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From left: Marshall Lockwood and Zach Raphael

Photo Gint Federas

## Campolindo wins 28-13 in emotion-filled rivalry game

By Jon Kingdon

There is nothing like a rivalry game between two local teams. It's bragging rights for the next year for the winner and something to point to for the next season for the loser. However, the 28-13 victory for Campolindo was emotional beyond words due to the passing of junior offensive lineman Elijah Klock's father earlier in the week.

Prior to the game, Acalanes coach Floyd Burnsed

and Campolindo coach Kevin Macy downplayed the idea that this was a rivalry game. "I think that when two teams are winning, they're always rivals," Burnsed said. "We stayed away from the rivalry stuff because it was a very emotional week for us," Macy said. "I told our kids that all the teams are in this together; we're all on the same team. We're playing football on a beautiful night so, it's pretty amazing that we're playing this game."

"Monday was a very hard night for Elijah and the team and none of us saw it coming," Macy continued.

"We tried to make a statement that we were behind Elijah 100% and that we were here for him and his family."

Mistakes proved to be the difference in the game. From the opening kickoff, which Acalanes misplayed, having to start on their own 8-yard line, errors be-deviled Acalanes all evening with three turnovers and not converting a fourth-and-2 late in the game, deep in Campolindo territory, which sealed the victory for the Cougars. Unlike the Dons, Campolindo suffered no turnovers.

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## 'Show of Kindness' supports Asian-run businesses in Lamorinda



Photo provided

From left: Mattea Rosen (age 9), Jennifer Rosen, Arianna Rosen (age 9), and Kalpana Gurung, owner of Kalpana Threading, located on Brown Avenue in Lafayette.

By Pippa Fisher

A Lafayette resident has organized a Lamorinda-wide outreach intended to show kindness and support for Asian-owned and operated businesses in the community following recent horrific attacks targeting Asians in the Bay Area and beyond.

Jennifer Rosen says that she found reports of the attacks really disturbing and while reading through the many outraged posts denouncing the violence on social media, she started to wonder what she could do to actually make Asians feel welcome and at home in this

community.

Rosen decided to organize a drive called "Show of Kindness" for residents to express their support by bringing flowers and other small gifts with cards signed online, to be personally delivered on March 23. She explains that the flowers represent brightness at this time.

"At first I thought I would do it alone, just in Lafayette," said Rosen, "But by reaching out to the community through social media I was able to reach all of Lamorinda."

Rosen and her daughters delivered cards and orchids to four Lafayette businesses – Marshall Steele Cleaners, Kalpana Threading, Johnny's

Donuts, and Rivulet Chiropractic.

Overall, the community as a whole delivered flowers and cards to 28 businesses in Lafayette, 15 in Orinda, and three in Moraga, including restaurants, dry cleaners, beauty and nail salons, chiropractors, and optometrists, according to Rosen, with more planned.

"The business owners and workers were deeply appreciative for our show of support and solidarity," said Rosen. "I am so impressed by everyone in our community who rallied together to let our fellow neighbors know that we will not tolerate hate in our community."

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Short-term success, long-term goals for Lamorinda girls lacrosse - Page C1



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## Mike Anderson wins Lafayette's Ann Denny award



Photo captured March 22 city council meeting

**Council and staff were all smiles as Mike Anderson was honored March 22 with the Ann Denny award.**

**By Pippa Fisher**

Former Mayor Mike Anderson received one of Lafayette's highest honors with the presentation of the Chamber of Commerce's Ann Denny award. And no one was more surprised than the recipient himself!

Acknowledging that the award is

usually given at a public event, President of the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce board of directors John McCormick made the presentation at the March 22 city council virtual meeting, saying that "this is as public as we get right now," but that they hope to do more later in the year to recognize Anderson.

The award is named in honor of

former Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Ann Denny, who held the position from 1993 until 2005. She passed away in 2015. The discretionary award – one that is not presented every year – was set up to recognize those who have made extraordinary contributions to the community, have shown long-term commitment to the future, have modeled excellence, have helped others achieve, have shown leadership skills that inspire others, and have helped create a vision for the future.

McCormick praised Anderson, noting his 16 years on council and time prior to that on the planning commission, but especially "for his steady leadership throughout a tumultuous 2020, during which time the city faced the coronavirus, wild fires, power outages, demonstrations and multiple business shutdowns and throughout all that he led us with dignity, transparency, common sense, and always with a smile."

Anderson is only the fourth person to receive this award, following in the footsteps of Stanley Middle School Band Director Bob Athayde, former

Police Chief Eric Christensen and former Mayor Don Tatzin.

Lafayette residents Kathy Merchant and Larry Blodgett both spoke of his calm demeanor. "I've never heard a biting comment from you in a public meeting," said Merchant.

Blodgett spoke of Anderson's level-headedness, objectivity, fairness, thoughtfulness, thoroughness, kindness and his unfailingly good-naturedness.

Former Mayor Don Tatzin weighed in too. "I doubt that anyone could have met the moment of the last two years as well as you did," he said.

Members of the council echoed the same sentiments and specifically noted the model of excellence he provided for them.

Anderson himself, clearly very surprised by the award, said he was honored and that he is looking forward to a time when the community will once again be able to gather for events such as Business Person of the Year, and the State of the City address.

"It's the community that moves you forward; that keeps you doing this," he said.

## Day of Hope and Healing

**By Pippa Fisher**

Lafayette City Council participated in a county-wide tribute honoring those who have lost their lives to COVID-19 on the one-year anniversary of the first death from the virus in the county at its March 22 meeting, reflecting on the

milestone with a moment of silence.

Mayor Susan Candell noted that as of that morning 734 county residents had died of COVID-19, and there had been 64,642 confirmed cases in the county. Within Lafayette, as of that morning, there had been four deaths

and 573 confirmed cases. Candell recalled that former Mayor Mike Anderson had declared a local emergency due to the virus on March 15.

Anderson said that he would not have realized the potential for the situation to become so serious but for talking to Council Member

Cam Burks who, he said, "brought the fire to the conversation." Describing Burks as the "essential piece," he said he and City Manager Niroop Srivatsa gained perspective, acting swiftly to declare a local emergency. And he credited former Council Member Steven Bliss who was consistently concerned for those suffering, closing each city council meeting by acknowledging those lives lost and impacted by the virus.

Anderson also credited city staff for a "wonderful approach to keep the city alive," along with Srivatsa's work to employ Townsend Associates to provide help to small busi-

nesses. "It was a well coordinated, positive effort in a circumstance of great, great concern."

Candell also expressed her gratitude to city staff and extended that message to all grocery stores, businesses and restaurants, and said she is looking forward to reopening.

Candell said that in good news, the tier metrics are all going down. "More than 500,000 doses have been issued county-wide with 17,000 doses given in Lafayette alone," she said. She urged everyone to get vaccinated.

And with that the council observed a moment's silence.

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## Lafayette elementary schools ramp up for five-day, on-campus learning

By Pippa Fisher

Lafayette elementary schools are several steps closer to opening five days a week for all students and have their eye on a mid-April goal. And to the great relief of many, such a move will also see an end to asynchronous learning.

The school board unanimously approved a motion to implement a return to full in-person learning for TK through fifth grade beginning on April 12 at a special meeting March 17 – a move welcomed by many parents and teachers. Distance learning will still be available for those who wish to remain off-campus.

The decision is largely the result of studies, such as a January study in Massachusetts, that appear to show that, combined with mask-wearing, lower physical distancing policies can be adopted in school settings without negatively impacting student or staff safety.

At the time of the special meeting school leaders were sifting through obscurely worded guidance from the county regarding safe distances, and had settled on four feet for their standard going forward, which would allow whole classes to gather together, masked.

This however was followed just a few days later by an announcement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that three feet is sufficient distance for children wearing face masks within classrooms, obviously benefiting the district's plans to reopen.

The six-foot distance standard will still apply during snack time and for all outdoor activity, as well as between all adults and staff on campus, including between staff and students. Children will be dismissed to return home for lunch and to allow for continued distance learning of special subjects, such as art and music.

Stanley Middle School returned to on-campus, hybrid learning March 18. Lafayette Schools Superintendent Richard Whitmore said the plan there is to see how that goes. The middle school schedule is more complex, making the logistics somewhat more complicated.

"We also know that many of our distance learning students are now interested in returning to in-person instruction at Stanley," says Whitmore. "To that end,

Principal Betsy Balmat is surveying these families ... to determine the extent of this interest, and our highest priority is finding a way to offer these students the opportunity to return in-person to school."

These decisions come as feelings have been running high amongst parents, whose children had not been physically in school for a year. In fact those students in TK and kindergarten had never even set foot in a classroom. And while most of the parents who called in to the meeting to give comments welcomed the move, several continued to push for a return to a full school day.

Governing School Board President Rob Sturm said that he is thrilled that students are finally able to be back on campus at the elementary schools and he is looking forward to receiving survey feedback for Stanley Middle School, particularly in light of new California Department of Public Health guidance on physical distancing between students in schools, reduced to three feet, which will create expanded onsite in-person options.

"It would be an understatement to say that this has been a challenging year for our administrators, staff, and families," says Sturm. "With that in mind, I am so grateful for the steady and thoughtful leadership of our Superintendent Richard Whitmore, his unwavering commitment to reopening schools safely, and the partnership and dedication he and his administrative team have shown as they have had to navigate ever-changing rules and regulatory requirements."

Sturm continues, "We believe we have the very best teachers and staff, and they have proven their incredible value time and time again during these unprecedented times. I also appreciate the involvement of our parents, and their input in helping to get us to the right place for our community. We can't wait to see all our students' smiling faces together on campus soon."

District staff and Stanley Middle School administrators will be presenting an update to the governing board at a special meeting on April 7, and will share more details at that time regarding Stanley's return, the new guidance, and how the shift in physical distancing requirements might impact the middle school.



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**Lafayette Public Meetings**

#### City Council

Regular Meeting  
Monday, April 12, 7 p.m.  
Teleconference via City of Lafayette's YouTube Channel:  
http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube

#### Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, April 5, 7 p.m.  
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube  
http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube

#### Design Review

Wednesday, April 14, 7 p.m. Zoom  
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube  
http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube



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## Small Cell Wireless issues discussed during town council meeting



Image Bigstock

By Vera Kochan

The Federal Communications Committee issued a ruling in September 2018, making it difficult for municipalities to avoid the installation of 5G equipment for small cell wireless facilities, titled: Accelerating Wireless Broadband by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WT Docket No. 17-79 (the "Order").

Although the Order went into effect on Jan. 14, 2019, there was an established deadline for local jurisdictions to publish compliant aesthetic standards by April 15, 2019.

According to a March 24 presentation for the council by Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg and Assistant Town Attorney Denise Bazzano, "Planning staff presented to the town council on March 13, 2019, various options for revisions to Moraga Municipal Code Chapter 8.144 'Wireless Communications Facilities, Satellite Dishes and Miscellaneous Antennas', in response to the Order. Staff noted that, at that time, the town had regulations in place regarding wireless communications facilities in MCC Chapter 8.144, but no regulations pertaining to small cell facilities and did not reflect the various changes that had been made to federal regulations relating to other types of wireless communications facilities since the initial adoption of Chapter 8.144 in 1999."

The town adopted the aesthetic criteria and development standards Ordinance No. 282 in April 2019, found in MMC section 8.144.035, and added a more comprehensive update addressing the inconsistencies with FCC regulations. At the time, the town had expressed a desire to update the entire Chapter 8.144, as well as monitor other municipalities' legal efforts in challenging the Order.

Battenberg and Bazzano reported, "Although the Order was challenged by a number of cities and other public agencies, including the city and county of San Francisco, San Jose and Burlingame the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld most of the provisions of the Order." The report continues, "However, the Ninth Circuit did vacate and remand certain portions of the Order relating to the requirement that aesthetic regulations be objective and no more burdensome than those applied to other infrastructure deployments stating that the FCC lacked a reasoned explanation."

The council is now requesting staff to update the town's small cell wireless facility ordinance along with a project timeline and cost estimate. Staff is also taking into consideration the many public concerns regarding potential amendments.

Key aspects for review regarding Developmental Standards involve location preferences (add, delete, modify existing standards); aesthetic and landscaping re-

quirements (add, delete, modify existing standards); noise (potentially add standards); and radiofrequency monitoring and insurance requirements (potentially add standards).

Procedural Standards up for review include public notice (potentially add standards); and use of technical consultants and licensed engineers in review process (potentially add standards). Town staff feels that a finalized draft of the ordinance could be completed in approximately 60 days, at which point it would be presented to the planning commission for a recommendation before going to the town council for consideration in June or July.

Legal costs for all necessary services are estimated at \$20,000 and are appropriated to Account 101-520-026-14 Legal Fees - General from the General Fund Reserve for Fiscal Year 2020-21. Legal services will be provided by Burke, Williams, & Sorensen who has experience in this direction. However, the Town Attorney's Office recommends the additional legal services of Harriett A. Steiner of Best, Best and Krieger (a telecommunications practice group with 20 years experience in the field). Council members agreed that if Steiner's services become necessary, her fees are to be included in the \$20,000 budget and not to exceed.

The council voted 4-0 (Council Member Teresa Onda was absent) in favor of the appropriation.



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## Test confirms captured coyote did not have rabies

By Vera Kochan

The coyote that DNA linked to five known attacks on humans in Lafayette and Moraga was captured on March 11 and later euthanized in order to perform a rabies test. The UC Davis veterinary staff performed the test and reported the results to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on March 17.

"The results are in and are negative, so that's good," stated CDFW's Captain Patrick Foy. "We had to respectfully notify each of the families first which took until the evening. It was a 38-pound male. We're hoping the community has some additional level of relief that rabies was not a factor in the local coyote population."

When asked if Foy had any theories as to why the coyote in question exhibited such bold and aggressive be-

havior toward its victims, he responded, "Lots of questions about why attacks of this nature occur, especially after taking rabies out of the equation, but we have no way of speculating on the motive of an attacking bear, mountain lion, or coyote in this case, other than engaging in its natural predatory behavior."

The Humane Society of the United States confirms that a coyote that doesn't run away from humans has most likely been fed within the area by handouts, pet food left outside, or by gaining access to the contents of garbage cans. "Often, coyote attacks are preventable by modifying human behavior and educating people about ways to prevent habituation."

