Jamorinda OUR HOM

Lamorinda Weekly

Volume 13

Issue 14

Wednesday, September 4, 2019



Home interior by Amanda Eck

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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Garden garnishes



The bounty of vegetables and herbs are at their peak.

Photos Cynthia Brian

By Cynthia Brian

"Digging the garden, tending the weeds. Who could ask for more?" – John Lennon and Paul McCartney

Because I enjoy consuming copious amounts of greens, I have been called a rabbit. When I prepare meals, I use large quantities of herbs, leaves, and juices that emanate freshly harvested from my garden. Long ago my son deemed that I added "weeds" to my menus because basil, rosemary, sage, thyme, parsley, cilantro, oregano, fennel, mint, lovage, and, yes, the occasional weed, were ubiquitous. Years

before the craze of flavored waters hit the market, I was promoting what I called "weed water," H2O infused with fruits, juices and herbs. I began writing a recipe book and even bought the domain name of "weedwater.com," which I later sold for a hefty profit to a producer of cannabis products.

All of which brings me to my topic of garden garnishes.

The quest for creating delicious and original cuisine and beverages is time-honored. If you have visited any upscale restaurants or taverns recently, you probably have witnessed the rebirth of mixology. Although local wines and craft

beers are always in fashion, adventurous infused spirits with herbs, fruits, berries, flowers and leaves have become the new rock stars.

You can concoct your own personalized beverages and also add a flair for the gourmet to your barbecues with ingredients from your garden. Many herbs including basil, cilantro and fennel are bolting in the heat. Cut back the flowers and enjoy them in your cooking or cocktails. With the flowers shorn, even on thyme and oregano, you'll get a longer growing time. Cut up pieces of melon, cucumber, peaches, or other fruit to enhance your sparkling water. Sprigs of rosemary are great for skewers and barbecuing. Make sauces with unexpected mixtures. Putting flowers or fruit in ice trays makes tasty and pretty cubes for your drinks. Don't be shy. Be inventive. Be creative. Take a risk.

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A bee pollinates a black-eyed Susan coneflower.



COMPASS





Orinda Downs Richly Detailed and Beautifully Designed

Rise to the pinnacle of luxury in a masterfully constructed French Country estate featuring show stopping finishes and materials hand selected and artisan designed and crafted on site. 5 BD, office, media, wine cellar, 5 full and 2 powder bathrooms, pool house w/full bathroom, 6,000 + SF in the main house, 1.18 private acres. Offered at \$6,295,000



Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	14	\$745,000	\$2,800,000
MORAGA	7	\$500,000	\$1,825000
ORINDA	11	\$799,500	\$2,118,000

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

31 Barn Lane, \$1,650,000, 5 Bdrms, 2321 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 07-24-19

645 Byrdee Way, \$905,000, 4 Bdrms, 2121 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 07-15-19,

Previous Sale: \$775,000, 01-25-07

 $1363 \; El \; Curtola \; Boulevard, \; \$1,380,000, \; 4 \; Bdrms, \; 2460 \; SqFt, \; 1951 \; YrBlt, \; 07-15-19, \; 1951 \; YrBlt, \; 195$

Previous Sale: \$680,000, 11-30-10

3205 Greenhills Drive, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 3462 SqFt, 1986 YrBlt, 07-25-19,

Previous Sale: \$630,000, 05-02-98

3411 La Caminita, \$1,735,500, 4 Bdrms, 3107 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 07-22-19,

Previous Sale: \$435,000, 09-01-86

892 Mountain View Drive, \$2,325,000, 5 Bdrms, 3214 SqFt, 1946 YrBlt, 07-19-19,

Previous Sale: \$1,290,000, 08-13-10

4015 Natasha Drive, \$1,310,000, 3 Bdrms, 1870 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 07-17-19

932 Old Hawthorne Road, \$2,550,000, 4 Bdrms, 3041 SqFt, 1942 YrBlt, 07-23-19

2531 Pebble Beach Loop, \$1,098,000, 4 Bdrms, 2054 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 07-24-19

3615 Powell Drive, \$2,800,000, 4 Bdrms, 4959 SqFt, 1936 YrBlt, 07-15-19,

Previous Sale: \$1,250,000, 02-25-02

1580 Sharon Circle, \$745,000, 4 Bdrms, 1537 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 07-26-19,

Previous Sale: \$245,000, 12-01-89

3213 Sharon Court, \$1,260,000, 4 Bdrms, 1576 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 07-25-19 3485 Stage Coach Drive, \$1,821,000, 3 Bdrms, 3289 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 07-24-19 3323 Woodview Drive, \$1,572,000, 3 Bdrms, 1995 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 07-26-19,

