety research has improved the safety of cars dramatically without banning cars, and studying gun safety could do the same. The student looked for examples such as research done by the Violence Prevention Research Program at UC Davis, which has shown, for example, that repeat convictions of DUIs predisposed the person to commit a violent crime with a firearm.

Gerber reached out to different local groups to organize the rally. The teen explains that the organization of the event took a lot more time and effort than had been anticipated. Gerber joined with Stand Up For Change (https://www.standupforchange.info/), a student led anti-gun violence group to put on the Aug. 25 grassroots Civic Park rally. Several other groups joined in, such as Moms Demand Action, Moms Rising, and March For Our Lives.

Gerber says several politicians have been invited to the rally and will be asked questions on their positions and ideas regarding gun regulation. Several students will also talk about their experience with guns and surviving gun violence. The purpose is to raise awareness and foster a dialogue beyond party lines.

For more information about the rally, visit www.

Lynn's Top Five

A mid-summer planning potpourri

By Lynn Ballou, CFP®

about for this column, I thought about what's relevant now in my own practice. A few recurring themes seemed to emerge in recent conversations which I'd like to share with you here.

1) Home insurance – do you have enough? The past two or three years have seen an explosion in the value of homes and the costs to build, rebuild or remodel. It's time for you to dust off your home-

to stay current with what's happening in the marketplace. Work with home could be rebuilt using qualto current code using the numbers you have in place. The recent fires in NorCal have provided us with an all too real wake-up call on this

the alternative minimum tax now kicking in at the higher \$1 million of qualified gain, it's time to review your holdings and think about rebalancing, knowing that the AMT might not be the beast it once was. That said, understand that the state of California's tax laws have not undergone the same changes as the federal law, so be sure to model any gains you are contemplating for both federal and state tax costs before you make any portfolio moves.

3) Retirement planning and us have simply said, oh, no need to worry about medical costs during retirement because I'll be on Medicare. Unfortunately that's become faulty thinking. Not only are those of you with high retirement income paying a lot higher premiums for Medicare than you may have ever planned, I think a lot of retirees are also realizing that they are paying out of pocket for many more medical expenses than they had planned on. Working with your Certified Financial PlannerTM professional, adjust your projections to better fit the new reality of the current health insurance market and the reality of the higher deductibles, co-pays and non-covered expenses that you could face.

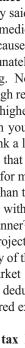
holding. If you haven't already, it's time to do a mid-year tax withholding checkup to ensure you don't have any nasty surprises next April. Some of us will find our tax burden decreasing regarding tax bracket changes and the higher standard deduction. However, many will experience the opposite as we lose

hen I picked a topic to write owner's related insurance policies write-offs such as state taxes in to see if you have enough coverage excess of \$10,000 and the loss of miscellaneous deductions such as tax preparation fees, business and your agent to determine if your investment expenses. Time to project your current income and withity materials and contractors and holding for the year and compare to what you think your tax bite will be. Fixing this now, and revisiting again in January, could save you some misery next year.

5) Higher estate exemptions 2) Portfolio management and may mean a new estate plan, but the AMT. Many investors have should it? Many taxpayers have been unwilling to take some of the been tempted to completely toss recent stock market gains off the ta- out their old estate plan design beble because they are concerned that cause of the new \$11.2 million per they'll get burned in taxes. With person exclusion amount. However, I encourage you to think before you toss! For example, there could be benefits to keeping bypass trust language in your estate plan regarding ensuring that your share of marital and your separate property assets go to your heirs versus being under the control of a surviving spouse, as well as keeping any possible benefit of protection from creditors. Review your plan with your estate planning attorney before making any bold moves.

I hope you find these topics health insurance costs. Many of helpful. Your team of planning pros will be happy to guide you with specifics to your own situation or feel free to reach out to me any-

Happy Summer!



4) New tax law, new with-



professional and Regional Director with EP Wealth Advisors, a Registered Investment Advisory Firm in Lafayette. Information used in the writing of this column is believed to be factual and up-todate, but we do not guarantee its accuracy and it should not be regarded as a complete analysis of the subject(s) discussed. All expressions of opinion reflect the judgment of the author as of the date of publication and are subject to change. Content is not intended to be interpreted as tax or legal advice. Always consult a tax and/ or legal professional regarding you specific circumstances.



Check our website & on Facebook

to find out about upcoming events

Cycling Lamorinda

By Cathy Dausman



Cyclists gather for the ladies' no-drop ride through Lamorinda.

While I've managed some hills in children are grown; I was definitely Marin County, ridden to California beaches, coasted the flatlands in central Oregon and slogged through swampy summer weather in the mid-Atlantic states, I mostly frequent the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail, which means I'm coasting fully half my trip.

So when I spotted a social media post promoting a ladies' no- sweep called out happily. drop ride, I was in - if only for the bragging rights. Cycling pants bike," I wanted to snarl. and jersey? Check. Multi-speed bike? Check. Helmet and fingerless gloves? Of course! Is there extra credit for having flashing safety lights and double water bottle cages?

Kelly Lack turned out on a recent sunny but mild Saturday morning at Moraga Commons Park to lead our pack of eight. I opted out of an earlier ride when temper- I took stock of the competition by atures hovered near 100. "This is asking how many gears each bike the sport moms take up when they had.

am a lifelong cyclist, content- want to return to an exercise rouedly stuck at a recreational level. tine," post-children, Lack said. My

> Lack cautioned us to ride single file and pushed off for Orinda. Moraga Way looks flat, but my legs told me otherwise. Switching to a lower gear, I got into a routine gasp, gasp, stroke; gasp, gasp, stroke.

"Eight miles an hour!" the

"You're riding an electric

Lack circled back to check on me. She makes this ride regularly, cycling in to Orinda BART to start her work commute. The group promised if I made it to Hall Drive, the road would flatten out, and at last it did. Gearing up for the downhill portion my rhythm switched to an enjoyable stroke, stroke, breathe. At Theatre Square

Some riders seemed not to know. Maybe they didn't want to hurt my feelings; my Fuji has a measly seven gears. An all-toobrief rest, and we headed east to Lafayette along roads bordering Highway 24. Sweeping under the highway we headed into town, single file, on Mt. Diablo Boulevard. Thankfully my worst fear - not about running out of steam, but of running into a parked car - didn't materialize.

We stopped a second time to count noses at Lafayette Plaza Park. All of me was still "here," if slightly winded. The Lafayette-Moraga trail beckoned; I heard its siren call even when the others dutifully pushed on to Pleasant Hill and Olympic Boulevard.

I cut the corner, grabbed an alltoo-short rest and saddled up again when the others flew past. We were on the final leg (some more literally than others) of an 18-mile loop, closing in on our Moraga Commons destination.

I shared with Lack my love of the wind in your face feeling and worry-free exhilaration that comes with cycling, and even compared war wounds. Mine I earned coasting downhill years ago; Lack got hers from cycling a Peter Sagan Fondo dirt ride.

Our group rode an easy 18 miles in 90 minutes. It's farther, and faster, than I usually ride by half again. But I'd do it over both the gasp, gasp, stroke and the stroke, stroke breathe portions - in a heartbeat if they'll have me.

Especially if I'm allowed to cut

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Campana Music closing its doors

By John T. Miller



Joe Renwrick, left, son of former manager Ben Renwrick and an expert in instrument repair, poses with current manager John Kreis in front of what was once the largest inventory of sheet music in the Bay Area. On the wall behind them is a photo of founding owner Joe Campana. Photo John T. Miller

will be closing its doors for good later this month.

The last official day for the store will be Aug. 16, but it will host a celebration commemorating their seven decades of serving the area on Friday, Aug. 17, from 3 to 6 p.m. The store will also have one last blowout sale at that time.

to own the building and the surrounding properties and is undecided about whether they will look for a new tenant or consider selling, days, "which were unpaid." according to current store manager John Kreis.

For Kreis, the closing will represent more than just the end of 28 years working for the Campanas. "Although I don't have the same last name, I look at them as famsince I was 3 years old."

Kreis's mother, Gretchen Givens, was an avid piano player and before he passed away seven years visited the store often. The two families became close, watching Raiders games together along with other activities. Givens gave piano lessons through the shop for 26 years.

After Kreis lost his father when role. he was 17, Joe Campana took him in and became like a second father to him. "He was one of the best

people I met in my life. Joe helped me through a rough time and then hired me when I was 20 years old." Campana moved from Oakland

fter 71 years doing business and opened the store in 1947 across Ain Lafayette, Campana Music Mt. Diablo Boulevard. When it burned down, he built the store on its current location in 1968.

Kreis relates that for many years, Campana would get to work at 6 a.m., give lessons until the store opened at 9 o'clock, then after closing at 6 p.m. would give lessons until 10 p.m., six days a week.

"He showed me the ropes and I The Campana family continues got my work ethic from him," says Kreis, bragging that he'd taken only two days of sick leave in his 28 years and very few vacation

At the height of its business, Campana Music gave lessons, music rentals, sales of musical instruments and accessories, repairs, and boasted the largest inventory of sheet music in the Bay Area. At one point they also sold TVs and VCRs. ily," he says. "I've known them Up to 8-10 teachers worked in the eight studios.

Campana worked until the day ago. Ben Renwick, a talented baritone saxaphone player who gave lessons at the studio, took over as manager. When he retired last October, Kreis then stepped into the

Another key employee is Ben's son, Joe Renwick, who had worked on and off at the store since he was 12 years old. When Ben Renwick took over, he talked his son into attending trade school in Red Wing, Minnesota, where he learned the art of instrument repair.

Like so many other small businesses, online competition is the main factor forcing them out. Kreis says, "We buy stuff for the price that online businesses can sell it

After giving so much of his adult life to Campana Music, Kreis plans on taking a few months off for a breather and then either go back into the music business or look into the wine industry, another interest of his.

Meanwhile, after repairing musical instruments for six years, Joe Renwick is finishing the electrical engineering program at Diablo Valley College and plans to transfer to a University of California school.

Studio L, which uses the upstairs portion of the building for music and performance instruction, will continue to do business there for now.



A crunchy breakfast companion for seasonal fruit

By Susie Iventosch



Homemade granola

omemade granola makes a great break- and I've used pecans, walnuts, pistachios fast companion to all of the amazing and pumpkin seeds, but you can swap those fresh fruits available in the markets this time out for your favorite nuts and seeds. I don't of year! We've just picked a couple gallons add dried fruit this time of year, but if you of huckleberries, and aside from making make this in the winter months, you can almuffins or scones, topping granola with ways add dried cranberries, raisins, currants or apricots to this recipe.