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**Town Council** Wednesday, April 14, 7 p.m.  
**Planning Commission** Tuesday, April 6, 7 p.m.,  
**Park and Recreation Commission:**  
 Tuesday, April 19, 7 p.m.,  
**Moraga School District Board Meetings :**  
 Special Board Meeting Tuesday, April 13, 6 p.m.  
 www.moraga.k12.ca.us. See also AUHSD meeting page A2



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# Lamorinda councils hold annual tri-city meeting

By Vera Kochan

In what can be described as a Lamorinda “State of the Union Address,” council members and staff from Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda held a special Zoom meeting March 25 to keep each other and residents up-to-date on tri-city news. Also joining the meeting were state Sen. Steven Glazer, Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and Townsend Public Affairs State Capitol Director Casey Elliott.

Glazer kicked off the informative meeting with discussions regarding proposed legislation while stressing the importance of having good communication with everyone. Some of the legislation includes the state’s extended tenant eviction moratorium and billions of dollars in rent relief; \$2 billion in grants to help businesses stay afloat during COVID; the state’s own version of the federal stimulus relief payments; \$6 billion to help reopen schools; wildfire prevention, affordable housing, and economic recovery; proposed legislation to open training camps for forestry management to prevent wildfires; created a path for former law offenders to enter into the workforce; legislation to deal with short-term rentals that violate local ordinances; creating a mental health bill that increases funding, has better oversight and creates reforms; and the Broadband For All initiative that makes sure everyone has access to the internet.

Bauer-Kahan discussed the importance of maintaining funding to organizations like The Food Bank during COVID. California is working hard to keep small businesses open and she reminded owners to contact either herself or Glazer if they needed help navigating through the pandemic – Bauer-Kahan can be reached at (925) 328-1515 and Glazer at (925) 258-1176. Other legislative news included: introducing AB10 to force schools to reopen; working with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District and Caltrans toward continued fire mitigation efforts; hold utilities accountable through AB 21 for necessary vegetation manage-

ment work; creating local ordinances that require investor-owned utilities to contact MOFD if they are coming into a city for fire mitigation burns; introducing a Hate Crimes bill that would raise penalties for anyone who makes a terrorist threat on a protected class of people; and working on AB 988 – where if anyone needs mental health assistance they can call 988 (much like calling 911).

Elliott gave an overview of the American Rescue Plan Act (COVID Relief Funds). On March 11, President Biden signed the Plan into law, which contains \$1.9 trillion in funding to help accelerate economic recovery from COVID and represents the sixth federal relief package since the pandemic began. It provides assistance for individuals in the form of stimulus checks; Pandemic Unemployment Compensation; rental assistance; earned income credit; and expanded child tax credit. Assistance for businesses have included expanded eligibility for PPP; assistance for restaurants; additional Economic Injury Disaster Assistance Loans; and modifications to the Shuttered Venue Grant Program.

Lamorinda’s town and city managers gave a brief discussion on how each municipality was dealing with business assistance programs during COVID. Both Lafayette and Orinda have significantly relaxed regulations in order to ease the burden for businesses struggling to stay afloat during the pandemic, as well as keeping a receptive line of communication as to the owners’ needs. Moraga has made available a Small Business Grant Program that assists small businesses to operate during COVID. To date the town has distributed 10 grants totaling \$2,000 each.

The final portion of the meeting was devoted to Lamorinda’s Advanced Planning Initiatives and any major current development projects. Lafayette has been busy with its General Plan update and response to AB 2923, which affects zoning requirements. City leaders created an advisory committee and held public meetings to pro-

vide input to city staff. The city continues to be involved in community engagement through PlanLafayette.org; EngagementHQ; social media; Weekly Roundup; Lafayette Vistas; direct mailings; and videos. Future visions for Lafayette include workshops; a virtual walking tour; and weekly activities on EngagementHQ. There are four major developments in the works, in addition to four major housing entitlement projects and four major housing projects under construction.

Moraga has recently finished its long awaited Moraga Center Specific Plan Implementation Project and Development Update. First adopted in 2010, it allows for a mixed-use development in the heart of town with retail and entertainment; office space; a boutique hotel; assisted living/congregate care facility; and varying degrees of residential housing. MCSP also used an advisory committee for input in such matters as the Moraga Ranch Overlay District; shared parking; a town square; streets, trails and bridges; and creek and channel setbacks. Moraga’s new housing includes the Bellavista development and Los Encinos (which is currently under construction). The Moraga Country Club has plans for an expansion which includes a facility update, a new fitness facility and additional new amenities for its members.

Orinda’s growth will come in the form of the ConnectOrinda Plan with the main objectives being to connect the two sides of downtown; support future pedestrian access along San Pablo Creek; preserve Orinda’s unique sense of space; produce grant-eligible projects that can be funded; beautify downtown; activate the library terraces; and build a consensus for the final plan through community engagement. There is also the Downtown Orinda Precise Plan which began in early 2020. It too involves public input on issues regarding downtown commercial; downtown office and public areas excluding the BART station. Major Projects Update includes the Wilder

subdivision; J & J Ranch subdivision along with the Moraga Adobe; The Station Project of retail and office space; and a Senior Housing Project.

All in all, the Lamorinda

area has not remained dormant during the past year of the pandemic, but has continued to conduct government almost in a business-as-usual manner.

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For more information, regarding MCF visit our website at [www.moragacommunityfoundation.org](http://www.moragacommunityfoundation.org).

Please email a letter of interest by Monday, May 3rd to [applicants@moragacommunityfoundation.org](mailto:applicants@moragacommunityfoundation.org).

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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

**Orinda Public Meetings**

**City Council**

**Regular Meeting:**

Tuesday, April 13, 7 p.m. By Teleconference Only

**Planning Commission**

Tuesday, April 13, 7 p.m. By Teleconference Only



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## Council approves three-way stop signs at Lost Valley, Valley View and Don Gabriel Intersection



Map provided

By Sora O'Doherty

The Orinda City Council heard hours of public comment for and against proposed stop signs at a controversial three-way intersection at its March 16 meeting. Having considered a number of ways to increase safety in the area, the council decided to approve the stop signs, but only as a first step in a campaign that may also include speed cushions and/or improved signage in the area. Official authorization will come on the consent calendar at the April 13 council meeting and Larry Theis, director of public works and assistant city manager, said the actual signs could be installed within a week after that. He agreed that the temporary sandwich signs will remain in place until the stop signs are installed.

At its Jan. 25 meeting, The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee recommended that city staff present the proposed installation of all-way stop signs at the intersection to the city council. The staff report said that TSAC members in favor voiced agreement with the residents that the installation

of all-way stop signs would increase safety, in particular to pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians. City staff, however, did not recommend installation of the stop signs, maintaining that traffic in the area was not sufficiently high to warrant it, and that in such circumstances, stop signs could lead to an increase in rear-end traffic accidents. This did recommend that the council consider other traffic calming measures for the area.

Travis Blaschek-Miller, a volunteer with TSAC, who had been elected TSAC chair the night before the city council meeting, told the council, "Our bureaucracy is broken here. This group has faced hurdle after hurdle." TSAC prioritizes school routes, Blaschek-Miller told the council, and voted 3-2 to recommend the stop signs.

The council took into account that Don Gabriel Way is used by students to walk to Del Rey Elementary School. A number of those who commented about the stop signs were parents of Del Rey students, as well as staff of the Orinda Union School District. Alicia Shada, who lives on Valley View Drive, explained how her three children who

bike to Del Rey have to leave 25 minutes early in order to miss high school students who are driving. She asked for both stop signs and speed cushions, as recommended by the TSAC.

Stuart House, OUSD director of facilities and newly elected vice-chair of the TSAC, told the council, "With respect to Larry Theis and the public works department, we felt very strongly" that stop signs are warranted because, he said, "this particular route has had speeders going up to 90 miles an hour, and goes by an equestrian center with children, some with disabilities, crossing the road."

Liz Daooust, president of OUSD board of trustees, was alerted to this issue two years ago and met with Stuart House and the neighborhood committee. As a runner who runs Lost Valley several times a week, she said that she has had to jump off the road to avoid cars. She also expressed great concern for students in the neighborhood and for children who attend Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center. Executive Director of Xenophon Jean Johnstone told the council that the Center is "ground zero for this issue." She explained that the center straddles both sides of Don Gabriel Way and serves vulnerable populations including veterans with PTSD and children with disabilities. "We do not feel safe," she said. Speeding cars "spook the horses while vulnerable people are riding, and we can't use pastures across the street."

Daooust urged the council to adopt the stop signs, citing the great difference made to Glorietta Elementary School by the safety measures taken

by the council. "Safety near our schools is paramount and time is of the essence," she said, since students are now back in school. "I understand that stop signs don't meet all the metrics, but safety feels more important than those metrics."

The area surrounding the intersection has been of concern to residents for years. There is a sharp curve on Lost Valley Drive where it passes a PG&E substation. Council Member Darlene Gee said that the council's concern is "making sure that whatever we do is truly effective." Council members have had personal experience of the traffic dangers in the area. Council Member Nick Kosla revealed that 30 years ago he was involved in a massive accident at that intersection.

"I thought there would be a three way stop already," he said, adding that he supported a three way stop sign. Vice Mayor Dennis Fay said he also supported the stop signs, although he had some concerns and mixed feelings. "Our son was just out of high school and his car went off the road there," he said, adding that he always thought the city needed to do something about that curve. Fay believes that speed cushions are more effective, but said, "if we do the stop signs, we can't forget the curve and Don Gabriel Way."

Some speakers were opposed to the proposed stop signs on the grounds that they would cause inconvenience and might hinder an evacuation in an emergency. Although the council agreed to the stop signs, they will continue to look for ways to make the three roads in the area safer for all in the future.

## Orinda city council honors city manager on theater marquee



Former Mayor Eve Phillips recently joined the current Orinda City Council, Vice Mayor Dennis Fay, Mayor Amy Worth, and council members Nick Kosla and Inga Miller under the Orinda Theatre marquee that was commissioned to honor retiring City Manager Steve Salomon.  
 - S. O'Doherty

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## Orinda Wayfinding project wins award



By Sora O'Doherty

The American Public Works Association (APWA) Northern California Chapter honored Orinda at the 2021 Project Awards Event in February by recognizing the Orinda Wayfinding Signage Project as Project of the Year under the Transportation category. The project helps pedestrians and bicyclists find the regional transportation network (BART) and navigate both downtown districts: the Village district and the Theatre district. In addition to providing wayfinding information, the Orinda Historical Society and the Orinda Landmarks Committee provided a description and photo that each of the 13 totem signs display about Orinda's history and landmarks. These include Orinda's historic Theatre District, previously known as "The Crossroads," the Orinda Library, the first

firehouse, and the de LaVeaga train station.

The city council at its March 16 meeting recognized volunteers who reviewed the design plans and provided valuable feedback and thanked their partners, including Orinda residents, the Orinda Arts Council, Orinda Garden Club, Orinda Historical Society, Orinda Historical Landmarks Committee, Orinda Library, Friends of Orinda Library, Public Works Aesthetic Review Committee, Contra Costa Transportation Authority (for funding), Square Peg Design (designer), Park Engineering (construction management), and Turner Signs & Graphics (contractor) that made this project successful.

The City also recognized Kevin McCourt of the Public Works and Engineering Services Department for his efforts in completing this project

successfully.

Director of Public Works and Assistant City Manager Larry Theis said that the project was mostly grant funded and that it coordinated with BART wayfinding system. Theis said that Kevin McCourt took it from design into construction, and praised him for having a keen eye on aesthetics, and being good with graphics.

McCourt thanked three consultant groups. "I'm very happy with how this turned out, and I hope everyone else is happy too," he said.

Mayor Amy Worth said that she rides her electric bike around downtown Orinda and applauded the project as an amenity for people who are walking or biking downtown.

Photo Provided

**Assistant Engineer Kevin McCourt stands beside one of Orinda's award-winning Wayfinding Signs.**

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# Orinda gears up for fire protection with new oversight commission, chipper and vehicle



Chipper – Manufacturer: Bandit Model: 15XP Drum Style Brush Bandit 139 hp engine

## By Sora O'Doherty

At its first meeting on March 10, the newly formed Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission (SSTOC) – the successor to the very influential Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Commission, which was formed to oversee expenditures of the previously approved sales tax revenue and has now been disbanded – received and considered a report on the chipper program and the plan for the city of Orinda to purchase a chipper and a truck to tow it.

Although the recently passed sales tax increase in Orinda is a general tax, and therefore the city council is not obligated to spend it in

any particular way, the council is intent on keeping its promises made during the campaign, including making the first focus of spending the tax on increasing fire safety in Orinda – and it's the impetus behind the council agreeing on the rapid purchase of the truck and chipper.

The commission raised several questions regarding the efficacy of purchasing over renting equipment and whether the chipper selected would limit the city program to tree limbs of six-inches or less. Staff explained that the practical reasons for the limit include worker safety, the ability to efficiently remove debris, the ability to remove more fuel by including grasses and brush and the

potential reduction of services that could be provided if larger pieces of wood were to require more time, in addition to the benefit of maintaining consistency with the existing Moraga-Orinda Fire District chipper program.

The commissioners concluded that in view of the urgency of the upcoming fire season, there is a need to prioritize getting the program into operation rather than spending additional time on research. Staff reported that it may be appropriate to discuss the matter in the future when replacement equipment is required or when there is a program focused specifically on trees, as opposed to branches.

... continued on Page A10

# Fuel abatement deadline looms for local property owners



Dead trees at 46 Cedar Terrace before ArborWorks Photos provided

## By Jennifer Wake

When it comes to making the Lamorinda community safe from wildfires, especially after a dry winter, time is of the essence. But when dead trees, brush or grasses need removal from your property, time isn't always on your side.

For one Orinda property owner, time ran out on Sept. 17, 2020. The Moraga-Orinda Fire District board of directors held a public hearing

March 17 to address the costs incurred to remove dead trees at 46 Cedar Terrace. According to a report provided to the board by MOFD Fire Marshal Jeff Isaacs, "In accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, the Board of Directors must hold a public hearing to confirm the costs of abatement incurred by the Fire District in abating separate parcels of land. The purpose of the hearing is to review any objections from property owners legally responsible to be

assessed." The total cost of abatement was \$14,610 – \$4,870 of which was MOFD administrative costs.

