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The Friends of the Moraga Adobe ride in horse-drawn style along the parade route.

Photo Sora O'Doherty

From flags to vintage planes, it was a flying Fourth in Orinda

By Sora O'Doherty

Having only missed one year since its inception in 1984, the Orinda Fourth of July Parade was back in 2021, a little bit smaller, but still replete with bands, politicians, cars and even airplanes. With 38 entries, the parade was announced at its starting point in the Theatre District by Bill Cosden and on the Village side by the "Voice of Orinda," Steve Harwood and Scott Butler at the Orinda Community Center. At

the conclusion of the parade, there was a special fly-over of vintage planes by the Memorial Squadron in honor of America's Independence Day and in support of the "Best Home Town" parade in America.

The parade committee was co-chaired by Diane Lantz and President Bill Waterman of the Orinda Association. This year, for the first time ever, the event was live-streamed by three separate cameras filming from different angles. The live-stream was also recorded, and is available for viewing on

YouTube.

The event opened with the raising of the American flag at 9 a.m. The Lewiston Jazz Band from Berkeley played at 9:30 a.m., and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Friends of the Orinda Library held its annual book sale on the library plaza. Before the parade began in the Theatre District, the winners of the winter Lamorinda Idol sang the national anthem.

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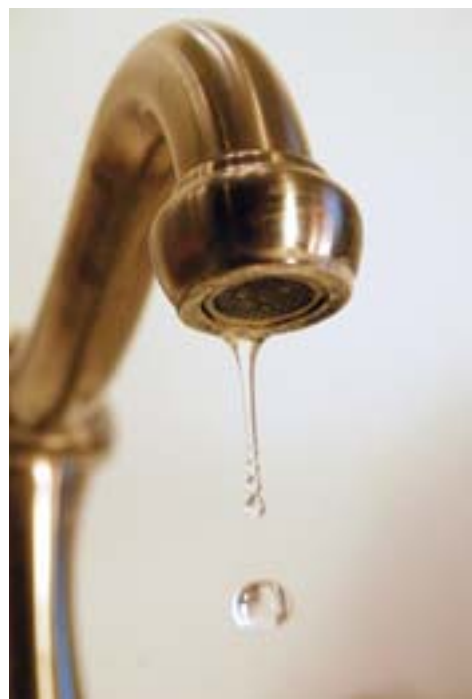
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Peter Liu, Ph.D.
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Local residents asked to reduce water usage

By Diane Claytor



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As if more than a year of a pandemic and staying home wasn't enough, Lamorinda residents now find themselves in the midst of a drought brought on because, according to East Bay Municipal Utility District Board President Doug Linney, we just ended "the driest year on record in the East Bay." As of July 1, precipitation was 51% of average and the total water storage system is only 63% full. For those reasons, in April, EBMUD's board declared a Stage-1 drought shortage and requested that customers voluntarily reduce water consumption by 10%.

Because of previous drought declarations, EBMUD customers have grown accustomed to conserving water. In fact, the agency happily states that compared to water use at the beginning of the last serious drought in 2013, East Bay residents are already using 13% less water.

With a possible four stages, Stage

1 is the lowest level drought and a voluntary 10% reduction in water consumption should be quite easy to achieve. Some recommendations from EBMUD:

- Landscape watering should be done only three times or less a week at dawn or dusk.
- Check irrigation systems, faucets, showers and toilets for leaks. (According to Nelsy Rodriguez, EBMUD public information representative, during the last drought, leaky toilets accounted for thousands of wasted gallons of water.)
- Only run the dishwasher and washing machine with full loads.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth, washing your face, shampooing your hair, shaving. "If you don't actively need water, don't use it," Rodriguez suggests.
- Replace non-native plants and lawns with native, drought-tolerant plants. "Now's the time to do this," Rodriguez says, noting that there are many beautiful native plants that don't need water. "This is the time to

let thirsty landscape die off and then in the fall, when the rains hopefully return, plant natives so mother earth can give the organic water back to the plants."

In warmer climates, such as we enjoy in Lamorinda, Rodriguez reminds that it's especially important to water either early in the morning or later in the evening, when evaporation is less. She also notes that drip irrigation is more conservation-friendly than spraying with a hose.

Rodriguez states EBMUD believes we'll remain in Stage 1 drought through the summer and doesn't anticipate mandatory rationing, additional conservation requirements or drought surcharges at this point. "We won't know for sure how robust our water supply is until the end of the next rain year, which runs from October through April or May," she reports.

EBMUD does have water and, Rodriguez says that it's in a strong position compared to many other agencies.

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Lafayette Volunteer Opportunities

There are currently openings on the following City Lafayette Commissions/Committees

- Capital Projects Assessment (CPAC)
- Community Center Foundation
- Citizen Advisory Committee to CCTA
- Creeks Committee
- DSIMPIC
- Environmental Task Force
- Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission
- Transportation and Circulation Commission
- Youth Commission

For additional information on these volunteer positions visit the city's website: www.lovelafayette.org

Hot Topics
Or e-mail City Clerk Joanne Robbins, jrobbins@lovelafayette.org
Application deadline August 6, 2021.
Positions open until filled.

Council Member Burks resigns position

By Lou Fancher

At the July 12 city council meeting there will be an empty seat on the virtual dais. At the June 28 council meeting Council Member Cameron Burks announced his immediate resignation from the council, effective at 9 a.m. June 29.

"There is no place like our town," Burks said. "I urge everyone to get involved and to volunteer. It's our organic community-based leadership that has really brought us to where we are. It's vital for it to continue." He cited a decision to spend more time with his family as the primary reason for his departure.

Elected to the council in 2016, Burks during his terms has served as Mayor, Vice Mayor, Council Member, Chair of the City Council Public Safety and Legislative Committees, and primary Council liaison to the city's Crime Prevention Commission & Emergency Preparedness Commission.

Mayor Susan Candell said in the meeting she wished she could convince him to "take [his resignation] back." In an email sent in response to a request for comments about how the city will fill the vacancy, Candell wrote, "We have policies and state laws that govern how to replace City Councilmembers, and we will be reviewing and discussing them at our next meeting."

About Burks' contributions to the city, Candell said feedback she has received from the public since the announcement indicate the community respects and appreciates his dedication to the city and understands the decision was difficult. "We will miss his powerful presence and great leadership that has benefited Lafayette in so many ways during his time



Photo provided

Council Member Cam Burks announces resignation at virtual council meeting.

on Council," said Candell. "We all wish him the best, and hope he can return to City Council someday!"

Burks, in an email after the meeting, wrote, "The decision wasn't sudden. I gave it a lot of thought. This was the hardest decision that I've made in public service, and I served for over a decade as an American diplomat. I made a commitment to this community when I was elected and I don't take this lightly; these are my neighbors and my friends that I was working for. After serious thought, I came to the conclusion that I needed to focus on my family, and that I needed to calibrate in a substantive way. This drove me to step down. This is an important positive in my life and I believe that everyone should always be able, and feel confident, to pivot when it comes to taking care of your spouse and kids."

Invited to share one highlight from his terms of service, Burks' said: "Being with the people of Lafayette. Spending time, in person, online, one-on-one or in a group, with the residents and business people of our city. There is nothing I enjoyed more than just having a cup of coffee and talking. I learned so much from so

many people every single day of my time in office. It helped me govern better and it helped me stay grounded and balanced in my long-term vision and strategies for the future of our community. I will really miss doing this."

Burks said he will spend the time that otherwise would have been consumed by his duties on the council by attending high school football and lacrosse games, cooking dinners (and doing the dishes), caring for his spouse and children, and traveling on college tours. In promising continued support and activism within the community, he said, "I won't be disappearing, I'll be around. Just look for that green 'Love Lafayette' baseball cap and me having coffee and reading the paper early on Saturday and Sunday mornings at Papillon. Please say hi!"

Vice Mayor Teresa Geringer, council members Carl Anduri and Gina Dawson, and city manager Niroop Srivatsa, at the June 28 meeting, expressed their respect for Burks' courageous choice and their continued reliance on Burks for advice, which will likely mean you will not often find him sitting alone while perusing the daily headlines of the local paper.

City of Lafayette to move forward with RHNA appeal

By Jennifer Wake

In a continued effort to understand the methodology behind the housing unit amounts assigned to the city of Lafayette as part of the regional housing needs allocation of 441,176 units in California, established by the State Department of Housing and Community Development, Mayor Susan Candell and Council Member Gina Dawson met on June 16 with Dave Vautin and Aksel Olsen of the Association of Bay Area Governments/Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

According to a staff report presented by Planning and Building Director Greg Wolff and Housing Consultant Diana Elrod at the June 28 city council meeting, the meeting with ABAG/MTC on June 16 "confirmed that the Lafayette BART station's parking lots - nearly 11 acres in total size and considered 'public lands' targeted in one of the strategies - resulted in, at least in part, the increase of 463 units from Lafayette's 'illustrative' RHNA allocation of 1,651 to 2,114 units."

Candell, Dawson and staff believe including Lafayette's BART station in

calculating RHNA numbers was done in error since the parking lots are 100% within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones as published by Cal Fire. The draft RHNA Plan notes that the Final Blueprint strategies focus future growth away from the highest fire risk zones.

Wolff and Elrod noted that the BART parking lots, if developed according to AB 2923, could result in at least 822 units of housing, which could be problematic since the state attorney general has recently filed law suits against proposed developments in very high fire sever-

ity zones in several parts of the state.

The city, as part of its appeal that must be submitted to ABAG prior to July 9, will request the current draft allocation of 2,114 units be reduced by 822 units, resulting in an allocation of 1,292 units. This allocation would come closer to RHNA allocations currently assigned to Moraga (1,118 units) and Orinda (1,359 units). The council voted unanimously to authorize the subcommittee to make any final edits prior to submitting the final appeal.

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City Council approves budget proposal, discusses ARPA funds

By Lou Fancher

Having heard a June 14 presentation of the city's fiscal year 2020-21 proposed budget and workplan, the council approved the budget proposal at its June 28 council meeting. Presented at the earlier meeting by City Manager Niroop Srivatsa and Administrative Services Director Tracy Robinson, newly hired Economic Development Manager Thomas Myers joined Srivatsa and Robinson at the June 28 council meeting at which the budget was approved unanimously. Myers outlined in a PowerPoint presentation the terms and possible applications related to the \$6.37 million American Rescue Plan Act funding the city of Lafayette will receive in two installments during 2021 and 2022.

Srivatsa, in the earlier report on the budget proposal, said the city faced exceptional challenges during the pandemic. She credited the city's "conservative fiscal policies and swift action to cut almost \$1 million from the budget" with allowing the city to "weather it well."

Four priorities set by the council in the face of revenue loss and the economic downturn during the COVID-19 public health crisis are upheld in the proposed budget. Work to maintain pedestrian safety and safety around schools has the traffic and street maintenance budget increased by \$140,000 for striping walkway and pathway projects and other measures. Wifi protection and utility safety measures received \$250,000 through a grant that was deposited into the emergency preparedness budget and will fund the purchase of radios and other emergency related equipment. Srivatsa said the city engineer is working with the capital projects assessment committee to incorporate a utility safety overview in the goals and future recommendations established.

A third priority, to reduce traffic congestion and promote multimodal mobility injects \$93,000 into the fund going to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for traffic calming projects. Staff recommended that because the CIP sinking fund is depleted, the council should make additions to the Traffic Calming and Public Safety Sinking Fund. Srivatsa said such preventative action could prove essential, should

an emergency situation or event cause a need for capital to respond immediately.

The fourth goal set by the council, to create a vibrant downtown and support the business community, touched on the ARPA funding aimed at restoring and revitalizing the local economy. Robinson said the reserve at the end of fiscal year June 2021 is estimated to be \$13.4 million, or 88% of reserve. With an anticipated expenditures increase in FY2021-22 of \$2.5 million, the projected reserve at the end of the fiscal year June 2022 is \$11.7 million, or 68% of reserve. (The city's targeted reserve historically has been 60%; a target met many times over the past several years prior to the pandemic.)

In his presentation, Myers emphasized the eligible applications and distribution terms established for ARPA funds. The payments arrive in two tranches, one in July 2021, the other other July 2022, and must be used by Dec. 31, 2024. Cities receiving the funds may use the payments for government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue they experienced due to the COVID-19 health emergency.

Myers said the approved application of funds included allocations related to direct response to COVID-19's negative impact on households, small businesses, nonprofits and others; premium pay for essential workers employed during the pandemic; government services related to the loss of revenue collected in the most recent full fiscal year (which for Lafayette is the year ending June 30, 2019); and investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure.

With total revenue losses between December 2020 and December 2023 projected to be \$8,113,674 and exceeding the amount received from the ARPA fund, Myers said the council will need to determine the best use of those funds. Options include placing the entire amount into the General Fund, directing it into the business community overall or specifically targeted to individual businesses -- and broader considerations, such as whether to provide immediate relief or take steps to preserve the city's long-term economic viability by applying the funds to provide basic city services.

... continued on Page A9

Music fills the air in Lafayette



Photo J. Wake

Music and sounds of merriment filled the air at Plaza Park June 22, courtesy of local '60s, '70s and '80s cover band The Tuneriders (Duane Campbell, Rick Abbott and Ken Cooper), which kicked off the return of the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce's sold-out Taste of Lafayette event.



Lafayette Public Meetings

City Council

Regular Meeting
Monday, July 12, 7 p.m.
Teleconference via City of Lafayette's You Tube Channel:
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>

Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, July 19, 7 p.m.
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>

Design Review

Wednesday, July 14, 7 p.m. Zoom
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube
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Town agrees to reformatted Wedgewood Weddings lease agreement

By Vera Kochan

Issues concerning some aspects of the lease agreement with Wedgewood Weddings, previously discussed during the June 9 town council meeting, sent staff back to the proverbial drawing board to make adjustments that were more beneficial to Moraga and its residents. Major concerns involved the term length of the agreement, lack of advanced warning to nearby neighbors, assignment provi-

sions, and noise levels. According to Parks and Recreation Director Breyana Brandt's latest presentation during the June 23 council meeting, "The initial term lease was for 10 years, with two options to extend for an additional five years each. The extension options have been revised to enable the tenant to initiate the request to extend the lease at year eight of the initial 10-year period." If Wedgewood meets all provisions of the lease agreement, such as not defaulting on payments, being good custodians of the property called Hacienda de las Flores located at 2100 Donald Drive, and being a good neighbor, then the town would approve either of the five-year extension periods.

Community outreach involved sending an informational letter that was mailed to 145 residents within a 500-foot vicinity of the Hacienda informing recipients of the potential lease agreement, along with links to pertinent information from past meetings and town staff contact information.

The Assignment Provision was revised to ensure that operations continue as originally agreed, with a family-operated business model, in the event of any potential transfers or sales on Wedgewood's part.

Once again, noise levels were addressed by staff. "Given the additional research and results of the noise simulation exercise, the maximum decibel level has been reduced from 80 dB to 75 dB." Brandt's report continues, "Staff maintains that the presence of an on-site event operator will ensure consistent management of the music and noise on the property. Currently, the town has limited ability to control noise as there is no staff on site. Current operations rely upon the event host's adherence to the noise restrictions and neighbor complaints."

Those complaints were once again vocalized during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Neighbors to the Hacienda expressed their anger at the consistently loud music during evening events, which some felt has gotten



The Hacienda prepares for a wedding

Photo provided

progressively worse over the last five years. One resident mentioned having emailed Wedgewood twice with questions and received no response to date.

With regards to addressing all of the worries concerning the continuation of excessive noise under a Wedgewood managed venue, Council Member David Stromberg responded, "The facility that the town owns is intended to be used in the manner that it has been and will continue to be under Wedgewood - holding affairs, weddings, other kinds of affairs. We are not going to stop having affairs at the Hacienda. I'm sorry that you have had your personal lives interfered with by DJs who were irresponsible in the past."

Stromberg went on to say that the town council is responsible for looking for ways to generate revenue for Moraga and that this new arrangement with Wedgewood will help do that.