Previous Sale: \$1,220,000, 07-09-09

MORAGA

118 Ascot Court #8, \$500,000, 1 Bdrms, 858 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 07-19-19, Previous Sale: \$155,000, 12-09-09

47 Miramonte Drive, \$820,000, 3 Bdrms, 1762 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 07-18-19

275 Rheem Boulevard, \$1,260,000, 3 Bdrms, 1679 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 07-25-19,

Previous Sale: \$925,000, 04-25-19

1251 Rimer Drive, \$1,825,000, 5 Bdrms, 2993 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 07-23-19,

Previous Sale: \$1,289,500, 03-16-12

341 Tharp Drive, \$1,260,000, 4 Bdrms, 2360 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 07-24-19

408 Tharp Drive, \$1,195,000, 3 Bdrms, 1689 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 07-17-19,

Previous Sale: \$1,025,000, 05-16-06

532 Woodminster Drive, \$745,000, 2 Bdrms, 1620 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 07-26-19,

Previous Sale: \$581,000, 06-11-14

... continued on Page D7

Orinda | 90mossbridge.com

90 Mossbridge Lane





5 Bed | 4 Bath | 4,154 Sq Ft | \$2,100,000

Beautiful 5 bedroom, 4 bathroom home in the highly sought after Orinda Downs neighborhood on the end of a private road. This 4,154 sf home is an entertainer's dream with amazing flow between indoor and outdoor spaces. Store your wine collection in either the temperature controlled wine cellar attached to the main house or the wine refrigerator in the pool house. An oasis of relaxation and privacy with stunning infinity edge pool and fully equipped Tuscan pool house with full bathroom and bar area. A built-in fire pit surrounded by citrus trees completes the resort style living.



New exceptional quality construction in Lafayette.

1198 Pleasant Hill Circle

5 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom, 3,230 sq. ft. with an additional 380 sq. ft. California Room & 3-car garage on a .29 acre flat corner lot. Viking appliances, Andersen windows, solar powered skylights, linear fireplace, high ceilings & hardwood floors. Sonos entertainment system in master bed/bath, living room & California room. Close to Acalanes HS, Springhill Elementary, BART and Downtown.







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Claudia Gohler 925.765.8081 claudia@paddykehoeteam.com DRE 01995498



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



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



Leslie Lomond 650.799.2110 leslie.lomond@compass.com DRE 01968517

945 DR

NDA



HOMES IN THE AREA

298 LOWELL LANE WEST, LAFAYETTE

SOL, MORAGA, CA 94556 26 ST. STEPHENS, ORINDA drchard road, orinda, ca 94563 **159 NATAI** DUARTE COURT, MORAGA, CA 94556 264 DRAEGER DRIVE OURT, LAYFAYETTE, CA 94549218 ALDERBROOK PLACE 77 MEADOW VIEW ROAD, ORINDA, CA LAFAYETTE, CA 94549 142 SELBORNE MORAGA CA 9455 DA LANE, LAFA LET ME HELP YOU PREPARE AND CA 94556 18 MARKET YOUR PROPERTY TO GET MORAGA, CA 945 1 GREENVALL IT SOLD FOR TOP DOLLAR 10RAGA, CA 9 4556 238 PASEO BERNAL, MORAGA, CA 9455 DRIVE, ORINDA, CA 94563 41 LAMBE

NDA, CA 94563 **29 CORTE YOLANDA, MORAGA, CA 9455** www.holcenberg.com

ORAGA, CA 94556 501 BAVARIAN COURT, LAYFAYETTE,

85 ORCHARD RD, ORINDA, CA 945

MORAGA, CA 94556 218 ALDERBROOK PLACE, N

A 94556 854 SOLANA DRIVE, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549 9 FLEUTI DRIV

d drive, moraga, ca 94556 77 MEADOW VIEW ROAD, ORIN







Bring life to your design one small piece at a time



Trays allow groupings of items for display.

Photos provided

By Amanda Eck

One of the most fun parts of interior design is the accessorizing. In my opinion those little details of the space make the design. Accessories bring life to a room and create visual interest. Here are my top five must-have accessories for your home.