The property owner, Jandali Nasser, and his son spoke during the March 17 MOFD board meeting via Zoom to ask for a reduction in the costs, and to explain their situation.

While the property owner had started the work to clear 12 dead trees on his property, the time it was taking and the debris it was generating became problematic. Nasser was sent an absentee landlord letter following an inspection on June 19, 2020 by MOFD Fuels Mitigation Manager Gordon Graham. After two more inspections in July, a public hearing was held July 15, 2020 due to failure to comply with the Notice to Abate order. During an inspection on Aug. 7, 2020, Graham noted that slight mitigation had been done, but there was still much to do.

Graham visited the property four more times before MOFD stepped in on Sept. 17, 2020, using a certified contractor, ArborWorks, which had the property cleared to fire code standards within two days.

Prior to that work being done, MOFD Fire Chief Dave Winnacker at the March 17 hearing noted that "dead trees were lining the road, logs were dropped down the hill and dead trees were on the ground," adding, "Folks doing the work did not appear to be contractors." According to Winnacker, more work needs to be done before the June mitigation deadline. "There are still dead trees on the property."

According to Isaacs, most



ArborWorks Completion

property owners don't realize that the fire code requires dead trees be removed.

"The Fire Code requires that dead, dying or diseased trees to be removed from all parcels," Isaacs said. "We recommend that property owners that are concerned or have questions about trees on their property speak with a certified arborist or Registered Professional Forester. Property owners are required to maintain their property year-round." The deadline for annual and seasonal grass is May 31.

"Homeowners will create defensible space around their home, but fail to maintain their entire property as required in the Fire Code," Isaacs said. "Parcels that are one acre and under require complete abatement of the

property, not just around the home."

While MOFD cannot recommend specific contractors, and cannot endorse them or imply approval of the quality of work performed, the MOFD website (mofd.org) does list five contractors who have contacted the district, including ArborWorks, Inc., East Bay Tree Service, Expert Tree Service, Firerready and Scott Carr. The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District website (cccfd.org) also lists potential contractors.

And while tree removal may not be as extensive for some as on the Orinda property, no matter what mitigation is required, the time to start is now. With the height of fire season just around the corner, the clock is ticking.

For information on Fuel Abatement requirements, visit: [www.mofd.org/our-district/fuels-mitigation-fire-prevention/hazardous-wildfire-fuels-reduction-program](http://www.mofd.org/our-district/fuels-mitigation-fire-prevention/hazardous-wildfire-fuels-reduction-program) (Lafayette residents, visit <https://www.cccfd.org/wildfireprep>) To see a list of contractors that have worked with MOFD, visit: [www.mofd.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=1454](http://www.mofd.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=1454)

## Fire District Public Meetings

**Moraga-Orinda Fire District**  
Board of Directors  
Wednesday, April 21, 6 p.m.  
For meeting times and agendas, visit [www.mofd.org](http://www.mofd.org)

**ConFire**  
Board of Directors  
Tuesday, April 27, 1:00 p.m.  
For meeting times and agendas, visit [www.cccfd.org](http://www.cccfd.org)



## Public Safety

**Emergency response:**  
Emergency: 24 Hours 911  
Police Dispatch: 24 Hours  
925-284-5010  
Nixle: Text your zip code to 888777 or go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)  
**Lafayette Police Department:**  
3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd. 925-283-3680  
Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt  
925-299-3221  
Police Department Tip Line  
94549Tip@gmail.com  
Police Department Traffic Issues  
94549Traffic@gmail.com  
**Moraga Police Department:**  
329 Rheem Blvd., 925-888-7055  
Chief of Police, Jon King ext. 7049  
**Orinda Police Department:**  
22 Orinda Way 925-254-6820  
Chief of Police, David M. Cook  
925-254-6820  
Orindatip@cityoforinda.org

## Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report

**March 7 - March 20**  
Alarms 32  
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 14  
Traffic 41  
Suspicious Circumstances 10  
Suspicious Subject 13  
Suspicious Vehicle 17  
Service to Citizen 40  
Patrol Req./Security Check 37  
Public/School Assembly Check 1  
Supplemental Report 18  
Vacation House Check 3



Welfare Check 18  
Ordinance Violation 2  
**Vehicle violations**  
Auto Burglary  
1600 Block Springbrook Rd.  
DUI Misd  
Eb Sr 24 Oak Hill Rd Central Lafayette  
Hit And Run Misdemeanor  
3800 Block Quail Ridge Rd.  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
1200 Block Panorama Dr.  
900 Block Dewing Ave.  
Reckless Driving  
Moraga Rd./Via Granada, Mor Happy Valley Rd./Deer Hill Rd.  
Old Tunnel Rd./Pleasant Hill Rd.  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)  
Pleasant Hill Rd./Eb Sr 24 Merriewood Dr./Indian Way  
Tc - Property Damage  
Moraga Rd./St Marys Rd.  
Deer Hill Rd./Laurel Dr.  
Acalanes Rd./El Nido Ranch Rd.  
3800 Block Happy Valley Rd.  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./2Nd St Regio Ct./Ameno Dr.  
**Other criminal activity**  
Fraud Credit Card  
3900 Block Cowan Rd.  
Fraud False Pretenses  
1000 Block Oak Hill Rd.  
Grand Theft  
3300 Block Woodview Dr.  
Grand Theft From Veh  
1St St./Deer Hill Rd.  
Grand Theft Veh Parts  
800 Block Revere Rd.  
Identity Theft  
Police Department  
10 Block Diablo Oaks Way  
Petty Theft  
700 Block Moraga Rd.  
3400 Block Moraga Blvd.  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
1100 Block Sierra Vista Way

Shoplift  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (4)  
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
**Nuisance to the Community**  
Disturbance-domestic  
900 Block Paulson Ct.  
1000 Block Carol Ln.  
Disturbing The Peace  
Old Tunnel Rd./El Curtola Blvd.  
Loud Music  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Loud Noise  
Dewing Ave./Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Public Nuisance  
Los Palos Dr./Glenside Dr.  
3400 Block School St.  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Vandalism  
3300 Block Springhill Rd.  
**Other**  
Animal Cruelty  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Harassment  
3300 Block Berta Ln.  
3800 Block Los Arabis Dr.  
Phone Harass  
900 Block Dewing Ave.  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Threats  
3100 Block Rohrer Dr.  
Trespass  
3800 Block Happy Valley Rd.  
Trespass W/ Vehicle  
Deer Hill Rd./Miller Dr.  
Unwanted Guest  
3200 Block Old Tunnel Rd.  
Violation Custody Order  
3200 Block Marlene Dr.  
3900 Block Rancho Rd.

## Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report

**March 9 - March 22**  
Alarms 14  
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 9  
Traffic 30  
Suspicious Circumstances 7  
Suspicious Subject 3  
Suspicious Vehicle 4  
Service to Citizen 43  
Patrol Req./Security Check 16  
Supplemental Report 28  
Vacation House Check 0  
Welfare Check 7  
Public/School Assembly Check 2  
**Vehicle violations**  
Accident Property  
200 Block Willowbrook Ln.  
Auto Burglary  
1300 Block Camino Peral  
20 Block Freitas Dr.  
DUI Misd  
Moraga Rd./Canyon Rd.  
Excessive Speed  
Moraga Way/Miramonte Dr.  
St. Andrews Dr./Augusta Dr.  
St. Marys Rd./Moraga Rd.  
St. Andrews Dr./Moraga Way (2)  
Moraga Way/School St.  
Moraga Rd./Delores Ct.  
Moraga Rd./Draeger Dr.  
200 Block Rheem Blvd.  
Moraga Rd./Alta Mesa Dr. (2)  
Reckless Driving  
Moraga Rd./Moraga Way  
Campolindo Dr./Paseo Del Rio  
Moraga Rd./Ascot Dr.  
Moraga Rd./St. Marys Dr.  
Tc - Property Damage  
Moraga Way/School St.



**Other criminal activity**  
Grand Theft  
100 Block S Sandringham  
Camino Pablo Rd. School  
700 Block Camino Ricardo  
Petty Theft  
1900 Block Ascot Dr. (2)  
10 Block Bal Tusrol  
Camino Pablo Rd./School St.  
**Nuisance to the Community**  
Civil Disturbance  
100 Block Shuey Dr.  
Disturbing The Peace  
20 Block Williams Dr.  
Drunk In Public  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Lafayette Cir.  
Loud Music  
1400 Block Camino Peral  
Loud Noise  
Rimer Dr./Juniper Way  
10 Block Southard Ct.  
Loud Party  
Ascot Dr./Moraga Rd.  
Vandalism  
1200 Block School St.  
1100 Block Larch Ave.  
1300 Block Camino Peral  
**Other**  
Mentally Ill Commit  
70 Block Miramonte Dr.  
400 Block Stonefield Pl.  
Revoked License  
Canyon Rd./Sanders Dr.  
Trespass  
10 Block Pimentel Ct.



**Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report**  
will be back next time



# Letters to the editor

Opinion by Ian Kallen

It is true that there are a number of multi-residential housing projects in downtown Lafayette. City Manager Srivatsa's observation that Lafayette needs "The Terraces" is not disingenuous. The project, which includes affordable units, is based upon California state law mandating up-zoning for most zoning classifications. City Manager Srivatsa does not "kowtow" to anyone, but she does obey the law, City ordinances and City policies.

The assault on Lafayette comes from Sacramento via laws and bills, including AB 68, AB 1485, SB 13, SB 330, SB 9, SB 10, and many, many others. Lafayette fights tooth and nail for our rights and local control of our own zoning policies. Mayor Candell and City Council Member Burks, especially, as well as Council Members Gerringer, Anduri and Dawson, work to mitigate or eliminate these state zoning mandates. This fight is part of their jobs as Council Members, and they

do it well with support and help from our City staff and other regional organizations.

Population growth in Lafayette remained flat from the 1980s until about 2015. Since 2015 we have welcomed about 2,500 new citizens. Our city officials do not measure success by population growth. Rather, they measure it by the successful, downtown retail and dining opportunities, the distinguished architecture of buildings such as the Lafayette Library and Learning Center, the Veterans Memorial Building, and the Town Center projects. They measure success by the excellent condition of our roads and drains, the pleasant ambience of our public spaces and public art, the involvement of our volunteer citizen commissions/committees, our Community Center and recreational facilities, and the fiscal health of the City. The list goes on.

I, for one, commend our City officials and our City staff for their dedication, hard work and commitment

to the betterment of life in Lafayette as they navigate new state laws.

Erling Horn  
Lafayette

### San Pablo Creek 'Oversight'

The City of Orinda is the federal floodplain manager for San Pablo Creek in downtown Orinda. As such, the City is responsible for ensuring adequate flood protection for our downtown businesses and residents. Unfortunately, the City depends on protection from a creek channel that unraveled nearly as soon as it was built in 1958. If you don't believe me, look at the huge slabs of broken concrete in the creek behind Vintage House. Once built for protection against a 50-year flood event, the system now offers protection against, at best, a 25-year event. Flooding of the downtown in the vicinity of Safeway is inevitable.

The good news is that the Downtown Precise Plan process secured consultants to explore improvement of

flood protection for the Village, while also examining restoration options that would establish public amenities, such as a restored and publicly accessible creek and creek-side trail. The bad news is that a vocal minority of Orindans who oppose creek restoration seem to have persuaded some members of the City Council to waver on flood protection and a restored San Pablo Creek.

At the March 16 meeting, the public was made to wait until 12:15 a.m. to hear two council members speak in opposition of a simple staff-recommended contract amendment which would enable the City's consultant to perform the necessary hydraulic analysis and creek survey for flood control and creek restoration. Shouldn't the council lead floodplain management and creek

restoration?

We should not wait for private developers to drive our plans for a restored downtown and creek. Instead, our elected council members, aided by the Planning Department, need to provide the vision for a flood-safe, restored downtown area. The consultant's amendment would lay the foundation for these projects.

This matter may come before the City again. If so, I urge the community to tell the Council you support responsible floodplain management and downtown creek restoration. These projects aim to improve both flood risk reduction and conditions for wildlife and recreation. Importantly, they are essential to a revitalized Downtown.

Bob Stoops  
Friends of Orinda Creeks

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

# Brothers Public Kitchen opens in Theatre Square



Photos Sora O'Doherty

Co-owner Blair Bagneschi mixes cocktails at Brothers Public Kitchen, formerly Piccolo Napoli in Theatre Square.

By Sora O'Doherty

Two brothers from Contra Costa County with a lot of bar and restaurant experience who purchased Piccolo Napoli restaurant in Theatre Square have remodeled and reopened the restaurant under the name Brothers Public Kitchen. The restaurant features Italian food, including pizzas and pastas, as well as dinner entrees.

Blair Bagneschi worked most recently as a bartender in Concord and has worked at the Walnut Creek Yacht Club, Va de Vi, and Pizza Antica. Jason Bagneschi previously worked at a number of restaurants, including Wayfare Tavern, Quince, Cotonga, and Chow. Both brothers are graduates of De La Salle High School. Blair graduated from Northern Arizona University with a degree in Hotel Restaurant Management, and Jason obtained a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Utah.

The brothers are concentrating on family meals, some featuring Bagneschi family favorites. The restaurant has a full liquor permit, and the sale of the business was contingent on it being transferred to the new owners. The brothers consider themselves fortunate to have the license; the

transfer process was huge, they say, and took many months. There is nothing really the same about the restaurant as it is now when compared to Piccolo Napoli. The space has been completely remodeled from top to bottom, all of the recipes are different from the old menu, and, according to Blair, they have introduced a craft cocktail program that is unique to Orinda.

Blair explained that they make pasta fresh every day as well as fresh sauces. One dish, linguine and clams, features black pasta made with squid ink. Their menu also includes some dried pastas.

Jason said that Piccolo Napoli was previously limited to just pizza and pasta. The Bagneschis will continue to sell pizza, but it will be Neapolitan-style, 12-13 inches in diameter, and the dough will be made fresh every day. They want to focus on regional specific pastas. "Our family comes from Tuscany, our mother is from Lamarche, more northern Italian." Rather than just generic, they want to be specific to a region and to showcase family cooking, including some personal family recipes.

The menu reflects "a couple of Italian-American kids who grew up in California." Their goal is to be as local as possible, sourcing

ingredients from about a 100-mile radius. They would like a lot of menus to showcase one farm or one particular person, but right now, COVID-19 has made it hard for them to do what they want to do. Eventually they hope to champion small farmers, dairies, etc.

