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Photo Jeff Heyman

## Fun abounds at downtown festival

By Jeff Heyman

With an estimated 80,000 festival-goers literally flooding the streets of downtown Lafayette, this year's "Art & Wine," as longtime aficionados call it, was an overwhelming success. Moreover, it was overwhelmingly fun. The 2024 Lafayette Art & Wine Festival was held last weekend, Saturday, Sept. 21, and Sunday, Sept. 22 – and with the temps in the mid-80s, the weather could not have been more perfect.

With more than 20 bands, including some of the best Bay Area cover bands and local acts including The Ripplers, Other People's Money, The Big Jangle, and Lonesome Eddie and the Saddle Sores, performing on

four stages, street dancing and sing-alongs were not a rare sight in Lafayette this past weekend. So were kids' dance performances on the main stage, including an extremely popular set by the New You Dance Center.

What about the 400 vendor booths? Few would be disappointed with the 30 local artisans and craftspeople who lined Local Artists Alley. And the dozens of food vendors, including many of Lafayette's wildly popular restaurants, added a delicious twist and a wide sampling of California wine and craft beers. In addition, there were scores of commercial vendors and information booths set up by public agencies with plenty

of useful giveaways. Of course there were great activities for the youngins: four kid's zones featured miniature gold, a train ride and, of course, jumpy houses and more activities. Face-painting is a perennial favorite.

Put on by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, the City of Lafayette, and a host of sponsors, Art & Wine always attracts throngs of folks from near and far. And this year's festival, by all accounts, was the best, the biggest, and possibly the most fun in the 27 years it has been going strong. There are many reasons we are lucky to be living in Lamorinda – and Art & Wine is one of them.

Advertising

**LAMORINDA WEEKLY**

Not to be missed	Page 12
How to contact us	Page 12
Letters to the Editor	Page 10/13
Classified	Page 14
Love Lafayette	Page 15

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## Cancer Support Community approaching groundbreaking for Lafayette center

By Elaine Borden Chandler



Image courtesy Cancer Support Community

Cancer Support Community San Francisco Bay Area (CSCSFBay) is approaching the groundbreaking stage of their planned cancer center in Lafayette. This center is

intended to extend CSCSFBay's mission of providing free programs and community for cancer patients and their caretakers, family, and friends. Located on a parcel of undevel-

oped land west of the Lafayette Reservoir, this new center will be the first of their centers to use nature as a resource for healing.

CSCSFBay was founded in 1990 and is nationally affiliated with the international Cancer Support Community organization (CSC). They provide the holistic support, particularly psychological and financial, that is not supplied by hospitals. They have programs for nutrition, exercise, financial assistance, counseling, and support groups, ... continued on Page 3

## Moraga Library celebrates 50th birthday

By Vera Kochan

For one day only, it was okay to cheer, shout, clap, and loudly sing "Happy Birthday" at the Moraga Library, because its 50th birthday party was in progress, and book-lovers of all ages were there to celebrate.

To start off the Sept. 19 commemoration event, Moraga Historical Society President Susan Sperry gave a brief timeline lesson of the past 50 years and beyond, before the library settled into its current location at 1500 St. Mary's Rd. in 1974.

Contra Costa County established a library system in 1911. Seven years later, Moraga opened its first library, with an offering of 100 books, in the Moraga Grocery Store (which now houses Si Si Caffe). The town's population was 535 residents. Between 1936-1944, the library



Photo Vera Kochan

**Moraga Library's 50th Birthday cake**

moved into the Sacramento Northern Railway Station, which was located across the street from today's Moraga Barn. The book collection had doubled to 200; the population had grown as well, with 834 inhabitants. ... continued on Page 7

**Civic News**

Candidates night in Lafayette — Page 2  
 Candidates forum in Orinda — Page 8

**Public Safety**

Fall blood drive by American Red Cross see calendar — Page 12

**Life in Lamorinda**

Lafayette Community Garden held open house — Page 13



**Sports**

St. Mary's Rugby team's unique championship style — Page 14



**Our Homes OH1-OH12**

When deer claim our gardens as their favorite restaurants — Page OH1





See public meetings schedule on these pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
City of Lafayette: www.lovelafayette.org
Phone: (925) 284-1968
Chamber of Commerce: www.lafayettechamber.org

Lafayette Public Meetings

City Council
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Don Tatzin Community Hall
Planning Commission Meeting
Monday, Oct. 7, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Don Tatzin Community Hall
Design Review
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Arts & Science Discovery Room



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Lafayette's two candidates for partial term councilmember

By Elaine Borden Chandler



Jim Cervantes

In the upcoming Nov. 5 election, Lafayette voters will be choosing four City Councilmembers, three for a full four-year position and one for a partial two-year position. Two candidates are running for the two-year term position: Jim Cervantes and Mario DiPrisco.

DiPrisco was an Albany councilmember in his early 20s and is now retiring from working as an analyst and portfolio manager, which he feels gives him the experience to help Lafayette's budget. He is running because of his disappointment in the City Council's handling of finances and the homeowner's insurance crisis, as well as their decision to put an affordable housing project at 949 Moraga Road.

Cervantes worked in public finance for 34 years and is currently a committee member on the Lafayette General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), after having



Mario DiPrisco

served as both Vice Chair and Chair. He feels these experiences, as well as his civic involvement and having served on several non-profit organizations' boards, give him the knowledge and skill to solve Lafayette's key issues and to keep Lafayette vibrant, open, and safe.

Cervantes' goals for Lafayette are securing long-term financial sustainability, working with Con Fire to address wildfire risk, and continuing to improve traffic safety. DiPrisco's goals for Lafayette are a more creative approach to growing revenue, reducing construction costs to improve affordability, and working more closely with the Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District.

These candidates have given Lamorinda Weekly responses to written questions about their plans if they become a councilmember. Affordable housing: DiPrisco thinks that

Lafayette is unaffordable but also intends to be careful and selective in which projects he would approve. Cervantes wants there to be housing options for Lafayette's essential workers while remaining realistic about costs and believes that the City should support viable affordable projects.