Photo Susie Iventosch

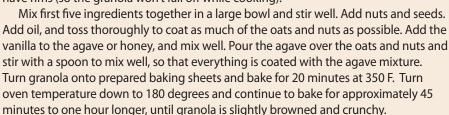
Nutty Granola

INGREDIENTS

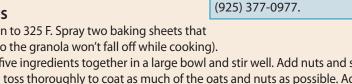
- 1 18-ounce container quick oats
- (approximately 5-6 cups)
- ½ cup light brown sugar ¾ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon cardamom
- 1 cup pecan halves
- 1 cup walnut halves ½ cup raw pistachios
- ½ cup slivered almonds
- 1/4 cup pumpkin seeds
- ½ cup canola oil
- ½ cup agave or honey 1 tablespoon vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 325 F. Spray two baking sheets that have rims (so the granola won't fall off while cooking).



Remove from oven and cool completely on baking sheet before transferring to airtight containers. You will find that you need to break up large pieces of granola as



you transfer it. Store with other cereals.

'The Third Murder' a reflection on truth and destiny

By Sophie Braccini

berries or stone fruits is another great way

to enjoy the bounty of the summer months.

This recipe calls for an assortment of nuts,

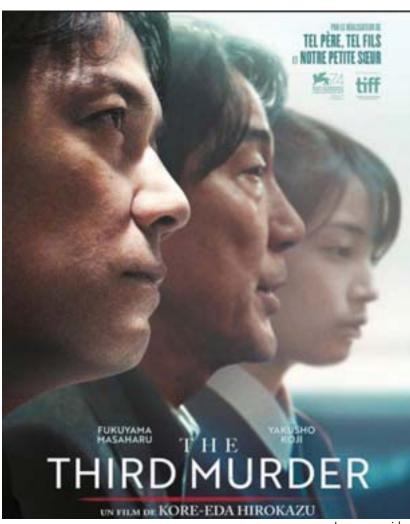


Image provided

irokazu Kore-eda's movie that will show in Orinda starting Aug. 10 is a dizzying descent into the hiding places of a murder suspect's soul. "The Third Murder" is a game of cat and mouse between a man who has his life on the line and his lawyer, who starts out simply looking for the best legal strategy to pursue at the trial, but who is gradually drawn into the world of the strange assumed culprit, uncovering one lie after another.

The thriller is magical in its form and substance. The International Film Showcase that is presenting this movie in Orinda featured a film by Kore-eda, "Like Father Like Son" in 2014. Even then, the filming mastery of the director was enchanting. He has a way of filming sequences where characters barely say a word

intrique in the movie.

Constructed as a mystery thriller, the film follows the defense team's investigation as the main lawyer, Shigemori (Masaharu Fukuyama), begins doubting Musami's (Kôji Yakusho) guilt. The director explores themes that interest him: parent-child relationships, free will, and how when can be done to change their destiny.

The movie also contains a harsh criticism of the judicial system, where judges, lawyers and prosecutors in the the concept of justice.

Who is guilty, who has is, whatever the consequences? Those are questions that This technique is an efficient dant, the impatient judge, the lamorindatheatres.com.

way to convey mystery and cynical lawyer, the dangerous criminal, all have masks and play a role in a deadly human tragedy, and in the end, who is manipulating whom and who will drop their mask?

Susie can be reached at

suziventosch@gmail.com.

This recipe can be found

lamorindaweekly.com. If

favorite recipe with Susie

you would like to share your

please contact her by email or

on our website: www.

call our office at

Yakusho as the accused Musami plays the ambiguity of the main character perfectly. Is he a savage killer, a selfless hero, or a poor man who has been mistreated by someone is dealt the wrong life in search for redemption? cards from the start nothing Kore-eda also created a poignant feminine figure, Sakie, the daughter of the murdered man played by delightful Suzu Hirose, who holds some of the keys to the mystery.

Those who liked "Like end watch out for each other's Father Like Son" may recogreputation with little regard for nize Fukuyama, who played the architect in that movie. His transformation from cynicism the courage to look at what to soul searching proves very convincing.

"The Third Murder" will and yet the emotions ooze Kore-eda asks, stating that play at the Orinda Theatre for through the gaze and subtle really courageous human be- one week starting on Aug. 10. body language of the actors ings are few in this world. The For more information, visit that are filmed in close-up. self-righteous public defen- internationalshowcase.org or

Celebrations

Orinda student awarded pre-med scholarship

Submitted by Meg Walker



Sienna Marley

Photo provided

ienna Marley, a recent graduate of Miramonte High School in Orinda, has earned a \$12,000 scholarship to help her with the costs of undergraduate studies and medical school. The scholarship was awarded by the physicians at Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF) who give out a few scholarships every year to deserving local students committed to becoming doctors. The scholarships help meet the need for future physicians.

Marley is this year's Dr. Brian Paaso Scholar, a special Pre-Medical Scholarship awarded every four years in the memory of Dr. Paaso, a gastroenterologist who practiced his whole career at PAMF. Marley is an accomplished student, as well as a school and community leader who volunteered at John Muir Hospital and the Casa De Gracia senior facility while also being a varsity cheerleader, president and founder of her local Filipino American Club, a peer mentor/ tutor, a drama club member and a Women in STEM club member.

Last year, she studied abroad for seven weeks in Xi'an, China, on a National Security Language Initiative for Youth scholarship sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

She will be attending University of California, Berkeley.

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.

Tanya A. (Nelson) Ojala

Tanya Ojala passed away on Sunday, July 15, 2018 at age 69 following complications from liver failure.

She was born on June 16, 1949 in Los Angeles, the beloved daughter of Harry Nelson and the late Diane (Meerschaert) Nelson. She was the eldest of five children and had four younger brothers whom she helped raise: Larry, Ronald, John and the late James Nelson. After graduating from St. Bernard Catholic School in 1967, she attended the University of California at Los Angeles. It was there that she met and married in 1970 the late Donald I. Ojala. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Pictorial Art and then worked for a few years before starting her family.

She was the beloved mother of three children: Erik (Katherine Fitzgerald), Thomas (Pooja Lal) and Kristin (Conan Dooley) Ojala. She raised all three and supported her husband's career, moving the family from California to Germany, Indiana and Pennsylvania before returning to California in 2001 following Don's passing. A resident of Moraga for a total of 25 years, she loved horses, horseback riding and art. She is survived by her father, three of her four brothers, her three children, and her three grandchildren, Luke, Ben and Anika Ojala.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Sierra Club Foundation (sierraclubfoundation.org) or the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation (bbrfoundation.org).

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.

www.lamorindaweekly.com Local authors underscore acceptance and share uncommon bond

By John T. Miller



Fritz Tubach and Bernie Rosner at Sonoma State University in 2008.

Photos provided embers of the Lafayette ties, so they arranged to have din-

Rotary were quite moved ner together with their husbands. by a presentation from Holocaust The two men struck up a survivor Bernie Rosner at a recent friendship that was much stronger than the prejudices and injustices monthly meeting. Rosner related the tale of not only surviving the that ruled the lives of their child-Holocaust, but also of writing a hood. They played tennis together double memoir with his German and socialized often. When they retired, they decided to tell their friend, Fritz Tubach. The title of the book, "An Un-stories together.

how a Jewish man who survived wall between his current self and with him. internment in concentration camps the boy who suffered the trauma became friends with a former re- of Nazi Germany; he had created a distance from it and asked Tu-Both Rosner and Tubach found bach to write his memories in third success in life after immigrating to person. Rosner said, "I considered America. Rosner became the top that part of my life done with, irrellawyer with Safeway, while Tu- evant, and focused on the present bach was a professor of German at and the future."

A turning point came in Chapter 3, when Tubach shared what he Their wives met one day in line wrote about the Rosner family's deportation to Auschwitz. As a and realized they were in the same 12-year-old child, the humiliation class at a high school in Southern of seeing his mother strip searched California. They started talking by a Nazi guard was captured so and found they had many similari- perfectly in Tubach's prose that

Rosner suggested they combine fascism," he says. Without men- wants to get across? "The fact that their memoirs and try to publish them for a larger audience.

Published in 2001, the book has been translated into German, Italian and Dutch, selling more than 20,000 copies. A second edi- 200 speaking engagements – both tion came out in 2010.

The book is a well-written and fascinating chronicle of their separate lives: from before the war in their respective villages – Rosner in Hungary and Tubach in Germany – to their involvement in World War II, and the circumstances that brought them to America. The book is available on Amazon.

One of the more notable chapters in Rosner's life concerns his rescue from the refugee camps in post-war Europe. Hoping to get a piece of candy, Rosner would carry bags for the GIs. One of them happened to be Charles Merrill, Jr., the son of the founder of Merrill Lynch. The two of them established a bond, and Merrill eventually sent Rosner a plane ticket to Rosner, however, had built a America and invited him to live

> "Merrill was the most important person to me," says Rosner. "Any way you look at it, luck played a huge part in my life."

> The enduring friendship of Rosner and Tubach is even more remarkable as they don't always agree politically, yet they have never fought or argued about it.

Rosner is conservative, and "doesn't really like to get into politics," while Tubach is progressive, having taken the side of the students in the Berkeley Free Speech movement while a professor there. "It was my way of dealing with

tioning any current president by name, he added, "I have negative reactions to a country run by hyperventilating alpha males."

They have held approximately together and separately – including an appearance on Bryant Gumbel's Morning Show, NPR, local radio stations, and promotional tours. In addition to many local groups, they spoke in about 20 different venues in Germany.

According to Tubach, audiences have many times mistaken the two, thinking that he was Jewish and Rosner was the German. Could there be a better way to debunk stereotypes?

"I rarely turn down requests," says Rosner, noting that "the end is much closer than the beginning, and Holocaust survivors are a dwindling crowd."

The main message Rosner

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Fritz and I could surmount walls of distrust and become friends speaks volumes for the resilience of the human spirit," he said.

Tubach, for his part, says, "Empathy is the most important human emotion you can have. It has been a great adventure of the mind and heart to tell our stories together with Bernie."

Rotary member Robert Shusta, high schools, and numerous civic a retired police captain, heard Rosner speak before and asked him to come to the Rotary Club. "He received a well-deserved standing ovation from the 45 members in attendance," Shusta said.