For the brothers, the beauty of Italian food is that it is hyper-locality-based, region to region, town to town. "Everyone will tell you how they do it and how it should be done," Jason says. Their philosophy is that if ingredients are the freshest and most local, they will taste great and shine through. What's in season? What is at the farmers' market? That will inform their menus.

Jason and Blair both live in Concord, first generation Italian on their father's side, third on their mother's side. Their great grandfather lived in Collinsville, on the Delta, about an hour from Orinda. Their grandmother grew up there and their grandfather was a fisherman.

Brothers Public Kitchen is located at 2 Theatre Square in Orinda, and is open for dinner currently, Tuesdays through Sundays. Dining inside is allowed to 25% capacity, as well as takeout and curbside pickup. Happy Hour is 3 to 5 p.m. with a special menu and dinner service starts at 5 p.m.



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## Campolindo wins 28-13 in emotion-filled rivalry game



Jacob Griessel (16) and Lars Ahrens (70)

Photo Gint Fedaras

... continued from Page A1

It was consistent, grind it out offense by Campolindo, with some big pass plays mixed in which allowed the Cougars to dominate in time of possession and wore down the Dons. Dillan Thoms had 30 carries for 110 yards, scoring twice and converting several first downs. Quarterback Jacob Griessel played a mistake-free game and was 9/13 for 206 yards. Joey Schmidt caught four passes for 129 yards, highlighted by a juggling catch and his weaving through the Acalanes defense for 77 yards and a touchdown at the start of the second half, to put Campolindo ahead 21-7.

With his 30 carries and one reception, Thoms handled the ball on 62% of the offensive plays for the Cougars. "We were able to pound the ball on the ground," Griessel said. "Dillan Thoms is the toughest kid on the team. He works hard every single day and we could not have won without him." Our linemen did a great job as did our defense." Will Monkarsh had the Cougars' one interception and Jake

Leuteneker recovered both Acalanes fumbles and also converted a key third down with a 3-yard run.

Acalanes quarterback Brady Huchingson went 18/29 for 168 yards and ran for 45 yards. Despite being pressured most of the evening, Huchingson was able to come up with big plays scrambling out of the pocket and finding receivers downfield. Dante Montgomery (7-61), Evan Malmquist (5-55) and Sam Heyman (3-62) were the leading receivers for the Dons. Nick Rossi had 12 carries for 63 yards and scored both of the Don's touchdowns on runs of 1 and 4 yards.

The Campolindo offensive line did an excellent job opening up holes for Thoms and protecting Griessel in the pocket. Last year's 17-7 defeat to Acalanes was not forgotten by the Cougars, according to Campolindo lineman Matai Bell: "With all the anger we had after Acalanes destroyed our game plan last year, Coach Macy emphasized that instead of going into the game with hatred, we should go into the game with love. We also wanted to make a statement that we were here for Elijah

and his family."

After the game, Macy called his players over to the endzone near the stands and addressed the parents, who were not allowed on the field due to the virus protocols, finally conceding that it was far more than a rivalry game they had just won.

"What the players did with the weights they were carrying was amazing," he said. "You could not have asked for a better performance by our team that was so beaten up and worn out. It was more than just the game. We had another mission that was part of our night. The fact that it was going to collide with a rival made it very complicated. The players' composure, their spirit, their heart and everything that they threw into this week and that they were able to be so emotionally controlled tonight was amazing. This was as big of a win that we'll have in our football history. We can't go to state (this year) but this was state. With what these kids had to go through to get to this point, we made a complete season in one night after this long year."

## Orinda gears up for fire protection

... continued from Page A8

This report also was taken up by the city council on March 16, at which time the city agreed to waive the requirement that the city manager pursue a bid process based on a standard specification and allow him to approve a purchase through negotiation. Staff said that they will report back to the city council on the final terms and budget impact.

The city council appointed 10 commissioners in February and named as the first, temporary chair, Jud Hammon, who will serve for the first year. In order to assure staggered terms in the future, the 10 commissioners were given randomly selected initial terms of one, two or three years. As terms expire, the city will invite applications for the posi-

tions. Typically, said Mayor Amy Worth who attended the first SSTOC meeting, there is a likelihood that the council will want to reappoint members upon the conclusion of their terms, although she added that she couldn't guarantee it, but that it has been past practice. In established commissions, she said, commissioners frequently are reappointed until they no longer wish to serve.

Addressing the new commissioners, Vice Mayor Dennis Fay thanked them all for volunteering. "As the Mayor said, this city runs on volunteers who are very, very talented and you guys are the best." He said that the roles and responsibilities of the commission are broad and challenging, but that wildfire is its first priority. "Be patient," he advised, "you cannot take on everything all at

once. Focus on a few things, get them done." Fay also advised the new commissioners to familiarize themselves with issues of conflicts of interest and the Brown Act regarding public meetings.

In public comments, Charles Porges welcomed the commissioners. "You are responsible for allocating and prioritizing funds to all necessary element for the public good. Fire prevention is number one by extensive public demand," he said. He urged the commissioners to make sure the money is well spent in the proper priority. A longtime proponent of residents of private roads getting some help from the city, Porges said he has sent an email on the subject to the new commissioners.

# ~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

## Local Flying Tiger Lines flight attendant recalls years of service to troops during Vietnam War



Photo courtesy of Leslie Pfeifer

Flying Tiger Line flight attendant Leslie Ann Pfeifer aboard a MAC charter flight in 1968

By Vera Kochan

It was a war that eventually drew criticism and disdain in the United States. Nevertheless, the men and women who served in Vietnam had the courage to answer when called upon to enter into one of the most unforgiving and terrifying experiences of their lifetime.

Moraga resident Leslie Pfeifer (Laird) served for three years as a flight attendant during the Vietnam War on Flying Tiger Airlines, a cargo and passenger delivery company.

Flying Tiger history began during World War II when the original aircrafts were small fighter planes. Piloted by the novice American Volunteer Group, who were from all branches of the military and civilians, these men provided military support to the Republic of China in their defense against the Japanese invasion between 1941-1942. The planes had an angry shark face painted on the nose, but earned the nickname of Flying Tiger when admiring Chinese citizens marveled at their “dive and zoom” maneuvers exclaiming, “Fei Hu!” Flying Tiger!

When the war ended, a few of the AVG pilots purchased several war surplus cargo planes and used them to carry supplies to U.S. troops during other incursions under the name Flying Tiger. In 1965, the company began troop transport flights to Vietnam with newly purchased Boeing 707 and Douglas DC-8 aircraft.

Answering an ad in the San Francisco Chronicle, “I was hired in 1967, and made over 75 trips to Vietnam,” recalls Pfeifer. The airline was based in San Francisco and flights were manned by an all-Bay Area crew. “A flight attendant seniority list of 200 was hired that year and trained in a matter of months. We were civilian employees of Flying Tiger Line. The U.S. Air Force gave flight crews the rank of 2nd Lt. which gave us protection under the Geneva Conferences, if captured.” Flight attendants were paid \$425 per month. “It wasn’t combat pay, but I made more money than my [future] husband who was a Navy dentist.” Although they didn’t meet on one of her flights, her husband, Dave, served in Vietnam on the USS Ranger and Kitty Hawk.

A sign of the times, flight attendants had to conform to sexist rules. They had to be single. Besides having to wear girdles and heels, the women also had to un-

dergo a humiliating weight check at certain times of the month. If they were overweight, they were taken off the payroll until the weight was lost.

The transport planes carried troops from all branches of the military: 200 passengers, 5 flight attendants and 4 cockpit crew. Passengers sat three seats on either side of a long aisle. Flights departed various Air Force bases along the West coast and flew the polar route to different bases throughout Vietnam. The process was reversed on return flights, bringing back soldiers who were wounded or had completed their 13 months “in country.”

What began as an exciting new job to see the world soon lost its luster for the 21-year-old Pfeifer. During her first flight to Vietnam, she had long conversations with a soldier who upon departing the plane gave her his rosary beads. She didn’t want to take the symbolic gift, but he insisted. After a few exchanged letters, she never heard from him again.

The flight crew were required to take all weapons and have them secured in cargo, however on one flight a hand grenade was found rolling down the aisle of an airborne plane.

Flights were never scheduled, but were expected to land in daylight for safety reasons. In the event of an attack on land, flight attendants were instructed to run for cover in a zig-zag pattern in order to avoid being hit by gunfire. “We all joked about this and decided we would go down with the plane rather than get shot by a Marine startled by five women jumping on top of him,” remembered Pfeifer. “There were bullet holes in the belly of the aircraft. Were we scared? No. We had no fear – we were doing our jobs. There was no fear. We were busy with paperwork, getting passengers on and off and galley servicing.”

The crew never stayed in Vietnam overnight. Planes were refueled and serviced in two hours to prepare for the turn-around flight back to the U.S. Oftentimes, they would head over to “DOOM” – DaNang Officer’s Open Mess – for refreshments or go for drives along the local beach.

“We really weren’t prepared for the reality of taking young men to war,” stated Pfeifer. “The soldiers weren’t really prepared either. We tried to make the troops comfortable. The flights were long – they spent 18-20 hours on our planes to and from

the U.S. – loud, joyful clapping – but they came home to an ungrateful nation.”

Pfeifer was upset over the way troops came home to protests and disrespect. “My emotions and demeanor changed completely. As time went on I became more and more angry and saddened over the treatment of the soldiers. They were doing what they were told and serving our country. I lived in Berkeley during those years and witnessed protest marches and anti-war demonstrations. I could not participate. The men and women on our flights had served our country, some wounded – physically and mentally. There was no regard for the young men who risked their lives and thousands losing their

lives.” Still staying in touch with many of her colleagues – Andee Wright (Palm Springs), Ann Montgomery (Palm Springs), Josie Gibson (Walnut Creek) and Georgeanne Seavey (San Ramon) – Pfeifer said, “My fellow flight attendants were a strong bunch of women with adventurous spirits. Our jobs were emotional, long hours, we worked hard, partied hard and the friendships made have been lasting. We bonded, were doing something that has a lasting effect on our lives. Strong friendships remain these 50 years later.”

To watch Pfeifer’s video presentation to the American Association of University Women visit: <https://oml-ca.aauw.net>

Vietnam. They would do a lot of sleeping, but we did a lot of laughing and talking. The food wasn’t great – all government issue – but it was edible, and no one complained except the flight attendants. The troops were great passengers. They helped us collect garbage, collect trays and smash milk cartons. The GIs and officers would give us their patches and medals – we collected many and wore them. Our in-flight dresses would be covered with medals.”

The disposition of the troops on the flights would vary according to which direction they were headed. “The mood going over was one of somber fear. Coming home was a mood of jubilation. They were so grateful for cold milk!” said Pfeifer. “And were happy to see American girls and returning to the ‘World’ as they called home.”

Taking on soldiers in Vietnam was unlike anything else – especially in DaNang where the Marines came on board straight out of the jungle, hot, dirty, exhausted, almost dazed, Pfeifer said. “We welcomed 365 sweaty soldiers onto our semi-air conditioned aircraft. Some had a look of desperation. As we took off and got airborne they would loosen up, but [there was] no sense of joy until we were well out of Asian airspace. Landing in

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## Jalapeño, cilantro and lime add a fresh twist to this classic dip



Jalapeño-Cilantro Hummus

Photo Susie Iventosch

### By Susie Iventosch

This is a fun twist on hummus, made with fresh-diced jalapeños, cilantro and lime juice to give it a “south of the border” flair. We added 1.5 jalapeños, but you can add as much or as little as you like to suit your personal tastes. The fresh cilantro gives this hummus a pretty green color, which is fun and different than most hummus and looks pretty

for spring and summer dips, especially if you can find watermelon radishes to serve with it. They are tasty with this hummus and add so much color to your plate.

Besides the new additions, we make our usual hummus with garbanzo beans, tahini, garlic, olive oil and sea salt. We love to serve this as a dip with pita and veggies, or as a condiment to accompany grilled fish or meats, too!

#### INGREDIENTS

1.5 jalapeños diced  
1 cup loosely packed, cilantro leaves  
1 clove garlic, minced  
1 15.5-oz. can garbanzo beans (they come packed 14, 15, 15.5 or 16 oz. depending upon the manufacturers, and any of these are fine)  
1 tablespoon garbanzo bean brine or water  
2 tablespoons tahini  
Juice of 1 lime  
1/2 teaspoon salt

#### DIRECTIONS

Drain garbanzo beans, but reserve the packing brine to use in the hummus. Separate out about 15 garbanzo beans to use as the garnish on top. Set all aside.

Remove stem, ribs and seeds from the jalapeños, and coarsely dice. Place diced jalapeños in the bowl of your food processor. Process until finely chopped.

Add cilantro leaves and process until smooth. Mince garlic into this mixture and continue to process.

Add garbanzo beans along with 1 tablespoon of the brine (or cold water) and purée until smooth.

Add 2 tablespoons tahini, lime juice and salt and puree until smooth. If the hummus is too thick, add a little more of the brine, (or cold water), 1 tablespoon at a time until desired consistency. We found that 1 tablespoon was perfect, but each can of garbanzo beans can vary in both size and moisture content.

To serve, garnish with fried garbanzo beans, (recipe just below), thinly sliced jalapeño, lime wedges, a sprig of cilantro and drizzle extra olive oil over the top!

#### Fried Garbanzo Beans for Garnish:

Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a skillet. Add garbanzo beans and sauté over medium heat until crispy. Season with a dash of sea salt.

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. Or visit <https://treksandbites.com>



## Moraga author brings Viet culture to America through young adult fantasy



Local author Giao Chi Phan

Photos provided

### Submitted by Meera Phadnis

Writing a novel, for many, is a difficult endeavor. But try writing one (or two) in your native language, and having it translated into English when names and cultural differences don't always compute.

“Translating ‘The Girl Who Kept Winter’ was challenging because it was originally written for [the] Vietnamese market,” said Moraga

author Giao Chi (Annie) Phan, “so there were puns, poems, and cultural jokes that didn't translate.” The book was also written in a genre Vietnamese are familiar with, so Phan said she didn't need to do as much world-building or establishing character archetypes, but English readers might find this too fast-paced.