Speaking in general Stromberg continued, "When you bought your home and you knew that it was located in close proximity to the Hacienda, you bought your home with the knowledge that it was used for weddings, and weddings have music. If you buy a house near the Soda Aquatic Center, do you have the right

to say that they shouldn't have swim meets there? If you buy a home near the Campo football field, do you have a right to say you're not allowed to have football games Friday night there?"

"The best you can expect and ask for is that someone take reasonable charge to keep within a realm of tolerance the interference that you will be subjected to during the term of ownership of your houses."

A new provision to the lease requires an initial capital investment in the property from Wedgewood in the amount of \$253,000. Additionally, the town will be able to reallocate Parks and Rec staff to develop new revenue generating programs and work on special projects, rather than spend their time on event planning, when the lease takes effect on Nov. 1.

With the established base rent per month of \$20,000 and Wedgewood's contribution of \$48,000 annually toward the capital investment fund for the property commencing 2024, the town council voted unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing the town manager to enter into an initial 10-year lease agreement with Wedgewood Weddings for exclusive event and wedding management of the Hacienda.

Moraga Garden Center is saying Goodbye

Moraga Garden Center will be closing on October 31, 2021. I would like to thank all of our customers for their patronage over the years. I have enjoyed the people as much as the plants, and many of my customers have become my friends.

It's a shame that I am retiring now, because after 40+ years in the industry, I'm finally getting the hang of it! I am 68 years old, and my wife has been struggling with a degenerative disease for years and needs more and more assistance. Even with my wife's limitations, there are still things we can do together and enjoy, but these moments are becoming fewer and have become increasingly precious. I am not willing to sacrifice these moments to stay in business.

The nursery was originally built, believe it or not, as a temporary nursery with a more permanent suite to be determined later. This was well before the passage of the Americans with disabilities act. We were recently hit with an ADA compliance lawsuit by a serial plaintiff. To comply we would have to rebuild the nursery from the ground up, which would be impractical at this time. This has made it difficult if not impossible to sell the nursery. Therefore, we will be liquidating and shutting the nursery down.

Moraga Garden Center has never been about merely selling plants; it has always been about making people better and smarter gardeners and by extension better stewards of the earth. And we have always striven to expose people to the wonder and diversity of the plant world, not just the same old stuff you see everywhere else. Hopefully, we have achieved, at least in some small way, our goals.

Happy gardening,
Kenny

ALERTWildfire cameras give Lamorinda first responders the edge during fire season



View from Moraga's Alta Mesa camera

Photo provided

By Vera Kochan

The concept of cameras located on mountain peaks, taking real-time videos of local topography in order to alert fire crews to a potential disaster, sounds like an idea that should have been invented ages ago. In fact, the ALERTWildfire cameras have only been around since 2013, but better late than never as each new fire season approaches with ever increasing drought conditions.

Graham Kent, ALERTWildfire system co-creator and director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory at the University of Nevada, Reno, explained the

key advantages to the cameras. "They help to reduce response time to wildfires; agencies can scale their resources up or down within seconds of confirmation or discovery; agencies are able to follow fire behavior in real-time; the cameras provide critical info to first responders and public during explosive phases, where timely evacuations can save lives; and the cameras provide a watchful eye to reduce the likelihood of re-ignition after containment."

The camera's pilot program began with ALERTTahoe and the deployment of the first Pan-Tilt-Zoom cameras and microwave networks.

... continued on Page A8

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Town Council
Wednesday, July 14, 6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission:
Tuesday, July 20, 6:30 p.m.
Park and Recreation Commission:
Monday, July 19, 7 p.m.
Moraga School District Board Meetings:
Special Board Meeting
Tuesday, Aug. 10, 6 p.m. www.moraga.k12.ca.us.
See also AUHSD meeting page A2



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Moraga renegotiates Mulberry Tree Preschool lease agreement



Photo provided

Mulberry Tree Preschool located next to Moraga Commons Park on St. Mary's Road

By Vera Kochan

The Mulberry Tree Preschool, founded by Robert and Victoria Felton, has been operating since 1972 on land leased from the state of California that was originally intended as part of the Highway 77 right-of-way. With the incorporation of Moraga in 1974, the property along with Moraga Commons Park was acquired by the town. When the original lease of five years expired, a series of year-to-year leases were issued until 1981, when a 10-year lease came into effect. In 1983, the town transferred the lease to new owners William and Maryann McLeod. The town entered into its First Amendment of the Ground Lease in 1989, which extended the lease indefinitely unless terminated by written notice of at least 30 months.

In 2010, the McLeods had the lease transferred to Susan

E. Allison who was Mulberry Tree's director since 2001 and later a part owner since 2003. A Second Amendment of the Ground Lease came into effect in March 2011, changing the lease term of "indefinite" to provide an expiration date of Dec. 31, 2020.

On Jan. 13 of this year, a Third Amendment of the Ground Lease was created for a six-month term that included a \$1,000 per month rent reduction, whereby the school's parking lot could be used by the public during evenings, weekends and holidays. This provision was made in an effort to help Mulberry Tree navigate through the COVID-19 mandates of remaining closed for nearly 8.5 months. Allison was able to reopen the school in December to limited capacity, but had to teach classes alone as she was unable to meet payroll.

By February, enrollment grew enabling her to hire an

additional teacher. The town also offered to extend the term of Allison's lease for six months. The new amendment provided that the town would become owners of the improvements on the property due to Allison expressing the possibility of retiring. After many pleas from parents, she decided to hold off on that plan.

With the lease set to expire on June 30, Allison appeared before the June 23 town council meeting hoping for a Fourth Amendment to the Ground Lease that would extend the proposed three-year lease to a five-year lease with a five-year option; a reasonable limitation on assignment should she decide to retire and pass the school over to a like-minded successor with a similar business model; and have the ability to either remove the modular building or have the option to leave it in exchange for its fair market value, given the fact that she has invested thousands of dollars for improvements.

Council Member David Stromberg began to question Allison in a manner that public commenters later described as a form of cross-examination. "I'm aware that you sent an email out to Mulberry Tree Friends, and you did it to notify them about the status of negotiations with the Town of Moraga regarding lease extensions, correct?"

"Yes," replied Allison. "I had done that after I asked for an option to renew and was told that there would not be one."

Stromberg wanted to know if Allison composed the email herself in which she requested the Mulberry Tree Friends to either forward or make personal additions to, before they forwarded them to the town council. Allison said that her attorney helped her, but clarified that she herself wrote a letter to Mulberry Tree Friends asking for their support in the email campaign to the council.

Stromberg said that he'd read her letter many times and "I noticed you didn't inform the Mulberry Tree Friends, the recipients of your email, that you had notified town staff in April of this year, just a couple of months ago, that you intended to retire. You didn't mention that did you?"

"That is not true," stated Allison. "I notified them much,

much earlier than that."

Stromberg was concerned that Allison was negotiating with a potentially new entity – a corporation that planned on running Mulberry Tree in a Montessori style, rather than the Mulberry Tree method that parents have come to expect and assumed would continue, and that she did not inform the parents of the possibility.

Allison assured Stromberg that she informed the Mulberry Tree Friends that she wanted to be able to choose a successor who would continue the Mulberry Tree style and put it in the hands of someone who would continue to run a preschool.

During the Public Comment portion, participants were emotionally vocal about Stromberg's line of questioning. Many had stated that with all of the young families in Moraga, the town shouldn't lose a preschool.

... continued on Page A10



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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 gets new chipper, funded by Measure R, into service for fire season

By Sora O'Doherty

When Orinda residents voted to tax themselves with Measure R, they were expressing their huge concerns with fire safety. In response to that concern, the Orinda City Council has adopted a number of actions aimed directly at reducing the risk of dam-

age from wildfires in Orinda. Among those was the purchase of a chipper machine and a truck to transport it for use by Orinda residents only. The program supplements the Moraga-Orinda Fire District chipper program, but does not replace MOFD services for Orinda. Although the MOFD chipper program is

currently on hiatus until the fall, the Orinda program will run year-round.

In addition to availing of the city-provided chipper, some Orinda residents are employing private companies to help them get their properties fire-season ready. While the city program will not take down trees or clear

brush, and is limited in the size of the branches or trunks that can be disposed of, professional tree companies can perform both the work of the actually clearing and trimming of trees and can handle larger pieces of wood. Private services can also be seen around Orinda clearing brush and trees.

Appointments for the new Orinda dedicated chipper operating throughout the year can be scheduled with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District by using the link below:
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/b0071155/kMamvpm3EkOibUkfH_ziXg?u=https://www.mofd.org/our-district/fuels-mitigation-fire-prevention/hazardous-wildfire-fuels-reduction-program/wood-chipper-program

Orinda Public Meetings
City Council
Regular Meeting:
Tuesday, July 20, 7 p.m.
By Teleconference Only
Planning Commission
Tuesday, July 13, 7 p.m.
By Teleconference Only
Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission
Wednesday, July 14, 6:30 p.m.
By Teleconference Only

Friends succeed in raising more than \$500K; purchase of Moraga Adobe assured



By Sora O'Doherty

The Friends of the Moraga Adobe have raised more than enough funds to meet the \$500,000 price to purchase the adobe. The Friends will take title to the building, restored by developer J&J Ranch in September and will continue fundraising with a goal of funding a half-million-dollar annuity to provide for running the adobe as a public museum and learning center.

According to the Friends, this is a huge milestone that means the Adobe will be saved for future generations to enjoy. The developers are currently rehabilitating the Adobe to its 1848 configuration which includes the original two rooms plus three additional bedrooms. After the building's rehabilitation is complete FJMA will own the Adobe and surrounding 2-plus acres and will work on opening it to the public.

President of the FJMA Kent Long said that the announcement was "welcome news that we have been waiting a decade to see." In its newsletter to the community, the Friends noted that they could not have done it without strong community support. In particular, the Moraga Historical Society was one of the first organizations to come forward, pledging to raise \$100,000 toward the purchase, an ambitious goal which they recently met. Other community groups including the Orinda Community Foundation, Orinda Historical Society, Orinda Parks & Recreation Foundation, Orinda Woman's Club, and the Miramonte Latin Club have all donated to help make this possible.

The Friends are currently finalizing categories in which to honor donors. Bricks that will be used to construct walkways around the facility can be purchased and will bear the name and message of the donor.

In other FJMA news, the

group elected a new slate of officers, with Kent Long remaining as president, Tania DeGroot as vice president and Jeff Boreo as secretary. Former treasurer Bob Thompson has moved to Tennessee, but will continue to back up new treasurer, Margaret Beck. Beck first joined FJMA as a volunteer in 2019, inspired by her love of history, architecture and her own family legacy of adobe preservation. Her mother grew up in the Customs House in Yuma, the oldest adobe building in Arizona – and thanks to her grandmother and the local ladies' Assistance League, that building was restored and turned into a museum. The group also adopted a proclamation honoring architect James Wright, who retired from the board. The FJMA recognized his work on gathering the history of the adobe, offering his home for a fundraising fandango before the COVID-19 pandemic, and creating a 3D model of the building.

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25A Orinda Way about to break ground and, unfortunately, a newly repaved street

By Sora O'Doherty

Just as the Orinda City Council was about to approve a contract for the repaving of the entire length of Orinda Way, the developer of 25A Orinda Way announced that they are about to break ground on the project. Developer Paul Ugenti won approval from the council in June of 2020 for The Station, a mixed-use develop-



Lamo archive

ment combining office space with retail and restaurants, as well as some community amenities; it will be the first major development in downtown Orinda since Theatre Square in 1989.

Public Works Director Larry Theis pulled the repaving contract from the city's consent calendar because he wanted to avoid the surprise to the council or the public that might occur if they observed the street being repaved, and then quickly cut into by the developer. "It's not ideal," Theis agreed, but he explained to the council how the repaving project was being largely funded through federal grants, and how the contract offered an excellent price that the city might not be able to match if the repaving were delayed. However, he explained to the council that after repaving, the street would be subject to a moratorium that requires much more extensive restoration when a street is cut into within five years of repaving.

Council Member Inga Miller wondered if the federal funds could be redirected to another shovel-ready project, but Theis said the funds were not easily transferable. He advised against delaying the

repaving of Orinda Way because it is unknown how long the construction at 25A will take and also because it will only affect a small portion of the repaved roadway.

Other considerations include that the developer will need to place a crane on the street, and there will be dump trucks removing earth that will be excavated from the site traveling on the newly paved road as well. It is possible that instead of totally closing one traffic lane, it could be rerouted through the parking lot in front of the Orinda Community Center. Vice Mayor Dennis Fay suggested that they might be able to locate the crane in the parking lot behind 25A, but Theis said that there were other issues, including the placement of a

construction trailer. The work could take as long as one year and, he added, the developer has been trying to work with the neighbors, but it hasn't gone well.

Mayor Amy Worth expressed concern about the damage to the newly repaved road caused by the crane and the trucks. Theis said that in terms of possible reimbursement for damage to the road, it will be easier to point to the damage if the road has just been repaved. The repaving is scheduled to start in early August.

New city manager David Biggs said that the good news is that there are two good news stories, the repaving of Orinda Way and the long-anticipated development arriving in downtown Orinda.

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Orinda sets aside over \$100K to improve Brookwood Road after fuels mitigation



Image provided

By Sora O'Doherty

The unintended consequences of removing dead trees and brush from between Brookwood Road and High-

way 24 left local residents feeling exposed to the danger of cars accidentally exiting the freeway, increased noise, and having their homes exposed to lights and views from which they had previously been protected.

The Orinda City Council moved quickly to reassure residents that their concerns would be addressed by the city.

In the Capital Improvement Projects plan, \$10,000 had been allocated for the study of the problem. In adopting the plan and the biennial budget at a special meeting on June 29, the city council also set aside an additional \$100,000 towards the work, after a plan has been agreed upon. The additional funds were bookmarked for Brookwood Road at the suggestion of Vice Mayor Dennis Fay, with the approval of the rest of the city council, with the exception of Council Member Nick Kosla who was not present owing to an excused absence.

Mayor Amy Worth expressed her appreciation to staff for not only dealing quickly with complaints from the residents of the area, but for also considering the aesthetic effects in addition to the safety concerns.

Director of Public Works Larry Theis presented the council with a number of possible alternatives that could improve the area. The section of land that borders Brookwood on one side and Highway 24 on the other side varies both in width and elevation. Starting near the curve of

Brookwood to Spring Road there is very little separation between the road and the freeway, and the land is very flat there. However, as Brookwood approaches downtown Orinda, the distance between the road and the freeway increases up to 40 feet, and the elevation of Brookwood over Highway 24 rises from flat to 8 to 10 feet, or about a two-to-one ratio.

There are several pieces of protection currently in place alongside the highway and maintained by Caltrans. This said that staff has been meeting with Caltrans and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority to consider alternatives. He included in the staff report photographs and explanations of a number of different types of barriers that could be considered, ranging from chain link fencing, perhaps with artificial foliage on it, to dark tinted polycarbonate sheets that would function as a sort of sound wall as well as a barrier.

Theis said that the next steps will include involving a landscape architect, approaching the neighborhood to get feedback about preferred alternatives, and cooperating with other agencies.

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Exercises in Moraga train area firefighters and reduce flammable fuels



Photos Sora O'Doherty

By Sora O'Doherty

In late June a controlled burn at the John Muir Land Trust's Painted Rock property in Moraga served the dual purpose of reducing fuels that might feed a wildfire and providing an opportunity to train firefighters from around the Bay Area. Moraga-Orinda Fire District Battalion Chief Steve Gehling was the incident commander.

Moraga residents were warned that they might smell or see smoke during the exercises June 21-24. Bystanders

came from as far as Walnut Creek, from where they could see the smoke.

The exercises started at 10 a.m. and concluded no later than 5 p.m. each day. According to Gehling, 10 MOFD firefighters were joined by 20 firefighters from East Bay Regional Parks, three from the Berkeley Fire Department, and four each from the Oakland Fire Department, the Military Ocean Terminal Concord Federal firefighters, and Cal Fire Santa Clara Unit.