> (Author's Note: It was my distinct pleasure to speak with both men at length about their lives. This article represents only a small percentage of their remarkable stories. Both men were gracious, articulate and humane.)

Of awe and oddness

By Sophie Braccini

common Friendship," describes

UC Berkeley; they ended up living

at the Kaiser Hospital pharmacy

cruit for the Hitler Youth.

near each other in Orinda.



Tom Gehrig with one of his paintings at Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery in Lafayette Photos Sophie Braccini

and gallery owner has invited artof surreal representations. Paint-

the Lafayette venue. engaging and subtle surprising narrative with what he offers. quality. The Marin County painter explains that he composes his ing an anonymous quote: "In paintings like a stage where he times of great complexity, emsets his characters. The first impression is of simple awe for the beauty of the natural world. Nature in its most serene expression in their little canoe way above is presented there: a calm sea, a the seas. The light she creates, blue sky and soft clouds. Going the delicate colors bring serenity deeper into the observation of the where peril and danger could be

The mysteries and beauties to emerge. What are those dark of life are celebrated at the clouds coming forth? What is the Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery this surveyor doing there? Is that a summer. As someone who always boat pushing a lighthouse? What surprises and delights, the painter is going to happen to that weather balloon? The painting is called ists to illustrate different aspects Reconnoitering - Confusion Hill. Gehrig portrays how humans try ings by Tom Gehrig, Catherine to explain and measure a world Moore, Carol Aust, and sculpture that is full of confusion, trying to by Southern California artist Em- make sense of and control the unily Maddigan share the stage at knowable. His art is both food for the soul and for the brain, getting Gehrig's paintings have an us to think and create our own

> Aust explains her art by citbrace simplicity." Her canvases are peaceful to view, even if they represent people lost in the sky



Painting by Carol Aust

ings start with a feeling, such as being overwhelmed by having to do the impossible every day. She relies on her painting as a visible manifestation of an invisible reality. She also offers it to the world as a prayer of hope.

Maddigan's sculptures are most intriguing, surprising and ultimately beautiful. She creates make-believe stuffed trophies out of placemats, packing leftovers, all types of recycled materials and toys, transforming them by adorning forms that a taxidermist would actually use, and building magical and highly decorative creatures.

Moore comes from the world of book illustration and says each of her portraits tell a story, sometimes a dark one. It is a door opening on the world of fairy tales.

Perlmutter, who is both a visionary and a successful businessperson, has once again created an enchanting ground for an afternoon summer stroll.

Recommended for all ages, the exhibition will run at 3620 Mt Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette through Sept. 1. The gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday, from noon to 6 p.m. and by appointment. For more information, visit jenniferperlmuttergal-



Sculpture by Emily Maddigan









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Not to be missed



Not to be missed

Not to be missed

Moraga Art Gallery's new exhibit "Precision Beauty" features interpretations of nature in the form of jewelry by member artist Kuniko Kay Nitta of Walnut Creek and watercolor paintings by Berkeley's Karen Kramer. The Gallery is located at 522 Center Street in the Rheem Shopping Center. For more information visit www. moragaartgallery.com or call (925) 376-5407.

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 includes a series of events such as plein air painting, live demonstrations, and lessons for youth. The exhibition runs through Aug. 26.

Valley Art Gallery announces their new summer show, "August Ambience." The Diablo Valley can be very warm in August, so what better way to cool off then with some very cool art from our very own Valley Art Gallery. Demonstrating a wide range of motifs, styles, media and prices, and representing the best of the best from more than 100 East Bay artists, the "Au-

must-see show for residents of niferperlmuttergallery.com the Diablo Valley. In addition, there are beautifully crafted, ceramic, wood and glass pieces, and original designer jewelry. www.valleyartgallery.org

The Moraga Art Gallery presents "Walk on the Wild Side," a new exhibit featuring the distinctive, strikingly colorful abstract paintings by member artist Josie Osolin, whose work invariably evokes a sense of energy and passion. Also featured in the show are two guest artists: Jenn Norpchen, specializing in wild, whimsical gourds, reincarnated as birds, frogs, snails and other creatures, and Terry Ow-Wing, an Asian-influenced glass artist whose work has evolved from her background in architecture, photography, and glass blowing. The show will run from Aug. 15 to Oct. 20, with a free reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Aug. 18. For more information, visit www.moragaartgallery.com or call (925) 376-5407.

lery is pleased to present "Surreal," 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 en-

gust Ambience" exhibition is a view through Sept. 1. www.jen-

MUSIC

Free summer concerts Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 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: Aug. 14; Floorshakers.

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: Aug 9: Mixed Nuts - Hits from the 40's to present; Aug. 16: Houserockers - Rock & soul

THEATER

The Jennifer Perlmutter Gal- 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.

California Shakespeare Theater presents the company degaging exhibit of work, a tribute but of "The War of the Roses"

plays—the Henry VI trilogy and Richard III. Presented as an action-packed evening, "The War of the Roses" will deliver a fast-paced, far-ranging, vividly theatrical depiction of two powerful families—the Landecades-long fight for the English throne. Political unrest and power grabs collide with weak leadership and civil strife as the country fights against the threat of tyranny. The show runs Aug. 23 through Sept. 9. Tickets are \$20 and are available through the California Shakespeare Theater Box Office, 701 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, (510) 548-9666, online at www.calshakes.org, or at the Bruns box office on the day of the performance (pending availability).

Aug. 18. Filmmakers are given Thursday, Aug. 16 at 1081 secret ingredients to include in the film. For details and to register go to https://www.caiff. org/ironfilmmaker. The top 25 shorts will be screened during the 21st Annual California Independent Film Festival. The top

The 21st Annual CAIFF California Independent Film Festival opens Friday, Aug. 24 at the Rheem Theatre in Moraga and will run through Aug. 30 at both the Orinda and the Rheem to surreal art. The exhibit is on - a monumental evening of theatres showing shorts, come-

theater spanning four history dies, international films, dramas and documentaries. Tickets and the entire schedule available at caiff.org.

LECTURE & LITERATURE

KPFA Radio 94.1 FM presents casters and the Yorks—and their Martha Nussbaum: The Monarchy of Fear from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug 23 at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Avenue, Berkeley. Martha Nussbaum will discuss her new book, The Monarchy of Fear, answer questions and sign books. Hosted by C.S. Soong. Cost: \$12 advance, \$15 door. For more info see http:// www.brownpapertickets.com/ event/3477398 or call (510) 967-4495.

KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

Iron Filmmaker Contest kick- Twilight at Fernandez Ranch offs at 10 a.m. on Saturday, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. on 24 hours to create a short. At the Christie Road, Martinez. Step kickoff you will be given three 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, three finalists will receive cash arts and crafts, and more! The event is open to the public, free of charge, and ADA accessible. Free parking available.

> Explore, Connect, Feel: The Magical Luminary Farm with Mindful Littles from 9 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. on Aug. 18. Join us for an outdoor family adventure unlike any other. We will explore the wondrous Luminary Farm- Bay Area's newest retreat center in Danville. During our event families will go on a short nature walk and get to experience the land with outdoor yoga, singing, movement, natural playgrounds and much, much more. You will leave our event with hearts full of gratitude and appreciation for our community and Mother Earth. Cost: Donation. Register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ explore-connect-feel-themagical-luminary-farm-tickets-48104356425

OTHER

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://sylviaruth-

Contra Costa County and City of Walnut Creek present the One-Stop Services Event from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 9. at Civic Park, 1375 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. The 2018 "Summer Block Party" aims to provide on-the-spot government services after normal business hours. Residents will find a range of services available, from licensing pets to registering to vote. For more information, please call the Contra Costa County Library at (925) 608-7713. For parking availability near the Park, visit the City's parking website.

gutmann.com/.

... continued on next page

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Diablo Ballet's Annual Gour- have been removed from the limet Gallop food and wine walk brary collection due to lack of returns to downtown Walnut circulation, poor condition or Creek for the eighth consecu- relevance. Books are available tive year from 6 to 9 p.m. on on a first-come, first-served ba-Thursday, Aug. 9. The event, sis and members of the public of political trivia and frozen sponsored by Diablo Magazine, are advised to bring their own margaritas at 7 p.m. Thursday, invites guests to sip, sample boxes or bags to transport ma- Aug. 9 at the Lafayette Library and stroll their way through 18 terials. downtown Walnut Creek locations as they experience a one- Large Animal Rescue presenpublic and only \$39 if purchased online at www.diabloballet.org small) from dangerous situaor by calling (925) 943-1775.

Festival 2-5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 11 at the Soda Center at Saint Mary's College offers an afternoon of wine tasting, delicious appetizers, a silent auction and lots of fun! (Attendees must be at least 21 years of age.) Pronut Creek. The 2018 "Summer ceeds from ticket sales and the Block Party" aims to provide silent auction support student scholarships. Tickets: \$60 are available stmarys-ca.edu/wine or (925) 631-8744.

The Contra Costa County Library is hosting its annual book giveaway from 9 a.m. to Library at (925) 608-7713. For 4:30 p.m. through Aug. 11 at the parking availability near the Pleasant Hill Library, Shipping Park, visit the City's parking and Receiving Area, 75 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill. All books available at the giveaway

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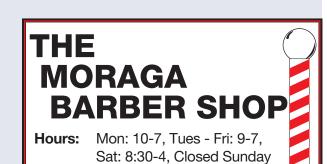


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Huge turnout for Lafayette Swim Conference Championship By Jon Kingdon



Taylor White, Rancho Colorados Wahoos

of July 28-29 at Acalanes High

"Adventures on the Seven Seas,"

the county meet in 260 events. After the meet, 103 more swim-

mers qualified for 120 more

the most points in the meet fol-

lowed by Rancho Colorado

(4,241) with LMYA (3,210.5)

day affair, there were 13 meet re-

ticipants in this annual event:

Dan Goodson, who swam in

the 13-14 group and will be a

sophomore next year at Acalanes,

led the way for LMYA as the high

point scorer in his group with 72

as a 12-year-old. Goodson has

qualified for the county meet in the individual medley, the butter-

fly, freestyle, freestyle relay and

the medley relay. Swimmers can only compete in two of the indi-

vidual races at the county meet

so Goodson is going to have a

happen, according to Goodson:

"I began swimming when I was

my times. It's the joy of winning.

After a win, I just can't stop smiling. I practice two hours a day

be joining the Aqua Bears team."

