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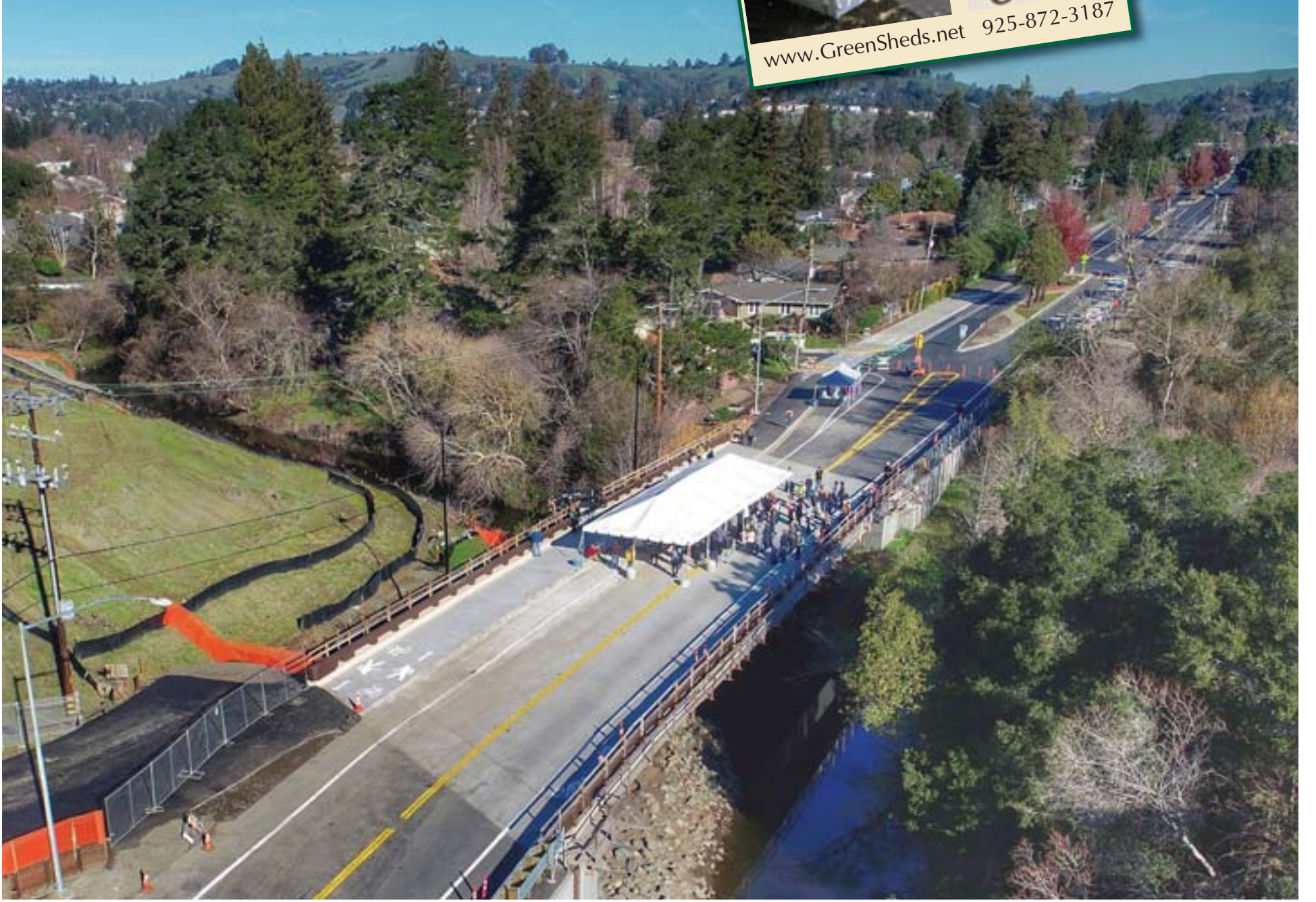
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An aerial view of the Jan. 20 Canyon Road Bridge Opening Ceremony. Photo courtesy Brandon Hays

After nearly five years, Canyon Road Bridge opens for two-lane traffic

By Vera Kochan

Commuters and bicyclists who use the Canyon Road Bridge on a regular basis have undoubtedly realized, as of Jan. 20, that they no longer have to wait patiently at a stop light for their turn to cross the bridge – a habit that lasted for nearly five years.

The original bridge, built in 1936, was damaged during 2017 landslides. Since that time, the town of Moraga has poured its efforts into a replacement bridge (another two-way, modern steel-reinforced,

concrete bridge) with enhancements such as street lights, pedestrian walkways, bike lanes, a bench and a multi-use path connecting the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail.

The Opening Ceremony and ribbon cutting was attended by at least 100 people who wasted no time standing along the side railings of the bridge to look at the views below.

Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg began the event by noting that “construction of both the temporary bridge and the replacement bridge were big complicated projects for Moraga’s small staff. There

were many hurdles and challenges, including navigating environmental constraints, securing grant funding, and construction and supply delays due to COVID. Moraga is the little engine that could, but truth be told, we couldn’t have done it alone.” She went on to thank the many agencies involved during the construction process with a shout-out to Moraga’s residents, Moraga Country Club Homeowners Association, Canyon’s residents and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority.

... continued on Page A10

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Letters to the Editor	A9
Not to be missed	B4
How to contact us	B4
Classified	C2
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Festive Chinese New Year decorations displayed in Lamorinda



Photos Sora O'Doherty




The Eng Family of Orinda shared decorations with the community, on display at the Orinda Library.



Moraga Way residents celebrate Chinese New Year by hanging red lanterns from a front yard tree.

Chinese New Year, the celebration of the start of a new lunar year, began Feb. 1. Each year in the Chinese calendar is associated with one of the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac; 2022 is the Year of the Tiger. To celebrate, the Eng family of Orinda has lent a number

of pieces traditionally used in the celebration to the Orinda Library. The display will remain up through February. Red lanterns are also traditional at this time of the year, and can be seen decorating various homes around the area.

Civic News A1-A10	Life in Lamorinda B1-B4	Sports C1-C4	Our Homes D1-D12
Private security works in Wilder, but dumping continues on Hwy 24 - Page A6 Public Safety Crime spree on Ivy Drive in Orinda in focus - Page A8	Local naturalist offers tips to explore our outdoor surroundings - Page B1 	Campolindo outlasts Miramonte, 55-46, after blackout - Pages C2 	Sneaky storage solutions for the home - Page D6 



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Lafayette City Council approves 2021-22 final budget and workplan, adding four new staff positions to city

By Lou Fancher

Continuing a discussion begun in December 2021, City Manager Niroop Srivatsa and Administrative Services Director Tracy Robinson at the Jan. 24 city council meeting provided the city council with the final budget and workplan for FY 2021-22. The update included changes adopted by the council following approval of the proposed budget in June 2021, recommendations from department directors, and items reflecting the impact of the ongoing pandemic.

Robinson said the General Fund balance as of June 30, 2021, stood at \$14,588,795; a figure equal to 96% of annual

general fund expenditures that exceeds the council's 60% target by \$5.4 million. The estimated balance for the same month in 2022 is projected to be \$12 million, representing a 68% reserve expenditure that is \$1.5 million above the targeted goal.

Although expenditures are roughly \$2.1 million more than projected, the overages are related to timing, such as distributions from the ARPA funds and contributions to the Park Theatre purchase. Robinson said savings were realized in police services, projects carried over to the next fiscal year, and unspent funds related to project reserves. Revenue was realized in sales taxes, property

tax transfers, grants, and city fees for services.

With COVID and the variants continuing, Robinson emphasized that knowing and anticipating revenue trends is especially important for all cities. She said FY 2019 was the last "normal year," 2020 a half-pandemic year, and 2021 a full pandemic year. "We're all hoping that fiscal year 2022 is not another full pandemic year," she said.

Detailing the revenue sectors, Robinson's presentation showed "Swiss cheese" style recovery patterns: sales tax revenue was recovering, but not back to levels prior to the pandemic; property and vehicle and franchise revenue re-

mained virtually unaffected. Property tax revenue Robinson suggested picked up in 2021 with pent-up demand as homes started selling, but transient occupancy took "a huge hit of about 23%." Projections are difficult, with some signs showing possible faster recovery than expected as people come together for larger events or travel.

Robinson said investment and rental revenue figures reported in the update are reliant on two factors: interest rates declining and the fact that the category includes interest booked on "phantom" redevelopment loans that have been written off. Overall, she noted the 4% economic growth dur-

ing the three year period from 2019 to January 2022 was low compared to the (pre-pandemic) 3 to 5% increases typically recorded year over year.

Special revenue realized in the last year included \$3.2 million from the first tranche of ARPA funds that were put into a sinking fund out of which they will be drawn as needed, and \$2.25 million from the Palos Colorados Settlement. (Those funds were distributed into a sinking fund of \$1.75 million for engineering staff to implement Vision Zero, and \$500,000 into a separate sinking fund for money to seed Vision Zero capital projects.)

... continued on Page A8

World class art to be featured at new Brant development



Image provided

By M.D. Jones

The Lafayette City Council at its Jan. 10 meeting voted unanimously to approve the installation of two works of art at the new Brant development by Lennar at the corner of Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Dolores Drive. The decision was the culmination of three years of proposals and modifications from developer Lennar in coordina-

tion with the city of Lafayette's Public Art Committee and the Lafayette City Council, according to a report by Public Art Committee Staff Liaison Jenny Rosen.

The new artwork will be comprised of works by two separate artists. The first artist selected by the city council, ceramic artist Aileen Barr, will install handmade tile mosaic panels for planter boxes along the news walkway leading from Mt.

Diablo Boulevard to the public trail above the development, as well as a staircase design along that path. According to the staff report presented by Rosen, Barr's work will feature "colors and curved lines and stylized plant life that coordinate with the building and with the hills behind the development and culminate in a stairway featuring a flight of birds to the cloud and sky." Barr's prior notable

work includes a similar stairway mosaic on the steps at Lincoln Park in San Francisco.

The second art feature will be designed by the art partnership Wowhaus, who was asked that the piece reflect the natural environment of Lafayette. It will feature a laser-etched, stainless steel, free-standing vertical totemic sculpture of Brant geese in flight as a nod to the name of the development, "The Brant." Lighting from the sun during the day and from an LED lighting component at night will illuminate a dot-matrix pattern, the staff report noted. This pattern will create an image of migratory birds and thereby also complement the design of the mosaic stairway of the first art installation.

The cost for both art installations is \$302,960 and was made possible by Section 6-2603 of the Lafayette Municipal Code which requires not less than 1% of the final construction or alteration cost to go toward instal-

lation of public art. Further consideration for approval by the city council included a minimal cost of maintenance of these art projects. According to a proposal submitted by Leah Denman, project manager for Lennar, this will be accomplished with the durable nature of the high-fired tile artwork and the steel composition of the sculptural work, as well as its lightbox only needing replacing about every 10 years. The cost of the maintenance of these exhibits will be recorded with the county as part of the CC&R's for the condo's Homeowner's Association.

In reference to the new art installations Vice Mayor Carl Anduri stated, "This is exactly how the public art committee and the art requirement for buildings is supposed to work. These are truly exciting works that we are going to have in the city."

The artwork is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2022.

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Lafayette Citizen(s) of the Year Now taking nominations for the 2022 Lafayette Citizen(s) of the Year!

Deadline to submit nominations is Friday, February 11 at noon.
Criteria for Lafayette's Citizen of the Year are as follows:

- **Must NOT** be a current elected or paid member of any City Council, school board or commission.
- **Must be** a current Lafayette resident.
- **Must be** someone who has given of their time, money or energy to help make Lafayette a healthy community, where people will want to live, work and shop.
- **Must be** someone who models excellence in everything they do.
- **Must be** someone who brings this community together and/or makes us proud to be a member of the community.

Previous recipients: W.B. Ellis, Ralfe Miller, Margaret Bainbridge, Mel Nielsen, John R. Jacques, M.H. Stanley, C.R. Turner, Theron Nelson, William Zion, Stanford White, Jack Hageman, Lou Repetto, Jop Van Overveen, Vern Odegard, Jack Marchant, Donn Black, Charles Franklin, Chris Adams, John Kennedy, Clifford Feiler, James Lloyd, Boardman Moore, Robert Augenthaler, Percy Whitten, Barbara Bupp, Irene Graff, Ed Stokes, Robert Fisher, Ernie Marriner, Ken Clifford, Don Young, Irene Thomas, Ned Robinson, Alice Johnson, Hirsh Morton, Sue Cross, Tom Cleveland, Herb Joyce, Skid Thomas, Su Stauffer, Tom Courtright, Lynn Hiden, Avon Wilson, Bill Wakeman, Richard Holmes, Guy Atwood, Connie & Mike Collier, Judy Garvens, Anne Grodin, Ellen Peterson, Norma Evans, Robert Wood, Mary McCosker, Budd MacKenzie, Kathy Bowles, Ivor Samson, Gwen Watson, Judy Carney, Jeanne Ateljevich, Team Library, Karen Mulvaney, Gayle Uilkema, Greg Moeller, Toni McShane, Marechal Duncan, Tom Steuber, Dick & Robin Holt, Donovan Jenkins, Don Tatzin, and Rick and Janet Cronk.