Lafayette's Housing Element: Cervantes was involved as Chair and Vice Chair of the GPAC to create the initial Housing Element proposal, which was then modified by the City Council and negotiations with the State. While he feels the housing targets are currently too high, he believes the Housing Element is a good compromise considering state demands. DiPrisco states that he will follow state mandates but put residents' interests first.

Developing the 949 Moraga Road lot: DiPrisco is seriously opposed to developing the parking lot because of how it would worsen traffic, feeling that Lafayette should look elsewhere to meet housing quotas. Cervantes states that Lafayette will face repercussions from the State if it does not develop the lot and should focus on getting a project that does not dramatically increase traffic.

Improving traffic congestion: Cervantes

feels that Lafayette should see how the 2023 Local Road Safety Program functions and develops before making changes. DiPrisco wants to use AI traffic signals to respond to real-time traffic as well as expanding the school bus system to cover the entire city.

Public oversight of the City budget: DiPrisco wants to start a public line-by-line budget review meeting and for all of Lafayette's expenses to be publicly listed on the City website. Cervantes intends to draw on his background in municipal finance and educate Lafayette residents on the budget.

Measure H: DiPrisco is a reluctant supporter and Cervantes is a strong supporter.

The Lafayette Homeowners Council will be hosting a Candidates Night on Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Lafayette Library where Lafayette City Councilmember candidates will respond to submitted questions.

More about Jim Cervantes can be found at https://jimforlafayette.com/. More about Mario DiPrisco can be found at www.diprisco.org/.

Read about the candidates running for a four year term in our next edition on Oct. 9.



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## Sales tax measure on Lafayette's November ballot

By Elaine Borden Chandler

The City of Lafayette has recently been grappling with the projection that starting in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, it will be running on an annual \$2 million deficit. In an attempt to avoid this without cutting services, there will be a measure for a half-cent increase to the Lafayette sales tax on the November ballot.

"We're not seeking to add new programs. Rather, the additional revenues that we receive through Measure H would keep our current level of services going," said City Manager Nirroop Srivatsa.

In practical terms, a half cent tax (e.g. a half percent tax) would mean that for anything bought in Lafayette, half a cent would be added per dollar to the price in addition to the normal sales tax. For example, a \$10 item would have 5 more cents added to the sales tax and a \$50 restaurant bill would have an additional 25 cents.

Like all sales taxes, this tax would not apply to groceries, rent, mortgage payments, prescription medicine, or utilities. However, unlike Lafayette's current 8.75% sales tax, all of the rev-

enue from this half cent tax would remain in Lafayette. At present, only 1% of Lafayette's 8.75% sales tax returns to the city, with the rest going to the State, the county, and certain agencies such as BART.

This revenue would go exclusively to Lafayette's General Fund. The Lafayette General Fund finances city services such as street and park maintenance, paying police officers, and wildfire preparedness, as well as programs such as the Traffic Calming Program and the Public Art Program.

According to the city, the current deficit comes from the increased costs for street repair, infrastructure maintenance, and insurance; general inflating costs that have not been matched by equally increased revenue; and unfunded mandates from the state, such as housing measures.

If this tax measure does not pass, Lafayette will need to make a 10% cut to expenses. What these cuts would be has not been decided yet, but one possibility has been 10% cuts to all departments and programs

across Lafayette. However, if the council decided that to keep fully funding a particular program, the expenses in other departments and programs would require even deeper cuts than 10%.

If the measure does not pass, the General Fund Reserve — money kept for unexpected costs such as wildfires, earthquakes, or other disasters — will also shrink. It is maintained at 60% of the General Fund and will be proportionately reduced.

This measure includes a citizen's oversight committee to give residents control over how the revenue from the measure would be spent. Residents of Lafayette would apply and be chosen by the City Council to advise them on how to distribute the funds according to the desires and needs of Lafayette's citizens. The revenue distribution would also be part of the public annual budgeting process.

Those interested in more detail on the tax measure can visit the City of Lafayette's Sale Tax Measure page at [lovelafayette.org](http://lovelafayette.org).

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## Cancer Support Community

... continued from Page 1

as well as programs for the children of cancer patients receiving treatment.

They help anyone affected by cancer for free, receiving their funding primarily through three annual fundraising events, corporate and foundation grants, and individual donors. While other affiliates of CSC have raised money for centers, this is easily the largest center the CSC has built from the ground up.

"There's nothing like this in Northern California, it will be the first of its kind in terms of the psychosocial, emotional support care," said Libby Eppinga, the Director of Donor Support & Capital Campaign. "It is to meet the growing cancer statistics that we're going to see over the next 20 years."

The center will be two stories tall and 12,000 square feet, including classes with remote broadcasting, a demonstration kitchen, an arts room, a library, a social center, counseling rooms, and rooms for acupuncture and massage. On the

property there will be walking trails, healing spaces, and a community garden for organic food. The rest of the land will be planted with native plants.

Nature has become increasingly integrated into the medical community as its health benefits have become more widely acknowledged. CSCSFBay started seriously looking for a place to build a new center in 2018 and found the parcel by the reservoir. Its combination of nature, accessibility, and proximity to the reservoir, community garden, and Orchard Nursery made it ideal. The owners, Ray and Angelina Leal, were originally going to sell the land to CSCSFBay but decided to donate it instead.

CSCSFBay is currently in the process of receiving building permits for the center. After submitting their plans twice, CSCSFBay received approval from the City of Lafayette in August and next will be submitting plans to Contra Costa County so they can put a shovel to the ground.

Said shovel is going to be part of a raffle at

CSCSFBay's annual Gala in the Grove at Cal Shakes on Oct. 6 — the winner will receive an engraved shovel and a place at the center's groundbreaking. The Gala will feature Rob Tufel, the former CEO of CSCSFBay, who will give a presentation on the center's progress and Emily Chuah, a breast cancer patient finishing her final semester at Berkely Law. All ticket proceeds will go to supporting CSCSFBay's programs.

The center is expected to begin building late this fall or next spring. CSCSFBay's is eager to have local community members engage. Their long-term goal is for the center to be an intersection of the cancer community and the local community. Those who are interested now can contact Eppinga for a tour of the site or a coffee and chat about the center. For the future?