The Fire District coordinated the training with the

Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Fire Weather Forecasters at the National Weather Service to ensure the size and timing of the training burns would minimize smoke impacts on homes and smoke-sensitive sites in the area. As it happened, the conditions did not require rescheduling any of the training days.

Signs were posted cautioning motorists and bicycles of the additional fire equipment traffic and potential for reduced visibility along Moraga Road and Rheem Boule-

vard. As the firefighters set fire to the hillside starting at the top of the hill and coming down toward Moraga Road,

one traffic lane was closed. Moraga Police Department cars were present to monitor the situation.

Fire District Public Meetings

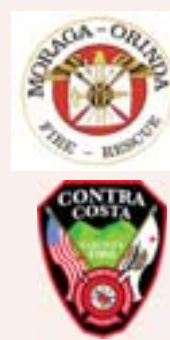
Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors
Wednesday, July 21, 6 p.m.
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.mofd.org

ConFire

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, July 13 1 p.m.

For meeting times and agendas, visit www.cccfpd.org



Local residents asked to reduce water usage

... continued from Page A1

In fact, EBMUD's voluntary water consumption reduction is far more flexible than some neighboring districts which have adopted mandatory limitations. The San Jose Water Company, which serves a million South Bay residents, has implemented mandatory water conservation rules: Landscape watering may be done

no more than twice a week before 10 a.m. or after 8 p.m. for only 15 minutes per day and washing cars at home is banned.

Marin Water's board recently adopted mandatory water consumption restrictions with the goal of a 40% reduction in water use. Spray irrigation is limited to no more than twice a week and is prohibited between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

EBMUD has been working for decades to build up supplemental supplies, develop partnerships to purchase water in times of need and shore up systems to make the district more resistant to drought. This year EBMUD is purchasing water through a cooperative effort enabling it to use water from the Sacramento River. "We'll be taking 33,000 acre feet of water from this agree-

ment," Rodriguez explains, "and we'll be able to use this to help fill our reservoirs." One acre-foot equals about 326,000 gallons, or enough water to cover an acre of land. An average California household uses between one-half and one-acre-foot of water per year.

The District has also developed a new Super Rebate program which offers rebates

of \$1.50 (up to \$2,000) per square foot of lawn converted to a more water-wise landscape. For more information, go to ebmud.com/rebates.

"EBMUD customers are excellent at conserving water when necessary," Rodriguez proclaims. "We consider that part of our arsenal when fighting these long periods of drought. We should all enjoy our water responsibly."

ALERTWildfire cameras

... continued from Page A4

The success of the program grew eastward into northern Nevada. As word spread of the successful summers between 2014-16, new contracts came in from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah and California where 300 new cameras were installed in the year following the 2018 Camp Fire. An additional 300 cameras were installed in the Western United States during the disastrous

2020 fire season. ALERTWildfire projects over 175 more cameras for installation across five states this year. Between 2016-2020, the cameras have provided critical information for over 1,500 fires. ALERTWildfire hopes to install 1,000 cameras in California alone by 2022.

First responders aren't the only agencies taking advantage of the extra pair of eyes on the horizon. Utility companies, such as Pacific Gas & Electric Co., have installed the

high-definition fire-watching cameras in locations where extreme fire risks pose a threat. By doing so, according to its website, PG&E is hoping to reduce the size and number of Public Safety Power Shutoffs. At the end of this year, they will have installed 340 cameras throughout Northern and Central California, with a projection of 600 total camera installations by the end of 2022.

Some of the camera locations covering the Lamorinda area include:

Briones Tabletop; Highway 24 and Lucas Drive both in Lafayette; Alta Mesa and Mulholland Ridge both in Moraga; and the areas near Vollmer Peak by Orinda. The cameras are capable of zooming in between 10 to 40 miles in order to verify directions given from a 911 call. This feature helps to either pinpoint a fire or redirect firefighters to a corrected location.

ALERTWildfire also is available for viewing by the

public, and the company boasts that people have begun having watch parties where a group of volunteers come together to try and detect early fires in their area. When told about this activity, Moraga-Orinda Fire District Captain Jacob Airola stated before the holiday weekend, "We're [MOFD] going to have an 'in-person' watch party during the Fourth of July on Mulholland Ridge!"

For more information visit www.alertwildfire.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

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

June 13 - June 26

Alarms	61
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	16
Traffic	62
Suspicious Circumstances	8
Suspicious Subject	17
Suspicious Vehicle	15
Service to Citizen	38
Patrol Req./Security Check	32
Pubic/School Assembly Check	1
Supplemental Report	11
Vacation House Check	28
Welfare Check	20
Ordinance Violation	6

Vehicle violations

Auto Burglary	
Deer Hill Rd./1st St.	
Reckless Driving	
Deer Hill Rd./Happy Valley Rd.	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Happy Valley Rd.	
500 Block St. Mary's Rd.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Risa Rd.	
St Marys Rd./Glenside Dr.	
Moraga Blvd./Carol Ln.	
St Marys Rd./Moraga Rd.	
Tc - Property Damage	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Happy Valley Rd.	
Deer Hill Rd./1st St.	

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Pleasant Hill Rd./Springhill Rd.	
500 Block St. Mary's Rd.	
Police Department	
Deer Hill Rd./Oak Hill Rd.	
Moraga Rd./Wilkinson Ln.	
Vehicle Theft	
Hough Ave./Lafayette Cir.	

Other criminal activity

Fraud False Pretenses	
600 Block Glorietta Blvd.	
1100 Block Bacon Way	
1000 Block Woodbury Rd.	
Grand Theft Veh Parts	
3300 Block Woodland Way	

Identity Theft

Police Department	
30 Block Hidden Valley Rd.	
Shoplift	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	

Warrant Service

200 Block Florence Ave., Oakland	
----------------------------------	--

Nuisance to the Community

Disturbance-domestic	
3300 Block N Lucille Ln.	
3200 Block Sweet Dr.	
Disturbance-fight	
El Curtola Blvd./Eb Sr 24	

Loud Music

3100 Block Kingsley Pl.	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3400 Block Orchard Hill Ct. (2)	
20 Block Monticello Ct.	

Loud Party

3100 Block Andreasen Dr.	
Andreasen Dr./Reliez Station Rd.	
3100 Block Bradena Ln.	
3400 Block School St.	

Public Nuisance

3500 Block Terrace Way	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3100 Block Sandalwood Ct.	
3500 Block Silver Springs Rd.	
Timothy Ln./Pine Ln.	
3600 Block Nordstrom Ln.	
1100 Block Upper Happy Valley Rd.	
4000 Block Block Happy Valley Rd.	
3900 Block Los Arabis Dr.	
4000 Block Tilden Ln.	
1100 Block Sierra Vista Way	

Vandalism

3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3100 Block Old Tunnel Rd.	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	

Other

Fireworks	
St Marys Rd./Rohrer Dr.	
Sweet Dr./Woodview Dr.	
Intoxicated Subject	
50 Block Lafayette Cr	
K9 Outside Assist Request	
30 Block Sanford Ave., Nri	
Prowler Heard	
1800 Block Reliez Valley Rd.	
Trespass	

Happy Valley School
3400 Block School St.
3300 Block Springhill Rd.
3300 Block Johnson Rd.

Unwanted Guest
3700 Block Meadow Ln.
Violation Restraining Order
3100 Block Camino Diablo.

Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report

June 15 - June 28

Alarms	13
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	9
Traffic	58
Suspicious Circumstances	10
Suspicious Subject	4
Suspicious Vehicle	3
Service to Citizen	41
Patrol Req./Security Check	19
Supplemental Report	5
Vacation House Check	6
Welfare Check	9
Pubic/School Assembly Check	4
Ordinance Violation	1

Vehicle violations

Accident Injury	
Fernwood Dr./Willow Spring Ln.	
Accident Property	
20 Block Sanders Ranch Rd.	
1100 Block Alta Mesa Dr.	
Not Available	

Dui Misd

Moraga Rd./St Marys Rd.	
-------------------------	--

Excessive Speed

Moraga Rd./Lucas Dr.	
Moraga Rd./Moraga Way (3)	
Rheem Blvd./Chalda Way	
Moraga Rd./Lucas Dr.	
Moraga Way/Camino Ricardo	
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.	
Moraga Way/Hall Dr., Ori	
Corliss/Moraga Rd.	
Moraga Way/St. Andrews Dr.	
Moraga Way/Coral Dr., Ori	

Exhibition Of Speed

Moraga Country Club	
Reckless Driving	
40 Block York Pl.	
Corliss Dr./Crossbrook Ct.	
Canyon Rd./Country Club Dr.	

Tc - Property Damage

Moraga Way/Canyon Rd.	
-----------------------	--

Other criminal activity

Fraud Credit Card	
Police Department	
Fraud False Pretenses	
Police Department	
Grand Theft	
400 Block Center St.	
Grand Theft Veh Parts	

200 Block N Sandringham

Petty Theft
Moraga Commons Park
T J Maxx

Unwanted Guest
700 Block Crossbrook Dr.

Petty Theft Veh Parts
1000 Block Larch Ave.

Shoplift
OSH
1500 Block Canyon Rd.

Nuisance to the Community
Disturbing The Peace
Moraga Rd./St Marys Rd.

Loud Music
Canyon Club Brewery
1300 Block Camino Peral

Hacienda (2)

Loud Noise
1600 Block Canyon Rd.
Donald Dr./Moraga Rd.

200 Block Fayhill Rd.

Loud Party
Rheem Bumoraga Rd.
600 Block Rheem Blvd.

Public Nuisance
100 Block Donald Dr.
3800 Block Via Granada

60 Block Sullivan Dr.
1000 Block Sanders Dr.
100 Block Devin Dr.

Vandalism
200 Block Rheem Blvd.

Other
Battery Sexual
400 Block Center St.

Fireworks
Joaquin Moraga Int School

Mentally Ill Commit
1000 Block Alta Mesa Dr.
400 Block Woodminster Dr.

Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report

June 13 - June 26

Alarms	47
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	9
Traffic	31
Suspicious Circumstances	2
Suspicious Subject	7
Suspicious Vehicle	4
Service to Citizen	76
Patrol Req./Security Check	70
Supplemental Report	10
Vacation House Check	0
Welfare Check	12

Pubic/School Assembly Check 5

Ordinance Violation 1

Vehicle violations

Accident Injury
10 Block Valley View Dr.

Accident Property
20 Block Irwin Way

Auto Burglary
Bear Creek /Camino Pablo

Dui Misd
Moraga Way/Coral Dr.

Grand Theft Veh Parts
10 Block Estabueno Dr.

100 Block Moraga Way
300 Block Camino Pablo

Petty Theft From Veh
30 Block Overhill Rd.

40 Block Martha Rd.

Reckless Driving
Moraga Way

Camino Pablo/Wb Sr 24
Camino Pablo/Camino Encinas

Moraga Way/Altamount Dr.

Tc - Property Damage
Camino Sobrante/Orinda Way

Vehicle Theft
10 Block Risa Ct.

Other criminal activity

Identity Theft
10 Block Risa Ct.

Petty Theft
10 Block Altarinda Cir.

Moraga Way
500 Block Moraga Way

Possession Of Stolen Prop
Moraga Way

Residential Burglary
100 Block Ardith Dr.

30 Block Martha Rd.
500 Block The Glade

Shoplift
Orinda Way

10 Bloc Kmoraga Way
Moraga Way

Nuisance to the Community
Loud Music

60 Block Brookwood Rd.
10 Block Charles Hill Rd.

Loud Noise
90 Block El Gavilan Rd.

Public Nuisance
Theatre Square

10 Block Nelson Ln.
10 Block Albo Ct.

Kellie Ann Ct./Meadow View Rd.
90 Block Rheem Blvd.

200 Block Courtney Ln.
10 Block Orchard Rd.

Other
Failure To Obey
Camino Pablo

Fireworks
700 Block Moraga Way

Warrant Arrest
Camino Pablo

Lafayette School District governing board appoints new member

By Jennifer Wake

The Lafayette School District announced the appointment of David Smith to the district's governing board following the sudden resignation on May 12 of Kenny Tuckerman, who had served on the board since 2018. Smith was one of five candidates who were interviewed at a June 23 special governing board meeting before the final selection was made in a 3-0 vote, with Jean Follmer abstaining.

According to a LafSD press release, Smith is a "collaborative problem solver

whose professional experience revolves around bringing together diverse stakeholders and finding ways to meet their needs while focusing on the broader mission of the organization." He has two children who attend Springhill Elementary School.

Smith was an integral part of the leadership team for the Measure L parcel tax, and has served on the board of Lafayette Partners in Education, the education foundation that supports Lafayette public schools, according to the district. "Dave spent the past year working for the

state of California to help lead the volunteer response to COVID-19 and the vaccination campaign. He has also worked professionally on decreasing mental health stigma and increasing mental health resources in communities and on school campuses."

When asked during his interview what he believed were the most critical issues the board will face, Smith said that aside from reopening in the fall, he believes the board needs to assess learning loss and support of students as well as mental health and social/emotional learn-

ing. "How can we equip them as they come back to the classroom?" he asked.

"Dave has an impressive track record as a creative thinker and industrious doer, and I enthusiastically look forward to Dave's onboarding

and active involvement in the hard work ahead," said current board president Rob Sturm. "Dave is a fantastic addition who's well-suited to hit the ground running - we're thrilled to have him aboard," Sturm added.

Orinda Books summer reading challenge is underway



Photo Sora O'Doherty

By Sora O'Doherty

Orinda Books, an independent bookstore in Orinda Village, is challenging readers from kids to young adults to read five books and claim a prize from Loard's Ice Cream or Orinda Theatre by Sept. 10. To qualify for the prize, a reader needs to read three books from the list suggested by the shop, and another two books of the reader's choice.

Selections range from first readers books like "Fox

the Tiger" by Corey R. Tabor, to non-fiction like "Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad" by M.T. Anderson. Included in the list are 28 books with something for everyone from young to not quite so young. All of the books on the list are available at the book shop, but no purchase is needed to participate.

Readers who complete the challenge will also be entered into a raffle for a \$50 Orinda Books gift certificate.

Readers can download a scorecard from the shop, that contains the full list of suggested books: www.orindabooks.com/sites/orindabooks.com/files/Summer%20Reading%20for%20Kids%20Scorecard.pdf

Letters to the editor

Be responsible residents

MOFD board members Baitx, Donner, and Danziger were criticized in a recent letter for failure to spend taxpayer funds for a chipper and its operation from the MOFD budget. I would suggest that the brush and tree removal that the writer seeks is a personal responsibility of property owners. When my own pine trees became old and a potential hazard, I paid to have them removed along with the debris. I also work to maintain brush and other material on my property in a safe condition.

There are numerous private tree and brush removal contractors who are capable, already equipped and make their

living with this work. I think it would be wasteful to buy a "community chipper" and pay professional fire personnel to operate it, probably on an overtime basis with the attendant wages, benefits, and pension liabilities.

We should take personal responsibility for our properties. We should look to our MOFD personnel for their professional guidance on fire prevention and skills at fire suppression, when necessary. When landscape and tree re-

moval is indicated we should hire commercial contractors for our individual properties at the owner's expense.

If board members are resisting on the basis outlined above, then I support them fully. I, for one, am a taxpayer who does not want to chip in for property maintenance that is the responsibility of the individual property owner.

Gary Fryer
Orinda

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 for submission guidelines. Email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com; Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

City Council approves budget proposal, discusses ARPA funds

... continued from Page A3

Under terms set forth by law, Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery fund deposits into pension or rainy day funds are prohibited.

Next steps following the council's approval of the proposed budget include gathering public input through comments made at city council meetings, public community forums, meetings with business owners, and through emails and telephone inquiries collected throughout the public comment period. Myers' report included suggested ideas aimed at transparency such as public forums, an online survey, and possibly establishing a Q&A post on the city's website.