“The Girl Who Kept Winter” is an English translation of “Tuyet Den” – a Vietnamese bestseller published in 2007

that is described as “an adventure in the fantasy martial art world of swordplays, air bending, wind walking and superpower.”

An exciting young adult love story set in a fantasy world similar to ancient Asia, the protagonist, Luu Dong Tu, becomes entangled in a dangerous love affair with Obsidian, the King of Poison. The first three chapters of the book were written on Phan's blog for her friends who were in their 20s. “It got picked up by a weekly magazine for middle school/high schoolers so that changed the tone, numbers of words per chapter, and the style of the story significantly from chapter 4 to 10,” Phan said. The same publisher later decided to publish it as a book.

“‘Tuyet Den’ has a very large fan base over the decade so when I mentioned the idea of translating it into English, many of the readers volunteered to help,” said Phan, who was a published mangaka (comic book/graphic novel) scriptwriter for over a



decade in Vietnam before writing her novel. “Without the encouragement and the help, I wouldn't have been able to do it myself in such a short time.”

The Viet version of the se-

quel to “Tuyet Den” – “Liet Than” – was published in Vietnam in 2020. The English version of the sequel to “The Girl Who Kept Winter” – “Frigid” – is available on Amazon.

## We have one week to find Mom a care setting!

### By Linda Fodrini-Johnson

“My mother fell, went to the hospital and had her hip replaced and her shoulder stabilized, and then she was sent to a Skilled Rehab center just a week ago and they say she will be discharged next week!” Jane exclaimed over the phone. “Yikes! She can't go home – she has lots of stairs, her memory is challenged as is her eye sight and she is still grieving the loss of our father that was just nine months ago.” This is a common call and a challenge most families are not prepared for.

Most adult children or older adults are aware at some time in the journey of life they might need a different level of care in the home or in a retirement setting. But, in reality, most families have not done any homework nor have older adults – even those of you who might have attended my “Aging with Eyes Wide Open” classes. Something about human nature that we don't want to plan for something we have no desire to do and subconsciously we don't act, which leaves reacting during a crisis or even leaving the decision up to family members or friends who might not have a clue let alone legal powers that might be needed.

Just in case you are curious, there are three levels of

care that you should be familiar with: Skilled Nursing, sometimes called Rehabilitation settings, are most often covered by Medicare and co-insurances. Then there are many levels of assisted living – such as small six-room care homes, medium to large size assisted living that differentiate between totally independent to memory care or diabetic care. The third level of care takes a little more pre-planning and that is “Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs)” – these you buy into and they have three levels of care and most don't take residents with a progressive diagnosis – again that is up to each community.

Let's go back to Jane and her call to me about mom needing a small residential care home because at this point she can't transfer herself, she is wheel chair dependent, even though the therapist thinks with more work she might be able to use a walker. The daughter and her sister will have to choose a home and have a short time to do the research and the paperwork necessary to make that happen.

What steps should you take?

**1) Work with an expert** who might know the small homes in the area – look for a non-Biased Professional Geriatric Care Manager (GCM) and avoid the placement agencies

that are free to you but receive very large commissions for placing your family member. A private GCM has an hourly fee, similar to a therapist, but they have a code of ethics that prohibits commissions and fees for referrals. If you must use a “free” agency be sure to have received a referral from a health care professional. [www.AgingLife-Care.org](http://www.AgingLife-Care.org)

**2) See if the Care Manager** can buy you more time with the skilled nursing center because there “is not a safe plan” for her to return to her home. If you are not working with a care manager – tell the discharge planner that you need more time and if you need more advocacy you can call a HICPP counselor – see monthly resources. If a patient refuses therapy or is not making progress skilled nursing will de-certify the patient and try to discharge quickly. If you see your family member improving, you need to advocate for more days. <https://www.shiptacenter.org/>

**3) You need to be sure you** have authority to sign your parent into a care community – is your legal paper work up to date? Can one of you get access to mom's funds to pay for the care she needs? Be sure you have an “Advanced Health Care Directive” that tells you what mom desires and allows you to make decisions for her.

**4) Depending on the care** situation – especially in small care homes – be sure they have awake caregivers that can check on your family member and assist them to the bathroom during the evening hours. This might not be important to all situations – but in Jane's case it was. Also, what does your parent enjoy – is there a garden to sit in, pets in the home, can someone walk mom, activities, what about special diets – ask good questions based on mom's values.

There are some small board and care homes that take Medi-Cal clients and you can often get a list of those homes from the Ombudsman or the Office on Aging in your community (waiting lists exist for these homes). However, most private homes and assisted living start around \$4,500 – some can be less but in the San Francisco Bay Area the fees are more around \$5,000-\$7,000 a month.

Do your best with some expert direction and know if it doesn't work out you can always move mom or dad later – the first home gives you a longer window to find a better match for the longer journey when necessary. Most families tell me they only want to make one move – and that is the goal. However, needs change, staff change, residents change and that will mean bringing back the expert and

looking for another community of care.

I will be doing a free zoom class at 11 a.m. April 9 called “Dementia: From Home Care to Placement” which will cover how to choose home care, the different options and the emotional stumbling blocks to bringing in care. Also, we will cover costs and how to make these hard decisions when there is resistance or family conflict. To register, visit: [www.LindaFodrini-Johnson.com](http://www.LindaFodrini-Johnson.com) and look under classes.



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, advocacy, counseling, support groups and education.

## Community pulls together to created Easter baskets for needy children



Photo provided

Thanks to lots of local support and donations of supplies and toys from the community, six Lamorinda women spent three hours March 18 filling 100 Easter baskets with stuffed

bunnies, multitudes of small treasures, as well as chocolate bunnies and eggs, to be given to children at the Monument Crisis Center and to Contra Costa Food Bank. — J. Wake

## Community effort culminates in 1,000 meals, 1,400 cards delivered to frontline workers



Photo copyright Lori A. Cheung

Frontline hospital staff at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center were delighted to receive 250 box meals and cupcakes, 250 Gratitude Cards and a flower arrangement on March 17.

Submitted by Elana O'Loskey

With the COVID situation continuing to be challenging and likely remaining with us through most of 2021, critical frontline healthcare workers are resource constrained and tiring in the face of these ongoing challenges. In parallel, local restaurants have been hit hard by the pandemic, and economic loss of in-house business, and are struggling to survive. Seven community groups – Orinda Association, Orinda Community Foundation, Lamorinda Arts Council, Orinda Garden Club, Orinda Chamber of Commerce, Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club and Orinda Rotary Club – came together to make a difference.

On March 16 and 17, volunteers delivered 1,000 boxed meals, prepared by approximately 20 Orinda restaurants, to four Contra Costa County hospitals and health centers, as well as 1,400 handmade cards colored by school-age children and those “young at heart.” Floral arrangements donated by the Orinda Garden Club were also delivered to the hospitals.

“We had no idea the frontline hospital workers would be so moved by the children’s messages,” said

Elana O'Loskey, who is the curator of the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library and a board member on the Lamorinda Arts Council. “Some are papering the walls with them! It took quite a bit of coordination to gather 1,400 of them! John Muir Concord, John Muir Walnut Creek, San Ramon Regional Medical Center and Contra Costa Regional Medical Center in Martinez all received 250 cards as well as 250 box meals, 250 cupcakes and a flower arrangement.”

A GoFundMe page was created to offset the costs of this community-wide effort, with its initial target at \$15,000, but with extra box lunches being requested by the hospitals to include all their frontline workers, the target goal was adjusted to \$20,000. As of March 26, the GoFundMe page showed \$26,268 raised.

“Our hope with this campaign is that other communities repeat this formula. Even if there is no hospital in their city or town, there will be a care home or vaccine center,” O'Loskey said. “The personal touch is very important – forget just ‘dropping off box meals’ – the frontline workers need a personal acknowledgment of some kind to know the community truly understands the sacrifices they are making and heavy load they bear.”

**Community Service:** We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda’s dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions may be sent to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com) with the subject header In Service to the Community.

### Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com), and include “Celebrations and Remembrances” in the subject line.

## Moraga Rotary conducts ‘Evening with Rotary’ dinner and video



Photo provided

The dinner serving crew at “Evening with Rotary” takes a break from distributing 186 takeout “surf & turf” dinners at the Serbian Church in Moraga, including Rotarians, Campolindo Interactors, Scouts from Troop 246, and friends.

Submitted by Gary Irwin

The Campolindo Interact Club and Boy Scouts from Troop 246, both of which are sponsored by Moraga Rotary, assisted Rotarians March 6 in distributing a delicious “surf & turf” takeout dinner. The Club’s current project focus is to equip all the elementary schools in the Moraga School District with security cameras with direct linkage to the Moraga Police Department, and most of the funds raised will go this project. This type of camera system was recently installed at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, and provides a distinct upgrade in security. “Evening with Rotary” was held instead of Moraga Rotary’s popular dinner/auction “A Nite at the Races,” usually held in March, but couldn’t be done this year because of COVID-19 precautions.

The dinner portion of the evening was followed by a video presentation featuring singers from the Campolindo High School Choir, local disc jockey Ryan O, Dan Ashley and his band, some local officials, and various Rotarians showing community projects the Club has completed and others they plan to complete. Dan Ashley is a TV newscaster on ABC, and he is a

member of Concord Rotary. Anyone may now watch this free video by going to [moragarotary.org](http://moragarotary.org) and clicking on the red “Live Stream” button on the first page.

The fifth Dinner with Rotary in this series will include a delicious dinner on Thursday, April 22 from La Finestra, with meat lasagne, green salad, bread, and Nonni’s biscotti for \$35 per order, including \$10 donation to Moraga Rotary to support its community projects. Orders of \$70 or more will receive a complimentary bottle of wine. The Club hopes this will be the last of the takeout dinner series during the pandemic, which provided business and good exposure to local restaurants at a difficult time.

Moraga Rotary is a 53-year-old service club within Rotary International, one of the four Clubs in Lamorinda, and one of about 33,000 Rotary Clubs in about 200 countries. Regular meetings are held at noon on most Tuesdays online via Zoom due to the pandemic. If you are interested in information about Rotary, or would like to donate to their worthy causes, please visit the website at [moragarotary.org](http://moragarotary.org), or call Brian South, president, at (925) 888-7052.

## In Memory

### Dennis F. Tierney, Jr.



Dennis F. Tierney, Jr., 79, passed away on Feb. 11, 2021 surrounded by his loving family after a long battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s Disease). Dennis was born and raised in the Bronx, New York and graduated from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY where on a bet in the local bar he asked his future wife, Mary Mahoney, on a date (he lost the bet but won her heart!). He worked for several large life insurance companies that took him and Mary from New York to Hawaii and finally settling in Moraga, California. In 1982 he started his own firm, Dennis F. Tierney Insurance Associates, Inc. which continues to thrive today under the leadership of his daughter, Deborah.

Dennis’ favorite past times include playing practical jokes on family and friends, golfing, vacationing in Tahoe and traveling the world. Dennis and Mary had a special fondness for Mexico which they visited annually for more than 25 years. In addition, they loved spending time with their children, eight grandchildren and many extended family members and friends whether they were skiing at Northstar, kayaking on Lake Tahoe, building sandcastles on the beach or enjoying time at home.

Predeceased in death by his parents, Dennis Sr. and Marion, and brother, Thomas, Dennis is survived by his wife, Mary and their three children, Darren, Deborah (and her husband, Paul) and Renee (and her husband, Lee). He will also be missed by his grandchildren Logan, Katie, Matt, Jack, Emily, Anna and Luke; his great-granddaughter, Peyton Marie; his three sisters, Sr. Eileen CND, Elizabeth (her children, Sharon and Dennis (his wife, Kelly)) and Patricia; and our extended family including Nancy Lawrie-Stuckey (her husband, Chris and their children, Brittany and Bobby) and Scott Lawrie (his wife, Dana, and his daughter, Peyton Juliana); and many dear friends.

Dennis will always be in our hearts and we will forever hear him saying “MIH IT — Make It Happen”!

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dennis’ memory to the ALS Association Golden West Chapter ([www.alsgoldenwest.org](http://www.alsgoldenwest.org)) or the Beckwith Wiedemann Children’s Foundation International ([www.beckwithwiedemann.org](http://www.beckwithwiedemann.org)).

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

## Not to be missed

### ART

**An ebbing pandemic** has led the Moraga Art Gallery to double its hours. The gallery is now open on Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 p.m., and also by appointment. "An Elegant Balance," the current exhibit, which runs through April, features work by two member artists: watercolorist George Ehrenhaft and jewelry-maker K. de Groot. The gallery is located at 432 Center Street in Moraga's Rheem Shopping Center. <http://moragaartgallery.com> or email [moragaartgallery@gmail.com](mailto:moragaartgallery@gmail.com).

**The Valley Art Gallery** features "A Spring of Many Hues" – its new spring collection that highlights a selection of newly-juried works from member artists, reflecting the bright colors and delicate hues of our Northern California springtime. Also available will be a new selection of juried, high quality, handmade crafts and jewelry. Valley Art Gallery: 1661 Botelho Drive, Suite 110, Walnut Creek, [www.valleyartgallery.org](http://www.valleyartgallery.org); (925) 935-4311.

**Art Gallery at the Orinda Library**, April 1-30 "Seeking Nature's Deep Calm in Tahoe." Get ready for some 'deep calm' by viewing the solo show of Lamorinda Arts Council President Denise Nomura. Enjoy a dozen of her artworks including oil paintings and nihonga watercolors by visiting [www.lamorindaarts.org/vac](http://www.lamorindaarts.org/vac) through April 30.

**Art Gallery at Wilder**, April 1 – April 30. Heather Metcalf's

Abstracts: In Memorium. View a virtual exhibit of paintings by the late Heather Metcalf, who was an active member of Moraga Art Gallery where a companion exhibit is on display through April 25. [www.lamorindaarts.org/online-galleries/](http://www.lamorindaarts.org/online-galleries/).

### MUSIC

**Gold Coast Chamber Players** Virtual Concert. Celebrating Musicians Around the Bay. April 10 at 7 p.m. Info and tickets: [www.gccpmusic.com](http://www.gccpmusic.com).

**Berkeley Chamber Performances** presents Curium Trio on May 11, 7 p.m. through June 10, 11:55 p.m., at Virtual Presentation, 2315 Durant Avenue, Berkeley. Curium brings creative and diverse musical programming by highlighting women composers and performers alongside traditional piano trio repertoire. Cost: \$20. [www.berkeleychamberperform.org](http://www.berkeleychamberperform.org) or call 510-525-5211 or email [info@bcp1.org](mailto:info@bcp1.org).

