

# LAMORINDA WEEKLY

Independent, locally owned and operated!

FREE [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com)

**LAFAYETTE RES RUN** for education  
**Sunday, October 20**  
 5k, 10k\*, 2 Mile Run/Walk  
 Dogs and strollers welcome for 10k and 2 mile only.  
 \*10k race goes around the Reservoir.  
 Live Music • Healthy Lifestyles Fair  
[LafayetteChamber.org/ResRun](http://LafayetteChamber.org/ResRun)



Firefighters prepare to execute a controlled burn as part of the North Orinda Shaded Fuel Break. Photo courtesy MOFD

## MOFD profile rising statewide as Cal Fire ups mitigation funding

By Nick Marnell

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, observing how the Moraga-Orinda Fire District has managed the \$4 million North Orinda Shaded Fuel Break mitigation project, has not only

offered high praise for MOFD but backed it up by giving the district more money for additional wild-fire fuel mitigation. The NOSFB, a 1,500-acre, 19-mile state funded effort to reduce dangerous fuels along open space areas, extends along a ridge between Tilden Park and Acalanes High School.

Particularly impressive to Cal Fire is the job the district does to update the public on the progress of the fuel break. Cal Fire Assistant Deputy Chief Angie Lottes said that tracking progress has been difficult from a data reporting perspective for most of the ... continued on Page A8

Not to be missed B6-B7  
 Community Service B4  
 How to contact us B7  
 Classified C2  
 Shop Moraga C4

Advertising

**Oct. 6, 3pm - 6 pm**  
 Cooperage American Grille

**LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
 Enhancing Life, Culture, Community

To purchase tickets visit [www.lafayettecf.org](http://www.lafayettecf.org)  
 Each \$50 ticket provides 2 beers, German food and music from Zicke Zacke Band

## Third-party engineering consultants to provide analysis of pipeline in Briones; history of prior concerns come to light



ConFire Assistant Fire Chief Will Pigeon gives a presentation to concerned Springhill Valley Homeowners Association members Sept. 18. Photo provided

By Pippa Fisher

Residents in the Springhill neighborhood are waiting to see a third-party expert's report, promised soon, on the 40-foot, exposed, high transmission pipeline near Buckeye Ranch Trail in Briones close to homes, for answers to their questions concerning its safety. Pacific Gas and Electric Company has in-

spected the section and an additional section that was discovered at the Girl Scout camp nearby and says both sections are safe. The pipeline near Buckeye Ranch Trail, which appears to be unsupported and sagging in the middle, lies across an eroding creek bank, with trees leaning over the pipe in an area where other trees have recently fallen, has been the subject of media scrutiny lately, and was brought to PG&E's attention by Lafayette residents and Gas Safety Task Force Founders Michael and Gina Dawson who note that the Buckeye Ranch Trail section of pipeline was not included on PG&E's report of all exposed pipelines. However local resident Lisa Schreiber points out that back in 2015 she contacted PG&E in multiple emails with her concerns. In an email response to Schreiber's concerns dated Feb. 18, 2015, PG&E's Mark Torres told her that the company was engaged in a project to return exposed pipeline in the park to underground and were aware of this particular location. "The pipeline should be within at least three feet underground and has become exposed over time due to soil erosion," he said in the email. In a later email dated Aug. 20 PG&E's Greg Gillis confirmed, "Additionally, this pipeline is one that we have identified as part of a program we started at the beginning of the summer to rebury exposed lines."

exchange by Lamorinda Weekly, PG&E responded, "We take our customers concerns seriously and are looking into this. We will provide an update as soon as more information is available." As of press time, no further comment on the 2015 communications had been received. Michael Dawson says that Schreiber's revelation that PG&E abandoned the fixes they admitted were necessary in 2015 deeply concerns them. "PG&E's continued claims of better pipeline safety mean nothing when they don't address blatant, immediate and serious safety concerns like sagging pipelines, overhanging trees, and rusting patches of bare metal," says Dawson. "The fact these potentially dangerous exposures are in a high-risk fire zone that could impact many neighborhoods makes their negligence unacceptable. We're asking PG&E not only to fix the exposed pipeline threats in Lafayette and Briones, but to also conduct a full safety review of their pipeline integrity in Lafayette." PG&E spokesperson Tamar Sarkissian says the safety of their customers and communities they serve is PG&E's most important responsibility and says they want the East Bay community to know that the pipeline in Briones Regional Park is safe. "It has been, and continues to be, monitored as part of ongoing maintenance activities," she says. Sarkissian says that the pipe segment near Buckeye Ranch Trail is operated as an intentional span across the ravine. ... continued on Page A3

**Civic News A1-A10**

Jeanette Fritzky Foundation under investigation - Page A4

**Fire Districts A8**

MOFD board approves auditor change - Page A8

**Life in Lamorinda B1-B8**

Town Hall Theatre comedic production focuses on acceptance - Page B4



**Sports C1-C3**

Lamorinda girls and boys cross country overview - Page C1



**Our Homes D1-D16**

A throwback to old times: four families on one block - Page D1





See public meetings schedule on this pages and 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

## Luxury Listings in Lamorinda!

**7 Sessions Road, Lafayette**

**7SessionsRoad.com | \$3,795,000**  
 4BR + Office | 4.5BA | 4110± Sq. Ft. | 4.6± Acres

**350 Miller Court, Orinda**

**350MillerCourt.com | \$3,475,000**  
 5BR | 5.5BA | 4106± Sq. Ft. | 3.8± Acres

COMPASS

925.339.1918 | [DanaGreenTeam.com](http://DanaGreenTeam.com) | DRE 01482454



## Schools add extra avenue for anonymous reporting of at-risk behaviors

By Pippa Fisher

The Acalanes Union High School District rolled out a new program in partnership with Sandy Hook Promise, the SHP Say Something - Anonymous Reporting System, to students simultaneously in all four high schools in an hour-long training Sept. 25.

SHP is a nonprofit foundation that formed in the wake of the tragic 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School mass shooting to prevent gun violence before it happens and to provide free programming for schools across the

country. With programs in all 50 states, with more than 7,000 schools and over 3.5 million students and adults trained, SHP has the knowledge of how to work with students, parents and teachers to improve school safety and culture, according to AUHSD Superintendent John Nickerson.

The SS-ARS program expands upon Lamorinda high schools' existing "say something" efforts implemented last year and further teaches students how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media,

of individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and say something to a trusted adult or use its anonymous reporting system to share their concern, according to the district's website.

The program educates participants to recognize the signs and signals of at-risk behavior, to take every sign and signal seriously and to act quickly to get help by talking to a trusted adult or reporting anonymously through the app, website or by phone to the crisis center.

The SS-ARS reporting

platform provides an app, website and 24/7 crisis telephone hotline for youth and adults to submit anonymous tips. Tips are sent to and reviewed by experienced crisis counselors, triaged and sent on to school officials, and police if necessary, for response as appropriate within seconds of being received.

"It is a partnership between schools, police and Sandy Hook Promise," says Nickerson.

Acalanes Principal Travis Bell says the program has been really well received by the community, teachers and

students.

"This program provides another avenue for students to bring their concerns forward, to take action to prevent someone harming themselves or others," explains Bell. He says that although all students have a trusted adult to whom they can talk, this provides a way for students who might otherwise feel uncomfortable reporting something without that anonymity.

Two days after the roll-out, Bell says they have had a few reports come in, all unfounded so far, which he says is not unexpected initially.

Information on the SHP SS-ARS can be found here:

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Superintendent-s-Message--Say-Something-Anonymous-Reporting-System.html?soid=101112155911&aid=BccYbjj6fOw>

## Vice Mayor to remain engaged in future Terraces decisions



Susan Candell Photo provided

By Pippa Fisher

The city of Lafayette released a carefully worded statement late on Thursday, Sept. 26, in which it is apparent that Vice Mayor Susan Candell intends to remain unrecused in mat-

ters pertaining to the proposed Deer Hill Road project, the Terraces, in spite of calls from the applicant claiming that to do so is a conflict of interest.

The statement makes it clear that the city does not consider the other council members are under any obligation to take steps to prevent the situation and that "Ultimately, it is each individual council member's responsibility to make the decision whether or not to recuse herself or himself when faced with a conflict of interest charge of the type that the Terraces project applicant has made."

Candell, who ran for office in 2018 based largely on her involvement opposing

both the proposed 315-unit apartments and then the later-modified 44 single-family homes (which, following the defeat of Measure L, led to the developer O'Brien Homes reinstating the initial apartments project), had been advised by Attorney Robert Hodil of Coblenz, Patch, Duffy and Bass - the outside counsel hired by the city - that she should recuse herself on all matters pertaining to the project. She recused herself on that advice in February this year.

However, at the Aug. 12 city council meeting Candell announced that on advice from her own privately hired attorney, Steve Churchwell of Churchwell, White LLP, she intended to participate in all

matters related to the Terraces going forward.

The city's statement comes following three closed session meetings with the city council and its outside counsel. During this time the applicant's attorney, Bryan Wenter of Miller Starr Regalia repeatedly addressed the council, saying that Candell has a legal and ethical obligation to recuse herself.

At the Sept. 23 city council meeting Wenter warned that if Candell does not recuse, it would be imperative that the council take action. "Doing nothing is contrary to your fiduciary duties to the city and its residents. If Ms. Candell does not recuse, then tonight you should authorize Mr. Hodil to take appropriate legal steps to protect the city's legal, financial, and reputational interests."

Hodil says that the city's statement addresses this point. "The applicant has also asserted that the other council members are under an obligation to initiate legal action, or take other steps, in order to prevent Vice Mayor Candell from participating in the city's consideration of the Terraces project application. There is no such obligation, and city council members are not empowered to overrule a fellow council member's judgment with respect to such a matter," the statement reads.

An email statement on Sept. 23 from Wenter on behalf of O'Brien Homes states, "We are extremely disappointed in Councilmember Candell's decision to 'unrecuse' herself with respect to the Terraces of Lafayette apartment project. But given Councilmember Candell's long and vocal opposition to this important Housing Ac-

countability Act project and the key role the project played in her decision to run for office, we are not surprised by her choice to ignore the well-settled legal standard for when a public official must recuse."

Wenter's statement continues, "Councilmember Candell's personal decision to ignore the advice of the city's attorney remains in direct conflict with my client's constitutional right to due process and is a violation both of her oath of office and her fiduciary duties to the City of Lafayette. Nothing in the law supports Councilmember Candell's decision. Indeed, the facts in this case are far more egregious than those in the leading cases."

A statement from Candell was expected but had not been released as this paper went to press.

The city's statement says that both council and staff "remain committed to ensuring fairness and due process throughout its consideration of the Terraces project, regardless of whether or not the applicant chooses to seek judicial guidance regarding Vice Mayor's participation in the council's possible future consideration of matters concerning the Terraces project."

At press time the applicant's attorney was drafting a response letter to the city, and said that at this point O'Brien is not planning to initiate legal action.

Wenter ends his statement by saying, "My client remains optimistic, however, that the four unbiased members of the Lafayette City Council will ultimately approve the project, as required by the HAA."

**Retirement.  
College Tuition.  
Inheritance.**

**What's your plan?**

Ian Castille, CFP®  
Principal, Senior Financial Advisor

**Wealth Management & Personal Financial Planning**

Expert advice for your financial goals.  
Contact us for a no-cost initial consultation.

**CAPITAL ADVANTAGE**  
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT • FINANCIAL PLANNING

100% Fee-Only • 35+ Years of Expertise • Fiduciary Advisors

CapitalAdvantage.com | 925.299.1500 | Lafayette, CA

See important disclosure information at [www.capitaladvantage.com](http://www.capitaladvantage.com)

**Lafayette Public Meetings**

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

**Design Review**  
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Arts & Science Discovery Center, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**City Council**  
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**School Board Meetings**

**Acalanes Union High School District**  
Wednesday, Oct. 2, 7 p.m.  
AUHSD Board Room  
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette

**Lafayette School District**  
Wednesday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m.  
Regular Board Meeting  
Stanley M.S. Library  
3477 School St., Lafayette  
[www.lafsd.k12.ca.us](http://www.lafsd.k12.ca.us)

[www.acalanes.k12.ca.us](http://www.acalanes.k12.ca.us)

# A strong police presence keeps the 2019 Art and Wine Festival safe



Photo J. Wake

And just like that, the 2019 Art and Wine Festival is a memory. But at least for the weekend the downtown was transformed as Lafayette welcomed crowds from all over the Bay Area to enjoy the nonstop music, to savor wine and enjoy local brews, and to shop the hundreds of varied arts and crafts stalls. It takes a small army of volunteers to help put this event on. And it takes many more to keep everyone safe.

Many residents commented on the excellent job done by the Lafayette Police Department on being well

prepared and keeping everyone safe. There was a visible police presence including some officers with dogs, and less-visible undercover police working to be ready for anything.

City Council Member Cam Burks said several people approached him. "Folks who were at Gilroy and witnessed the shooting commented on how reassured they were and how seriously we were taking it. Huge kudos to you, Ben (LPD Chief Ben Alldritt) and the entire event planning team."

-- P. Fisher

# Third-party engineering consultants to provide analysis of pipeline in Briones; history of prior concerns come to light

... continued from Page A1

"Such spans are an accepted industry construction practice. As such, the span segment receives ongoing monitoring and inspections to ensure safe operations. We know through the results of our latest inspections that it continues to operate safely.

"We have taken several actions including: visiting the site on multiple occasions to take measurements of the pipe and the surrounding terrain, conducting erosion analysis and other geological observations, and performing weight-bearing load calculations," says Sarkissian. "In addition, PG&E is performing additional weight-bearing load calculations for a variety of operating scenarios. To do this, PG&E performed a detailed laser scan on Wednesday, September 18th. The data compiled to date verifies the safety of this pipeline."

PG&E has hired a third-party engineering and scientific consulting firm to perform the additional weight-bearing load analyses of the pipe span to determine potential public safety risks. Sarkissian says that in the coming days they will be conducting site visits to analyze additional segments of the line in the area to further verify the safety of the pipeline. PG&E will be performing a comprehensive site walk of the entire pipeline transmission system throughout Briones Regional Park and the city of Lafayette, and says it will take actions as appropriate on any findings.

Residents remain con-

cerned, however, despite the reassurances from the utility. The Sept. 18 Springhill Valley Homeowners Association meeting was packed as people came to hear Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Assistant Fire Chief Will Pigeon and Moraga-Orinda Fire District Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Dennis Rein speak. The Dawsons were also on hand to answer questions. SVHA President Susan Candell says the association will work as hard as they can to support PG&E on any mitigation work the utility deems necessary. The association has sent a letter to all stakeholders endorsing the concerns set out by ConFire Deputy Fire Chief Aaron McAlister in an earlier letter to PG&E.

In a Sept. 19 letter to the city council, Gina and Michael Dawson on behalf of the GSTF state, "Although PG&E let us know they intend to provide reporting on the two recently discussed exposed sections ... we ask city council and management to join us, and amplify our requests by making a public call for transparent and comprehensive reporting on all exposed pipeline sections in Lafayette, an updated analysis of High Consequence Area (HCA), and Lafayette specific pipeline threat identification."

The letter continues, "That this is an opportune time for city council to reconsider the Community Pipeline Safety Initiative agreement goes without saying - a program unabashedly named for 'community pipeline safety,' when it clearly does not prioritize that safety entrusted to PG&E, should be unacceptable."

## COMPASS

Open Sunday 1-4pm



Brand new single level home in BellaVista. 3315 SqFt, d4 Br.,3.5Ba.,44 Ac lot with great views of Mt, Diablo and St Mary's College.

www.231LosSantosCt.com

Offered at 2,250,000



Spacious single level rancher in a great location. 2419 SqFt, 4 Br, 2.5 Ba on a .49 Acre private lot. Move-in condition.

www.35CarrDr.com

Offered at 1,295,000



ELENA HOOD REAL ESTATE GROUP Lafayette | Moraga | Orinda

925 254-3030 www.Orinda.com



Cal BRE 1221247

Compass is a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale, or withdraw without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footages are approximate. Exact dimensions can be obtained by retaining the services of an architect or engineer. This is not intended to solicit property already listed.



## PRICE GALLEGOS GROUP PENDING PROPERTIES



5 Beds | 3.5 Baths | 3,996 Sq. Ft. | 2.74 Acres

5 Beds | 3.5 Baths | 3,996 Sq. Ft. | 2.74 Acres

1198 GLEN ROAD, LAFAYETTE

51 HILLCROFT WAY, WALNUT CREEK

### Thinking of Selling in the Spring of 2020?

Now is the time to start the process! Rely on us for expert guidance. We will provide you with a proven plan to achieve the highest selling price. Our plan will include recommended pre-market improvements that will increase the value of your home, a pricing strategy, and a proven comprehensive marketing plan. Let us tell you about our Compass Concierge program which helps you maximize your home's value by fronting the cost of home improvement services like staging, flooring, painting, and more. No upfront costs, no interest, no hidden fees — ever.

Don't miss the spring market and give us a call to get the ball rolling!

COMPASS www.pricegallegos.com

Amy S. Price | Realtor® 925.997.6808 amy.price@compass.com DRE# 01433269



Christine Gallegos | Realtor® 415.606.2047 christine.gallegos@compass.com DRE# 01896511

Compass is a licensed real estate broker (00991628) in the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale, or withdraw without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footages are approximate. Exact dimensions can be obtained by retaining the services of an architect or engineer. This is not intended to solicit property already listed.



**MORAGA**

See public meetings schedule on this pages and 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



Compass is the brand name used for services provided by one or more of the Compass group of subsidiary companies. Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01866771. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

**Jim Colhoun Presents**

**51 Shuey Drive, Moraga**

Great curb appeal on corner lot! Classic Moraga 4BR/2.5BA ranch-style home with swimming pool. Terrific location with valley views and top-rated Moraga K-8 schools nearby. Features updated kitchen and baths, freshly-painted interior, and hardwood floors throughout. Solar electric power, too.

**Contact Jim at 925.200.2795 for additional information or to schedule a preview appointment.**

**Offered at \$1,295,000**



**Jim Colhoun**  
 925.200.2795  
 jim.colhoun@compass.com  
 jimcolhoun.com  
 DRE 01029160



# Jeanette Fritzky Foundation under investigation

By Vera Kochan

While researching information pertaining to the alleged embezzlement scheme by Moraga resident Bob Fritzky involving the Moraga Community Foundation, Lamorinda Weekly staff uncovered details regarding the Jeanette Fritzky Foundation.

When asked for confirmation and additional information about the foundation, Moraga Police Department's Lieutenant Brian South responded, "I cannot comment at this time as it's an ongoing investigation."

The JFF website has a donation page instructing anyone wishing "To make a donation by check: Make Payable to: Jeanette Fritzky Foundation c/o HTF. Send to: 1100 Moraga Way, Suite 106; Moraga, California 94556."

Also appearing on the website: "Jeanette Fritzky Foundation HTF is a 501(c)3 non-profit EIN# 45-2994398."

The Lamorinda Weekly team attempted to look up the EIN listed for JFF only to discover that the employer identi-

fication number belonged to Healthy Trucking Association of America, located in Alabama. HTAA is a health and wellness organization whose website states: "Helping transportation professionals arrive home safer, healthier and happier."

Further investigation showed that the logo of Med-MatRx, Bob Fritzky's pharmaceutical consulting firm, appeared on the HTAA website.

"HTF" listed on the foundation website (jcffoundation.org) after "Jeanette Fritzky Foundation" stands for Healthy Transportation Foundation and is associated with HTAA, sharing virtually the same company logo. No existing EIN for HTF could be found.

HTF's website states it was created in 2011 for the purpose of: "Promoting innovative health and wellness solutions for a mobile workforce."

According to the www.fundera.com website, "A business tax ID number, also called an employer identification number (EIN) or federal tax ID, is a unique nine-digit number that identifies your business with the IRS. Owners

of most types of business entities need a business tax ID number to file taxes, open a business bank account, obtain a business license or apply for a business loan."

According to public records, Fritzky did file with the secretary of state for Articles of Incorporation of a Non-profit Public Benefit Corporation on Nov 13, 2018, at which point he was required to file a Statement of Information form with the secretary of state within 90 days. This form, according to CalNonprofits, identifies the organization's address, principal officers, and agent for service of process, but no record of a Statement of Information form could be found for the Jeanette Fritzky Foundation.

East Bay CPA Eric Grant, who specializes in income tax preparation and small business consulting, was asked if a partner business can share an EIN and if it was advisable. "Generally, not," he said. "Typically a business, whether for profit or nonprofit has its own, discrete EIN. An exception," he added, "might be if the 'partner' business was a subsidiary of a par-

ent company. In such a case, the subsidiary would file tax returns, etc. under its own EIN, however, would be required to refer to the parent's EIN when providing supporting information to the tax authorities. Bottom line, to provide (and improve) visibility and transparency, a nonprofit should use its own EIN."

According to Grant, if two nonprofits sharing the same EIN report their taxes "red flags should go up with the IRS."

"Such duplication should be viewed similar to a pair of individuals using the same social security number when filing a tax return," he said. "There shouldn't be duplicative filings using a single EIN."

Based on his experiences with individual tax returns, Grant stated that an initial investigation would be exploratory in nature. He explained, "Upon receiving a duplicate filing, the IRS would contact the second/subsequent filer with notification that a return has been filed using that EIN, and as a result, that particular return would be rejected. The IRS would then re-

quest clarification/justification, etc. and either follow up with the initial filer, or investigate further."

Grant disclosed that the penalties for anyone who abuses another's EIN involve civil and potential criminal penalties including the possibility for fines, jail time or both.

While board members are listed on the JFF website, no contact information for the board members is provided. Lamorinda Weekly attempted to reach two of the named board members, but did not receive a response.

Grant's advice to anyone asked to serve on a board of directors is cautionary. "Many people take it as an honor to be asked to join a board (and justifiably, so). Being a board member should be viewed as more than an honor, however. It is a position of responsibility and stewardship that requires understanding one's role and the overall workings of the organization."

Bob Fritzky did not respond to a request for comment.



Photo Vera Kochan

MPD Chief Jon King presides over Town Hall Meeting.

## Moraga Police Department offers first Town Hall in over 40 years

By Vera Kochan

During the Sept. 17 informational town hall meeting at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, Moraga Police Chief Jon King discussed the alarming trend of shoplifting and burglaries in Moraga in response to an audience question of whether the crime is committed by locals. "The shoplifting, by non-

locals, usually happens in the major stores. Once they get tired of stealing from them, they see the houses in the area and will begin to steal from homes."

Residents were reminded not to leave valuables in plain sight in cars. "It takes 10 seconds for thieves to break car windows, grab your belongings and run off without ever leaving fingerprints," King stated.

Another aspect of the town hall meeting covered emergency preparedness in the event of fire, earthquakes or public safety power shut-offs. While no new evacuation drills are scheduled for the near future, King said that any homeowners association interested in conducting one should contact the MPD for help in organizing it. ... continued on Page A9

## Local Knowledge Extraordinary Results



### Are You Considering Selling Your Home?

If so, please give us a call for assistance. We would be happy to provide you with a complimentary market analysis of your home's value, as well as a comprehensive marketing plan detailing how to get you the highest sale price in today's market!