"I think any aspect of the property that you look at is a way for people to engage," said Eppinga. "I think that the possibilities are endless, but we won't quite know until we are living in that space."

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**Yes4Lafayette.org**

"For so little we receive so much from the City."  
- Budd MacKenzie, Community Leader

"I am proud to live here, and I wholeheartedly support this tax initiative."  
- Brian Aiello, Small Business Owner

"Lafayette is a wonderful community, and I support Measure H which will sustain city services for residents of all ages."  
- Stella Wotherspoon, Community & School Volunteer



### Let's Stay Safe & Strong - Yes4Lafayette.org



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## Bench dedication for Don Jenkins in honor to his outstanding volunteer work

Submitted by Kathryn Ishizu



Becky Jenkins and the new bench Photo provided

On Sept. 14, a day before what would have been Don Jenkins' 84th birthday, Lamorinda Village hosted a heartfelt Memorial Bench Dedication ceremony, paying tribute to a man who left an indelible mark on our community through his

remarkable volunteerism and selfless service. The bench, a symbol of his generosity and spirit, now stands at a popular bus stop in downtown Lafayette, thanks to the efforts of Lafayette's City Manager Niroop Srivatsa and

Don's beloved City of Lafayette.

Don Jenkins was not only a dedicated Board Member of Lamorinda Village but a tireless advocate and supporter of countless organizations across the community. He gave of himself to almost every charity he could, embodying the very essence of service and community spirit. His dedication continues to inspire those who knew him and those who are just learning of his legacy.

The ceremony was graced by several speakers who shared stories of Don's enthusiasm, leadership, and impact. Sharon Iversen, president of the Lamorinda

Village Board, opened the event, reflecting on Don's unwavering commitment to helping others. Niroop Srivatsa, Lafayette City Manager, expressed gratitude for Don's influence on the community and his service to the city he loved so much. Steve Ware of Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary, Sara Regan of the Lafayette Chamber, and Steve Shaw, a close friend and former business partner, each spoke fondly of Don's enduring friendship and contributions to the organizations he championed.

Becky Jenkins, Don's wife, shared her appreciation for everyone who came to honor his memory. She read a beautiful

poem and revealed the plaque on the bench, which simply yet poignantly reads: "In Honor of Our Friend Don Jenkins Rest in Peace."

Peter Whitelock, pastor of Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, blessed the bench with moving words, bringing the dedication to a close. In that moment, we could all imagine Don among us. His bench now offers a place of rest for those waiting at the bus stop—a perfect spot for Don, always in the center of the action, continuing to serve.

Following the ceremony, attendees enjoyed refreshments and birthday cake, a fitting cele-

bration of Don's life and legacy. A special thanks goes to Lamorinda's Boys Team Charity for their assistance in making the event a success.

As we gathered to honor Don, it became clear that his influence extends far beyond his years of service. His legacy continues to inspire us, proving that one person's dedication to the community can have a lasting impact. Through this bench and the example he set, Don Jenkins will always remain a part of our community, reminding us of the power of selflessness and how he truly lived by Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self."



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- Lafayette General Plan Advisory Committee Vice-Chair/Chair.
- Non-profit, County and State Board service.

### My Top Priorities

- ✓ Ensure the City's long-term financial sustainability.
- ✓ Systematically address our wildfire risks in collaboration with Con Fire.
- ✓ Continue the work on traffic safety improvements.

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Richard Whitmore, Former Superintendent, Lafayette School District  
Stella Wotherspoon, Chair, General Plan Advisory Committee/Lafayette Transportation and Circulation Commission  
Greg Young, Acalanes Football  
Jody Young, Community Leader

Partial list. Titles for identification purposes only and do not necessarily reflect the view of the organization.

"I worked closely with Jim on the General Plan Advisory Committee as we addressed the Housing Element. As Chair, he steered the Committee through an intensive process of public engagement and treated all parties with respect. He listens and leads. His presence on the City Council will be a plus for Lafayette."

— MATT PEASE, FORMER CHAIR, LAFAYETTE GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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### And Beyond...

John's dedication to the community reaches far beyond his business endeavors. For over twenty years, he volunteered for LASF/LPIE, helping to support our schools and our students. As chair of Lafayette's Land Acknowledgement Task Force, he worked with other community leaders to honor the Bay Miwok and Ohlone people—the original stewards of Lafayette's land. He's also on the board of the Park Theater Trust working hard alongside other dedicated volunteers to revitalize our beloved downtown Park Theater.

Feel free to stop by Lamorinda Music any time to chat about the issues that matter most to you!

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Candace Andersen, Contra Costa Supervisor

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- Mike Anderson
- Carl Anduri
- Cam Burks
- Gina Dawson
- Teresa Gerringner
- Anne Grodin
- Erling Horn
- Wei-Tai Kwok (Vice-Mayor)
- Don Tatzin

...see others that have endorsed at [mccormickforlafayette.com](http://mccormickforlafayette.com)



Paid for by McCormick For Lafayette City Council 2024  
FPPC #1471060

Discover why John is the right choice for our community. Explore his positions on key issues and see the impressive list of community leaders who stand behind him at [McCormickforLafayette.com](http://McCormickforLafayette.com).

Photo Credit: Craig Isaacs, BlueGoo Photography

## Beautiful brushstrokes mark Autumn Moon Festival

By David Scholz

On Sept. 19, 20 participants joined with local Asian communities to celebrate the Mid Autumn Moon Festival with a multi-faceted program at the Lafayette Library. The program was led by long-time San Francisco Asian Art Museum docent Pauline Tsui, who shared her Asian heritage and extensive experience with Chinese painting. She demon-

strated the proper way to hold the brush, and demonstrated how having adequate paint and water on it allows you to make different strokes as they learned to paint cultural symbols, including the rabbit, that are part of the Autumn Moon Festival.

All throughout, Tsui reminded attendees "the goal is to have fun." She likened

the festival year to America's Thanksgiving where the emphasis is on gathering with loved ones and giving thanks and expressing gratitude for those in their lives. Those in attendance saw the experience as way to both learn a new skill but also boost awareness of another culture. The three-day celebration this year began Sept. 17. In addition to a Power-

Point that spotlighted the various aspects of the annual Autumn Moon Festival, Tsui culminated the evening by translating a classical Chinese poem entitled "Quiet Night Thoughts" by Li Bai. The final lines underscore this Fall festival, "I raise my head to view the bright moon, then lower it, thinking of my home village."