Recommendations to council highlighted policy decisions related to flexibility within the budget plan to address changes as unexpected conditions occur, the choice

between large or small scale first steps, and determining whether to apply the funds over the years to making ladder physical improvements within the city versus funding selected business with immediate potential to restore sizable, rapid economic

viability to the business community.

The council will consider the actions during meetings this fall, collect essentials reports and input from city staff and committees, and release the final budget in December.

Memorial service planned for Larry Swindell on July 16

Submitted by Julie Swindell Bookman

The family of Larry Swindell has set a memorial service to honor his life at 2 p.m., Friday, July 16, at Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church. A courtyard reception will follow. The author and film historian died of heart failure on June 22, 2020, in Moraga. He was 91. Due to the pandemic, this service was delayed.



Drop in to the first in-person General Plan update event where you and your neighbors will learn about the Housing Element and get to say your piece.

Participate in activities to share your opinion on where new housing should be planned in the context of existing housing, wildfire risk, traffic congestion, school capacity, and more!

Planning Together!

The General Plan is the guiding document behind Lafayette's built environment, open space, and infrastructure. After 20 years, the General Plan is getting an update - let's make it a plan for the people by the people!

Join the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) - a group of community volunteers advising the Planning Commission and City Council on the important decisions that will shape the community over the next twenty years at the first in-person event for the General Plan.

The GPAC wants your input to draft a plan that represents the community's vision. Visit PlanLafayette.org to get up to speed on everything that has happened to date and see what's coming next. Now is the perfect time to learn and speak up.

In-Person Housing Workshop

Wednesday, June 30 4-8PM

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From flags to vintage planes, it was a flying Fourth in Orinda

... continued from Page A1

Following Sen. Steve Glazer, the parade ended with the Orinda Volunteer Pick-Up Marching Band, playing the national anthem and five songs honoring the United States Marines, Army, Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard. The band is organized by Colleen McCormack, owner of Lamorinda Music. Other bands included the Silicon Valley Bagpipe Band, St. Gabriel's Band, and the East Bay Banjo Band. Other entertainment included stilt walkers, the brass boppers and the Spirit

of '29, a Dixieland Jazz Band. Many public service groups, such as Orinda Rotary, Moms Demand Action, Friends of the Moraga Adobe, Friends of Wagner Ranch, Friends of Orinda Creeks, the Peter Pan Foundation, Orinda Masonic, the Lamorinda Order of DeMolay the Lamorinda 4H and the California Rescue Dog Association also marched in the parade. The Friends of the Orinda Library also participated, in addition to library staff. Local businesses were also represented, including Orinda Motors, Blodgetts, The Forge Pizza Truck, Mechanic's Bank, Ex-

pert Tree Service, Uncle Sams Go Karts. The arts were represented by The Orinda Starlight Village Players and Lamorinda Idol. First responders included the Orinda Police Department and Rescue One from MOPD, while local government was represented by Orinda mayor Amy Worth and vice mayor Dennis Fay. Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan rode with the Moms Demand Action. Miramonte High School was in evidence with the football team and cheerleaders, as well as the track team.

Mulberry Tree Preschool

... continued from Page A5

Parents testified that they trust Allison to choose a good successor when the time comes. After hearing all of the public comments, Stromberg asked Mayor Mike McCluer if he could make a statement. "Ms. Allison, I'm going to apologize to you, and I'm going to apologize to all of the people who have spoken. I completely misinterpreted their emails. "What they are saying is

more about you as the director rather than the kind of program that Mulberry Tree is," continued Stromberg. "I now can hear, from all of the comments we've received, that the focus is more about how you have conducted the preschool and of the necessity for Moraga to have a preschool, irrespective of the kind of approach that is being undertaken by the school. I'm a big enough man to admit when I'm wrong. ... Please accept my

apology." With the air cleared, the council voted unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing a Fourth Amendment to the Ground Lease with Mulberry Tree Preschool. It provides for Allison to continue leasing the site for an initial five years, with an option to extend for an additional five years. In addition, a provision for a temporary rent reduction was included along with a provision for lease assignment.

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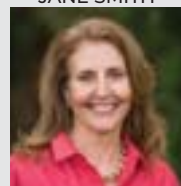
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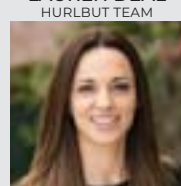
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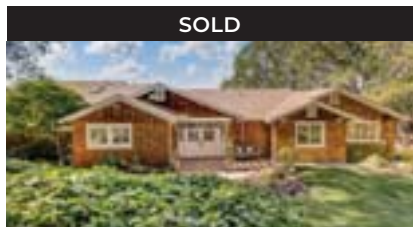
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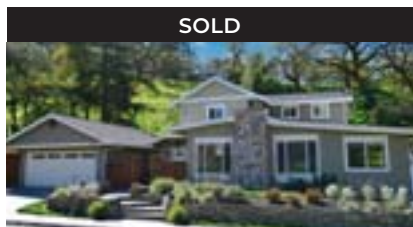
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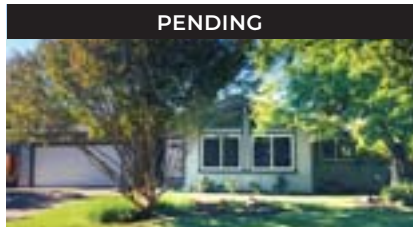
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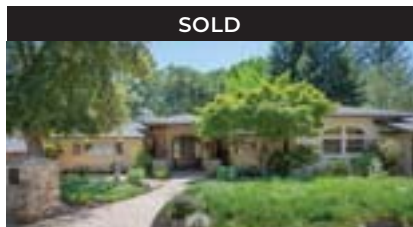
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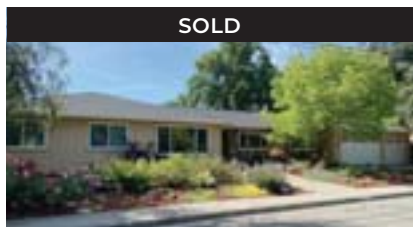
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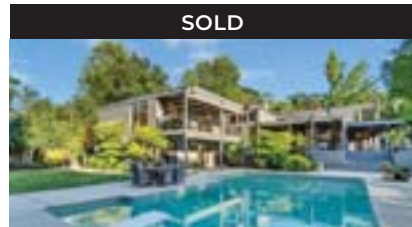
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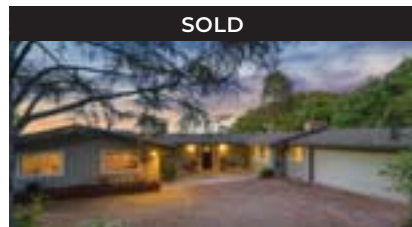
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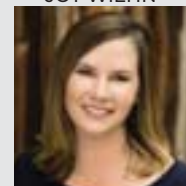
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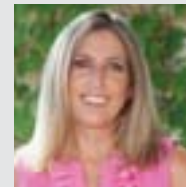
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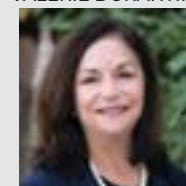
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~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

Campo grad publishes children's book to honor his late mother



Alex Tandy with his mom, Judy Ohlogge

Photo provided

By Kara Navolio

In 2019 Alex Tandy, a 2005 Campolindo graduate and Moraga resident, learned that his mother not only had cancer but had also passed away from the disease. Judy Ohlogge, his mom, who was remarried and living in Ecuador, had kept her disease a secret from him and his brother.

As Tandy made his way to Ecuador to seek closure he re-discovered a manuscript for a children's alphabet book that his mom had always meant to publish. As a tribute to her and her love of teaching children English, he decided to publish it himself. Enlisting the help of his cousin, Ryan Scott Tandy, who is a Miramonte grad, as creative director, they set off to establish their own publishing company and raise funds for the venture through IndieGoGo.

Tandy, who now works for a Brazilian high tech firm developing a mobile app, has past experience in writing, having worked for Diablo Magazine, Huffington Post and a New York ad agency before moving into the technology field. It was a natural fit to take on the job as co-author

and editor, even though he had never written for children. The Tandys found an illustrator from Uruguay and a printer in the U.S., and 18 months later, their dream became a reality with the publishing of "Journey from A to Z with Teacher Judy - An alphabetical and Animal-filled adventure" (Tandy Books 2020).

"My mom was a true animal lover," said Tandy. "She adopted lots of cats and dogs, and I remember on one visit to Venezuela with her, we led an injured horse home; she could not leave him. She also loved teaching and had decided to write her own alphabet book to help her students learn English." The cat named Chanel for the letter C is based on his mom's pet.

The rhyming book is a fun adventure through the alphabet with animals that are both common and unusual, like a vulture that makes sculpture and a quail that delivers the mail. The illustrations by Alfonso Lourido are fun and lively with each one set in a unique environment with bold and joyful colors. The final spread with Zelda the Zebra is a satisfying ending to the traveling adventure.

"It was a work of multiple

people," added Tandy. "It was started by my mom. We [his cousin and him], took it to the finish line. Our objective was to make sure her work was finished in the best way possible. I wasn't going to cut corners on my mom's work. Finishing the book lets me share the best parts of my mother." He is grateful to the 180-plus people who supported the project financially, which made that goal possible.

The book sells for \$20 on TeacherJudy.com. A discount code for our readers can be used for 20% off: LAMORINDA20.



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Free SMC Museum of Art exhibition through July 11



Detail left, Milton Komisar (b. 1935) *Tectonic Plates*, 2003, Acrylic and concrete on canvas, Gift of the artist [4.2006.2] Detail right, William Keith (1838–1911) *High Sierra Canyon* (c. 1900–1905) Oil on canvas, Gift of Benjamin H. Lehman [0-91] Saint Mary's College Museum of Art Permanent Collection

Submitted by Britt Royer

The current Saint Mary's Museum of Art exhibit, "Aesthetic Forces: Nature in the Modern California Landscape, 1915–2015" explores how 20th and 21st-century art practice assimilated and reconsidered ideas of the "sublime" and "picturesque" in dialogue with Modernism and the shifting relationship amongst culture, land, and the environment.

From 1915, the year of San Francisco's Panama Pacific International Exposition, to 2015, the year of California's landmark drought—this exhibition presents paintings,

prints, and photographs from the Saint Mary's College Museum of Art permanent collection. These selected works fold the cultural and environmental influence of world fairs, wars, urbanization, political shifts, lifestyle perceptions, and natural disasters into the formation of how land and nature generate mood and sensation through aesthetic forces.

"Aesthetic Forces" is on view through July 11, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free. All visitors will need to complete and share the college's health screen check before entrance at the campus gate at www.stmarys-ca.edu/covid-19-news-resources

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A fun twist to the lemon bar tradition



Lemon-Lime Bars on Shortbread Crust

Photo Susie Iventosch

By Susie Iventosch

These lemon-lime bars are a fun twist on traditional lemon bars with the combination of freshly-squeezed lime and lemon juice. We actually like them better than straight lemon bars, which are hard to beat. We love the tangy sweet filling and crispy shortbread crust. They are the perfect summer dessert, so light and delicious. The combination of

citrus flavors is mouthwatering and will have you and your guests coming back for more. If you're anything like us, you won't be able to leave them alone till they're all gone!

These bars store well in the refrigerator for several days, so you can keep coming back for more, or at least make them ahead of time for your next party.

Lemon-Lime Bars

Prep Time: 20 Minutes | Bake Time: 1 hour total | Makes about 24 two-inch bars

INGREDIENTS

Crust:

1 cup unsalted butter (8 oz. or 2 sticks), softened to room temperature
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon salt

2 cups all-purpose flour

Lemon-Lime filling:

6 large eggs
2 cups granulated sugar
1/3 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup fresh squeezed lemon juice
1/2 cup fresh squeezed lime juice

Garnishes: 1/4 cup powdered sugar, candied lemon, and lime slices, or thin slices of lemon and lime peel.

DIRECTIONS

Crust:

Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease or spray a 9x13 inch baking dish. (We prefer to simply spray or grease the baking dish because when we've used parchment paper instead, we had the unfortunate result of the filling undermining the crust and we ended up with lemon-lime upside-down bars!)

In a mixing bowl, cream together butter, sugar, and vanilla. Stir in flour and salt and mix until well integrated.

Press the crust mixture into the bottom of the prepared baking dish. The crust will be 1/4 to 1/3-inch thick.

Bake at 350 F for 20-25 minutes. You want the crust to be a nice golden brown, but not too dark since it will be baking again with the filling.

Remove from oven and reduce oven temperature to 300 F.

Lemon-Lime Filling:

Meanwhile, while the crust is baking, whisk eggs until beaten. In a separate bowl, mix together sugar and flour and then whisk into eggs. Finally, whisk in lemon and lime juice until well blended.

Pour filling mixture over the warm crust and bake for 40-45 minutes, or until lemon-lime custard is set.

Remove from oven and cool completely. Refrigerate until firm and then cut into 2-inch squares. Dust everything with powdered sugar and serve with a dollop of whipped cream or plain.

Garnish with lemon and lime peel shavings, or candied lemon and lime slices.

Susie can be reached at suziventosch@gmail.com. This recipe can be found on our website: 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>



The illusion of 'test optional' colleges

By Elizabeth LaScala, Ph.D.

With the COVID-19 pandemic and the onset of nearly universal distance learning for all high school students, both parents and students have been relieved to hear that many college admission procedures are going "test optional" this year. While "test optional" does mean that standardized tests like the ACT and the SAT are not required, these tests remain optional which means the student can elect to submit them as part of their application.

Despite going "test optional" nearly all test optional colleges will carefully consider standardized test scores when they are made available by applicants. Test optional does not mean test blind. In general, most students with profiles strong enough to think they have some chance of admission to more competitive test optional colleges

should try to prep for and attain strong test scores to enhance their applications. Also, since many test optional colleges may nevertheless require standardized test scores for some applicants, it is best to check with each college you plan to send an application, in order to know what is expected. Examples of reasons why some applicants may be required to submit scores to some colleges include those seeking to be admitted to certain majors (e.g., engineering, computer science), recruitable athletes, students applying to the school's honors college, and those seeking need-based or merit awards, among others.

In past years, admissions staff in test optional colleges were able to do their jobs and evaluate applicants who do not send scores by focusing on the high school transcript to give insight into the applicant's academic preparedness. However, with the onset of the coronavirus came distance

learning, and with distance learning came some pretty rampant grade inflation. Many teachers could not teach all relevant material remotely and often teachers had no truly effective way to test their students' knowledge. Lacking valid assessments, some teachers dropped final exams, some may have discouraged AP testing and sometimes, maybe even often, gave students better grades than they might have otherwise, so as not to punish students for conditions that were beyond their control.

Many students and parents have breathed a sigh of relief that many colleges are going test optional for applications submitted this fall. While this stance is understandable given that so many students were unable to take standardized tests in the spring and summer due to site closings and other obstacles, this decision has put admissions staff in a difficult spot. Due to the reasons mentioned

above, admissions staff may find it much more difficult to interpret and rely upon high school grades as one of the few, often the only, objective measure of student achievement. Rigor of coursework (honors, AP classes), extracurricular involvement, honors and awards, letters of recommendation and the quality of college essays will be weighted more heavily than before. If one or more of these areas are nonexistent or mediocre, it will be harder for a student to gain admission. This means that admissions staff will be thankful when an applicant sends standardized test scores because it will help them evaluate the student's application and make a stronger case for admission. If you are a rising high school senior, pay attention to these well intended words of advice and invest some of your available resources in good test preparation this summer.



Elizabeth LaScala, PhD personally guides each student through each step of selecting and applying to well-matched schools for undergraduate and graduate school study. Over the past two decades, Elizabeth has placed hundreds of students in some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the U.S. The number of clients taken is limited to ensure each applicant has personalized attention. Contact Elizabeth early in the process to make a difference in your outcomes. Write elizabeth@doingcollege.com; Visit www.doingcollege.com; or Call: 925.385.0562.