**Crowden Music Center presents** Sundays at Four: Telegraph Quartet on April 18, 4 p.m., at Online from Crowden Music Center, 1475 Rose Street, Berkeley. Crowden Music Center presents the acclaimed Telegraph Quartet in a free online performance of Britten, Beethoven, and Brahms. Cost: Free with suggested donation. [www.crowden.org/telegraph-quartet/](http://www.crowden.org/telegraph-quartet/) or call 510-559-6910 or email [concerts@crowden.org](mailto:concerts@crowden.org).

### THEATER

**Shotgun Players presents Every**

**Time I Feel the Spirit** April 2 - 11 (Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m., Sundays at 5 p.m.), at Virtual Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. This world premiere follows a young pastor's attempt to navigate her congregation's shift to online worship. When we can't congregate, we find a way. Cost: Pay What You Can \$8 - \$40. For more info visit <http://shotgunplayers.org/online/article/spirit> or call (510) 841-6500 or email [Jayme@shotgunplayers.org](mailto:Jayme@shotgunplayers.org).

### OTHER

**Lafayette resident, Papa John Kiefer**, will, again, offer a Zoom workshop on Sustainable Coop Principles and Construction. Workshop is free and will be held on Thursday, May 20, 6 to 7 p.m. Registration is required, and here is the link to register: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1y9NbUtt9-0ISNHBjWjnNepySth189hMm4AEOJg3yE/edit>. We will send out the Zoom link shortly before the event. The Kiefer Sustainable Coop provides all the natural elements for chickens to be healthy, productive and safe. It is unique in that there is no smell and no cleaning.

**Dorothy Day House in Berkeley** is hosting a feminine hygiene product drive to collect new boxes of tampons and pads of all sizes between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., 7 days a week at their primary location at 1931 Center Street, Berkeley until Menstrual Hygiene Day, which is May 28. Area residents are invited to make a difference in our local community by donating to the drive and helping Dorothy Day House

reach its goal of collecting enough items to ensure that the people it serves can maintain their dignity. Dorothy Day House has the greatest need for the following: large sized tampons and large sized pads. To coordinate a donation, drop off, please contact Jessicah Schoenfeldt, Berkeley Community Resource Coordinator, at 510-705-1325.

**Register for Lamorinda Idol 2021** April 1 – 30. Young singers in grades K – 12th are invited to register to participate in Lamorinda Idol's 2021 program. There are seven categories to consider based on grade levels. Visit [www.lamorindaarts.org/idol-2/](http://www.lamorindaarts.org/idol-2/) for details or email [idol@lamorindaarts.org](mailto:idol@lamorindaarts.org) with questions.

**Lamorinda SuperShorts** Movie Challenge. Ever made a video? Sign up to Zoom in for tips on how to tell a 3-minute story on video from professional filmmaker Adarsh Gupta of Moraga at his live presentation on April 12 at 7 p.m.; audience Q&A encouraged. Your G-rated 3-minute or less video should be set in your home or outdoor location in Lamorinda; ages youth to adult and family collaboration. Submit by May 14 at midnight. Visit [www.lamorindaarts.org/SuperShorts](http://www.lamorindaarts.org/SuperShorts) for information and RSVP to receive our April 12 Zoom link.

**Brits and Anglophiles!** Join us for another Great British Pop-Up Shop on Sunday, April 25 from noon to 3 p.m. at Genuine Goodness Cafe in Orinda. 21 Orinda Way, Ste. G, Orinda. Enjoy a cuppa and a bite in the fresh air. Pre-orders are

encouraged to avoid disappointment as stock is limited at the event. Lots of fresh baked and imported British goodies to enjoy. [www.britishtopshop.com](http://www.britishtopshop.com)

### GARDEN

**The Orinda Garden Club** will be hosting a Plant Sale on Saturday, April 17 at the Orinda Library Plaza from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The sale will include a variety of types of plants, including Succulents, Pollinators, Perennials, and Drought Resistant. There will also be over 30 varieties of tomato seeds. The club also plans to provide Firewise educational materials. And lastly, there will be a marketplace gift boutique. All will be socially distanced and spread throughout the outdoor plaza at the Orinda Library, located at 26 Orinda Way, Orinda. Open to the public. <https://www.orindagc.org/plantsale-public.html> or email [communications@orindagc.org](mailto:communications@orindagc.org).

**Registration for the free, virtual 17th Annual Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour**, which will take place on Sundays April 25 and May 2, 16, and 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., is now open. This award-winning tour will be kicked off with a presentation by the inspirational Doug Tallamy, feature 25 beautiful native plant gardens, Q&A sessions with garden hosts, "Ask the Experts" opportunities, garden design and plant selection information, and more. Check out the schedule of events [www.bringingbackthenatives.net/welcome-to-our-2021-virtual-events](http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/welcome-to-our-2021-virtual-events), and Register for the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour now.

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# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## Short-term success, long-term goals for Lamorinda girl's lacrosse



Emerson Bohlig

Photo Shirley DeFrancisci, DeF-Stop Photography

By Jon Kingdon

Despite an abbreviated season and no post-season tournaments, the Lamorinda Girl's Lacrosse teams have shown well on the field and in the eyes of MaxPreps Sports. Each of the teams is ranked in the top 25 in the state of California - Miramonte (3), Campolindo (10) and Acalanes (25).

A number of players have opted to play soccer, and some have moved out of state but it's a matter of moving past what is beyond their control, according to Campolindo head coach Devon Combe: "The big mentality for our players is that they are out here because they enjoy what they're doing."

Miramonte (5-0) has only four seniors along with five juniors and nine sophomores. "Our seniors are phenomenal," said head coach Jackie Pelletier. "They have won an NCS title in the past, so they are no strangers to success

and this is their time to shine."

The offense is led by senior Emerson Bohlig who will be playing for Northwestern University next year. Bohlig has scored 49 goals on 69.4% of her shots. "Emerson is tenacious and gritty," Pelletier said. "Her accuracy is laser point and she can score from anywhere on the field. She is also the fastest player I've ever worked with."

Senior Sally Peterson is second on the team with 12 goals on only 15 shots. Junior Kiara Kofoed (15 goals, 8 assists) is the team's draw taker. The Matadors as a team have scored on 64% of their shots.

"We have an awesome group of sophomores," according to Pelletier. "Kate DiFranco (10 goals, 3 assists) is taking on a bigger role and midfielders Lindsay French and Taryn Pearce have both become huge threats this year."

Senior goalie Mina Jenab has been solid in goal. "She is

a very positive person and is the ultimate leader," Pelletier said. "She has stopped 48.1% of the shots on goal where anything above 33% is good. She knows what she must do, and what she has to work on. She has the confidence and tenure now."

Junior Bridgette Mills, following in the footsteps of her two older sisters, is the defense's quarterback. Junior Ellie Hawkins has also been solid on defense as well. Senior Lindsey Bliss who played J.V. last season has really stepped up this season. "Lindsey is a phenomenal athlete and has been a great defender for us," Pelletier said.

"We've been excited to get the season started and we were ready to go right from the beginning," Pelletier said. "We knew that lacrosse would come back. This program has been strong for years and I knew that girls wanted to do it."

When you have a close team, it makes it easier to come together. For Campolindo, with three sets of sisters (Lindsay and Paige Davis, Georgia and Carley Hudson, and Grace and Catie McCauley), it's that much easier. "Our team is like a very tight-knit community," Combe said. "They turned to lacrosse with our pod practices after being stuck in Zoom classes. That, along with the familial bonds, was a way to have fun and they have really improved tremendously so far this season."

Combe has come to rely on Lindsay Davis and Grace McCauley to help lead the team through these trying times: "They have done quite well in navigating the difficulties of the season. They have been great keeping the girls aware that they have a voice and how to use it and how to keep focused on the love of what they're doing."

The offense has been led by Grace McCauley (9 goals, 3 assists) and sophomore Paige

Davis (8 goals, 3 assists). "It's Grace and Paige's creativity that makes them so good on offense," Combs said. "They're willing to try shots they've never taken before which has fostered a growth mindset for each player."

Setting them up has been junior Annie Cimperman (7 goals, 8 assists). "Annie is a smart player that has always worked at developing a wide set of tools," Combe said. "She has committed to UC Davis and has developed all the skills like having various types of shots, skills at the draw and the ability to make assists. This is someone who really loves the game."

On defense, freshman goalie Haley Richards has started from day one and has stopped 39% of the shots on goal. Assistant coach Angelyn Brown coached Richards in seventh grade, so they knew what type of talent she had. "Haley has really quick hands and a good IQ and anticipation for understanding the movement of the ball," Combe said. "She is just eager to take feedback and improve."

The defense has a lot of depth, led by a trio of midfielders who became defenders: Kennedy Merrion, Ava Martinez, and Sadie Geentie. "They really appreciate the value of defense and what defense is," Combe said. Seniors Captain Lindsay Davis and Laura Studebaker, as well as junior Laurel Hunter have been solid as well.

"The girls have done a lot of extra work on their own like working with trainers, attending clinics, and shooting on cages, fostering a love for the sport. That's the real cache of the game."

Acalanes head coach Bill Fraser and his assistant Mark Rurka attacked the virus issue head on. "Since the state allowed us to work with the girls in June, we've been out here once a week trying to keep hope alive."

Numbers are not an issue

for Acalanes with a full varsity along with 36 girls on the J.V. team. "After being locked down for a year, they were excited to come out here," Fraser said. "We're doing some rebuilding, but we have had a successful program and are going to continue that tradition."

The offense is led by Grace Gebhardt (45 goals, 17 assists), who will be playing for UC Davis next year. "Grace is the most fluid player I've ever seen in regards to her stick skills," Rurka said. "She is naturally gifted and has put in the time for years. She's a step ahead and she knows where to be and where to put the ball."

Gebhardt is a co-captain along with Coco Fellner. "They've done a great job in communicating with the girls and getting them excited to play," Rurka said.

Two freshmen have stood out so far, Grace Imrie on offense and Avery Ives on defense. "We knew Grace and Avery from the local rec team, and I knew that they would contribute but I didn't realize how much," Rurka said.

Another pleasant surprise has been junior Maya Stelzer, said Rurka: "Maya just started playing two years ago. She just puts her head down and goes. She loves the game and will only get better."

Other players on defense that have stood out are juniors Elise Flagg, Maggie Saracevic, Ellie Ives and sophomore Haley Rurka.

In goal, two seniors, Kiki O'Toole, and Della Pascucci have split time and "both are doing well," Rurka said.

Fraser and Rurka are taking a long-term perspective for the team. "With a shortened season and no playoffs, we're more concerned about getting experience for everyone on the field," Rurka said. "The girls get to be out here and that's the most important thing."

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# What went into starting the football season

By Jon Kingdon

With a genuine concern that there would be no football season, there were many people that deserve the credit for seeing that there would be a football season, albeit seven months late and abbreviated.

Serra High School Head Football Coach Patrick Walsh, who started the Golden State

Coaches Alliance, De La Salle head coach Justin Alumbaugh and Ron Gladnick, the head coach at Torrey Pines High School, led the way from the outset, said Campolindo head coach Kevin Macy. "They're just the tip of the pyramid," Macy said.

There were several coaches and parents that were constantly contacting the as-

sembly people, informing them of the "Let Them Play" movement and getting them on board. The statewide rallies also kept the issue on the front burners.

With all sports now commencing, Macy gives much of the credit to the football programs. "Football really made the difference in the state," Macy said. "All the other

sports were willing to wait for permission, but football went out and made something happen. It's been an exhausting grind, but we had no choice because we could have no more games after April 17."

Even with the season officially starting, Macy is approaching the season with cautious optimism. "At this point, we don't know what

will be taken away from us," Macy said. "We're relieved and the kids are excited but with so many requirements on us, it seems like we're looking over our shoulder at all time. The biggest hurdles were getting our scrimmage in and playing our first game which, we've been able to do."

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# Lamorinda

# OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 15 Issue 3 Wednesday, March 31, 2021



Lamorinda Home Sales

... read on Page D2

*Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian*

## Hippity hoppity, Easter's on its way



Photo Cynthia Brian

**For a burst of bright color and wildlife resistance, the spring flowering freesia is fantastic.**

**By Cynthia Brian**

*"It was Easter Sunday. The full-blossomed trees filled all the air with fragrance and with joy." ~ Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Spanish Student*

Blossoming fruit trees, poppies adorning hillsides, and daffodils illuminating walking paths ... the sirens of the start of spring have sprung. As seedlings pop through the soft soil and new green growth emerges on hedges, trees and vines, uninvited wildlife visitors tend to hop, fly, scamper, and trot into our landscapes.

Here comes Peter Cottontail, hopping down the bunny trail, followed by the families of Bambi, Tom Turkey, and Squiggly Squirrel. A buffet feast awaits their arrival in our rose beds, perennial gardens, and

vegetable patches.

What is a human to do to protect our precious landscapes from invaders?

Although repellents promise perimeter patrolling, I have not found any that completely protect my premises. As much as I admire these furry, feathered and fluffy "friends," I don't want them munching my flowers, foliage, sprouts and shrubs. How can we find a way for the realms of nature to co-exist?

Here are few suggestions:

1. Fencing is the most effective deterrent for deer and rabbits. Although the bunnies can't jump over a 6-foot fence, to keep deer out of our gardens, we need to erect 9-foot enclosures. Sadly, squirrels scurry from trees to fence rails. Turkeys fly over fences.
2. Drive around your neighborhood to see what kinds of plants are thriving. Consider using what grows well in your area.
3. During dry months, some sprays may be effective, including Liquid Fence which, according to the company, is natural, biodegradable, non-toxic, and safe for the environment with rotten eggs being the main ingredient. Supposedly wildlife can smell the stink up to two weeks after humans can no longer smell the stench.
4. Sprinkle blood meal on flowers and foliage. The problem I have experienced with this method, however, is that it attracts raccoons and skunks! Not a winning suggestion.
5. Unless you have fencing and/or containment, avoid using plants that are known to be delicacies such as roses, fruit, and leafy greens. If you plant tasty treats, the hungry nomads will find them.
6. Before buying large quantities of a plant, test the nibbling desire by buying a small container and placing it for two weeks in an area where the wildlife wander. Watch and wait.
7. Buy more mature plants in larger containers. Plants that have abundant leaves can tolerate the nipping and gnawing better than smaller specimens. Taller plants are less susceptible to damage when lower leaves are eaten. They recover more swiftly.
8. Don't over water. The lusher the specimen, the more attractive it is for dinner. Drought-resistant vegetation is less likely to be gobbled.
9. Place pungent plants bordering areas that may be enticing. Mints, lantana, alyssum, marigolds, geraniums, catnip, strawflower, salvia, and scented geraniums may deter the diners.