Photo David Scholz



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Candidate for Lafayette City Council

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**Town Council Meetings:**  
 Wed., Sept. 25, 5:30 p.m.  
 Wed., Oct. 9, 5:30 p.m.  
**Planning Commission:**  
 Tuesday, Oct. 1,  
 6:30 p.m.  
**Parks and Recreation  
 Commission:**  
 Mon., Oct. 14, 6:30 p.m.



## Public Works holds pop-up survey event for upcoming road safety project

By Vera Kochan

The Town of Moraga has seen numerous road repairs this summer, and there's more to come. The Public Works Department held a pop-up event at Canyon Club Brewery on Sept. 14 with the intention of getting public input on an upcoming project.

The Moraga Road and Canyon Road Complete Streets Project will deliver corridor improvements that connect pedestrians and bicyclists with improved ac-

cess and safety to the Moraga Shopping Center and Moraga in general. The project will extend along Moraga Road and Canyon Road, beginning at St. Mary's Road (north) and continuing to Sanders Drive (south).

Expected improvements to the corridor include: repair or add new sidewalks, install high-visibility crosswalks and ADA-accessible curb ramps, support intersection safety through traffic signals and/or warning devices, manage speeds through radar speed feedback signage, enhance bike lanes with high-visibility markings and buffer zones, and install new bus stop shelters with people-friendly benches and street trees.

Members of the public were asked to keep in mind some project goals while taking the survey. The importance of safety is meant to align with Moraga's Local Roadway Safety Plan and the United States Department of Transportation Safe Streets and Roads for All Program. This focuses on increasing access and comfort while eliminating serious roadway injuries and fatalities.

Another project goal stresses improved access and comfort when connecting residents to schools and services within town, whether they are walking or biking.

Community-responsiveness hopes to integrate principles of equity, engagement, and collaboration into determining strategies.



Photo courtesy of Moraga Public Works Department

Pop-up road safety survey receives a variety of responses from participants.

Lastly, the goal of sustainability is expected to make walking and biking safer and more comfortable, and reduce vehicle miles traveled, which in turn should reduce greenhouse gas emissions and criteria air pollutants.

The pop-up event collected responses from 23 individuals, half of which were Moraga residents. According to Public Works Senior Engineer Nate Levine, "The majority of the remaining participants were from Orinda, Lafayette, or the Bay Area. All noted that they are regular visitors of Moraga, either for work, recreation, or family."

Participants were given three stickers and asked to place them on a seven-pictured panel asking them to: "Tell us what safety improvements you want to see." Buffered bike lanes received 29% of the stickers, rectangular rapid

flashing beacon (24%), high-visibility crosswalk (18%), median refuge island (12%), curb extension and sidewalk connections (7%), radar speed feedback (6%), and bus stop shelter and trees (4%).

As an added feature to the event, Post-it Notes were available to place at the bottom of the survey board. Three people felt inclined to add additional comments such as, "Many drivers are reckless and seem to be unaware of pedestrians and bicyclists. Any improvements to see them safe would be great, especially students."

Another comment was, "Crosswalks across Moraga Road should have the crosswalk lights and Country Club Drive. Walkway on Moraga Road from Country Club Drive to Moraga Way to connect it to light and crosswalk. Currently have to walk in road or bike lane."

A final note stated, "Would love to see more options for walking/biking in Moraga + related safety features."

The event turned out as expected. "Pop-up events are intended to meet people where they already are," said Levine. "Canyon Club is located along the project corridor and is a natural gathering place for Moraga/Canyon Road users. The goal is to engage with actual users in a natural environment. The notes gave us a clear indication that the project goals aligned with the desires of the community and needs of the project corridor."

There are two additional outreach events planned (one in person and one virtual) in October and November/December. The next outreach event is scheduled for Oct 22. The time and location will be posted on Moraga's Public Works website.

For more information visit the project website:

www.moraga.ca.us/606/MoragaCanyon-Road-Complete-Street-Project.

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## Another successful fun run in Moraga

Submitted by Amy Campbell



Photo provided

It was another beautiful day for the annual Kapnek Trust USA Family Fun Run and Carnival held on Sunday, Sept. 8 at Moraga Commons Park. Over 200 runners and carnival participants of all ages came out to support the Trust, a local nonprofit that supports early childhood education, nutrition, and AIDS treatment and prevention programs for underserved children and families in Zimbabwe.

The event includes a 5K run along the Moraga path with a shorter 1K run/walk for the littles. After the run, families participate in a carnival with games, a jumpy house, rock wall, food, music, and arts and crafts all to raise money in support of this worthy cause.

This year, the event had volunteers from the National Charity League, the Orinda chapter of Boys Team Charity, Jennifer Moeller Compass, and staff from Lamorinda Pediatrics who all pitched in to make the day a success.

To learn more about Kapnek Trust USA and how you can help support these efforts visit [www.kapnektrustusa.org](http://www.kapnektrustusa.org)

# Moraga Library makes coding accessible to everyone

Submitted by Brian Harrison



In the picture: Sara Harrison, Brian Harrison, and Jayin Joshi Photo provided

Moraga Library partnered with eSTEAM Computer Science Club to offer two weeks of free Scratch and Python coding workshops.

In the Scratch workshop, the class was divided into the beginner and advanced groups. Jayin Joshi, a tenth grader at Campolindo High School who taught the advanced level, introduced his students to different elements of game design while they worked on their own unique project throughout the week. "It was fun watching the kids make their projects and grow with new concepts," he reflected.

Brian Harrison, who is also a tenth grader at Campolindo, taught the Beginner Scratch class. He really enjoyed teaching and getting to know each of his students. "I'm very impressed at how quickly my students developed a strong understanding of the fundamentals of Scratch. I'm incredibly

proud of them."

Students worked on daily projects and a long-term project. Parents were invited to attend Show-And-Tell on the last day of the weeklong workshop and each student presented their long-term projects. One Scratch student told the volunteers excitedly, "I am so happy that I now have a coding family."

