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# Letters to the editor

## Bigotry and hatred in Lafayette

Though one reader has responded to the (June 7) letter, it requires a further response. It's wrong on dates and case law, and very wrong on attributing bigotry across the spectrum on every issue solely to practitioners of one faith.

California decriminalized interracial marriage in 1948, in Perez v Sharp, 19 years before Loving v Virginia. The US Supreme Court protected gay marriage in 2013, two years before Obergefell, in In Re Marriage Cases. The opinion was written by Roberts and joined by Scalia, both Catholic. Sotomayor dissented.

The author is rightly concerned about transgender backlash. However, it's quite clear that the three to five people across the street from Lafayette Elementary are convincing no

one, which is exactly as it should be. It's also unclear how many live here and how many may be evangelicals or something else. At least one travels throughout Contra Costa.

The author's anger may be rightly directed at Thomas. I concur. His wish to overturn Obergefell is unconscionable but not even with this Court is it gaining any traction. Thomas is not Catholic.

I doubt the letter writer is aware of what the Catholic Church is for or against but the Black priest in my former parish has full pews, including

lesbians and gays.

I can personally attest to the fact that one can attend Mass on Sunday and write a check to get morning afters to women elsewhere on Monday. It happens often.

Bigotry is a two-way street when based on assumptions, gets the facts wrong and worse, lacks nuance. Pedophiles in dresses says more about the author than anything else.

Kate Alderman Ruby  
Lafayette  
JD, Berkeley Law 1974

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# Miramonte student facilitates letter writing campaign for pediatric cancer patients

A few months ago, Miramonte student Vinny Yu, after hearing stories from young cancer patients at a camp last summer, was determined to do anything he could to help.

"At first, I wanted to wait until I was experienced enough to make a change on the medical side of things. However, in January I realized that I did not need medical skills to make a difference for patients," Yu said. "Positivity can make a huge impact for such a mentally exhausting battle, and it struck me that I could bring the positivity of my community to the patients." Yu decided to base his project around letters, as they were accessible for anyone to make, while also having the flexibility to be a creative drawing or a heartfelt message. He contacted local elementary schools and while he was unsure of the number of students involved, three schools participated (Glorietta, Sleepy Hollow, and Del Rey), according to Yu, with "a whopping 595 letters written, as well as a mind-blowing 1,006 pieces of origami hearts from one Sleepy Hollow class."

Glorietta Librarian Anne Lowell says she can't say enough good things about what Yu has done. "We are lucky to have him in our community; he's a great kid, and a real asset to the community."

- J. Wake



Miramonte High School student Vinny Yu smiles with a collection of letters destined for pediatric cancer patients.

Photo provided

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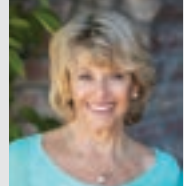
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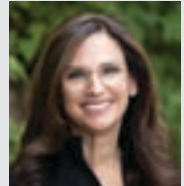
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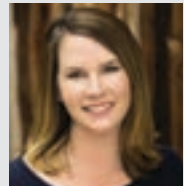
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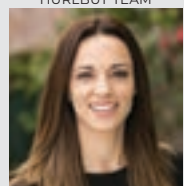
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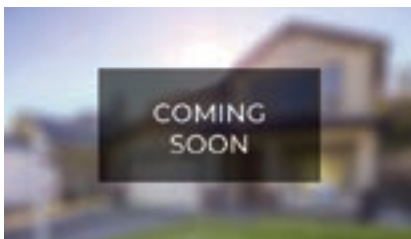


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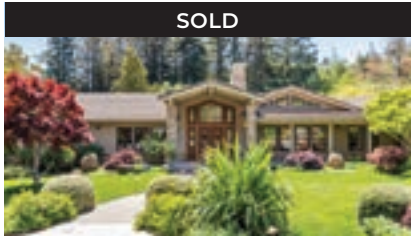
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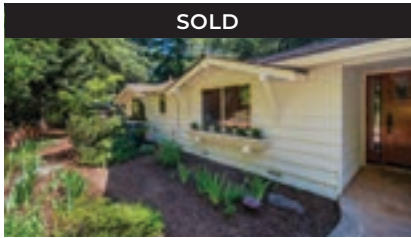
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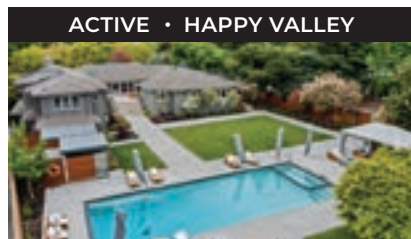
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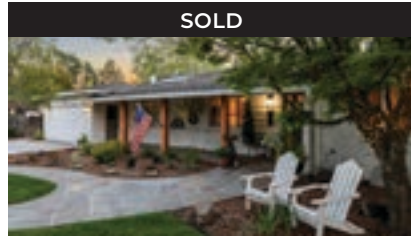
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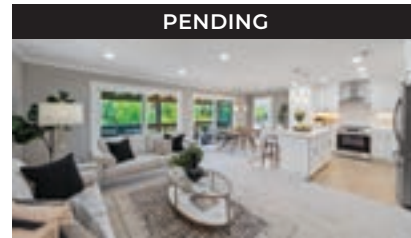
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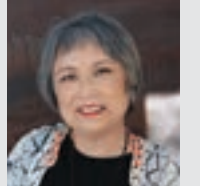
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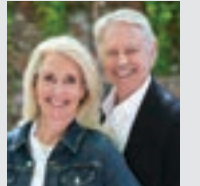
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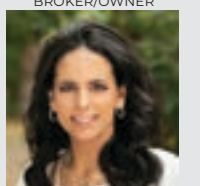
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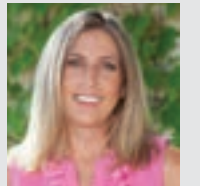
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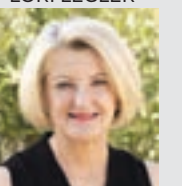
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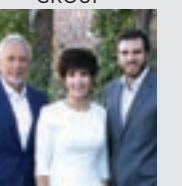
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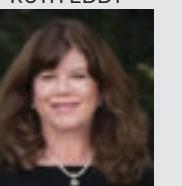
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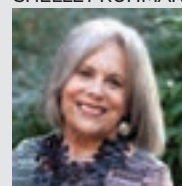
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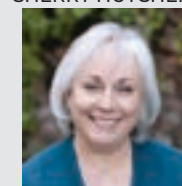
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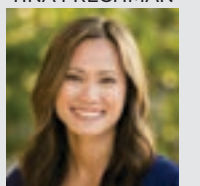
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