Dolley appreciates the talent and

team, he is a good leader with the

kids. He has the talent and po-

LMYA head coach Corey

decision to make.

Springbrook (5,495) amassed

championships.

events.

cords broken.

The 7th Annual Lafayette has a key element that enables ents and non-parents." Swim Conference Cham- him to be such a good swimmer pionship was held the weekend – he enjoys it."

School. Bearing the moniker LMYA team that performed well was 11-year-old Kate Kostolanthe meet had over 1,000 swim- sky who goes to school at St. Permers ranging in age from 4 to 18. petua. Kostolansky qualified for The participating clubs, LMYA the county tournament in the in-(164), Oakwood (99), Pleasant dividual medley, backstroke and Hill (136), Rancho Colorados freestyle. For Kostolansky, it's (218), Springbook (251) and Sun a family effort: "I began swim-Valley (139) came together to at- ming when I was 5 and I get a and various items like the tables tempt to qualify for the county lot of help from my parents. My and tents." mom will swim with me and my Coming into the meet, 140 of father is always driving me to military precision. The meet utithe swimmers had qualified for practice.

Dolley also sings the praises of Kostolansky: "Kate is an awesome person. She is super happy and always cheers on her teammates. She has a great desire to keep getting better and cares about every single race.

The tournament represents finishing in third. Over the two- the term "friendly competition." Springbrook's head coach Ray Meadows appreciates the spirit Two swimmers with LMYA of the meet: "For the most part, epitomized the quality of the parthe competing swimmers go to school and play other sports together. You see them wishing each other the best of luck prior to the race and congratulating

each other after the race." Meadows highlighted two of points, something he won before his swimmers: Sadie Suppiger and Hailey Hilsabeck. Racing with the 9- to10-year-old girls, Suppiger was first in the 50-yard free style, 200-yard medley relay, 50-yard back stroke, 100-yard individual medley and the 200yard free relay, winning the high point aware in her group.

In the 11 to 12-year-old Such performances don't just group, Hilsabeck won the 50yard breast stroke, 100-yard individual medley, 50-yard fly and four and I just kept improving the 200-yard free style relay and won the high point award for her

Says Meadows: "Both girls over the summer and will soon are talented with a great work ethic. They are mature and real leaders in the group."

Meet directors Aly McAlister character that Goodson epito- and Laura Gunderson took on mizes: "As a junior coach on the the task of coordinating 84 races, 1,000 swimmers and 3,000 overall entries. Says McAlister: "It's tential to do well on the Acalanes like putting on a six-ring circus. swim and water polo teams. He We had 386 volunteers, both par**Photo Gint Federas**

According to Gunderson: "The fans are really spirited. Another member of the There are people here who don't have kids in the race but just enjoy the races. We are a nonprofit group and raise the money to put this on with the advertising in and sale of our programs and the sale of our T-shirts. All of this covers the rental of the Acalanes pool and their racing technology

> The races were run with a lized fly-over starts (where the race is begun prior to the previous swimmers getting out of the pool) because as McAlister puts it: "We wanted to get out of here before midnight."





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Burnsed opens third season with Acalanes football



Floyd Burnsed and Nick Kresnak

hen Solano Community College 2012, and then offered a generous buyout and bonus to retiring teachers in 2016, it looked like the end of a distinguished career for head football coach Floyd Burnsed.

Instead, Burnsed saw that Acalanes was looking for a head football coach with the resignation of Mike Ivankovich and decided to apply for the job.

Now in his third year with the Dons, Burnsed is head of a thriving program and is excited to begin the season. "The program is healthy and we have a real good turnout," he says. "The administration is supportive and sees the value of

Burnsed taught physical education and coached Miramonte for 20 years, leading them to 10 league championships and four North Coast Section championships and an overall record of 154-62-2, before taking on the job of rebuilding the forward to developing his current QB, Solano program.

He was named Contra Costa County Coach of the Year three times, 1983 cern, the method of tackling has changed Champion Coach of the Year, the San dramatically. "We use to teach players to Francisco 49ers 1996 Coach of the Year, tackle with their head straight on. Now and the North Coast Section Coach of the Year in 2000. At Solano he led the team to three Bay Valley Conference championships and four bowl games before the program was discontinued. He was named California Community College Coach of the Year in 2010.

After going 4-7 his first season, the Dons rode the arm of Robby Rowell, now at UC Berkeley, to a 9-2 record, losing in the North Coast Section quarterfinals to Bishop O'Dowd.

At 71 years old, Burnsed says he'll keep coaching "as long as it's fun. It helps to have the manpower and assistants to help carry out the program." It also helps that he can devote all of his time to the program, since he no longer teaches P.E.

Photo John T. Miller

His staff is virtually handpicked and dropped its football program in consists of some talented personnel. David Ortega, the defensive coordinator and linebacker coach is Cal's all-time leading tackler; Mark Vicencio (defensive backs and special teams coordinator) and Kurt Piper (wide receivers) played for him on Miramonte's NCS championship team in 1983; and Bryce and Roman Hawthorne (defensive line and running backs) played for Burnsed at Solano. Rounding out the coaching staff is Adam Schneider (offensive line), a former Clayton Valley and Diablo Valley College standout.

> Burnsed sees many changes in the game over the years. "It used to be more run oriented. Now with the spread offense, it's more 1-on-1, rather than 11-on-11. Football is more of a cerebral game. Teams that can execute well can be more successful than teams with superior talent." He adds that a good quarterback must be extremely intelligent and looks Nick Kresnick, a junior this year.

> With concussions being a major conmost teams are following the Seattle Seahawks technique, with the head behind the ball carrier."

> One problem he sees is the decline of participation in the sport. While the Acalanes program has over 40 students on the freshman team, many schools are having to collapse their freshman teams and cancel games. Only three of the 13 schools in the Diablo Athletic League have Frosh programs, making it difficult to find games.

> What gives Burnsed the most joy is the development of the players. "It's great to see them go on and be successful," he says. "I still get tons of calls from former players. We're just like teachers like that, but our classrooms are out here on the field."

Miramonte sophomore lacrosse player named to All-American team

By Jon Kingdon

season at Miramonte, Anna "Boo" DeWitt went down with a serious knee injury forcing her to miss the rest of the season. Though only playing 12 of the team's 21 regular season games, DeWitt, a midfielder, still on 58 percent of her shots on goals.

Despite her absence, the Miramonte team went on to win the NCS tournament and Dewitt was named to the US Lacrosse High School All-American team. The award is voted on by Northern California coaches and is all the more impressive in that DeWitt has only just finished her sophomore year and is in fact the first ever All-American from Miramonte.

Miramonte head coach Jackie Pelletier attributes DeWitt's success to an amalgam of athleticism, commitment and a passion for the sport. Says Pelletier: "I have never seen a player as passionate as Boo. She works extremely hard and is the first player that I have ever seen that wanted to get up early and run sprints."

DeWitt suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament that required surgery and a long rehabilitation but DeWitt has not taken the time to feel sorry for herself: "The injury has made me appreciate the sport more than I did previously and it made me realize how much I love the sport. It's been tough but my knee pushes me to work harder to get back out there and play. Everyday, I do wall ball (throwing the ball with your stick against a wall and catching it) even as I am rehabbing."

Says Pelletier: "Even after she was hurt and on crutches, Boo would sit on a chair and play wallball."

Boo, who got her nickname from her father, began playing lacrosse in the sixth grade: "I had been playing ice hockey but after going to the Lamorinda fall ball clinics for lacrosse, love with the sport because even though it's such a skill sport, it also rewards athleticism, speed and physicality."

It was immediately clear to Pelletier that DeWitt was a special player: "As a freshman, her talent was clearly evident but she is so humble that she was even worried about making the varsity even though it was clear that she was one of our best players even then. Boo is left-handed which is rare in the sport and is a real advantage for her. Defenders are not used to defending left handers. She has worked to hard on her stickwork that she is equally adept either right or left handed. If teams prepare for her as a left hander, she can switch to her right hand."

Though DeWitt is well aware of her physical talents, she does not live on her laurels: "I'm left-handed so that gives me an advantage but I have also worked hard on my right hand so the opponent never knows which way I'm going to go. My speed is an important component and I hustle and never give up

idway through the 2018 girls lacrosse even if we're down. I always try to keep my head up and am constantly hunting down the opponents."

With all of the effort expended by DeWitt on her lacrosse game, academics is certainly not overlooked: "Balancing school was hard led the team in goals scored with 31, scoring even before the injury. The key for me is that I don't procrastinate. When I have a lot of games upcoming, I try to get the work done ahead of time. With practice from seven to nine in the evening, I always made it a point to do my homework prior to practice."

Though her season was cut short, DeWitt was still able to display her talents earlier in the year on her club team, Tenacity, where she was first exposed to the sport. The team's coach, Theresa Sherry who coincidentally was Pelletier's coach at the University of California, saw early on DeWitt's potential: "Though new to the sport, Boo was obviously athletic. Her work ethic and the tenacity she displayed in her preparation in learning to play is what started to set her apart. Part of what we do is train the girls to train themselves so it is important that they take ownership of the process and Boo took it to heart. In fact, I would have to tell her to take a day off and not go to so many of the camps. Boo thrives on working hard and wants to be the best athlete she can

Though still two years away from college, DeWitt has already attracted the attention of the recruiters: "I have received general interest from some schools but I cannot be officially contacted until my junior year but I do want to play for a Division I school."

Pelletier and Sherry both appreciate the rare qualities that DeWitt brings to the game combining a love of the sport, a competitive attitude, the athletic skills and an incessant drive to constantly improve.

Oddly enough, Sherry sees DeWitt's injury I found lacrosse to be very challenging. Once as a way to further impress the colleges: "Col-I was able to catch and throw the ball, I fell in lege coaches want to know how an individual handles pressure situations and how you handle adversity. The way that Boo is handling her injury is very telling as to how full a package she is. The knee injury will give her the final piece."

> Next season at Miramonte, DeWitt will be taking on a new responsibility. Along with three seniors, DeWitt was unanimously named co-captain, the first non-senior to be accorded such an honor. Says DeWitt: "I'm excited about being chosen one of the team's co-captains for next year. I want to be there for the underclassmen, answering any questions they might have and leading the team by example."