### Gary Bernie & Ken Ryerson



**Gary Bernie**  
 925.200.2222  
 gary.bernie@compass.com  
 DRE 00686144



**Ken Ryerson**  
 925.878.9685  
 ken.ryerson@compass.com  
 DRE 01418309



**EXPERIENCE MATTERS**

Linda Ehrich  
Realtor  
93 Moraga Way  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925.698.1452  
Linda@LindaEhrich.com  
www.LindaEhrich.com  
DRE# 01330298



LINDA EHRICH



**Community Meeting  
Future Hacienda Use**

**Thurs. 10/3 6pm**

**moragarec.com**  
**925-888-7045**



# Moraga Center Specific Plan meeting provides clearer vision

By Vera Kochan

During the third MCSP Citizens Advisory Committee meeting held Sept. 19 at the Saint Mary's College Rheem Campus, participants who were tasked to advise about issues involving zoning and development standards were given 80 minutes to discuss 17 topics involving two development scenarios: one with

a hillside residential focus and another that leaned toward a mixed-use core.

The groups agreed that both scenarios portrayed full build-out developmental potential allowed under the MCSP and a focus on historic preservation of Moraga Ranch in regards to a proposed hotel. All groups additionally agreed that both scenarios should extend

School Street to Moraga Road with a suggestion of roundabouts.

Each group was given the opportunity to present their conclusions to the assemblage through a group spokesperson following the discussion period. Members of the public preferred the mixed-use core for housing allocation, the addition of new retail establishments

versus revitalization of existing shopping centers, and 40-foot scenic corridor setbacks on Moraga Way and Moraga Road.

When discussing a pedestrian trail southeast of the creek, the Creek Bridge vote was split between pedestrian only and mixed-vehicle pedestrian, with the public vote wanting a bike-use lane. The hotel location most preferred was at Moraga

Ranch and along the interior site on School Street. A suggested possibility was to locate it closer to Saint Mary's College.

The fourth and final CAC meeting was held on Oct. 1, after Lamorinda Weekly went to press. Additional information about the two scenarios can be found at <http://www.moraga.ca.us/dept/planning/MCSP>

# Moraga Safeway's struggles with bad behavior

By Vera Kochan

In the first week of the new school year, the Safeway store on Moraga Way had already experienced minors stealing candy and other small items, hiding things in their backpacks, observed a theft from the deli section, and stopped a couple of students who were riding their scooters down the store aisles, according to Store Director Jennifer Carter.

John Park, owner of AFC Franchise Corporation's sushi section, operates indepen-

dently from Safeway. Over the past four years he estimates that his items have been stolen between 200 to 300 times. "I see kids take something and pretend to go to the store's main checkout only to keep walking and go out of the store at the other end without paying," Park stated. "I have come to recognize their faces, and I make them pay at the deli register now."

According to the Director of Public and Government Affairs for Safeway's Northern California Division, Wendy Gutshall, Safeway

employs a number of security measures at their stores, including visible deterrents and others that are not immediately apparent. "Theft affects everyone," she said. "Like other retailers, our policy places a premium on employee, customer and bystander safety," adding that for proprietary reasons, they cannot provide step-by-step detail of their shoplifter policy, "because we want to avoid someone using this information to their advantage."

... continued on Page A8

# Solar-powered streetlights to be installed at two busy Moraga intersections


By Vera Kochan

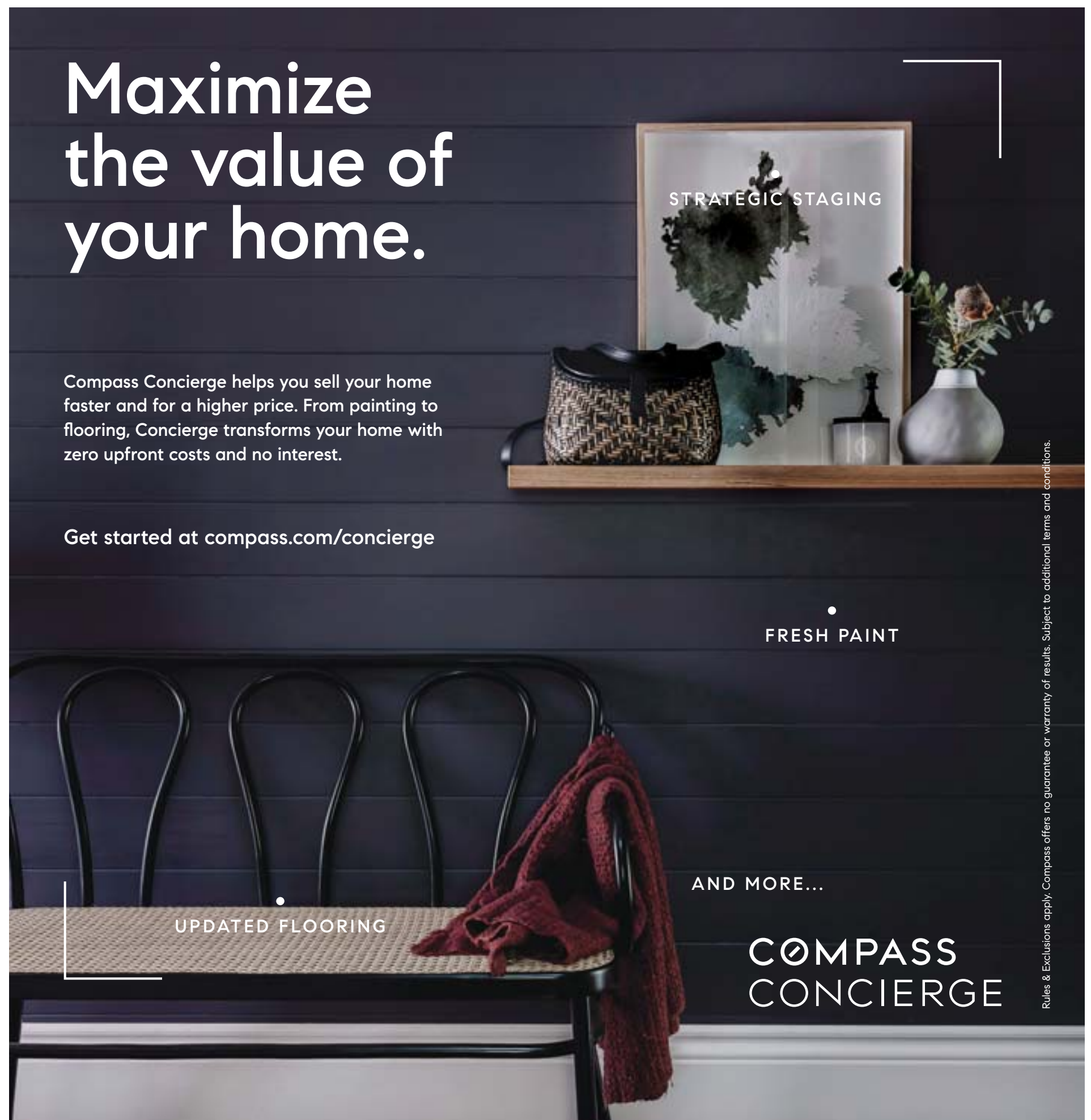
As work on the intersection improvements at Canyon Road/Camino Pablo continues, the Moraga Town Council approved appropriating \$86,000 from Property Tax Lighting Special District to purchase and install three solar-powered streetlights by Ghilotti Construction Com-

pany, the firm currently involved with intersection and road improvements.

Two lights would be incorporated into the upcoming intersection project at the Moraga Road/Alta Mesa crosswalk, and an additional streetlight would be located at the intersection of Canyon Road and Country Club Drive.

... continued on Page A9

 <p><b>Town Council</b> Wednesday, Oct. 9, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.</p>	<p><b>Planning Commission</b> Monday, Oct. 7, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.</p>	<p><b>Park and Recreation Commission</b> Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.</p>	<p><b>Moraga School District Board Meetings</b> Thursday, Oct. 10, 7 p.m. Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga <a href="http://www.moraga.k12.ca.us">www.moraga.k12.ca.us</a> See also AUHSD meeting page A2</p>
--	---	--	--



# Maximize the value of your home.

Compass Concierge helps you sell your home faster and for a higher price. From painting to flooring, Concierge transforms your home with zero upfront costs and no interest.

Get started at [compass.com/concierge](http://compass.com/concierge)

STRATEGIC STAGING

FRESH PAINT

AND MORE...

UPDATED FLOORING

## COMPASS CONCIERGE

Rules & Exclusions apply. Compass offers no guarantee or warranty of results. Subject to additional terms and conditions.



**ORINDA**

See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements  
**City of Orinda:**  
 www.cityoforinda.org  
 Phone (925) 253-4200  
**Chamber of Commerce:**  
 www.orindachamber.org  
**The Orinda Association:**  
 www.orindaassociation.org

- ◆ HARDWOODS
- ◆ CARPETS
- ◆ RUGS
- ◆ LINOLEUM
- ◆ TILE
- ◆ LAMINATE

**FAMILY -OWNED  
30 YEARS !**

3344 Mt Diablo Blvd  
in Lafayette  
925-284-4440  
lamorindafloors.com

**LAMORINDA  
FLOORS**  
*Karnstein GALLERY*

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

# The vape hits the fan: state warnings, store closure and peer-to-peer education



Closed smoke shop in Lafayette

Photo Sora O'Doherty

**By Sora O'Doherty**

Short of impeachment, one of the hottest topics at both the national and local levels recently has been the dangers of vaping. Last May the city of Lafayette passed a ban on fla-

vored tobacco products, which led to the closure of Blazin Jayz Smoke Shop on Sept. 23, following the Lafayette Art and Wine festival. Now the state of California has issued a health warning about vaping. Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Executive Director

Jay Lifson said that the owner of Blazin Jayz, Adam Abdallah, attributed 80 to 85% of his business to flavored tobacco products. Lifson said that the Chamber of Commerce had supported strict enforcement of regulations about selling the products to minors, but did not support the complete ban on the sale of a legal product. Nevertheless, he acknowledged, kids were still getting access to the products, and the fear of kids using flavored tobacco products grew rampantly last year in Lamorinda. The problem, he said, was just too dangerous to ignore. The Lafayette City Council did adopt the ban on all flavored tobacco products last June, with provisions for possible extensions for up to 10 months for retailers. According to Lifson, at the time the ban was "pretty controversial." Without flavored to-

bacco products, Blazin Jayz was not a viable business. Lafayette City Council allowed Abdallah to sell his remaining stock. The shop was one of about a dozen in Lafayette that had been selling the flavored tobacco products.

The state of California has now issued a health advisory that people should immediately stop vaping. The California Department of Public Health advisory states, "Since June 2019, CDPH has received reports that 100 people in California who have a history of vaping were hospitalized for severe breathing problems and lung damage, and two people have died. Across the U.S., there are over 500 reports of lung damage associated with vaping across 38 states and one U.S. territory, and more reports are coming in nearly every day."

... continued on Page A9

# Orinda moves toward 5G cautiously, fearing suit

**By Sora O'Doherty**

Orinda is moving toward taking the steps required by the federal government to implement small cell technology, otherwise known as 5G, but hopes to do only the minimum to prevent the city from being sued.

Attendance was low at the Sept. 17 city council meeting, the second on the subject, with those speakers who did attend expressing concerns about safety of the new technology. The council also heard from Dante Williams, a representative of Verizon, and Kathleen Schwallie, an attorney who addressed controversial elements of the proposed approval process.

Outside counsel Trip May of Telecom Law Firm was present to explain to the council and the public the progress being made to meet recent federal regulatory requirements that eliminate city discretion on approval of 5G applications. With only three council members present, an ordinance was introduced and first reading was waived. At an upcoming

meeting, the ordinance will go to a second reading, and the resolution that contains the policy on small wireless installations will come back to the council with the changes the city council discussed.

May explained that the ordinance amends Orinda's municipal code, adding chapter 12.10 on small wireless facilities in the public rights-of-way, and amending chapter 17.34 by adding two new sections on eligible facilities requests and small wireless facilities in the public rights-of-way. The resolution includes an approved pole license agreement form, and authorizes the city manager to execute agreements for the installation of small wireless facilities on city-owned vertical infrastructure in the public right-of-way.

May reiterated his remarks at an earlier meeting that changes in state and federal law affect the city's ability to regulate small wireless facilities. If eligible 5G facilities meet certain federal criteria the city must approve them and if the city fails to act, May explained, the law

deems them granted anyway. He added that there is "not a lot of clarity" about what would happen if a facility were deemed approved owing to inaction by the council. New section 17.34 gives the criteria that allows staff to determine if an application qualifies for this type of treatment. If it does, May says, the section sets out a process by which the application can be approved, with the conditions that the city would normally apply, to avoid any problems with the deemed approved remedy. Co-locations and modifications to existing structures are approvable "by right," he added.

"Small wireless facilities" is a special regulatory term adopted by the FTC, but they are not necessarily small, May explained. The federal requirements include a shorter "shot clock" (timeline for approval), and the city cannot apply subjective criteria. There are also limitations on fees, essentially taken such facilities out of the zoning process. The federal government is, according to May, asking cities to handle them faster with less authority to change them and with fewer resources.

He did note that these rules are subject to a legal challenge, in which Telecom Law Firm is representing the League of California Cities and several other cities, but it has not yet been decided; May suggested that there might perhaps be a decision by the middle of next year. May talked about various cases concerning the health risks of radio frequencies. There are a lot of different agencies that can challenge the statute, he said, but not the city. He added that he expects that in the next month or two the FCC will declare 5G to be perfectly safe.

After discussions with stakeholders both from industry and the community, some changes have been made. The more notable include: More detailed application requirements, including an affidavit under penalty of perjury that the radio-frequency compliance statements are correct; requiring an environmental impact statement (what level of CEQA treatment a project is required to undergo); requiring a structural analysis and making some changes to the pole license agreement allowing some flexibility in how it is implemented.

Community meetings, May said, while strongly encouraged, would trigger the shot clock and would therefore have to be voluntary. Pre-submittal appointments for the applicant, are also encouraged.

Following submittal of a detailed application, notices will be mailed to all properties within 300 feet of the

proposed site. If the application meets the requirements and is in compliance with radio-frequency rules, it will be approved by the public works director. Following approval, any interested party may appeal within seven days. The only basis for an appeal is if the facility is not compliant with FCC rules. For other issues, such as a facility not being compliant with noise requirements, not maintaining their records, or not cleaning up their facilities, the city has the ability to bring enforcement actions.

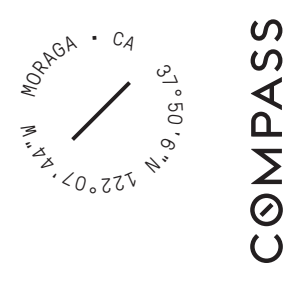
Mayor Inga Miller noted that while she supported the resolution, the city was put into a difficult position by the federal government on a hard issue. Vice Mayor Darlene Gee agreed that it was a challenging balancing act. "We can't just refuse [applications] or we'll be sued, and we can't afford to defend suits," she said. But she suggested that the city can raise issues with the state and federal governments and, over time, see how things go.

Other items that were discussed included the method of notice to the public and whether or not there should be a comment period before the director makes a decision. It was decided that the Orinda Outlook could be used for widespread notice of 5G applications, and that notices can also be posted on the specific poles on which the facilities are proposed to be added, so long as the notices are also later removed.

May explained that the very short time frame would make it very difficult for staff to act on applications if there were a pause for comments before approval, although he added that it wasn't impossible to implement. Verizon representative Dante Williams expressed the company's concerns about subjective criteria, and said the company would prefer a straightforward checklist approach. Some conditions, he suggested, could make it infeasible to cover all of Orinda. Undergrounding may be technically infeasible.

Attorney Kathleen Schwallie appreciated working with the staff. She was pleased with the suggestion that the internet could be used for notice. "That would be the cheapest and easiest," she said, adding, "We do not want to create more complexity." She still favored a comment period before approval, but suggested perhaps four days instead of seven. She also talked about potential conflicts between these regulations and the Americans with Disabilities Act. "Although there is a very limited time to do a complex job," she urged, "it shouldn't limit the right of the public to participate. The public can raise the issues, the council can then decide."

## Your Moraga Neighbor, Your Expert Advisor.



**Tara Rochlin**

925.586.3442  
 tararochlin@gmail.com  
 DRE 01330630

Contact Tara to arrange a showing and virtual tours are available at TaraRochlin.com.



**7 Lisa Lane, Moraga**  
 A pre-market opportunity in Sanders Ranch  
 5 Bed | 3 Bath | 2,973 Sq Ft | 1.21 Acres  
 \$1,699,000



**12 Corte La Rado, Moraga**  
 In the desirable Campolindo neighborhood  
 4++ Bed | 3 Bath | 2,954 Sq Ft | 0.48 Acres  
 \$1,649,000

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01527235. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footages are approximate. This is not intended to solicit property already listed. Nothing herein shall be construed as legal, accounting or other professional advice outside the realm of real estate brokerage.

# Rodent Proofing

Learn about Honest Rodent Proofing's industry-leading 4-step process to get rid of rats, mice and other rodents.

**GUARANTEED**

**FREE In-Home Inspection,**  
Mention Lamorinda Weekly for a 10% discount

**Call 925-433-3988**

www.honestrodentproofing.com

Servicing the Bay Area to Sacramento



## Thinking of Selling a Home?

Call me about:

- ✓ Concierge home improvements by licensed contractors with payment at close of escrow
- ✓ Complimentary pro photography & staging
- ✓ Property marketing that works!

Call me for a free opinion of home value and expert advice on how to get the best return on your sale

*Integrity* ♦ *Knowledge* ♦ *Results*



**Frank Woodward**

Realtor®, Luxury Property Specialist

T. 925.788.4963

E.Frank@FrankWoodward.com



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

©2019 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

## New chief takes up the reins at OPD



Chief David M. Cook

By Sora O'Doherty

Orinda City Manager Steve Salomon announced the selection of Lieutenant David M. Cook from the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff to serve as the city's new police chief.

"I am looking forward to

working with Chief Cook on the continual improvement of emergency response capabilities and in maintaining strong relationships with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, the School Districts, and the community," Salomon said.

Cook was chosen after a rigorous process including interviews with two different oral boards, participating in a written exercise and going through multiple one-on-one interviews with the city manager.

Cook has been with the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office for over 20 years since the beginning of his career in 1998. He has progressed through the ranks, serving in many capacities ranging from detention, patrol, homeland security and emergency services, to special operations. His most recent assignment was as commander of the Marine Services and Air

Support Unit. He holds a master's degree in emergency service administration from California State University, Long Beach.

Cook started his new post on Sept. 23. Upon being notified that he was selected to serve as Orinda's police chief, Cook said, "I am honored to have been selected as your Chief of Police. I look forward to serving the community to keep Orinda a safe place to work and live." Contra Costa County Sheriff David Livingston said, "I think David is a great choice as Orinda's next Chief of Police. I look forward to continuing the strong relationship between the Sheriff's Office and City of Orinda."

Cook lives in east Contra Costa County and plans, among other things, to continue Chief Mark Nagel's close relationship with the Orinda Union School District. He has already met

with Superintendent Carolyn Seaton. "Our most important task," Cook said, "is keeping the kids safe," so he plans to work very closely with the schools.

During his time with the sheriff's office, Cook has been a proponent of using drones in police work. "Drones are a very effective tool," he believes, and offer incredible assistance to provide extra public safety and extra safety for working police officers. "When searching for a suspect," he explained, for example, "a drone can move ahead of officers and warn them of any dangers they could not yet see. The drone's view can be adjusted, can cover large areas with a bird's eye view. Drones allow officers on the ground to see over the next ridge, or behind obstacles." He added that drones are very effective for search and rescue efforts, allowing large swaths of land to be searched at the same

time.

Orinda's best asset, Cook thinks, is community involvement. Public resources are never enough, he said. But an active and engaged populace helps. The biggest threat to Orinda is the threat of wildfire, according to Cook. "Orinda's a beautiful town," he notes, "but there are a lot of trees and dry grass. We've learned a lot from the fires over the past," he said, adding, "Fires move very aggressively uphill" and Orinda is very hilly. Cook looks forward to working closely with the MOFD and Chief Winnacker.

Upon taking up the reins at OPD, one of the new chief's first challenges was a weekend car jacking on Camino Sorbrante. Cook mentioned that a detective was aggressively following leads about the incident, in which no one was hurt but a Toyota Tacoma was stolen from its owner at gunpoint.



### Orinda Public Meetings

#### City Council

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. Regular Meeting  
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way

### Planning Commission

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.  
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way

### Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 6:30 p.m.  
Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

### Orinda Union High School District Board Meetings

Monday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m.  
Regular Board Meeting  
8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda  
www.orindaschools.org  
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

# COLDWELL BANKER



**Orinda** | \$3,000,000  
Hidden Glorietta sanctuary w/beamed ceiling, fireplace and master balcony.  
Vlatka Bathgate 925.597.1573  
vlatka.bathgate@cbtnorcal.com | CalRE#01390784



**Orinda** | \$1,399,000  
Lovingly maintained 4br/2.5ba home w/views, deck, spa and fruit trees.  
Vlatka Bathgate 925.597.1573  
vlatka.bathgate@cbtnorcal.com | CalRE#01390784



**Orinda** | \$1,150,000  
Charming 3br/2ba w/A/C, HW floors, DP wndws, updates, 2-car garage privacy.  
Tom Stack 925.878.9964  
Tom.Stack@cbtnorcal.com | CalRE#01501769



**Moraga** | \$495,000  
Approx. 10 acres in the Lamorinda region.  
Suzanne Geoffrion 925.699.4832  
suzanne.geoffrion@cbtnorcal.com | CalRE#01878803



## YOUR HOME CAN BE A SUPERSTAR!

Don't miss this chance to showcase your home on the hottest real estate show around. *At Home in Northern California* is a weekly Coldwell Banker® TV program featuring fabulous local properties for sale.

Check it out on **Sundays at 4 pm on ABC7.**

Find out how to shine a spotlight on your home. Contact your local Coldwell Banker office today for details.

**ColdwellBankerHomes.com**

## COLDWELLBANKERHOMES.COM





# Letters to the editor

## Orinda private roads discussion continues

There were very many people at the Aug. 27th private roads workshop. A big thank you to all who attended. This city council seems committed to engage their constituents. I applaud this and hope for more workshops on issues that concern the citizens, since council meetings do not allow for dialog. If the tax paying residents want all of Orinda's roads and drains to be in good condition I hope the council can help us achieve this goal. This is what a city community should do.

From the many stories we heard at the workshop the council understands the nature of the problem. It is time for the council to make progress on this issue at least by obtaining realistic private road and drain cost data to inform their future decisions. Everyone in Orinda is exposed to risks whose costs are shared. Since we are all in one community we ought to be able to change city policies to reflect that. How would you feel if your road failed catastrophically and you were told you're on your own?

The difficulty that the council now confronts is that if the 20% of private road residents are not appeased they will probably reject any additional road and drain maintenance funding which is needed to repair our drains and maintain our roads. Even the extension of the 1/2 cent sales tax is at risk, let alone an increase to 1 cent or a new bond measure. Public road residents whose roads have been recently repaired may also reject new

taxes. But the reality is that additional infrastructure funding is needed to avoid a much bigger deferred maintenance bill later. It is up to us to decide.

