

Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 14 Issue 24 Wednesday, January 20, 2021



The Real Estate Year in Review

... read on Page D4

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Renewal by nature



Arugula is easy to grow from seed.

Photos Cynthia Brian

By Cynthia Brian

“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever” – Mahatma Gandhi

I popped the crunchy pods of my just-picked sugar snap peas into my mouth as I uttered a prayer of gratitude for the food I grow to nourish my family and the gardens I cultivate to nourish my soul. The past few weeks have brought the fragility of life into focus amidst the mounting death toll from the pandemic and the anxiety aroused by the political rampages.

We need to return to our roots to savor the sweetness of life. For me, Mother Nature has always provided renewal and refreshment in her simplicity and order. When I'm feeling stressed, I go outside to walk, listen, see, smell, touch and taste ... to reconnect with my senses and revive my spirit.

I picked a few stems of jonquil which are now sitting in a vase on my desk as I write this column filling my nostrils with their elegant perfume. My step increases its bounce as I taste the tangy citrus of my newly ripe Navel oranges. Back in my vegetable garden, arugula, sorrel, Swiss Chard, assorted greens, and beets await my culinary menus. Orange and yellow calendula flowers season my salads and the unusual hued flowers of osteospermum el-

evate my chi as they decorate my hillside.

My journal indicates that this week in January the roses are to be pruned. My bushes are still filled with buds and blooms that enhance the landscape and my heart. I will complete this task when it is colder next month. Beauty is required as a tonic for joyfulness.

Winter is a time to regroup, to rest, to repair, to rethink. Deciduous trees are now bare, an indication that work in the garden is winding down, at least for a month or so.

We can use this period to dream and decide what projects and plantings we may want to engage in throughout the year. What's on your list of things that you've always desired in your backyard but never had the time, money, or inclination to accomplish? A sampling of suggestions to fill your vision boards could include:

- Planting a pollinator garden or a cutting garden;
- Making a meditation meadow;
- Rebuilding a patio or deck;
- Erecting a retaining wall;
- Growing vegetables, herbs, and fruits;
- Retrofitting regions for relaxation and reading;
- Adding a trellis, gate, arbor, or gazebo;
- Creating compost piles or buying compost bins;
- Improving a perennials plot;
- Hanging hammocks for summer enjoyment;
- Switching to succulents;
- Increasing native populations;
- Including a play structure;
- Paving a path with gravel or crushed granite;
- Installing a pond, fountain, waterfall, or other water feature;

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A unique color for Osteospermum blooming in January.

Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	10	\$1,100,000	\$2,410,000
MORAGA	6	\$1,215,000	\$2,110,000
ORINDA	5	\$965,000	\$2,382,500

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

- 1119 Garden Lane, \$1,470,000, 3 Bdrms, 1569 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 12-02-20
 1179 Glen Road, \$1,977,000, 4 Bdrms, 2072 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 11-30-20,
 Previous Sale: \$970,000, 07-09-10
 3258 Judith Lane, \$1,690,000, 3 Bdrms, 1688 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 12-02-20,
 Previous Sale: \$975,000, 04-16-10
 1055 Los Arabis Lane, \$2,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 2679 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 12-03-20
 3885 Los Arabis Drive, \$2,410,000, 5 Bdrms, 3387 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 11-30-20,
 Previous Sale: \$1,500,000, 03-10-06
 3208 Lucas Circle, \$1,495,000, 3 Bdrms, 1612 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 12-03-20,
 Previous Sale: \$619,500, 10-14-11
 1171 Pleasant Hill Circle, \$1,805,000, 3 Bdrms, 2092 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 12-03-20,
 Previous Sale: \$160,000, 04-01-90
 517 Silverado Drive, \$1,550,000, 4 Bdrms, 1927 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 12-02-20
 1697 Springbrook Road, \$1,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 1124 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 12-02-20,
 Previous Sale: \$325,000, 02-22-99
 8 Warwick Court, \$1,942,500, 5 Bdrms, 2664 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 12-04-20,
 Previous Sale: \$2,000,000, 06-04-19