Submit your nomination for Citizen(s) of the Year by completing the form on this page:
<https://lafayettechamber.org/coy>

Organizational assessment focuses on helping overburdened city staff

By Lou Fancher

The organization assessment presented by Management Partners Special Advisors Rick Haydon and Dan Marks to the city council on Jan. 24 left little doubt that Lafayette city staff are dedicated, hard-working, hands-on, customer service oriented – and significantly overburdened.

The city's Planning, Public Works/Engineering, Administrative Services, Parks, Trails and Recreation, and Police departments were studied in a process that included interviews with staff and city department leaders, examination of recent and archived documents, outreach to city project stakeholders such as construction contractors and developers, reviews of city volunteer committees and commissions, a limited-scope evaluation of information technology (IT) and more. Management Partners assessment resulted in 34 recommendations.

Haydon delivered a summary of the assessment, highlighting among the 34 recommendations improvements in four key areas: Performance Measurement; Staffing; Commissions, Committees and Subcommittees; and Technology. Overall, he said the lack

of performance metrics and workload project updates and reports in city departments reduced efficiency; and city staff devote a disproportionate amount of work time to supporting committees and commissions.

"One of the things that jumped out on my analysis when I first took a look at this project is the amount of boards, commissions and committees the city of Lafayette has," Haydon said, "especially for a city of your size. I was a city manager for a city of over 100,000 and we had no more than a dozen total committees." He said Lafayette has 17 advisory, 12 subcommittees, and eight 2-person city council committees.

While the city is fortunate to have so many volunteers and residents actively participating, the overflow is too much for any 50-member city staff department to oversee and manage. The greatest fallout is that projects and priorities are published, but without efficient updates and tracking, often languish year after year without resolution or enactment. "You're limited in your ability to expand your workload because of the staffing issue," Haydon concluded.

... continued on Page A9



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Lafayette Public Meetings

City Council

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Monday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m.
Teleconference via City of Lafayette's
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Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, Feb. 7, 7 p.m.
Teleconference Meeting via Love
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Design Review

Wednesday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m. Zoom
Teleconference Meeting via Love
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For more information, please contact Mary at mbruns@lovelafayette.org or 925-284-5546.

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Town council presents Community Goals for 2022

By Vera Kochan

With another new year comes another set of Town Council Community Goals, and 2022 is no exception. Mayor Renata Sos and Vice Mayor Steve Woehleke came together to devise a list of 14 goals and priorities, which upon discussion with the other council members (Teresa Onoda, Sona Makker and Mike McCluer) during its Jan. 26 meeting, required some tweaking and eventually grew to 16 goals.

The purpose of the annual goal-setting is to obtain input from the community and to help staff carve out a work agenda for the coming year, all while directing the town's resources toward high priority undertakings.

Many of the 2022 goals are a continuation of the prior year's efforts and may take a few years to accomplish, which is why they still remain on the list, in one form or another. Some examples are the 6th Cycle Housing Element and Bollinger Valley Study Area Rezone. The town created a Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative, updated the General Plan, completed an environmental review, rezone and more.

Also in 2021, a Five-Year Capital Improvement Program was adopted in order to better budget infrastructural needs and shortfalls allowing staff to seek grants for future projects. Included in the program are traffic safety projects, street repairs, and storm drain issues.

Even though the bulk of the Canyon Road Bridge Project has been completed, aesthetic touches such as lighting and landscaping are still in the works. The East Bay Municipal Utility District's landslide project near the bridge has completed Phase I, with Phase II on track for a 2022 completion along with the restoration of the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail.

Financially, 2021 saw an improvement to Moraga's cof-

fers thanks to a \$4.2 million grant fund from the American Rescue Plan Act; a \$2.25 million payment from the Palos Col-orados developer; a Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund surplus which pushed the Reserve to \$500,000 above the 50% General Fund Reserve policy; and a potential \$200,000 reduction in the annual subsidy of the Hacienda de las Flores thanks to a 10-year lease agreement with Wedgewood Weddings.

The official title for this year's goals is "Moraga Town Council 2022 Goals and Priorities – For the Community, With the Community." Heading up the list is to efficiently sustain core operations and services of the town, maintain fiscal discipline, and continue to position the town for long-term fiscal sustainability and operational efficiency.

Also, continue updating, consistent with retaining the town's semi-rural character, the Moraga General Plan and the 6th Cycle Housing Element to satisfy the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), as well as implement corresponding rezoning (including the Bollinger Valley Special Study Area), objective standards, and revisions to the Planned Development Process.

Still in progress are several projects including completing work on the permanent Canyon Road Bridge and secure remaining reimbursements; completing the 2022 construction phase and the 2023 design of the "Worst First" Pavement Reconstruction Projects; and continuing implementation of the Storm Drain System Operations and Maintenance Program and undertaking needed storm drain capital improvements projects.

The council also needs to allocate the Moraga ARPA grant funding to the highest priority needs and implement corresponding plans; along with maintain and improve public safety with high-quality police and emergency response services and continue coordina-

tion with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District on fire safety, evacuation, and emergency preparedness and with the Moraga Schools on student well-being.

Additional goals include enhance the town's parks, open space, and facilities for the benefit of the public; with public input, develop and initiate a process for identifying and prioritizing uses for unrestricted and unassigned Palos Col-orados funds, including, among other things, consideration of a town-wide Recreation Open Space Plan; keep focus on traffic, congestion and pedestrian safety, particularly around schools, crosswalks and through routes.

More goals are to improve the town's communications with and outreach to the public using innovative approaches that are inclusive of all segments of the community and encourage public input and feedback; lessen the town's impact on the environment by continuing to implement sustainability initiatives and viable strategies in Moraga's Climate Action Plan; contribute further to the community effort to improve diversity and inclusion throughout the town, including but not limited to continuing to sponsor United Against Hate Week; and work collaboratively with the community, including the chamber, to improve Moraga's business climate.

The council also hopes to improve and enhance the collaboration and partnership with Saint Mary's College; and participate in a Moraga community service day working with community groups.

The town council did not vote on the goals as a whole, but rather gave their opinions and suggestions on each of them. A straw vote was taken to see which direction to take.

The entire item will be brought back on the next agenda for a formal vote at which time additional changes can still be made.

Moraga hires new Admin Services Director



New Administrative Services Director Annie To Photo Vera Kochan

By Vera Kochan

The town wasted no time in filling the barely vacant administrative services director position vacated by Norm Veloso. With almost a month under her belt, Annie To has hit the ground running in order to keep Moraga's day-to-day financial business up to speed.

Formerly the financial director for the city of Alameda, To has also held the deputy financial director position with

the city of San Jose and the finance director job for the city of Hercules. "I've not worked in the private industry – just local governments," she stated.

Her love of number crunching came before studying business administration and accounting at San Francisco State University. To also earned an MBA from JFK University when the campus was located in Orinda, and she has passed her CPA exams.

Some of To's duties for the town will include managing

the finances; overseeing the operation of Human Resources; working on the upcoming labor negotiations; and involvement in recruiting for the various vacated positions within the town offices. "Right now I am focusing on the mid-year budgets," she explained. "The next project is for labor negotiations. When we get fully staffed it will be a big help. I have managed 35 employees before. Here, the directors wear many hats and multi-task."

To currently lives in Oakland with her husband and children. When her two boys were young, she used to bring them to Moraga for private painting lessons. "I was so excited to get this job in Moraga. A small town is so nice. I used to live in Danville, and I love small towns."

Finding Moraga to be a great fit, To stated, "So far it's been good trying to get to know the executive staff and getting to know all of the aspects of the job. It's been very interesting. Every day has been exciting for me, and I'm trying to wrap my arms around the finances of the town."



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Hacienda's dangerous staircase replaced, thanks to project by public works director's son



Photo Vera Kochan

Eagle Scout John Knapp's completed Hacienda staircase project

By Vera Kochan

The name John Knapp might sound a bit familiar to Moragans in that he is the Eagle Scout son of Director of Public Works Shawn Knapp.

Knapp, the younger, was in search of a task in order to begin his Eagle Scout Conservation Project. He consulted with Parks and Recreation Director Breyana Brandt to see if there was anything available in her department. "We always have a whole list of things for a potential Scout project," she said.

After discussing several possibilities, Knapp felt strongly about the need to replace the rotting staircase leading from the Hacienda parking lot down to the La Sala Trail. "This has been sitting on our list for a while," stated Brandt. "There were projects town-wide, but he kept coming back to the stairs. I don't know if it's something we'd have agreed to except that his parents are both involved in public works [mom, Allison, is a deputy public works director for the county]. He had to come up with a comprehensive plan on how he was going to approach it."

"I wanted to do something

vival, helped Knapp to gain self-confidence.

Over 685 total hours went into the planning and construction of the project (340 of those hours involved construction man-time using 40 volunteers during two weekends). Knapp collected \$6,166 in cash donations for the materials (the town paid for the lumber and concrete), supplies and tools for the project through a GoFundMe account; a dine-in event at a restaurant; and direct solicitations.

Knapp was not without a support system during the project while his dad was sidelined with health issues. Family, friends, fellow Scouts from Troop 444 and their leaders (several of which are adult Eagle Scouts who are engineers) pitched in to dismantle the old staircase and build a new work of art. "I've done projects before on PowerPoint, but this was a first at being in charge," said Knapp. With an adult workgroup leader, he was encouraged to keep everyone on track and focused.

Every aspect and step of the undertaking was documented in what turned out to be a nearly 3-inch thick "John Knapp Eagle Scout Rank Candidate Binder" containing a project proposal, conceptual drawings, budgeting, materials used, work crew schedules, photos of the various stages of completion, receipts, and more. "Altogether, it took me one year from start to finish. Thank God, I'm done," rejoiced Knapp. "Overall, this project was complicated and needed a bunch of improvements, but it was worth supporting it."


His attention to detail has not gone unnoticed by the Boy Scouts of America. According to Knapp senior, "The scouting district representative, whose role for the past 10 years is to screen the Eagle Scout Service Project proposals and finished projects prior to their final Eagle Scout Board of Reviews, said this was the largest construction project and best put together report." The Knapps are keeping their fingers crossed that the project wins an award on a local level before being nominated for the National Eagle Scout Association Award.

"This was good training," commented Knapp, who's currently enrolled at Diablo Valley College, "but I'm still finding out what I want to do in life. I'm thinking of being a psychologist."

that would have a big impact to the community," explained John Knapp. "I noticed that it all needed to be improved. It wasn't fitting right. When people were walking down the stairs, it was moving."

"John found loose bricks and added that to the project," said his dad. "Wooden parts of the railing were crumbling, so he talked with Breyana about the appearance of it. The new handrails were made to follow the contours of the steps." Besides the aesthetically improved wooden railings, a metal ADA-compliant handrail was added to one side for additional gripping support, and the precarious bricks have been firmly reapplied with a heavy-duty adhesive.

Prior to the actual rebuilding of the staircase, Knapp began to have misgivings about tackling such a monumental endeavor. A two-week Philmont Scout Ranch High Adventure trip in New Mexico, which included hikes to the tops of several mountain passes, namely Baldy Mountain with an elevation of 12,441 feet, canoeing and hiking during inclement weather, while equipped with only the bare essentials of sur-



Town Council: Wednesday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m.
Planning Commission: Tuesday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.,
Park and Recreation Commission: Monday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m.,
Moraga School District Board Meetings: Tuesday, Feb. 8, 6 p.m. www.moraga.k12.ca.us.



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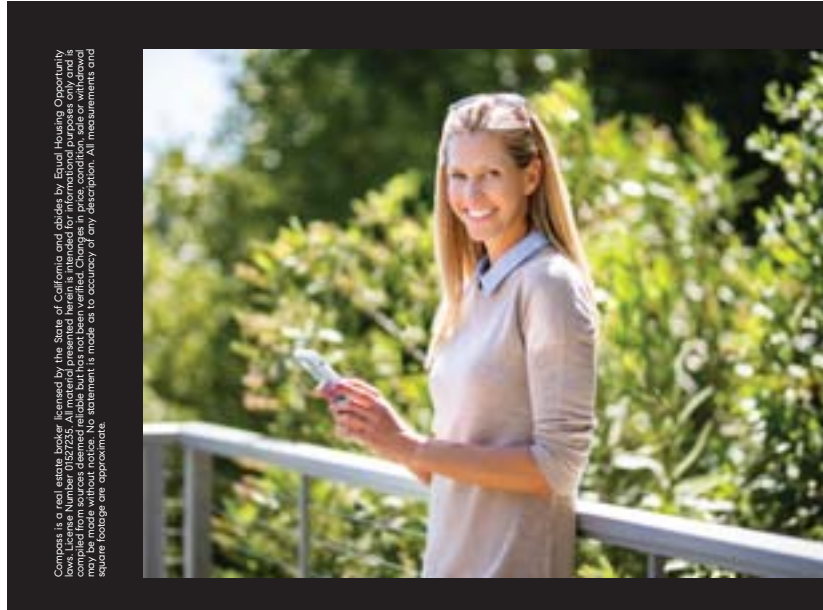


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Private security works in Wilder, but dumping continues on Highway 24

By Sora O'Doherty

Wilder subcommittee members Nick Kosla and Amy Worth heard updates on issues of concern to Wilder residents on Jan. 24. Crime, fortunately, has dropped in priority, owing largely to two things: the employment of private security guards from Intervention Group Security and the chain closing off the road to the yet-to-be completed Red Hawk Staging Area at the far end of Wilder Road.