Please attend the Oct 1st Council meeting in the library at 7 pm, when we will have the facilitator's workshop report and hear our council members opinions. The larger the attendance the better. We need to be seen and heard responding to the council to show our engagement.

Charles Porges  
Orinda

### Thank you to Stanley student

On multiple levels it was a delight to read Nick Dietsch's letter expressing gratitude to the voters who approved Measure C bonds to improve Stanley Middle School (and other) facilities. Lafayette is special for a number of reasons, and at the top of the list is the quality of our schools. However, what made me smile the most was recognizing a young man who

had the quality and maturity to take the time to express his gratitude in such a sincere, enthusiastic manner. When voting to approve the next bond measure, I will smile a bit more knowing that there are at least some students who recognize and appreciate Lafayette residents' financial support. Thank you, Nick. Your letter does you credit, and it made my day.

Eliot Hudson  
Lafayette

### Private roads' impact on city

BEWARE: What you don't know can hurt you! Orinda readers should know that a well-organized homeowner's group could make a significant impact on Orinda's City financial liability and our tax burden. These Orinda residents reside on "private roads"

and are making a concerted effort to have the city pay for the maintenance of these private roads. Private roads are an easement in the nature of a private right-of-way. These access roads are on private property and might be shared by more than one residence.

As stated in CA Civil Code CIV, chap. 2, 845: the owner of the property is responsible for the cost of maintaining private road.

As we all have seen the significant upgrade of Orinda's roads, the private road owners now are demanding an "equal" treatment for their "private roads". They claim they pay the same taxes as all citizens and they should reap similar benefits. Their cry rings hollow as the remaining citizenry does not appreciate benefits from their "private roads" at all. In some case the general citizenry would be trespassing.

In contrast, these private road owners do enjoy all improved public roads they drive outside their private ones.

Before rescuing these private road owners, who clearly knew their responsibility and liability with the purchase of their residence, the City Council needs a clear test of what are private roads and how does it benefit all citizens to assume these repair. Orinda citizens need to be informed of the impact on their tax liability if the Council would proceed this way.

If you are concerned about your tax liability in this matter, please attend the Orinda City Council meeting in the Community Center on Tuesday, Oct.1, at 7 PM when this matter will be discussed.

John E. Nackley  
Orinda

Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and city/town of residence -- we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only). Letters must be factually accurate and be 350 words or less; letters of up to 500 words will be accepted on a space-available basis. Visit [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com) for submission guidelines. Email: [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com); Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

# The vape hits the fan: state warnings, store closure and peer-to-peer education

... continued from Page A6

The advisory emphasizes that "teenagers and young adults make up almost half of the people hospitalized with breathing problems from vaping in California. Thirty percent of people hospitalized in California had to be treated with a mechanical ventilator, or 'life support,' in the intensive care unit." The advisory also urges people who have been vaping not to switch to traditional tobacco products, but to seek medical help.

Jaime Rich has been working as Contra Costa County's Environmental Prevention Program Director for the past 10 years. She is in charge of the youth development program and four Contra Costa County coalitions that seek to prevent underage substance use. She also leads the training team-program development and training for youth and adults. Rich has given presentations in Lamorinda schools and last year, she says, almost every single school had presentations

on marijuana use and vaping, including every high school and the middle schools in Orinda, Lafayette and Moraga.

Some of this work is being done by the Peer-to-Peer Club members from Miramonte High School. With the support of Principal Julie Parks and the leadership of Rich and Debbie Berndt, coalition chairs, the club is in its second year. The student members of the club go into the school's health classes, which are a mandatory requirement for sophomores. They also put on an assembly at Orinda Intermediate School. Some of the club members prefer not to be named, but were happy to discuss their experiences with the club.

One member said that she felt that there were a lot of people who were using drugs or alcohol or vaping, but that they didn't really understand the dangers. Another club member agreed that students might use and parents are more lenient because they recognize that students in Lamorinda are under a lot of acade-

mic stress. She talked about the participation level in the health classes, and reported that pre- and post-education surveys showed a much greater appreciation of the risks. She enjoyed going to the OIS assembly and said that surveys afterward showed the students to feel "more comfortable and secure," after the training. Another student spoke of an incident where a number of girls were discovered vaping in an OIS restroom, and Rich agreed that the incident had really prompted more attention to the issue.

Rich acknowledges that vaping is the current trend, and that young people "either think there is nothing in it [vaping products] or they just don't care," she added, "No one is really sure whether they are vaping tobacco or marijuana," but she thinks it is mostly nicotine. The kids, she says, are just doing it to be cool, although they may get "a little tiny buzz from it."

Rich is trying to increase the perception of harm. She

hosts a table at all the schools about once a month during lunch through the wellness centers. She is a community partner to the four wellness centers at the high schools. She is interested to see what is happening at each school. She also commented that sensory seeking kids, kids with attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, are more susceptible to the lure of drug and alcohol use.

Rich's strategy is "educate, don't lecture." And she passes that philosophy to the Peer-to-Peer club members. The Peer-to-Peer club, Rich says, has "always been a dream of mine."

Students don't want to hear from adults." She thinks it is great for both the peer-to-peer members and the students they serve. The club members supplement the health curriculum by playing games, like Jeopardy, true false, to make it more engaging. "It's a different mode of delivery," Rich noted. Club activity culminated last year in going to OIS and speaking in a big assembly. Although Rich said she had a fear that the club members would ad lib, she was delighted that the exceeded her expectations and was more successful than she had imagined.

# Solar-powered streetlights to be installed at two busy Moraga intersections



Photo Vera Kochan

Black solar-powered lights installed in 2012 at Moraga Road/Woodford Drive intersection

... continued from Page A5

During the Sept. 25 town council meeting Public Works Director Edric Kwan explained the monetary advantages of installing solar-powered lighting (\$86,000) over Pacific Gas and Electric Company's conventionally-powered lighting (\$166,000).

Additional points to Kwan's presentation included: pavement preservation by not needing to cut into pavement to access PG&E electricity across the street; an opportunity to "showcase" a green energy/safety improvement; optimizing aesthetics by adhering solar skin technology to the surface of the pole rather than mounting a bulky solar panel to the pole; positive experience

with low maintenance effort from installing the same solar-powered streetlights at Moraga Road and Woodford Drive and Moraga Road/Corliss Drive intersections in 2012; and energy savings would be approximately \$360 per streetlight per year.

"The poles are black and no one has really noticed that they are there," Kwan stated. "They are low maintenance and LED. I will always try to find cost effective improvements for the town."

When asked whether solar-powered lighting can be expected as the wave of the future in Moraga, Kwan replied, "It's really case by case. There's no immediate plan to put them everywhere."

# Moraga Police Department offers first Town Hall in over 40 years

... continued from Page A4

King reassured residents that if a serious incident happens in Moraga, other police departments in the surrounding cities are all on the same radio channel and can respond to support MPD and each other.

Over the past year the department – which comprises 12 officers, two support services employees and four reserve officers – has, among other things, updated emergency operations and evacuation plans; expanded the video surveillance program; deployed Naloxene and trained officers in its use; stepped up community outreach by getting officers into all of Moraga's schools to talk with students; and have issued 1,054 citations and made 98 arrests, according to 2018 statistics.

Moraga may be a small town, but the MPD is kept busy responding to fraud and theft reports; burglaries; mental health issues; felony crimes; school-related issues; loud party complaints; traffic issues; death investigations; suspicious activities and neighborhood complaints.

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, Moraga's population of 16,676 was protected and served by the MPD on a budget of \$2,866,833 at a cost of \$173.11 per resident, compared to Orinda's population of 18,970 whose annual police budget was \$5,074,233 at a cost of \$267.48 per resident or Lafayette's population of 23,893 with an annual police budget of \$6,715,105 at a cost of \$281.05 per resident.

On hand were several members of the MPD and a table of giveaways such as reusable water bottles, pens, stickers and various pamphlets covering a wide range of topics from identity theft to a home security checklist. The lucky attendees were treated to homemade chocolate chip cookies baked by King's wife, Stacy.

There will be another MPD Town Hall Meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17 in the JMIS auditorium located at 1010 Camino Pablo in Moraga.

For information visit the MPD website: [www.police.moraga.ca.us](http://www.police.moraga.ca.us) or contact Chief King at: [king@moraga.ca.us](mailto:king@moraga.ca.us) or phone (925) 888-7049.



**TG HARDWOOD FLOORS**  
Moraga California  
DESIGN • REFINISHING • INSTALLATION  
925-376-1118  
Lic # 974653

Since 1993!  
Tom Gieryng, owner and operator

CALL TOM FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

## IT'S APRIL IN LAMORINDA FOR REAL ESTATE

Consistently Representing Buyers and Sellers in Successful Transactions

**Exceptional Service • No Exceptions!**

**925-253-2147**  
aprilmat@comcast.net

CalBRE#01221153 93 Moraga Way, #103, Orinda

**April Matthews** [www.villageassociates.com](http://www.villageassociates.com) • [www.dreamhomelamorinda.com](http://www.dreamhomelamorinda.com)



## BURKIN ELECTRIC

**"Let Us Light Up Your Life"**  
Residential • Commercial • Industrial



Serving Contra Costa since 1991  
More than 40 years experience

**All Work Done by Owner**  
Bonded & Insured  
Lic.#C10-631523

**Professional Installation of:**

- Ceiling Fans, Recessed & Track Lighting • Kitchen or Bath Remodel
- Exterior/Security/Landscape Lighting • Electrical Service Upgrade
- Complete Home Wiring - Old & New • Spa Installation

**(925) 672-1519**



James Burkin  
Sole Proprietor

## Alleged theft of visiting football team's possessions under investigation

By Ania Keenan

Upon returning to the visitor's locker rooms by the stadium field after the first half of their varsity game against Miramonte on Sept. 5, Hayward's Stellar Preparatory High school senior and football captain Kiano Ropati said that phones, laptops and an iPad had been stolen from the team's bags as they played.

According to Miramonte assistant principal Nick Carpenter, this was not the only case of theft that took place that night. "There was a theft during the junior varsity football game in our boys' locker room, located by the pool," Carpenter said. Coach Desmond Gumbs from Stellar Preparatory confirmed that the locker room doors were locked when the team went up to play the first half.

"Miramonte security camera footage shows a white male in a hoodie leaving the locker room with a backpack shortly before half-time ended," Stellar Prepara-

tory principal Bob Baty said.

According to a list compiled by Stellar Preparatory an estimated total of 13 phones, three sets of airpods and several gold chains were stolen. This is in addition to the estimated total of \$530 of cash taken from the team.

In total almost \$20,000 in electronics and cash were stolen from the team that night, according to the current crime report, which is still being processed by the Orinda Police Department.

Stellar Preparatory has a total student body of 33, with 27 of them playing on the football team. Baty relayed his concern that this theft has affected a majority of his students. "Almost everyone on the team lost a valuable; one student's mother saved for three years to buy him a phone and it got stolen in one night," Baty said.

"Many of our students are disadvantaged financially," said Baty, "most of them don't have the money to buy new phones right away, some do, but for most it will take them

a long time."

The Orinda Police Department is involved in an ongoing investigation surrounding this case. As both sides wait for a crime report to be processed with an official list of stolen items, the exact course of action remains open.

"There were parents doing the tickets outside the whole time, so there is no way they could have gotten in," Miramonte football coach Jack Shram said.

At Stellar Preparatory, team parent Robert Harval is spearheading efforts to make sure lost items get returned to players. "It was an unbelievable game, it's a shame that this theft marred what could have been a great relationship between our schools," Harval said, adding, "but as a host, Miramonte was incredible."

Miramonte administrators are involved in an ongoing investigation surrounding these events and could not comment.



**Building Foundations**

- Lifting
- Leveling
- Stabilizing

**707 310-0602**  
www.bayareaunderpinning.org

GENERAL CONTRACTOR LIC. 867128

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.  
Send a letter to the editor: [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com)



# DUDUM REAL ESTATE GROUP



**LAMORINDA**  
999 OAK HILL RD., #100  
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549  
O: 925.284.1400 F: 925.284.1411

**WALNUT CREEK**  
1910 OLYMPIC BLVD., #100  
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596  
O: 925.937.4000 F: 925.937.4001

**DANVILLE**  
100 RAILROAD AVE., #A  
DANVILLE, CA 94523  
O: 925.800.3510 F: 925.800.3520

**BRENTWOOD**  
60 EAGLE ROCK WAY, #B  
BRENTWOOD, CA 94513  
O: 925.937.4000 F: 925.937.4001

ADAM HAMALIAN  
925.708.5630  
DRE# 01917597

CHRISTINA LINEZO  
415.425.3085  
DRE# 01964989

JOHN FONDNAZIO  
925.817.9053  
DRE# 01938194

JULIE DEL SANTO  
BROKER/OWNER  
925.818.5500  
DRE# 01290985

LISA TICHENOR  
925.285.1093  
DRE# 01478540

MATT MCLEOD  
925.464.6500  
DRE# 01310057

**905 DEWING AVE., LAFAYETTE** CALL FOR PRICE  
*COMING SOON*  
  
MARY PISCITELLI/PETER GILLIS 925.765.9095

**143 BIRCHBARK PLACE, DANVILLE** \$1,599,000  
*NEW PRICE*  
  
MATT MCLEOD 925.464.6500

**2 ASHBROOK PLACE, MORAGA** \$1,595,000  
*ACTIVE*  
  
MATT MCLEOD 925.464.6500

**951 JANET LANE, LAFAYETTE** \$1,170,000  
*SOLD*  
  
TINA FRECHMAN 925.915.0851

**5 HEATHER LANE, ORINDA** \$4,199,000  
*IN-LAW UNIT*  
  
MARY PISCITELLI/PETER GILLIS 925.765.9095

**10 DORAL DRIVE, MORAGA** \$979,000  
*ACTIVE*  
  
HURLBUT TEAM 925.383.5500

**1152 FAIRLAWN COURT #4, ROSSMOOR** \$485,000  
*PENDING*  
  
SHERRY HUTCHENS/ADAM HAMALIAN 925.708.5630

**125 HAZELWOOD PLACE, MORAGA** \$1,270,000  
*SOLD REPRESENTED BUYER*  
  
MATT MCLEOD 925.464.6500

BRYAN HURLBUT  
925.383.5500  
DRE# 01347508

JANE SMITH  
925.998.1914  
DRE# 01476506

JOY WIEHN  
415.377.1884  
DRE# 02047712

LAUREN DEAL  
HURLBUT TEAM  
925.876.4671  
DRE# 02060294

MARY PISCITELLI  
925.765.9095  
DRE# 01426129

VALERIE DURANTINI  
415.999.6116  
DRE# 01376796

# ~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

## 100 years old, and going strong



Photo Pippa Fisher

Diablo Foods Vice President Connie Collier (left) presents Margrit Getsinger (center) with a bouquet of flowers to mark her 100th birthday on a recent shopping trip with Lamorinda Village Vice President Don Jenkins.

### By Pippa Fisher

In 1919 Woodrow Wilson was president of the United States. In the same year Germany and the Allied nations signed the Treaty of Versailles, formally ending the First World War. Babe Ruth was sold by the Boston Red Sox to the New York Yankees for a record-setting \$125,000, and on Oct. 8, 1919, Orinda resident Margrit Getsinger was born in Switzerland. She will be celebrating her 100th birthday surrounded by generations of family in her home.

Getsinger, raised in Switzerland, met and married her husband, German-born Ralph Getsinger, after he was forced to leave Germany accused of "being a spy" as a result of his employment with the U.S. Foreign Service. Their daughter Joan was born in Bern. In 1945 the family left Switzerland for Michigan. They had two sons, John and Pierce, born in Detroit. Getsinger has four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

She lived in Michigan until 2008 when she moved to California following the death of her husband to live with her daughter. She has her

own second story loft apartment added on to her daughter's home and lives independently alongside her daughter who works in San Francisco as a senior vice president of Morgan Stanley.

Getsinger played tennis until she was into her 80s and says she has always maintained a healthy lifestyle, staying active, eating well, enjoying an occasional glass of wine, and credits good Swiss genes for a long life.

This gracious and inspirational lady must be doing something right. Although she lives with her daughter, she maintains her independence, grocery shopping every week with help from Lamorinda Village. She even takes French lessons at the Orinda Community Center.

Getsinger recently bought a walker frame, joking with Lamorinda Village Vice President and volunteer Don Jenkins as he drove her on one of their weekly grocery shopping trips to Diablo Foods how "I'd better get some exercise if I'm going to be 100." Although Getsinger reads on her Nook device and likes to keep up with news reports, she says reading is becoming more challenging now as the only thing slowing her down

a little is declining eyesight.

Jenkins enjoys discussing world affairs with Getsinger on their drives to the grocery store and remarks on the wide circle of friends she has made since moving here. She stays engaged with friends and family and two very large Bernese Mountain dogs that keep her on her toes.

... continued on Page B5

**TOWN HALL THEATRE COMPANY**  
**MAIN STAGE** *On Stage NOW!*  
*The Legend of*  
**GEORGIA McBRIDE**  
 by Matthew Lopez  
 directed by Cindy Goldfield  
**September 26 - October 19**  
*Sponsored by*  
**Diablo Foods and Steve & Tish Harwood**

**TICKETS ON SALE!**  
 75TH GALA  
 OCTOBER 26TH  
 LAFAYETTE VETERANS  
 MEMORIAL

**TOWN HALL THEATRE COMPANY**  
**75**  
 GALA 2019  
 OCTOBER 26

**TOWNHALLTHEATRE.COM**  
 925.283.1557  
 3535 SCHOOL ST, LAFAYETTE, CA

### GET AHEAD IN MATH THIS FALL



WHEN MATH MAKES SENSE, YOU SUCCEED!

**MATHNASIUM**  
The Math Learning Center

### GRADES K-12

Pre-Algebra • Algebra 1 & 2 • Geometry  
Pre-Calculus & Calculus  
SAT/ACT Preparatory  
Individualized Instruction

**HOMEWORK HELP FOR ALL LEVELS**

**Flat Monthly Fee**

*Drop-in any time, no scheduling needed!*

**1 WEEK FREE TUTORING & HOMEWORK HELP**

Must present coupon. New students only.

**3435 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette**  
(Golden Gate Way at Mt. Diablo Blvd.)  
**(925) 283-4200** www.mathnasium.com

**ESTÉE LAUDER**  
**FREE GIFT**  
**150.00 VALUE**  
 With any Estée Lauder  
 Purchase of 37.50 or more  
 Includes Cosmetic Bag

Personalize your bag with your zodiac sign or celestial stars.

Beautiful Skin & Defined Eyes & Lips

Offer good while supplies last. One gift per customer, please

Now thru Oct. 13th

**McCaulou's**  
 Lafayette • Danville • Montclair • Countrywood • Auburn

FOLLOW US: @mccaulous www.mccaulous.com

**AAAAA RENTSPACE**  
 Store It Yourself & Save

**30% OFF**

FOR 3 MONTHS ON SELECT UNITS  
 GOOD THROUGH 10/1/19- 10/31/19

**AAAAA RENTSPACE**  
 Store It Yourself & Save

We move you in FREE when you rent a unit!

Give us a review, we're happy to hear from you, appreciated! Check our website & on Facebook to find out about upcoming events

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
 455 Moraga Rd. Ste. F  
 (925) 643-2026  
 www.5Aspace.com

## Local student to represent Lamorinda in STEM competition



Photo provided

Isabelle Katz, center, with other award recipients.

By Jennifer Wake

Campolindo High School freshman Isabelle Katz was recently selected as a Top 30 Broadcom Masters for the 2019 National Society for Science Competition, out of more than 2,300 entrants from all over the country. Broadcom MASTERS (Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering for Rising Stars) is the nation's premier Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics middle school competition.

As a finalist, Isabelle will represent Lamorinda in Washington, D.C. the last week of October where she will present her project and

compete with the other finalists.

Isabelle's invitation to enter Broadcom was based on the Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School eighth-grader winning first place at the 2019 California State Science Fair, in the physics category as well as the Junior Sweepstakes at the Contra Costa Science Fair, for her project on characterizing musical instruments, and voice, using signal analysis.

A dedicated musician and singer, Isabelle became fascinated by the differences in tones among different brands of pianos, according to the Broadcom Masters website. She had heard ex-

perts use different adjectives to talk about those tones: "Diffuse." "Metallic." Even "fat." Those words had meaning, but they weren't very specific. Isabelle decided to see if she could use digital sound processing to get an objective characterization of both a note's frequency and its tone, or timbre. She also wanted the technique to work with other instruments besides the piano. She wondered if the method could work with sung notes as well.

Isabelle started with 10 recordings of the middle C note from three brands of pianos. She used software and an algorithm to break down a musical sound into its different frequencies. Isabelle also got data for the notes' harmonics. Those are overtones that some instruments make when a basic, or fundamental, note is played. Isabelle then went further. She used music from the "mellow" and "bright" settings on her electric piano to design a way to measure a musical sound's tone. She put her results together and got a "color fingerprint" for musical sounds.

Colored circles in the fingerprint stand for a fundamental note and its harmonics. The thickness of each circle is based on the peaks of the different frequencies. Isabelle's method could characterize notes and tones for a piano, guitar and violin. She also found a way to show if a sung note is off on its pitch. "The next step for this project is to build a working prototype smartphone app" to train singers, she says.

## A new home for Nevada



Photo Sora O'Doherty

Former Orinda mayor Bobbie Landers smiles with her horse, Nevada, who has found a new home.

By Sora O'Doherty

Bobbie Landers' 27-year-old thoroughbred horse, Nevada, has finally been moved off the Pacific Gas and Electric Company land on which he had lived off Bear Creek Road. Landers had a lease on the land for 33 years, but early this year PG&E had informed her that they would not renew the lease. Landers, a former mayor of Orinda who is 90 years old and has been an active participant in many of Orinda's civic and social activities over the decades, was very stressed by having to relocate her old horse, whom she was accustomed to visit and care for twice each day. PG&E gave her several extensions, but could not offer another suitable piece of land.

Fortunately, help arrived in the form of Mike McCaffrey of Hold Your Horses. McCaffrey and company founder Chantel Tieman run the business, which specializes in rescuing horses from fires. McCaffrey has a ranch in Byron, California, where his two daughters raise show pigs.

On Sept. 20, the horse,

named Nevada was not too happy with Landers, who refused to feed him his breakfast. She believed that if he was hungry, it would be easier to lure him into a horse trailer, an experience the horse has not savored in the past. Landers' two daughters, Holly and Merrily, were on hand to help with the move. Emotions ran high as they removed Nevada's things from the barn built by their father and John Fazel many years ago. The plaque bearing Nevada's name was unfastened from his stall, ready to be transferred to his new home.

McCaffrey and Tieman arrived with a large horse trailer, in which Landers felt that Nevada would be more comfortable. McCaffrey evaluated the horse, and administered a light sedative to calm him down. After about a half hour, Nevada calmly followed Landers' daughter Holly, who had ridden him in the past, out of the barn and into the trailer, where breakfast awaited him. It was a calm ride out to his new home in Byron. Upon arrival, Nevada was led into a large corral and left to accli-

mate himself to his new surroundings. In the distance, the other side of Mount Diablo rose to the west. In a field beside the corral, two black Morgan horses came close to the fence to meet their new neighbor. Nevada, who has been alone in his field for many years since the death of his barn mate, trotted over to say hello. He cantered around the ring, looking nothing like his 27 years. He got down and rolled on the ground, and investigated his surroundings.