The beat goes on! How to get back on track with your post-pandemic financial planning

By Lynn Ballou CFP®

It's perhaps premature and too optimistic to say we are in a true post-pandemic phase now, however, it appears that there is light at the end of the dark tunnel. Which means it is absolutely time to shake out the dust and brush off the cobwebs to clearly review and perhaps even reset our financial goals. Some of us find that our attitudes about life have changed. Others have had circumstances change unexpectedly. However you arrived where you find yourselves today, here are five areas for your consideration as you emerge from the darkness to the light of regaining control over your daily life.

1) Where does your money go? Whether you use something formal such as an expense tracking program or sheer intuition, take a look at where your money went the past 15 months. If you find that you made shifts that involved living on less, is that sustainable? Will spending less going forward allow you to be financially independent sooner by investing more now and keeping your living costs lower? Or perhaps staying lean on your base spending could allow you to deploy discretionary spending on what you previously

considered indulgences. This is your opportunity to make lasting purposeful change in your planning.

2) Are you on your right professional path? Resetting might involve a career change. There's a massive labor shift underway as dormant parts of the economy restart. More employers are open to having team members work from home. And we've seen the importance that technology plays in our lives as it continues to evolve. If you are dissatisfied with your current path, consider a new one and determine what skills you need that would enable you to shift. Investing in yourself could be the most rewarding investment you could possibly make. You have a rare opportunity to hit the reset button. Research your areas of interest, set up informational interviews to learn what's required to succeed, review the costs/rewards timeline. If feasible, set your professional course in a new direction.

3) Insurance: It really does matter! I'm just as fabulous at procrastinating as everyone else and like so many readers, I do struggle with annually reviewing my property, casualty and umbrella insurance policies and keeping up with what I have and why. What keeps me sane and confident are my

trusted insurance agents. Every year we set up a live review. Not only are we examining deductibles and possible gaps, but we are also discussing changes and trends in insurance. It helps me stay prepared and reminds me that insurance is a partnership. And I always ask my agents the same questions each year: What would you do differently if you were me? What coverages should I have that I don't? I suggest you expand the same review format and ideas to your other insurance coverages such as disability, life, health and long-term care insurance. Some reviews you have set through work where an annual review format is in place. The rest require you to take the initiative to review but better before a claims event than after. This is where the adage about the barn door and the horse and the road comes into play!

4) Congress: What are they up to now and what should you do? Financial planning is challenging when the backdrop is a never ending merry-go-round of changing income and estate tax laws. Because no matter how carefully you plan, the government can insert a trip wire into the laws that might impact our plans at any time. The latest excitement revolves around possible in-

creases to income and capital gain taxes and more surprising, increasing estate taxes by undoing long-standing rules of how we can pass our assets to future generations. I will focus future columns on specifics as they become clear. Your job today? Stay informed – but don't panic! – and reach out to your trusted advisors now so you have plans in place to make revisions if appropriate as changes occur.

5) Disaster proof your plan: It seems obvious that one of the most important aspects of planning should involve testing our plans for the unexpected. We have just experienced the most dramatic real life global enactment of surviving the unexpected in generations. Now is a great time to look back at your plan before the pandemic, and then overlay your former situation with the reality of where you are financially today. Based on your findings, you and your financial advisor may note areas that need work. This might include rebuilding emergency reserves, changing your living situation, reconstructing your budget for post pandemic life, rebalancing your investment portfolio, and many other possibilities. Make a timeline and then plan to implement those changes thoughtfully.

The final take away?

Planning should always be done with a critical "what can go wrong and if it does will I still be okay" point of view. We just survived a real life lab on crisis survival. Let's not waste this opportunity to learn, review our finances, revise our planning appropriately, and move forward with care. Please reach out if I can be of help!



Lynn Ballou CFP® is a Senior Vice President and Partner with EP Wealth Advisors. Information used in the writing of this column is believed to be factual and up-to-date, but we do not guarantee its accuracy and it should not be regarded as a complete analysis of the subject(s) discussed. All information is derived from sources deemed to be reliable. All expressions of opinion reflect the judgment of the author as of the date of publication and are subject to change.

'Midsummer Synergies' comes to Moraga July 14



"Renewal" Photo polymer etching, Danguole Rita Kuolas

Submitted by George Ehrenhaft

The Moraga Art Gallery presents a new summertime show, "Midsummer Synergies," open from July 14 to Sept. 19, featuring the vibrant creations of two Lafayette artists: ceramicist Donna Arganbright and Dan-

guole Rita Kuolas, a printmaker and etching specialist.

Along with a diverse array of appealing mugs, trays, bowls and plates, the Arganbright collection includes unique "attitude figures" – vases, each one different and each one rendered as a posturing human figure with hands on hips and clothed in a fresh, bright-hued



"Emergence" by Danguole Rita Kuolas

glaze. All of these are meant to be taken home, used and loved.

Kuolas attributes her etching expertise to a lifelong fascination with the drawn lines that has evolved into environmental concerns, as evinced not only by renderings of plant life, but also replacing the usual solvents and acids in her work with water-



Donna Arganbright's ceramics

soluble inks, non-toxic etching processes and by recycling scraps of etching paper into new sheets. The images in the exhibit show the artist branching out from her usual abstracted imagery more naturalistic representations. Kuolas will demystify printmaking by doing a free public demonstration on Sunday, Aug. 8 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the gallery.

The show also includes arresting papier-mâché sculptures by guest artist Francine Garcia and



Photos provided

scores of works by the gallery's roster of sculptors, painters, jewelers, photographers, ceramicists, woodworkers, printmakers, and more.

The gallery is located in the Rheem Shopping Center at 432 Center Street, Moraga, and is open Wednesday to Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.moragaart-gallery.com or call (925) 376-5407.

'The Silent Revolution' ('Das schweigende Klassenzimmer'): coming of age during the Cold War



By Sophie Braccini

Films based on true stories have a special way to grip you. "Silent Revolution" is one of these. Set in East Germany in 1956 during the Cold War, it follows a class of graduating high school students confronted with decisions that will define who they are and change their lives in ways they could not have foreseen.

The scene: 1956, in East-Berlin, before the Berlin Wall was erected. Thanks to a clandestine western radio station, a high school student, Kurt Wächter, discovers that the Hungarian anti-Soviet uprising

in Budapest has been repressed in bloodshed by Soviet tanks. With his best friends Theo Lemke and Lena, he convinces his classmates to observe a minute's silence at the beginning of their history class to pay tribute to the insurgents. This small but strong act infuriates their teacher who alerts the Communist party's chain of command. A relentless and efficient emissary from the minister of education arrives to find out who did what and apply punishment with resounding consequences, if necessary.

The movie shows how pressure is exerted on the students to pit one against the other and drive them to betray

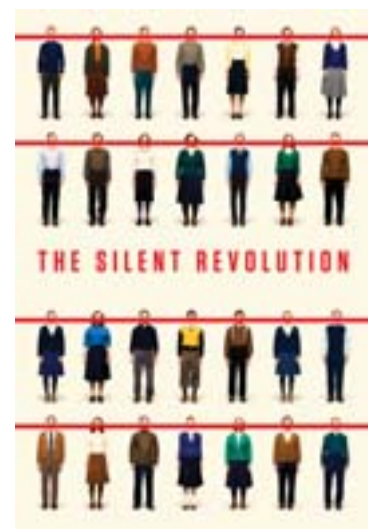
their classmates. In post-war Germany, communists that have vanquished the Nazis are in power, but their methods are that of any type of dictatorship. The power system is built on fear, absolute obedience, conformity to the dogma of the day, and any deviancy, may it be minuscule, needs to be crushed.

The youths are caught in the net of their idealism, their friendships, but they also have family ties and histories that mark their individual destinies, whether they want it or not. Will one betray their friends to be able to survive? What does it mean to be brave? Can one risk their whole future to preserve their dignity? These young adults are confronted with these difficult questions when they have just grown beyond the innocence of childhood, and still retain some of its naivety. It is a difficult moment that tests and makes the adults they will become.

Kurt and Theo (Tom Gramenz, Leonard Scheicher, charming and excellent young actors) are the leaders of this

silent revolution. They have been able to go from time to time to West Berlin and have experienced a freer society, which has probably given them the courage to take more risks. There is also Lena (Lena Klenke), who is their smart, idealist and brave friend who pushes for an uncompromising defense strategy. The whole class is galvanized by the three, though the threats and the risks start to divide the students between the unbending ones and those who would rather cave to avoid punishment. They nonetheless continue to fight for each other, and do it with the ardor of youth. The movie is led by director Lars Kraume with that same dynamism. It is riveting and dramatic, as well as very emotional.

Kraume adapted the book written by one of the former high schoolers that was published in 2006, 50 years after the fact. The fast rhythm is efficient, and the direction is solid though not terribly creative. The scenario however illustrates brilliantly themes such as sacrifice, treason, redemption,



Images provided

and the power of a unified group.

As it is often the case for movies written after real life events, it is interesting to stay after the credits to see pictures of the real-life heroes and discover what has become of them.

The German film is brought to Orinda by the Lamorinda-based nonprofit the International Film Showcase. It will open at the Orinda Theatre July 16 for three days and nine screenings.

The number of tickets is limited. For reservations, go to: <https://www.orindamovies.com/location/1207/Orinda-Theater/2021-07-16>

Looking Good in Lamorinda Summer jewelry splurges, and vintage events



Photo Morrison's Jewelers

Locketts by Monica Rich Kosann available at Morrison's Jewelers in Orinda

By Moya Stone

When we were on lockdown last year, I never stopped wearing jewelry. In fact, I dug out some long forgotten pieces. Every day I'd don something different, something I hadn't worn in ages. Wearing jewelry while staying home lifted my spirits.

It seems I wasn't the only one getting excited about jewelry. I've been reading in fashion magazines that since the pandemic, interest and priorities have shifted and there's a desire now to celebrate life and important milestones with a piece of jewelry. Even designer Marc Jacobs finally bought the Mikimoto pearl necklace he'd

been wanting for years. He said in an interview for Harper's Bazaar that wearing these pearls brings him joy.

Like Jacobs, people are no longer waiting to make big jewelry splurges. "People are commemorating their occasions in a different way," says Christine Berryhill from Morrison's Jewelers in Orinda, a family-owned business that specializes in custom design jewelry pieces. Berryhill, who works in the shop with her husband, David, says that instead of buying experiences people are buying jewelry. What's popular now is both small and larger pieces, colored stones, yellow gold, and pearls. Berryhill says, "This season is all about layering."

Necklaces are "neck messes" and we are stacking rings and bracelets, mixing small with large. "Everything is in," she says. Including locketts. A favorite in the Victorian era, we haven't seen a locket trend in a long time but jewelry designer Monica Rich Kosann has updated the sentimental pendants with sleek designs for a modern sensibility. Morrison's carries Kosann locketts along with other designer lines.

Lamorinda is lucky to have an array of jewelry stores. In addition to Morrison's there's Ware Designs, CG Designs and Solano Jewelers in Lafayette and Moraga Jewelers in Rheem. Berryhill says that residents in Lamorinda are aware of the importance of shopping locally and points out that when we support one shop we're also supporting the small businesses that they work with, such as engravers and repair.

For some local summer fun, slip on that new jewelry and head out to Shadelands Ranch Museum in Walnut Creek. The Walnut Creek Historical Society's next event, Summer Market & Barn Sale, is set for Sunday, Aug. 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and it promises to be a great day of outdoor shopping and eating. Jackie Byrd, Walnut Creek Historical Society Office/ Events Manager says there will be 40 or so vendors selling handmade crafts, jewelry, and antique and vintage items. Additionally, as a fundraiser, the museum will be selling some vintage items



Photo courtesy Walnut Creek Historical Society

from their archives. There will also be a few informational booths. Did someone say food trucks? At least two food vendors have signed up, Golden Gate Gyros and Cousins Maine Lobster. Plus, the Shadelands house will be open for tours. Are you a vintage dealer? A crafter? Vendor applications are still being accepted. For more information visit: www.wchistory.org.

Something else happening at Shadelands Ranch Museum is Fashion Through the Years, a vintage clothing exhibition on now through Aug. 31. Displayed throughout the museum are fashions from as far back as the 19th century, many pieces donated to the museum. One standout ensemble is a World War II nurse's uniform. The museum is open Wednesdays and Sundays from 1 to 4

p.m., but check the website for possible special event closures. Masks are required.

Summertime is reading time and I recommend the memoir "Dressed in Dreams: A Black Girl's Love Letter to the Power of Fashion" by Tanisha C. Ford (St. Martin's Press). In Dreams, Ford, an associate professor of African Studies, discusses the important role fashion played in her African American community of Fort Wayne, Indiana. From her parent's colorful Dashiki shirts to baggy jeans to the hoodie to knee-high boots, she shares her childhood story and how fashion influenced her life.

Stay cool out there and go forth in style!

Moya Stone is a fashion blogger at www.overdressedforlife.com.



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Pacific Chamber Orchestra returns to concert stage



Photo provided

Submitted by Shelly Rose

Pacific Chamber Orchestra's first program of its 2021-22 season is themed

"Renewal" and will be performed at 7:30 p.m. July 17 in Moraga at the Campolindo Performing Arts Center and at 3 p.m. July 18 in Livermore at

the Bankhead Theater. Music Director Lawrence Kohl chose Beethoven's Fifth Symphony because it embodies a snapshot of our current emergence from a tempestuous journey to some kind of new normal.

At the end of such a journey comes 'Renewal' or a return to freshness and vigor. Beethoven's Sixth Symphony, also known as the Pastoral, weaves a harmonic background into a stream.

The stream reaches a pool alive with a chorus of birdcall. Beethoven penned this note to describe his final movement: "The Shepherd's Song After the Storm."

Join in the PCO's triumphant return to the concert stage and sail with them through musical storms to a peaceful renewal. For more information and tickets go to www.pacificchamberorchestra.org.

Honoring Larry Swindell, July 16



The family of Larry Swindell has set a memorial service to honor his life at 2 p.m., Friday, July 16, at Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, 10 Moraga Valley Lane, Moraga.

Larry Nolan Swindell was born on June 10, 1929, in Quanah, Texas. A graduate of UCLA and a U.S. Army veteran, Larry was a career journalist, film historian and author who published five biographies of film actors (such as Spencer Tracy and Carole Lombard).

A familiar citizen of Moraga from 1998 until his death last year, Larry died of congestive heart failure on June 22, 2020. He was 91. Due to the pandemic, this service was delayed.

Larry was inducted into the Classic Film Hall of Fame in 2013 and the Texas Literary Hall of Fame in 2014. Also a passionate baseball expert known for his uncanny memory, Larry was a longtime editor of the Moraga Historical Society's quarterly publication and an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley. For many years he organized and hosted a popular monthly classic film series at Moraga's historic Rheem Theatre.

He is survived by his wife of 22 years, Patricia Volder, of Moraga; as well as his five adult children from his 29-year marriage to Eleanor Eby Swindell (who died in 1983), 11 grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. Due to his journalism background and great love for ice cream, Larry was the beloved "Scoop" to his grandkids.

A courtyard reception will take place at the church following the service.

In Memory

Janet Louise Emmerich

September 16, 1932 – March 16, 2021

Resident of Lafayette and Moraga



Janet "Jan" Emmerich, loving wife, mother, sister, grandma ("Ma"), great grandma and friend passed away at the age of 88 peacefully in her home with her family by her side. She leaves behind her sister, Joan (Fred), and her children, Joan (Kevin), Paula (David), Mary (Rick) and Mike (Ora). She also leaves behind 12 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren and her loving caregivers, Nick, Sofia and Esther.

Jan was born to Naval Captain Paul and Pauline Carbiener in Vallejo,

California. After her sister Joan was born the family moved several times before settling in San Francisco for Jan's high school years. She was proud to be called a Navy Junior during her growing up years as her father was a member of the Naval Dental Corps during World War II.