The Python workshop took place the week of July 1. Sara Harrison, an eighth grader from Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School who taught at the workshop and helped write the curriculum, said: "It was challenging to write the curriculum because we had to fit so many topics into a week-long workshop but, in the end, it was so rewarding to see how much everyone got out of the workshop and enjoyed programming in Python!" Guy Sandler from Campolindo and Evie

Napolitan from Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School also helped at the workshops as teaching assistants to provide more individual supports throughout the weeks.

Parents were truly impressed by the students' progress and creativity after watching the Show-And-Tell. Moraga Library Branch Manager Rita Carrasco, who helped organize and support the workshop, was very pleased with the results. "I can't believe how well the kids learned to program!" she praised. On the last day of the workshops, each student was presented with a certificate and STEAM prizes donated by Sydney-Paige Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit who has served over a quarter million students since 2013 by collecting and distributing new school supplies, books, and toys so students can have the tools and confidence needed to learn and thrive.

eSTEAM Computer Science Club is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Moraga that has offered free summer coding workshops for underprivileged students in Contra Costa County since summer 2023. eSTEAM Computer Science Club also offers free year-round American Computer Science League (ASCL) tutoring workshops and hosted local contests since 2021.

# Moraga Library birthday



Photo Vera Kochan

Kids help Mayor Teresa Onoda blow out the candles.

... continued from Page 1

A new type of library came to town in the form of a bi-weekly book mobile courtesy of the county. Between 1956-1969, Moraga's 1,033 residents were experiencing a different library format.

Wanting to create some permanency, the Friends of the Moraga Library was formed in 1967, thanks to the efforts of Jerry Meyer. By 1969, the Pacific Telephone Company's auxiliary building, at the corner of Munster Drive (now Country Club Drive) and School Street, was leased to the Friends for five

years (rent-free), because the building was scheduled for eventual demolition. Today, it's still standing and is the home of the Moraga School District. That library's book volume grew to 7,500 while the town's population increased to 8,579.

Still searching for a place to build a new library, it's current location was selected in 1970, and in 1971, the land was purchased for \$55,000. The Moraga Library as we know it today was opened on Sept. 22, 1974, at a cost of \$700,000.

"Therefore, you can understand the celebration in 1974 to finally

have an independent, permanent library for this growing town of 11,352 residents," stated Sperry. "As seen in a short video we have in the History Center, there were speeches, awards, dancing, refreshments, and a great deal of excitement."

Library Manager Rita Carrasco announced that, for a short time only, a table display containing old scrapbooks with newspaper clippings and other historic memorabilia would be available to anyone interested in exploring the library's history through media from back-in-the-day.

A balloon artist crafted a variety of shapes for the kids, and a giant birthday card was available for well-wishers to sign.

No birthday is complete without a cake, so Friends President Sally Whittaker invited the guests to partake of snacks and not one, but three birthday cakes. Mayor Teresa Onoda encouraged the kids to help blow out the candles before everyone enjoyed a slice as the party continued.

Another family-friendly event, the Town of Moraga's 50th anniversary celebration parade, will take place on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 10 to 11 a.m. in the area around School Street and Country Club Drive and Moraga Way. The annual Pear Festival, with a focus on the town's 50th, will begin at 11 a.m. at the Moraga Commons Park.

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**City Council Reg. Meeting:**  
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 Orinda Library Auditorium  
**Planning Commission**  
 Tuesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m.  
 Orinda Library Auditorium  
**Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission**  
 Wednesday, Oct. 9, 6:30 p.m.  
 Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way

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COMPASS

**Orinda residents have a choice of three candidates for two council spots**

By Sora O'Doherty



Candace Evans



Cara Hoxie

Photos provided



Mayor Darlene Gee

There are three candidates running for two positions on the Orinda City Council. The general election date is Tuesday, Nov. 5. Contra Costa County elections will start mailing vote-by-mail ballots to registered voters starting Oct. 7.

Mayor Darlene Gee is running for another four year term on the council, which would be her third full term. Gee was appointed to the council to fill a vacancy when Steve Glazer was elected to the California State Senate in 2015. The other two candidates are Cara Hoxie, who is ending her tenure on the Orinda Union School District Board, and Candace Evans, currently Legislative Recorder for the City of Oakland.

The League of Women Voters Diablo Valley and the Orinda Association will host a candidates forum on Oct. 7 at the Library Auditorium from 6 to 7 p.m. The format will include brief candidate statements followed by questions.

The city council candidates responded to written questions from The Lamorinda Weekly on their qualifications and goals.

Evans stressed her dedication to diversity, saying, "I aim to develop a long-term plan for our community that promotes sustainable economic growth. As an LGBTQ woman of color, I am a true representation of inclusion for Orinda and the future of Orinda for all families, espe-

cially our elders and youth."

Gee stressed her institutional knowledge, saying, "My experience is especially helpful to Orinda given that in 2025 we will have a new city manager, a new police chief, a new fire chief, and a relatively new planning director. If re-elected, I will be the most tenured member of the city council and I want to use that experience to reduce the learning curve for the new staff and help ensure that our city priorities remain on track."

Hoxie emphasized her involvement in the Orinda community, saying of her her goals that she wants "to bring my understanding of our community and my problem-solving skills to address some of the difficult issues facing Orinda such as housing, downtown revitalization, emergency evacuation, fire safety, fire insurance coverage, and walkability."

In terms of professional background, Gee is a registered civil engineer, Hoxie an attorney, and Evans is a business owner who has held numerous positions on non-profit organizations including Meals on Wheels and The Advisory Council on Aging.

While both Gee and Hoxie are long-term Orinda residents whose children went through Orinda schools, Evans was raised in Greenville, South Carolina, which she describes as a small town like Orinda that has

changed tremendously. According to VIE magazine, Greenville "has risen like a phoenix and emerged as one of the hottest and fastest growing small cities in America."

The candidates shared their goals for Orinda. Gee lists wildfire prevention, sustainable infrastructure, downtown revitalization and Plan Orinda, in addition to maintaining fiscal responsibility and supporting new city leadership staff.