... continued on Page D14

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**Lamorinda home sales recorded**

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	10	\$900,000	\$2,918,500
MORAGA	9	\$494,000	\$2,600,000
ORINDA	7	\$420,000	\$3,100,000

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**

- 3315 Beechwood Drive, \$1,600,000, 3 Bdrms, 2202 SqFt, 1942 YrBlt, 02-12-21  
1 Foothill Park Terrace, \$1,370,000, 6 Bdrms, 2806 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 02-05-21  
101 Greenbank Drive, \$2,918,500, 6 Bdrms, 7066 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 02-01-21,  
Previous Sale: \$710,000, 03-30-98  
3293 Helen Lane, \$1,410,000, 3 Bdrms, 1291 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 02-10-21,  
Previous Sale: \$763,000, 02-08-05  
3316 Las Huertas Road, \$2,250,000, 4 Bdrms, 2444 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 02-08-21,  
Previous Sale: \$1,749,000, 09-05-14  
3 Lincolnshire Court, \$900,000, 5 Bdrms, 3022 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 02-10-21  
3878 Los Arabis Drive, \$2,100,000, 4 Bdrms, 3626 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 02-03-21,  
Previous Sale: \$1,700,000, 08-06-09  
3477 Monroe Avenue, \$2,800,000, 4 Bdrms, 3351 SqFt, 1906 YrBlt, 02-03-21  
3310 Moraga Boulevard, \$1,445,000, 2 Bdrms, 1329 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 02-10-21,  
Previous Sale: \$1,230,000, 08-16-17  
1470 Sunset Loop, \$1,500,000, 5 Bdrms, 2523 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 02-01-21,  
Previous Sale: \$265,000, 03-01-92

**MORAGA**

- 2051 Ascot Drive #104, \$494,000, 2 Bdrms, 1180 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 02-04-21  
50 Buckingham Drive, \$1,670,000, 4 Bdrms, 1980 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 02-11-21,  
Previous Sale: \$265,000, 06-01-88  
793 Country Club Drive, \$1,172,000, 3 Bdrms, 1953 SqFt, 2019 YrBlt, 02-02-21  
27 Indian Wells Street, \$1,450,000, 3 Bdrms, 2828 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 02-01-21,  
Previous Sale: \$419,000, 08-01-88  
231 Los Santos Court, \$2,600,000, 4 Bdrms, 3318 SqFt, 2018 YrBlt, 02-03-21,  
Previous Sale: \$2,110,000, 11-12-19  
12 Mayfield Place, \$1,600,000, 3 Bdrms, 2069 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 02-12-21  
176 Miramonte Drive, \$851,000, 3 Bdrms, 1525 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 02-10-21,  
Previous Sale: \$805,000, 07-12-18  
651 Moraga Road #29, \$525,000, 2 Bdrms, 1144 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 02-11-21,  
Previous Sale: \$440,000, 07-11-05  
110 Wallace Circle, \$1,135,500, 3 Bdrms, 1998 SqFt, 2019 YrBlt, 02-10-21

**ORINDA**

- 73 Brookwood Road #28, \$420,000, 1 Bdrms, 673 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 02-10-21  
128 Catherine Court, \$3,100,000, 4 Bdrms, 4501 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 02-05-21  
33 Charles Hill Circle, \$1,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 2201 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 02-08-21  
25 Fern Way, \$2,000,000, 5 Bdrms, 4171 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 02-10-21  
32 Heather Lane, \$1,575,000, 6 Bdrms, 4048 SqFt, 1980 YrBlt, 02-01-21  
253 Manzanita Drive, \$1,862,000, 4 Bdrms, 2591 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 02-09-21,  
Previous Sale: \$1,450,000, 12-26-14  
3 Mira Loma Road, \$1,850,000, 2 Bdrms, 3041 SqFt, 1926 YrBlt, 02-08-21,  
Previous Sale: \$1,750,000, 10-11-19

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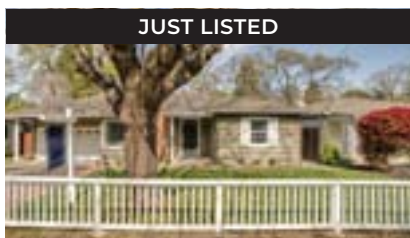


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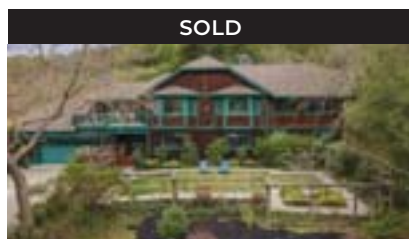
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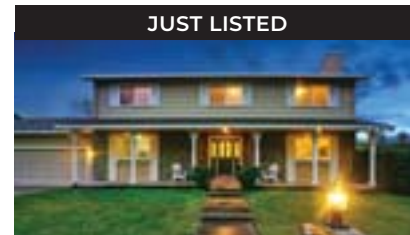
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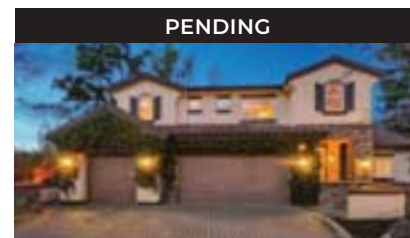
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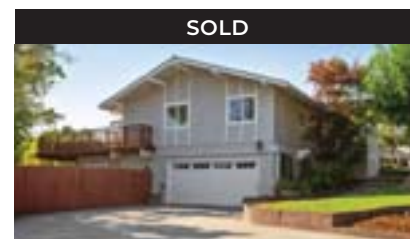
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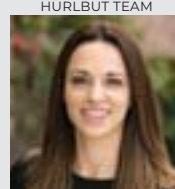
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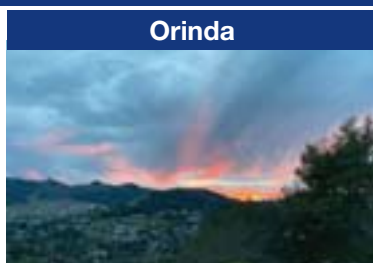


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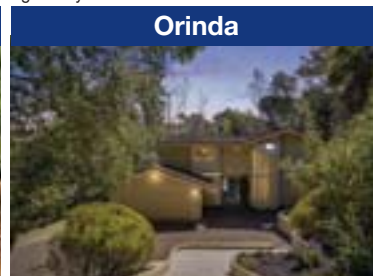
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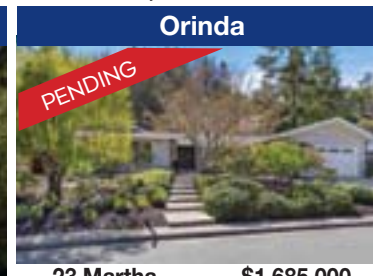
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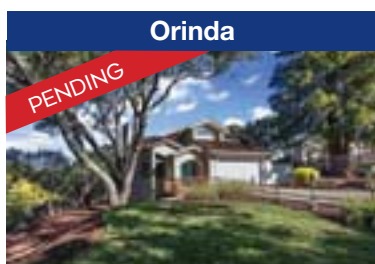
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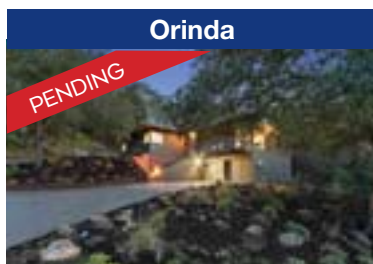
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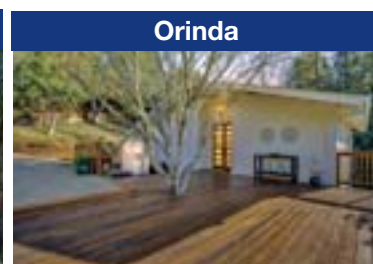
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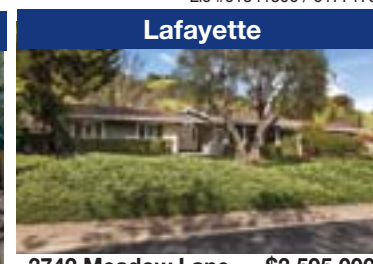
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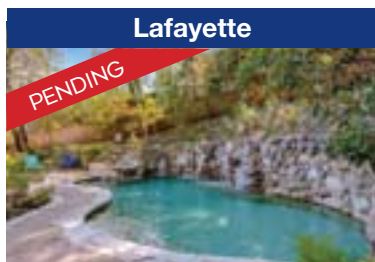
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**25 Dias Dorados \$1,399,000**

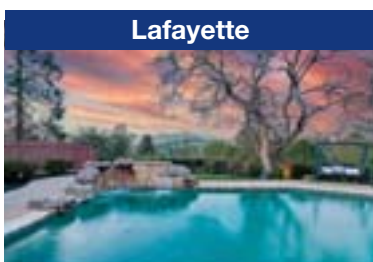
4 BD/2.5 BA mid-century, cul-de-sac w views. Large yard w/patios, flat lawn, vegy garden.  
 Maram Bata 925-899-3952  
 Lic #01435229


**Lafayette**
**3742 Meadow Lane \$3,595,000**

5 bed 3 bath 1/2-acre lot. One of Lafayette's most fabled locations in Happy Valley. Classic ranch with pool and level yard  
 Kelly Crawford 925-998-5599  
 Bev Arnold 925-788-8516  
 Lic #01327015 / 01154860


**Lafayette**
**4008 Canyon \$2,750,000**

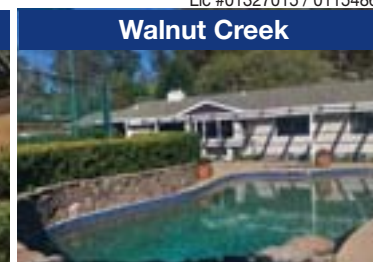
4 BD / 4.5 BA Happy Valley Hideaway on 1/2-acre lot! Pool w/waterfalls, hot tub, & updates throughout.  
 Tom Stack 925-878-9964  
 Lic #01501769


**Lafayette**
**826 Skywood Road \$2,495,000**

4 BD / 3 BA, .79-acre lot. Private oasis with pool, views & short walk to trails, many upgrades.  
 Tom Stack 925-878-9964  
 Lic #01501769


**Oakland**
**5901 San Pablo Ave. \$875,000**

Charming 3 BD / 1 BA Single Family, 1208 sq. ft with yard!  
 Christine Mason 925-900-5288  
 www.christinemason.me Lic #02050542


**Walnut Creek**
**407 Monticello \$1,475,000**

4 BD / 2 BA, single level, 2371 sq ft. Resort living, sparkling pool and a tennis court.  
 Maram Bata 925-899-3952  
 Lic #01435229

# JUST SOLD

126 Castle Court, Burton Valley Lafayette  
List Price \$1,698,000 | Sold for \$1,948,000



Kurt Piper Group



## Lamorinda Home Prices Skyrocket

Home prices in the suburbs have escalated to new levels. We are seeing over bids from **10% to 17%** in all cities and all price ranges throughout the East Bay.

There is a new phenomenon in our Lamorinda real estate market. Pricing strategy is fast becoming identical to **Oakland, Berkeley and Piedmont**. These communities have historically listed homes 10% under market value in order to generate multiple offers and significant over bids. Now it's happening in Lamorinda.

The **Kurt Piper Group** has applied these pricing strategies coupled with smart, pre-sale improvements that have resulted in **\$250,000-\$300,000** over bids for our sellers.

**Contact us for sound advice and a plan to maximize your homes value.**



### Kurt Piper

Realtor® | Broker Associate  
925 818 8000  
Kurt@KurtPiperGroup.com  
kurtpipergroup.com  
DRE 01130308



### Barb Brawner JD

Realtor®  
925 212 7672  
Barb@BarbBrawner.com  
DRE 01922264

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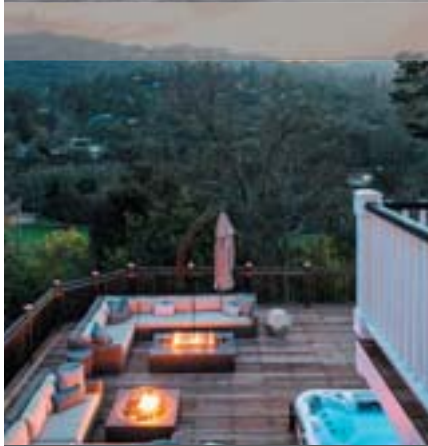


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# *New with a view in* **ORINDA COUNTRY CLUB**



## *21 El Patio, Orinda*

A beautifully re-built 2013 custom home by McKenzie Gray Builders at the end of a private cul de sac where California coastal meets New England Colonial. 180-degree views overlook the Orinda Country Club golf course and the Berkeley Hills. Here exceptional quality build, thoughtful design and timeless craftsmanship offer a move-in ready luxury home in the heart of Orinda.

*Private Cul de Sac with 180 degree Views. Call for price*

<b>5</b> <i>Bed</i>	<b>4</b> <i>Full Bath</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Half Bath</i>	<b>.43</b> <i>Acre</i>
<b>±4,455</b> <i>Sq ft</i>	<b>1</b> <i>Office</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Laundry</i>	<b>100%</b> <i>Awesome</i>

Amy Rose Smith  
Village Associates  
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amy@amyrosesmith.com  
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925.254.0505 | **It's Village. Of Course.**



# GLORIETTA MID- CENTURY CONTEMPORARY



**99 Rheem Blvd., Orinda**  
**3 bd. 2 ba. | 2232 sq. ft. | .88 acre lot | Offered at \$1,775,000**

Call to schedule your private tour today.