Bruce Yamamoto, representing Wilder Developer Brook Street, spoke to the subcommittee about progress in turning over the remaining property to the city of Orinda. "We're in a little bit of a holding pattern," he said, because of the weather. Heavy rains caused some damage to trails and fire roads. After things are repaired and settled, some land will be finally conveyed to the Wilder Owners Association, the city of Orinda, the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), the East Bay Regional Parks (EBRP), and the Orinda Geologic Hazard Abatement District (GHAD).

In addition, there has been a hold-up because a new employee of the parks district has requested that the trail T28 be rerouted to bypass some significant geological formations. The new routing, Yamamoto said, is

extremely difficult, requiring the clearing of very heavy brush on a very, very steep slope. "We have walked the trail six or seven times," he said, but it is almost impossible to build a trail there.

Worth wondered if the formation is serpentine rock, which happens to be the state rock of California. "In my experience," she said, "people who hike that trail are very respectful." Yamamoto added that even if the trail were rerouted, people tend to find the path of least resistance. He suggested that perhaps the problem could be resolved by the addition of educational signage. He also told the subcommittee that the developer OGLI would not like to turn over the staging area until the trail is finalized.

One of the most significant issues for Wilder now is their concern about construction materials being dumped along Highway 24 near the entrance to Wilder. Worth reported that she has been in contact with Caltrans about the issue, and, after the subcommittee meeting, she told Lamorinda Weekly that she has had further contact with Caltrans, who has promised to remove the existing debris and work with the city toward a long-term solution to the problem.

Worth said that she has gone out and examined the debris, and identified it as

construction work, as it includes both cement and asphalt. She pointed out that Orinda uses full depth reclamation, wherein the existing road materials are ground up on site and used as the foundation of the new road. However, Worth noted that, although the problem of illegal dumping is relatively new to Orinda, it has been a significant problem in the Bay Area and California for years. In 2004, the Contra Costa County board of supervisors tried to address the problem with legislation and funding. The dumping of construction debris in Orinda is definitely a new development, and Worth stressed that it is an illegal activity.

On another subject, Yamamoto said that the Wilders Owners Association has requested that bollards be placed at the very bottom of the Emergency Vehicle Access road. The application for the bollards was just approved before the meeting, Yamamoto said, and construction was to begin the next week.

Wilder resident Robert Finch had questions about the staging area: Who will be responsible for security, especially in the evening? City Manager David Biggs explained that the EBRPD will be in charge of park security, although who will be responsible for locking the chain over the access road when the staging area closes has yet to be determined. He noted that most parks are open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., but Orinda and the Wilder residents prefer dawn to dusk hours. EBRPD has a new general manager, and Biggs thought it

would be good to let her settle into the job before pressing too hard about the hours of a facility that is not yet finished or open. Generally, security is shared between the parks and the city.

Biggs also mentioned that the city is trying to hire another part-time parking enforcement officer, but, like other cities, Orinda is having a hard time hiring because of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, also owing to the pandemic, Orinda's existing parking enforcement officer has deferred his going into the military for some time.

Following a report by Police Chief Ryan Sullivan, Finch responded that while he was pleased to hear about the low level of criminal activity in Wilder, that might be attributable to the fact that Wilder now employs private security. During December, he reported, Intervention Group Security stopped 20 suspicious vehicles during the middle of the night and directed them to leave the area. Lynn Trowbridge, another Wilder resident, explained that Wilder has a neighborhood program in place with block captains, radio contact through the Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) and other precautions. It was suggested that it would be beneficial if IGS reported on a regular basis to the Orinda Police Department, which would like to work together with the existing neighborhood program. A new OPD officer has just been designated as a neighborhood watch coordinator and he will work with the various neighborhoods in Orinda.

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Planning Commission
 Tuesday, Feb. 8, 7 p.m.
 By Teleconference Only
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 Wednesday, Feb. 9, 6:30 p.m.
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Orinda city council has wide-ranging discussion about how to communicate with public

By Sora O'Doherty

In considering changes to its policy and procedures manual, the Orinda City Council engaged in a thoughtful discussion with members of the public and the city attorney on how to craft its rules to encourage good communication between the council and those whom they represent in a sensitive and respectful manner.

From time to time, city staff and the council review the manual for any updates that may be necessary. Although such updates are usually handled as a consent item, this year staff felt the changes were significant enough to merit inclusion on the agenda. The staff report was presented by city clerk Sheri Smith. The proposed changes to the manual were intended to add language pertaining to teleconferenced meetings, add clarifying language to the wording dealing with the public forum, and to add and amend language on maintaining civility and avoiding disruptive conduct during meetings, as well as some general clean-up lan-

guage throughout the document, which was last updated in March of last year.

Comments on the proposed changes began during the public forum, when Charles Porges attempted to comment on many of the sections proposed to be changed. He was unable to complete his comments in the three minutes allotted, and was invited to submit the remainder of his comments in writing. A short recess allowed him to do so, and when the item on the agenda was reached, Vice Mayor Inga Miller responded to most of his points, with additional comments from the rest of the city council.

When the actual matter came up on the agenda, Nick Waranoff offered public comment, suggesting that new proposed language about civility was unconstitutional, and that if the council chose to impose a requirement of civility, he would "talk to [his] friends at the American Civil Liberties Union, for whom [he] once worked, and would ask them to bring an injunction to strike that." His second point was an objection to the lack of a requirement that staff bring multiple options to

the city council, as opposed to one recommendation. "I would ask that there be something there that staff members not usurp the role of the council, and should present a balanced presentation of the pros and cons of each issue." He added that council members are elected and all reside within Orinda.

Miller opened her comments by noting that she appreciated the fact that this matter was put on the agenda rather than on the consent calendar. She added that the discussion was a really interesting exercise and an intellectual one. Many of the comments dealt with timing, how long speakers are permitted to speak, when things are posted in relation to the agenda, and whether there should be a back-and-forth dialog between commenters and the city council.

City attorney Osa Wolff was present at the meeting and responded to questions about why she had suggested certain changes to the rules. Council Member Nick Kosla suggested that requiring speakers to offer suggested solutions was "kindergarten language," and Wolff agreed

and withdrew the proposed language. Kosla related that he had once seen a member of the public die at the lectern during a planning commission meeting, adding that the experience can be stressful and some speakers may be looking to the council to come up with solutions, a function for which they are elected.

There was extensive dialogue of the new, proposed language dealing with civility. Wolff explained that her intention was to encourage, not mandate, communication in a manner that is civil and not hostile or threatening. There was considerable discussion about constitutionally protected speech, and when speech or actions may cross the line and actually become disruptive of a meeting, preventing other speakers from being heard. It is at that point that such activity becomes prohibited, not because it is not constitutionally permitted but because it disrupts the continuance of the meeting itself. However, Wolff added that "Fortunately, you don't get a lot of that because the council is civil, staff is civil, and the public is civil."

There was also consider-

able discussion about how to encourage interaction with the city council, how to make the public feel welcome and comfortable engaging with the council, and yet how to be cautious that the council would not violate the provisions of the Brown Act, which governs public meetings in California. Council Member Amy Worth noted that if members of the public feel that they are in a hostile environment, that would reduce public comments.

Mayor Dennis Fay concluded the discussion by pointing out that the public has to realize that America is a representative democracy, not a pure democracy where every person gets to vote on every issue. The procedural rules adopted by the council are for the purpose of allowing democracy to flourish, he said.

The city attorney said that she would revise the proposed changes to reflect the suggestions from the council and that the matter would then return on a consent calendar for adoption.

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Ivy Drive crime spree continues; council to consider course of action

By Sora O'Doherty

The Orinda City Council on Jan. 18 took the unusual step of making a matter brought to it in the public forum a matter initiated for its Feb. 1 agenda, going further and saying that it wanted nothing else on that agenda to distract from the issue raised by Ivy Drive resi-

dent Adam Reiner. When a resident brings a matter to the attention of the council, but it is not on the agenda, the council is prohibited from acting on it because it has not been publicly noticed. They may make it a matter initiated and instruct staff to place it on the agenda for the very next meeting.

Reiner both submitted written comments and appeared before the council at its Zoom meeting. He reported that “during the week of Jan. 10, the Ivy Drive neighborhood experienced three brazen home burglaries, some of which involved groups of three men breaking into homes. My next-door neighbor was one of the victims last week, even though they had locked their doors, kept lights on, etc. Two blocks away on Beaconsfield, we had a home invasion with three men entering the home. Video indicates that the alarm was triggered, and yet these three individuals seemed unfazed, while they stole family valuables from the home.”

Reiner explained that last March several residents of the Ivy Drive neighborhood brought similar concerns to the city council and spoke with then Orinda police chief David Cook, who has since retired. “Coming out of these engagements, our understanding was that the police would be launching a neighborhood watch program.” In addition, he said, the police chief committed to providing information on automatic li-

cence plate readers that could be deployed to assist the police after a crime. Such cameras are deployed in Wilder. However, “all this fizzled out, and we have no idea why such basic ideas all failed to gain traction.”

According to Reiner, “the Ivy Drive area of Orinda has become a crime target like never before, and it’s up to the city council to acknowledge the issue and then quickly develop an effective plan to address it.” He also asked the city to consider setting up a crime prevention commission, as Lafayette has.

Another resident of the area spoke in support of Reiner. “We are living in fear,” she said, “and it’s just not okay. We just can’t have it like this. Children are at home, parents have to go to the grocery store.” She expressed shock that the matter is still under discussion after a year and nothing has been done to address residents’ concerns.

Council Member Amy Worth noted that Orinda does have a public safety committee, consisting of herself and Vice Mayor Inga Miller. City manager David Biggs said that

the city is currently working on an update, looking back over 2021 and looking forward, focusing on crime statistics and use of force by police officers. That meeting should occur in February or March. He noted that the Orinda police department, like others, has been struggling to fill vacancies, but recently filled two, leaving only one vacancy for a vacation floater. He added that the police department is on top of the Ivy Drive area cases. “It is more than likely looking like an organized ring,” Biggs said, but added that he couldn’t say more because it is an active investigation. However, additional targeted patrols have been added.

Mayor Dennis Fay said, “This strikes home with all of us. All five council members live in Orinda, and we all feel concerned about this.” Council Member Nick Kosla agreed that it should be a matter initiated, and that everything else can take second place so this matter can be addressed. Unfortunately, the Feb. 1 meeting happened as this issue was going to press. It will be reported in the next issue of the Lamorinda Weekly.

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Lafayette City Council approves 2021-22 final budget and workplan

... continued from Page A2

Turning attention to the five-year budget forecast, Robinson said, “We have an ongoing, what I call a structural deficit. We have between (\$2,000-\$10,000) dollars each year we expect revenues will be short, versus the uses.” The net effect of that on the General Fund Reserve is a decrease of \$2-\$300K. By 2025, projections for the General Fund Reserves that most recent data shows is at 68% will dip below the city’s 60% targeted limit.

Presenting that structural deficit along with core area maintenance and stormwater pollution prevention deficits, ARPA fund expenditure limitations, and ongoing shortfalls due to the lack of enough staffing to support and complete city council goals, anticipated lease negotiations and the need for more office space, the staff’s report recommended creating new permanent positions to replace positions currently filled by consultants or limited duration employees.

The additional staff positions include a code enforcement officer, a senior associate planner, a construction planner, and the permanent positions of senior/associate engineer, senior planner, management analyst, and personnel analyst recommended by Management Partners earlier in the meeting (see related

story on Page A3).

Srivazta said the organizational assessment of city departments by Managing Partners that resulted in 34 recommendations will require review. “They are all worthwhile and worthy of consideration,” she said, suggesting coming back to council with an update and plans for implementation in three months.

The staff’s recommendation involving immediate action by the council prioritized approving and funding the four positions in Management Partners’ assessment and approving Resolution 2022-02 adopting the final budget and workplan and confirming the city’s investment policies related to approximately six factors.

Asked by Council Member Wei-Tai Kwok about salaries for the additional staff positions and whether or not the numbers had impact on what has been high turnover and low applicant numbers in similar positions, Robinson

said identifying the underlying explanation was “tricky.”

People who relocate and therefore leave positions, high competition with other cities also seeking to fill planner and analyst positions, the lack of a career ladder for cities of limited size, and other factors might explain the challenging task. Public comment heard by the council was mostly positive in support of adding the staff positions, with Lafayette resident Robert Lavoie urging the council to continue to use financial discretion such as looking for areas to save money through automation, determine if projects are permanent or temporary, taking advantage of office vacancies due to more people working at home, and other methods.

The council after more discussion unanimously approved adopting the Final Budget and Workplan that included the four new staff positions as well as the recommendations establishing the city’s investment policy.

