

Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 14 Issue 3 Wednesday, April 1, 2020



Lamorinda Home Sales

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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Blossoms and bouquets: gardening is not canceled!



A bouquet of tulips and roses add spring joy to any room. Photo C. Brian

By Cynthia Brian

“We have it in our power to begin the world again.” – Thomas Paine

What a difference a day makes! Who could have ever predicted that as the vernal equinox approached in the Northern Hemisphere the entire world would be mandated to stay home, pause, and practice social distancing?

Are you in compliance? As adults, we have the ability and the responsibility to be role models in keeping ourselves and our families safe and healthy whilst we are housebound. Thankfully, spring has sprung and our garden can be our protective sanctuary and our personal oasis. Although we can't share our gardens personally with others, we can go outside to exercise, dig in the dirt, and enjoy the beauty that surrounds us. It's time to develop our green thumbs as gardening is open and we have the time.

In the weeks since I've closed my StarStyle® Productions LLC office to shelter in place, my garden has been my refuge and my workplace. Although I won't be consulting or coaching in person, I am working for hire via Skype, Zoom, and phone to offer assistance when needed. I've decided to reframe this crisis as a positive timeout to rebalance, readjust, rejuvenate and rest. Instead of rushing to cross items off my to-do list, I can pace myself and enjoy the process of weeding, sowing, planting, pruning, cleaning and repairing. The fruit trees in my orchard

are gloriously full of blooms, while spring-flowering trees and shrubs are triumphant in their abundance of pretty petals. It's been a joy to stroll through the landscape shooting photos of the emerging rebirth. Every day something new sprouts and I am so grateful to be able to witness Mother Nature in action. Taking snips of branches in bloom and flowers unfurling, I am filling my indoor spaces with hope for a healthy future.

When one of my girlfriends, Nancy Roetzer, retired from school teaching, she began taking flower arranging classes through the adult center. Her bouquets and arrangements are inspired by her hikes in the woods and especially by the many waterfalls she has experienced. Her waterfall style floral design shows movement, flow and layering. Featured in this issue is a spectacular showstopper using tulips, roses, carnations, cushion spray chrysanthemums (*Dendranthema*), cone bush (*Leucadendron*), ferns, vines, and moss.

What a terrific idea to experiment with creating floral displays during these dark days! Whether we cut a few stems and add them to a whimsical vessel or decide to be more formal with our innovations, this is an opportune moment to get our ingenuity fueled and fired.

We do have it in our power to begin the world anew. Listen to and abide by the mandates of the experts. We may not be able to predict the course of the virus, but we do have agency over our actions and reactions. My April Gardening Guide provides a plethora of ideas to keep you occupied, safe, happy and healthy as we navigate the next month together and apart.

Enjoy the blossoms, bouquets, and the colorful photos of our developing spring, a reminder that life goes on. Gardening is not canceled.

See Gardening Guide for April on Page D6.



Nancy Roetzer's "Waterfall" arrangement was inspired by the many waterfalls she's seen while hiking.

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Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	5	\$834,000	\$3,805,000
MORAGA	7	\$209,000	\$1,412,000
ORINDA	1	\$1,385,000	\$1,385,000