Trays:

Everything looks better on a tray! Trays are perfect for corralling all those little decorative items to a beautiful visual vignette. Trays come in an array of styles from wood, wicker, metal, stone, acrylic, etc. I love to place trays on coffee tables, upholstered ottomans, bedside tables, and in bathrooms. Add books, candles, and decorative objects to your tray. Make sure to have items that are varied in height and shape to keep it interesting. I love using magnifying glass, paper weights, decorative orbs,



Stacking books adds interest.

candles and beads. **Books and boxes:**

Stacked books are great to elevate a decorative item. I stack them in twos or threes and place an object on top.

... continued on Page D6

//JUST LISTED



Let your imagination run wild!

3259 Camino Colorados, Lafayette



3	1	Great
Bedrooms	Baths	Neighborhood
1,184 Sq. Ft	Walk to Burton Elementary School	.24 Acre

//OFFERED AT \$902,000

This darling single story ranch home has been well loved and enjoyed, it offers a great opportunity to remodel and update. The .24 acre lot has room to expand this home and still have great entertaining areas, play structures for children, and there is a possible pool site. Bring your imagination, contractor, and designer.

Sue Layng REALTOR®

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Wednesday, September 4, 2019

Bring life to your design one small piece at a time



Fresh cut flowers enliven a room.

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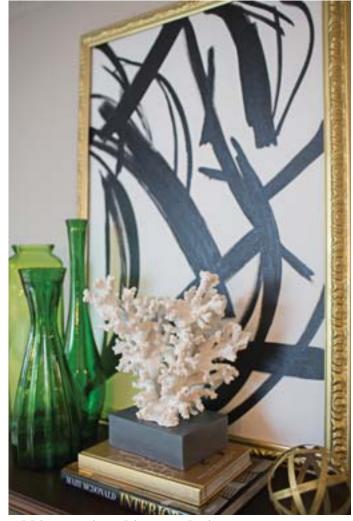
You can place them on bookshelves, coffee tables, side tables, and console tables. I will sometimes remove the dust cover on the book if it feels too busy. Use only hardcover books, no paperbacks. I am always on the hunt for bargain books to use in my projects. You can find them at HomeGoods, Half Price Books, Amazon, and thrift stores.

Decorative boxes are also great to elevate an item or use as stand alone pieces. They come in all types of styles from wood, bone inlay, marble, lacquered and mirrored.

Unique objects:

From coral to glass spheres, unique shaped items are great to add to a stack of books or boxes. When I travel I always try and find an interesting piece to add to my décor. Online stores like Etsy have unique vintage pieces that don't have that mass produced look. **Fresh flowers:**

I have said it before and I will say it again, fresh flowers are always a good idea. While I do admit there are some faux flowers on the market now that are realistic, keep those to a minimum and when



Add interesting objects to design.

in doubt, go fresh. They don't have to be an expensive bouquet either. Simple flowers from the grocery store or cuttings from your yard are all you need.

Soft goods:

No space is complete without soft accessories. Pillows and throws add a cozy feel to a space. And this time of year throws are in abundance at local retailers like Pottery Barn, Target, and HomeGoods. I drape them over a chair, at the foot of a bed, or tucked in a basket nearby for those chilly evenings. Now when it comes to pillows I will admit I am a bit of a pillow snob. I prefer pillows in designer fabrics instead of something off the shelf at a local retailer. But that does not mean you have to drop \$250 on a pillow. Etsy has a wonderful selection of shops that carry custom pillows at all price points. Just remember to purchase your pillow insert 2 inches larger than your pillow cover to create that full, plump look. I like to use inserts that are a 90/10 combo of down and feathers. If you are allergic to down there are lots of great down alternatives available.

Happy hunting for those special pieces!

925-377-0977



Decorative boxes offer classy touch.



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

With a distinct sense of style that mixes contemporary and classic design she fashions spaces that are both elegant and inviting. Her design aesthetic is inspired by anything visual but especially fashion, architecture and art.

Visit http://amandacarolinteriors.com for more design ideas.



Lamorinda home sales recorded

... continued from Page D2

ORINDA

110 Acacia Drive, \$1,360,000, 3 Bdrms, 1928 SqFt, 1980 YrBlt, 07-26-19, Previous Sale: \$813,000, 04-30-07

29 Canyon View Drive, \$2,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 2732 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 07-26-19, Previous Sale: \$1,550,000, 11-01-05

49 East Altarinda Drive, \$1,300,000, 2 Bdrms, 1973 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 07-18-19, Previous Sale: \$900,000, 06-16-03

56 Donna Maria Way, \$1,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 1610 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 07-15-19, Previous Sale: \$642,000, 07-01-15

258 Glorietta Boulevard, \$1,405,000, 3 Bdrms, 1846 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 07-15-19, Previous Sale: \$930,000, 09-26-08