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Moraga-Orinda Fire District
Board of Directors
Wednesday, Feb. 16, 6 p.m.
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.mofd.org



ConFire
Board of Directors
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1 p.m.
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.cccfpd.org



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Police Department Tip Line 94549Tip@gmail.com
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Moraga Police Department:
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Chief of Police, Jon King ext. 7049

Orinda Police Department:
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Chief of Police, Ryan Sullivan 925-254-6820
Orindatip@cityoforinda.org

Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report Jan. 9 - Jan. 22




Alarms	40
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	18
Traffic	23
Suspicious Circumstances	5
Suspicious Subject	16
Suspicious Vehicle	15
Service to Citizen	29
Patrol Req./Security Check	60
Public/School Assembly Check	16
Supplemental Report	17
Vacation House Check	15
Welfare Check	21

Ordinance Violation	2
Vehicle violations	
Attempt - Grand Theft Vehicle Parts	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./2Nd St.	
Auto Burglary	
4000 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Lafayette Cir.	
Reckless Driving	
900 Block Leland Dr.	
50 Block Lucas Ranch Rd.	
Moraga Rd./St Marys Rd.	
900 Block Moraga Rd.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Oak Hill Rd.	
Moraga Rd./Nephi Ct.	
Tc - Fire And Amb Enroute	
600 Block Moraga Rd.	
Tc - No Details	
1St St./Deer Hill Rd.	
Tc - Property Damage	
Pleasant Hill/Oak Hill	
Deer Hill Rd./Oak Hill Rd.	
4000 Block Los Arabis Dr.	
600 Block Moraga Rd., Mor.	
Other criminal activity	
Computer Fraud	
600 Block Doreen Way	
Forgery	
3100 Block Lucas Cir.	
Fraud False Pretenses	
1000 Block Rahara Dr	
Grand Theft	
3400 Block Golden Gate Way (2)	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Grand Theft Veh Parts	
900 Block Village Center	
Identity Theft	
600 Block Sky Hy Cir.	
1000 Block Glen Rd.	
Police Department	
Panhandling	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Petty Theft	
3300 Block Beechwood Dr.	
3700 Block Highland Rd.	
3200 Block Springhill Rd.	
1100 Block N Thompson Rd.	
3300 Block Johnson Rd.	
Petty Theft From Veh	

3300 Block Beechwood Dr.	
Residential Burglary	
3600 Block Bickerstaff St.	
3100 Block Windsor Ct.	
Shoplift	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (4)	
Vehicle Theft	
1200 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.	
3600 Block Bickerstaff St.	
Nuisance to the Community	
Disturbance-domestic	
1000 Block Orchard Rd.	
900 Block East St.	
1000 Block Brown Ave.	
Disturbing The Peace	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Loud Noise	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Loud Party	
3500 Block Terrace Way	
3300 Block Beechwood Dr.	
Public Nuisance	
3600 Block Nordstrom Ln.	
900 Block Condit Ct.	
3200 Block Burton Ct.	
Happy Valley Rd./Hester Ln.	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Other	
H&S Violation	
10 Block Mountain View Pl.	
K9 Outside Assist Request	
Chase Bank Pit, Pit	
Mentally Ill Violent	
1000 Block Orchard Rd.	
Trespass	
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Trespass W/ Vehicle	
Lombard Ln/Reliez Valley Rd.	
Unwanted Guest	
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Violation Restraining Ord	
3600 Block Brook St.	

Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report Jan. 11 - Jan. 24



Alarms	22
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	8
Traffic	30
Suspicious Circumstances	4
Suspicious Subject	3
Suspicious Vehicle	4
Service to Citizen	42
Patrol Req./Security Check	13
Supplemental Report	9
Vacation House Check	0
Welfare Check	12
Public/School Assembly Check	0
Ordinance Violation	0
Vehicle violations	
Dui Misd	
Moraga Way/Hardie Dr.	
800 Block Villa Ln.	
Excessive Speed	
St. Andrews Dr./Country Club Dr.	
Moraga Way/Iw Dr. (5)	
Moraga Way/School St.	
Moraga Way/Moraga Valley	
Moraga Way/Viader Dr.	
Moraga Blvd./Moraga Rd., Laf	
Donald Dr./Carroll Dr.	
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	
St Marys College	
Camino Pablo/Rimer Dr.	
Reckless Driving	
Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.	
Moraga Rd./Alta Mesa Dr.	
Safeway	
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.	
Ascot Dr./Ascot Pl.	
Tamper With Vehicle	
100 Block Miramonte Dr.	
Tc - Property Damage	
40 Block Sullivan Dr.	
Vehicle Theft	
Moraga Rd./St Marys Rd.	

Other criminal activity

Burglary
1500 Block Canyon Rd.

Child Abuse
Police Department

Child Molest
40 Block Sullivan Dr.

Grand Theft
100 Block Miramonte Dr.

Petty Theft
400 Block Center St.

Petty Theft From Veh
Cvs Lafayette

Warrant Arrest
Moraga Way/Canyon Rd.

Nuisance to the Community

Disturbance-domestic
Not Available

Loud Music
Canyon Rd./Country Club Dr.
Campolindo High School

Loud Noise
2000 Block Ascot Dr.

Loud Party
Shuey Dr./Walford Dr.

Public Nuisance
40 Block Woodford Dr.
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.
Homegoods


Other

Battery Sexual
300 Block Park St.

Mentally Ill Commit
Not Available

Unwanted Guest
Safeway

Violation Custody Order
2100 Block Donald Dr. (2)



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report will be back soon

Lamorinda athletic directors look back ... and forward



Mike Matoso

Photo SMC Athletics/ Tod Fierner

By Jon Kingdon

When the novel coronavirus first hit in March 2020 there were a lack resources and information was unclear about transmission, so local schools and most of the nation was forced to shut down. Such was the case with the Lamorinda athletic departments. Campolindo had their state championship camp canceled and Jordan Ford, a basketball player for Saint Mary's was five points short of surpassing Matthew Delavedova as the career scoring leader and saw that post-season canceled.

The coronavirus was a nightmare for the athletic directors. "The end of the year couldn't come soon enough," said Ray Meadows, Campolindo's athletic director. "There was so much uncertainty and unknowing, constantly confronting new situations. We were dealing with things that we did not have a blueprint for while not knowing what was around the corner."

It wasn't until March 2021 when the Lamorinda schools began an abbreviated season for all of the team sports to at least start the ball rolling in hopes of a more normal fall 2021 season. Those hopes were met with complete seasons and playoffs, and all seemed right with the world.

When the Omicron variant arrived toward the end of last year, there were concerns from many that it was going to be an athletic season that, in the words of Yogi Berra, would be "deja vu all over again."

However, this time the schools were not caught un-

prepared. "During winter break when we were getting ready to return to school and league competition, we expected that there would be an increase of the virus and the surge was coming," Acalanes Athletic Director Randy Takahashi said. "Everything that we were hearing from the health officials was that the surge was going to hit fast and hard and will drop off fast and hard, and that is what we are seeing now."

It has been a constant learning experience since the initial outbreak of the coronavirus. "From March 2020, our plan has been to figure out what we need to do in the present," Takahashi said. "Things got more strict and then less strict. Once things were put in place, then something else was taken out of place. It's just been a moving target. Now we're back to normal and even though there are some limitations, we as athletic directors and coaches talk about it, but it is far better than it was last year and certainly better than being shut down as we were the year before."

While COVID initially led to cancellations, the Omicron variant has only caused some game postponements and limited the number of spectators that are allowed into the indoor events. "Obviously, we were able to have a lot of success in the fall, but things have required us to evolve and take a different approach at different times this year," Miramonte Athletic Director James Lathrop said. "As cases have increased everywhere, we've had to adjust. We limited the capacity in the gym, but we're excited that we still get to have

all the parents be spectators and that's great."

For Takahashi, limiting the number of spectators last year made it easier to implement attendance restrictions this winter. "After last year, we knew how to do this," Takahashi said. "It's not as restrictive as it was when it was just two family members per player for indoor sports. It's more open this year though limited to all immediate family members. The games that we have had, everyone has been responsible, respectful, thoughtful and courteous."

For Saint Mary's Athletic Director Mike Matoso, it was a learning experience for him and his department: "At this point in COVID, we've seen the curve balls, knuckle balls and sliders that have been thrown at us and I feel we can handle any pitch that's thrown at us. We knew that last January and February there would be tough times, and everybody is saying the same thing the last three weeks in that we've seen that more people have tested positive than in the last two years."

Last fall, Saint Mary's teams did not miss a single game in soccer, volleyball, and cross-country matches. Since Jan. 1, the men's and women's basketball teams each had three games that were postponed.

With the vaccinations and boosters and current knowledge of the virus, the athletic directors are able to handle each case individually. "We're getting back into the flow after a pause on the men's and women's side and we're anticipating that we'll keep going the rest of the year," Matoso said. "Last year when you had one person that tested positive, you put the program on pause. This year, that's not the case. You can hold out one person and you can keep going as a team. That first year we were more scared about how we were going to get on a plane and how we were going to test everybody. This year, we've known what the guidelines are and what we have to follow. We do have to make a lot more judgment calls though because if someone tests positive, you have to determine whether he can play or not. There have been more difficult situations."

The Gaels athletic department of coaches, staff, and student athletes numbers around 400 and over 390 of them are vaccinated which has enabled the school to require fewer tests. "Once you're vaccinated, unless you have symptoms, they are not required to be tested," Matoso

said. "We've taken that approach and stayed in line with the NCAA guidelines."

It's the ability to react quickly that has kept the teams from grinding to a halt. "We're still optimistic and we're pushing on and hopefully we'll get through this and make sure that we have championship events for our winter sports," Lathrop said. "We're still rescheduling a couple of things but we've gotten a lot better at figuring out how to roll with the punches and adjust on the fly. There's been a lot of collaboration within our school district with the other athletic directors within our league to find solutions to keep our sports going and creating the best competitive environments for all of our student-athletes."

Takahashi concurred with the importance of communication for all of the schools: "As a district, we're very fortunate in that we have constant communication with our district administration, so we are aware of all of the changes that are coming through and how they affect our schools and athletics."

For Lathrop, it's more than just paying lip service to spectators. "As an athletic director, working with the coaches and student-athletes, one of the things we also do on campus is work with our students like the sixth man group for the basketball team. We put in budget time in the meeting with that group and brainstorming in supporting their efforts and getting more students out at the games and creating some fun opportunities for students to participate in half-time activities and things of that nature, some fun stuff for high school sports that we hadn't been able to do in the last year, though we're still limited this

year as well."

Saint Mary's has not limited the number of fans allowed into their arena but have required those attending the games to wear masks and show a negative test or vaccination card to gain admittance. "It can be hard because you have people that have strong feelings either way on it," Matoso said. "My staff can be put in no-win situations. With people that push back on it, we tell them that we are following county guidelines. There has been a lot of reminding people to put their masks on and for the most part, everyone's been great. We have a very special environment on game day and it's a huge home-court advantage for us."

Even with all of the cancellations for Saint Mary's in 2020, the Gaels athletic department is in good shape financially, partially due, ironically to the virus. "Most of our revenues are pretty much back to normal this year," Matoso said. "Our fundraising has been way ahead of schedule from the usual number. We also saved a lot of money having virtual events in lieu of banquets, since we didn't have the usual costs of serving dinner and paying for catering with those types of events. We were just doing every one online and taking donations. From that respect, we did really well on our events last year."

With all of the adjustments that the administrators have had to make, the priority that James Lathrop has put on the program is one that everyone has gotten behind. "There have been different challenges this year as compared to last year, but our goals remain the same which is to put our teams in the best situations that we can while keeping everyone in a safe spot."

Organizational assessment focuses on helping overburdened city staff

... continued from Page A2

Addressing commissions, committees and subcommittees, Hayden suggested each group create structures that clarify policies and expectations and include training. A review and reassessment of the Stanford ACT report received in 2016 could provide the best lens for possible consolidations or reductions in the number of groups. He also suggested setting departmental goals to provide focus to city council's and executive managers' immediate and long-term goals.

Performance measurement recommendations from Management Partners include establishing a format for performance measurement in each department, developing a tracking system, and incorporating associated time or materials costs into the next annual budget. Developing annual goals and objectives for each department and implementing a common tracking tool will provide information to city management regarding key projects and objectives.

Factors in a performance measurement structure related to development might address project details such as length to completion, regular

checkpoints to determine it is staying on budget, and other information. A permit tracking system could increase efficiency and allow for a public interface that might cut down on calls into city offices for information. A cross-departmental policy that seeks city council approval authorizing staff to look into specific items and sets a time limit for each pursuit would allow the council to quickly determine if any one issue is worth staff time investment.

Additional staffing, Hayden repeatedly emphasized, is essential for Lafayette as it grows. Recommendations include adding a senior or associate city planner to "help with backfill" involved in preparing the General Plan update. He said adding a senior planner to address long-range projects will mean the two planners who currently handle "daily stuff at the front counter" aren't delaying attention to long-term projects.

Other related recommendations included hiring a full-time construction inspector, bringing outsourced code enforcement in-house, converting a Parks and Recreation supervisor to a leading manager with more authority to direct commissions and other mat-

ters and engaging a management analyst to support the city manager. Hayden said, "The other cities (we work with) all have this so the city manager can carry out their duties."