MORAGA

- 126 Brookfield Drive, \$1,660,000, 4 Bdrms, 2013 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 12-02-20,
 Previous Sale: \$1,070,000, 07-13-06
 93 Danefield Place, \$1,660,000, 3 Bdrms, 2354 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 11-30-20,
 Previous Sale: \$1,200,000, 07-03-14
 7 El Paraiso Court, \$1,925,000, 6 Bdrms, 2982 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 12-04-20,
 Previous Sale: \$649,500, 05-05-98
 31 Fieldbrook Place, \$1,810,000, 4 Bdrms, 2152 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 12-02-20,
 Previous Sale: \$1,545,000, 10-23-18
 78 Jean Court, \$2,110,000, 4 Bdrms, 3022 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 12-03-20
 1 Kendall Circle, \$1,215,000, 4 Bdrms, 1965 SqFt, 2016 YrBlt, 12-04-20,
 Previous Sale: \$1,227,500, 12-15-16

ORINDA

- 3 Briones Vwx, \$1,453,000, 2 Bdrms, 1477 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 12-02-20,
 Previous Sale: \$1,230,000, 04-12-16
 16 Brookwood Road, \$965,000, 3 Bdrms, 1799 SqFt, 1925 YrBlt, 12-01-20,
 Previous Sale: \$519,000, 04-23-04
 53 Don Gabriel Way, \$1,625,000, 3 Bdrms, 2410 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 12-03-20
 18 Mira Loma Road, \$1,940,000, 3 Bdrms, 2637 SqFt, 1930 YrBlt, 11-30-20,
 Previous Sale: \$1,360,000, 03-25-14
 58 Windy Creek Way, \$2,382,500, 4 Bdrms, 4149 SqFt, 2019 YrBlt, 12-04-20,
 Previous Sale: \$23,750,000, 03-06-15



Happy New Year! 2021 is here and all indications point to a robust market. The new year seems to be starting off like we ended 2020, with Lamorinda properties being in high demand. Give us a call so we can get a jumpstart on preparing your home for sale or help you find your dream home.



Orinda ~ 9 La Noria

SF 3,034 | BD 3 | BA 3 | Bonus Room | AC .48 | Car Gar 2 | \$1,645,000

Located in Orinda's coveted Country Club neighborhood, this updated home on a private, park-like setting offering lush gardens and picturesque outdoor areas under a canopy of mature oaks and shade trees.



Glenn Beaubelle, Kellie Beaubelle,
 Nancy Stryker, Lynn Molloy
 925.254.1212

For more information:
 TheBeaubelleGroup.com

Email:
 Glenn@TheBeaubelleGroup.com

CABRE# 00678426, 01165322, 01910108



STELLA & STEPHANIE

In this crazy market,
**Experience matters
now more than ever.**

IN **2020** WE...

- *Helped 35+ families
make their moves*
- *Closed \$70+ Million in sales*

**IF YOU ARE THINKING OF SELLING OR BUYING
IN 2021, WE'RE HERE AND READY TO HELP!**

PUT OUR PROVEN SUCCESS TO WORK FOR YOU.



TOP 1% OF REALTORS IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

COMPASS

STELLA TSAKONAS • DRE #01363574
925.878.6603
STELLA@STELLAANDSTEPHANIE.COM

STEPHANIE MULL • DRE #01955633
925.878.1896
STEPHANIE@STELLAANDSTEPHANIE.COM

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A GROWING PRESENCE IN THE
EAST BAY

OVER \$125M IN TOTAL SALES IN THE REGION 2020

(16% growth year-over-year from 2019)

NOTABLE 2020 SALES



5909 ACACIA AVENUE, OAKLAND



180 WILLOWBROOK, MORAGA



133 DONNA MARIA, ORINDA



422 BEACON RIDGE, WALNUT CREEK



8245 SKYLINE BLVD, OAKLAND

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
Regional Director Ron Mintz

925.872.0968 | ron@vanguardproperties.com DRE# 01095341

VANGUARDPROPERTIES.COM

DRE#01486075



The Real Estate Year in Review

By Conrad Bassett,
Licensed Real Estate
Broker and CRP, GMS-T

The year 2020 was once again extremely strong for sellers of residential real estate in Lamorinda. Sales volume was solid with a minimal increase in supply matched by continued strong demand and average prices going up in Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda. Despite the pandemic that slowed sales in the second quarter of the year, the first three months and the last six months were extremely busy.

