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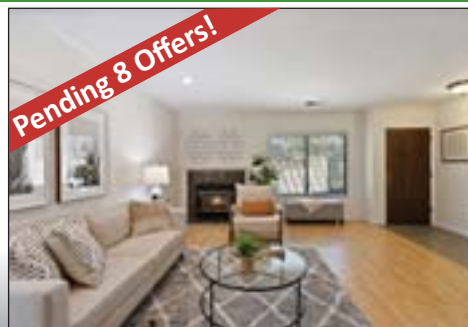
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## Lamorinda Weekly wins journalism award



The Lamorinda Weekly was awarded second place in the 2020 California Journalism Awards announced May 18 for the article "Residents gather for peaceful protests amid pandemic" (published June 10, 2020) by Pippa Fisher and Sophie Braccini. The category was "Coverage of Protests and Racial Justice-News or Feature Stories for Weekly's 11,000 to 25,000." – J. Wake

[www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1408/Residents-gather-for-peaceful-protests-amid-pandemic.html](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1408/Residents-gather-for-peaceful-protests-amid-pandemic.html)

## Local businesses struggle to fill staff openings

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For John and Colleen McCormick, owners of Lamorinda Music, finding student workers hasn't been an issue – but finding adults to fill full-time positions is proving more problematic.

"Over the last several months, we have had a full-time (adult) position open and a part-time (student) position open," John McCormick said. "We were able to fill the student position fairly quickly and we received numerous applications. The adult full-time position was more difficult." They used a combination of word-of-mouth, social media posting, posting on the Chamber job posting board, and posting on Indeed, the job search engine. "For the full-time position, we got zero responses on Indeed. The one place we got a response, and a successful hire, was from an Instagram post. So it was really about local knowledge and networking to make the right connection," he said.

Colleen and John work every day the store is open to ensure the store is staffed. "We are very happy with our recent hire, but we were committed to keeping our standards very high and we would not compromise on what we wanted for an employee. We would not sacrifice customer service, even if it took a while to fill the position."

Laura Magu, co-owner of

Reve Bistro, has been dealing with a cook shortage, even before the pandemic. "It's worse now," she said. "We're not even getting applicants anymore. We have two cook positions open, as well as a food runner position." To try to entice applicants, they have offered employee referral incentives, paid job postings in several locations, and promoted on social media. Magu also reached out to culinary school programs but they are not meeting now so they haven't heard back. "We've also examined ourselves and how we can become better employers and bosses and create a great work environment," Magu said.

One person who had previously worked as a cook decided to "wait until there was more work in solar construction" – he had been laid off two months ago due to lack of work, Magu said. "Two said the BART schedule (lack of p.m. service) kept them from working. Two former employees chose not to come back for fear of health reasons and wanting to try something new. Most people apply, then don't respond to emails or phone calls to schedule interviews."

Magu has been told that the Employment Development Department only requires recipients show they are applying places. "I don't know how true this is," Magu said, but three applicants said they would only work for cash so

they could maintain unemployment. "Some cooks are still furloughed from jobs with corporate kitchens (Google) and are waiting until they know if they can go back when San Francisco opens back up."

For now, Magu said they are filling in personally, "working shifts those hourly workers could be working." They are also using Instawork, a temp service for the hospitality industry, and outsourcing positions that can be outsourced such as night cleaning.

Navigating rules for nonprofits that rely on large public fundraising events is also proving to be a frustrating experience. Chamber Executive Director Jay Lifson recently sent a letter to Gov. Gavin Newsom describing his frustration, stating how Contra Costa County is following state guidelines on reopening but is not providing guidance to municipalities and nonprofits about preparing to open festivals and outdoor events after June 15.

"Many of these organizations will go out of business without this important revenue source," Lifson wrote, adding, "We need direction and we need it now."

With luck Lamorinda will soon return to normal. Until then business owners and nonprofits are doing what they can ... and are keeping their fingers crossed for a brighter tomorrow.