Hoxie emphasizes Orinda traffic issues, which she has experienced first hand serving on the Lamorinda School Bus Transportation Authority and getting her own children to school. She is particularly concerned about the PG&E power poles, and suggests that "we need to collaborate with Moraga to meet with PG&E to underground the utilities along Moraga Way," noting that if a single pole fell down during an evacuation, it would block thousands of people from leaving. Hoxie would also like to see Orinda become more walkable, and would like more charging stations for electric vehicles.

Evans puts housing first on her list of priorities, and emphasizes the need for more affordable housing in the 6th cycle housing element. She stresses the need to educate every homeowner about community wildfire preparedness, and to focus on evacuation planning.

Evans believes that she "would bring a realistic perspective to moving Orinda forward. I embody the definition of equality that Orinda needs today. I have continually proven my ability to stand for equality throughout my personal and professional life. My priorities for Orinda mirror what every honest council member stands for: standing up for our youth, supporting every Orinda family, advocating for elderly grants and funds, pushing forward incentive for Orinda businesses, and ensuring every Orinda resident is heard."

Hoxie relies on her service to Orinda, saying, "I have served my community for the past eight years on the Orinda

Union School District Board of Trustees, and it is extremely important to me to continue giving back to the place I have called home my entire life."

Gee points to her extensive career in transportation and infrastructure "that gives me great insight into public works and infrastructure issues. I also have an MBA from UC Berkeley and over 30 years of professional managerial experience in the private sector with responsibility for hundreds of employees and major financial objectives. Professionally, I have a great deal of expertise which I have been able to bring to issues and needs at the city."

In addition, Gee is a member of the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Council and co-chair of the regional transportation committee. She is an alternate commissioner for Contra Costa Transportation Authority, and past president of the Women's Transportation Seminar, the Bay Area Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Orinda Junior Women's Club. Prior to joining the city council, Gee served for over five years on Orinda's Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission, including serving as chair.

Hoxie graduated from Cornell with a law degree and practices corporate transactional law in San Francisco. She also served on the Board of Directors of a large non-profit organization now called Choice in Aging. Before being elected to the school board, she served as president of the Educational Foundation of Orinda (now ONE Orinda) for three years. She is also a volunteer driver with Seniors Around Town.

Evans, who has lived in Orinda for over six years, holds a BA in creative directing and associates in holistic science. She is the Legislative Recorder for the City of Oakland. Evans says that she previously worked as the Head Creative Director for Sony, Paramount, and Festival Properties, and served as a Campaign Manager for CA State Senate District 35, among other responsibilities. She is also a member of the Soil and Health Forum. While on the Advisory Council on Aging she served as the Orinda representative, the treasurer, and the chair of planning.

Questions for the League of Women Voters forum may be submitted in advance by email to voter.services@lwvdc.org.

Candidate statements can be found on the City of Orinda's website, www.cityoforinda.org/383/Election-Information

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## Broadway bound? Orinda actor hopes to build on her success

By Sora O'Doherty



Arri Toshiko Glenn

Photo Sora O'Doherty

From Lamorinda Idol winner to Broadway star? Arri Toshiko Glenn hopes to follow in the footsteps of at least one other local idol who made her mark on the great white way. Currently, Glenn is starring in a production of "The Prom" at the Berkeley Playhouse.

"The Prom" is a play loosely based on an actual incident when a small town high school chose to cancel prom rather than allow a lesbian student to bring her girlfriend. In the play, four eccentric Broadway stars swoop into a small Indiana town to boost their careers by championing a high school student's right to bring her girlfriend to prom. The Berkeley production, in which Glenn plays the part of Emma Nolan, has received rave reviews from audiences and media.

Glenn's trip to the stage began when she moved from Berkeley to Orinda as a young girl.

Campolindo High School to study with popular choir director, Mark Roberts. Even before she got to high school, she performed in the ensemble of "Les Mis". When she got to high school, she was first cast in the ensemble of "West Side Story", and then played the wardrobe in "Beauty and the Beast" in her sophomore year. As a junior she starred as Morticia in "The Adams Family," and then in her senior year she was Carlotta in "Phantom of the Opera."

After high school Glenn studied at the Boston Conservatory of Music, majoring in musical theater. Covid caused her to take a gap year, because dancing in her living room didn't seem like the best alternative. So, Glenn went to Spain, where she enjoyed a year as an au pair, noting that the Covid regulations in Spain were extremely stringent.

Returning to Boston, she graduated from the Conservatory in May 2024, before returning to Orinda and landing the part in "The Prom." Glenn is also teaching at the Berkeley Playhouse and Musical Theatre Works in San Francisco.

Glenn plans to move to New York City in early December. She already has a number of friends there, and hopes to find a place to live in Brooklyn or Washington Heights. She and her girlfriend will experience a long distance relationship. Glenn acknowledges that being in a relationship with an

actor is hard, "you need to find someone who is understanding of late night rehearsals and weekend work."

Glenn is very enthusiastic about performing live theater, which she rates more highly than acting in movies. "Live on stage is a personal experience," she says. "You experience the people in front of you, who are experiencing it with you and each other. Every performance is a different experience," she adds.

The young actress is loving being in "The Prom". "The Prom" is very special," she explains, "the music is great: there isn't a single song I'm tired of." Glenn explains that when not performing she is trying to take care of herself, drinking lots of water and tea and resting her voice.

Steve Harwood, Lamorinda Idol Chair for many years, praised Glenn, saying, "I have always been and will be a lifetime fan of Arri. I love the emotion she expresses with every song she sings, and since she was a little elementary school singer, she has always been filled with joy."

The Prom opened at the Berkeley Playhouse on Sept. 6 and will run through Oct. 13. Tickets are available online at <https://tickets.berkeleyplayhouse.org/>



Photo provided

## Shooting death in Orinda being investigated as homicide

By Sora O'Doherty

On Thursday morning, Sept. 12, Orinda Police Department officers were dispatched to a report of a shooting in the area of Las Vegas Road and La Espiral Road.

According to the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office, which provides contractual police services to the City of Orinda, officers arrived on scene and found a gunshot victim. They immediately took life-saving measures. The fire department and an ambulance also responded to the location.