Protocols changed for how houses were shown and there were no Open Houses for either the public or for brokers after mid-March.

Homes stayed on the market for a similar limited time like in 2019 and the majority of homes sold at or above their asking price.

Per Contra Costa Association of Realtors statistics reported for closings Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2020, 344 single family homes closed in Lafayette versus 288 in 2019 and 300 in 2018. For the 344 reported closings, sales prices ranged from \$749,000 to \$5.85 million and the average time on market was 19 days, a decrease from the 27 days in 2019.

The average sale price was \$1,916,042—a significant increase from \$1,789,012 in 2019, \$1,736,519 in 2018 and \$1,625,636 in 2017. Prices have almost doubled in the last decade.

The average sales price was 101.7% of the final list price. There were four Lafayette foreclosures sold on the MLS.

In Moraga there were 175 single-family closings in 2020. There were 129 single-family closings in 2019 and 132 in 2018,

which was down from the 164 in 2017. Prices ranged from \$900,000 to \$3.365 million. Only three homes closed in the MLS at less than \$1 million. The average sale price was \$1,590,853, well above \$1,486,327 in 2019 and \$1,485,713 in 2018. In 2012, it was \$991,469 and in 2011 it was \$894,768.

The average number of days on market in 2020 was 20. The average home sold for 102.0% of its last list price. There were no REO properties that closed on the MLS and no short sales.

In Orinda the number of single-family closings was 302 – an increase from the 261 a year ago. There were 280 in 2018, 242 in 2017, and 229 in 2016. The reported sales ranged in price from \$785,000 to \$8.36 million with an average price of \$1,889,942. In 2019 it was \$1,629,030. In 2018 it was \$1,729,306. The average was \$1,021,751 in 2011. The average market time was 24 days, down from 36 days a year ago.

The average sales price was an average of 101.7% of the final list price for the reported sales, the same as Moraga. There were no REO (bank owned) sales in Orinda in 2020.

There were no reported sales in Canyon in the MLS in 2019 or 2020.

On an average price per square foot basis for reported sales in 2020, Lafayette homes sold for \$703.44, up from 2019 when it was \$671.90 and 2018's \$687.13.

In 2020, Moraga homes sold for \$644.18 per square foot, versus \$610.00 per square foot in 2019, continuing an increase from the \$589.93 in 2018. In Orinda last year it was \$672.53 and in 2019 it was \$624.28 per square foot for the average home.

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YOUR CB ORINDA REALTORS:

LAURA ABRAMS
 BEVERLY ARNOLD
 EMILY BAHN
 MARAM BATA
 VLATKA BATHGATE
 ALBERT BERNARDO
 NANCY BOOTH
 ROBERT BROWN
 ROBERTA CALDERON
 TONY CONTE
 KELLY CRAWFORD
 COLIN ELBASANI
 JOANNE FISHMAN
 LANA FITZPATRICK
 SUZANNE GEOFFRION
 JEFFREY GILLET
 SORAYA GOLESORKHI
 HANK HAGMAN
 ANDREA HARRIS
 MARGARET HARTWELL
 PETER HATTERSLEY
 YAN HEIM
 MICHELLE HOLCENBERG
 WENDY HOLCENBERG
 DICK HOLT
 COOKIE JAVINSKY
 SHELLIE KIRBY
 SHERYL KORTRIGHT
 MEREDITH LINAMEN
 MARY BETH MACLENNAN
 LARA MARKEL
 CHRISTINE MASON
 CHRISTINA MCCORMICK
 MICHELE MCKAY
 CHAD MORRISON
 PEYMAN MOSHREF
 AUDREY NEALE
 WALTER NELSON
 BRUCE NEWMAN
 DIANE PETEK
 MARGARET PRICE
 SUSAN SCHLICHER
 CATHY SCHULTHEIS
 JOEL SHEIMAN
 MELANIE SNOW
 TOM STACK
 TED STREETER
 BO SULLIVAN
 NORLA TORRES-TURNEY
 LINDA VAN DRENT
 THERESA WANG
 GREG WATKINS
 VAL COOK- WATKINS
 JERRY WENDT
 SCOTT WINBURNE
 FRANK WOODWARD
 JUNE YOUNG
 ANA ZIMMANK