Jan was accepted to UC Berkeley after graduation from Lowell High School at the age of 16. She focused on accounting for her studies. She became a member of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority where many lifelong friendships were created. It was during an exchange with the Del Rey Fraternity that she met the love of her life, Vic Emmerich. At the exchange a bonfire was lit that gave Jan a bad case of poison oak. Vic came to visit her in the hospital and the rest is history. She always looked back at their college years with such happiness, even recalling how it was there that Vic taught her how to drive. They spent a wonderful 62 years together.

Vic and Jan continued to be lifelong UC Berkeley fans (Go Bears!). They were football and basketball season ticket holders and attended games with their fellow Cal Bear "cronies." The annual Big Game party at their home in Lafayette was not to be missed.

In addition to being avid Cal Bear fans, travel was a big part of their life together. They passed their love of travel on to their whole family, even taking each grandchild to a different country when they graduated from eighth grade. After seeing much of the world their love of Kauai became clear and they spent the summer months there with friends and family.

Always one to laugh at herself, the family fondly remembers Jan's life on a diet. She was always aware of the next best fad diet and she tried them all. Family will also smile and think about her honorary acceptance into the British Secret Service. This honor was given to her by an "official member" of the service, her husband Vic, and was often referred to when teaching the kids little tips and tricks.

Jan was a very active resident of Lafayette and served many positions in the Suburban Women's Club. She took her roles seriously within the community and continued this with being baptized at St. Monica Church in Moraga at the age of 83. Becoming Catholic was very important to her, something she was unable to do prior to Vic's passing as he didn't "take it seriously enough."

Jan made it clear that she will miss everyone a lot. She will be greatly missed and will live on in the hearts of many.

A memorial service will be held in the fall. Donations in her memory may be made to Hospice of the East Bay whose staff cared for her so lovingly.

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 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, and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.

In Memory

Diane Weidel Steuber

July 4, 1940 – June 24, 2021



The flag has been lowered for Diane Weidel Steuber, who left us just short of her Fourth of July birthday. After being in declining health for two years, Diane died peacefully at home on June 24 surrounded by her loving husband Hal and her children.

Born to Marjorie and Ed Weidel in Altoona, Pennsylvania, Diane was the older sister to her beloved brother Eddy. The Weidel Family moved to Long Beach, California in the late 1940s and settled into California life. Diane was an active and popular student at Long Beach Poly High School. Her natural grace and beauty shone in everything she did from the start. She enjoyed modeling, served as Miss Lakewood USA and was not thinking of marriage. However, she met Hal, the star

football player from the opposing high school, and the rest was history.

Diane and Hal married in December, 1960 while they were still attending college. Diane moved to Palo Alto where Hal was playing football and rugby at Stanford University. She finished her degree at San Jose State College and became a fourth-grade teacher in Cupertino.

Diane and Hal were partners in everything that they did. Almost 50 years ago, they started Associated Services, an office coffee company that now has five offices stretching from Sacramento to Carmel. Diane was the sales manager who worked hard behind the scenes to make her sales skills look effortless. Customers couldn't say no to Diane's knowledge of coffee as well as her charming manner.

Religion centered Diane and the Golden Rule was the basis of all that she did in life. She served in many different volunteer capacities at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. Her favorite positions included serving as the Elder of Fellowship, Moderator of The Presbyterian Women of LOPC, the Noteables, and The Explorers Social Group.

Diane will be greatly missed by all those who were fortunate enough to know and love her. She is survived by Hal, her two children Tom (Virginia), and April Carlson (Jon); her six grandchildren Kirk, Katherine Croshaw (Yahtzee), Justin (Aidan) and Jared Steuber; Jack and Mike Carlson; her lovely great-granddaughter Elizabeth; and her brothers- and sisters-in-law.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 10 at 11 a.m. at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. A reception will follow.

The family thanks her many doctors at Kaiser Hospital and Hope Hospice for their care in Diane's final weeks. We especially thank Diane's caregiver Moni Marriott for her kindness and professionalism that was essential for Diane's care.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Diane's memory may be made to Monument Crisis Center, www.monumentcrisiscenter.org, or any other charity of your choice.

Not to be missed

Not to be missed

Not to be missed

Not to be missed

ART

Art Gallery at the Orinda Library: 80 Inspired Artworks Escape Local Studios. The Lamorinda Arts Council is excited to host a COVID-19 retrospective of artwork from 40 local artists who were unable to exhibit work during the COVID-19 shutdown. This is the first in-person exhibit at the fully opened gallery since March 2020. Meet 40 local artists at an outdoor reception in their honor on July 10, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. View artwork at the Gallery, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda, and in the Council's online gallery at www.lamorindaarts.org/ online-galleries through July 31.

Art Gallery at Wilder Virtual Exhibit: "Sophie's Lush Bouquets." Sophie Sanders has been interested in drawing and painting since her childhood in Taiwan. While she has had formal art training, she says, "I truly play on paper - having fun is my main goal." As you will see, she is a talented botanical artist; each artwork is a floral world unto itself. View her amazing pen and ink drawings online through July 31. Visit www.lamorindaarts.org/ online-galleries.

The Moraga Art Gallery presents a new summertime show, "Midsummer Synergies," open from July 14 to Sept. 19, featuring the vibrant creations of two Lafayette artists: ceramicist Donna Arganbright and Danguole Rita Kuolas, a printmaker and etching specialist. Kuolas will demystify printmaking by doing a free public

demonstration on Sunday, Aug. 8 from 1-4 p.m. at the gallery. The show also includes arresting papier-mâché sculptures by guest artist Francine Garcia and scores of works by the gallery's roster of sculptors, painters, jewelers, photographers, ceramicists, woodworkers, printmakers, and more. The gallery is located in the Rheem Shopping Center at 432 Center Street, Moraga, and is open Wednesday to Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.moragaartgallery.com or call (925) 376-5407.

Saint Mary's College Museum of Art (MoA) reopened to the public. On view through July 11, the current exhibition "Aesthetic Forces" features landscapes in the college's permanent collection. The exhibition folds 100 years of cultural and environmental changes into California land interpretations created by artists working in the region. The Museum is open for limited hours from Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All visitors will need to complete the college's health screen check before entrance at the campus gate. More information can be found at www.stmarys-ca.edu/museum.

LITERATURE

Art Embraces Words – Call for writers, visual artists and audience members, Sunday, July 25, 2 p.m. Zoom Webinar. Writers paint images with words. Artists tell stories with color. Together they enrich our community. Participate

as a writer by reading your work, an artist by showing your work or an audience member in the Q&A. This free program is hosted by the Lamorinda Arts Council and made possible by a grant from the Lafayette Community Foundation. Visit www.lamorindaarts.org/ art-embraces-words for details and to register. Questions? Email literary@lamorindaarts.org or call 925.359.9940.

KPFA Radio 94.1 FM presents Dan Kovalik and Mickey Huff: "Cancel This Book" on Tuesday, July 13, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at Online webinar, 1929 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Berkeley. Dan Kovalik discusses his new book, "Cancel This Book: The Progressive Case Against Cancel Culture," converses with Mickey Huff and answers questions. Cost: Suggested Donation \$5-\$20. For more info see www.eventbrite.com/e/dan-kovalik-and-mickey-huff-the-progressive-case-against-cancel-culture-tickets-154738889183.

MUSIC

Lamorinda Idol Finalists Perform at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 20. Enjoy their lively vocals at Orinda Community Park adjacent to Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way, Orinda. Steve Harwood emcees the event. Their Lamorinda Finals 2021 Contest is scheduled Aug. 15 at Orinda Theatre Square. For more information email idol@lamorindaarts.org or visit www.lamorindaarts.org/idol-2. Join Lonesome Eddie and the

Saddle Sores (country band) for a festive July 4th celebration and street party in front of Provisions Restaurant at the corner of Virginia and Sacramento in Vallejo's adorable downtown. That section of street will be closed off. Parking lot adjacent to the restaurant. Dance performances by Moon Aztec Ballet Folklorico. Tons of food, games, drinks, and general merriment 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 4th. Lonesome Eddie and the Saddle Sores will be playing from 1-4 p.m. Free event. www.lonesomeeddieandthe.saddlesores.com

Pacific Chamber Orchestra presents Beethoven's Fifth and Sixth Symphonies. July 17, 7:30 p.m. at Campolindo Performing Arts Center, 300 Moraga Road, Moraga and July 18, 3 p.m. at Bankhead Theatre, 2400 First Street, Livermore. For details and tickets visit www.pacificchamberorchestra.org

THEATER

Town Hall Theatre is excited to announce its first outdoor in-person event July 10 at Moraga Commons in Moraga. THT will host local artists as they present songs and spoken word pieces that mean something personal to them on the themes of Hope, Renewal, Equity, Resilience, Home, Inclusion, and Celebration. The event is directed by Madison Gerringer and features musical accompaniment by the Steve Carter Trio. On July 20 portions of the live event will be presented for free as part of a

fundraising telethon for Town Hall Theatre. Live Event July 10 from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; online stream July 20 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Tickets at www.TownHallTheatre.com

Applications are being accepted for Studio Retreat, a free 10-day Masterclass in acting and playwriting in Danville. Dates for the summer 10-day Acting and Playwriting Workshop are July 21 - Aug. 1 (with a break on Monday, July 26 and Tuesday, July 27.) We invite high-school students from throughout the Bay Area to Tao House, the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, one-time home of the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright. Students will be coached in their respective disciplines by highly experienced Bay Area professionals. We look forward to welcoming students back in person to Tao House this summer. www.eugeneoneill.org/studio-retreat/

Jackie Keliiaa's Good Medicine announces a Night of Live Native Stand-Up to be held on July 17 at California Shakespeare Theater featuring top Native American stand-up comedians. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m. on July 17. Audiences are encouraged to arrive early and enjoy dinner and drinks on the Bruns Amphitheater grounds before showtime. Be sure to bring your blanket as temperatures cool in the evening. Copies of "We Had a Little Real Estate Problem: The Unheralded Story of Native Americans & Comedy" will be raffled off throughout the evening. Tickets start at \$25. For more information and tickets, visit: calshakes.org/good-medicine.

GARDEN

We welcome you to visit our meetings and to become a part of The Walnut Creek Garden Club. We meet the second Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m., September through June at The Gardens at Heather Farm. If interested in joining our Club or for more information, please visit our website at www.walnutcreekgardenclub.org

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LAMORINDA SPORTS

A tale of two sports with Grace Gebhardt



Grace Gebhardt

Photo Shirley DeFrancisci, DeF-Stop Photography

By Jon Kingdon

With the majority of the high school sports teams playing simultaneously this past spring, many of the Lamorinda student-athletes were forced or voluntarily chose to focus on one sport. For Grace Gebhardt, it was all or nothing. She was going to play for the varsity lacrosse and basketball teams for the fourth consecutive year with the blessings of her coaches.

Both teams found a way to make it work. Assistant basketball coach Scott Espinosa-Brown said it was just a matter of cooperation between the coaches: "On days when Grace had a lacrosse game, she would practice basketball for a while and then leave for her game. We had a great relationship with Bill Fraser, the head lacrosse coach, and we all worked well together, just trying to do the best we could for the kids."

"It was non-stop transitioning," Gebhardt said. "I was really glad to play for both teams. I only had a couple of situations where we had a game for each sport on the same day. There were days that seemed endless where I would have basketball practice at 3:30 and later that day I would head over to the field for a lacrosse practice or game."

Playing two sports in high school is one thing. As a four-year starter for Acalanes in lacrosse and basketball, Gebhardt had the option to play either sport at the next level, but has opted to only play lacrosse when she begins her college career at UC Davis.

ers encouraging them. She was so hard on herself because she had such high expectations but never on others. No question, she could have played in college in the PAC 12."

It was a case of mutual admiration for Gebhardt and the coaches: "This year was an eye-opening experience and I welcomed so many new faces to the basketball program," Gebhardt said. "Our new coaching staff brought a drive and a new upbeat environment. They were so welcoming which inspired the players to do their best and just enjoy what we had."

All that being said, it was lacrosse that was her favorite sport. "I really like how it's different from every sport with the stick, the layout of the field and the rules," Gebhardt said. "Just the speed of the game and working together with 12 people on the field and seeing what you can do was mesmerizing to me."

With Acalanes having a 44-24 record in Gebhardt's four years on the team and scoring 93 goals with 32 assists this year along with being named Acalanes MVP Female Senior Athlete of the year, there is still one highlight that stands out above the rest: "In my sophomore year, we beat Miramonte in the DAL championship 10-9, and I ended up scoring the winning goal in overtime."

Gebhardt's first lacrosse coach at Acalanes was Courtney Neff, followed by Mary Doyle and then Bill Fraser her last two years. Mark Rurka has been an assistant coach for the Dons for the last five years and has been witness to Gebhardt's growth since in the sixth grade when she began playing for the Tenacity club team. "Grace is the most fluid player I've ever seen with her ambidextrous stick skills," Rurka said. "She is naturally gifted and has put in the time for years. This off-season, Grace did a lot of speed and strength work, and her first step was noticeably faster, showing moves that broke ankles."

Besides her ability on the field, her work as co-captain this year with Coco Fellner also stood out to Rurka: "They really led the team this year and they were the best pair of captains we've had in my time at Acalanes. The girls really respected them and they handled

any situations that came up and were very communicative. Grace is a wonderful kid from a wonderful family. She's been a delight to have on the team for four years and someone I could always count on as a person and as a player."

UC Davis was very much represented on the Acalanes staff, with Neff, Doyle and Rurka all having played lacrosse for the Aggies, so despite having played for three different head coaches, there were little transition issues for Gebhardt: "All of the coaches were similar, but it was our players that were the ones that held it together with each staff. Still, I think it was a positive experience and I learned a lot

from each one of them."

It didn't take more than one visit to UC Davis for Gebhardt to make the commitment to the Aggies. "I really just felt at home at Davis," Gebhardt said. "When I stepped on the campus as a junior, I was overwhelmed with joy and taken in by the experience and I felt at home. All the players were extremely welcoming along with the coaching staff. I couldn't ask for anything more along with the academics. It was just a no-brainer for me. I plan on majoring in graphic design. It's a broad major and we'll see where it takes me."

... continued on Page C2

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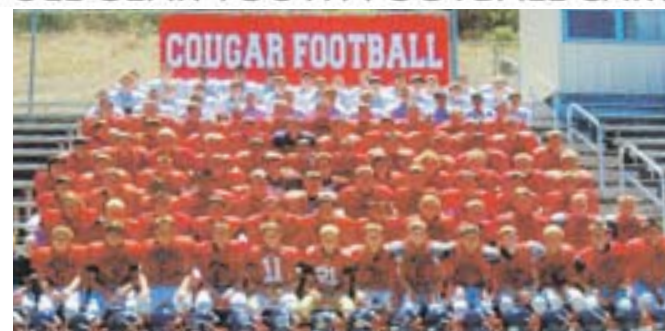
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PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT
LAFAYETTE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
The public is hereby notified that the Lafayette School District Governing Board approved the provisional appointment of David B. Smith as Board Member on June 23, 2021, to fill a vacant position created by a Board Member's resignation on May 13, 2021. Unless a petition calling for a special election, containing a sufficient number of signatures, is filed in the office of the county superintendent of schools within 30 days of the provisional appointment, it shall become an effective appointment.

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LMYA Volleyball teaching coaching techniques and technology

By Jon Kingdon

The Lafayette Moraga Youth Association (LMYA) is the largest athletic organization in Lafayette and Moraga and was founded in 1954, serving the surrounding communities. It's stated goal is to build self-esteem, sportsmanship, well-rounded players, and community by providing year-round sports opportunities to school age youth.

Eric Standing, the LMYA volleyball commissioner for the past 15 years, has supplemented the volleyball program

with teaching and tech programs to provide opportunities for those who finish playing the opportunity to continue an affiliation with the LMYA. There is now an opportunity for them to work as trainers (assistant coaches) and in creating computer programs and videos to facilitate the learning process for the players.

Standing played volleyball and went to high school in London, going on to play volleyball and graduate from UC Davis. Solidifying his love of the sport was developing a relationship with USA Volleyball Olympian Karch Kiraly.