Because the city's human resources and risk management duties are handled "a little bit here, a little bit there," by staff, he said efficiency is decreased.

The company's "not deep dive" into the city's technology capabilities indicated adding IT tools to track development projects and permits, manage report updates, provide geographic or other information related to specific development projects, and digital programs to provide customer services would help Lafayette to catch up with contemporary times.

Asked by Council Member Wei-Tai Kwok about comparisons to other cities, Marks said Lafayette needs to add the missing pieces and do a better job of integration. Doing finances on paper, tracking projects on a database he stopped using 15 years ago, and other aspects left Marks to say, "You are a little behind - in some places a lot behind - where most cities are regarding the use of IT."

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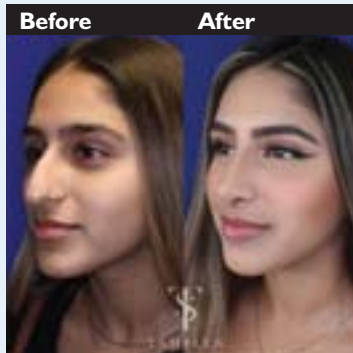
Every Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.
Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building
OR Zoom Link at <https://lamorindasunrise.org/speakers>

February 2022 Weekly Speakers

4: Chris Laszcz-Davis: The Beauty, Fun and Wonders of Moraga
11: Don Jenkins: The World of Rotary – Quarterly Update
18: Heather Vilhauer: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Rotary
25: Eve Birge, Executive Director, White Pony Express

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Dr. Matthew Tamplen, who grew up in Lafayette and is a well-known Facial Plastic Surgeon with Kaiser Permanente, just opened a private practice in Downtown Orinda to better serve Lamorinda patients.

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Letters to the editor

Musical chairs in Moraga, indeed

The Lamorinda Weekly is a local treasure that does, indeed, keep Lamorinda informed on our schools and what is going on in our two Cities and one Town. Your reporting is comprehensive,

refreshing, well written and easy to read. This is a proper newspaper. Thank you for your work.

Please keep it up.

Erling Horn
Moraga

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

Canyon Road Bridge opens

... continued from Page A1

“I’m so proud to be here and help to deliver this bridge,” Moraga Director of Public Works Shawn Knapp said. “It affects Moraga and everyone in the area. We made sure that during construction closures MOFD (Moraga-Orinda Fire District) was stationed on the Canyon side in case of emergencies. I’m also thankful that this is done, because the town has many needs, and we can begin to focus on those. There’s

a lot more going on in this town.”

Mayor Renata Sos stated, “This bridge is a testament to teamwork. ... A testament to the people of the town of Moraga. ... A testament to effective local government.”

Also in attendance were Vice Mayor Steve Woehleke, Council Member Teresa Onoda, Council Member Sona Makker, Council Member Mike McCluer, Contra Costa County Board Supervisor Candace Andersen, Lafayette Mayor Teresa Gerringer and

Orinda Mayor Dennis Fay.

Moraga Assistant Engineer Sharon Chan, who is serving as project manager for the bridge said, “I’m super excited that we have a nice, safe, new, emergency evacuation route. It’s a big accomplishment that’s good for Moraga and Canyon.”

According to Knapp, this summer should see all of the additional fine points to the bridge completed with at least a five-year time span to make certain that everything is environmentally sound.

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Exploring the natural world around us



Photo provided

By Toris Jaeger

Streams are once again racing through the Orinda Nature Area, and birds are singing about plans for the spring. Check out your own yard for the brilliant green herbs and grasses sprouting everywhere. This is a beautiful time of year to be outdoors enjoying the renewal of the land and its wildlife. As a naturalist for over 40 years at the Orinda Nature Area, I would draw children's eyes to the deer and raccoon tracks in the mud, and the stick houses of the shy dusky-footed woodrats. After a rain, look in your backyard for grass flattened by a squirrel looking for acorns, or on your deck for muddy footprints. Prints shaped like little hands with five fingers could be squirrels, raccoons, opossums

and skunks. Deer have two pointy toes that sink deep into the mud.

Back in the 1970s abundant red-legged frogs provided a cheerful chorus with the birds. It was my goal to inspire my students to imagine they were Native People from the past, hunting for nuts and berries, and gathering cattails and reeds for their homes along the creek. Each adventure included the importance of walking gently on the land.

Dozens of creeks flow throughout Lamorinda, and support hundreds of species of aquatic life. If you pause quietly along a stream, your sharp eyes may spy water striders and minnows hunting for water bugs and the larvae of damselflies. For your creek walk, wear boots and bring a small white plas-

tic bowl and plastic cup for gently scooping water along the base of water plants. A small magnifying lens will help you see the small water animal.

You may have found feathers while walking the local trails. These are clues to the birds that are watching you. A soft downy feather must have fallen from a bird's chest, and the color is a clue – yellow could be a goldfinch or warbler; red could be a robin or spotted towhee. If the feather is long and narrow it could be from a wing. An owl's wing feathers have soft tiny hairs along the edges to muffle the sound of their nightly flights after mice.

After a nature hike, I like to gather everyone together to share observations. Native cultures used what I call a "Talking Stick" to give each

person time to express ideas. This carved and decorated Talking Stick gets passed from person to person around the circle to honor the participation of all. You can decorate your own sturdy staff and use it at family gatherings to encourage everyone to share.

I have found that children are very passionate about the Nature Area. Over decades, thousands of parents have supported the outdoor environmental education programs in the Orinda Nature Area, because they value the hands-on sensory learning that enlivens their children and deepens understanding of science and history. Many people have told me that their children benefit from open spaces with the trees, water and grasslands. Scientists, citizens, and governments are urging the protection of 30% of land resources and 30% of ocean resources to ensure that plants, animals and ecosystems are sustained. Members of the United Nations, including the United States, are beginning to implement this conservation guideline.



bigstock images

The Orinda Nature Area, owned by the Orinda Union School District, is an 18-acre wild space has been promoted for many years by the Friends of the Wagner Ranch Nature Area; the Friends was renamed this fall as Friends of the Orinda Nature Area, so as not to be confused with Wagner Ranch School. The Friends, a grass roots non-profit that formed in 2005 to prevent construction of a maintenance yard, stepped up again in 2009 to fund education programs when the Orinda Union School District, due to funding limitations, was unable to continue its support. Since then, The Friends has received substantial donations from the community for the Naturalist, Nature Aides, and materials needed to conduct environmental education. For information, visit www.fwrna.org.



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Special thanks to Karen and Tom Mulvaney, the Lafayette Community Foundation, the East Bay Community Foundation, Lamorinda Weekly, Lafayette Social Magazine, the Home Team of Rotary Club of Lamorinda Sunrise, the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, the City of Lafayette Staff, and the Lafayette City Council.

Please see our current Honor Roll of Park Theater Supporters now posted on-site at the cinema.

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Cream cheese-filled chocolate cupcakes make a delectable duo dessert



Photo Susie Iventosch

Black Bottom Cupcakes with Cocoa Buttercream Frosting

By Susie Iventosch

I used to make black bottom cupcakes with my grandmother when I was a kid, and remember loving them so much. Being both a chocolate and cheese-cake lover, I guess that's not such a huge surprise. But I recently learned that I'd never made these delicious treats for my own kids when they were growing up, and that came as quite a shock. When, I had a hankering to make them the other day, my son and daughter had no idea what I was talking about. What??? I thought I'd made every, single recipe in the family tome by the time they left for college. But, apparently

not. I may need to pour over those files again to see what other fabulous recipes we've missed. So for the very first time, my adult children experienced the joy of biting into these cream cheese filled chocolate cupcakes and they loved them! This time, we added a cocoa buttercream frosting, because really, why not? If you're going decadent, why not go all the way?

These are plenty delicious if you don't have time for the frosting, but if you do frost them, (highly recommend) just one big swirl in the center will do the trick, so you can still see the marbled effect of the chocolate cake batter and cream cheese filling.

INGREDIENTS

Cake

3 cups all-purpose flour
2 cups granulated sugar
1/2 cup sifted unsweetened cocoa powder
2 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
2 cups cold water
1 cup vegetable oil
1 tsp. cider vinegar
2 tsp. vanilla extract
1 cup dark chocolate chips

Cream Cheese Filling

8 oz. cream cheese, softened to room temp
1/3 cup granulated sugar
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1 egg
1 cup dark chocolate chips

Cocoa Buttercream Frosting

4 oz. butter, softened to room temp (1 stick or 1/2 cup)
1/2 cup sifted unsweetened cocoa powder
3 cups sifted confectioners (powdered) sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
1/4 cup +/- milk as needed for consistency

DIRECTIONS

Cake

Prepare 24 regular muffin tins with cupcake liners. Preheat oven to 350 F.

Place flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt in a large mixing bowl. Blend with a wire whisk. Stir in water, oil, cider vinegar and vanilla and blend until smooth. Mix in chocolate chips. Set aside.

Cream Cheese Filling

Put cream cheese and sugar in a mixing bowl and beat with electric beaters just until smooth. Add egg and beat until integrated. Don't over beat. Stir in vanilla and chocolate chips. Set aside.

Fill cupcake liners 1/3 full with cake batter. Using a large soup spoon, distribute cream cheese filling evenly over the top of the cake batter.

Bake for 15-18 minutes, or until the cake is done and the cream cheese has sunk into the cupcakes. Cool completely before frosting.

Frosting

Beat butter in a large mixing bowl or your standing mixer until creamy and fluffy. Stir cocoa powder into butter using a fork. (If you use the beater, cocoa powder will fly everywhere!) Once the cocoa powder is blended in, you can go back to using the beater.

Beat in powdered sugar, one cup at a time. Alternate cups of powdered sugar with a little bit of the milk at a time. Stir in vanilla. (Note: if the frosting seems too runny, simply add a tablespoon or two of powdered sugar to the frosting and if it is too stiff, add milk, just a spoonful at a time until you arrive at a good spreading consistency.)

Using a pastry bag with a #824 tip and the complementary coupler, pipe the frosting into a beautiful swirl just in the middle of each cupcake so you can still see the marbling of the chocolate and cream cheese filling. If you don't have a pastry bag and tip, simply drop a spoonful of frosting in the middle of the top of each cupcake or spread the frosting with a knife.

Store cupcakes in an airtight container in the refrigerator. When ready to serve, allow to sit at room temperature for about 10 minutes before serving.



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 <http://treksandbites.com>

Warning for pets and people: Don't eat the wild mushrooms!

A family of red fly agarics (*Amanita muscaria*) bigstock images

Amanita phalloides

By Mona Miller, DVM

Wet winter weather brings conditions perfect for soil fungi to grow. The vast majority of the thousands of types of mushrooms in the United States are non-toxic, but there are about 100 species that are toxic, and even fatal. Unless you have thorough knowledge and experience in identifying wild mushrooms, it is best to remove these from the yard, or even eliminate access by your furry dog friend. Toxic mushrooms often tend to have look-alike non-toxic counterparts, so it can be very difficult to tell the difference between these. As a side note, dogs do not necessarily make the association between what they have eaten and feeling sick, so a dog can be a repeat mush-

room eater. Cats can also be prone to mushroom toxicity, but at a much lower level, since they tend to be more discriminating than dogs when eating items in the yard.

Toxic mushrooms can cause a variety of symptoms, ranging from mild intestinal upset to severe liver damage to fatal neurologic disease. It can take a matter of a few hours to a few days for some symptoms to develop. The milder toxicities are generally stomach upset, with nausea, vomiting and diarrhea showing within a few hours and lasting a couple of days. These cases usually resolve with some supportive care such as fluid supplementation,

antacids and anti-nausea medication.

A number of mushroom species can cause initial intestinal upset within hours, and then progress to severe liver failure a few days later. The most common species is Amanita ("death cap") mushroom is Amanita phalloides), which is a look-alike mushroom to other non-toxic species. The classic Amanita is the red cap covered in creamy white dots. However, there are Amanita species that are dull gray and appear to be "safe."

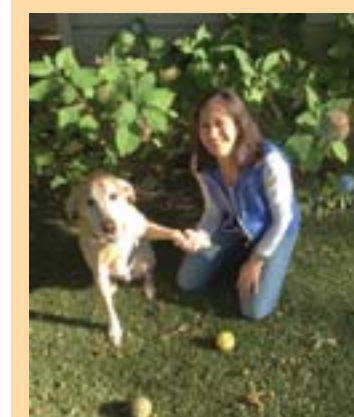
Other types of mushrooms contain muscarine and causes the SLUDGE set of symptoms: salivation,

lacrimation (tearing from the eyes), urination, diarrhea. This set of symptoms is also seen in some pesticides and former flea control products.

The hallucinogenic mushrooms, such as the Psilocybe species, are generally not life-threatening when eaten by a dog. However, these can cause all kinds of neurologic signs, as one would expect from a hallucinogen – howling, wobbliness, rapid eye movements (nystagmus), high body temperature, and abnormal behavior.