Orinda

20 Hacienda Circle \$3,825,000

6 Bedrooms/6 Baths, 8063 sq. ft. State of the art, architecturally designed craftsmen estate.
 Melanie Snow /Laura Abrams 925-360-0344/510-697-3225
 20haciendacircle.com Lic#00878893/01272382



Orinda

200 Hall Drive \$2,645,000

Privacy and security in your own 5-acre county estate
 Yan Heim 510-499-709
 Yanheim.com Lic #01965925



Orinda

2 Camino Del Cielo \$2,288,000

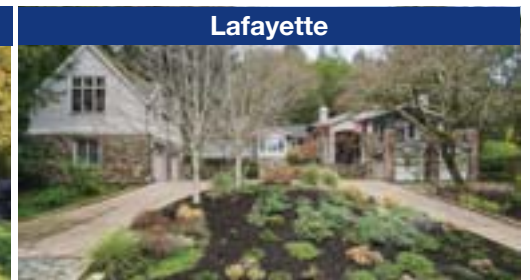
4 Beds/ 3.5 Baths. 4083 sq. ft Flat .87 ac panoramic view lot, pool and hot tub!
 Melanie Snow 925-360-0344
 www.1201cambridge.com Lic #0878893



Orinda

56 Camino Del Diablo Call Agent for Price

One of the original DeLaveaga homes on magical .73-acre mostly flat lot. Delightful!
 Laura Abrams 510-697-3225
 Lic#01272382



Lafayette

1201 Cambridge \$3,195,000

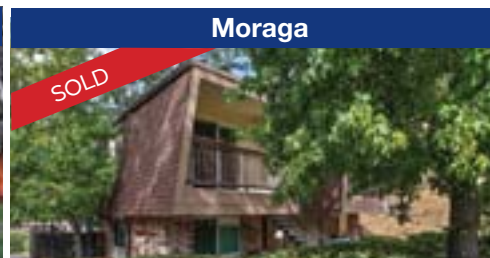
4 Beds/ 3 Baths. Happy Valley Elegance including an extra 600 sq ft Guest Cottage
 Melanie Snow 925-360-0344
 www.1201cambridge.com Lic #0878893



Lafayette

1076 Serrano Court \$1,485,000

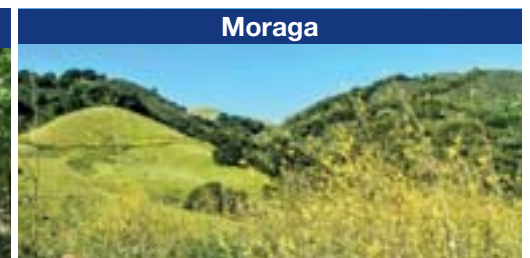
3 Beds/ 2 Baths. Quintessential Lafayette rancher with Farmhouse style charm.
 Laura Abrams 510-697-3225
 Lic#01272382



Moraga

142 Ascot Court, #3 \$499,000

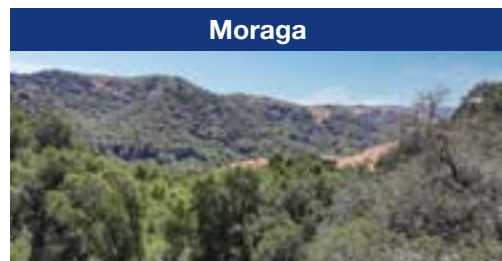
2 Beds/ 2 Baths. Fabulously updated cozy condo
 Mary Beth MacLennan/Tony Conte
 925-324-6246/925-708-1396
 142ascotct3.com Lic #01480008/00959101



Moraga

1255 Bollinger Canyon \$375,000

17+ Acres. In the distinctive American Viticultural Area for Lamorinda and minutes from downtown Moraga. Endless possibilities!
 Suzanne Geoffrion 925-699-4832
 myagentsuzanne.com Lic#01878803



Moraga

1233 Bollinger Canyon \$375,000

10.28 Acres. In American Viticultural Area and minutes from downtown Moraga. Dream Big!
 Suzanne Geoffrion 925-699-4832
 myagentsuzanne.com Lic#01878803



Pleasant Hill

542 Tananger Heights Ln \$1,349,000


Almost new...but BETTER!
 4 Bedrooms/3 Baths 2,429 sq ft
 Kelly Crawford 925-998-54599
 Lic #0132705



San Francisco

818 Van Ness Ave #804 \$999,999

Penthouse w/City views. Building offers roof-top BBQ & entertaining area.
 Yan Heim 510-499-709
 Yanheim.com Lic #01965925



*Cheers to a happy, healthy,
and healthy new year.*

I'm fortunate to have helped these buyers and sellers in 2020. Many of these opportunities were "off market." It's more important than ever to work with an agent that is local - 2021 is already heating up and I can help!