35 Los Dedos Road, \$1,765,000, 3 Bdrms, 2266 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 07-23-19, Previous Sale: \$1,085,000, 04-09-13

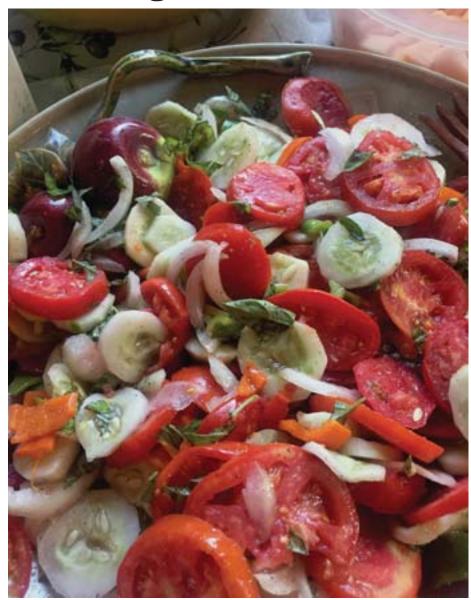
113 Overhill Road, \$800,000, 3 Bdrms, 1348 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 07-26-19 170 Ravenhill Road, \$1,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 2245 SqFt, 1981 YrBlt, 07-22-19, Previous Sale: \$801,000, 10-12-11

324 Tappan Terrace, \$1,878,000, 3 Bdrms, 3592 SqFt, 1982 YrBlt, 07-26-19 63 Via Floreado, \$799,500, 4 Bdrms, 3183 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 07-25-19 25 Wilder Road, \$2,118,000, 4 Bdrms, 3380 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 07-19-19, Previous Sale: \$1.899,000, 12-19-16

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

Garden garnishes



Is there anything better than a summer tomato salad with all ingredients fresh from the garden?

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Because of the plentiful rain last winter and spring, the bounty in our orchards is overflowing. If you like to can or freeze fruit and vegetables for winter dinners, this is the season to do it. Apples, peaches, plums, pears, Asian pears and citrus are ripe and ready. Soon the grapes will ripen and winemaking begins for local vintners. All varieties of vegetables, from Brussels sprouts to corn and zucchini are in abundance. My freezer is already filled to the brim with this



For a tantalizing treat, barbecue nectarines, slathered with honey and nutmeg.

Photo Cynthia Brian

summer's harvest. Since I won't eat tomatoes that aren't homegrown, having freshly preserved tomatoes with sprays of basil for December spaghetti feeds is a flavor-filled luxury.

Cooking in summer is a plant-to-plate pleasure. My stone mortar and pestle sit on my kitchen counter awaiting the pounding of the "weeds." Not sure what to make for tonight's meal? Take a walk around your garden and pluck a few garnishes while tending the weeds. Who could ask for more?



From cabinets to countertops, there is no project too big or small for our team. Schedule a meeting or give us a call!

(925) 283-6500

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afayette



1140 Camino Vallecito 4+ Bed 4.5 Bath 3,716± Sq Ft 0.50± Acres 1140caminovallecito.com \$3,250,000



959 Sunnyhill Road 5+ Bed 4.5 Bath 5,100± Sq Ft 1.21± Acres **959sunnyhill.com** Orindawoods

\$3,195,000



655 Cross Ridge Court 3 Bed 2.5 Bath 2,731± Sq Ft 0.18± Acres **655crossridge.com** \$2,035,000

Lafayette NEW RESIDENCE

3654-A Happy Valley Road Fully approved and ready to build 1.01± Acres 3654happyvalley.com

\$2,000,000

Moraga

1267 Bollinger Canyon Road 3 Bed 2 Bath 1,600± Sq Ft 12.15± Acres 1267bollingercanyon.com

\$1,395,000

GENUINE REAL ESTATE EXPERTISE

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COMPASS

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Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for September

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER any spring-blooming bulbs from catalogs. They will be planted toward the end of fall and some, including all varieties of tulips, will need six weeks of refrigeration.

VISIT the National Heirloom Exposition happening at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds Sept. 10-12. http://www.TheHeirloomExpo.com.

STAKE trees for the upcoming autumn winds.

CUT BACK Naked Ladies as their flowers begin to wither. If you let the flowers go to seed, you won't get blooms from your bulbs next season. If you want to divide the bulbs, after blooms are spent, this is the month to do it.

FEED acid-loving plants such as roses, azaleas, camellias, rhododendrons and fuchsias.

GARNISH your beverages and platters with herbs and

DIVIDE crowded perennials when they have finished flowering.