The victim was later

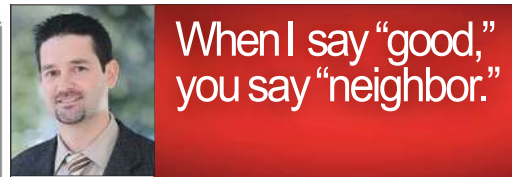
pronounced deceased at the scene. He was later identified as Scott Decker, a 50-years-old resident of Truckee and Orinda. The Sheriff's Office says that the other person involved in this case has been interviewed and is no longer being detained pending further investigation. That party to the altercation has not been identified to the public.

It has been confirmed that both parties involved are residents of Orinda. The Sheriff's Office has additionally said that the event was an

isolated incident and that there is no further risk to the public.

The crime lab and homicide detectives investigated at the scene, and the investigation is reportedly ongoing.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact the Investigation Division at (925) 313-2600 or through Sheriff's Office dispatch at (925) 646-2441. For any tips, email: [tips@so.cc-county.us](mailto:tips@so.cc-county.us) or call (866) 846-3592 to leave an anonymous voice message.



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Dr. Matthew Tamplen, who grew up in Lafayette and is a nationally recognized Double Board-Certified Facial Plastic surgeon, opened a private practice in Downtown Orinda to better serve Lamorinda patients. Specializing entirely in the face, Dr. Tamplen's expertise is nationally recognized for providing patients with beautiful, elegant, and natural results.

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# Letters to the editor

## Lafayette City Council race

Editor,  
Lafayette has an actual City Council election on Nov. 5. I state this because over the past 10 years, it has sometimes been the case that no competition existed for the seats. Also, we have witnessed frequent appointments over this period, stemming from resignations.

This year, we have a competitive election. That means the voter can consider voices that are independent of the long-established local hierarchy ... such voices bring different ideas, experience and perspective.

Why should a voter consider such voices? Consider where we find ourselves as a city. Our fiscal situation is challenging, if on a much smaller scale than that of our state, let alone the disaster that is the U.S. debt/deficit (neighbors: your federal taxes are going to have to go up).

Our City Council has spent over \$5.5 million in the past 15 years acquiring three properties. These properties sit empty, with virtually zero revenue being generated, and little current usefulness. This amount of money would cover almost three years of projected deficits.

And our city is a serial hirer of expensive consultants. For example, the consultant (\$100,000 paid) who urged the Council to push for a full 1% sales tax increase. The Council was set to vote on that, until one Councilperson expressed fear that it would lose at the ballot box. Why would the Council have debated approval of a tax increase that would have generated another \$5 million in revenue, when the "need" is \$2 million?

Your tax dollars are simply not respected, at almost any level of government in this country.

There are only two candidates on the ballot who fit the description of being independent, and outside the established hierarchy. Those two are Lauren Herpich and Mario DiPrisco. Please consider these individuals for your vote. They are both willing to work very hard for all residents of Lafayette. Bill Fraser  
2022 Co-Citizen of the Year  
Lafayette

## Lafayette City Council Election

As a member of the Lafayette Public Arts Committee, I have had the pleasure of working closely with former Mayor and current City Council member, Carl Anduri. He has demonstrated over the years, a deep understanding of our city's needs and challenges. He has been instrumental in building an inviting and vibrant downtown Lafayette. A proactive and thoughtful collaborator, he worked tirelessly to get the utility box wrap project and the city mural arts project off the ground. I have often watched him listen intently through an entire meeting and only at the end, gently reveal his depth of knowledge around systems, procedures and orderly compliance. His willingness to listen to the voices of concerned citizens have made a tangible difference in our community's quality of life. He has shown a genuine commitment to inclusivity by advocating for our marginalized families. A dedicated leader with integrity and passion, his years of experience and vision will be vital for our city's progress. Please re-elect City Council member, Carl Anduri. Yukie Fujimoto  
Lafayette

## Lafayette City Council Endorsements

Although I will not be running for re-election to the Lafayette City Council, I endorse the following individuals whose diverse expertise will combine into an effective governing body for our city:

Mayor Gina Dawson has been a strong and caring leader, constantly thinking about what is best for residents of Lafayette. Open-minded, thoughtful and collaborative, she has championed community safety and the financial sustainability of our city.

Carl Anduri is our most experienced legislator, serving three times as Mayor during 14 years on Council since 2002. A retired attorney, Councilmember Anduri has been a role model in his professionalism, preparation & ability to listen carefully and synthesize complex issues.

John McCormick owns a local music store, is past President of the Chamber of Commerce, and volunteers for several non-profits. Lafayette recognized him as one of our shining stars in 2022 as Businessperson of the Year. He brings strong analytical ability and a deep interest in Lafayette's history and

its future.

Jim Cervantes brings a 34-year career in helping California cities with their public financing programs. He has volunteered in city, county & statewide roles, most recently chairing our General Plan Advisory Committee to chart Lafayette's future. Wei-Tai Kwok (he/him)  
Lafayette

## Carl Anduri for City Council

Lafayette thrives on civic engagement, and Carl Anduri's dedication to our community has been exemplary. His continued leadership is vital for ensuring that Lafayette remains a supportive and inclusive city for all residents.

Carl has been a staunch advocate for programs and services that help older adults remain in their homes. His involvement in the task force that planned, secured approvals, and obtained financing for our most recent independent, affordable, senior housing is a testament to his commitment to enhancing the quality of life for our senior community. This initiative has provided a crucial housing option for seniors who wish to live in Lafayette, and many lives have been improved considerably as a result.

Carl played a key role in fostering collaboration between the City, Senior Services Commission, and Lamorinda Village, resulting in a partnership that has significantly bolstered the support network available to older residents. Bridging gaps and creating synergies between these organizations, Carl helped to ensure that Lafayette's seniors have access to a comprehensive range of services, from social activities to essential support resources.

Re-elect Carl Anduri for Lafayette City Council and support his ongoing efforts to make Lafayette a better place for everyone, especially our valued seniors. Suzy Pak  
Lafayette

## Re-elect Carl Anduri to Lafayette's City Council!

Four years ago I wrote, "As a former Planning Commissioner and City Councilperson, Carl has been a highly respected member of our community for years. In brief, he sets the standard for the ethics, attention, knowledge, and outlook required to be effective." At the time, none of us knew how difficult conditions would become.