Since mushroom identification can be very difficult, veterinary treatment is based on a "worst case scenario" until proven otherwise. Thus,

a known mushroom ingestion is cause for urgent/emergency care. If your dog has eaten a mushroom within the past couple of hours, the veterinarian might give an injection to make the dog vomit anything still left in the stomach. This patient should have blood tests to monitor liver values over the next few days, fluid and medication support, and monitoring for tremors or seizures.



Dr. Mona Miller lives in Lafayette with her son, two cats and yellow Labrador. She attended UC Berkeley as an undergraduate, and received her DVM from UC Davis. She has been happy to call Lafayette home since 2001. She can be reached via email at MonaSDVM@aol.com. She welcomes questions from readers that may get incorporated into a column.

Here are some website resources to learn more:
Veterinarypartner.vin.com – Mushroom Poisoning in Dogs and Cats
<https://veterinarypartner.vin.com/default.aspx?pid=19239&id=10020259>
ASPCA <https://www.aspcapro.org/resource/mushroom-poisoning-dogs>

Garden Club presentation focuses on natural ways to rid gardens of pests



Submitted by Caroline La Voie

The Orinda Garden Club will feature famed local master gardener David George, who writes a monthly gardening column under the pen name The Naked Gardner. George will be speaking about natural gardening and pest control at 10 a.m. Feb. 24.

George's column, which is published in the Diablo Gazette, delves into eco-friendly, all-natural gardening techniques. During the free virtual presentation, George will speak about natural ways to deal with fruit snatching rodents and other garden pests. To register, visit www.orindagc.org/community-meeting.html

David George

Photo provided

LAC calls for student artwork submissions



"Bad Day" (Best in Show, 2021)

Artist: Andrew Parker



"Virtual Jail House" (1st place, digital arts, 2021)

Artist: Yesenia Del Cid

Lamorinda students will have an opportunity to show their artwork at the Orinda Library as part of the 19th High School Visual Arts Competition and the 15th annual Arts Ambassadors exhibit, hosted by the Lamorinda Arts Council.

The High School Visual Arts Competition offers students a way to display work in 2D, 3D, photography and digital arts. Last year's winners included Andrew Parker's "Bad Day" (Best in Show), Yesenia Del Cid's "Virtual Jail House" (1st place, digital arts), Lillia Hammond's "One-Sided Love" (1st place, photography), Kate Lee's "Division" (1st place, 2D) and Leena Hobson's "Alive" (1st place, 3D). Registration is now open; deadline is at midnight on Feb. 22. Cash awards and merit citations will be given and winners

will be featured in an in-person exhibit in the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library during the month of March and an online public exhibit from April through February 2023. For information and registration, visit www.lamorindaarts.org/vac or call (925) 359-4490 with questions. To see all of last year's winners, visit <https://lamorindaarts.org/past-winners-archive-vac/>.

The 15th Arts Ambassadors In-Person Exhibit at the Orinda Library Art Gallery features K-8 student artwork from Orinda and Moraga schools, which will be displayed during the month of February. Orinda artwork is exhibited Feb. 1-15; Moraga artwork is exhibited Feb. 15-28. Instead of a public reception to award AA ribbons, art educators David Wilson of

Orinda and Moose Wesler of Moraga will award the ribbons within the students' classrooms. Learn more at <https://lamorindaarts.org/student-exhibits/>.

In addition to the student exhibitions, the Lamorinda Arts Council invites you to view Valerie Corvin's virtual exhibit – "Whispers of the Heart" – at www.lamorindaarts.org/online-galleries through Feb. 28. Corvin has added new abstract work to her show, which is held over from January. She said, "I build layers of marks, first bold dark marks, and then colorful shapes ... that communicate unique shapes in nature." In-person viewings can be arranged by emailing Curator Aniston Breslin at wildergallery@lamorindaarts.org.
– J. Wake

Rotary volunteers add some sparkle to Park Theater exterior



Photos Tom Black



Submitted by Thomas Black

A small army of volunteers spent the morning of Jan. 15 doing a thoroughgoing scrub of the front exterior and sidewalk of the Park Theater in Lafayette. The Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary club supplied its volunteers, the offer readily and enthusiastically accepted by the folks of the Park Theater Trust who have undertaken a \$5 million capital campaign to restore and renovate the theater.

"They attacked the exterior of the Park Theater on Saturday morning and really made a huge difference in its appearance," said Park Theater Trust board member Tracey Karsten Farrell. "Obviously a long way to go ... but for now, the building looks a lot tidier!" The volunteer's work was done before noon, before delivery of freebie sandwiches from Diablo Foods.

Target date for reopening to the public is the end of next year. The Park opened originally in 1948, the same year as did the Orinda Theatre. For information about the Park Theater Trust, visit parktheatertrust.org.

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.

Submit stories and story ideas to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com

Lamorinda Weekly

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ART

The Moraga Art Gallery announces the opening of a spirited new show, "Singularities," a title derived from the unique visions of the show featured member artists: Orinda's Linh Kang and Walnut Creek's Susan Erickson. Feb. 2 to April 10, also consists of paintings, etchings, prints, ceramics, jewelry, woodworking, glasswork and photographs by the gallery's other members and additional guest artists. 432 Center Street in Moraga's Rheem Shopping Center, open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. www.moragaartgallery.com, or call 925-376-5407.

Start the New Year by viewing the Lamorinda Arts Alliance exhibit, "New Beginnings" at the aRt Cottage in Concord, open Jan. 5 - Feb. 25. Please come meet the artists at the reception on Saturday, Jan. 8 from 2-4 p.m. The gallery, located at 2238 Mt. Diablo Street, Concord, is open, Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 1 a.m.-5 p.m. https://laa4art.org.

19th High School Visual Arts Competition Registration is Open! Registration is open for the High School Visual Arts Competition (HSVAC). Deadline is midnight, Feb. 22.

Cash awards, merit citations, in-person exhibit in the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library and online public exhibit. Hosted by the Lamorinda Arts Council. For information and registration, visit www.lamorindaarts.org/vac. Questions? Call 925.359.4490.

Art Gallery at the Orinda Library: 15th Arts Ambassadors In-Person Exhibit. The Lamorinda Arts Council features K-8 student artwork from Orinda and Moraga schools in its 15th Arts Ambassadors exhibit in the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library during February. Orinda artwork is exhibited Feb. 1 - 15; Moraga artwork is exhibited Feb. 15 - 28. Instead of a public reception to award AA ribbons, art educators David Wilson of Orinda and Moose Wesler of Moraga will award the ribbons within the students' classroom. Learn more at https://lamorindaarts.org/student-exhibits/.

Art Gallery at Wilder: Virtual Exhibit - Abstract Artist Valerie Corvin Held Over. The Lamorinda Arts Council invites you to view Valerie Corvin's virtual exhibit at www.lamorindaarts.org/online-galleries through Feb. 28. She has added new abstract work to her show, which is held over from January. Corvin

builds "layers of marks, first bold dark marks, and then colorful shapes ... that communicate unique shapes in nature." For in-person viewings, email Aniston Breslin at wildergallery@lamorindaarts.org.

LITERATURE

February events at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, Orinda: Thursday, Feb. 3 at 11 a.m. Pat's Book Club will read and discuss via Zoom "We Run The Tides" by Vendela Vida. Sign up at info@orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606 for the Zoom link.

THEATER

"Cinderella's Wedding" performs at the Leshar Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive in Walnut Creek. Performances are: Friday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Single tickets are on sale (\$25 - \$52) with senior and youth pricing available. Diablo Ballet will also present a virtual option, which will be a recording of the live performance, streaming Feb. 18 - 27 and available for viewing at any time during this timeframe. Price \$37 per household. For in theatre or virtual tickets, call 925-943-SHOW (7469) or visit www.lesherartscenter.org or

www.diabloballet.org. For a link to the Leshar Center for the Arts safety protocols that are currently in place, please visit: www.lesherartscenter.org.

OTHER

AAUW-OML is sponsoring two Girls4STEM webinars for high school girls. "Why Studying Materials Science is Like Playing Tetris" presented by Maritza Sanchez, PhD Candidate, Materials Science and Engineering, will be held on Sunday, Feb. 6 at 4 p.m. Sheryl Mordo, P.E., B.S., Civil Engineering from UC Davis, will talk about her career path from math classes in high school to a career as a construction project engineer and manager at Intuit, one of the world's largest business software companies, with an internship at DisneyWorld along the way. Her webinar is on Sunday, March 6 at 4 p.m. Get more information at https://oml-ca.aauw.net/girls4stem-webinars/

Acalanes High School Class of 1971 - 50 year reunion. April 9, at the Coop in LaFiesta Square. For more information please contact: Katrina Neblett Silvani 71Acalanes@gmail.com

Registration for the free online Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour and

Green Home Features Showcase is now open. This year there will be four days of inspiration: two days online, and two days in-person. This tour will also showcase green home features. Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bestselling author Doug Tallamy will kick off the April 16 event. The online Tour will feature beautiful, water-conserving native plant gardens, as well as visits to homes with Tesla solar panels and Powerwall backup batteries, heat pumps for heating and cooling the house and heating water, induction ranges, and more. www.BringingBacktheNatives.net

GARDEN

The Montelindo Garden Club, membership open to all, presents landscape designer Katie Creighton talking about Early Bloomers - the Harbingers of Spring, Feb. 18, email montelindogarden@aol.com to learn if the meeting is via Zoom and to request a link. For further information, including times and in-person location, see the website at montelindogarden.com. Programs are free and open to the public. Masks and proof of vaccination, including booster, are required for in-person events. 10 a.m. via Zoom; 9 a.m. if in person at the Lafayette Library, 3491 Mt Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

Free Seed Library at Moraga Public Library (1500 St Mary's Road), to open Feb. 15 for Lamorinda residents to obtain free veggie, flower, herb and milkweed seed. Plant seeds indoors 6-8 weeks for plants ready to go into the garden at last frost (typically April 15 in Moraga). Six packets per visit. A joint venture of Moraga Garden Club and the Moraga Library. For info or to help: MoragaSeedLibrary@gmail.com

The Orinda Garden Club is pleased to host a free online discussion with famed local master gardener and writer, David George, who will discuss natural ways to deal with fruit snatching rodents and other pests in our gardens at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 24. George is a famed local master gardener with UC and Contra Costa County and a writer. His monthly sustainable gardening column is featured in the Diablo Gazette, known by his pen name, The Naked Gardener. Naked from pesticides, not clothing! His column delves into eco-friendly, all-natural gardening techniques. For more information and to register (required to attend) please visit: www.orindagc.org/community-meeting.html

Moraga Garden Club. Feb. 17 general meeting program "Good Bug, Bad Bug, features Master Gardener John Pike. Anyone is welcome to join on this Zoom meeting. Please, contact moragagardenclub@gmail.com and you will be provided a Zoom link. New in Town? Want to learn about our organization, improve your gardening skills, volunteer or join? See our website: www.moragagardenclub.com for more information.

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LAMORINDA SPORTS

Lamorinda football teams represented on All-Bay Area Teams, led by Coach of the Year Kevin Macy



Kevin Macy in 2019

Photo Gint Federas

By Jon Kingdon

After six games this season, with a 3-3 record and having been shut out twice, Campolindo's streak of nine, 10-win seasons (not including last year's 6-0 record) and making the playoffs were certainly in doubt. With so many ready to abandon what was perceived as a sinking ship, head coach Kevin Macy righted that ship and won their next seven games, winning the North Coast Section before finally losing in the state semifinals to McClymonds High School, the ultimate state champion. Performances like this are what get you named Coach of the Year.

Coming in the 2021 season with a team that had graduated 24 seniors and having only one returning starter (Elijah Klock) on of-

fense and one returning starter (Bradley Nestal), Macy was as surprised as anyone at the development of the team from the start. "There was no evidence that we were going to get the production that we did when we started," Macy said. "With what this team was able to do those last seven games, it might be the most unique season we ever had."

With junior Dashiell Weaver establishing himself as the starting quarterback, it was a group effort at the skill positions with four running backs gaining at least 100 yards (led by Max Rittman with 731 yards) and 14 different players that had at least one carry. There were six receivers with at least 10 receptions (led by Robbie Mascheroni with 70 receptions) and 12 different players that caught passes.

The only serious injuries were to running back Greg Palamountain and cornerback Ryan Mandel, so the team's lack of depth at the key positions was not an issue. "The biggest secret of the year was that we stayed healthy," Macy said. "We used only five offensive linemen and 13 players on defense all season."

Macy did not allow the team to stay focused on the early season losses: "We made sure to make the kids put those games behind them. It became a collective to not panic when things would start going bad."

In some ways this team could be compared to the 2011 Campolindo that also made it to the state semifinals after two prior 5-6 seasons. "Both teams started the year as anonymous entities with low expectations, though the 2011 team did have more playmakers," Macy said. "Both teams were underdogs through the NCS playoff runs."

It's a year that Macy will long remember: "There was not one player on this team that did not overachieve from our initial expectations with unique stories for each of them. They all came through in one way or the other. There was magic with this team and we're still trying to figure out how it happened. This season is going to keep us entertained for a long time."