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

164 Haslemere Court, \$834,000, 3 Bdrms, 1638 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 02-21-20,

Previous Sale: \$3,971,364, 05-28-98

24 Sanford Lane, \$3,805,000, 5 Bdrms, 5169 SqFt, 2007 YrBlt, 02-19-20,

Previous Sale: \$3,200,000, 07-21-15

18 Shreve Lane, \$960,000, 4 Bdrms, 1962 SqFt, 2013 YrBlt, 02-21-20

3386 Stage Coach Drive, \$2,195,000, 4 Bdrms, 4251 SqFt,

1989 YrBlt, 02-14-20, Previous Sale: \$1,541,000, 08-04-08

4030 Woodside Court, \$1,660,000, 5 Bdrms, 2823 SqFt,

1965 YrBlt, 02-11-20

MORAGA

142 Ascot Court #4, \$502,000, 2 Bdrms, 945 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 02-11-20

1984 Ascot Drive #D, \$580,000, 3 Bdrms, 1473 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 02-19-20,

Previous Sale: \$285,000, 10-01-08

2121 Donald Drive #18, \$209,000, 2 Bdrms, 896 SqFt,

1963 YrBlt, 02-10-20, Previous Sale: \$168,000, 12-07-11

8 Hansen Court, \$775,000, 2 Bdrms, 1211 SqFt, 1984 YrBlt, 02-11-20,

Previous Sale: \$350,000, 01-19-11

120 Natalie Drive, \$1,125,000, 3 Bdrms, 1918 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 02-14-20

315 Rheem Boulevard, \$1,412,000, 3 Bdrms, 1395 SqFt,

1956 YrBlt, 02-18-20, Previous Sale: \$845,000, 08-31-18

1128 Sanders Drive, \$1,360,000, 3 Bdrms, 1948 SqFt,

1960 YrBlt, 02-21-20, Previous Sale: \$315,000, 04-01-89

ORINDA

6 Culver Court, \$1,385,000, 3 Bdrms, 2279 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 02-12-20



8 Vista Via, Lafayette

Call For More Details

Charming mid-century contemporary with spectacular views, beautiful gardens, hot tub and privacy. Great Lafayette location, close to the trail, downtown, BART, freeway and top-rated schools!

Would you like to shelter in place in one of our off-market homes?
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Brittany Hogan

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1045 Timothy Lane, Lafayette

5 Bed | 3.5 Bath | 3,320 Sq Ft | \$2,100,000

Beautiful 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath completely remodeled single-story home with open floor plan on .75 acre lot in Upper Happy Valley. Engineered hardwood floors throughout. Large master bedroom with two walk-in closets, a second master-bedroom with ensuite bathroom plus three additional bedrooms, hallway bath and a powder room. Top rated Lafayette schools, close to BART, shopping and the reservoir.

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COMPASS



From Our Home to Yours...

We are thinking of you and your families during these trying times. Please know that Dudum Real Estate Group is here for you and will be here for you, as we re-enter business as normal; however, we are honoring the governmental order to pause our traditional business for the time being, until we know more.

Agents and staff are working remotely, should you need anything in the meantime. Thank you for your loyalty and support. Dudum Real Estate Group is sending warm thoughts to you and your families, and together, we will get through this!
Be safe out there and please stay healthy!

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Which of These Costly Homeseller Mistakes Will You Make When You Sell Your Lamorinda Home?

Lamorinda - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1- 844-941-0941 and enter 2100

Get your free special report NOW to find out how you can get the most money for your home.

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LISTINGS FROM THE OLSEN TEAM

ACTIVE LISTINGS

Virtual showings for every property through Matterport 3D scans, follow property links below.



1743 Spyglass Lane, Moraga - \$1,395,000
4 Bed | 2.5 Bath | 2,828 Sq. ft.

Fabulous M.C.C. Forrest Hills home overlooks the 4th tee box with Mt. Diablo views. Large master on main level. Updated kitchen with granite and stainless appliances including gas range. Recent updates throughout and move-in ready. Access to great Moraga schools, Country Club facilities and golf.

3D tour available at www.1743SpyglassLn.com



124 Via Joaquin, Moraga - \$765,000
2 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,354 Sq. ft.

Bright open and airy single level in Moraga with 2 car garage! Vaulted ceilings and hardwood floors connect the kitchen/great room. Private patios front and rear. Close to town and community pool.

** A great Rossmoor alternative! **

3D tour available at www.124ViaJoaquin.com



1003 Woodbury Rd. No. 207, Lafayette - \$965,000
2 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,110 Sq. ft.

Built in 2015 this spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condominium home offers the best combination of style, location, utility and function. Large open concept living area connects the living and dining area along with a chefs level equipped kitchen.