> It is an honor well deserved according to Pelletier: "Boo puts the work off the field and is a natural leader on the field. Boo makes stick trick videos which has led her to want to push her teammates and is very welcoming to the newcomers by showing them her love of the sport. She is the nicest, most inclusive teammate and has been a pleasure for me to watch and coach."

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CC United 16U Boys win silver at National | Sleepy Hollow Swim & **Junior Olympics**

www.lamorindaweekly.com

Submitted by Stewart McGuire



Players, front row, from left: Luke VandenBerghe, Mac Darin, Jagger Beeken, Marcell Urban; back row: Logan Estes, CJ Indart, Soren Jensen, Tom McGuire, Jack Larsen, Mark Laurlund, Dash McFarland, Daniel Viscia, Ryan Lenahan, Tommy Photo Kelley L Cox / KLC fotos O'Connor and Coach Kirk Jensen.

the silver medal in the top chamtional and Futures Super Finals, pionship division at the National and ultimately, to the top seed at McFarland delivered an especially Junior Olympics held at Stanford the National Junior Olympics. Go-July 21-24. The team was one of ing 5-0 early in the tournament, only two Northern California teams CC United made it to the semifiin any age group to medal in the dinals along with So Cal, San Diego vision. For head coach and club Shores and Pride (from Southern founder Kirk Jensen the achieve- California). With a particularly ment was particularly significant strong showing across the team, - for his club, for a special group of friends and teammates who have 8-4 to advance to the championship played together for over five years, and for his family (Jensen's son Soren plays on the 16U team).

For CC United's 16U team, the Jack Larsen, Tom McGuire, and

The CC United Water Polo road led to strong finishes at tour- Dash McFarland kept the score tied Club's 16U Boys team won naments including KAP7 Interna-CC United beat San Diego Shores

> Continued strong performances from players like Soren Jensen,

Tennis Club 'B' Meet

Submitted by Dana Wentworth



From left: Emme Winters (Moraga Country Club), Lulu Gates (Campolindo Cabana Club), Brandon Stemmler (Meadow Swim Team); not pictured: Oliver Nowac (Campolindo Cabana Club), Olivia Durinck (Orinda Park Pool)

Sleepy Hollow Swim and Ten-nis Club held it's 32nd Annual considered the championship meet "B" Invitational on Sunday, July for the "B" swimmers within the 22. This meet celebrates the "B" swimmers from the nine teams participants and High Point Winwithin the Orinda Moraga Pool Association (OMPA). It is eagerly an-

OMPA. Congratulations to all the ners of 2018!

High Point Winners:

6U Boys: Oliver Nowac — Campolindo Cabana Club 8U Girls - Tie: Lulu Gates — Campolindo Cabana Club 8U Girls - Tie: Olivia Durinck — Orinda Park Pool 8U Boys: Brandon Stemmler — Meadow Swim Team 10U Girls: Kiera Verprauskus — Moraga Country Club 10U Boys: August Hance — Sleepy Hollow Legends 12U Girls: Campbell Lovell — Sleepy Hollow Legends 12U Boys: Stephen Klein — Orinda Country Club 14U Girls: Katie Duff — Moraga Country Club 14U Boys: Miles Owens — Orinda Park Pool 18U Girls: Lexi Yokomizo — Moraga Ranch Club

6U Girls: Emme Winters — Moraga Country Club



Front row, from left: Kiera Verprauskus (Moraga Country Club), August Hance (Sleepy Hollow Legends), Campbell Lovell (Sleepy Hollow Legends), Stephen Klein (Orinda Country Club); back row: Katie Duff (Moraga Country Club), Miles Owens (Orinda Park Pool), Lexi Yokomizo (Moraga Ranch Club), Nick Giorgianni (Sleepy Hollow Legends)

EST. 1954

Lafayette Little League - 11's District **Champions**

Submitted by Mary Beth Stadt



Top row from left: Manager Matt Pecci, Coach Mike Michlitsch, Coach Brian Miles; players: Nico White, Ben Pecci, James Stadt, Mack Fisher, Austin Wampler, Alex Rothey, Austin Bilello, Dominic Patitucci, Jake Yoshinaka, Wyatt Cooper, Cody Michlitsch and Brendan Miles

afayette Little League's √11-year-old All Star team won back-to-back District 4 Championships after winning the title last year as 10 year olds. They are only the second Lafayette team in the last 20 years who have accomplished this feat. They have gone undefeated in the District 4 Tournament the last two years. District 4 comprises the following leagues: Alameda, Albany, Antioch, Clayton Valley, Concord American, Concord Continental, East County, Lafayette, Martinez, North Oakland, Pinole, Hercules, Pittsburg, Richmond, South Oakland and Walnut Creek.

through the first half of the cham-

pionship game against So Cal.

solid performance during the final

game with three goals. Fighting to

the end, the team never gave up but

finished the game a few goals shy

of victory with a 6-9 final score. In

a sign of the character Coach Jen-

sen helped develop in the team, CC

United celebrated their achieve-

ment alongside the So Cal players,

many of whom have become good

friends over the years.



www.lmyaswim.com

2018 OMPA Championship final results



1,222



Lindsay Lucas -Sleepy Hollow (SH)

Miramonte Swim Club

9 Campolindo Cabana Club Marlins

Combined Team Scores							
1	Orinda Country Club	4,876					
2	Meadow Swim Team	3,036.50					
3	Sleepy Hollow Legends	2,863.50					
4	Moraga Valley Pool Swim Team	2,589					
5	Orinda Park Pool Swim Team	2,212					
6	Moraga Country Club	2,080					
7	Moraga Ranch Swim Club	1,830					

GIRLS MEET HIGH POINT -- OUTSTANDING SWIMMER

Age Group Team Points Strokes Katrina Drake 15-18 OCC 72 1st FR | 1st BK | 1st IM

BOYS MEET HIGH POINT -- OUTSTANDING SWIMMER

Age Group Team Points Strokes Donovan Davidson 13-14 SH 72 1st IM | 1st FR | 1st FL

MOST OUTSTANDING RELAY -- GIRLS

Team Age Group Event Time % Diff From Record C. Wu OCC 15-18 MR 1:48.91 -1.305

S. Sherwood K. Drake K. Lyons

J. Painter M. Younger

MOST OUTSTANDING RELAY -- BOYS

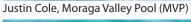
Names Team Age Group Event Time % Diff From Record FR W. Clark MEAD 15-18 1:24.78 E. O'Brien

Photos Gint Federas Grace Tehaney, Meadow swim team

as Grac	c renaricy, incadow s	wiiii tca						
RECORDS GIRLS NEW RECORD OLD RECORD								
					OLD RECORD			
TEAM	EVENT	TIME(S))		NAME	TEAM	YEAR	TIME
OCC	15-18 100Y IM	58.38			Brooke Woodward	OCC	2011	59.61
OCC	15-18 50Y FREE	24.20	24.18	24.15	Analisa Pines	MEAD	2016	24.21
OCC	15-18 100Y FREE	51.40			Katrina Drake	OCC	2017	51.67
SH	15-18 50Y BREAST	30.28	29.95		Grace Tehaney	MEAD	2017	30.86
MCC	7-8 25Y FLY	14.46			Lily Holloway	MCC	2017	14.46
OCC	15-18 50Y FLY	25.82			Katie Bilotti	SH	2009	25.98
OCC	15-18 200Y MR	1:48.91			C. Wu	OCC	2017	1:50.35
					S. Sherwood			
					K. Drake			
					K. Lyons			
OCC	15-18 200Y FR	1:37.24			K. Drake	OCC	2016	1:37.68
					C. Wu			
					R. Hagglund			
					K. Lyons			
	TEAM OCC OCC OCC SH MCC OCC OCC	TEAM EVENT OCC 15-18 100Y IM OCC 15-18 50Y FREE OCC 15-18 100Y FREE	TEAM EVENT TIME(S) OCC 15-18 100Y IM 58.38 OCC 15-18 50Y FREE 24.20 OCC 15-18 100Y FREE 51.40 SH 15-18 50Y BREAST 30.28 MCC 7-8 25Y FLY 14.46 OCC 15-18 50Y FLY 25.82 OCC 15-18 200Y MR 1:48.91	TEAM EVENT TIME(S) OCC 15-18 100Y IM 58.38 OCC 15-18 50Y FREE 24.20 24.18 OCC 15-18 100Y FREE 51.40 SH 15-18 50Y BREAST 30.28 29.95 MCC 7-8 25Y FLY 14.46 OCC 15-18 50Y FLY 25.82 OCC 15-18 200Y MR 1:48.91	TEAM EVENT TIME(S) OCC 15-18 100Y IM 58.38 OCC 15-18 50Y FREE 24.20 24.18 24.15 OCC 15-18 100Y FREE 51.40 SH 15-18 50Y BREAST 30.28 29.95 MCC 7-8 25Y FLY 14.46 OCC 15-18 50Y FLY 25.82 OCC 15-18 200Y MR 1:48.91	TEAM EVENT TIME(S) NAME OCC 15-18 100Y IM 58.38 Brooke Woodward OCC 15-18 50Y FREE 24.20 24.18 24.15 Analisa Pines OCC 15-18 100Y FREE 51.40 Katrina Drake SH 15-18 50Y BREAST 30.28 29.95 Grace Tehaney MCC 7-8 25Y FLY 14.46 Lily Holloway OCC 15-18 50Y FLY 25.82 Katie Bilotti OCC 15-18 200Y MR 1:48.91 C. Wu S. Sherwood K. Drake K. Lyons OCC 15-18 200Y FR 1:37.24 K. Drake C. Wu R. Hagglund	TEAM EVENT TIME(S) NAME TEAM OCC 15-18 100Y IM 58.38 Brooke Woodward OCC OCC 15-18 50Y FREE 24.20 24.18 24.15 Analisa Pines MEAD OCC 15-18 100Y FREE 51.40 Katrina Drake OCC SH 15-18 50Y BREAST 30.28 29.95 Grace Tehaney MEAD MCC 7-8 25Y FLY 14.46 Lily Holloway MCC OCC 15-18 50Y FLY 25.82 Katie Bilotti SH OCC 15-18 200Y MR 1:48.91 C. Wu OCC S. Sherwood K. Drake K. Lyons OCC 15-18 200Y FR 1:37.24 K. Drake OCC C. Wu R. Hagglund	TEAM EVENT TIME(S) NAME TEAM YEAR OCC 15-18 100Y IM 58.38 Brooke Woodward OCC 2011 OCC 15-18 100Y FREE 24.20 24.18 24.15 Analisa Pines MEAD 2016 OCC 15-18 100Y FREE 51.40 Katrina Drake OCC 2017 SH 15-18 50Y BREAST 30.28 29.95 Grace Tehaney MEAD 2017 MCC 7-8 25Y FLY 14.46 Lily Holloway MCC 2017 OCC 15-18 50Y FLY 25.82 Katie Bilotti SH 2009 OCC 15-18 200Y MR 1:48.91 C. Wu OCC 2017 S. Sherwood K. Drake K. Lyons OCC 15-18 200Y FR 1:37.24 K. Drake C. Wu R. Hagglund