Photo HB Maverick Photography

Quarterbacks

Honorable Mention

Luke Souza, Acalanes, senior

Passing: 200/301/3145/66.4%/38 TD/8 INT RUSHING 34/28 2 TD'S

Honorable Mention

Luke Duncan, Miramonte, junior

Passing statistics - 203/356/2949 yds/57.0%/30 TDs/12 INTs RUSHING:

Wide Receivers

Second team

Robbie Mascheroni, Campolindo, 6-3, 185, junior

Athletes

Second team

Tyler Dutto, Miramonte, 6-4, 210, senior

Receptions 67/1240/18.5/15 TD'S Defense 19T 1 Tackle for loss 4 Ints.

Linebackers

Second team

Sam Ross, Miramonte, 6-4, 225, senior

Tackles: 93 Tackles 24 Tackles for loss 3.5 Sacks Rushing

36/288/8.0/5 TD'S

Defensive Line

Honorable Mention

Elijah Klock, Campolindo, senior

Macy: "Klock was the guy that held it together for our offensive and defensive lines."

LMYA SWIM TEAM

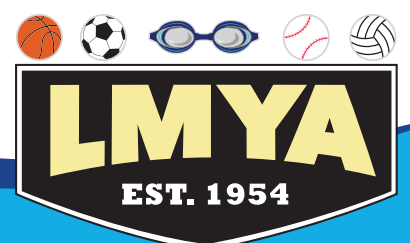
Registration Opens February 1st



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- **April Conditioning** begins **April 12th**
(get in swim shape!)
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Parent Informational Meeting
May 2nd



www.lmyaswim.com

Campolindo outlasts Miramonte 55-46 after 1.5-hour blackout



#5 Shane O'Reilly - Campolindo, #1 Clay Naffziger - Campolindo, #24 Tyler Dutto - Miramonte



From left: #3 Marcus Robinson #15 James Frye and #23 Caden Breznikar Photos Will Bergen

By Jon Kingdon

A rivalry game is one thing. It's quite another when the opposing team's records coming into the game are a combined 34-3 (Campolindo 17-1), (Miramonte 17-2). To add to the uniqueness of this matchup, with 7:47 left in the second period and Miramonte

ahead 14-11, a car accident on Moraga Road cut the electricity, leaving the gym only lit up by the flashlights from the spectators' cell phones.

With no idea when the electricity would be restored, the coaches were preparing for the game to resume later that evening or seeing it suspended to the next day. "I told our players to relax and get

off their feet because I didn't want the lactic acid to build up in their bodies," Miramonte head coach Chris Lavdiotis said. "We did have a couple of players that cramped up late in the game, though they did get through it."

Campolindo head coach Steven Dyer took a similar tact: "I told our players to stay

loose and then after a while, we considered going to one of the parent's homes and would then come back if the lights came back on. Chris and I agreed that if the rest of the game were postponed, we would start again at noon the next day. We were about five minutes from announcing a postponement when the lights came back on."

The lights went out at 7:25 p.m. and came back on at 8:25 p.m., and after both teams warmed up, the game began again at 8:50 p.m. In the fourth quarter, there was a personnel shortage on the floor so Campolindo's Aidan Mahaney and Cade Bennett took it upon themselves to use the sweat mop to dry the floor themselves.

Miramonte started the game very aggressively, leading at the end of the first quarter 14-8. "We wanted to come out and hit them in the mouth (figuratively), but we wanted to stay under control," Lavdiotis said.

After a driving layup by Bennett at the buzzer put Campolindo ahead 22-21 at the half, the intensity for both teams remained at peak level to the conclusion of the game. Coming into the game, Campolindo had connected on 43% of their 3-point shots during the season and their talent in this area proved to be a key in the ultimate outcome of the game. With 2:40 left in the game and Campolindo leading 43-41, the Cougars hit four consecutive 3-point shots (Bennett, Clay Naffziger, Shane O'Reilly and Mahaney) to close out the scoring.

Mahaney had an uncharacteristically off night, finishing with only 8 points but he led the team with seven assists and five rebounds. O'Reilly led the Cougars with 19 points and Bennett scored 15 points and had five rebounds. The Cougars were playing short-handed due to injuries, playing without Logan Robeson (foot) and Justin Yasukochi (wrist).

... continued on Page C4

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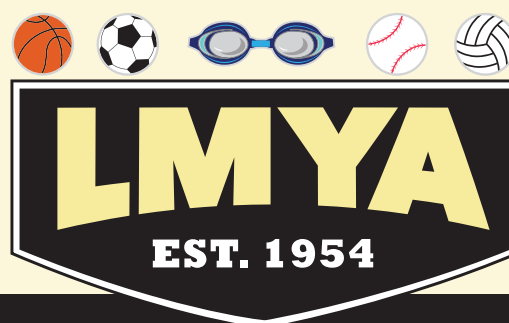
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What is LMYA Basketball doing?

LMYA basketball is a recreational basketball league for boys and girls ranging in age from 1st – 8th grade. Our emphasis in the program is to maximize each child's participation through a 3-on-3 structure. This allows each child to dribble, pass, shoot, and defend much more often than in 5-on-5 basketball. We emphasize learning basketball fundamentals while developing a solid understanding of team offensive and defensive strategies. Currently, the majority of our practices and games are held outside on blacktop courts giving an organized "playground" atmosphere. Recently we held the first of our 3v3 tournaments at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School. Our second tournament will be held in late February and serve as our League Championships.



photos by Arlyne Noguera



www.lmyasports.com

Campolindo outlasts Miramonte 55-46 after 1.5-hour blackout

... continued from Page C2

Both are expected to return to the active roster prior to the playoffs.

Tyler Dutto defended Mahaney all evening before fouling out with three minutes left in the game. "Tyler was ultra-aggressive which is why we were able to hold Mahaney to only 8 points," Lavdiotis said.

While acknowledging Dutto's defense on Mahaney, Dyer highlighted Mahaney's overall play: "Dutto is a good defensive player. Aidan did

force some shots, but he really made the right plays down the stretch with three big assists (on the 3-point shots at the end) and he also made the final 3-point shot of the game."

The Matadors were led by James Frye, who had 16 points and 10 rebounds, and Caden Breznikar who scored 15 points, 10 rebounds and held center Matt Radell to 4 points.

Despite the loss, Miramonte walked off the court with their heads held high. "We were disappointed in losing but we were not upset at

losing the game," Lavdiotis said. "I had told our players, 'Let's make sure that when we walk out of the gym, Campolindo will know that they are going to have a tough game coming when we play them in two weeks,' and we accomplished that. We know that we can beat them, and they know that we can beat them."

Both teams set up their schedules in preparation for games like this and the upcoming playoffs. At the end of the year, Miramonte will have

played 11 schools rated in the top 100 in the state and Campolindo will have played 15 teams in that category as well.

"I told our players that we were going to have a challenging schedule and they loved it," Lavdiotis said. "The purpose of all of this is that we want to make a run at the state tournament. Our first goal is to be the No. 1 seed in Division III, which we are right now. Our second goal is to qualify for the state tournament and our ultimate goal is to win the whole thing. All of

these games, like the one we just played, are to allow us to play as tough a schedule as we could to prepare for any situation."

Dyer is just as focused on the team's singular concern, which is to win another state championship. "We obviously want to win every game, but our main goal is to be prepared to play the really good teams in the state tournament."

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Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 15 Issue 25 Wednesday, February 2, 2022



Lamorinda Home Sales

... read on Page D2

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Time to prune roses



The lavender-hued Angel Face rose.

Photos Cynthia Brian

By Cynthia Brian

"I love to prune my roses. That's the one thing I really feel I do pretty well!"
~ Julie Andrews

My roses are still blooming, and the bushes are filled with leaves. Yet, it is February and time to do the heavy pruning. My grapevines are already pruned, but I've been waiting for my roses to remember it is winter before I cut them back. Towards the middle to end of January used to be the optimum weeks to prune roses. Last year, I didn't prune until late February and this year will be the same. Pruning any later in the season will deplete the plant's energy resulting in spindly shoots. Normally within two months of pruning, the roses are once again touting their fragrant flowers. I gave over 100 canes of my various roses to my neighbor last season. She rooted three or four canes per container of potting soil and by May those canes were blooming.

Ah, roses. They are one of nature's super spectacular specimens. Fossil evidence in Oregon and Montana indicates that the rose dates back at least 35 million years, long before humans appeared on the landscape. Cultivation probably began in China more than 5,000 years ago. In the 17th century, roses and rose water were used as payment for goods and

barter. Late in the 18th century, China introduced cultivated roses to Europe. Throughout history, roses have been used for perfume, medicine, symbolism, and legal tender.

For many years, I've had the privilege of chatting with various expert rosarians across the globe. The one piece of advice that is common to all is the recommendation to lose the fear of pruning. Although there are guidelines for proper pruning, if you make a mistake, or don't follow the directions, most likely the rose bush will survive despite your best efforts to give it a bad cut.

The reasons for pruning are numerous. Pruning does the following:

1. Creates a plant that will flower with high-quality blooms.
2. Shapes the bush into an attraction that fits with the garden.
3. Removes deadwood and diseased stems.
4. Removes canes that are weak or rubbing against one another.
5. Stimulates new growth.

Pruning is cathartic and good for the soul of humans! It is a garden chore that I always encourage a homeowner to do herself as opposed to hiring someone to do this chore.

Tools of the trade include heavy-duty garden gloves, a sharp-edged pruning shear, and long-handled loppers for those thick canes. Sterilize your tools before you begin the task, then get up close and personal.

How to Prune:

Most roses are not fussy when it comes to how they are pruned. Repeat flowering shrub and bush roses are the most forgiving. English roses, hybrid teas, floribundas, patio, and miniatures can be pruned similarly. Reduce their height by 1/3 to 2/3 depending on how you want your plant to look and how tall you want the plant to grow. Thin stems to aid in disease control.

... continued on Page D10



A rose blooms from a cane planted in potting soil.

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Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	14	\$1,130,000	\$4,850,000
MORAGA	5	\$420,000	\$1,885,000
ORINDA	6	\$1,575,000	\$2,995,000

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

- 110 Camelia Lane, \$2,395,000, 4 Bdrms, 3788 SqFt, 1984 YrBlt, 12-17-21, Previous Sale: \$1,500,000, 09-04-19
- 157 Castle Court, \$2,525,000, 4 Bdrms, 2711 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 12-21-21
- 1819 Del Rio Drive, \$1,260,000, 4 Bdrms, 1590 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 12-22-21, Previous Sale: \$775,000, 02-10-21
- 1000 Dewing Avenue #317, \$1,260,000, 3 Bdrms, 1525 SqFt, 2017 YrBlt, 12-23-21
- 1029 Dolores Drive, \$1,800,000, 3 Bdrms, 1701 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 12-15-21, Previous Sale: \$375,000, 03-14-05
- 501 Florence Drive, \$1,910,000, 4 Bdrms, 1819 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 12-21-21, Previous Sale: \$849,000, 02-23-21
- 166 Haslemere Court, \$1,130,000, 3 Bdrms, 2025 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 12-17-21, Previous Sale: \$245,500, 03-01-88
- 3969 Los Arabis Drive, \$1,900,000, 4 Bdrms, 2437 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 12-21-21
- 3369 North Lucille Lane, \$1,550,000, 2 Bdrms, 1651 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 12-20-21
- 928 Oak Street, \$1,475,000, 2 Bdrms, 1304 SqFt, 1947 YrBlt, 12-17-21, Previous Sale: \$1,025,000, 07-11-18
- 1014 Pine Lane, \$2,200,000, 3 Bdrms, 3102 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 12-15-21, Previous Sale: \$700,000, 03-15-00
- 1031 Pleasant Hill Road, \$1,800,000, 4 Bdrms, 2609 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 12-22-21, Previous Sale: \$1,300,000, 05-05-21
- 30 Sanford Lane, \$4,850,000, 5 Bdrms, 4906 SqFt, 2006 YrBlt, 12-21-21, Previous Sale: \$4,000,000, 06-22-20
- 3326 Vaughn Road, \$1,150,000, 3 Bdrms, 1152 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 12-21-21, Previous Sale: \$950,000, 02-26-18

MORAGA

- 72 Corliss Drive, \$1,885,000, 4 Bdrms, 1870 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 12-21-21
- 1069 Larch Avenue, \$1,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 1420 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 12-23-21
- 651 Moraga Road #19, \$529,000, 2 Bdrms, 1144 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 12-14-21, Previous Sale: \$280,000, 04-23-02
- 296 Scofield Drive, \$1,325,000, 3 Bdrms, 1833 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 12-21-21
- 800 Villa Lane #4, \$420,000, 2 Bdrms, 882 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 12-23-21, Previous Sale: \$385,000, 06-14-07

ORINDA

- 26 Berkeley Avenue, \$1,575,000, 4 Bdrms, 1750 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 12-20-21, Previous Sale: \$1,020,100, 03-09-16
- 55 El Toyonal, \$2,600,000, 4 Bdrms, 2514 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 12-21-21
- 222 Hall Drive, \$1,575,000, 3 Bdrms, 2154 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 12-22-21
- 11 La Fond Lane, \$2,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 2875 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 12-14-21, Previous Sale: \$1,260,000, 10-12-12
- 20 Valley Drive, \$1,525,000, 4 Bdrms, 1913 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 12-15-21
- 36 Valley Drive, \$2,995,000, 4 Bdrms, 3832 SqFt, 2000 YrBlt, 12-16-21, Previous Sale: \$1,660,000, 03-16-01