Finally, McCaffrey led him to his new stall, which is large and has a large run attached. One of his neighbors, a chicken, jumped up on the stall, and startled Nevada, but he took it in his stride. Across from his stall, the show pigs were calm about their new neighbor. Landers won't get to see Nevada every day any more, but she is often in Byron and will visit him regularly there. So, while it isn't as good as having him in Orinda where she can see him daily, Landers is content with Nevada's new home, and happy that the stressful process of relocating him is over.



www.ANTIGUADOORS.com  
925.289.8933  
sales@ANTIGUADOORS.com



COMPLETE TREE CARE  
Proudly serving the East Bay since 1965!  
Fully Insured ❖ Certified Arborists ❖ License #655977  
(925) 254-7233 ❖ www.treesculpture.com

**When I say "good," you say "neighbor."**

**Mike Rosa**  
Agent  
925-376-2244  
Insurance Lic. #: OF45583  
346 Rheem Blvd., Suite 106  
Moraga  
P097314.1

Now that's teamwork.  
CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7

**State Farm**

State Farm Home Office, Bloomington, IL

**BAD INC. Bay Area Drainage, Inc.**

**Have You Checked Your Crawlspace Lately?**

- French Drains
- Underfloor Drains
- Downspout Systems
- Subdrain Systems
- Sump Pumps
- Retaining Walls
- Pavestone Driveway & Walkways

**A General Engineering Contractor  
Locally owned and Operated  
Contractor LIC # 762208**

**925•377•9209**

visit our website  
**www.bayareadrainage.com**

**DIAMOND CERTIFIED**

# Cal Shakes closes its 2019 season with a powerful 'Macbeth' in Orinda



Photo Kevin Berne

From left, Jomar Tagatac (Banquo) and Rey Lucas (Macbeth)

By Sophie Braccini

"It is a tale/ Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury/ Signifying nothing." The famous Macbeth quote resounds in the vast open space of the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda, where Cal Shakes is telling the tyrant's story, and suddenly it seems that the desperate words are aimed at us in our own difficult times. The last show of the season from the Berkeley troupe performing in Orinda is not Shakespeare's merriest; it is violent and bloody. Its relevance today and the excellence of the production make it a must-see event.

It has been told many times that the TV series "Game of Thrones" stole a lot from Shakespeare's characters. Nowhere better than in "Macbeth" can that be seen. Here are the thirst for power for power's sake, the senseless

violence, the madness that comes with too much supremacy, something that has appealed to audiences all over the world since it is said to have premiered in front of King James of England in 1606.

Seeing the play live on stage adds to its impact and the direction by Victor Malana Maog does not hide anything. There is no glorification of the barbaric aspect of the violence; it is raw and hits the spectator in the gut. Macbeth is a bloody tyrant and there is nothing romantic or appealing about it. The brilliant general turned to mad ambition and crime from the prediction of three spirits/witches. In the time of Shakespeare they must have been the representation of the devil; a more contemporary interpretation would see them as the unconscious desires of a power-hungry man.

By his side is Lady Macbeth, an ambitious and ruthless woman who pushes her husband to perpetrate his first crime but who will end her own life, driven to madness by remorse. "Here's the smell of blood still. All perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand," she says. There is no peace possible for Macbeth and his wife; once the first blood has been drawn they are engulfed in a spiral of violence till they die.

Malana Maog and his team have constructed a set that uses large Plexiglas walls, between which the protagonists travel. The complete transparency adds to the feeling that the characters are lost in a maze of illusion, where sanity goes astray. It is also used to project blood when crimes are committed, creating a very powerful symbolic image of violence. Other scenes are not as symbolic and very young or sensitive souls could be hurt by the vividness of the depiction of assassination.

The actors chosen to interpret the Shakespearean characters are up to the challenge, with impeccable elocution, and most of the time a subtle rendition of the emotions their characters are feeling. Rey Lucas as Macbeth is skilled at showing the nuances of a man that certainly has hubris, but is also weak to superstition, easily manipulated, a kind of vulnerable narcissist, who ends up being driven by his insecurities. Liz Sklar plays a Lady Macbeth that starts as a manipulative wife using her charm and her knowledge of her husband's weaknesses to serve her own ambition. Her despair by the end of the play is tangible and touching.

"Macbeth" will play at the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda until Oct. 13. The evening shows under the stars are gorgeous, but it is recommended to dress for the very cool nights. A picnic in the grove before the show has been a tradition for many locals; the space opens early to accommodate the dinners. More information and tickets can be found at calshakes.org

# 'Aga' – an ode to a disappearing world



Photo provided

By Sophie Braccini

This month's presentation by the International Film Showcase brings to Orinda a gem from the North, "Aga," – the Bulgarian selection for this year's Oscar that is an ode to a vanishing world, the world of the Iakoutes whose country, the coldest inhabited region of the world, lies in the North-East of Siberia.

Nanouk and Sedna live a simple and tough traditional life, by themselves, in the middle of an endless desert of snow and ice. Their every day life is spent finding food, fishing or hunting, taking care of their yurt, making nets, traps, clothing, and everything they need to survive with their dog. They are not young anymore, maybe in their 50s, and every day they notice the changes that are affecting

their environment: there is less fishing, animals die for no apparent reason, spring comes sooner, planes and even helicopters appear in their immense sky.

But on Sedna's side there is a secret wound that is deeply hurting her. What is it? Is she feeling in the flesh the hurt her mother's heart endures? Change and "progress" have disintegrated the Iakoute family and the film bears emotional witness to their demise. Bulgarian director Milko Lazarov has created a movie about a lost people, but it also speaks of universal themes of love and loss.

The measured film may surprise the American moviegoer; not much is said and action is sparse. It is a slow painting of a magnificent country, almost a documentary of what was and will no

longer be. The light, the colors, and the music create a poetic and almost hypnotic spectacle: strange, different and totally worth a movie ticket.

Movie buffs will of course think of the 1922 docudrama by Robert Flaherty "Nanook of the North" that depicted the life of an Inuit family in the Canadian Arctic. No doubt that Lazarov gave that same name to the main character in homage to the early 20th century silent film.

The presentation at the Orinda Theatre will be a U.S. premiere of "Aga." Winner of 24 international awards from Bulgaria, France and Germany, the movie will open on Oct. 4 and play for at least one week. For information, visit www.orindamovies.com.

**Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church**  
1700 School Street; Moraga, CA 94556

**INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL Serbian Food Festival**

Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
12:00 Noon - 10:00 p.m.

◆ SARMA ◆ KOBASICE ◆ CEVAPCICI ◆ RAZNICI  
◆ PORK & LAMB ◆ BEVERAGES ◆ OTHER FAVORITES

DELICIOUS HOMEMADE PASTRIES

LIVE SERBIAN MUSIC, TRUMPET ORCHESTRA, & MORE!

Plus a bounce house for the kids!

PLEASE JOIN US!

YOUR SMILE IS EVERYTHING

**Mary H. Smith D.D.S.**  
A Professional Corporation  
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

Taking care of all dental needs for you and your family.

Emphasizing cosmetic dentistry with implants, and Invisalign. Nitrous oxide is available.

Consultations are complementary.

Dentistry with Excellence.

96 Davis Road, Suite 5 Orinda, 925.254.0824

Your one-call plumber!

**LeapFrog Plumbing**  
Gas Water & Sewer

Head Frog Mo Williams

Does your plumbing give you a FRIGHT?  
ZOT! Zap Out Trouble--before trouble zaps you.  
50% OFF CRAWL UNDER (It can be scary down under your house!)

Good Preventive Plumbing measures will protect you and your family from true life horror stories; Broken pipes, holes in venting, electrolysis, sneaky leaks, and more eeeek!

**50% OFF**  
Inspection  
crawl space plumbing,  
Inspection \$226 Value!

\*visible and accessible plumbing; Homeowners only; most houses. Thru 11/15/2019

Family-owned & serving Lamorinda since 1993

green solutions!

We Hop To It!

CA Lic 929641 (925) **377-6600**  
www.LeapFrogPlumbing.com

## 'The Legend of Georgia McBride' – fun and acceptance at Town Hall Theatre



Photo provided

By Sophie Braccini

Opening its 75th anniversary season, Town Hall Theatre offers its audience a show that's part cabaret, part play: "The Legend of Georgia McBride." The story of Casey, a young father-to-be pushed by circumstance to become a drag queen at night and the difficulty he has to accept and share with his wife the real pleasure he derives from it, carries an optimistic message of acceptance and freedom. While the show is easy to love, it is not for younger audiences due to sexually-charged (and mostly funny) language.

In the Bay Area where LGBTQ has become a part of everyday language (although this reporter had to look up what QIAA+ meant: questioning, intersex, asexual, and ally), and fluid sexual orientation is now replacing nonbinary, it would seem that transvestite should not be a topic that would raise any eyebrows. But as the show director Cindy Goldfield noted, in 2018 alone there were some 1,000 hate crimes perpetrated against non-traditional individuals in California. The play offers a message of tolerance toward differences and explores how a straight guy, Elvis impersonator and soon to be father, can easily become a woman and find a freeing pleasure in it. For that matter, the first transformation of Casey into Georgia on stage, and within less than a minute, is both striking and fascinating.

The general feeling of the play is that of a giant party where the audience is encouraged to participate, clap

to the beat, cheer and have fun. At times one no longer knows if this is indeed a cabaret show or a theater performance.

The play is light, even if two or three times Matthew Lopez, the playwright, adds some dialogue alluding to the difficulty of being different, to the importance of looking past appearances and prejudices, and to being true to oneself and one's choices.

Extra kudos goes to the cast: Greg Lynch as Miss Tracy is such a drag empress, with a big heart, a total talent for extravaganzas and a monumental presence. Andrew Mondello portrays a very believable Casey, slowly transforming from Elvis to drag queen and escalating his game to the totally fun and crazy finale. Héctor Ramón Zavala as Remy delivers a performance that has depth and poignancy at times - more than one spectator may be astonished to realize after the show that he also plays Jason the landlord, as he is unrecognizable in that other role. Aficionados to THT will recognize Tom Rely as Eddie and April Deitschle is Jo, Casey's young wife, a woman with common sense and a big heart.

The costumes by Shelby Pujol and all the scenic design contribute to make this show a successful visual, auditory and sensory moment of fun.

"The Legend of Georgia McBride" plays at Town Hall Theatre in Lafayette through Oct. 19. For more information, visit [townhalltheatre.com](http://townhalltheatre.com)

## Kindness a focus of recent community event



Peter Pan Foundation founder Leslie Noel and the Executive Director of Born This Way Foundation Maya Smith.

Photos provided

Submitted by Gina Campo

The Peter Pan Foundation hosted a community kindness event Sept. 19 at their location in Lafayette, in partnership with the Born This Way Foundation as part of their #bekind21 campaign. Guests were invited to participate in a variety of activities that represented the four pillars of the #bekind21 campaign: kindness, love, acceptance and bravery. During the two-hour event nearly 100 people visited and participated in the activities. The Peter Pan Foundation and Born This Way were thrilled to see such fantastic community support toward helping spread kindness, an integral part of the mission of both of these organizations.



Lafayette resident Sadie Poole, who participates with the PPF and designed the T-shirt for this kindness event.

## Looking Good in Lamorinda

## Finding style in sustainable fashion



The Cassie cross-body bag.

Photos Moya Stone

By Moya Stone

The buzzword in fashion this season is "sustainable," as consumers become aware of the negative impact clothing manufacturing has on the environment, including air and water pollution, overproduction and waste. According to Vogue magazine close to three-fifths of all clothing ends up in a landfill or is incinerated. Designers such as Stella McCartney and Eileen Fisher are shifting their business practices to become more sustainable and cause less harm to the environment.

Back in 2013 British designer Vivienne Westwood was ahead of the curve when she said, "Buy less. Choose well. Make it last. Quality not quantity."

One approach to sustainable fashion is to buy secondhand, which is currently a hot shopping trend. Lucky for us Lamorinda has quite a few thrift and consignment stores including the high-end resale shop, Gemlust in downtown Lafayette. Seven years ago proprietor Renee Kubryk opened up the bricks and mortar where she specializes in selling pre-owned upscale designer handbags, in particular the ever-popular Chanel and Louis Vuitton. Additionally she offers antique reproduction engagement rings that she has designed herself. Kubryk says business is strong in consignment. She sells handbags at 20-30% below retail and she accepts only mint condition bags or for a special bag she'll do restoration. Kubryk is very knowledgeable and "loves to talk handbags." She's thinking about starting a meet-up and invites anyone who is into collecting Chanel or LV to contact her. Gemlust is open by appointment only. [Gemlust.com](http://Gemlust.com), (925) 385-7121.

Following Westwood's advice, when we do purchase something new, go for lasting quality, such as the Cass Clutch handbag by Lafayette designer Debra Szidon. I checked in with Szidon, who started her handbag line in 2016, and she tells me that lately she has been considering different shapes and sizes. New this season is The Cassie, a cross body bag that can be worn five different ways. Szidon says she added this style because customers requested an option to the original, which was inspired by a vintage 1970s bag. Made in California in small quantities, a Cass Clutch handbag is an investment piece that is made sturdy and it improves with age. "It's a bag built to last that works for any season," says Szidon, who is thinking sustainable by avoiding waste and using leftover materials to make smaller items like wallets. <https://thecassclutch.com>.

Cashmere is another investment piece and Wayside Inn Thrift Store in Lafayette is having their popular an-

nual cashmere sale on Oct. 8. The shop puts aside the best in their cashmere selection for this special one-day event. While there, look for fall 2019 fashion trends, many of which harken back to past eras: brown and various shades of green are the "in" colors, capes, suits, animal prints (are they ever not in?), long coats, and vintage '70s long shimmery gowns are all the rage for evening wear. Wayside Inn Thrift Store, 3521 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette.

After having heard of the untimely death of fashion designer Isabel Toledo I reread her memoir, "Roots of Style: Weaving Together Life, Love, and Fashion" (Celebra, 2012). Known for designing Michelle Obama's 2009 inaugural day outfit, Toledo died in August at age 59 from breast cancer. I enjoyed her story of starting out in Cuba and moving to America with her family when she was young enough to see it as a big adventure. I also appreciate her positive attitude and of course her amazing talent, which began with desire to see how machines work and soon shifted to how clothing is constructed. While in high school in New Jersey she met her future husband Ruben Toledo, an artist and now a renowned fashion illustrator. The book is full of his charming illustrations. The two moved to Manhattan after graduating from high school and as a couple they forged ahead in their careers in fashion and art. Roots of Style is a great read for more than just Toledo's personal story, it's also a fascinating piece of fashion history, specifically 1980s Manhattan when the city was edgy and raw and full of opportunity for young novices.

Embrace the change of season and go forth in style.



Moya Stone is a fashion writer and blogger at [www.overdressedforlife.com](http://www.overdressedforlife.com).

# The majority of us will need senior care – what is your plan?

By Linda Fodrini-Johnson

My husband and I were trying to remember the name of something we could describe but not label. We started to laugh, saying to each other, “Oh my – one of us has to stay put together,” and, “If both of us lose our memory it will truly be a challenge for our family. We might not really have the life we’ve envisioned.”

The good news is we both recovered the name of that activity and the better news is we decided to review our legal documents because we have had some changes in our lives. There are just more options that we would want others to know about.

There are many discussions we older adults need to have with our adult children or those who will make decisions for us when we are not capable. This could be for either a short period or for the long-term in the case of a progressive illness like Alzheimer’s Disease, Parkinson’s or MS. What if we become impaired in vision, hearing or mobility? What kinds of support will we need and where do we find it – for ourselves or our partner? Even more importantly, where does your “responsible party” or agent go for advice?

I am going to list four very important discussions you need to have with your partner as soon as you find the quiet time to have a conversation. Included is one professional with whom you should consult.

**1) Housing:** If we can’t live in our home because the environment does not meet our needs or due to the maintenance and upkeep, do we have a plan? One of the reasons many couples decide on moving is that daily tasks like shopping and meal planning become chores they want to give up. Now we say we want to “Age in Place.” So do about 85% of older adults surveyed. However, I suggest visiting at least three senior housing communities that offer both independent housing and supportive living now. Then you have an idea so that if something happens, you have options.

**2) Health Care Decision Maker:** This is often referred to as your agent under a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. This is a legal document that is used to express your wishes about more than just end of life decisions that are often faced in critical care situations. You must be clear on who you want to participate in making these decisions for you, and also

that your agent knows your values and what you like and don’t like. A good resource on how to have these conversations and the documents you can choose to use is The Conversation Project. These are hard decisions and can be emotional when you are in the midst of them so it’s good to talk about this way before any needs arise.

I believe the Advance Health Care Directive is just as important as the trust you have set up to manage your assets. There are now a variety of different versions of this document that are legal in California. Have you looked at the other options? Some give you much more room for specific language about the kinds of treatments you want and will guide your agent in making tough decisions.

I like the one from the Regents of the University of California called the “California Advance Health Care Directive.” You can download it on Google for no charge. There are also many others to review with your attorney or a Professional Care Manager/Aging Life Care expert.

There is a document called the POLST form (Physicians Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment). This form replaced the old “Do Not Resuscitate” document. It is the only document that will stop the EMT from resuscitating you in a health emergency. If you feel strongly about this or that you might want to choose “selective treatment” before a health crisis, you need to discuss this with your physician or another health care professional and family.

**3) Legal Tools & Personal Stuff:** The majority of us that have property or assets greater than \$100,000 should have a living trust and our property and accounts changed into the name of that trust. When was the last time you reviewed yours? It should be once a year. Are all the requests relevant and agents still able to do perform the necessary duties?

If you have strong feelings on who should inherit your possessions you should have these listed with the recipient named in your legal document. This is another discussion that you need to have with your partner.

**4) Dementia Journey:** We are living longer and your biggest risk to have a dementia such as Alzheimer’s disease is age. At this point in history, almost 50% will have such an illness if we reach age 85. Currently, there are no real treatments for dementia. However, we do know that staying active, mental stimulation, healthy diets, exercise and social engagement can

improve quality of life for those with mild dementia. There are some medications that help with functioning, but they don’t stop the progression. Couples need to discuss this and talk about how one person can promote their own well-being while at the same time as assisting with care of the other person. Would the one who develops this illness be OK with a memory care community or do they want to stay in their own home with caregivers as well as their spouse? Get this in writing.

If you feel strongly about any transitional life change that could be confronted by your agents, you need to get these elements in writing and include them with your legal documents. Example: If you want to move to memory care if you develop dementia – what would you like? If you want to stay in your own home with help, get your priorities written down. Is it a view, a garden, pets, activities that include classical music? Be specific because if you have dementia you might not be able to articulate them. So, do it now even if you never go down that path.

You can also meet with a Professional Aging Life Care Manager (previously called Geriatric Care Managers). These experts will help you articulate what is important to you so you can have these family meetings in order to have that “Road Map” that will dictate your desires and values. They also stay on with families becoming the navigator for every life pothole, providing guidance, resources, and vetting community options from housing to Elder Law attorneys.



Linda Fodrini-Johnson, MA, MFT, CMC, is a Licensed Family Therapist and Certified Care Manager. She has been practicing professional care management since 1984. Linda founded Eldercare Services, a full-service care management and home care company in 1989. Eldercare Services is now a division of Home Care Assistance and continues to provide Bay Area families with care management, home care services (caregiving), advocacy, counseling, support groups and education. For information, call (925) 937-2018.

# 100 years old, and going strong

... continued from Page B1

Looking back on the difference between life in Europe and the States, Getsinger says that life was more formal where she came from. “If you go out, you dress up,” she says. There is an elegance about her that still draws comments wherever she goes. Reflecting that she will always feel slightly different than her American-born counterparts, she says, “Where you come from shapes you. I will always be Swiss.”

On the subject of how she keeps such a positive outlook on life she is adamant. “I work on being positive or else it makes me unhappy. I don’t let myself feel as bad as I could.”

Jenkins points out that as people age depression can set in. “It’s easy to become a complainer,” he says. “And that’s just boring to others,” says Getsinger. “It doesn’t change anything.”

Getsinger is grateful for the assistance she receives from Lamorinda Village. She explained that in addition to weekly drives to the grocery store, she has used its help with decluttering drawers. “It is a wonderful organization,” she enthuses, saying that her friends back in the Midwest are envious, as they don’t have a Village network in that area.

Lamorinda Village is part of a nationwide, nonprofit organization whose mission is to build a community helping seniors live independently in their own homes for as long as it is safe to do so. Jenkins says volunteers help in many areas, from driving to handyman services and organized social events, to tax help and help with technical matters, giving as much or as little time as they can manage. With 35 people in the Lamorinda area needing regular assistance, they welcome new

volunteers. The Village is establishing a new Lamorinda Village Service Award in honor of Diablo Foods Founder Ed Stokes, a community leader and outstanding community volunteer himself who exemplified the Rotarian motto of “Service above Self.” Stokes’ son Dan Stokes and daughter Connie Collier are continuing their father’s tradition of supporting worthy community charities.

The award will be presented on Dec. 6 at Lamorinda Village’s Afternoon of Gratitude – an event with food and entertainment, to be held at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall to thank volunteers, member and supporters for their participation.

More information on the Lamorinda Village and how to get involved can be found on their website <https://lamorindavillage.org/>

# LIVING TRUST

**\$895**  
COMPLETE

Valid until November 13, 2019

**FREE** INITIAL CONSULTATION

Law Offices of  
**Lauren Smykowski**

**Plan Includes:**

- Trust Agreement
- Pour Over Will
- Guardianship of Minor Children
- Power of Attorney for Finance
- Transfer of Real Property
- Advanced Health Care Directive

**Notary Services Included!**

(925) 257-4277

www.smykowskilaw.com  
laurensmy@gmail.com

Office Located in Walnut Creek

## JOIN THE FIGHT FOR ALZHEIMER’S FIRST SURVIVOR.

Alzheimer’s disease currently has no cure. Join the Alzheimer’s Association® in the fight for the first survivor. The Walk to End Alzheimer’s® is the world’s largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support and research.

Register today at [act.alz.org/eastbay2019](http://act.alz.org/eastbay2019)

**EAST BAY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019 BISHOP RANCH, SAN RAMON**



2019 NATIONAL PRESENTING SPONSOR  
**Edward Jones**

## STEPS AWAY FROM WORLD-CLASS SHOPPING, DINING, AND ENTERTAINMENT.



Complimentary Dinner in our onsite 'Farm to Table' restaurant, Newton's Fine Dining!

WALNUT CREEK'S PREMIER ACTIVE SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY IN THE HEART OF THE CITY



(925) 943-7427 | 1785 Shuey Avenue, Walnut Creek  
[theheritagedowntown.com](http://theheritagedowntown.com)

Submit stories and story ideas to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

## Not to be missed

### ART

**The Lamorinda Arts Alliance** is delighted to present a juried art exhibition "Under Pressure 2," at the Main Street Arts Gallery at 613 Main Street, Martinez, through Oct. 6. All printmaking mediums were considered for exhibition with an emphasis on varied techniques. Intaglio etchings, monotypes, monoprints, solarplate etchings, Chine-coll, relief print woodblocks and linoleum art will be represented.