DEADHEAD your roses once or twice a week to encourage flowering through winter.

SKEWER meats, fish, vegetables, and fruits on rosemary twigs to barbecue.

GRILL halved nectarines or peaches drizzled with olive oil and honey.

DESIGNATE an area of your landscape to be whimsical. I am enamored with the vintage signs and placards that can reside in a playful garden.

HARVEST tomatoes, peppers, onions, lettuce, tangerines and herbs as needed to experience the freshest homestead flavors and nutrients. Never refrigerate tomatoes.

MARK your calendar for a visit to the Be the Star You Are!® nonprofit booth at the Moraga Pear and Wine Festival on Saturday, Sept. 28. Thanks to our sponsor, The Lamorinda Weekly. Details at https://www.BetheStarYouAre.org/events.

WATER lawns deeply as the weather gets hotter.

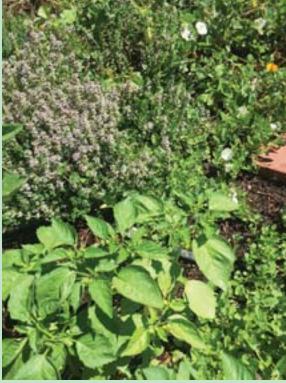
PICK a single dinner plate dahlia to add color to your kitchen.

FREEZE extra fruit for winter consumption, share with a friend or donate to a food bank.

CELEBRATE the 20th anniversary of local literacy nonprofit, Be the Star You Are!® 501c3 with a tax-deductible donation that will help youth-at-risk. https://www.BetheStarYouAre.org

CONCOCT your own "weed water" with summer fruits including peaches, pears, tangerines, watermelon, cantaloupe, cucumber, blueberries, grapes and apples. Stir in your preferred herbs and citrus juice.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



to menus.



Thyme is flowering and the petals add flavor
The Naked Ladies are as stunning as always with dark blue agapanthus and palms.



Use rosemary as skewers for grilled kabobs. Apples and Asian pears add flavor to the meat.



A close-up of a glorious dinner plate pink dahlia.



Cynthia Brian dallies in the dahlias.

Cynthia Brian, The Goddess Gardener, raised in the vineyards of Napa County, is a New York Times best-selling author, actor, radio personality, speaker, media and writing coach as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3. Tune into Cynthia's Radio show and order her books at www.StarStyleRadio.com.

Buy a copy of her new books, Growing with the Goddess Gardener and Be the Star You Are! Millennials to Boomers at www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store.

Hire Cynthia for projects, consults, and lectures.

Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com

www.GoddessGardener.com





LAMORINDA'S LEADING INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE FIRM



133 Ardith Drive

4 bed/ 2 bath, 1768 sqft home with hardwood floors & large living room. Views of Las Trampas Ridge!

\$1,125,000



155 Cañon Drive

Light filled 3 bed/ 3 bath home on .67 acres, ample entertaining space both inside and outside.

\$1,430,000



9 Valley Court

Updated Mid-Century close-in culde-sac. Chef's kitchen/ family room opens to large deck.

\$1,585,000



659 Ironbark Circle

Light & bright 4 bed/ 3.5 bath Orindawoods home, expansive views & soaring ceilings.

\$1,600,000



19 Donald Drive

Serene 3297 sqft garden oasis with panoramic views, luxurious interiors & numerous meditative retreats.

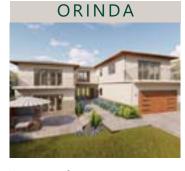
\$1,795,000



11 Crestview Court

Bold modern Mediterranean inspired villa. Ideal for privacy & luxury. Open floor plan, panoramic views.

\$1,995,000



145 Meadow Lane

New construction to come! Plans approved by city, existing fixer home to be torn down.

\$2,600,000



48 Oak Drive

Elegant 4 bed/ 3.5 bath two level new construction home with remarkable views from terrace decks.

\$2,765,000



3 Honey Hill Court

Gracious gated estate, sweeping lawns, sports court, on a close in culde-sac. Privacy & views.

\$2,795,000



57 Charles Hill Road

Open & luxurious. 5 bed/ 5 bath + 2 half baths & an open floor plan, with spectacular views.

\$4,395,000



1431 S. Villa Way

Fabulous updated, top floor 1 bed/ 1 bath condo. A stone's throw from downtown Walnut Creek. Well-run HOA w/low fees.

\$429,000



1670 San Miguel

Spacious 2 bed/ 2.5 bath condo with remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors, & oversized master w/large closet.

\$735,000

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