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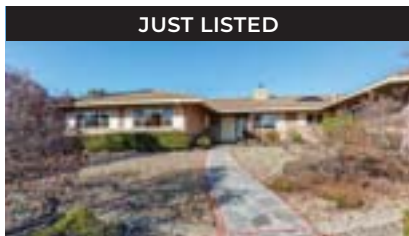


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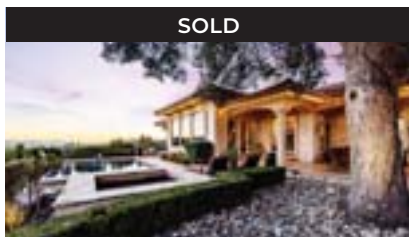
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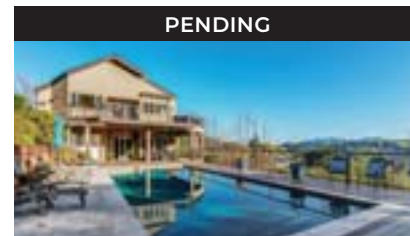
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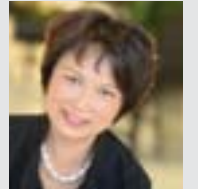
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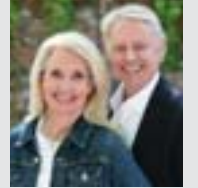
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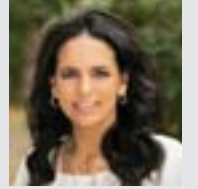
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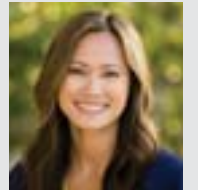
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Sneaky ways to create more storage space in your home

By Jennifer Raftis,
Certified Professional Organizer

Most of us have faced the never-ending quest to find more storage space in our homes – it is an ongoing battle between our square footage and our creativity. So, it's not surprising that the request I receive most often from clients comes from families trying to create more order in their chaos by looking for more space and storage solutions for their "stuff."

We have busy lives – working, raising kids, trying to exercise, helping our aging parents, going to our kids' events, cooking, cleaning the house, taking care of our pets – it's a challenge to keep our belongings organized and there never seems to be enough space to store them.

Then, just to mix it up, we throw in a pandemic. The pandemic has caused many of my clients to purchase items in bulk – food, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, etc. Unfortunately, many of us don't have the space to store these products.

Organizing tip: Before you consider any new storage solution, I recommend purging first, combining like items together, storing items close to where they are used, and don't forget to label, label and then label some more! (P.S. Remember organizing and maintaining your space counts as exercise.)

Here are a few sneaky storage ideas you might want to try:

Go vertical. For many of my clients, one of the space-saving organizing strategies that has been invaluable has been utilizing vertical space. Just look up! Whether it's in a bathroom, a garage, or in a bedroom, the walls and doors, even ceilings offer under-utilized areas that can help maximize storage space. This solution keeps your space neat, efficient, and organized. Because, efficiency matters!

Overhead ceiling racks utilize the space on your garage ceiling. It's a great place for longer-term storage items and it will remove boxes from your floor. The bonus is that you can also hang items from the bottom of the unit. I love products that provide double-duty solutions!

Over the door storage racks are great for laundry items, cleaning supplies, craft



Photo The Container Store

rooms, gift wrap stations, pantries, kitchen cabinets, and bedrooms. I have even used these for books in a child's playroom! They come in many shapes and sizes that can be hung over or installed on the door. Accessories include baskets, hooks, and bins to fit all of your needs. I have one on my kitchen cabinet door that holds my measuring spoons and cups, and another in my bedroom for my jewelry.



Photo The Container Store



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Hang it up on a hook. Wall hooks, coat hooks, bicycle hooks, s-hooks ... I love hooks! "I don't need hooks," said no one in the history of ever. Hanging things on hooks is a surprisingly easy way to bring order to the items in your home. It can be as simple as peel-and-stick Command™ hooks for the kid's pajamas or a row of s-hooks on a towel bar to hold kitchen items or garden tools. Everything has a home and is so much easier to find!

And don't forget above the garage storage. If your garage has any room above the ceiling, or space between the rafters and the roof, you might check to see if you can put down wood for a floor, add a light (it can be a stick-on light) and even install fold-down stairs for access. This sneaky storage solution will require a handyman that can determine what kind of board needs to be used and how much weight you can have on the floor. This is another great place for longer-term storage items.

Here are some other sneaky storage solutions for keeping your home organized:

Under the bed. Depending on how much height you have from the floor to the bottom of the bed, you can purchase many kinds of containers for storage. Plastic bins on rollers, zippered fabric bags, and more. Sheet sets, blankets, and out-of-season clothes are some of the items that you can store here.

Under the stairs. The area under a staircase is often an overlooked storage area. You can add shelves, drawers, baskets, or hooks to make the space usable for storing coats and shoes, toys, books, or stuff that usually gets dumped in the hallway by the front door.

... continued on Page D11

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SELLING HOMES
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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Time to prune roses



A bouquet of red roses for your Valentine.

... continued from Page D1

Since the goal of climbing and rambling roses is to climb and cover a pergola, fence, or other structure, only light pruning is necessary. Flowers are produced on side shoots which can be reduced to three or four buds, depending on the appearance you wish. If you must choose between cutting out an old shoot or a new shoot, always prune the old and save the new.

Many of the Old Roses like Gallicas, Damasks, and Albas that only bloom once will only flower on shoots from stems that are at least a year old. If you prune once-flowering roses too heavily, you will have no flowers. When they are 5 or 6 years old with tired-looking stems, you can cut them out to encourage new growth and flowering.

After you have pruned, offer the healthy canes of non-trademarked species to friends and neighbors who would like to begin propagating roses. Or cultivate a new rose garden for yourself by dipping the canes in a rooting hormone then planting in a container with good quality potting soil. Clean up any leftover stems, remove leaves from the bushes, and add to the compost pile.

To add to your collection of roses, purchasing bare root and planting in February is a cost-saving way to go that will yield blooms in late spring. Once you've brought your bare roots home, soak them in a bucket of water overnight and then allow them to drain for 30 minutes before planting. Never allow the roots to dry out. Check the roots for any damage and trim as nec-

essary. If the roots look good, do not trim or cut.

Roses thrive in humus-rich, water-retentive soil with a pH of 6.5. Choose a bright, sunny location void of competition for root space, water, and nutrients. Improve the soil with rotted manure and compost and dig a generous size hole. Read directions on the package to determine the optimum hole size. Augment with mycorrhizal fungi to improve water supply and nutrients. Plant the bud union two inches below ground level. Water well. In spring, you'll want to add a layer of mulch or compost around each plant and fertilize the roses. Companion plant with lavender to encourage beneficial insects to be on pest patrol.

Your roses will be lush, blooming, and beautiful just in time for barbecues and patio parties. By Mother's Day, you'll be picking bouquets. Instead of buying cut roses for Valentine's Day, consider giving the gift of a potted rose plant. Miniatures make great gifts.

Now, back to pruning my roses because I do it pretty well, too!

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing. Happy Valentine's.



For a true red rose, try Mr. Lincoln.



For healthy, no fuss consistent blooms, Tournament of Roses is a winner.



**Cynthia Brian
in her office.**

Cynthia Brian, The Goddess Gardener, is available for hire to help you prepare for your spring garden. Raised in the vineyards of Napa County, Cynthia is a New York Times best-selling author, actor, radio personality, speaker, media and writing coach as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3. Tune into Cynthia's StarStyle® Radio Broadcast at www.StarStyleRadio.com. Buy copies of her books, including, *Chicken Soup for the Gardener's Soul*, *Growing with the Goddess Gardener*, and *Be the Star You Are!* www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store. Receive a FREE inspirational music DVD and special savings. Hire Cynthia for writing projects, garden consults, and inspirational lectures. Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com www.GoddessGardener.com

Sneaky ways to create more storage space in your home

... continued from Page D4

Stacking bins. These portable, stackable drawers work well in closets, under sinks and in lower cabinets. You can mix and match the sizes to create many different shapes. I have used these under the kitchen sink for cleaning products, sponges, rags, and dish soap. They also work well under cabinets to help keep products easily accessible that otherwise would get lost in the back where they can't be reached and expire.

Creating storage for your belongings can help bring calm to your home. Ask yourself if your brain feels calmer when your home is in order. Ahhhhh, yes it does! There is a sense of peace and power when you know where to store and find your belongings.

I recommend that you take a walk through all the spaces in your house to see if you can get creative and outsmart your square footage. I bet you can!

If you have an organizing question, please send me an email and I'll help you with a solution!



Photo Shutterstock

Professional Organizer, 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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11 La Fond

Single level 4 bed/ 3 bath home on .71 private acre lot w/ updated kitchen & family room, pool, & outdoor kitchen!

\$2,350,000

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Pending!

8445 Wildcat Drive

Incredible 3 bed/ 3 bath w/ bonus loft, formal office, soaring ceilings & picturesque windows to capture the amazing views!

\$1,895,000

ORINDA



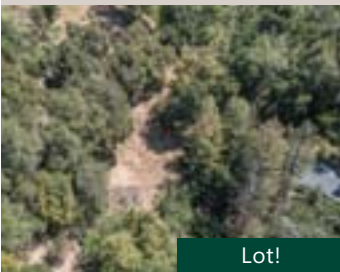
Pending!

22 Valencia Road

Special 4 bed/ 3 bath home located in desirable Del Ray neighborhood w/ bonus room & close distance to schools!

\$1,695,000

ORINDA



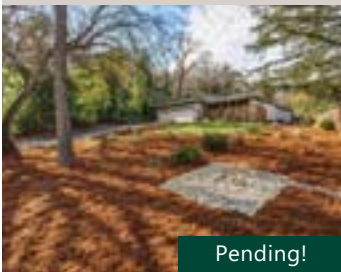
Lot!

23 Kittiwake Road

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

\$575,000

LAFAYETTE



Pending!

651 Evelyn Court

Gorgeous 2958 sqft 4bed/ 3.5 bath rancher. Gourmet kitchen. Solar w/battery. CA Closets. Ethernet. Large cul-de-sac lot!

\$2,350,000

LAFAYETTE



Sold!

1130 Nogales Street

Charming 3 bed/ 2 bath single story home w/ extra room! Perfect for office, family room, or extra bedroom w/ large closet!

\$1,500,000

LAFAYETTE



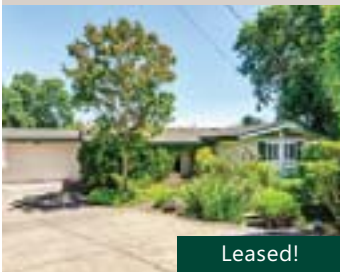
For Lease!

3235 Mt. Diablo Court #102

Single level luxury 2 bed/ 2 bath condo located on cul-de-sac w/ open floor plan & exquisite designer finishes!

\$5,500/mo

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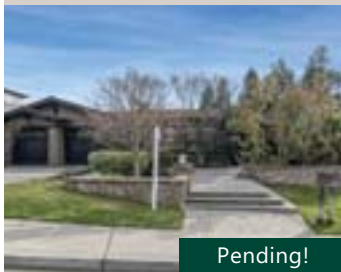
Leased!

3342 S Lucille Lane

Located in Lafayette Valley Estates is this 1154 sqft rancher w/ 3 beds/ 2 baths. Close distance to trails, parks, & top rated schools!

\$3,500/mo

MORAGA



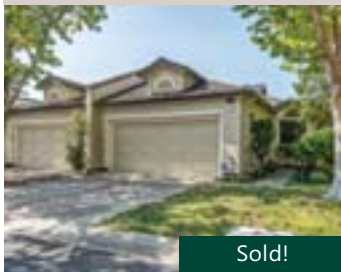
Pending!

2 Moraga Valley Lane

Beautifully updated 2793 sqft single story home. 3 bed + office/ 2.5 bath situated on .28 acre lot w/ golf course views!

\$2,395,000

WALNUT CREEK



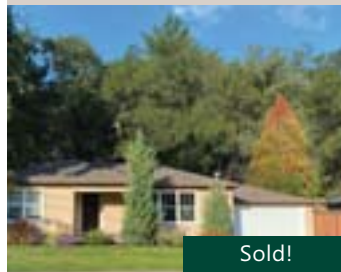
Sold!

310 Beacon Ridge Lane

Private 3 bed/ 3 bath end unit townhouse w/ view of hiking trails & walking distance to pool & tennis courts!

\$1,200,000

WALNUT CREEK



Sold!

1460 Springbrook Road

Charming 3 bed/ 2 bath Rancher on private lot near downtown w/ 1 bed/ 1 bath guest house. Remodeled in 2014!

\$1,170,000

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Patricia Battersby
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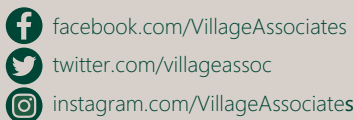
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