3D tour available at www.1003WoodburyRd.com



180 Willowbrook Lane, Moraga - \$2,195,000
4 Bed | 3.5 Bath | 3,000 Sq. ft.

Gorgeous 4 Bed + office home in vibrant Harvest Court community. Exceptional views and super outdoor living including recently completed pool & hot tub. Beautiful open design living area with gourmet kitchen. Don't miss the 3-car tandem garage.

3D tour available at www.180WillowbrookLane.com



133 Donna Maria Way, Orinda - \$1,595,000
3+ Bed | 2 Bath | 2,285 Sq. ft. / .24 Acres

Montclair style in Orinda's Del Rey neighborhood. Super charming with shingles, vaulted ceilings, grassy yard and more. Less than 1 mile from Elementary, Middle, High Schools. Makes life so easy!

3D tour available at www.DonnaMariaWay.com

ASK US ABOUT OUR COMING SOON LISTINGS: 11 Gloria Court, Moraga | 831 Terra California No. 1, Rossmoor

Rentals: 45 Sullivan Drive, Moraga | 240 Sandringham North, Moraga



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Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for April

- **SOW** seeds that will attract birds to your garden. Suggestions include coneflower, anise hyssop, bachelor's button, Mexican sunflower, cosmos and black-eyed Susan.
- **SHOOT** photos of the abundant flowering trees including tulip magnolia, crabapple, peach, plum, prune, cherry, pear and apple.
- **CLEAN** debris from berms and drainage ditches to prevent flooding. The soil and leaves can be added to your compost pile.
- **PULL** weeds while the ground is soft.
- **PLAN** your vegetable garden for the foods you love the most.
- **PLANT** seeds of greens, beets, carrots and turnips now.
- **CUT** a branch or two from your favorite flowering trees or shrubs. Redbuds, crabapple, plum, and peach are glorious in vases.
- **INTRODUCE** plants that will make you smile. I planted sunflowers, sweet peas, nasturtiums and purple hyacinth bean.
- **TAKE** a garden class online or watch YouTube videos with gardening tips.
- **MAKE** teas and cocktails from herbs you grow including mint, rosemary, sage and fennel.
- **REPOT** houseplants.
- **BOOST** your immune system with a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, leafy greens, nuts and fatty fish. Adopt a Mediterranean style of eating.
- **WALK** around your garden to admire the spring growth.
- **BUILD** a planter box.
- **ORDER** gardening books to read. Be inspired and motivated by "Chicken Soup for the Gardener's Soul," "Growing with the Goddess Gardener," and "Be the Star You Are! Millennials to Boomers" available at www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store.
- **INHALE** the perfume of fragrant plants. Roses are blooming and fruit blossoms are delightful.
- **LOWER** your stress by strolling alone in the outdoors amongst trees and on trails.
- **MEDITATE** in your garden, or on your balcony, patio or porch.
- **LISTEN** to the birds, frogs and insects as they begin their spring songs.
- **NOURISH** your spirit by sitting by a fountain or pond.
- **EAT** plenty of fresh citruses, especially homegrown, to increase your vitamin C intake. Oranges, tangelos, tangerines, grapefruit and lemons are ripe and ready for picking.
- **EXERCISE** includes all gardening chores: raking sweeping, weeding, lifting, pruning, planting, digging, fertilizing, and chopping wood. Workout outside.
- **TAKE** a nap and on a warm day, get your z's outside in the fresh air.
- **SHARE** your garden skills with your children. Let them plant seeds of vegetables and herbs they want to eat.
- **FERTILIZE** lawns. Lawn food is available at your local hardware store.
- **GROW** your own bouquets. Create a stunning floral art with a variety of roses, stock, tulips, iris, calla lilies and mock orange.

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The dense white blooms on this prune tree forecast a hearty harvest.



Varieties of tulip magnolias are blooming at varying times.



Rich rose blossoms on a flowering purple plum tree.

