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SHOW

Bring a picnic

Lafayette Reservoir

Sat., July 13, 5 PM

Big Band of Rossmoor

FREE EVENT



9-year-old Lyla Mediano, Moraga Country Club

Photo Gint Federas

Over 40 years of fun at Bottoms Up Meet

By Jon Kingdon

As a rule, being “odd” does not generally work in your favor and bottoms up is an invitation to take a drink. However, at the Bottoms Up Swim Meet held at Miramonte High School on June 30, being odd was an advantage for all of the swimmers and it had nothing to do with drinking.

At every other swim meet and tournament, the swimmers are grouped by ages of 5-6, 7-8, 9-10,

11-12, 13-14 and 15+. Thus, the “odd aged” swimmers are always competing against older swimmers, if only by one year. The Bottoms Up swim meet has only the swimmers aged 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15, the ones at the bottom of the age groups competing only against their peers by age.

Run by Moraga Valley Pool, The Bottoms Up Meet has been an annual event for 44 years and is made up of the club teams in the Orinda Moraga Pool Association. The nine clubs that competed, listed in order of how they finished the meet were:

Orinda Country Club (910), Meadow Swim Team (855), Moraga Valley Pool Swim Team (639), Orinda Park Pool Swim Team (617), Sleepy Hollow Legends (339), Moraga Ranch Swim Club (315), Miramonte Swim Club (240), Moraga Country Club (124) and Campolindo Cabana Club Marlins (35).

Trevor Rose, the head coach at Moraga Valley Pool says that it’s just like a regular meet: “The meet has a championship feel to it.”

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New Listing!

1012 Sanders Drive, Moraga
3/2 All Updated Single Story
Wonderful
Neighborhood Location
Lovely Yard & Setting
Close to town!

Ashley Battersby

925-323-9955
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ashley@ashleybattersby.com
@ashleybattersbyhome

villageassociates.com | @villageassociates | 925.254.0505 | It's Village. Of Course.

MOFD conducts first controlled burn exercise in Moraga



By Nick Marnell

Still frightened by the 2018 grass fire near Buckingham Drive, Moraga residents questioned the timing and the safety of a controlled burn conducted by the Moraga-Orinda Fire District on property recently purchased in the town by the John Muir Land Trust.

As residents complained on social media about a controlled fire going out of control, MOFD was pulling together a 30-person team from its district, the Berkeley Fire Department, the East Bay Regional Park District and the Concord Federal Fire Department to conduct a controlled burn and training exercise along the eastern slope of Painted Rock. The trust requested that MOFD conduct the exercise as a safety precaution, and the prescribed burn was set for June 29. “We heard a lot from homeowners

in the area that fire was a real concern. So we wanted to make sure we got off on the right foot,” said Glen Lewis of JMLT.

MOFD Battalion Chief Steve Gehling, the incident commander, conducted a 9 a.m. burn briefing at Fire Station 42 and detailed the eight-page incident action plan to the participants. “This has never been done in Moraga,” Gehling told the crews. “This is a big deal for us to show residents that it can be done safely and without damage to the community.”

Crews atop Painted Rock tested the weather and air quality, and then conducted a small test fire, which Gehling explained was to determine how fast the fire would travel that day and how much vegetation could be burned at one time – so as to not upset the nearby neighbors. ... continued on Page A9

Photography by David Grube for John Muir Land Trust, © 2019

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