**Valley Art Gallery presents** "Celebrating 70 Years of Fine Art," a new exhibition by gallery artists on its 70th Anniversary through Nov. 9. The gallery always features selected works by Gallery Artists on its unique sliding walls. Reflecting a wide range of motifs, styles and media, the show continues the mission to represent the best of the best of more than 100 East Bay artists. [www.valleyartgallery.org](http://www.valleyartgallery.org)

**The Lamorinda Arts Alliance** will hold a one-day show and sale from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 5 at the Lafayette Christian Church, just off St. Mary's Road at 584 Glenside Drive, Lafayette. More than two dozen painters,

jewelers, ceramicists, photographers, card and print-makers, and one virtuoso chocolatier will display media-spanning collections of recent works. The participants, mostly Lamorinda-based, hail also from Alameda, Benicia, Clayton, Walnut Creek, San Ramon, Pacheco, and other nearby towns. Free.

**Community Mural Project** unveiling and reception for the artists from 5 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 5 at JPG@The Bank Pop-up Art Gallery 3525 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette. Artist, architect, place-maker, and community activator Lara Dutto will lead a community mural for the outside of JPG@The Bank. The mural will be installed inside the abandoned ATM Niche on Moraga Road. Dutto has gathered several local teens, to create the mural off-site and install it over a 3-day period. While on-site at the pop-up, they will incorporate and put the final touches on the installation.

**Lamorinda Arts Alliance** announces "Keep It Local" at Lafayette Bank of America at 3530 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette. The exhibit features local scenes by local artists, including George Ehrenhaft, Judith

## Not to be missed

Feins, Debby Koonce, Jill Landau, Margaret Lucas-Hill, Judy Bolef Miller, Wenda Pyman, Sheila Reid, Adrienne Rogers and Maria SantoStefano. The show will run through Oct. 30.

### MUSIC

**Count Basie style Jazz** performed by Steve Snyder's Big Band from 4 to 6 p.m. on Oct. 6 at 584 Glenside Drive, Lafayette, Back Courtyard patio. Craft beers and wine for purchase. Snacks available. The concert is free with a good-will donation to help cover expenses.

**OSLC Concert Series presents** The Black Cedar Trio (Kris Palmer, flute; Steven Lin, guitar; Isaac Pastor-Chermak, cello) in a performance spanning four centuries of music at 4 p.m. on Oct. 6 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane in Lafayette. Compositions by J.S. Bach, Paganini, Piazzolla, and a special commission (2018) Tres Colores by Javier Contreras. Free admission/freewill offering.

**Devil Mountain Coffee House** announces North Country Blue show at 8 p.m. on Oct. 18. at Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist

Church 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. North Country Blue ([www.northcountryblue.com](http://www.northcountryblue.com)) established itself as one of California's freshest and finest bluegrass bands. The band combines fresh takes on the traditional bluegrass canon, thoughtful covers of challenging modern material, and a number of startlingly mature and well-crafted originals. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 students and \$5 children. Sliding scale is also available at the door. Tickets are available at: [www.eventbrite.com/e/north-country-blue-tickets-72433533649?aff=ebdssbdestsearch](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/north-country-blue-tickets-72433533649?aff=ebdssbdestsearch)

**Gold Coast Chamber Players** will present culturally distinct music with a journey from the USA to China. "Pairs" – music featuring pairs of string instruments performing together at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 19 in the Don Tatzin Community Hall, Lafayette Library. Tickets are \$45- \$40 Senior (65+), \$15 Student. Discounted season tickets are available. For more information, call (925) 283-3728 or visit [GCCPMusic.com](http://GCCPMusic.com).

### THEATER

**Town Hall Theatre** opens their

milestone 75th "Transformations" 2019-20 Season with Matthew Lopez's comedy "The Legend of Georgia McBride," a celebratory piece about a young man discovering his inner drag queen through Oct. 19. For tickets and showtimes: BOX OFFICE: (925) 283-1557; [www.townhalltheatre.com](http://www.townhalltheatre.com)

### LECTURE & LITERATURE

**Diablo Writers' Workshop** is excited to present "Launching" – a creative writing reading program from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17 at Orinda Books. Eight local writers will share debut stories developed with the Diablo Writers' Workshop. The reading is being held in conjunction with San Francisco's annual literary festival – Litquake – and hosted by DWW founders and teachers Janine deBoisblanc and Andrea Firth. Come out for refreshments, great storytelling, and a fun evening.

### KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

**"Love & Logic - Parenting Made Fun."** For parents of children of all ages. Learn simple and proven techniques that teach responsibility and character, lower your stress level, and have immediate and positive results. Taught by Connie Kellaher, director of MVPC Nurture Preschool, and Love and Logic Independent Facilitator. Join us for any or all of 7 sessions on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, 10 Moraga Valley Lane, Moraga. Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Nov. 6 and 13. Each session stands alone, so come when you can! No charge, and no pre-registration needed. Free childcare is available by emailing [ckallaher@mvpctoday.org](mailto:ckallaher@mvpctoday.org) at least one week in advance. For more info, visit [www.thenurturepreschool.com/programs/parenteducation/](http://www.thenurturepreschool.com/programs/parenteducation/)

**Mindful Littles & White Pony Express** volunteer opportunity from 4 to 5:15 p.m. on Oct. 22 and from 1 to 2:15 p.m. on Oct. 27 at White Pony Express 3380 Vincent Rd #107/ Pleasant Hill. Mindful Littles will be facilitating family volunteering projects at White Pony Express. Each project will be a unique, highly-engaging experience for families with children under 12 – grandparents welcome! This is an opportunity for children to engage in service in fun ways and for families to spend quality time together, including learning more about empathy and mindfulness. Please wear comfortable clothes. Register at: <https://whiteponyexpress.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=41555>

### OTHER

**Serbian Food Festival** from noon to 10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5 at Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church 1700 School Street, Moraga. Serbian favorites like sarma, kobasice, cevapcici, live Serbian music, delicious homemade pastries and a bounce house for the kids.

**Lafayette Juniors 25th Annual Rummage Sale** from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5. Special Early Bird Entrance fee \$10 per adult from 7 to 8 a.m. Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Dr., Lafayette. Pre-loved designer clothes, baby and kid clothes, toys, children's gear, furniture, household goods, and much more. Visit [www.lafayette-juniors.org](http://www.lafayette-juniors.org).

**Volunteers will remove Fire Blight** - damaged branches from the 106-year-old pear orchard adjacent to Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School in Moraga from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 5. The trees are doing better after several years of fire blight removal, treatment with an organic fertilizer last year, and our winter rains in 2016. The Fire Blight infection threatened to kill this historic orchard, which is a source of great local pride and the impetus for the annual Moraga Pear Festival. There will be instruction, tools, and a lot of fun. Bring gloves, sunscreen, hats and sturdy shoes. If you have them bring (labeled with your name), loppers, hand pruners and (especially needed) pole pruners and orchard ladders.

... continued on next Page

## Lamorinda's Religious Services

### JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sundays, 9:30 am & 5 pm



10 Moraga Valley Lane  
[www.mvpctoday.org](http://www.mvpctoday.org)  
925.376.4800



OUR SAVIOR'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
TRANSFORMED BY THE PATH WE WALK TOGETHER

1035 CAROL LANE, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549  
(925) 283-3722 [WWW.OSLC.NET](http://WWW.OSLC.NET)

JOIN US FOR OUR SUNDAY SERVICE AT 9:30 AM  
CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES



### Lafayette United Methodist Church

955 Moraga Road 925.284.4765 [thelumc.org](http://thelumc.org)  
Sunday 10am Worship and Faith Formation for all ages

Opportunities to Love God, Love Others,  
and Serve the World

### LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Where all are welcome, nobody is perfect,  
and anything is possible with God.



- Sunday Worship 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
- Programs for all ages
- Guest Speakers & Workshops
- So much more! Connect with us today!

49 Knox Drive • Lafayette, CA • (925) 283-8722 • [LOPC.org](http://LOPC.org) • #LOPC

### ST. PERPETUA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

celebrating our faith • enriching our community • sharing our gifts

#### Join us

Masses Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.  
Sundays at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.  
School for TK - 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Faith Formation for children and adults

3454 Hamlin Road | Lafayette | [stperpetua.org](http://stperpetua.org)  
925.283.0272 Parish | 925.284.1640 School



### St Stephen's Episcopal Church

66 St. Stephen's Drive, Orinda  
254-3770. [www.ststephensorinda.org](http://www.ststephensorinda.org)  
Sunday 8am, 10am

### WILLOWSRING community church

Practical biblical teaching, contemporary  
worship, come as you are.

[www.willowspringchurch.com](http://www.willowspringchurch.com)

1689 School St. Moraga | 925-376-3550

**Sunday Service 10:45 am**

### St. Anselm's Episcopal Church

An Open, Affirming & Loving Community

**Sunday Services: 8 and 10 AM**

*In-church Youth Zone, 10 AM Nursery Childcare*  
682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, 284-7420, [www.stanselms.ws](http://www.stanselms.ws)

### ORINDA CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

24 Orinda Way (next to the Library) - 254-4212

**Sunday Service and Sunday School 10 - 11 am**  
Informal Wednesday Meeting 7:30 - 8:30 pm  
ReadingRoom/Bookstore M - F 11 - 4; Sat. 10 - 12

[www.christianscienceorinda.org](http://www.christianscienceorinda.org)

### ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

1001 CAMINO PABLO, 925-376-6900  
[WWW.STMONICAMORAGA.COM](http://WWW.STMONICAMORAGA.COM)

Mass Times: Daily Mass Monday - Friday 9:00 am  
Saturday - Confessions 3:30 - 4:30 pm / Vigil Mass 5:00 PM  
Sunday - Masses at 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 am



## Not to be missed

### OTHER ... continued

**Fall in love with beautiful** kittens and cats from Community Concern for Cats. Meet them at this weekend's adoption event from 1 to 4 p.m. on Oct. 5 and 6. Locations are Pet Food Express in Lafayette, Petco in Walnut Creek, Pet Food Express in Pleasant Hill (Saturday), and Pet Food Express in Concord (Sunday). For more information, visit [www.communityconcernforcats.org](http://www.communityconcernforcats.org) online.

**The Diablo Valley Literacy** Council fall workshop is scheduled. Adults interested in helping other ESL (English as a Second Language) adults in the community to learn the English language are encouraged to attend. No teaching experience is required. We will teach you to be a tutor! \$20 registration covers materials and training. Sessions are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 5 and Oct. 12 at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Concord. Attending both sessions is required.

**Public Hearing of the OUSD** Board of Trustees at 6 p.m. on Oct. 7 in the Orinda Union School District Conference Rooms A & B, 8 Altarinda Road Orinda. The purpose of this Public Hearing is for the Board of Trustees to obtain public input on whether each pupil in the District has sufficient textbooks or instructional materials in specific subjects that are aligned to the academic content standards.

**Shred papers, hard drives** and CDs on site: AAUW's 6th Annual October Shred Fest is from 9 a.m. to noon on Oct. 12, at 5A Rent-A-Space, 455 Moraga Road, Moraga. Rain or shine, securely shred pa-

pers on site. New services: Destroy computer hard drives (removed from computer) and metal CDs (up to 20). \$10 per bankers file box, computer hard drive, or CDs. This AAUW fundraiser helps send teacher-nominated Lamorinda girls to Tech Trek Science & Math Camp on campus at Stanford University. <https://oml-ca.aauw.net/tech-trek/>

**Friends Corner Book Shop** in Lafayette is having a Half-Price Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Oct. 12. Now that school has begun again, what a wonderful opportunity for family members to settle into new routines and learn something new from an interesting book! Proceeds benefit the Lafayette Library. <https://www.lllcf.org/shop-for-a-used-book/>

**The giant fall book sale** sponsored by the Friends of the Moraga Library will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 at the Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Road. Books, CD's and DVDs in all categories will be sold at prices ranging from \$0.25 to \$3. Beginning at 1 p.m. a bag can be purchased for \$5 and filled with all the books it will hold. Proceeds from the sale go to fund library materials and programs in addition to paying for staffing of the library's Sunday hours.

**The Saint Mary's College Guild** presents "A Night in Italy" from 5 to 9:30 p.m. on Oct. 19 in the Saint Mary's College Soda Center featuring Delizioso Cuisine - Bella Musica by the Joe Simoni Duo featuring opportunities for dinner, wine, entertainment and more! Proceeds benefiting stu-

## Not to be missed

dent financial aid scholarships. \$49/per person, including parking. Make check payable to: SMC Guild and mail to: Karen Cain, 1835 Joseph Drive, Moraga, CA 94556.

**Practical Advice for Those** with Osteoporosis & Osteopenia at 7 p.m. on Oct. 22 with Valerie Watase, PT, Co-Owner and Ambassador of Lafayette Physical Therapy at 3468 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Suite B110 in Lafayette. This is a free event, but space is limited, so please sign up at [lafayettept.com/events](http://lafayettept.com/events) or call (925) 284-6150.

**Pivotal Twist Presents** - Improv Your Intro: A Fun Way to Craft Your Personal Introduction from 7 to 10 p.m. on Oct. 23 at JPG@The Bank, 3525 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Expect good energy, a fun group, and a non-judgmental playground where you can try new ideas. Led by Sean Perlmutter and Henry Caplan of Pivotal Twist, Improv Your Intro is built on their background as actor/writer/directors, speaker coaches, and brand consultants. Limited to 30 participants. \$45 registration includes light snacks and soft drinks. <https://improvyourintro.eventbrite.com>.

**Women's Spiral Dance** - A Multicultural Celebration of Our Beloved Ancestors and Crones from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. on Oct. 25 at the Orinda Masonic Temple, 9 Altarinda Road, Orinda. \$23 in advance by Oct. 23/\$29 at the door. During this multi-cultural and intergenerational ritual, led by Kahuna Leilani, and accompanied by spiritual elders of different traditions, we come to-

gether to honor and celebrate our loved ones who have passed away. Tickets and questions: [Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com](mailto:Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com). [www.DaughtersoftheGoddess.com](http://www.DaughtersoftheGoddess.com)

**Many Faces of Brain Cancer** from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Oct. 29 at Cancer Support Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. Join an engaging panel of medical experts as they explore key advances in neuro-oncology. The panel will offer insight into latest treatments including magnetic resonance thermography, laser tumor ablation, brain mapping, immunotherapy, traditional radiotherapy and stereotactic radiosurgery. Speakers include: Maxwell Merkow, MD - James Rembert, MD - Gigi Chen, MD. RSVP to [sjung@dvothmg.com](mailto:sjung@dvothmg.com) or (925) 677-5041 x272.

### GARDEN

**The Lafayette Garden Club** will meet at 10 a.m. Oct. 10 in Lafayette Veteran's Bldg, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette. October's speaker is Pamela Berstler, who co-founded and continues to manage G3, Green Gardens Group, and is also currently the executive director of Pacific Horticulture Society. She focuses on gardens that promote biodiversity, sequester carbon, cool the atmosphere, build water reserves, and are gorgeous as well! For more information please contact [twalklet@comcast.net](mailto:twalklet@comcast.net)

**Lafayette Community Garden** presents Wind Chime Workshop from noon to 2 p.m. on Oct. 12 at Lafayette Community Garden, 3932 Mt. Diablo Blvd. This will be a fun class involving assembling

a wind chime which you will make out of various objects and equipment provided by the teacher. You are also encouraged to bring your own "found" objects which can be attached to the mobile. Registration for this class is required on the website at [www.lafayettedcommunitygarden.org](http://www.lafayettedcommunitygarden.org).

**The Walnut Creek Garden Club** will hold its monthly meeting beginning at 10 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 14 at the Gardens at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Drive, in Walnut Creek. The featured speaker will be Dr. John Fike, who is a master gardener and retired biomedical researcher. His presentation titled "Those Darn Pests" will introduce Integrated Pest Management (IPM), an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on long-term control using biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, and resistant varieties.

**The Montelindo Garden Club** October meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. on Oct. 18 at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center's Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Everyone is welcome. Presentation: Bulbs, Bulbs, and More Bulbs! Speaker: William Welch, a.k.a. Bill the Bulb Baron. Bill has been growing and hybridizing bulbs his entire life and has bred and named several new varieties. He grows all of his bulbs organically, and will be bringing with him a wide selection of bulbs for sale after the talk. [www.montelindogarden.com](http://www.montelindogarden.com)

## 10th Annual Orinda Olive Festival, Oct. 6

Submitted by Kathy Barrett

The first Sunday in October, families will be gathering in the olive grove and around the frog pond to enjoy nature, music, crafts and the bounty from local olive growers. The beautiful historic Wagner Ranch Nature Area is open to the public just twice a year. Learn about (and taste) a variety of olive oils from local producers, including award-winning Grumpy Goats Farm Extra Virgin Olive Oil, local East Bay favorite Amphora Nueva, McEvoy Ranch Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Olive Drop from Lodi, Calif., and also featuring olives from the region to taste during the 10th annual Orinda Olive Festival from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6 at the historic Wagner Ranch Nature Area.

John Helms and Reg Barrett will lead tours of the meadows, woodland, ponds and streams, and the 135-year-old olive grove. Play family-friendly games such as the "Olive Pit Spit Contest," and try your hand at Pioneer Chemistry, and solar cooking while wearing nature tattoos and olive crowns. Visit a local beekeeper's display, and explore for turtles and tadpoles in the pond. Toddlers are invited to a treasure hunt in the garden for toy bugs to take home.

Visitors may bring their own picnic to enjoy at the many picnic tables or visit the several



Food Trucks onsite. The historic olive grove will feature a ukulele concert for your enjoyment, and nearby is nature story telling for kids. Student music recitals presented by ALMA are ongoing near the main garden. A silent auction and eco-friendly raffle support the outdoor education programs in the Nature Area.

The weather can be very warm in October. Participants should wear sunglasses and hats and bring your refillable water bottles (many water stations on site). Comfortable shoes will provide stability on uneven/gravel surfaces. Pets are not allowed in the Nature Area, due to school district policy. Admission is free.

## Mixologists create cocktail creations at annual competition

An anticipated crowd of 300 is expected at this year's Art of Mixology event from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12 at Orinda's Theatre Square. The event, which is a competition among up to 18 bartenders who will vie for prizes for their craft cocktail creations as well as their table decorations, is the Lamorinda Arts Council's largest fundraiser of the year.

Participants, who will cast their votes for their favorite drink, can sample over 20 cocktails as well as finger foods, and will receive a souvenir shot glass. Bartenders will compete for the coveted Mixologist of the Year award as well as several other awards and cash prizes.

Tickets are \$55 in advance, \$65 at the door.



For information, visit <https://lamorindaarts.org/mixology/> - J. Wake

## Live At the Orinda: Nicolas King



Submitted by Michael Williams

Award-winning jazz singer Nicolas King will swing into the historic Orinda Theatre along with Emmy Award-winning jazz legend Mike Renzi at 5 p.m. Oct. 13 for his Bay Area concert debut.

King is the 2019 Legends

Award-winning jazz vocalist and former child star who grew up working on Broadway and television with Carol Burnett, Liza Minnelli, Jerry Lewis, and Jay Leno.

Now 27, he's a multi-award-winning jazz crooner often compared to Mel Tormé and Bobby Darin. King will be accompanied by seven-time Emmy Award-winning musical director and jazz legend Mike Renzi, who has worked with Frank Sinatra, Lena Horne, Tony Bennett and Natalie Cole and was musical director, arranger and producer for both Peggy Lee and Mel Tormé for over 25 years.

The Live At the Orinda concert series brings world-class, award-winning Broadway, jazz and cabaret artists to the intimate Orinda Theatre. Subscribers receive substantial ticket discounts, first choice at reserved seating for the season, complimentary drinks and more. This new season also includes Tony Award winners Faith Prince and John Lloyd Young. Previous artists include Rita Moreno, Maureen McGovern, Lorena Luft and Franc D'Ambrosio.

Information and tickets are available at [www.OrindaMovies.com](http://www.OrindaMovies.com) or (925) 254-9065.

## Service Clubs Announcements



### OCTOBER WEEKLY MEETINGS

4: James Bouquin, Cancer Support Center

11: Tina Akins, Rotary District Governor

18: Dr. Robert Weiner, The Life of Leonardo Da Vinci

25: Frank Dunne, Club Member Presentation

Breakfast, Friday 7:00 a.m.

The Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA  
[www.lamorindasunrise.com](http://www.lamorindasunrise.com)

## Lafayette Rotary Club

Step in on a Thursday and join us for our lunch meeting.

Thursday at noon Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

### October 3:

Julie has been in the fitness field for over 40 years. Tips on the benefits of a little exercise and much music, singing and entertaining.  
Julie Hughes

### October 10:

We will receive an update from the 16<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Assembly Member,  
Rebecca Bauer-Kahan

[www.rotarylafayette.org](http://www.rotarylafayette.org)

[www.facebook.com/Rotary-Club-of-Lafayette-CA](https://www.facebook.com/Rotary-Club-of-Lafayette-CA)

## Lamorinda Weekly

is an independent publication, produced by and for the residents of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, CA  
26,600 printed copies; delivered to homes & businesses in Lamorinda.

### Contact us:

Letters to the editor (max 350 words):

[letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com)

Delivery issues: [homedelivery@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:homedelivery@lamorindaweekly.com)

Event listings: [calendar@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:calendar@lamorindaweekly.com)

Business press releases: [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

General interest stories/Community Service:

[storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

School stories/events: [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

Sport events/stories/pictures: [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Publishers/Owners:** Andy and Wendy Scheck;

[andy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:andy@lamorindaweekly.com), [wendy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Editor:** Jennifer Wake; [jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Copy Editor:** Nick Marnell; [nick@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:nick@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Sports Editor:** [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Advertising:** 925-377-0977, Wendy Scheck;

[wendy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com)

### Staff Writers:

Vera Kochan; [vera@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:vera@lamorindaweekly.com),

Cathy Dausman; [cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com)

Pippa Fisher; [pippa@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:pippa@lamorindaweekly.com),

Nick Marnell; [nick@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:nick@lamorindaweekly.com)

John T. Miller; [john@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:john@lamorindaweekly.com),

Sora O'Doherty; [Sora@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:Sora@lamorindaweekly.com)

Jon Kingdon; [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

Digging Deep: Cynthia Brian; [cynthia@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:cynthia@lamorindaweekly.com)

Food: Susie Iventosch; [suziventosch@gmail.com](mailto:suziventosch@gmail.com)

### Contributing Writers:

Conrad Bassett, Sophie Braccini, Diane Claytor, Michele Duffy,

Amanda Eck, Fran Miller, Jenn Freedman, Mona Miller, Kara

Navolio, Moya Stone, Margie Ryerson, Linda Fodrini-Johnson,

Victor Ryerson

**Calendar Editor:** [Jaya Griggs; calendar@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:Jaya Griggs; calendar@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Photos:** Tod Fierner, Gint Federas

**Layout/Graphics:** Andy Scheck. Printed in CA.

**Mailing address:** Lamorinda Weekly, P.O. Box 6133, Moraga, CA

94570-6133 Phone: 925-377-0977; Fax: 925-263-9223; email:

[info@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:info@lamorindaweekly.com)

**website:** [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com)

# Fresh flavor from urban farmer Kevin Feinstein



Photos Susie Iventosch

## By Susie Iventosch

Urban farming is a method of localizing the food chain in a way that even surpasses the farmers' market phenomenon. In urban agriculture, food is cultivated and distributed at a specifically local level. According to local urban farmer Kevin Feinstein, (aka Feral Kevin), farmers' markets often bring growers from well outside the immediate area, whereas urban farms can literally be located right inside the city limits of the local town. Generally, these are fairly small plots of land, often located in the earthy spaces between industrial buildings and parking lots, but even more likely in someone's front or back yard. Feinstein began preparing his first urban farm (Feijoa Farms) in the Shadelands Business Park in Walnut Creek about a year ago. Feijoa Farms, approximately 2,000 square feet in size, is situated in an abandoned community garden. When Feinstein arrived, the irrigation system was buried under a thick tangle of weeds, so in addition to a lot of weed whacking, goats were brought in to clear the land.