RECORDS -- BOYS NEW RECORD OLD RECORD NAME TEAM EVENT TIME(S) NAME TEAM YEAR TIME 20.67 CCC 2008 20.75 Kai Nashan SH 15-18 50Y FREE Dana Foster Miles Gaffney MIRA 7-8 25Y BREAST 16.80 16.78 Michael Gotelli MIRA 1983 17.63 W. Clark MEAD 15-18 200Y FR 1:24.78 T. Fellner OCC 2016 1:26.43 E. O'Brien P. Hallahan J. Painter S. Schmidt M. Younge r T. Abramson







高端/金属/金属/電腦/

Team MEAD PARK MRSC

MCC

MIRA

MVP

MVP MCC

MRSC OCC

MVP

MVP SH

MEAD

MEAD

OCC

SH

SH

Boys 7-8 Breaststroke Start

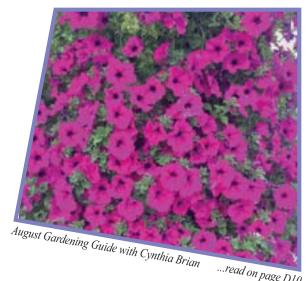


	19
Lily Holloway, Moraga Country Club (MCC)	Sea

					THE PERSON LAND	M. KA	10	4	MALAL	网络阿朗斯
Lily Hollo	way, M	oraga Coui	ntry Club (MCC)			Sea Serpents				
2018 GIRLS HIGH POINT WINNERS						2018 BOYS HIGH POINT WINNERS				
	Plac	e Points	Name	Strokes	Team		Place	Points	Name	Strokes
6&U	1	48	Grace Kroger	1st FR 1st BK	OCC	6&U	1	48	Jake Bishop	1st FR 1st FL
	2	43	Evelyn Gaffney	4th FL 1st BR	MIRA		2	45	Henry Deal	2nd FR 1st BR
	2	43	Teagan Devinger	4th BK 1st FL	MEAD		3	44	Colin Kinney	3rd FR 1st BK
7-8s	1	72	Amelia Knutson	1st IM 1st FR 1st FL	MCC	7-8s	1	69	Joseph Goett	1st FR 1st IM 2nd BR
	2	61	Emilia Haast	3rd IM 2nd FR 3rd FL	PARK		2	65	Miles Gaffney	2nd IM 1st BR 3rd FL
	2	61	Hailey Birkby	2nd IM 4th FR 2nd FL	MCC		3	62	Ryan Erickson	2nd FR 3rd BR 2nd FL
	2	61	Olivia Britton	6th IM 3rd FR 1st BK	OCC	9-10s	1	63	Jack Elder	2nd IM 2nd BR 2nd BK
9-10s	1	72	Charlotte Shamia	1st BR 1st IM 1st FL	OCC		2	62	Will Maguy	6th FR 1st BK 2nd FL
	2	69	Jewel Mendiola	1st FR 2nd IM 1st BK	MEAD		3	61	Alex Knudsen	1st FR 10th BK 1st FL
	3	62	Lily Holloway	3rd IM 2nd BK 2nd FL	MCC	11-12s	1	66	Ryan Wisk	5th BR 1st BK 1st IM
11-12s	1	72	Natalie Aiken	1st IM 1st FR 1st FL	SH		2	65	Logan Gunn	2nd IM 1st BR 3rd BK
	2	64	Natalie Stryker	1st BR 3rd IM 3rd FL	OCC		3	64	Grant Kurtz	3rd IM 3rd FR 1st FL
	3	62	Elisabeth Butler	3rd BR 2nd IM 2nd FL	OCC	13-14s	1	72	Donovan Davidson	1st IM 1st FR 1st FL
13-14s	1	69	Meghan McAninch	2nd BR 1st FL 1st IM	OCC		2	66	Owen Younger	2nd FR 1st BK 2nd FL
	2	63	Grace Clark	1st BK 2nd FL 5th IM	MEAD		3	61	Cayde Schmedding	1st BR 5th FL 4th IM
	2	63	Lindsey Lucas	4th IM 3rd FR 1st BR	SH	15-18s	1	69	William Clark	1st IM 2nd BK 1st FL
15-18s	1	72	Katrina Drake	1st FR 1st BK 1st IM	OCC		2	66	Christian Meckfessel	2nd IM 2nd FR 1st BR
	2	66	Katie Lyons	1st FR 1st FL 5th IM	OCC		3	65	Kai Nashan	1st FR 3rd BK 2nd FL
	2	66	Emmie Appl	2nd IM 1st BR 2nd FL	SH	See att r	esults a	t https://	ompaswim.com/meet	results

Occinda OCIR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 12 Issue 12 Wednesday, August 8, 2018



Feng Shui

Creating a sense of grounding, balance, and wellness through the Earth element

By Michele Duffy



Every one of the Five Elements is well represented in this living room, including the Earth element. Can you locate the Earth element additions? Photo provided



The Five Elements

he Five Elements are the second most important and used tool in Feng Shui, besides the Bagua map. In Feng Shui, we use the Five Elements to balance and enrich home spaces so that the feeling of home promotes grace, ease and support. Our home should function as a personal retreat, a restorative place we rejuvenate and refresh and so if the home does not feeling that way, the Five Elements can help. The Bagua includes all Five Elements and each Bagua area is ruled by one of them.

The creative or productive Five Elements cycle is as follows: Water creates Wood; Wood creates Fire; Fire creates Earth; Earth creates Metal; and Metal

creates Water.

There is also a Five Elements controlling cycle as well: Water controls Fire; Fire controls Metal; Metal controls Wood; Wood controls Earth; and Earth controls Water.

An environment with a lot of the Metal element, such as white walls and metal furniture, can be brought into better balance by introducing the warmth of the Fire element with lighting, candles or spherical shapes, and an overly Wood décor with lots of green, plants and vertical artwork can be balanced by cutting back the wood with some of the Metal element.

So how does the Earth element – which governs the whole 2018 Earth Dog year through January 2019 – help us in our homes to be happier, more grounded and at ease?

First, Earth has a mothering quality and makes you feel securely balanced and peaceful from within, so you create a better balance between nourishing self and others. Earth is the peacemaker and with a better connection to the idea of establishing healthy boundaries and an ability to say no, Earth can then do the most good in the world.

Earth is represented by colors that range from yellow, orange, brown, pink, and certain blues (also a secondary Water color). Square shapes also symbolically represent the Earth element as do materials such as crystal, ceramic, brick, clay, rock, stone and shells.

Second, from a personal health and wellness perspective bringing the Earth element into balance will support many of the health initiatives we are integrating into our personal care regimes. Many people will find in 2018 the necessary energetic support to quit smoking, improve exercise commitments, refocus on dietary choices or establish a better work-life balance. Balancing the Earth element at home is another way to create the desired results.

Third, by fostering the Earth element in our home, we can create a respite that deepens our connection to the nourishing role home is meant to play in our lives.

... continued on page D4





Lafayette ~ Small Gated Community

Tucked along a quiet lane, this single level traditional is hard to beat. The turn key property offers high ceilings, open rooms, new hardwood and carpet flooring, new paint, stone counters, large yard and so much more. The popular bike trail is nearby as is easy commute access. Enjoy three bedrooms and two and a half bathrooms. Offered at \$1,595,000



Lafayette ~ Happy Valley... One of the Most Sought After Addresses in the Bay Area This sprawling single level ranch style home with 4 bdrms and 2.5 baths offers nearly an acre of flat land. Ideally located within walking distance to Lafayette's lively downtown district and BART, the potential is endless. Offered at \$2,495,000.



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COMPASS



Page: D2 OUR HOMES 925-377-0977 Wednesday, August 8, 2018

Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	18	\$850,000	\$2,599,000
MORAGA	16	\$570,000	\$2,425,000
ORINDA	25	\$750,000	\$2,450,000

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

1 Cerro Encantado, \$1,000,000, 3 Bdrms, 1542 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 6-28-18 1060 Lizann Drive, \$1,650,100, 2 Bdrms, 2166 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 6-25-18; Previous Sale: \$1,450,000, 04-05-04

1129 Martino Road, \$2,050,000, 4 Bdrms, 3326 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 6-27-18 3326 Beechwood Drive, \$1,400,000, 3 Bdrms, 1880 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 6-22-18 3357 Beechwood Drive, \$987,000, 2 Bdrms, 1189 SqFt, 1947 YrBlt, 6-22-18;

Previous Sale: \$136,000, 10-21-80 3606 Brook Street, \$1,523,000, 3 Bdrms, 2885 SqFt, 1980 YrBlt, 6-22-18; Previous Sale: \$850,000, 04-30-10

393 Colorados Court, \$1,600,500, 3 Bdrms, 1959 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 6-21-18; Previous Sale: \$656,000, 07-29-03

905 Dewing Avenue, \$850,000, 2 Bdrms, 1349 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 6-19-18; Previous Sale: \$725,000, 03-02-18

1654 Glen Oak Court, \$1,120,000, 3 Bdrms, 2096 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 6-18-18; Previous Sale: \$57,000, 12-01-72

735 Glenside Drive, \$1,335,000, 2 Bdrms, 2003 SqFt, 1942 YrBlt, 6-15-18; Previous Sale: \$375,000, 01-30-91

3765 Highland Road, \$1,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 1731 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 6-22-18; Previous Sale: \$866,000, 07-24-12

3270 Judith Lane, \$1,550,000, 3 Bdrms, 2072 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 6-15-18 3212 Los Palos Circle, \$2,599,000, 6-15-18;

Previous Sale: \$1,126,000, 03-24-16

946 Oak View Circle, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 2400 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 6-20-18 568 Silverado Drive, \$1,750,000, 3 Bdrms, 2294 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 6-22-18 3519 South Silver Springs Road, \$1,650,000, 3 Bdrms, 1895 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 6-20-18