Overseeing up to 500 kids and 50-60 girl's volleyball teams, Standing each year hires 50-70 trainers, most of whom are female, to assist the coaches in teaching proper volleyball techniques. "We do a recruiting event at one of the high schools where we run a camp for the little kids," Standing said. "We ask the high school players to come and run the clinic so we can see if they're suited to become a trainer."

They will then undergo an interview process and testing on a business model utilizing three concentric circles. "The

circles represent the 500 players, 80 coaches and 50 trainers with a core staff in the middle," Standing explained. "The core staff's responsibility is to run the trainer business and to learn to write code for tech applications, which is really exciting because they've stepped in and started to close the gender gap with most of the trainers being young women. My intention was to fight sexism and give them a real opportunity, first as trainers and then paying them to learn tech and helping them deliver value to our community with it."

The trainers are ques-

tioned about how they will perceive their roles as trainers. "We will test them during the interview about what they would do in certain situations by having them run a skit," Standing said. "For example, we ask them how they would present themselves to the volleyball coach, identifying themselves and explaining what their practice plan would be for that evening or offering to follow what the volunteer parent-coach has prepared for their teams."

... continued on Page C3

Lamorinda Water Polo Club qualifies 21 teams for USA Water Polo's National Junior Olympic Competition



Photo provided

LAMO 18U Boys A Team. Front row, from left: Chris Bruen, Adam Ting, Parker Hett, Donovan Davidson, Griff Hallahan, Will Hollerbach. Back row, from left: Coach James Lathrop (LAMO Boys Director and 18U Head Coach), Will Coons, Owen Van Stralen, Jamie Steingraf, Cooper Tunney, Will Stryker, Gavin Grosz, Spencer Tarkoff, Ryan McAninch, Johnny Shepherd, Hugh Flanders, Lincoln Haley (LAMO Boys 16U Head Coach).

Submitted by Chris McCracken

Lamorinda Water Polo Club had all of its A teams finish in the top 4 in each age group for both boys and girls in the Pacific Zone's Junior Olympic Qualifying Tournament in June. The qualifying tournament included 180 teams from Northern California. Overall, LAMO had 21 teams qualify for the Junior Olympics. As the only club to have a top 4 finish in each age group

for both boys and girls and based on the strength of its finishes within those age groups, Lamorinda was the top performing club in the tournament.

The results were led by the girls 16U A team finishing 1st in its division; followed by the girls 18U, 14U, and 12U teams, and 10U boys team finishing 2nd; the 18U, 16U and 14U boys teams, and 10U girls finishing 3rd; and the 12U boys team finishing 4th. The Junior Olympics will take place in Orange County, CA, from July 17-25.

Lamorinda Water Polo Club's 16U Girls Team goes 9-0 in back-to-back first place finishes in National and Regional Competitions



Photos provided

LAMO 16U Girls A Team. Front row, from left: Mira Haldar, Grace Clark, Kaia Levenfeld, Tali Stryker, Lucy Berkman, Dania Innis, Kim Everist (LAMO Girls Director and 16U Head Coach). Back row, from left: Clara Grenning, Ana Pieper, Lauren Lacour, Ally Lurie, Lindsey Lucas, Meghan McAninch.

Submitted by Chris McCracken

Lamorinda Water Polo Club's 16U Girls A Team finished first place in two major tournaments over consecutive weekends. The team took home the

Gold Medal in the Futures Super Finals, a national tournament held in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 18-20. The following weekend, the team finished first place in the Pacific Zone's Junior Olympic Qualification Tournament, beating SHAQ B, Norcal, 680, and Diablo.



LAMO Center, Dania Innis, was honored as 16U MVP.



LAMO Goalie, Lindsey Lucas, was honored as Top 16U Goalie.



LAMO Center Defender, Ainsley Hogan, was honored as Top 14U Defender.

Local team wins big in Omaha



Photo provided

Eli Dudum, Reid Habas, Blake Robison, Tommy Tarhar, Gavin Beers, Branson Smith, Jimmy Cusamano, Cody Michlitsch, Nico Roig, Leo McDonough

Submitted by Jane E. Smith

Lafayette Oaks 13U baseball team won the Omaha SlumpBuster Tournament in Omaha, Nebraska with over 50 13U teams from around the country and

played in Iowa and Nebraska. The Lafayette Oaks beat teams from Minnesota, Utah, Illinois, and finally from Nebraska to take the championship title. The team was coached by Steve Hammond of the Bay Area Baseballers.

Acalanes Celebrates 2021 Senior Recruited Athletes



Photo provided

From left: Sam Roth (Cal Poly SLO Track and Cross Country), Joey Carrillo (UC Davis Football), Scott Ruegg (Colorado College Basketball), Brady Huchingson (Oregon State Football), Davis Diaz (Vanderbilt University Baseball), Michael Castelli (Saint Mary's College Baseball), Grace Gebhardt (UC Davis Women's Lacrosse), Eliza Bates (Cal Poly SLO Women's Tennis), Claire Rowell (UC Berkeley Women's Water Polo), Alex Mould (UC Irvine Women's Water Polo), Shelby Suppiger (UC Berkeley Women's Swimming)

Submitted by Julia Overs Bates

In a year like no other, Acalanes Athletics Boosters were thrilled to celebrate 11 graduating seniors who are continuing their student athlete journey at the NCAA college level.

The pandemic made this a particularly daunting recruiting year as NCAA regulators restricted competitions, campus visits, and in-person contact with college coaches for over a year. These recruits met with coaches and future teammates over Zoom, many simply skipped visits to see the

campus or workouts in person. Perseverance and determination, along with demonstrated strong work ethic, enabled these athletes to get their names added to the rosters of highly respected college programs for next year.

Acalanes Athletics Boosters is proud to have supported their efforts over the years and wish them all the best in their college endeavors. Many of these athletes have enjoyed friendships together since grade school. We will always welcome them as Dons and couldn't be prouder of this accomplishment.

Congratulations and good luck.

A tale of two sports with Grace Gebhardt

... continued from Page C1

With a father (Jim) who played golf in college and a mother (Beth) who loved all the sports, it's no surprise that Gebhardt is not the only athlete in the family. Her older sister Emily swims for San Diego State, her younger brother Jack will be a freshman at Acalanes and plays soccer and Grant will be starting seventh grade and is a good golfer.

Needless to say, there was a lot of competition among the siblings. "Emily and I were glad that we didn't end up in the same sport because it would have been way too competitive. Still, we would find ways to compete whether it was just around the house or running together and even our brothers will get in on it."

As difficult as her senior year was, Gebhardt came away with an appreciation of how the Acalanes administration attacked the problem: "It was a struggle to get used to it when it all went down in the spring of 2020. Acalanes really nailed it when we returned in the fall. They had the schedule down and all the teachers and students did the best that they could, and we figured it out, but it was definitely an adjustment. The environment and the community of Acalanes was something special and all the faculty and staff were so inclusive, and they would spread that throughout the campus and every student, and I really loved that. Playing all of the sports, I learned how to develop my skills and how to communicate and work with a team, so it's been a really enjoyable experience graduating from there."

LMYA Volleyball teaching coaching techniques and technology



Eric Standring and Megan Go

Photo provided

... continued from Page C2

The primary responsibility for the trainers is to help the coaches with their practices. The ability of the coaches runs the gamut, and most welcome the assistance provided by the trainers, though there are some that have played in college that pass on utilizing a trainer. Understandably, there are more trainers utilized on the third- to fifth-grade teams, as they are learning the basic skills of the game.

At the coaching clinic which Standring runs for the trainers, he uses a methodology for coaching the players – IDEA which stands for Introduce, Demonstrate (technique), Explain and Attend (to individual differences). The trainers have

begun as early as eighth grade and there are also some students from Saint Mary's College.

The core staff is comprised of 10 members (marketing, tech, and crew lead roles). Most have had several years of experience playing LMYA Volleyball and will typically have good grades and play for their high school teams. It is from the trainers that have excelled that the crew leads are eventually selected from. Each year, the two crew leads are each responsible for 25 of the trainers in overseeing their training and overseeing their training, punctuality, and performance during the season.

Standring is a great supporter of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and is hoping to get more females involved in these fields. "I realized that we could offer

early opportunities for boys and particularly the girls because the volleyball program is primarily made of girls," Standring said. "It's a great way to get them an early opportunity to develop in the tech area."

The first person to get involved with the tech program for Standring was Joshua Harlev, who was an eighth-grader in Standring's wife Debbie's robotics class at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School. Harlev, who is now attending Chapman College, became the lead programmer and tech teacher, initially training Hana Benko and Megan Go.

The tech people created a program to oversee and grade the performances of the trainers. Arriving at practices on time and being prepared is the one metric that is most cared about. "We have a program called The Slacker Tracker," Standring said. "It shows us which trainer hasn't given us enough notice to get a sub. We measure that and graph it in Google. Since our crew leads are overseeing this, they are best suited to know who to promote when they move on from being a crew lead."

They have also written the payroll software and other programs for an iPhone app, which will be re-launched next year. "These are the two things that I'm most proud about," Standring said. "Developing the trainer's program, getting these young people in early on pro-

fessional development opportunities and in seeing how the kids in tech have done creating programs and in putting together the video content on the iPhone app so that kids were able to view the drills at home during the pandemic. I'm just amazed at what they were able to accomplish."

The LMYA has taken the technical and training aspect of the program into the video realm. During the pandemic, Standring's tech crew created training videos that are accessible on the LMYA app.

Though overseeing his tech students, Standring felt it important to let them create the programs and videos themselves. "I wanted to give them a ton of room to do this on their own and to learn from their mistakes," Standring said. "I just let them go and get something out that we could get feedback on and do that learning cycle repeatedly. If the videos are not very good, we'll work on it. I learned the scientific method from my parents who were both science teachers: 'Test and learn. Test and learn. Test and learn. Fail fast and learn faster.' That's our mantra."

The videos are available for volleyball and basketball with the potential to have training videos for all the LMYA sports in future. It's not just creating and uploading the 30 videos they've made so far. The techs provide written directions for the

videos. "It's also the key words that go with the videos," Standring said. "If we're doing a serving video, the key words attached to it should be Toss, Step and Hit. The first week, we worked on serving, the second week passing, and the third week setting. That curriculum is considered content for the 10-week season."

Megan Go, who will be attending UCLA this fall to study computer science, set a standard of excellence that Standring is hoping his trainers will follow. "I'm establishing 'The Megan Go Award.' She has been my top crew lead out of the 30 we've had since we started the program. She has hired people without me and has done a great job. I never had anyone else that could do that."

At this point, there is space only available for the two current students, (Miles Garcia and Megan Mitchell) though Standring's team will be running a camp for kids in the fall that want to explore the tech field.

It's the respect that Standring receives from so many that have gone through the program which gives him his greatest satisfaction: "I think the success stories are the number of requests that I have received for recommendations for college and for applying for jobs which I am always happy to do. A couple of our trainers have gone into computer science and have come back and helped us with our programs."

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Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 15 Issue 10 Wednesday, July 7, 2021



Organize your home

read on Page D4

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Bee careful



Bottlebrush attracts bumblebees.

Photo Cynthia Brian

By Cynthia Brian

“The keeping of bees is like the direction of sunbeams.” ~ Henry David Thoreau

Barefoot and wearing our bathing suits, my daughter was teaching me Bar Method exercises out on our lawn on a beautiful summer afternoon. Partway through the practice I was stung on my foot by a honeybee dining on the clover. Clover is a wonderful addition to lawns as it adds natural nitrogen to the soil, however, when playing on the grass we must remember to be cautious as both red and white clover provide favorite nectar to our honey friends.

We all want to attract pollinators to our gardens. The more flowers you grow equals the more food for the habitat of the pollinators. Bees, butterflies, beetles, hummingbirds, bats, and birds are responsible for 35% of our food crop and 75% of the world's flowering plants. Every three bites of food eaten can be directly thanks to the pollination from these garden friends. By helping plants reproduce, pollinators sustain our ecosystem and produce our natural resources. Sadly, the pollinator population is in jeopardy on a global level.

In 2006, the honeybee population substantially declined in a phenomenon that became known as Colony Collapse Disorder or CCD. When the worker bees disappeared, they would leave behind a queen and a few nurse bees to care for the queen and the remaining immature bees. There were rarely dead bees around the hives. Hives cannot sustain themselves without worker bees which resulted in the loss of the colony. There were many theories advanced on why the problem arose including new diseases, parasites, mites, pesticide poisoning, habitat changes, poor nutrition, and stress. Although an actual cause has never been determined, most scientists believe that CCD is related to this combination of causes.

Honey bees reflect the health of the environment. Our agriculture depends on the pollination of honey bees. If bees continue to die, consumers can expect increased food prices and more scarcity. As gardeners, we can do our part to provide habitat and food for all pollinators and beneficial insects, including bees.

Here are some ways individual gardeners can make a difference while creating harmony in the landscape:

- Support the pollinator population all season by including plants that bloom spring until the beginning of winter. Bumblebees need early-season nectar and pollen while bees need late-season blooms for winter hibernation.

.... continued on Page D12



9 Oak Arbor, Orinda | \$5,500,000

We're busy at work preparing this gorgeous North Orinda estate for sale... here's a sneak peek of the well-appointed dining room with two glass enclosed wine cellars flanking the bay window that overlooks one of two water features. The vaulted beamed ceiling adorned with a Julie Neill two tier chandelier is bound to catch the eye of passersby.

This is only a glimpse of what this gorgeous 4 bedroom, 4 full and 2 half bathroom, office, game room, property has to offer. There is separate guest house on the one acre site.

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Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	8	\$1,070,000	\$4,318,000
MORAGA	5	\$760,000	\$1,725,000
ORINDA	13	\$1,375,000	\$4,800,000

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

- 510 Bavarian Court, \$2,051,000, 3 Bdrms, 2424 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 05-18-21
- 10 Burnt Oak Circle, \$2,301,000, 4 Bdrms, 2301 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$1,400,000, 04-10-15
- 1225 Cambridge Drive, \$4,318,000, 4 Bdrms, 3136 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$2,650,000, 05-14-15
- 5 West Creek Court, \$1,070,000, 3 Bdrms, 1448 SqFt, 1975 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$770,000, 08-23-16
- 921 Dewing Avenue, \$1,075,000, 2 Bdrms, 1311 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 05-21-21, Previous Sale: \$579,000, 11-13-13
- 1122 El Curtola Boulevard, \$1,600,000, 4 Bdrms, 1619 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 05-21-21, Previous Sale: \$765,000, 08-14-12
- 22 Northridge Lane, \$2,450,000, 4 Bdrms, 4549 SqFt, 1999 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$2,200,000, 06-03-05
- 3554 Oconner Drive, \$2,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 2417 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$1,187,500, 05-29-13

MORAGA

- 1962 Ascot Drive, \$760,000, 3 Bdrms, 1410 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 05-21-21, Previous Sale: \$158,000, 05-01-89
- 155 Fairfield Place, \$1,725,000, 5 Bdrms, 2795 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 05-21-21
- 1009 Larch Avenue, \$1,339,000, 3 Bdrms, 1418 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 05-18-21, Previous Sale: \$1,035,000, 04-12-17
- 241 Rheem Boulevard, \$1,610,000, 3 Bdrms, 1373 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$800,000, 06-22-11
- 121 Westchester Street, \$1,370,000, 3 Bdrms, 2036 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 09-15-17