He planted his first crops last spring and has been harvesting and selling his produce to local restaurants and individuals in the months since. He has sold his produce to both Reve and Postino restaurants in Lafayette and is

now working on his farmers' market certification so he can sell directly to more local customers. Until then, the public can go to the farm and buy from his produce stand, which he opens in the parking lot of Calicraft Brewing Company, just adjacent to the farm. (Be sure to check in with Feinstein prior to your trip, to make sure he'll be there.) Feijoa Farms specializes in exotic basil, arugula, cilantro, wrinkled cress, salad turnips, edible flowers (pansies, violets, calendula and bachelor buttons) and specialty herbs such as French sorrel, among others. But Feinstein's favorite crop, and the one he goes nuts for, is papalo, an ancient Mexican herb that he describes as having an intoxicating flavor.

"Papalo is used where cilantro might be used, but the flavors are not the same," Feinstein reports. "I use it in burgers and Mexican food and I like to use it on pizza. I make pizza with a combination of cornmeal crust, pizza sauce and salsa, tomatoes, cheese and papalo."

Some say that the flavor of papalo is somewhere between arugula, cilantro and rue — another herb I've never tasted before. Papalo has a beautiful leaf, with perfectly scalloped edges and is much better adapted to really hot weather compared to cilantro.

Unfortunately, the local growing season for papalo is July through early October, so you may have to wait until

next summer to try this interesting plant. Feinstein is hoping to still have some on hand for our readers, but it is very close to the end of the local season. He will have many other great crops on hand, in case you miss out on his papalo.

Feinstein models his farming after world-famous urban farming pioneer Curtis Stone of British Columbia, Canada. "He had the idea of localizing the food economy in urban settings," Feinstein noted. "My goal is to revitalize an ultra-local food economy by selling directly from my farm and starting farms in other nearby locations. I eventually would like to have multiple urban farm locations."

While Feinstein plants short rotation crops right now, he would love to grow orchard trees as well as venture into "land race" farming. Land race farming is the process of growing enough of a crop and in such variety as to be able to select the best possible breed for a particular soil and climate. Feinstein credits Joseph Lofthouse of Logan, Utah as a visionary in this field. (Please see the info box for more information on Lofthouse and Land Race farming.)

"This process allows seeds and plants to cross pollinate until they develop a variety that thrives in its environment," he describes. "This is how farming was originally

done. I would love to do this with vegetables such as kale."

Not only is Feinstein in the forefront of this type of farming, but he is an expert on foraging and the author of four books. His latest book, "The Primitive Gardener," is available on Amazon. He has also managed the garden at the Merriewood Children's Center in Lafayette for the past 14 years. This newspaper

featured him in an article on March 26, 2014, where we elaborated on his foraging classes, guided tours and the huge variety of edible vegetation he finds while on the trail.

For more information on Kevin Feinstein and his upcoming classes and events, please see the gray info box below or email him at: feijoafarms@gmail.com



## Papalo Polenta Pizza

(Author's note: I was not able to get to Feijoa Farms in order to try Feinstein's papalo and had to use basil on my pizza instead. Also where Feinstein uses a cornmeal crust from Whole Foods, I used polenta as my crust. This makes the crust totally acceptable for gluten-free diets, and is was delicious. Just don't think it will behave exactly like a pizza crust, because it cannot really be a finger food, but rather served with a fork!)

### Polenta

#### INGREDIENTS

- 3 ½ cups water
- 1 cup medium grind cornmeal
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon olive oil (for baking the crust)

Spray a pizza stone or sturdy baking sheet with cooking spray. Set aside.

Bring the water and salt to a boil in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Slowly add cornmeal, whisking all the while, until all of it is added. Turn down heat and continue to cook until polenta begins to thicken, 10-15 minutes, stirring often. When thick, turn polenta out onto the pizza stone and form into a 10-12-inch circle using a spatula. Cool completely, loosely cover with plastic wrap, and refrigerate for at least one hour.

When ready to serve, preheat oven to 450 degrees. Remove baking sheet from refrigerator and brush with olive oil. Bake for about 15 minutes, or until the crust begins to get a little bit crisp around the edges.

Remove from the oven and spread pizza sauce (recipe below) over the polenta crust, and top with toppings. Bake at 450 degrees for approximately 15 minutes, more or less, until cheese is melted, bubbly and beginning to brown a bit. Serve piping hot with forks!

### Pizza Sauce

Mix together:

- 1 cup canned crushed tomatoes
- 1 cup of your favorite salsa
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Toppings
- 10-12 ounces fresh mozzarella cheese, thinly sliced
- 2-3 cups fresh papalo, minced (use 1/2 cup of cilantro or basil if you cannot find papalo)
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced and caramelized
- 3 medium tomatoes, thinly sliced

Optional suggested toppings: sliced olives, roasted red bell peppers, mushrooms, grated Parmesan, red pepper flakes, pickled jalapeno peppers ...



### Feijoa Farms

2700 Mitchell Drive  
Walnut Creek, CA  
Email: feijoafarms@gmail.com; Website: FeralKevin.com

### For more information about Land Race Farming

Joseph Lofthouse  
<http://garden.lofthouse.com/seed-list.phtml>

Susie can be reached at [suziventosch@gmail.com](mailto:suziventosch@gmail.com).

This recipe can be found on our website: [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com). If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977.

# How to get the most from veterinary visits

## By Mona S. Miller, DVM

I have written a few articles this year about how to make veterinary visits better for our furry friends, and I'd like to dedicate an article to the human owners, or caregivers — how can you make your veterinary visit work for you?

My number one piece of advice is "Be Prepared"! Plan ahead for what your goals are for the veterinary visit — perhaps it's an annual wellness exam and you have no concerns, or perhaps you want a new lump checked out, or perhaps your dog is shaking his head and you think he might have an ear infection, or perhaps your cat is really sick. Whatever the reason, it is valuable for the veterinarian to have some background information, and to have the ability to make direct recommendations for diagnostic tests and treatment options. Information that is useful, especially with low-grade chronic issues, include the duration of the problem (how long has the lump been present?), whether it has changed (bigger?), and whether it's

bothering the dog (is he scratching at it?).

Know your pet's medications and how much/how often you are giving these medications. Are they routine flea and tick chewable tablets? Are you giving a Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug once or twice daily? Are you giving over-the-counter supplements? Quite often, doses noted originally in a medical record or on a prescription label are changed during follow-up phone conversations. What's on the label isn't always what is happening at home. Veterinarians need to know the specifics, in order to not prescribe something else that might be contraindicated.

Arrive on time or a little early! Most general practice vets keep an appointment schedule, with office calls/exams limited to 15-30 minutes. If you are 5 minutes late to a 15-minute appointment, this will greatly impact the ability for both you and the vet to achieve all the desired goals during the remaining 10 minutes. If you are bringing a new patient to your vet, bring previous medical records with you, or better yet, send them

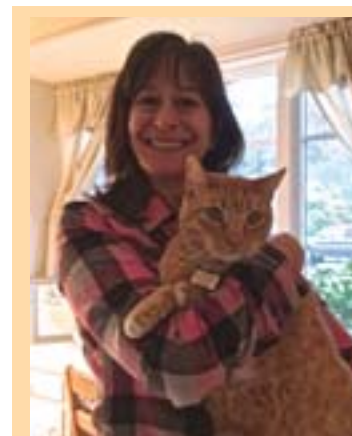
ahead of time. If you get some vaccines elsewhere, bring those records with you too.

If there are a few items on your list of concerns to address, think ahead about what your priority items are (i.e., is the lump more concerning to you than your dog's vaccine for that appointment?). Time or health constraints might cause a shift in the priorities, but it's good for me to have a sense what is most important on that day for my client. Additionally, what is on my list to discuss might also shift the priorities. For instance, a dog due for optional vaccines might not be feeling well on the appointment day, so we might end up discussing the recent vomit/diarrhea rather than administering a vaccine to a sick dog. Or perhaps we discuss flea and tick control options in detail, so that might override checking the non-growing lump that has been present for a few years. Everyone's goal (mine included) is to cover all items on a list, but sometimes we are just not able to do that.

It is most desirable for the primary adult/pet owner to be present for a veterinary exam.

Since our pet patients are not able to tell us with words, a large part of the diagnostic process comes from owner verbalization, or what is called the "history" part of the exam. We might start diagnostics in a different direction with a 5-year-old vomiting Labrador who is known to eat socks, than with the same dog who has exposure to mushrooms growing in the yard. However, sometimes it isn't always possible for a pet owner to be physically present in the exam. A reasonable alternative is for the owner to be available by phone for the duration of the exam/consultation. If you are unable to be present (either physically or by phone, in real-time), then consider sending an individual who is authorized by you to make medical and financial decisions. I see a lot of patients who are presented by an owner's "agent" (relative, employee, nanny, pet sitter) — who have varying degrees of information and authorization. The most frustrating situation (for both owner and vet) occurs when the presenting individual has no information about the problem,

and no authority to make financial decisions — and the owner is not reachable by phone. The most successful vet visit occurs when the person bringing in the pet has the ability to make medical and financial decisions for the welfare of the pet.



Dr. Mona Miller lives in Lafayette with her son, two cats and yellow Labrador. She attended UC Berkeley as an undergraduate, and received her DVM from UC Davis. She has been happy to call Lafayette home since 2001. She can be reached via email at [MonaSDVM@aol.com](mailto:MonaSDVM@aol.com). She welcomes questions from readers that may get incorporated into a column.

For other tips about making a veterinary visit successful, visit the American Veterinary Medical Association link: <https://www.avma.org/public/YourVet/Pages/visits.aspx>

# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## Dewitt named to the 2019 USA Select Under 17 Team



Boo Dewitt

Photo provided

By Jon Kingdon

The accolades continue to come in for Miramonte lacrosse player Boo Dewitt. After being named the Most Valuable Player in the Diablo Athletic League and making the All-American team for the second time, De-

witt was named to the 2019 USA Select Under 17 Team. This is the first time that such a team has been selected. There is also an Under 15 and an Under 19 team along with a National team that will go to the Olympics. Their first matches will be against teams from Ontario, Canada the weekend of

Oct. 18-20 in Maryland.

There were regional tryouts around the country for about 300 girls that were by invitation only and from these 300 players, 70 were invited back to Maryland to try out for the team, which comprises 22 players.

On Aug. 30, while sitting in her comparative governments class, Dewitt received a text from her father to check her email which informed her that she had been chosen for the U17 team: "When I saw that I had made it, I almost started crying in class because I was so overwhelmed with emotions of relief and excitement. It was the coolest feeling ever."

When she got the invitation in July, Dewitt, who will be attending UC Berkeley next year, knew that she was going to be competing against the top players in the country and she put her preparatory efforts into overdrive: "I trained a lot on my own and got some Cal players to play defense on me and push me so I could get intensity workouts in. I did a lot of conditioning, shooting sessions with my high school teammates and wall ball every day to prepare myself. As a captain of the team last year and when I hurt my knee as a sophomore, I learned how to become a better teammate and a leader through my actions and that helped me during the tryouts as they were definitely looking for people that are good teammates."

The combined tryout en-

tailed individual events in the broad jump, the vertical jump, and 10-yard spring buildup for time and agility drills. There was also 2 on 2, 4 on 4 and 7 on 7 team competitions designed to show who was able to play unselfishly and creatively with the other players. As competitive as it was, the players were there for each other, said Dewitt: "Every single drill was really intense and was meant to push us and all the girls were putting in a total effort. It was an intense setting but everyone was super supportive of each other, cheering each other on and being the best teammates we could be. That does not always happen and that was really cool."

There was more than just competition on the field for the players, said Dewitt: "A top high school coach talked to us about what it means to be a good teammate and to be the best player and person you can be on and off the field and how it was important to have a short-term memory when you are playing and make a mistake and not think about it, and how you can recover from it. We also had a sports psychology session and a recruiting session for the juniors."

Though lacrosse is a national sport, the best players and teams come primarily from the East Coast, says Dewitt: "Everyone there is so good and there are so many good club and high school teams where they play all the time. It was the

best competition that I have played against and I just learned to go hard with everything that I did."

Of the 22 girls on the squad, 20 of them were from East Coast states (Connecticut, Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Virginia). Dewitt and a player from Illinois were the only members of the team west of Pennsylvania.

Players on the national senior team were used to evaluate the competitors and Dewitt got to meet Taylor Cummings, who is regarded as the best female lacrosse player in the country and a three-time winner of The Tewaaraton Award, which honors the most outstanding male and female collegiate player and recognizes the Native American heritage of the sport of lacrosse when she played at the University of Maryland: "Taylor Cummings has always been my role model and inspiration. It was cool to meet her and some of the other evaluators."

Dewitt invests about two hours a day on lacrosse with running, lifting and skill work and besides playing for Miramonte and the Tenacity club team, her goal has been to play for a national team like the USA Select U17 Team: "It's always been my dream to play for my country and represent it because I feel that it's the ultimate and highest level that you can play."

## Lamorinda Cross Country



Photo Gint Federas

Lamo archive

By Jon Kingdon

In a recent report by the National Federation of State High School Associations, there was a decline in sports participation for the first time in 30 years for the 2018-19 season. They must not have included the Lamorinda high school cross country teams which have a combined total of nearly 300 participants (Miramonte-115, Campolindo-85, Acalanes 85).

Campolindo

Campolindo head coach Chuck Woolridge, whose cross country teams have been a perpetual force through the years, attributes the success of the program to the athletes and their forebears: "We've been fortunate to have generations of athletes that come into our program, learn how we do things and pass it on to the next group of athletes. There is a lot of community support and a really robust athletic program at Campolindo, not just with cross country. We were lucky to have Chris Walsh who established the program in the '90s and 2000s and I've been here now for 14 years."

With some early season injuries on the girls team, the Cougars are taking the season a step at a time, says Wool-

ridge: "We're being cautious because we have great talent and it's a long season so we're trying to put the pieces together slowly."

Paloma Hancock, the number one finisher at state, is the team's leading runner and is just now getting back to running after suffering a stress reaction in the spring. Sophia Webster, who finished second at state, is also returning from an injury in the spring.

With Hancock and Webster out, the leading runner for Campolindo has been Alicia Hober. Freshman Ellie Buckley has also impressed Woolridge, bringing experience and a pedigree to the team: "Ellie looks to be somebody who's going to contribute to the varsity squad. She ran for the Diablo Valley Track and Field Club and is the younger sister of Teddy Buckley (now running at the University of Kansas), who was our top runner the last three years."

Leading the team both on the track and off have been Hancock, Hober and Ellie Guthrie and Sarah Naughten.

The Campolindo boys team is carrying on their tradition of success, says Woolridge: "We're ranked No. 2 in the state and in Division III

and we are motivated to do better after being beaten by Maria Carillo (Santa Rosa, the No. 1 ranked team). We know what the challenge is that lies before us and we're going to try and take the next seven weeks to try and close the gap."

Senior Cayden Hein has stepped into the role as the

leading runner this year, following Teddy Buckley's graduation and junior Dylan Gunn is ranked just below Hein. "Those two finished third and

fourth in our first meet," said Woolridge. "We are looking for them to be a good force up front for us."

... continued on Page C2

LAMORINDA LACROSSE



Registration Now Open  
for Boys and Girls Ages 6-14  
Visit [LamorindaLacrosse.com](http://LamorindaLacrosse.com)  
to Register



Registration Opens  
October 1, 2019

[LamoRugby.com](http://LamoRugby.com)

We have a lot of fun events on the calendar this season for kids and adults.

Lamo Welcomes  
Everyone

Lamorinda Rugby Football Club  
"Lamo"

Lamo Rugby is a community based volunteer organization that is committed to supporting the growth of rugby.

Youth:

U8, U10, U12, Middle School

JV and Varsity Boys

JV and Varsity Girls

Come give us a try,  
we know your kids will love it!



## SPORTS MEDICINE CENTER FOR YOUNG ATHLETES

OAKLAND  
(510) 428-3558

SAN FRANCISCO  
(415) 353-2808

SAN RAMON  
(925) 979-3450

WALNUT CREEK  
(925) 979-3430



# The philosophy and technique in running cross country

By Jon Kingdon

Acalanes head coach Jeff Hutson, an ultramarathoner himself, describes the demands of running cross country succinctly: "I think that cross country is the hardest sport out there with the insane amount of endurance that it takes and the mental commitment. These runners are warriors."

Alan Sillitoe, the author of "The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner," has never been witness to the Lamorinda cross country teams. At Miramonte, says head coach Brian Henderson: "It's like a family with the boys and girls working together from the freshmen to the seniors. We train as if we're one big unit. Many of the first-time runners get hooked on the comradery. There are some dropouts but we have done well with re-

taining the runners. If you put in the work, you will improve and that's kind of a cool draw."

Campolindo head coach Chuck Woolridge has everyone practicing together: "We will divide up the training groups based on their performance as well as the number of years they've been running but essentially everyone is doing the same training."

There is much more to cross country than just running various distances. For Miramonte's Brian Henderson it's understanding the whole body: "We do drills at the beginning of practice to work on the phases of their running form – the arm swing, the foot placement or bringing your heels up higher to get a full range of motion."

Hutson brought over Joe Escobar from the team's

track team: "Joe's a magician with respect to form and he has been a great addition. He helps with form and strength work. Between all of us we will work on their arms, legs, hips and shoulders. Between all of us, we can go on to get everyone running properly."

Woolridge wants to get his players in the right positions to be economical: "It really has to do with functional strength and developing the strength the athletes need to hold their bodies in the right positions to be economical. Everybody's geometry is different and everyone comes in with their strengths and weaknesses. Some kids have really strong glutes and hip flexors and other kids don't and so we identify where kids need work and we address that stuff."

The mental aspect is an

area that is not overlooked. Woolridge confronts it head on: "We do sessions on sports psychology and talk a lot about attitude and trying to bring our runners into the present moment whether it's in a workout or in a race, getting rid of distractions. We deal with the things we can control and letting go of the things we can't."

To Henderson, "hitting the wall" is the hardest part of the sport: "A runner can find themselves in a middle mile and gotten gassed and that is where things can play in their head. It can be a big mental challenge. We work on that, talking about race strategies as to what point in the race they are and how to handle things like feeling you're getting too tight. Sometimes, the runner has to figure these things out for themselves and how to run early and late in the race."

The mental aspect for Hutson "is my bread and butter. I'm very careful that they keep their heads in the game. I run with them and when you hear the heavy breathing, you give them anecdotal things to get their minds right. There is a lot of feeling of accomplishments in cross country and we give them a lot of encouragement. The kids really appreciate their improvement. I don't care how they run today and tomorrow. I just want them to love running so 25 years from now when they can't play team sports, they will be able to run. It's a fantastic way to stay fit and healthy and get in a great community of people and I for one have lived that for 20 years. I really want them to know that they can do this and how it has affected me and gotten me through the tough times in my life."

## Lamorinda Cross Country

... continued from Page C1

Woolridge feels good about the depth of the team: "We come back with four athletes that returned to us that were on the varsity last year and we feel we're in pretty good shape. We also have a freshman runner, Alex Lodewick, who ran for the Diablo Valley Track and Field Club. He has shown promise and has been working out with the varsity team. We're being conservative but we expect to have him running with the varsity."

Senior leadership is crucial to the team but four-year runners, Dylan Cronin and Sam Morasch have really stepped up, according to Woolridge: "Dylan and Sam bring a ton of experience to the team. They have been around championship athletes and teams. They're passionate about continuing the legacy of the team and they take it very seriously."

### Miramonte

Miramonte head coach Brian Henderson is taken with

his team's attitude and performance so far: "The vibe of the team this year is pretty good. We're improving our commitment level and our performance has improved a ton. After the first meet, we had a number of kids that improved from 15 to 30 seconds in a two-mile race."

Junior Audrey Allen, who only began running as a freshman, is the team's top runner, says Henderson: "Audrey has improved tremendously and has become one of the top distance runners in the area. She won the Ed Sias Invitational, which was hosted by Campolindo. She won the small school varsity race and our team won the invitational."

Two sophomores, Kate Riley and Claire Nolet, are the next two ranked runners on the team.

The three captains are Riley, Allen and senior Athena Davis. "They make sure that the kids are taking seriously at the right time," says Henderson. "It's very important to have

those kinds of kids so that coaches aren't the only ones spreading the message. They set the tone and that's why the vibe for the team is better this year than last, and last year's was better than the one before that because that leadership has grown over the last few years."

On the boys side, co-captain Freddie Bell is the number one runner on the team followed by junior Ryan Gottschalk. Following these two, it's still unsettled as to who will be running in the meets, says Henderson: "We have a number of young talented guys that are pushing the upperclassmen and trying to find their way into the top group. Simon Neuwirth-Stein, a newcomer has been showing a lot of promise."

Besides Bell, Henderson has been relying on senior Matthew O'Brien and junior Alex Meckes to help in the team's leadership: "Matthew is the spirit leader that gets everybody jazzed up and Alexis very good about communicating, leading and taking charge."

### Acalanes

As an ultra-marathoner, when Acalanes co-head coach Jeff Hutson (along with Ed Basaldua) speaks on running, he knows of whence he speaks. "Campolindo and Miramonte have had a lot more continuity than we've had. When I started, I was an assistant coach and became co-head coach last year with Ed. I like where we are right now in comparison with the last couple of years. We have some great continuity. The kids are big on collaborating and supporting one another and it is really neat chemistry this year and it makes our job a lot easier. For the first time in a long time, we have a lot of depth. I'm very optimistic with the depth of the team."

Junior Nicole Frigon is the Don's leading runner. Sophomore Lauren Yee has also been very impressive and will be running with the varsity. "With 28 girls on the roster we have a number of girls that will have the opportunity to run with the varsity. We're starting to show

some depth which is nice and we have some freshmen that will be really good next year."

Sophomores Katrina Ortman and Aysha Craig have both shown great form. Frigon, Yee and Lena Johnson and Taylor are the leaders on the team and the overall team is one that Hutson very much appreciates: "The girls are fantastic. They are delightful to coach as they have such positive attitudes and love for each other."