3660 West Road, \$1,190,000, 2 Bdrms, 1015 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 6-22-18 1039 Windsor Drive, \$1,525,000, 4 Bdrms, 2010 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 6-20-18; Previous Sale: \$1,015,000, 05-15-14

MORAGA

8 Baltusrol Street, \$901,000, 3 Bdrms, 1749 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 6-26-18; Previous Sale: \$780,000, 10-10-14

20 Indian Wells Street, \$1,560,000, 4 Bdrms, 3424 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 6-28-18; Previous Sale: \$1,495,000, 02-19-16

5 Paseo Linares, \$2,425,000, 5 Bdrms, 4188 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 7-2-18; Previous Sale: \$2,254,000, 01-04-16

1747 Spyglass Lane, \$1,215,000, 3 Bdrms, 2828 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 6-27-18; Previous Sale: \$350,000, 04-29-86

158 Willowbrook Lane, \$2,200,000, 3 Bdrms, 3003 SqFt, 2016 YrBlt, 6-28-18 218 Alderbrook Place, \$1,550,000, 4 Bdrms, 2741 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 6-22-18; Previous Sale: \$1,003,500, 06-10-09

1982 Ascot Drive #C, \$570,000, 3 Bdrms, 1473 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 6-15-18; Previous Sale: \$570,000, 05-24-18

61 Ascot Place #37, \$840,000, 2 Bdrms, 1455 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 6-15-18; Previous Sale: \$543,000, 08-30-10

1373 Camino Peral #A, \$925,000, 6-20-18;

Previous Sale: \$900,000, 03-15-07 ... continued on page D11



COMING SOON & ACTIVE



Handsome Orinda Estate 3 Honey Hill Court | Orinda Offered at \$2,995,000

6 BR | 4.5 BA | 4125± SQ. FT.

Stately and traditional custom built home in sought after Orinda County Club neighborhood.



Total Remodel in the Trail

963 Hawthorne Drive | Lafayette Offered at \$1,495,000

4 BR | 2 BA | 1942± SQ. FT.

Gorgeous remodel in the popular Lafayette Trail neighborhood. Walk to town, trail and schools.



Prime MCC Location

31 Broadmoor Street | Moraga Offered at \$1,525,000

4 BR | 2.5 BA | 2828± SQ. FT.

Beautifully remodeled Forest Hills model in one of the Club's best locations with privacy and views.



Buttoned-up in Burton Valley

3177 Lucas Drive | Lafayette Offered at \$1,275,000

3 BR | 2 BA | 1574± SQ. FT.

Upgrades and enhancements made to this sparkling Burton Valley Rancher on 1/2± acre.



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Page: D4 LAMORINDA WEEKLY OUR HOMES www.lamorindaweekly.com 925-377-0977 Wednesday, August 8, 2018

Feng Shui

Creating a sense of grounding, balance, and wellness through the Earth element

... continued from page D1



Shells, crystals and rocks all activate the Earth element in our spaces, so add some in a ceramic bowl and place in the center of your home or frame your favorite photo, like this one placed in this home.

There are three Bagua areas ruled by the Earth element (see Bagua map) including Relationships, Health and Self-Knowledge/ Wisdom. Each element, including Earth, has a more predominant Yin or a Yang aspect and to that end, the Relationship area is Yin Earth, the Health area is balanced Yin/Yang, and the Self-Knowledge and Wisdom area is more Yang Earth. We can choose any one or all three of these Bagua areas to adjust or activate in our homes. How to choose? Start with whatever area feels most out of balance. Are you feeling out of balance in your relationships, is your health suffering or are you struggling to achieve consistency with your spiritual practice? Use these questions to guide you to which Bagua area needs your

attention most.

Do a personal audit of the Bagua areas ruled by Earth and identify which objects, furniture and art may represent Earth in your space. If you discover a predominance of clutter in any of the Earth areas, your first job is to clear the stagnant clutter. What else is each area subliminally communicating to you? Are the far right areas at the entrance to your master bedroom and home aligned with loving and nourishing relationships? Is the health center of your home a long hallway or a draining bathroom? Are the near left areas of self-knowledge and wisdom overly controlled by lots of Wood element plants, green décor or wall colors? Take a personal audit first of the Bagua areas governed by Earth that you would like to address and bring them into balance with the Five Elements, either adding more Earth and Fire (Fire creates Earth) or if there is too much Earth, add the Water element.

In these uncertain times, grounding ourselves at home can help create the difference between a year of wellness, happiness and quiet personal triumphs versus succumbing to the stresses of life that are always at our door. If you believe the Five Elements is a challenging subject you are certainly not alone, and that is also why using a professional Feng Shui consultant who consistently applies them can help you to better balance the Earth element in your home so that you receive the desired results of nourishing support. When we feel supported and aligned with balance, we can accomplish almost anything regardless of what life throws our way.

May the 2018 Earth Dog year continue to bless you with the grounding balance and deep happiness through the nurturance you create right in your own home.

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

The Bagua Map: Front Door

Michele Duffy, BTB M.F.S. is an Orinda resident who, since 1999, enjoys creating "Space as Medicine" Feng Shui one space at a time, as well as hiking in nature, cooking, and spending time with her family; Canyon Ranch Feng

Shui Master, International Feng Shui Guild (IFSG) Red Ribbon Professional. To schedule a professional 2018 Feng Shui Consultation, contact Michele at (520) 647-4887 or send an email to spaceharmony@gmail.com.





Just Sold



. .

10 Westwood Court

• • •

Eight New Listings Coming Soon!

Contact us for more information



499 Dalewood Drive

Represented Buyer



The Paddy Kehoe Team



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Claudia Gohler 925.765.8081 claudia@paddykehoeteam.com DRE 01995498



Dave Schurhoff 925.997.9569 dave.schurhoff@compass.com DRE 01834201



Mary Staten 925.890.6875 mary.staten@compass.com DRE 01947354



147 CAMINO DON MIGUEL, ORINDA | 3 BEDROOMS + STUDY | 2.5 BATHS | 3223 SQ. FT. | .32 ACRE | \$1,850,000 A home filled with character and charm of a bygone era yet updated with all modern day amenities.



17 VALLEY VIEW LANE, ORINDA | 3 BEDROOMS | 2.5 BATHS | 2435 SQ. FT. | 1.1 ACRE | \$1,650,000 A special home on a lush, knoll setting providing expansive views, privacy and tranquility.



—CLARK**THOMPSON**—

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OH, AND THEN THERE'S THIS: Welcome Emily Estrada to my team!

"I feel lucky to be teaming up with Amy because she's an all-star agent and and a good person, to boot. Together we will be able to provide our clients with an even higher level of service, which is the ultimate goal!" - Emily Estrada, BRE# 01942438







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Page: D8 LAMORINDA WEEKLY OUR HOMES www.lamorindaweekly.com 925-377-0977 Wednesday, August 8, 2018

Current trends in home remodels

By Jenn Freedman







cor "m used in today's Darrick an renovators. The

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hether you're looking for inspiration for a much-needed remodel, considering buying a freshly renovated home, or are simply intrigued, "modern farmhouse" and "updated rancher" are the terms commonly used in today's modern home design.

Darrick and Erin Martin wear two hats, both as real estate agents and home renovators. Their business, Martin Homes, specializes in buying, selling, and remodeling homes in Lamorinda and Walnut Creek.

"There is a trend in updated rancher homes painted white with black or bronze highlights and high-end finishes like build-in refrigerators and commercial ovens (e.g. Wolf or Viking). White is the color most millennials prefer for its clean, neutral look," Darrick Martin explains.

Finola Fellner of Compass Real Estate agrees. "That farmhouse style is super in right now. These young kids buying today love homes that are done with clean lines, kind of on the modern side of design."

Some of the specific details within this current design trend include: an open floor plan, creating a brighter, more inviting space where people want to spend more of their time; an oversized kitchen island, establishing a sense of place where fami-lies can entertain, eat meals together, complete homework, and work; smooth walls that eliminate the dated "orange peel" texture of the '70s and '80s; and hardwood floors throughout the home, creating uniform flooring that is easy to maintain.

Homeowners also like simple trim options that fit with the overall home aesthetic, like shiplap walls (interlocking wooden boards), shaker style trim and doors (a simple, flat-panel door with a slightly raised border), and clean, squared corners.

... continued on page D10

COMING SOON! 2910 WINDTREE COURT, LAFAYETTE

Don't miss this fabulous and chic approx. 3,860 sf one level home with pool, pool house and California room. It is a home designed for ultimate indoor/outdoor living! The main house boasts 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, gorgeous chef's kitchen, spacious family room with custom built-ins, lovely formal living and dining spaces, private master suite with attached sitting area, hardwood floors throughout, possible au-pair set up and much more! The pool house with an additional full bath is ideal for a guest room, media room, private office or art studio. The California room is amazing with built-in pizza oven, gas & wood burning grill, dishwasher, 2 TVs, living & dining rooms and much more. Enjoy Lafayette's top-rated schools, close proximity to commute routes, Lafayette-Moraga Trail, BART and Town!





FINOLA FELLNER 925.890.7807 BRE #01428834

COMPASS



Current trends in home remodels

... continued from page D8



White walls and trim create a timeless look and blank slate. Black hardware is most common for the whitest white shades while bronze hardware is prevalent with slightly off shades of white.

One of the Martin team's recent Lafayette remodels showcases many of these details: walls were knocked down to create an open floor plan between the living room, dining room, kitchen, and straight through to the family room. Carpets and various tiles were replaced with uniform hardwood floors, and walls, ceilings, and fireplace were simplified to white.





Another of the Martin team's Lafayette renovations involved a complete overhaul of the kitchen with high-end appliances, shiplap walls, a large kitchen island, shaker cabinets, and white surfaces. The updated bathroom illustrates details like bronze hardware, shiplap walls, wood flooring – and of course white.

With such simple, clean choices, remodel updates like this may even transcend trendiness and last forever.



Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

... continued from page D2

MORAGA ... continued

- 1439 Camino Peral, \$705,000, 2 Bdrms, 1159 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 6-19-18; Previous Sale: \$563,500, 07-25-07
- 75 Corliss Drive, \$1,270,000, 5 Bdrms, 1917 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 6-22-18
- 59 Corte Del Caballo, \$1,354,500, 4 Bdrms, 2632 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 6-20-18; Previous Sale: \$255,000, 10-10-85
- 792 Country Club Drive, \$800,000, 2 Bdrms, 1262 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 6-15-18; Previous Sale: \$765,000, 11-07-14
- 19 Ketelsen Court, \$1,440,000, 3 Bdrms, 3833 SqFt, 1981 YrBlt, 6-18-18; Previous Sale: \$1,105,000, 09-16-15
- 42 Miramonte Drive, \$832,000, 4 Bdrms, 1762 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 6-15-18; Previous Sale: \$365,000, 09-21-12
- 282 Paseo Bernal, \$915,000, 3 Bdrms, 2044 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 6-21-18; Previous Sale: \$570,000, 08-29-03

ORINDA

- 684 Fox #RUN, \$1,470,000, 3 Bdrms, 3053 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 6-27-18
- 1 Poco Paseo, \$1,165,100, 3 Bdrms, 1554 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 6-25-18; Previous Sale: \$837,500, 07-31-09
- 65 Sleepy Hollow Lane, \$1,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 1784 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 6-25-18
- 489 Tahos Road, \$1,830,000, 4 Bdrms, 2440 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 7-2-18
- 179 Camino Pablo, \$895,000, 2 Bdrms, 1112 SqFt, 1939 YrBlt, 6-18-18; Previous Sale: \$88,500, 07-25-78
- 241 Camino Pablo, \$1,030,000, 3 Bdrms, 1130 SqFt, 1939 YrBlt, 6-18-18; Previous Sale: \$700,000, 02-13-15
- 126 Canon Drive, \$1,650,000, 2 Bdrms, 3266 SqFt, 1924 YrBlt, 6-15-18
- 5 Charles Hill Place, \$1,755,000, 3 Bdrms, 2145 SqFt, 1915 YrBlt, 6-18-18; Previous Sale: \$1,280,000, 05-14-12
- 3 Darnby Court, \$1,550,000, 4 Bdrms, 2430 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 6-19-18
- 131 Donna Maria Way, \$1,165,000, 3 Bdrms, 1506 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 6-20-18
- 23 Donna Maria Way, \$1,260,000, 3 Bdrms, 1879 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 6-15-18
- 99 Donna Maria Way, \$1,635,000, 4 Bdrms, 2146 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 6-22-18; Previous Sale: \$1,330,000, 10-25-16
- 92 El Gavilan Road, \$1,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 1941 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 6-21-18; Previous Sale: \$850,000, 07-19-04
- 75 Estates Drive, \$1,655,000, 4 Bdrms, 3068 SqFt, 1976 YrBlt, 6-21-18; Previous Sale: \$1,499,000, 02-17-15
- 136 Glorietta Boulevard, \$965,000, 3 Bdrms, 2015 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 6-15-18
- 62 Hacienda Circle, \$1,590,000, 4 Bdrms, 1841 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 6-21-18; Previous Sale: \$1,343,000, 06-17-16
- 8 Las Vegas Court, \$1,350,000, 3 Bdrms, 1416 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 6-22-18; Previous Sale: \$1,150,000, 09-27-05
- 52 Mira Loma Road, \$1,819,500, 4 Bdrms, 2240 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 6-20-18; Previous Sale: \$1,460,000, 01-04-18
- 9 Overhill Court, \$1,940,000, 5 Bdrms, 3326 SqFt, 1981 YrBlt, 6-15-18; Previous Sale: \$1,250,000, 06-28-07
- 50 Parklane Drive, \$750,000, 3 Bdrms, 1503 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 6-15-18
- 4 Rich Acres Road, \$1,479,500, 4 Bdrms, 3171 SqFt, 1982 YrBlt, 6-20-18
- 10 Tara Road, \$1,715,000, 3 Bdrms, 2397 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 6-15-18; Previous Sale: \$1,014,000, 10-29-10
- 6 Tara Road, \$1,025,000, 4 Bdrms, 2816 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 6-21-18; Previous Sale: \$280,000, 12-22-88
- 14 Valley Court, \$2,450,000, 4 Bdrms, 3950 SqFt, 1983 YrBlt, 6-15-18; Previous Sale: \$130,000, 01-29-82
- 12 West Hill Way, \$2,111,000, 4 Bdrms, 3487 SqFt, 2016 YrBlt, 6-21-18; Previous Sale: \$24,440,000, 12-30-15







Page: D12 LAMORINDA WEEKLY OUR HOMES www.lamorindaweekly.com 925-377-0977 Wednesday, August 8, 2018

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for August

Towers of flowers

By Cynthia Brian

"A man travels the world over in search of what he needs and returns home to find it." ~ George Moore



Petunias, petunias - the favorite summer flower.

Photos Cynthia Brian

urope has been experiencing the highest temperatures of recent years causing major forest fires, crop losses, beach restrictions, and deaths from the simmering heat. In all the times I had visited Ireland since my teen years, the sun never shone. Yet recently when I visited the Emerald Isle to attend a wedding, spend time with my first-grade teacher, and embark on an overdue road trip with my childhood Irish pen pal, a heat wave was in full swing with temperatures in the high 90s. Dusk didn't arrive until at least 11 p.m. when both the moon and the sun shared the sky.

Although the countryside was dry and golden, almost resembling a California June landscape, Dublin was ablaze in flowers. Everywhere we walked towers of flowers adorned street corners, tubs hung from pubs overflowed with glorious blooms, while horns honked at me as I foolishly stepped into the street to photograph the beauty. Even the Guinness Storehouse boasted a soaring riser of cascading petunias in vibrant hues of red, pink and fuchsia. On the Aran Island of Inismor, thatched cottages were enlivened with baskets of purple petunias, blue, lavender and white lobelia, and geraniums. The Doolin pier boasted an old boat loaded with flowers in yellows, oranges and reds, while streets in Galway were lined with roses, agapanthus, verbena, astilbe, ivy, and even more petunias. Besides the exquisite flowers everywhere, I was enthralled by the doors that led to houses for the fairies and leprechauns that adorned many of the landscapes.

Whenever I travel, I gravitate to gardens. No matter where I am in our wondrous world, experiencing the spectacular floral creations of a nation is enchanting. Gardens relax, refresh, and energize me. I return to California excited to create something fresh and new.

For a friend who raises chickens, I designed a birthday arrangement that felt sunny and bright using firecracker plants, hollyhocks, roses, nasturtium, calendula, Italium berries, and sorrel stalks all gathered in a rooster teapot.

My Irish first-grade teacher always told me that she kept a leprechaun in her pocket. I was hoping to persuade her to allow her little friend to emigrate to California with me, but I guess I'll just have to make due with installing a fairy door on a tree and planting a few shamrocks.

This August as you travel, make sure to visit a few gardens and spend time exploring the towers of flowers at your destination. You'll find what you need.



Yellow petunias anchor this flowing basket of pinks, and lavenders.





A field of blue agapanthus fronts pink oleanders.



A tower of flowers.



A small guest house flanked with ivy and astilbe.



In Galway, a tiny door leads to a house for leprechauns.



Page: D14 LAMORINDA WEEKLY OUR HOMES www.lamorindaweekly.com 925-377-0977 Wednesday, August 8, 2018

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for August

BE ALERT for smoke and wildfires. Clear debris from around your house, cut dry grasses and limbs, and be sure to pack an emergency go bag.

DONATE to California Fire Relief Efforts through Operation Disaster Relief. More information at http://ow.ly/ks8A30lekGe.

SPRAY roses for mildew and mites. Spray shaded crape myrtles for mildew and spray azaleas for thrip if necessary. Ask for organic sprays at your favorite garden center or nursery.

SCATTER Sluggo to kill snails and slugs.

JOIN A.S.I.D. (American Society of Interior Designers) and Janus et Cie for a Summer Garden Party in San Francisco in honor of my new book, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener," where you'll enjoy a flower arranging demonstration, elegant bites, cocktails, presentation and book signing. Info at https://www.cynthiabrian.com/gardening.

SOAK outdoor containers at least once weekly by allowing the water to fill the pots until water begins to drain from the bottom.

PROVIDE plenty of fresh water daily to pets during these hot months and feed them juicy summer fruits to enjoy such as watermelon, cantaloupe, blueberries and tomatoes.

PLAN for fall planting of water-thrifty plants including lavender, Plumbago, Black Eyed Susan, globe thistle and honeysuckle vine. You'll save on water bills for next year with these hardy perennials.

CREATE a beautiful arrangement straight from your summer garden with firecracker plants, hollyhocks, roses, nasturtium, calendula, and any grasses or reeds.

DESIGN a tower of flowers by using a pyramid stand and hanging baskets or pots from it filled with your preferred plants. Petunias, lobelias, pelargoniums, spider plants, and any draping plant will look terrific.

GROW a butterfly buffet by planting a mix of flowers that will provide food and habitat for caterpillars and butterflies through the fall. Keep your garden insecticide and pesticide free to attract other pollinators. Food species for caterpillars include oak, cherry, willow, dandelion, clover and dill. For the butterfly, plant Echinacea, liatris, buddleia, agastache and achillea. Milkweed will provide both larval nutrition and nectar for the adults.

PREPARE for fall by ordering spring blooming bulbs including allium, grape hyacinth, tulip, daffodil, hyacinth and crocus.

GET a tetanus vaccine every 10 years. Sometimes called lockjaw, tetanus is a serious disease caused from bacteria found in soil, manure or dust. When humans get a cut or puncture, the bacteria may enter the body causing this serious infection.

CUT canes of blackberries back to the ground after harvesting.

MULCH when needed to maintain moisture and climate control.

PICK peaches, tomatoes and zucchini as they ripen. Don't let fruit or vegetables rot on the ground.

TIE up vines that have become unruly or prune to a desired contour.

STAY cool by the pool and celebrate August under the stars on beautiful warm evenings.

No matter where we travel, it's always wonderful to come home. We love California living.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



On a thatched cottage in the Aran Islands hang gorgeous baskets of blooms.



At Doolin pier in West Ireland, a boat of orange, yellow, and red greets visitors.

Page:



A birthday creation in a rooster teapot.



Cynthia Brian sits in an Irish garden with the full moon as the sun sets.

Cynthia Brian, The Goddess Gardener, raised in the vineyards of Napa County, is a New York Times best-selling author, actor, radio personality, speaker, media and writing coach as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Be the Star You Are 1° 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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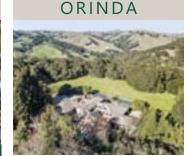
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