Buyers 257 Overhill Road, Orinda • 100 Estates Drive, Orinda • 20 Ellen Ct, Orinda • 100 Sandhill Road, Orinda • 50 Don Gabriel Way, Orinda • 3613 Shukla Ct, Walnut Creek • 76 Scenic Drive, Orinda • 57 Van Ripper Lane, Orinda • 10 Wild Lilac Way, Orinda

Sellers 257 Overhill Road, Orinda • 100 Sandhill Road, Orinda • 106 Brookline Street, Moraga • 101 Hillcrest Drive, Orinda • 12 Kimberly Drive, Moraga • 18 Charles Hill Cir, Orinda • 213 Overhill Road, Orinda • 76 Scenic Drive, Orinda • 14 Silverwood Ct, Orinda • 1091 Pereira Road, Martinez • Rheem Blvd, Orinda

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



FINDING THE *Right* FIT



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villageassociates.com | @villageassociates

Village
ASSOCIATES

925.254.0505 | It's Village. Of Course.



BREATHTAKING BELLA VISTA BEAUTY!

COMPASS



- • •
- • •
- • •
- • •
- • •

231 Los Santos Court, Moraga
4 Bed | 3.5 Bath | ± 3,313 Sq Ft | ±.46 Acre | 231LosSantosCourt.com | \$2,395,000



Set on a serene cul-de-sac sits this exquisite custom Bella Vista home with highly upgraded finishes throughout including a state-of-the-art Net Zero power island and climate control system (grid independent), 240-volt electric vehicle hook up in garage, and a gracious chef's kitchen open to family room with Dual Wolf Fuel Range, 84" Sub Zero Refrigerator and separate freezer, 84" Sub Zero wine column, and Miele dishwasher.

Top this off with a beautifully landscaped backyard with the most glorious views & the ultimate privacy.



BRYDON & IVES
REAL ESTATE TEAM

Lisa Brydon & Kristi Ives
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DRE 01408025 | 01367466












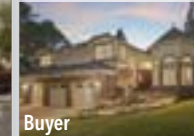




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HERE'S TO NEW BEGINNINGS

I was honored to help so many wonderful clients buy and sell in 2020 and grateful to donate more than \$14,000 to charity from closed transactions through my Local Giving Project: www.holcenberg.com/giving-back.

HOMES SOLD IN 2020

261 Claudia Court, Moraga  Seller	115 Devin Drive, Moraga  Seller	346 Birchwood Drive, Moraga  Seller	359 Donald Drive, Moraga  Buyer
2 Patrick Lane, Orinda  Buyer	236 Calle La Montana, Moraga  Seller	3 Corte Bombero, Orinda  Buyer	1069 Via Alta, Lafayette  Buyer
72 Corte Yolanda, Moraga  Seller	3303 Whitehaven Drive, Walnut Creek  Seller	338 Birchwood Drive, Moraga  Seller	149 Saddle Oaks Court, Walnut Creek  Buyer
390 Hermosa Court, Lafayette  Buyer	3736 Campolindo Drive, Moraga  Buyer	126 Brookfield Drive, Moraga  Seller	212 Sheila Court, Moraga  Seller

Wishing a wonderful 2021 for all and looking forward to surpassing donations this year.

Michelle Holcenberg

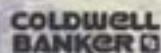
Coldwell Banker Top 100 SF Bay Area

www.holcenberg.com

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BRE #01373412



The Real Estate Year in Review

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In the condominium/town home category, Lafayette had 31 closings in 2020. This is up from 17 closings in 2019 in the MLS. This can be attributed to the higher number of new construction closings reported to the MLS. Sales prices ranged in 2020 from \$594,000 to \$2.36 million. Moraga had 71 closed units, up from 67 in 2019 and down from 85 in 2018. Sales ranged from \$329,000 to \$1.375 million. This includes “attached” homes in Moraga Country Club. Orinda had five closings while in 2019 there were six and 2018 there were nine and eight in 2017. They sold from \$635,000 to \$1.495 million.