Junior Sam Roth is the team's leading runner followed by seniors Andrew Owens, Nick Hutson and junior Dom Basaldua with a number of runners competing to fill out the roster for the matches. Co-captain Rayce Walton and sophomore Loic Windfuhr-Durand and freshmen Tyler Hunt and Bennett Dodge are leading candidates to fill those positions but, says Hutson, "We have a lot of freshman and sophomores that will be running with the varsity."

Submit stories to [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

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

## Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified

### House Cleaning

[www.totalclean.biz](http://www.totalclean.biz)

Serving Lamorinda since 1985. Insured and bonded 376-1004.

### Tutor

I am a retired elementary school teacher available to tutor your child. [elaineholt@gmail.com](mailto:elaineholt@gmail.com)

### Insurance

**Totalintegrityinsurance.com**  
20+yr Lamorinda resident. My independent insurance brokerage is here to serve you. Over 100 top carriers = great pricing and coverage for Biz Gen Liability, W Comp, Homes, Auto, Life. **Call Henry at (925) 247-4356** OE90108

### Handyman

**Quetzal Handyman**  
NO JOB TOO SMALL  
OPEN 24/7  
Please call Carlos Toledo  
925-872-0422

### Rusty Nails Handyman Service

Repair • Restore • Revamp  
Call Rusty- (925) 890-1581

### Plumbing

**WE HOP TO IT!**  
(925) 377-6600  
[LeapFrogPlumbing.com](http://LeapFrogPlumbing.com)

### Music Lessons

**Fun Piano Lessons**  
Learn your favorite song! I teach Certificate of Merit. BM & MM in Piano. Lessons in your home. 925-984-8322. [lynnf253@gmail.com](mailto:lynnf253@gmail.com)

### Caregiving Service

No job too small or too big! Reliable, highly experienced. Flexible schedule, short or long hours ok. No minimums. **Serving aging population for 20 years!** Call 925-360-9860

### Furniture Restoration

**Antique Furniture Restoration**  
25 years exp. - 925 765 0479  
serving Lamorinda - references avail. [www.Cardonarestoration.com](http://www.Cardonarestoration.com)

### House Cleaning & Organizing

**Masterpiece Household Services**

- Very detail oriented with great customer satisfaction and reasonable prices!
- Our services include weekly biweekly or monthly cleanings.
- Move in or move out cleanings
- Special services for properties for sale or rent.
- Large event cleanups.

Please call 510-506-2667

### Math Tutor

I have a CA Teaching Credential in Mathematics and more than 30 years experience working with high school and middle school students. Sessions held after school and weekends at the Orinda Library. [wolley.cynthia@gmail.com](mailto:wolley.cynthia@gmail.com)

Reach 65,000  
with your ad

### Construction

**Concept Builders**  
Remodeling, Home Repair & New Construction  
Bonded & Insured. License no. 842563  
(925) 283-8122, Cell: (925) 768-4983

\$10 per 1/2" classified ad height.  
Email to: [classified@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:classified@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Ken's Rototilling**

- 4 W/D Tractors
- Hillside Weed Cutting
- Mowing • Discing • Rototilling

Free estimates! 925-938-9836  
licensed, bonded & insured. CA#667491  
[www.kensrototilling.com](http://www.kensrototilling.com)

## MOL celebrates 50th anniversary



Front row, from left: Carl Bergez (representing League Honoree Doug Bergez), Brad Piatt, M.D., Dave Flett, George Oldenbourg, Bill Buehler, Bruce Burns, Steve Clark; back row: Mel Gilmour, Ted Haugner, Greg Young, Joe Cushing, Mike Sebree (current commissioner), Phil Estes, Yank Eppinger, Bill Fraser, Doug Pearson; not pictured: Greg and Hasmig Vasgerdsian representing Vic Vasgerdsian, Andy Eppinger, Tyler Petite and Drew Bennett, who were also present at the celebration.

Submitted by Michael Sebree

On Sept. 7, MOL Flag Football celebrated its 50th Anniversary at Joaquin Moraga Middle School. What started out half a century ago as a simple idea for about a 70 local kids to play flag football together in the Fall, has grown into one of the country's largest not-for-profit, community-run, flag football

programs with nearly 700 players this season. To help kick off the 50th season, MOL invited the League's original organizers, coaches, community leaders, players and key historic figures to come back and perform the coin toss for each of Saturday's games as well as join in activities with current players and coaches. MOL was honored that the League's founders (or their family's representatives) were all present for the celebration.

## Acalanes JV Volleyball team wins the Paganini Invitational



Back row, from left: Emma Johnson, Tate Huisingh, Hanna Hageboeck, Maya Paul, Mara Korzeniowska, Natalie Marsh, Coach Alan Go; front row: Gianna Manzone, Rachel Zhang, Kira Wood, Alara Rose, Carly Coffee, Claudia Lindgren, Autumn Long, Chloe Wu

Submitted by Sami Hill

The Acalanes JV volleyball team traveled to Sonoma to compete in the Sonoma Valley High School Paganini Invitational. The Dons went 6-0 for the day, beating some very strong Northern California teams. On their path to tourney champions, the Dons took out

Justin-Siena (25-10, 25-7), St. Helena (25-11, 25-14), Liberty (18-25, 25-15, 15-10), Cardinal Newman (25-21, 17-25, 15-11), home team Sonoma High in semifinals (25-16, 25-10) and Albany in the finals (25-18, 25-22). Emma Johnson was named tournament MVP and Rachel Zhang named to the all-tournament team.

## Karate Olympic hopefuls in the making



Photo provided

Submitted by Thomas Westernoff

Karate is now an Olympic sport and will be in the Summer 2020 Olympics hosted in Tokyo Japan.

Karate & Fitness USA, Lafayette athletes competed in the 46th Annual Fiestas International Karate Championships in Los Angeles on Sept. 15. Athletes from all over the World participated in this event from USA, Japan, Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Chile, Spain, and Italy.

Karate is a sport in which boys and girls can participate. Competition in forms or kata in which the athlete wins by the best performance and in sparring or kumite in which the athlete

wins with the most scored points in battle.

Eleven athletes from Lafayette and Moraga return home with a total of 11 awards.

### LA Fiestas - Karate Tournament Results

Name	Kata	Kumite
Cormac Maher	4th	2nd
Elijah Santos	1st	1st
Stafford Williams	4th	1st
Marcos Reyes	4th	3rd
Sophia Hong	2nd	1st
Wayne Dong	3rd	4th
Ethan Luo	2nd	4th
Ryoma Durkee	2nd	5th
Zac Kemp	3rd	4th
Parsa Shayestah	4th	4th
Amir Poursateh	4th	4th

## Eclipse U14 boys undefeated



Back row, from left: Mateo Perlera, Stewart Cocotis, James Davis, Rowen Daly, Coach Johnny Molina, Henry Vanhouten, Will Atwood, Chris Kauffeld; front row: Cole Hickey, Drew DreFrancisci, Devan Abeyta, Max Roberts, Owen Ludwig, Viggo Wirstrom, Conner Naughten, Chris Paganelli, Brendan Baldelli, Ben Tallon.

Submitted by Liz Ludwig

The U14B Eclipse soccer team won the SRFC Soccerfest in San Ramon. They went undefeated in four games.

www.lmyasports.com

## HAPPY FALL from LMYA SOCCER

The soccer season is in full swing and our LMYA Teams are having fun and getting better. The Jamboree on August 11<sup>th</sup> at Campolindo HS was a successful kick off to the season with all teams participating in mini games and gearing up. With almost 2,000 players playing on 200 teams this season, LMYA Soccer continues to be a tradition in the Lamorinda Community. Thank you LMYA families!

### COME PLAY BASKETBALL WITH US!

- > Registration extended through 10/4 (with Late Fee)
- > Sign Up Online TODAY!
- > Evaluations are on 10/6


# SHOP MORAGA



**A good neighbor has your back.**


**Mark Hoogs, Agent**  
Insurance Lic#: 0M08809  
629 Moraga Road  
Moraga, CA 94556  
Bus: 925-254-3344

Life's a combination of good days and bad. I have your back for both. And who has my back? The company more people have trusted for 90 years. **CALL ME TODAY.**



1606040 State Farm  
Bloomington, IL

Member of Moraga Chamber of Commerce



**MAKE LIFE EASY SHOP LOCAL**  
SHOPMORAGAFIRST.COM

*across the way*  
*a unique lifestyle store*

Field Apothecary



Hand-poured, pure soy wax candles from Ballygowan, Ireland. Using only the finest essential oils and natural fragrances.

Abyss & Habidecor  
Exquisite bath towels and rugs meticulously made in Portugal. Towels comprised of 100% Egyptian long-strand cotton.



Moraga Shopping Center

*You never know what you'll find across the way...*



**MARK BELLINGHAM PAINTING**

**CREATE A HOME YOU CAN'T WAIT TO COME HOME TO**

**925-247-0092**

**MarkBellinghamPainting.com**

Interior & Exterior Painting Deck Restoration  
Kitchen & Bathroom Cabinet Painting Dry Rot Repair  
Light Carpentry

**For a Quick Preliminary Estimate Email Photos of Project to: Office@MarkBellinghamPainting.com**

See our Reviews on NextDoor, Houzz & YELP

Local Business Owner - Since 1985 - Licensed & Insured

**The UPS Store**

**New hours:** Mon-Fri 8:00-6:00  
Sat 9-5, Sun closed

**Our location:** 1480 Moraga Rd, Ste C  
Moraga, CA 94556-2005

- ✓ Shipping
- ✓ Copying, Finishing
- ✓ Printing Services
- ✓ Notary Services
- ✓ Postal Services
- ✓ Business Services
- ✓ Live Scan
- Fingerprinting

www.theupsstorelocal.com/2291

**PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR THE COMING SEASON.**



**Moraga HARDWARE & LUMBER**  
SINCE 1967

**Moraga Hardware & Lumber**  
an ACE hardware store  
Proudly Local  
Moraga Shopping Center

**MORAGA RETREAT CARE HOMES**  
*residential assisted living for seniors*

professional staff, resident-centered care  
private rooms, home-made meals, medication management  
unparalleled attention to detail

MORAGARETREAT.COM (925) 376-2273

**Jerry Wolff Stratton**

**HAIR STYLIST**

**CC & CO HAIR DESIGNS**  
910 Country Club Dr., Moraga  
(925) 437-2076

**MORAGA GARDEN CENTER**



Trees & Shrubs  
Flowers & Vegetables  
Soil Products & Fertilizers  
Organic Products & Seeds

located at the Moraga Shopping Center  
**925-376-1810**

**Reflexion**  
SKIN CARE & HAIR SALON  
*Moraga's Premier Salon*

**\$20\*** Lip Wax w/ Brow Wax  
\* new clients only

925.376.7222  
508 Center Street, Moraga  
(in Rheem Valley Shopping Center)

**RHEEM VALLEY AUTOMOTIVE**  
(Rheem center-across from the Post Office)

**Complete Auto Repair**  
State of California  
Brake, Lamp & Smog Station



OFFICIAL BRAKE ADJUSTING STATION  
OFFICIAL LAMP ADJUSTING STATION  
STAR Certified

377-6020  
WWW.RHEEMAUTO.COM



Rheem Valley  
**Pet Shoppe**  
Pet Food & Supplies

Rheem Valley Center 388 Park Street Moraga (925) 376-8399  
Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Studio E**

Studio E offering Personal Training and Semi Private/Small Group Classes. Come experience the personal attention and individual motivation you need to get you started on a healthy track for life.

Go to [www.studio-e-moraga.com](http://www.studio-e-moraga.com) for a full list of classes.

1605 School Street Moraga  
(Entrance on Country Club Drive)  
925-388-6779



**Bay Area home companions**  
in-home care services

Affordable, Competent, Warm & Compassionate Adult Care

- Personal Care
- Meal Preparation
- Light Housekeeping
- Non-medical Outpatient Assistance

**(925) 330-3999**  
www.bayareahomecompanions.com

**Si Si Caffé**

Best Latte in Town

910 Country Club Dr.  
Moraga  
**925-377-1908**



**THE MORAGA BARBER SHOP**



**925-247-1101 • 1431 Moraga Way**

**\$50 off for new clients**

**Hall of Taxes**  
Peggy Hall, Enrolled Agent  
Over 30 years experience  
Stephen Hall, MBA, CTEC  
Specializing in complex tax situations for individuals and small businesses.

Moraga  
(925) 388-1040  
www.HallofTaxes.com • peggy@halloftaxes.com

**McCaulou's**

Save Gas  
Save Money  
Save Time


Shop your local McCaulou's

**PROFESSIONAL EYECARE**  
OPTOMETRY

**Dr. Wm. Schwertsch, O.D.**

- Comprehensive Vision Testing
- Eye Disease Diagnosis
- Specialty Contact Lens Care
- Finest Quality Eyewear and Sunglasses

**1030 Country Club Drive, Ste. A Moraga • (925) 376-2020**



**Watch for Love Lafayette**

**October 16**

**Call for Advertising**  
**925.377.0977**

**MORAGA MOTORS**  
since 1981 in Moraga. Located on Moraga Road, Rheem Valley Shopping Center

Professional Automotive Service and Repair  
Foreign and Domestic

**2016 Moraga Small Business of the Year**

530 Moraga Rd. • 925-376-0692  
www.moragamotors.com



# Lamorinda

# OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 13 Issue 16 Wednesday, October 2, 2019



*Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian*

... read on Page D12

## Four generations on one block



Photos provided

**The tract of homes on Ponderosa Lane was built in and around a walnut orchard in 1950. To this day, no matter how many times the road has been repaved, you can still see the sinkholes where the trees once stood.**

**By John T. Miller**

Betty Crawford, who at 90 years old still lives in the Saranap home she and her husband Cal purchased in 1956, says she is truly blessed to have her great-grandchildren moving in just three doors down from her house.

Her granddaughter Kayla and her husband Wes Andrews purchased the home with the help of Kayla's parents, Tim and Donna Crawford.

The house, a complete fixer-upper, was rescued just a few weeks away from foreclosure with a last minute offer to the previous owner, whose husband had passed away eight months previous.

Tim, who retired in 2018 and sold his successful business – Unique Elevator Interiors – devoted himself full time to fixing up the house. In late July, Kayla and her family moved in.

**Monopoly anyone?**

The Crawfords already had a history on Ponderosa Lane, where in the late '70s, Betty

and Cal played a real life version of Monopoly, buying the house next door to them and renting to their daughter Jeanette and her husband Jim, and also buying the house across the street with Tim and his wife Donna moving in.

In addition, back in that same decade, this magical lane in Saranap boasted four sets of grandparents with their offspring living on the same block. The Babysitter's Union put up a protest, but there was no need to go outside family for coverage.

Jim and Jeanette raised three boys and then eventually bought and sold their house, moving all of five houses up the street. Tim and Donna did the same and moved a half-mile away on Freeman Road. However, they are only six houses down if you travel through their backyards and get a little muddy in Las Trampas Creek.

"It's wonderful to have the great grandchildren pop in and out," says Betty.

... continued on Page D4



**The new kids on the block, from left: Nora, Lilly, and Harley, play King of the Hill on a mound of dirt in front of their new home. Their great grandmother, Betty Crawford, lives just three houses down the street.**

## Buy. Sell. Buy. Sell

How do you know when the time is right? Let's talk.

**JUST LISTED**

**261 CLAUDIA CT, MORAGA**

**OFFERED AT \$1,695,000**



**Come for the view, stay for the gorgeous updates**  
Single-story on a cul-de-sac with a flat yard. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2700+ square feet, 0.4 acre lot. High-end finishes. Open kitchen/family room. Central location.

**JUST SOLD**

**3 MARIPOSA LN, ORINDA**

**SOLD FOR \$1,480,000**



First-time buyers purchased this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on a cul-de-sac with a stunning view and flat yard. They beat out 7 other offers. Represented buyers.

[www.holcenberg.com](http://www.holcenberg.com)

**Michelle Holcenberg**

Coldwell Banker Top 100 SF Bay Area

michelle@holcenberg.com

925-324-0405

BRE #01373412



## Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	15	\$719,000	\$2,625,000
MORAGA	17	\$225,000	\$1,969,000
ORINDA	18	\$820,000	\$3,650,000

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

- 1173 Bacon Way, \$818,000, 3 Bdrms, 1154 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 08-22-19,  
Previous Sale: \$155,000, 06-01-86
- 3235 Camino Colorados, \$1,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 1582 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 08-14-19,  
Previous Sale: \$151,000, 08-01-85
- 940 Dewing Avenue #B, \$719,000, 2 Bdrms, 1260 SqFt, 1982 YrBlt, 08-19-19,  
Previous Sale: \$158,500, 10-01-86
- 4056 Fiora Place, \$1,350,000, 3 Bdrms, 1596 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 08-22-19,  
Previous Sale: \$1,275,000, 11-03-15
- 1061 Glen Court, \$1,725,000, 3 Bdrms, 2032 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 08-12-19,  
Previous Sale: \$1,100,000, 02-20-12
- 1110 Glen Road, \$1,700,000, 3 Bdrms, 1879 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 08-23-19
- 956 Hawthorne Drive, \$1,465,000, 4 Bdrms, 2433 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 08-22-19,  
Previous Sale: \$915,000, 02-20-07
- 4 Leeward Glen Road, \$1,495,000, 4 Bdrms, 3945 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 08-12-19,  
Previous Sale: \$1,850,000, 06-22-06
- 1075 Oak Hill Road, \$1,080,000, 3 Bdrms, 1329 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 08-16-19,  
Previous Sale: \$742,000, 08-02-05
- 3211 Ortega Avenue, \$1,275,000, 3 Bdrms, 1534 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 08-16-19
- 6 Roxanne Lane, \$1,395,000, 3 Bdrms, 2293 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 08-14-19,  
Previous Sale: \$1,395,000, 07-30-19
- 519 Silverado Drive, \$1,995,000, 4 Bdrms, 2873 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 08-19-19,  
Previous Sale: \$1,333,500, 03-14-11
- 3744 Sundale Road, \$749,000, 2 Bdrms, 771 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 08-20-19,  
Previous Sale: \$689,000, 05-17-17
- 8 Townsend Place, \$2,625,000, 5 Bdrms, 4320 SqFt, 2018 YrBlt, 08-23-19
- 1003 Woodbury Road #204, \$761,000, 2 Bdrms, 1110 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 08-21-19,  
Previous Sale: \$760,000, 03-17-17

### MORAGA

- 2051 Ascot Drive #202, \$560,500, 2 Bdrms, 1191 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 08-21-19,  
Previous Sale: \$380,000, 08-04-15
- 1946 Ascot Drive, \$565,000, 2 Bdrms, 1234 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 08-19-19,  
Previous Sale: \$530,000, 08-04-05
- 823 Augusta Drive, \$1,035,000, 2 Bdrms, 1552 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 08-15-19,  
Previous Sale: \$614,000, 06-18-04
- 1370 Bollinger Canyon, \$225,000, 816 SqFt, 1877 YrBlt, 08-13-19
- 1425 Camino Peral, \$715,000, 3 Bdrms, 1440 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 08-19-19
- 6 Carnoustie, \$1,360,000, 3 Bdrms, 3580 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 08-22-19,  
Previous Sale: \$1,355,000, 04-24-07
- 33 Corliss Drive, \$1,460,000, 3 Bdrms, 2233 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 08-13-19
- 1 Corte Azul, \$1,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 2179 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 08-13-19
- 1011 Del Rio Way, \$1,480,000, 4 Bdrms, 2437 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 08-16-19,  
Previous Sale: \$1,290,000, 06-28-13
- 248 Draeger Drive, \$1,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 2604 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 08-12-19,  
Previous Sale: \$1,450,000, 07-10-14
- 9 Hansen Court, \$950,000, 3 Bdrms, 2095 SqFt, 1984 YrBlt, 08-13-19

... continued on Page D6



# Looking to Make Your Next Move?



## Promises Kept - Records Broken

I pride myself on putting the best deals together for my clients.

I value relationships that are forged from working together on the right plan for all home buyers and sellers.

Top producing Realtor in Lamorinda

More 5-star reviews than any other Realtor in Lamorinda

Over 20 years experience in real estate, new construction and house rehab.

Comprehensive customer engagement plan for all listings including:

- Home audit
- Staging
- Design overview

Contact me today to get started on your next big move: 925-878-5869

COMPASS

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01527235. All material presented here is intended for informational purposes only. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, or availability without notice. Nothing herein shall be construed as legal, accounting or other professional advice outside the realm of real estate brokerage. Intended to solicit property already listed. Nothing herein shall be construed as legal, accounting or other professional advice outside the realm of real estate brokerage.

[paddykehoeteam.com](http://paddykehoeteam.com)



**Paddy Kehoe**  
925.878.5869  
[paddy@paddykehoeteam.com](mailto:paddy@paddykehoeteam.com)  
DRE 01894345



**Claudia Gohler**  
925.765.8081  
[claudia.gohler@compass.com](mailto:claudia.gohler@compass.com)  
DRE 01995498



**Mary Staten**  
925.890.6875  
[mary.staten@compass.com](mailto:mary.staten@compass.com)  
DRE 01947354



**Dave Schurhoff**  
925.997.9569  
[dave.schurhoff@compass.com](mailto:dave.schurhoff@compass.com)  
DRE 01834201



**Leslie Lomond**  
650.799.2110  
[leslie.lomond@compass.com](mailto:leslie.lomond@compass.com)  
DRE 01968517



## Four generations on one block



Photo provided

**The Crawford clan in the late '90s. Back row, from left: Paul, Sean, Candy, David, Ryan Crawford and Andy Baird; middle: Tim, Cal, Betty Crawford, Jim and Tyler Baird; front: Donna, Kayla, T.J. Crawford, Jeanette and John Baird. Not pictured is Katie Crawford who was away at school. The family has been a major presence on Ponderosa Lane since the mid-'50s.**

... continued from Page D1

"What more can I ask for? I am one blessed person." Betty related how she grew up with family in Oakland. Her in-laws lived across the street, her mother had a house in back and her sister lived next door. "We called it the Crawford Compound."

Kayla was 5 when her parents sold the house on Ponderosa Lane, and says she never got over it. She remembers playing Manhunt in the neighborhood and the skate ramp across the street at her cousins' house.

"Every time we visited Grandma Betty I wished I still lived in the neighborhood," says Kayla.

Now, almost 25 years later, she does. And, from her front yard, she can watch her kids walk up the street and knock on Grandma Betty's door in their 21st century version of the Crawford Compound.

### **Other tidbits**

Betty and Cal Crawford purchased their house in 1956 for \$13,000. They were the third owner in five years. It is now worth more than \$1 million. The original price of

the homes was \$9,000 in 1950, but for \$75 extra dollars you could get a brick fireplace.

Kayla and Wes Andrews' new home is one of the few in the vicinity to still have its original floor plan – three bedroom, one bath, 1200-square feet including the garage.

Andrews is a member of the family that owns and runs the popular Sideboard Restaurant in Lafayette.

One other family has had four generations on the block, but Grandma and Grandpa predeceased the Clarks before the great grandchildren were born.

Open Sunday 2-4pm



2 El Caminito, Orinda



4 bd | 3 ba | 2861 sqft | .27 ac  
Nestled on a knoll by Lake Cascade so  
convenient to The Club, downtown, BART  
and commute.