## GOVERNING BOARD VACANCY APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES

The Lafayette School District Governing Board has a vacant position due to the resignation of a Board member effective May 13, 2021. The Board is proceeding with filling the vacancy by provisional appointment. The person appointed shall hold office until the next regularly scheduled election for District Board members (November, 2022) and shall be afforded all the powers and duties of a Board member upon appointment.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE** To be considered a candidate for a provisional appointment to the Lafayette School District Governing Board, an application packet must be submitted no later than Monday, June 14, 2021. The application packet must include:

- Letter of interest
- Current resume
- Completed application form

Application forms are available at the Lafayette School District Office, 3477 School St., Lafayette, or online at [www.lafsd.org](http://www.lafsd.org). All applications are subject to the California Public Records Act and may be viewed by the public upon request.

Candidates are considered eligible if they are: 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state, a resident of the school district, a registered voter, not an employee of the district, and not disqualified from holding a civil office by the constitution or laws of the state.

**APPLICATION PACKETS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAIL OR IN PERSON AT THE LAFAYETTE SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE, 3477 School Street Lafayette, BY NO LATER THAN 4:00 P.M. on Monday, June 14, 2021.**

**SELECTION PROCEDURE** The Board will interview candidates at a public meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 23, and subject to public notice. The Board will accept oral or written public input and will select the provisional appointee by a majority vote.

Within 10 days following the Board meeting, the District will post a notice at all District schools and in the newspaper stating that the vacancy has been filled and that unless a petition is filed that meets the requirements of law within 30 days of the provisional appointment, the appointment will become effective.

**LAFAYETTE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
3477 School Street, Lafayette, CA 94549, (925) 927-3500

## In Memory

### William E. Boyd

On March 30, 2021, William E. Boyd, loving husband and father, passed away at the age of 98.

Bill was born in Auxvasse, Missouri, to Frank and Ruth Bailey Boyd, whose families had settled in the area in the early 1800s.

Bill was raised on the family farm, enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942. He served as a B-17 bombardier and was shot down over Germany on July 21, 1944. Bill spent the remainder of the war in Stalag Luft I and received a Purple Heart due to taking flak in his right shoulder.

After liberation, Bill graduated from the University of Missouri with a degree in Business Administration in 1949. He took a sales position for Mex-R-Co Refractories, subsequently purchased by Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corp. He was transferred to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he met Marion Campbell. They were married in October of 1953. Bill was transferred to Mexico, Missouri in 1959, where the family lived until he was transferred to corporate headquarters in Oakland, California in 1973. He and his family settled in Moraga.

Bill worked for National Refractories after retiring from Kaiser, then served as a consultant until fully retiring at the age of 80.

Due to his wartime injury Bill learned to play golf left-handed, an activity he enjoyed into his 90s, when he stopped in order to stay with and care for his beloved wife.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents and four siblings: Kathryn, Helen, Tom, and Frank, Jr. He leaves behind his wife, Marion (Molly); five children: Ed, Greg, Andrew, Rod, and Libby McLaughlin; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Bill was an elder in the Presbyterian church, taught Sunday school, was a Boy Scout leader, a Shriner, a Rotarian, and tirelessly served in many other capacities. He always remembered everyone's name, and he had a gracious word and a warm smile for everyone. He cared for his beloved wife until his dying day. He will be missed by all who knew him.

## Reporter Wanted

### Required Qualifications:

Excellent writing and communication skills. Ethical and professional. Live or work in or near the Lamorinda area and have the ability to write balanced, researched, well-structured articles.

Being a reporter/writer for the Lamorinda Weekly is a great opportunity to help make a difference in your community.

For 15 years our team has brought civic news and interesting feature stories to neighbors and friends in the Lamorinda area. If you are interested in becoming a team member and are ready to discover amazing stories all around you, give us a call.

Please send your resume and writing sample to  
[wendy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com) or call (925) 377-0977