It should always be noted that there are also a few direct sales that do not go through the MLS and they are not reported here. These may include some foreclosures that were sold at the courthouse as well as some sales between private individuals.

As of Jan. 11, there were 45 dwellings under contract per the MLS in the three communities combined, with asking prices of \$928,000 to \$5.495 million. It should be pointed out that there are no REOs and no short sales. Prices have continued to rise over the last few years and more owners now have equity in their homes and have not had to go the short-sale process or face foreclosure.

A comparison of year-end inventory in the three communities combined shows 49 homes on the market. Last January there were 53 homes on the market. Seasonally the biggest inventory is in the spring and early summer, however this cur-

rent number may point to another year with a combination of qualified buyers vying for a continued limited supply. The current asking prices range from \$989,000 to \$25 million in the three communities combined.

In Lamorinda in 2020, 55 homes sold for over \$3 million!

Interest rates have remained historically low and there is no pressure for them to rise in the short term for mortgages. Corporate relocations have slowed down due to their employees being able to work remotely and schools not being open. Many of these relocations will likely come to pass once offices and schools reopen. We have not seen many outbound relocations for people working for companies who have announced that their corporate headquarters will be moving out of the state.

The minimal amount of single-family new construction has helped keep supply and demand within a better balance than a lot of other neighboring communities.

The East Bay communities like Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, as well as Piedmont and several neighborhoods in Oakland and Berkeley, continue to benefit from their proximity to San Francisco where prices remain very high. Comparably speaking, the East Bay is still relatively more affordable.

The trend that began in 2011 continues today where in many situations in the three communities, the seller receives multiple offers and homes sell for above the list price. This, when coupled with a relatively low supply and a willingness by sellers to be realistic in their pricing should continue to fuel a strong market in 2021.

COMPASS

GENUINE
REAL ESTATE
EXPERTISE



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**TRACY
KEATON**
DRE 01051349
925.766.1137
tracy@tracykeaton.com
tracykeaton.com.com

CONTACT US TODAY
TO PUT OUR EXPERTISE
TO WORK FOR YOU

Thinking About Selling?

Chris Swim and Tracy Keaton

are the premier real estate team serving the Lamorinda communities. Knowledgeable and experienced leaders, this award-winning team brings more than 70 combined years of exceptional concierge service. They approach each real estate transaction as if it was their own, utilizing a skillset of proven marketing strategies, a broad network of resources, and an acute attention to detail that gets the job done. Recognized by their clients and peers for their unparalleled integrity, dedication, and reliability, they put their client's best interests in the forefront.

If you are thinking about selling . . .

You need to call Chris Swim and Tracy Keaton

**The Client Is Always #1
With Chris Swim and Tracy Keaton**

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"I'll treat you like a Rock Star"



COLDWELL BANKER
BRE #01501789

"Tom's personal interactions and continuous follow-up is why we continue to engage him." Tricia & Lou, NOV 2020

"I don't think I've ever worked with someone who works harder or cares more about his clients." Alan, DEC 2020

"Tom is more than a real estate agent, he's an advocate for his clients." Chloe & Gregory, NOV 2020

"Tom knows his stuff." Elizabeth & Jason, NOV 2020

"His drive and determination was probably stronger than ours." Lisa & Chris, NOV 2020

"Tom's enthusiasm and energy in this business are extraordinary." Suzanne & Hank, NOV 2020

"If you are buying or selling a home, do yourself a favor and hire Tom Stack!" Ray, OCT 2020