Offered at 1,840,000



**CLARK THOMPSON**  
REAL ESTATE BROKER  
VILLAGE ASSOCIATES  
CALBRE# 00903367

Office: 925-254-8585 | [ct@clarkthompson.com](mailto:ct@clarkthompson.com)  
[www.clarkthompson.com](http://www.clarkthompson.com)





### 161 Holly Lane, Orinda

5 bed | 4.5 bath | 3030 sqft | .58 acres | \$1,975,000  
 Custom contemporary home with panoramic views of Mount Diablo, with vaulted ceilings, expansive decks. Close to town, shopping, freeway and BART.



**John Nash**  
 925.330.9474  
 john@johnbnash.com  
 www.johnbnash.com  
 DRE# 01995244



## Lamorinda home sales recorded

### ... continued from Page D2

#### MORAGA continued

- 1121 Larch Avenue, \$1,206,500, 4 Bdrms, 1934 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 08-13-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$320,000, 09-01-91
- 82 Marie Place, \$1,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 2203 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 08-21-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$134,500, 07-01-78
- 651 Moraga Road #24, \$512,000, 2 Bdrms, 1144 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 08-16-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$442,000, 06-16-17
- 1565 Moraga Way, \$720,000, 2 Bdrms, 1522 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-20-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$680,000, 05-03-18
- 1893 School Street, \$1,568,500, 4 Bdrms, 3065 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 08-16-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$852,000, 04-27-03
- 218 Willowbrook Lane, \$1,969,000, 4 Bdrms, 3174 SqFt, 2017 YrBlt, 08-21-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$2,074,000, 03-14-18

#### ORINDA

- 55 Berkeley Avenue, \$885,000, 3 Bdrms, 2995 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 08-12-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$315,000, 08-01-88
- 2 Camino Del Diablo, \$1,300,000, 6 Bdrms, 2904 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 08-21-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$150,000, 07-01-78
- 52 Camino Don Miguel, \$1,800,000, 4 Bdrms, 2434 SqFt, 2016 YrBlt, 08-20-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$1,700,000, 01-25-17
- 114 Camino Don Miguel, \$2,275,000, 5 Bdrms, 3411 SqFt, 1938 YrBlt, 08-20-19
- 5 Canyon View Drive, \$3,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 4672 SqFt, 2003 YrBlt, 08-20-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$3,450,000, 09-27-11
- 96 Claremont Avenue, \$820,000, 2 Bdrms, 1672 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-15-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$765,000, 07-07-15
- 15 Crescent Drive, \$1,390,000, 4 Bdrms, 2699 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 08-23-19
- 59 Donna Maria Way, \$1,305,000, 3 Bdrms, 1474 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 08-16-19
- 54 Hazel Tree Ridge, \$1,468,000, 3 Bdrms, 2385 SqFt, 2014 YrBlt, 08-23-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$1,400,000, 07-06-15
- 19 Hillcrest Drive, \$1,425,000, 3 Bdrms, 2408 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 08-16-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$840,000, 07-02-09
- 76 La Cuesta Road, \$975,000, 3 Bdrms, 1762 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-23-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$532,500, 08-23-99
- 39 Las Vegas Road, \$1,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 1781 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 08-23-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$850,000, 08-15-03
- 59 Longridge Road, \$960,000, 3 Bdrms, 2423 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-13-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$479,000, 05-05-00
- 65 Mira Loma Road, \$1,350,000, 2 Bdrms, 2888 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 08-20-19
- 121 Rheem Boulevard, \$905,000, 4 Bdrms, 1568 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 08-20-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$50,000, 08-04-99
- 6 Sager Court, \$1,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 1614 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 08-23-19
- 1 Sycamore Road, \$2,925,000, 5 Bdrms, 3977 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 08-19-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$1,828,500, 06-19-12
- 80 Via Floreado, \$1,260,000, 4 Bdrms, 2040 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 08-16-19,  
 Previous Sale: \$795,000, 08-16-12



Ann Newton Cane | a.newtoncane@ggsir.com | AnnNewtonCane.com



# FALL INTO THIS *charming, custom Orinda home*



*271 Orchard Road, Orinda*

**±3100 Sq. Ft., 4 bed + Office + 2nd Family Room/5th Bed, 2 Bath, .70 Acres**

**Offered at \$1,695,000 | [www.271orchardroad.com](http://www.271orchardroad.com)**

*Coming in October*

Stunning remodel in Glorietta, Orinda  
+/- 2357 Sq. Ft. 4 bed, + office, 2.5 bath, .3 acres

Custom Charmer in Sleepy Hollow, Orinda  
+/- 3755 Sq. Ft. 4 bed, 3.5 bath, .42 acres, pool

Updated View home near Lafayette trails  
+/- 2201 Sq. Ft. 4 bed + office, 3 bath .81 acres



Emily Estrada  
Village Associates  
925.708.8116  
emily@amyrosesmith.com  
www.amyrosesmith.com  
CalBRE# 01942438

FINDING THE *Right* FIT



AMYROSESMITH

Amy Rose Smith  
Village Associates  
925.212.3897  
amy@amyrosesmith.com  
www.amyrosesmith.com  
CalBRE: #01855959



[villageassociates.com](http://villageassociates.com) | [@villageassociates](https://twitter.com/villageassociates)



925.254.0505 | **It's Village. Of Course.**



# bellavista

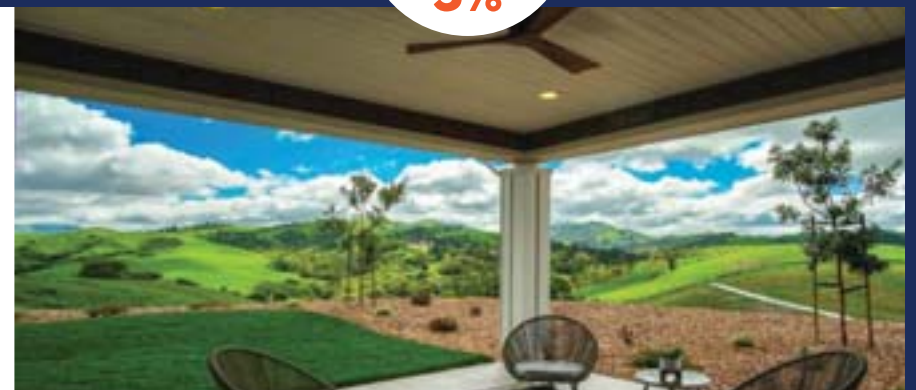
SUMMERHILL HOMES<sup>SM</sup>

STARTING AT  
\$1,954,000



**BROKER  
CO.OP  
3%**

## MOVE IN READY HOMES



**CONTINGENCIES / HOMES UNDER CONTRACT** 

SUMMERHILL HOMES<sup>SM</sup>

[www.shhomes.com](http://www.shhomes.com)

**VISIT OUR SALES OFFICE AT 226 SONORA RD, MORAGA CA  
TEL (510) 600-5740 • EMAIL: BELLAVISTASALES@SHHOMES.COM**



BRE# 01301389



### LUXURY NEW CONSTRUCTION IN HAPPY VALLEY

## 3675 Happy Valley Road, Lafayette

**5 Bedroom + Office + Wine Room, 5.5 Bathroom, 6680± Sq. Ft. Single-Story Main House + 624± Sq. Ft. Guest House with Full Kitchen on a 1.02± Acre Level Lot with Pool**

Located on a rare, level lot in Happy Valley, this stunning, newly completed, single-story estate was impeccably designed for today's indoor/outdoor lifestyle by architect, John Sather, of Swaback Partners, in collaboration with Studio V Interiors. Meticulously built by Branagh Development, this custom Napa Valley modern home boasts elite craftsmanship, clean lines, luxurious finishes, and incredible grounds that include a pool, spa, loggia and guest house. This spectacular home is sure to impress!

925.339.1918

Dana@DanaGreenTeam.com

DanaGreenTeam.com

DRE 01482454

DANA  
GREEN

[3676HappyValleyRoad.com](http://3676HappyValleyRoad.com) | Offered at \$6,685,000

COMPASS



Lafayette



**1140 Camino Vallecito** **\$3,250,000**  
4+ Bed 4.5 Bath 3,716± Sq Ft 0.50± Acres  
[1140caminovallecito.com](http://1140caminovallecito.com)

Lafayette



**959 Sunnyhill Road** **\$3,195,000**  
5+ Bed 4.5 Bath 5,100± Sq Ft 1.21± Acres  
[959sunnyhill.com](http://959sunnyhill.com)

Alamo



**51 Castle Crest Road** **\$2,195,000**  
6 Bed 6.5 Bath 4,761± Sq Ft 0.5± Acres  
[51castlecrest.com](http://51castlecrest.com)

Orindawoods



**655 Cross Ridge Court** **\$2,035,000**  
3 Bed 2.5 Bath 2,731± Sq Ft 0.18± Acres  
[655crossridge.com](http://655crossridge.com)

Lafayette



**3654-A Happy Valley Road** **\$2,000,000**  
Fully approved and ready to build 1.01± Acres  
[3654happyvalley.com](http://3654happyvalley.com)

**GENUINE  
REAL ESTATE  
EXPERTISE**



**Chris Swim  
Tracy Keaton**  
Lic. 00943989 | 01051349  
925.766.1447  
[chris@chriswim.com](mailto:chris@chriswim.com)  
[chriswim.com](http://chriswim.com)

**COMPASS**

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01866771. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

Beautiful "Carmel Cottage" in Orinda Oaks

59 Stanton Ave., Orinda



CalDRE #01501769



**3BR/2BA | Approx 1,611 Sq. ft. | Price \$1,150,000**

**Tom Stack**

925.878.9964

Broker Associate

[Tom.Stack@camoves.com](mailto:Tom.Stack@camoves.com) | [www.TomStack.com](http://www.TomStack.com)



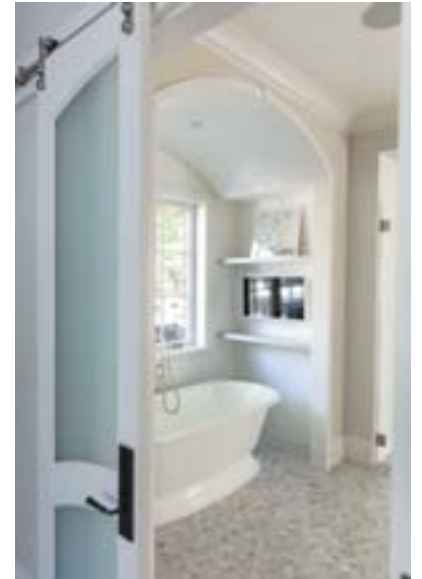
**TomStack**  
REAL ESTATE

*"Striking a Chord in Our Community"*



**COLDWELL  
BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE





**Orinda Downs Richly Detailed and Beautifully Designed New Construction**

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 with full bathroom, 6,000 + SF in the main house, 1.18 private acres. Offered at \$6,295,000



**GLENN AND KELLIE BEAUBELLE**

925.254.1212

For more information and pictures  
visit:

[TheBeaubelleGroup.com](http://TheBeaubelleGroup.com)

[Glenn@TheBeaubelleGroup.com](mailto:Glenn@TheBeaubelleGroup.com)

CABRE# 00678426, 01165322



## Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for October

# Benvenuto to Butchart Gardens



Photo Cynthia Brian

The Sunken Garden Lake echoed the lily pond of Monet's Garden in Giverny, France.

**By Cynthia Brian**

*"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."* – L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*  
O Canada!

After a hot summer of weeding, pruning, mowing, cleaning, composting and tidying my plots, traveling to Victoria in British Columbia was a welcome respite. Despite the cold and inclement weather on Vancouver Island, we set out to explore the extraordinary National Historic Site of Canada in Brentwood Bay known as The Butchart Gardens.

In 1904, the Butchart family built their home amongst sheltered Tod Inlet surrounded by forests and fields in an area where there were limestone deposits, the perfect conditions for establishing a cement plant. They named the location "Benvenuto," meaning "welcome" in Italian. Mr. Butchart's first barge load of cement sailed from the inlet in 1905 for sale to Canadian cities. As rocks were gathered and piled in select locations and soil was brought in by the wagonloads, the quarry soon metamorphosed into the show-stopping sunken gardens. Every site for planting was meticulously chosen and a lake was created from the deepest part of the quarry, fed by a waterfall and stream.

Still owned and maintained by the Butchart family, the 55 acres of gardens continue to evolve, expand and attract. Over a million visitors a year flock to this oasis of calm and beauty. Today separate gardens include the Rose, Italian, Mediterranean, Japanese and Sunken Garden. Numerous waterscapes abound. There are boat tours at Butchart Cove, fireworks in the evening, restaurants, tea time, and even a Carousel with 30 hand-carved animals that delight children and kids-at-heart alike.

Although I was enamored by the entire landscape, it was the Sunken Garden that captured my imagination. As an avid and very diligent gardener, I can only imagine the amount of labor that was involved in creating a lush and elegant horticultural masterpiece from a rough, grim, grey quarry of jagged rocks. As I meandered around the paths admiring the handiwork of years of devotion from hundreds of talented plant smiths, I was thrilled to see that the gorgeous flowers blooming in the beds and cascading over the stone banks, were plants that I grow in my California garden. Dahlias, roses, begonias, New Guinea impatiens, cannas, camellias, salvias, rhododendrons, geraniums, petunias, hydrangeas, alliums, acanthus, astilbes, arums, snapdragons, zinnias, euphorbias, fuchsias, heliotropes, hostas, lantanas, marigolds, and even an entire swatch of deep green shamrocks, also known as oxalis, blanketed this serene environment.

... continued on next Page



**The entrance to Butchart Gardens boasts 100 Years of Blooms, actually 115!**

It was such fun to pass a grouping and be able to answer my husband's constant question: "What is this called?"

But one plant truly stumped me. I had never seen it before and although the entrance ticket includes a small flower and plant guide to the most popular species in the garden, I didn't know what this plant was. Thankfully, The Butchart Gardens has a Plant Identification Center with knowledgeable plant people. I snapped a photo and showed it to the expert. "This is a tropical plant that we will soon put in the greenhouse to overwinter. It's called a 'Popcorn Plant' because it smells like buttered popcorn." How marvelous to learn something new every day!

The camellias and rhododendrons were budding but not in bloom and I can only imagine how sensational the grounds must be when they burst into flower. Every season brings new annuals and bulbs. Spring is filled with tulips, crocus, and daffodils reflecting a love for the Netherlands. There are over 900 bedding plant varieties, 26 greenhouses, and 50 full-time gardeners.

A forest of trees including maples, madrones, dogwoods, magnolias, flowering cherry, weeping sequoias, poplars, beeches, and Golden chain trees anchor the scene. There were two unusual and unique trees encased in a rock-walled garden, the Monkey Puzzle Tree, definitely a conifer, but not one I'd seen before.

... continued on Page D15



# MORAGA GARDEN CENTER

## Annual Fall Sale

## Through October 31<sup>st</sup>

*Free Plants with Purchase*

**Moraga Garden Center**

located at the Moraga Shopping Center

**925-376-1810**

9am-5pm  
7 days a week

## PREMIER KITCHENS

**Your vision  
brought to life.**

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**

3373 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Lafayette, CA 94549

info@premierkitchens.net

www.premierkitchens.net

**Wood·Mode**  
FINE CUSTOM CABINETRY



## Cynthia Brian's Garden Guide for October

**CONTINUE** watering your yard. Your plants need the moisture now more than ever.

**VISIT** a public garden for inspiration and ideas.

**REFRIGERATE** your spring bulbs for the next six weeks.

**RAKE** falling leaves to add to your compost pile.

**PRUNE** fruit trees after the harvest.

**FERTILIZE** begonias and roses to prolong the blooming period.

**READ** a garden book. May I suggest, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener," available at [www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store](http://www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store)

**TAKE** a break. The tough landscaping projects start in two weeks!

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



A border of dahlias of many varieties and sizes were in full bloom.



The plant that stumped Cynthia Brian: a tropical popcorn plant.



A colorful collage of Cuphea, the cigar plant with Angelonia, and tuberos orange begonias.



Look closely to see the honeybee on this rare violet lace cap hydrangea.

## Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for October

### Benvenuto to Butchart Gardens

... continued from Page D13

Wherever I travel, I seek out gardens that will inspire and instruct me to be a better steward of our earth. Butchart Gardens is exquisitely and elegantly designed. With a plethora of water features including streams, lakes, waterfalls and fountains, I was transported to a place of sheer joy and tranquility. Totem poles, bronzes, statuary, and whimsical moss-covered wire sculptures offer a nod to the artistic value of landscaping. To walk in the footsteps of those who lived a hundred years ago knowing that they lavished love on this land, preserving it for posterity as well as the enjoyment and education of the general public was simultaneously humbling and enlightening.

Life was created in a garden. A garden is life unfolding. I returned to my California countryside as October beckons with the changing of the foliage wardrobe and, motivated by my sojourn, immediately got to work with a spark of a new beginning for digging deeper. Although my property will unlikely ever be a Butchart or Giverny, it is my personalized refuge of sweet repose.

O Canada, thank you. Benvenuto October.



**Cynthia Brian takes in the view surrounded by wax leaf begonias and a backdrop of the Ross Fountain and lake.**

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](http://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](http://www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store).

Hire Cynthia for projects, consults, and lectures.

[Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com](mailto:Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com)  
[www.GoddessGardener.com](http://www.GoddessGardener.com)

# McDonnell Nursery

## October Sale!

family owned since 1933

**25% off Perennials, Trees and Shrubs**  
Also find special pricing on  
select garden decor.



[www.mcdonnellnursery.com](http://www.mcdonnellnursery.com)

196 Moraga Way • Orinda • (925) 254-3713 • Open Daily

## Get Out & Stay Out!

In Your New Outdoor Room

Let Garden Lights Landscape Development give you good reason to "Get Out and Stay Out" this summer.



Enlarge your living area with an outdoor kitchen or entertainment space complete with a built in barbecue and the warm glow of a stone or masonry fireplace.

Garden Lights Landscape Development, Inc. is a full service landscape & pool design build firm.

We design & install with just one call 925-254-4797 • [www.gardenlightslandscape.com](http://www.gardenlightslandscape.com)

Celebrating over 20 years of service in Lamorinda. Bonded – Licensed & Insured License# 702845 C27 & C53

# LAMORINDA'S LEADING INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE FIRM

## ORINDA



New Listing

**65 California Avenue**  
Exquisite, one of a kind estate home, on a gated secluded, Orinda Country Club cul-de-sac lot with great views.  
**\$1,274,000**

## ORINDA



**155 Cañon Drive**  
Light filled 3 bed/3 bath home on .67 acres, ample entertaining space both inside & out.  
**\$1,399,000**

## ORINDA



**15 Easton Court**  
Comfortable & secluded 4 bed/2 bath with vaulted ceilings, granite counter tops & a vast backyard.  
**\$1,495,000**

## ORINDA



**41 Diablo View Road**  
3 bed/3.5 bath, 2764 sqft pristinely maintained home. Set into the landscape & surrounded by nature.  
**\$1,595,000**

## ORINDA



**271 Orchard Road**  
Updated & expanded rancher in the heart of Orinda. Large lawn, patio, sport court & rooftop deck.  
**\$1,695,000**

## ORINDA



**8 Santa Lucia**  
Lovely 5 bed/ 5 bath restored Spanish style home with quality features & craftsmanship.  
**\$1,795,000**

## ORINDA



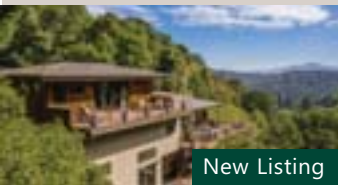
**19 Donald Drive**  
Serene 3297 sqft garden oasis with panoramic views, luxurious interiors & numerous meditative retreats.  
**\$1,795,000**

## ORINDA



**2 El Caminito**  
4 bed/ 3 baths, 2861 sqft home in a coveted Orinda Country Club neighborhood with views of Lake Cascade.  
**\$1,840,000**

## ORINDA



New Listing

**161 Holly Lane**  
Custom contemporary 5 bed/ 4.5 bath home on .58 acres with panoramic views of Mount Diablo.  
**\$1,975,000**

## ORINDA



**383 Miner Road**  
Beautiful Orinda Country Club Cape Cod Home, renovated & updated throughout on 1.32 acres w/ 5 bed/3 baths, 4023 sqft.  
**\$2,550,000**

## ORINDA



**48 Oak Drive**  
Elegant 4 bed/3.5 bath two level new construction home with remarkable views from terrace decks.  
**\$2,599,000**

## ORINDA



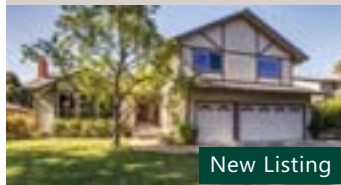
**13 Gardiner Court**  
Custom craftsman home. 6 Bed/4.5 bath with spectacular views, flat play areas, & stunning infinity pool.  
**\$3,595,000**

## ORINDA



**57 Charles Hill Road**  
A new SpringHill Homes masterpiece! 5 bed/5 baths +2 half baths with an open floor plan on a .75 acre lot.  
**\$4,395,000**

## WALNUT CREEK



New Listing

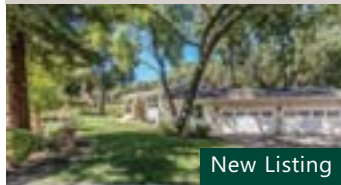
**2074 Stratton Road**  
Charming, walk friendly neighborhood. Gorgeous wood floors, pool, 3 car garage, and an open floor plan.  
**\$1,150,000**

## DANVILLE



**807 Waingarh Way**  
Traditional 4 bed/ 3 bath remodeled 3,439 sqft home featuring private .23 acre yard located near top K-12 Danville schools.  
**\$1,549,000**

## ALAMO



New Listing

**370 South Avenue**  
4 bed/ 3 bath on 1.28 acres -Top Alamo westside location - close to town/schools/hiking trails/Iron Horse Trail & more.  
**\$2,695,000**

## The Village Associates:

Ashley Battersby  
Patricia Battersby  
Shannon Conner  
Meara Dunsmore

Linda Ehrich  
Emily Estrada

Joan Evans  
Linda Friedman  
Dexter Honens II

Anne Knight  
Susan Layng

Charles Levine  
April Matthews  
Hillary Murphy

Karen Murphy  
John Nash

Altie Schmitt  
Judy Schoenrock

Ann Sharf  
Amy Rose Smith

Molly Smith  
Jeff Snell

Lynda Snell  
Steve Stahle

Clark Thompson  
Angie Evans Traxinger

Ignacio Vega  
Ann Ward

Jenny Lyons Wilhite  
Margaret Zucker

facebook.com/VillageAssociates  
 twitter.com/villageassoc  
 instagram.com/VillageAssociates

93 Moraga Way, Suite 103 • Orinda, CA 94563 • Phone: (925) 254-0505  
Visit [www.villageassociates.com](http://www.villageassociates.com) Click on **Sunday Open Homes**

**Village**  
ASSOCIATES

It's Village. Of Course.  
DRE#01301392