Nestled in the hills of the Glorietta neighborhood of Orinda, sits this gated Mid-Century Contemporary home that offers the best of California indoor-outdoor living: open floor plan, wood beamed ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, and a convenient pool protected by an electric cover. Meticulously updated, this 2232 sq. ft. home offers a spacious formal living room with a gas fireplace and hardwood floors. The Chef's eat-in kitchen/great room, with easy access to the outdoor venues, offers stainless steel appliances, sleek white cabinetry, sub-zero refrigerator, Viking range and cooktop, and a marble island with comfortable seating. Step up a few stairs to the bedroom wing which has heated slate floors. The beautifully designed Primary Bedroom and Bathroom offers large closets and outside access. An accommodating bathroom serves two additional bedrooms. This secluded .88 acre property is ideal for entertaining with a built-in barbeque, IPE deck, and flagstone patio surrounding the pool with a pebble tech bottom. A turf area is a place to enjoy a quiet thought by a waterfall. There are also mature gardens and vegetable beds with up-lighting to highlight the ambience. This property backs up to the Rim Trail and is conveniently located minutes from Hwy. 24, Bart and downtown Orinda. The home is situated in the top-rated Orinda School District.



THE *Beaubelle*  
GROUP

**Nancy Stryker**

925.890.6911

nancystryker@gmail.com

DRE 01290021

• •  
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**51 LAIRD DRIVE**

**MORAGA**

\$2,925,000 | 4 BED / 3.5 BATH | 3,847 SQ. FT. | SALT-WATER POOL  
BEN OLSEN 925.381.2151 51Laird.com



**36245 COUNTY ROAD 24**

**WOODLAND**

PRICE UPON REQUEST | 4 BED / 3 BATH | 3,003+ SQ. FT. | .72 ACRE LOT  
RICK MERRITT 415.308.6207 36245CountyRoad24.com



**2838 BURTON DRIVE**

**OAKLAND**

\$1,295,000 | 3 BED / 2 BATH | 1,913 SQ. FT. | BREATHTAKING VIEWS  
CHRISTINA CICCONE 415.203.1735 2838BurtonDr.com

PENDING



**9 MORAGA VALLEY LANE**

MORAGA  
\$2,095,000 | 3BD/2.5BA | 2,583 SQ. FT.  
BEN OLSEN 925.381.2151  
9MoragaValleyLn.com



**705 MORAGA ROAD**

MORAGA  
\$1,896,000 | 4BD/3.5BA | 3,475 SQ. FT.  
BEN OLSEN 925.381.2151  
705MoragaRd.com



**427 CHALDA WAY**

MORAGA  
\$649,000 | 2BD/1.5BA | 1,114 SQ. FT.  
SERGIO GIANNONI 510.220.1745



**2401 MOSLEY AVENUE**

ALAMEDA  
\$1,395,000 | 4BD/2.5BA | 2,856 SQ. FT.  
BEN OLSEN 925.381.2151  
2401MoseleyAve.com







63 Ivy Drive, Orinda



6 bd | 4 ba | 2965 sqft | .41 ac | \$1,835,000

Welcome to Orinda living in the popular Ivy Drive Neighborhood! This home has warm, inviting spaces throughout providing functionality for families of all sizes. Landscaped grounds, sun-splashed patios, play areas & a faux-grass complete the outdoor spaces. Walk to 12 years of school!!



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Happy  
Lamorinda  
Buyers



Happy  
Lamorinda  
Sellers

3337 Walnut Lane, Lafayette | Sold



3337walnut.com

58 Tomcat Way, Orinda | Pending



Representing Buyer

28 Merrill Circle, Moraga | Sold



Represented Buyer

1204 Larch Avenue, Moraga | Pending



1204larch.com

Work with Terri in 2021!

2020 Stats:  
\$31M+ sold  
19 transactions



Terri Bates Walker  
Broker | J.D.

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terri@terribateswalker.com  
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# STUNNING OPPORTUNITY IN ORINDA



This Glorietta Craftsman-style home with grand spaces, high ceilings, and an open floor plan is a treat for all of your senses.

Enjoy the beautiful garden designed by Enchanting Planting which make this the perfect home for indoor and outdoor living!

**8 Estates Dr, Orinda**

**Call for pricing**

**4**<sub>BEDS</sub>

**4.5**<sub>BATHS</sub>

**3,702**<sub>SQFT</sub>

A special house in the heart of Glorietta



**925.980.3829**

Shannon@ShannonConner.com  
ShannonConner.com

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**Village**  
ASSOCIATES





**44 Lucas Ranch Road, Lafayette** | Unprecedented Lafayette New Construction  
 4 Bedroom + Bonus | 3.5 Bath | 3995± Sq. Ft. | 5.13± Acre View Parcel  
 Offered at \$3,895,000 | [44LucasRanchRoad.com](http://44LucasRanchRoad.com)

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**Tom Stack**  
 REAL ESTATE





**826 Skywood Rd in Lafayette Trails Area**  
 4BR/3BA | +/-3,233 sf | .79 acre lot  
 Offered at \$2,495,000



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**TomStack.com**  
**Tom.Stack@cbnorcal.com**



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## DOWNTOWN WALNUT CREEK NEW LUXURY SINGLE LEVEL CONDOS

1954 TRINITY AVE. WALNUT CREEK, 94596 | PRICED FROM \$1.2 MILLIONS

2 Bed | 2 Bath | Zoom Room | Views of Mt. Diablo | Private Terrace

**(877) 678-3370**

\*Call to schedule a private tour

All renderings, floor plans, and maps are artist's concepts and are not intended to be an actual depiction of the building, fencing, walkways, driveways or landscaping. Walls, windows, porches and decks vary per elevation and lot location. In a continuing effort to meet Consumer expectations, Lenox Homes reserves the right to modify prices, floor plans, specifications, and amenities without notice or obligation. Square footages shown are approximate. Please see your sales consultant for more details. BRE LIC #01410472 | www.livelenox.com



A LAFAYETTE FAMILY OASIS | \$11,500,000

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

Welcome to a special Happy Valley estate, where staying home never felt so good. This gorgeous gated compound embodies New England-inspired elegance across 1.5 park-like acres and the estate's three buildings.



**Ann Newton Cane**

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INTERNATIONAL REALTY



1954 Joseph Drive, Moraga

5 BR | 2.5 BA | 2,728 SF | .98 Acre Lot | [1954Joseph.com](http://1954Joseph.com)

**Come at sunset and you may never want to leave...**

Remarkable Moraga valley view home in the popular "Bluffs" neighborhood. Exquisitely remodeled kitchen with Cabrico cabinetry, high-end appliances, beautiful hardwood flooring and an abundance of picture windows to highlight the spacious open floor plan. Relax and enjoy the remodeled Spa-Like primary bathroom with Crosswater London freestanding tub, curbless shower and stunning views of the surrounding hills. With an attention to detail, other features include the new Boral Barcelona tile roof, new HVAC with whole home air filtration system and Generac automatic backup generator.

Outside, the 180 degrees of panoramic Moraga views provide the ultimate backdrop for outdoor living with the pool, lawn, the subtle ambiance of landscape lighting, and multiple conversation areas that bring everything together to create a tranquil, relaxing retreat.

Call agents for more details.

**Larry Jacobs & Kress Hauri**

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**abio**  
PROPERTIES



## Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

# Hippity hoppity, Easter's on its way



Blue star grass and mint are not appetizing to bunnies.



Viburnum is tolerant, tough, and boasts fragrant flowers.



The fragrant flowers of the crabapple tree.



Deer-resistant calendula surrounds the flowering arugula. Flowers are edible.

... continued from Page D1

10. Employ the use of motion detector outdoor lights and motion sensor sprinklers to scare the thieves away.

11. Build raised beds with removable wire tops.

12. Yell and scream and chase the trespassers away to let them know they are not welcome. (But sometimes they are so adorable you'll want to snap some photos first!)

13. Don't intentionally feed the nature critters.

14. When all else fails and you need help to trap the marauders, contact trapper Chris Davies of Full Boar Depradation, LLC at 925-698-1845, [www.fullboar-llc.com](http://www.fullboar-llc.com). The insured company is licensed by the State of California Department of Fish and Wildlife to hunt and trap offending wildlife.

Stems and leaves that are scratchy, thorny, hairy, fuzzy, bitter, spicy, sappy, stiff, leathery or toxic will keep the predators away as they hunt for their next meal. Most varieties of gray or silver-hued plants are usually not appreciated by the hungry hunters, either.

Although there is no such thing as wildlife-proof plants, here is a list of probable safe bets to introduce into your landscape.

Remember that no plants or trees are 100% animal-proof, but many are resistant. Do your homework to find the right plants for the correct place. Be diligent. Be watchful. Experiment.

The fragrance of spring fills the air and egg-citing Easter is nigh. I'm hoping that

Peter Cottontail comes hopping down the bunny trail bringing baskets full of joy to every girl and boy. And mostly chocolate bunnies!

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.  
Happy Easter and Passover.

- Foxglove
- Lavender
- Peony
- Sage
- Society Garlic
- Artemis
- New Zealand Flax
- Portulaca
- Boxwood
- Forsythia
- Begonia
- Calla Lily
- Four O'Clock
- Yarrow
- Star Jasmine
- Muscari
- Ferns
- Naked Ladies
- Bearded Iris
- Birds of Paradise
- Hellebore
- Columbine
- Gazania
- Primrose
- Chinese Fringe Flower
- Honeysuckle
- Viburnum
- Barberry
- Butterfly bush
- Silky Dogwood
- Elderberry
- Weigela
- Spirea
- Pink Bower Vine
- Allium
- Privet
- Abelia
- Cleome
- Freesia
- Iris
- Blue star
- Oregano
- Fennel
- Sunflower
- Marigold
- Calendula
- Gladiola
- Ornamental Grasses



Bunnies are adorable and for Easter; we prefer the chocolate ones.

**Save the Date** The Orinda Garden Club is holding a plant sale on April 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Orinda Library Plaza with members propagated plants plus over 30+ varieties of tomato seeds, a Firewise demonstration table, and a garden marketplace. The event will be socially distanced and well-spaced outdoors throughout the Orinda Library Plaza. Look for your special seedlings at this local plant sale. Proceeds will benefit educational projects.

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**Cynthia Brian sits in a garden of Muscari,, cyclamen, and lavender freesia.**

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](http://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](http://www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store). Receive a FREE inspirational music DVD.

Hire Cynthia for writing projects, garden consults, and inspirational lectures.

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# LAMORINDA'S LEADING INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE FIRM

## ORINDA



Pending!

### 22 Greenwood Court

Classic one-level 5 bed/ 4 bath home on cul-de-sac w/ indoor-outdoor flow & nature at your doorstep!

**\$2,050,000**

## ORINDA



New Listing!

### 63 Ivy Drive

Charming 6 bed/ 4 bath 2965 sqft home on .40 acre lot. Conveniently close to 12 years of top rated schools.

**\$1,835,000**

## ORINDA



New Listing!

### 37 La Cintilla

Mid-century 4 bed/ 3 bath home w/ majestic oaks, expansive pool, & breathtaking views in OCC neighborhood.

**\$1,695,000**

## ORINDA



New Price!

### 42 Camino Lenada

Charming ease of living 3 bed/ 2 bath home 1601 sqft home at end of private cul-de-sac in prime Country Club area.

**\$1,350,000**

## ORINDA



Lot!

### 20 Oak Court

One of Orinda's last near-acre VIEW properties that is ready to build on & is in a mature neighborhood. Great views!

**\$780,000**

## ORINDA



### 67 Brookwood Road # 3

Rarely available 2 bed/ 1 bath first floor condo in charming Orinda Oaks, close to BART, shops, theater & restaurants.

**\$525,000**

## LAFAYETTE



New Listing!

### 9 Mountain View Lane

Custom 4 bed/ 3.5 bath home on 9.93 private acres w/ views of the Lafayette Reservoir, pool, & surrounding hills.

**\$7,990,000**

## LAFAYETTE



### 22 Northridge Lane

Fabulous gated entry ridge line retreat w/ 4 bed/ 4.5 bath + office/den. Minutes to downtown w/ views of Reservoir!

**\$2,695,000**

## LAFAYETTE



New Listing!

### 761 Silver Crest Court

Spacious 4488 sqft 5+ bed/ 4 bath traditional home on 1/2 acre in sought-after Lafayette's Silver Springs Estates.

**\$2,495,000**

## LAFAYETTE



### 1084 Brown Avenue

Single story 3 bed/ 2.5 bath remodel w/ built-in BBQ & patio + grass play area & large patio. Mt. Diablo views!

**\$1,649,000**

## LAFAYETTE



Pending!

### 3026 Bradbury Drive

Sublime 3 bed/ 2 bath 1927 sqft home on level .28 acres parcel in Lafayette's most ideal Burton Valley neighborhood.

**\$1,575,000**

## LAFAYETTE



### 3411 Sweet Drive

Beautiful 3 bed/ 3 bath single story 2197 sqft Ranch style home w/ views of the Lafayette hills. Close to downtown!

**\$1,550,000**

## WALNUT CREEK



New Price!

### 1918 Lakeshire Drive

Beautifully renovated 2 bed/ 2.5 bath overlooking lake w/ easy access to pool, gym, clubhouse, & golf course!

**\$2,050,000**

## ALAMO

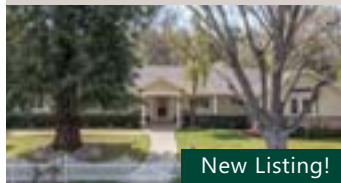


### 10 Serenity Lane

Majestic gated 12 bed/ 13 bath/ 3 half bath chateau w/ vineyard, 20 showcase car barn, & trophy club room.

**\$19,500,000**

## ALAMO



New Listing!

### 3151 Lunada Lane

Remodeled one-level 5 bed/ 4 bath Ranch home on 1/2 acre flat lot w/ pool, hot tub, patio & crushed granite firepit area.

**\$2,650,000**

## LIVERMORE



Lot!

### 10 Storybook Lane

Perfect opportunity to build in amazing setting near Mt. Diablo on 8 acre gated parcel w/ room for horses & stable.

**\$895,000**

## The Village Associates:

Ashley Battersby

Patricia Battersby

Shannon Conner

Meara Dunsmore

Linda Ehrich

Joan Evans

Linda Friedman

Claudia Gohler

Dexter Honens II

April Matthews

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Village

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