ORINDA

- 111 Bear Ridge Trail, \$2,250,000, 5 Bdrms, 3952 SqFt, 1986 YrBlt, 05-20-21, Previous Sale: \$1,676,500, 07-12-16
- 21 Calvin Court, \$1,375,000, 3 Bdrms, 2149 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 05-19-21, Previous Sale: \$998,000, 01-26-20
- 154 Camino Sobrante, \$2,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 3311 SqFt, 1938 YrBlt, 05-21-21, Previous Sale: \$785,000, 05-14-09
- 484 Dalewood Drive, \$3,405,000, 5 Bdrms, 4124 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 05-19-21, Previous Sale: \$2,205,000, 05-23-14
- 136 Fiesta Circle, \$1,701,000, 3 Bdrms, 1738 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 05-18-21, Previous Sale: \$297,000, 01-01-88
- 58 Ivy Drive, \$1,458,000, 3 Bdrms, 1245 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 05-21-21, Previous Sale: \$1,040,000, 09-06-18
- 171 Las Vegas Road #1, \$1,800,000, 3 Bdrms, 2115 SqFt, 1939 YrBlt, 05-21-21
- 126 Meadow Lane, \$2,050,000, 3 Bdrms, 3003 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 05-21-21
- 550 Orindawoods Drive, \$2,950,000, 5 Bdrms, 5424 SqFt, 1997 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$1,875,000, 04-21-14
- 2 Rita Way, \$1,950,000, 3 Bdrms, 2328 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 05-17-21
- 8 Robert Road, \$2,450,000, 4 Bdrms, 2331 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 05-19-21, Previous Sale: \$1,000,000, 03-27-01
- 618 Tahos Road, \$2,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 3567 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 05-19-21, Previous Sale: \$1,804,000, 07-02-14
- 111 Tappan Lane, \$4,800,000, 5 Bdrms, 6353 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 05-17-21, Previous Sale: \$3,800,000, 03-22-18

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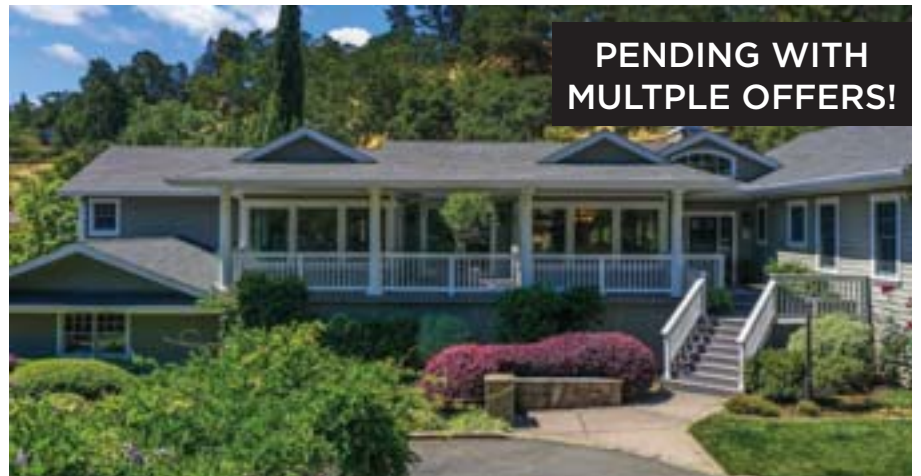
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Reimagine your garage and give your family the space they need



Epoxy type flooring is a paint-like durable coating that looks amazing!

By Jennifer Raftis, CPO®

This past year is one we will likely never forget. Many of my clients found themselves scrambling for more space in their homes. They were having to share not only the Wifi, but the actual rooms they needed to work in. Once we realized that the pandemic was not going away in a couple of weeks, we knew that we had to figure out how to live, work, and go to school together – at home! This presented a huge challenge for families. I started getting calls last summer from clients that needed help creating more space.

My solution for many of these families was to design a multi-use garage space. The average size 2 car garage is 24 X 24 (576 sq ft.). Compare this to an average size bedroom of 12 X 10 (120 sq ft.). By making some simple changes, we were able to create space for several needs—home office, school-work area, exercise space, teen hang out, and storage too!--for a fraction of the cost and time of adding on a new room. Converting garages to create extra living space is a trend that is here to stay.

What are you currently using your garage for? Let's face it, many of us do not use our garages well. They can easily become a cluttered catch-all for items, much of which we are not using, can't access, or have even forgotten about. Do you know what "stuff" you have buried away in your garage? Most garages are filled to the brim with a variety of items we seldom look at or use including household products, memorabilia, old papers, used toys, furniture, items we are saving for our kids, unfinished craft projects, broken items we plan to repair someday, outdated electronics, cords (to what?) and of course "mystery boxes".

Your garage can be so much more than an overstuffed storage space! It's time to reimagine your garage. If you are like most of my

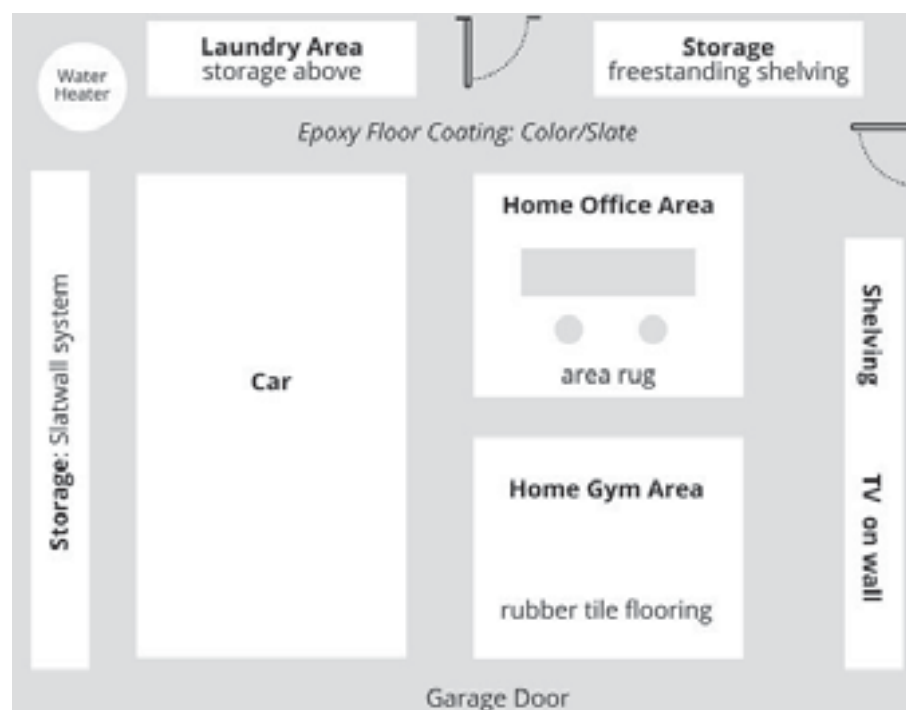
clients, you probably do not know where to start. I recommend that you start with your ideal vision for the space.

Create a simple sketch of the garage and rough out each zone – be sure to allot enough space for its use. For example, maybe you want one fourth for exercise equipment, one fourth for home office and the rest for a car and storage.

Here are some ideas for how you can use your space:

- **Work from Home Office:** Post-COVID, more people are working from home than ever before. Create an area for your home office (or kid's study space)
- **Exercise Area:** Create a space for workouts, yoga, meditation and more. Cover the floor area in rubber tiles which are easy to install and easy on your joints.
- **Craft Space or Workshop:** Keep all of your tools (or craft supplies) within easy reach and have space to work in.
- **Kid's Hangout:** Kid's of all ages (yes, adults too) can use more space to hangout and relax in. I have had many TVs installed in garages this last year.
- **Storage:** We all need extra storage space. Slatwall systems, overhead storage racks, freestanding and wall shelving, and garage attics are some of my space-saving solutions. Vertical and ceiling storage is often overlooked and underused.
- **Cars:** Yes, some people actually park their car in the garage. You can mix and match by having a car parked on one side and your home gym on the other side.

... continued on Page D10



Reimagine your garage - create a simple layout of your wants and needs.

Photos and image provided

SUMMER IS HEATING UP IN LAMORINDA



3 Butler Drive, Lafayette \$2,495,000



551 Miner Road, Orinda \$2,450,000



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83 Tiger Tail Court, Orinda \$3,500,000

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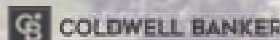


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- 1) The home price increases are due to a shortage of inventory. It is a basic supply and demand issue.
- 2) There are no "shady or risky mortgages" as in the past.
- 3) Buyers are putting more down-payment than ever before.
- 4) Interest rates are currently low and fixed vs. the adjustable and zero rates of the past.

WILL PRICES GO DOWN SOON? THE ANSWER IS... MOST LIKELY, NO

There has been a 20% price appreciation since the beginning of the year. In the near future appreciation may decline, but it will not be a persistent decline because people that were not able to get into the market will be ready to jump back in. Keep in mind that real estate is the best hedge against inflation since payments are fixed year after year. Conversely, rent prices increase year after year.

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971 Hawthorne Drive \$1,185,000

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Reimagine your garage and give your family the space they need



Keep all of your tools (or craft supplies) within easy reach and have space to work in.



Kid's of all ages (yes, adults too) can use more space to hang out and relax in.

... continued from Page D4

Don't forget about flooring and lighting. Say goodbye to the drab gray slab. Covering the surface with a durable yet good looking flooring can transform your garage into a more usable space. Epoxy coating, rubber tile, and even carpet and tiles made for garages are an option. Change up your lighting. Think outside the box and kick those old-school fluorescent lights to the curb and replace them with energy-efficient LED lighting.

Now that you have the vision, the real work begins. Here is where the rubber hits the road, you have to remove everything from the garage to sort and purge so you can start with a clean slate. If you are feeling daunted by the task, consider hiring a professional organizer to help design and streamline the project. You'll save time, money and stress. It's worth the investment for livability!



Jennifer Raftis, CPO® founded Efficiency Matters, LLC to help you with all of your organizing needs for your home and business. She is a Certified Professional Organizer and an active board member with NAPO, National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals. She is also an independent representative for The Container Store and has expertise in designing closets, garages, pantries, playrooms and more. In addition, she is a Corporate Organizing and Productivity Consultant and has worked with Fortune 500 companies across the U.S. Another large part of her business is move management especially working with seniors who are downsizing. She and her husband have lived in Moraga for 30 years, raising 3 kids and working countless volunteer hours with many local non-profit organizations and schools. Jennifer@efficiencymattersllc.com 925-698-3756 www.efficiencymattersllc.com

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High ceilings and walls of windows capture the natural light that streams beautifully throughout. Premium upgrades. Gas fireplace, hand-somely updated bathrooms and eat-in kitchen with 5 burner gas stove and pantry. Large master bedroom/bath with spacious walk-in closet. Garage right at the unit with storage loft.

Don't miss the chance to make this coveted model your new home. Move-in ready. **A MUST SEE!**

Offered at \$885,000



Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Bee careful

... continued from Page D1

- Add easy-to-grow natives and native hybrids to your garden.
- Replace barren areas with wildflowers and perennials.
- Include clover in your lawn.
- Avoid using any pesticides or herbicides.
- Provide a source of water by including a fountain or even a shallow birdbath with a landing pad

of stones or pebbles.

- Pollinators need a sheltered habitat of rocks, trees, shrubs, and ornamental grasses.

In general, bees tend to enjoy plants that have flat flower clusters, short tubular shapes, and single flowers which allow them to access the nectar and pollen easily. Attract and Feed Pollinators, especially bees and Bumblebees by planting a selection of these specimens:

Anise	Delphinium	Morning glory
Aster	Echinacea	Nasturtium
Bachelor Button	Fennel	Nigella
Bee Balm	Four O'Clock	Oregano
Black-Eyed Susan	Foxglove	Poppy
Blazing Star	Gladiola	Rosemary
Bottlebrush	Hollyhock	Salvia
Calendula	Iris	Sedum
Chamomile	Lupine	Sunflower
Clover	Lavender	Sweet Pea
Cleome	Magnolia	Yarrow
Cosmos	Marigold	Zinnia
Daisy	Milkweed	

Another great addition to any pollinator garden is the bearded iris. Irises spread as they mature, with old rhizomes producing new ones to form rhizome clumps. These clumps need to be divided every 3–5 years to avoid overcrowding and reduce the likelihood of soft rot. You may want to designate an area specifically for an iris plot. Divide and replant the rhizomes to grow your garden. To divide irises do the following:

1. About four weeks after the flowers fade, cut down the foliage by about two-thirds.
2. Carefully dig up the clumps and gently separate individual rhizomes by hand or with garden shears.
3. Discard damaged or discolored rhizomes. Also, toss out any with

soft spots.

4. Freshen soil with compost and replant the newly separated rhizomes 15–24 inches apart.
5. If you have too many, share with friends and family.

Bees are critical to the well-being of the planet. My daughter and her husband have become home beekeepers and are enjoying the delicious honey that their bees create from the many flowers growing in their garden. The bees are sunbeams of beauty and productivity. It's up to humans to "bee" careful with how we manage our biologicals to promote the health and longevity of all pollinators.

Just don't exercise barefoot on the clover!

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



Lavender and bees are companions.



A bee gathers pollen from a Blackeyed Susan



Add a rock to a birdbath or fountain providing a drinking perch for bees. Photos Cynthia Brian



Clover is a favorite of bees.



A field of calendulas brings in the pollinators,

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Ruffled peach bearded iris.



Nigella, aka Love in the Mist, is also a favorite bee haven.



A bee buzzes in a large magnolia flower.



Attracting bees and hummingbirds, remember to stake gladiolas.

Photos Cynthia Brian



A Bumblebee on a geranium flower,



Cynthia Brian dressed for the bees.

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.

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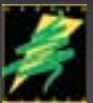
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ORINDA



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ORINDA



48 Oak Road

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\$2,395,000

ORINDA



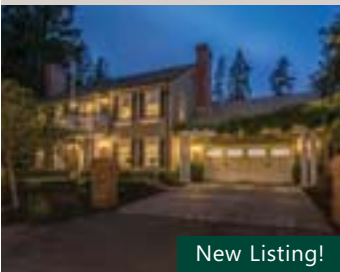
New Listing!

36 Heather Lane

Remodeled & updated 5 bed/ 4.5 bath home of approx. 3750 sqft w/ bonus room, home office/ workout room & panoramic views!

\$2,288,000

ORINDA



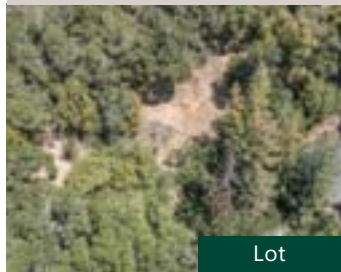
New Listing!

102 Meadow View Road

4 bed + office + possible 5th bed/ au pair/ 3.5 bath home. Approx. 3000 sqft on .4 flat acres in prime Glorietta location.

Call for Price

ORINDA



Lot

23 Kittiwake Road

Private residential .43 acre lot in one of Bay Area's most sought after neighborhoods. Close to Highway 24 & downtown.

\$725,000

LAFAYETTE



4090 Happy Valley Road

Luxurious 4 bed/ 5.5 bath home on 2.64 acre estate w/ adjoining lovely guest house, a huge lawn & bocce ball court.

\$14,995,000

LAFAYETTE



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



1207 Upper Happy Valley Road

Contemporary 5 bed/ 3.5 bath home on park-like setting w/ views from every room. Minutes to downtown, Hwy 24, & schools.

\$2,695,000

LAFAYETTE



Pending

9 Nephi Court

Charming updated 4 bed/ 3 bath Ranch style home located on private .58 acre lot close to vibrant downtown.

\$1,395,000

LAFAYETTE



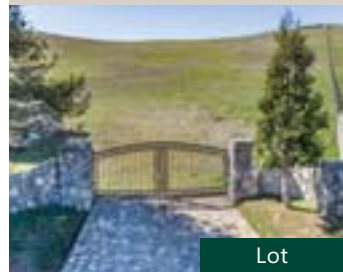
For Lease

3434 Woodview Drive

Totally solar 5 bed/ 3.5 bath home on 3.08 acres at end of Woodview Dr. in private setting w/ panoramic views.

\$8,950/ Monthly

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

Hillary Murphy
Karen Murphy

John Nash
Altie Schmitt

Judy Schoenrock
Ann Sharf

Amy Rose Smith
Molly Smith

Jeff Snell
Lynda Snell

Steve Stahle
Clark Thompson

Angie Evans Traxinger
Ignacio Vega

Ann Ward
Margaret Zucker

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Village

ASSOCIATES

It's Village. Of Course.

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