

**Happy Holidays!**  
 This Holiday edition of Lamorinda Weekly will be delivered between Monday Dec. 24 and Wednesday Dec. 26. Thank you for understanding.

# LAMORINDA

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The window display at the Lafayette McCaulou's.

Photo Pippa Fisher

## Teddy bear window display a Christmas toy tradition

By Pippa Fisher

It's a Lafayette tradition every Christmas season – the McCaulou's shop window. From Thanksgiving onward lights twinkle and music tinkles as the display of cuddly moving teddy bears enchant in a different winter wonderland scene each year.

McCaulou's Founder Dave McCaulou, still working

to keep the empire of 22 stores running every day, started with the Lafayette store in 1963. "We were the first tenants in the shopping center," he says explaining that the store was built to suit their need, including the corner window, which is such a perfect spot for the annual display.

McCaulou remembers seeing the Breuners Furniture

store featuring a Christmas living room scene with mechanized people in downtown Oakland as a small boy with his parents. It made such an impression on him that he decided to do the same in his store and over the years collected antique toys for his display.

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**COMPASS**



## Caltrans throws wrench in work on new Canyon Bridge

By Vera Kochan



Temporary Canyon Bridge

Photo Vera Kochan

Eldric Kwan, Moraga's director of public works, had some bad news to impart to the town council during its Dec. 12 meeting. Construction of the New Canyon Bridge would be delayed an additional year.

Even though Kwan and the town's se-

nior civil engineer, Shawn Knapp, met all of the Caltrans deadlines, making sure to provide a faultless reimbursement package, the stars simply didn't align.

In a last minute meeting on Dec. 10, Caltrans told Kwan that the funding was no longer available. Caltrans did offer to

change the status of the project to "advanced construction," which would provide higher priority for the project when funds do become available.

According to Kwan, the staff had done everything possible to get the funding to begin the construction process in January. "Caltrans headquarters in Sacramento has a Bridge Structural Review division. They are six months behind, and they do not have a timeframe for turnaround like they do with local assistance. Because of that delay, we will miss the construction season for 2019."

Caltrans was able to find funding for the fiscal year 2020-21. However, this means the project won't begin until 2020, when the reviews are completed. Kwan said he always approaches any project with a Plan B. "This gives more time to get the new package prepared and get bids out early." With this delay he hopes to get better bid offers for the construction.

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## A Note About Our Newspaper Carrier

Blackhawk Enterprise (email – mailblackhawk@gmail.com) has been delivering the Lamorinda Weekly to all homes in Orinda, Lafayette and Moraga since January 2011.

The team of eight drivers works hard to make sure you get your newspaper every other Wednesday. Blackhawk Enterprise and its team members would like to wish our readers a joyous holiday season and a very happy new year.

Please see their Holiday message on page A9.

Thank you,  
 Lamorinda Weekly

**Civic News A1-A12**

OUSD joins Sandy Hook Promise – Page A7.

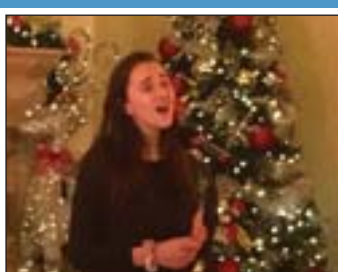
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Applauding Lamorinda Arts

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