925.878.9964 | TomStack.com | Tom.Stack@camoves.com



Cynthia Brian's Mid-January Gardening Guide

- **RECORD** your landscaping escapades by writing in a garden journal online or in print. Your journals will track trends and seasons for the forthcoming years.
- **CLEAN** your garden tools in a bucket of vinegar and water for 20 minutes. Remove your tools and dip a sponge in a bowl of baking soda. Scrub off the rust.
- **SPROUT** onions and chives in your kitchen by cutting the greens, then putting the roots in a glass of water. Within a week you'll have fresh greens for your salads and soups. (Change the water daily.)
- **START** yams or sweet potatoes by rooting in a glass jar with water. This is a simple, fun growing opportunity for kids! When lush leaves emerge, it's time to plant outside to produce more yams or potatoes.
- **REPLENISH** bird feeders with nutritious seeds keeping our avian visitors nearby while supplementing their dietary requirements during the cold season.
- **READ** seed and bulb catalogs or magazines that feature gardens.
- **HARVEST** sugar snap peas, arugula, Swiss Chard, greens, and Brussels sprouts.
- **REDUCE** watering on houseplants as they rest for a winter's nap.
- **RESOLVE** to spend a minimum of 30 minutes per day outside. Studies indicated that every person needs at least 15 minutes of outdoor sunlight daily for necessary Vitamin D replenishment.
- **REFRAIN** from heavy pruning of your rose bushes until buds and blooms are finished.
- **PLANT** a container of aloe to use on burns and bites.
- **RECONNECT** and be renewed by nature.



Close up of jonquil. One stem will perfume a room.



Yam growing in a glass jar can be planted in the garden.



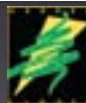
Cynthia Brian

Cynthia Brian, The Goddess Gardener, is available for hire to help you prepare for your spring garden. Raised in the vineyards of Napa County, Cynthia 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 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. Receive a FREE inspirational music DVD. Hire Cynthia for writing projects, garden consults, and inspirational lectures. Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com www.GoddessGardener.com

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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Renewal by nature

... continued from Page D1

Increasing your library of garden guides;
Removing a junk pile;
Stacking wood for a fireplace or firepit;
Enlarging bird habitats;
Replacing irrigation systems;
Reseeding lawns in spring;
Building a rain garden;
Starting a small vineyard;
Buying patio furniture and chaise lounges;
Planning a rock wall;
Assembling an animal enclosure;
Painting the fence; and
Shooting photos of your plants and the wildlife that visit.

Ideas are endless as we daily take time to pause, brainstorm, and learn something new. Foster enthusiasm for the new year by paying attention to the enrichment of the natural world.

Reawaken your senses and restore your passion. Design your future farm. Breathe!
Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.

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Even in trying times, we don't forget our *Enjoy More* philosophy. Our team strives to find creative ways to bring joy into residents' lives every day. Because to us, home means community and feeling like your best self.

As the New Year starts, we look forward to sharing brighter days together.

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ORINDA



56 Via Floreado

Exceptional 5 bed/ 4.5 bath 4248 sqft home on .54 acres w/ updated kitchen & panoramic views of Orinda. Minutes from Hwy 24.

\$2,595,000

ORINDA

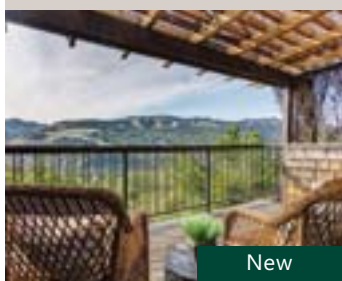


42 Oak Road

Spacious 4 bed + bonus room/ 3 bath 2860 sqft home on .28 acres. Close to town, BART & Hwy 24. Excellent schools!

\$1,595,000

ORINDA



New

217 Village Gate

Rare two level 3 bed/ 2.5 bath Orindawoods view property w/ 2 patio decks, 2 car garage, & large living areas.

\$1,435,000

ORINDA

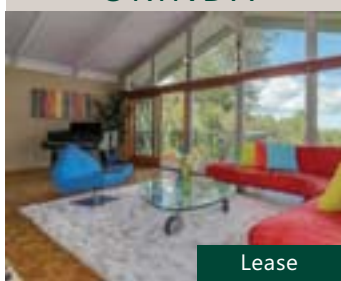


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\$550,000

ORINDA



Lease

8 Via San Inigo

Beautiful 4 bed/ 3 bath home w/ great commute, flat yard space, solar panels, electric car charger & views!

\$6,000/ Monthly

MORAGA



New

10 Gloria Court

One level 3 bed/ 2 bath rancher on cul-de-sac. Includes bonus family room, attic playroom & English style gardens.

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LAFAYETTE



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LAFAYETTE



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