

# Lamorinda

# OUR HOMES

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Lamorinda Home Sales

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## *Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian*

### **Top of the Morning!**



The beautiful blooms of the purple plum trees at Moraga Commons Park. Photos Cynthia Brian

#### **By Cynthia Brian**

*“May your thoughts be as glad as the  
shamrocks  
May your heart be as light as a song.  
May each day bring you bright  
Happy hours that stay with you all the year  
long.” ~ Irish blessing*  
My first introduction to the Emerald Isles

arrived when I was 7. First grade was the beginning of my education since preschool and kindergarten did not exist in our neck of the woods. A new school had been constructed with young teachers dressed from head to toe in black with white collars who arrived from a faraway land called Ireland. These exotic nuns told the most marvelous tales of a land where mischievous little people known as leprechauns lived in

tiny houses, worked as shoemakers, and hid their gold in pots at the end of the rainbow. Magical green shamrocks blanketed the fields and dales that were used by the legendary St. Patrick in the 4th century to explain the Holy Trinity to those he wanted to convert to Christianity. Best of all, we learned he had driven out the snakes.

Rattlesnakes were everywhere on our ranch so the thought of being able to run barefoot through a field of clover sounded spectacular. By the age of 9, letters were flying across the pond to my pen pal in Dublin and, finally when I was 18, I visited her in this mythical landscape to become an adopted Irishwoman. Since then, I've spent many days traversing the island, soaking up the hospitality of the people and the beauty of the stones, seascapes, landscapes, cottages, and shamrocks. Most charming are the tiny doors built at the base of trees where the leprechauns live.

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**A tree full of camellias**