- **BEE** friendly by planting three or four types of native wildflowers to attract the honey gatherers as well as pest-resistant varieties of flowers, shrubs, trees and vegetables, thus eliminating pesticides. I've sown California poppies, lupines, bee balm, and morning glories.
- **WATCH** the blossoms in the breeze float to the ground like snowflakes.
- **PREPARE** your garden patches to sow seeds of potatoes, tomatoes, peppers and eggplant by rotating these crops. For best production, do not plant these in the same place every year.
- **ENJOY** a peaceful Passover and Easter without an in-person gathering.
- **STAY** informed about Covid-19 depending only on reliable information. Visit Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <https://www.cdc.gov>; The World Health Organization at <https://www.who.int>; State Department: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/covid-19-information.html>;

Contra Costa County Health Department at <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org>;

Contra Costa County Office at <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/>

- **STAY POSITIVE!**
- **STAY SAFE!**
- **STAY HEALTHY!**
- **STAY HOME!**

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



Cut a branch from a Western Red Bud tree to brighten your kitchen.



Cynthia Brian outdoors on a cooler February day.

Raised in the vineyards of Napa County, Cynthia Brian 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 upbeat StarStyle® Radio Broadcast at www.StarStyleRadio.com. Buy copies of her best-selling books, including, Chicken Soup for the Gardener's Soul, Growing with the Goddess Gardener, and Be the Star You Are! Millennials to Boomers at www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store. Hire Cynthia for writing projects and virtual garden consults or lectures. Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com www.GoddessGardener.com



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2 Irving Lane

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\$1,320,000

ORINDA



390 Camino Sobrante

1958 Midcentury modern contemporary 4 bed/ 2.5 bath. Designed by Ken Sakurai, just blocks from Orinda Country Club.

\$1,495,000

ORINDA



50 El Castillo

Contemporary 4 bed/ 2.5 bath at the end of a flat cul-de-sac including separate 1 bed/ 1 bath guest house.

\$1,625,000

ORINDA



6 El Caminito

Large 6 bed/ 4.5 bath home with an abundance of space near town, commute & schools.

\$1,985,000

ORINDA



16 Oak Court

Newer 4 bed/ 4 bath home with high ceilings, large living space & chef's kitchen. Close to town & commute.

\$2,150,000

ORINDA



511 Hawkridge Terrace

Updated single story in close-in Orindawoods. 4 bed/ 3.5 bath w/ chef's kitchen & amazing views.

\$2,950,000

ORINDA



21 Sycamore Road

Beautiful European architectural 4 bed/ 4.5 bath estate on .92 acres w/ open floor plan & 3 car garage.

\$2,995,000

ORINDA



49 Overhill Road

Private updated 6 bed/ 5 bath. Close to BART, Highway 24/680 & top rated schools.

\$2,995,000

ORINDA



18 Charles Hill Circle

Gated 5 bed/ 5.5 bath estate on 2.99 acres complete with bonus room & In-Law/Au-Pair space.

\$3,595,000

MORAGA



1463 Camino Peral

Updated 2 bed/ 2 bath townhome in central Moraga with laundry, 2 car garage, & enclosed patio.

\$719,000

LAFAYETTE



974 Janet Lane

Single level 3 bed/ 2 bath home with views of Lafayette Hills. Minutes from Hwys & BART.

\$1,350,000

LAFAYETTE



3971 Canyon Road

Private gated 6 Bed/ 4 Bath/ 3 Half bath estate including two-story guest house located in desirable Happy Valley.

\$3,175,000

WALNUT CREEK

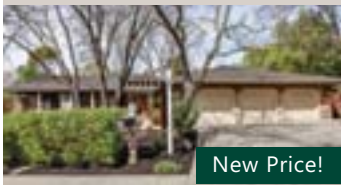


1310 Creekside Drive #101

Modern 2 bed/ 2 bath condo in the heart of Walnut Creek. Close to Boradway Plaza & Iron Horse Trail.

\$649,000

WALNUT CREEK



New Price!

4350 Walnut Boulevard

4 bed/ 2.5 bath home in the heart of Walnut Heights on .41 acre lot close to schools, BART & freeways.

\$1,499,000

MARTINEZ



114 Stonehurst Court

Gorgeous Alhambra Valley 5 bed/ 3.5 bath 5550 sqft home with 360 degree views of Mt. Diablo.

\$2,695,000

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Village

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