Local government is paradoxically the most complex level of government. It has to comply with Federal and State laws while satisfying citizen requirements and demands in the most open and publicly accessible environment. Substantial changes in State zoning laws required a fundamental reversal in how our city has been planned and developed. Carl's leadership and experience in this highly pressured and controversial environment proved essential. Now it has to be implemented. Please see [www.anduriforlafayette.com/](http://www.anduriforlafayette.com/) Will Lovitt, former Lafayette Planning Commissioner and Chair  
Lafayette

## Elect Jim Cervantes to Lafayette City Council

Dear Editor,  
I urge Lafayette voters to elect Jim Cervantes to the Lafayette City Council for the open two-year term, this November. As Chair of the Planning Commission, I served as our liaison to the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) when Jim served as the GPAC's Vice-Chair and Chair. During those two years, he came consistently prepared for every meeting and was an active participant in the Committee's work. He was active in organizing outreach to the community during the GPAC's work on the Housing Element. As Chair, he led the group through an intense stretch of weekly meetings, always engaging respectfully with members of the public, City staff, and Committee members. He was an active listener and took an even-handed approach throughout our work.

Jim has decades of experience in municipal finance, but as importantly, an approach that is thoughtful, balanced, and open to all. I believe Jim can provide a valuable contribution to the work of the City Council.

Sincerely,  
Anna Radonich  
Vice Chair, Lafayette Planning Commission  
Lafayette

## Carl Anduri Endorsement

I support Carl Anduri for City Council because he has given Lafayette decades of calm, intelligent, visionary leadership. A few highlights of his many community service roles include ten years (2002-2012) and then another recent four years on City Council, twice as Mayor. He served for five years as Commissioner and twice Chair of the Planning Commission. His early service years include several crucial task forces...Open Space, Hillside, Environmental, and Senior Housing. His career as Partner in a leading SF law firm focused on national and international finance, a key knowledge base for managing our City's balanced budget. What an incredible background to lead our City.

In these times of change and sometimes tense conversations, Carl's skills as a careful and inclusive listener, and his steadfast focus on understanding diverse perspectives, careful study of the history and facts behind an issue have always grounded his decision making. After decades as a Lafayette resident, Carl's optimism about our community will provide a healthy foundation for the next decade. Yes on Carl!  
Kathy Merchant  
Orinda

## EBRPD board election Science Matters for EBRPD Lynda4parks

Our 75 beloved East Bay Regional Parks, including nearby Briones, Redwood, and new Pt. Molate, face big challenges. There are 1,500 acres of dead trees and water bodies too toxic for swimmers and animals. Excessive heat closed parks this year and last, endangering visitors and staff, as well as plant and animal life. Park fires endanger everyone. New urban lands like Pt. Molate come with contamination. Lynda Deschambault is an environmental scientist running for the Board of EBRPD in Ward 2, which includes much of Oakland, Orinda and Moraga. She has a deep commitment to and long involvement with our Parks. Lynda's experience includes land management, massive clean-ups and matters of policy, administration and equity. Environmental scientist Lynda will bring a necessary and unique perspective to governance of EBRPD. Knowledgeable public servant like Lynda will help guide EBRPD into its upcoming second century. Kirk E. Peterson  
Lynda4parks  
Oakland

## Vote Lauren McCabe Herpich for Lafayette City Council

We are writing to express our support for Lafayette City Council candidate Lauren McCabe Herpich. According to the US Census Bureau, children make up a quarter of the population of Lafayette. As a member of the Lafayette City Council and as someone with a family of her own, Lauren will serve as a voice for young families in

Lafayette. Having fully committed to Lafayette, Lauren understands the importance of making thoughtful, pragmatic, and fiscally responsible choices that will ensure a brighter future for Lafayette's younger generations (including those currently toddling their way around Brook Street Park, a park Lauren played an integral role in facilitating).

We've seen Lauren in action as a Cub Scout Den Leader for our children. She currently spearheads a popcorn sales program that teaches them public speaking skills, how to graciously accept rejection, and learn money management - all skills they will deploy in life. She also brought to fruition a yearly overnight camping experience at local science museums that continues to create lasting memories.

As evidenced by her extensive and successful civic engagement, Lauren is hard-working, sensible, and fair-minded. We hope you join us in voting for Lauren McCabe Herpich for Lafayette City Council. Megan Nemech, Lafayette  
Rahul Agrawal, Lafayette  
Tyler Heithoff, Lafayette  
Martina Heithoff, Lafayette  
Donya Ladunga, Lafayette  
Nick Ladunga, Lafayette

## Lafayette city council candidate endorsement

It is critically important to select political candidates who respect and adequately represent Lafayette as a growing, diverse community. We need elected officials who understand and embrace our diversity, ensuring that all community members feel safe, seen, heard, and valued.

As a queer, Jewish woman, I have deeply and painfully experienced anti-semitism and anti-LGBTQIA+ sentiment here in Lamorinda over the past year. Hate messages have been brandished on El Curtola overpass, cruel words about children displayed and shouted outside Lafayette Elementary School, and antisemitic flyers thrown onto residents' properties.

Lafayette's vision of being a "welcoming, inclusive, safe, family-friendly city", as the city's website states, requires that our City Council stands against these behaviors and acknowledges their harm.

After looking into each candidate, I am deeply concerned that one of them will not foster and uphold this vision. I encourage fellow residents to review school board and city council meeting records and decide which candidates will lead Lafayette as an inclusive and accepting community.

Based on my research, I am confident that Gina Dawson, Carl Anduri and John McCormick are the only four-year term candidates capable of this essential governance. I plan to cast my vote and re-elect them in November. Nikki Cowger  
Lafayette

... continued on Page 13

## Public Safety

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Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt  
925-299-3221  
Police Department Tip Line  
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Police Department Traffic Issues  
94549Traffic@gmail.com  
**Moraga Police Department:**  
329 Rheem Blvd., 925-888-7055  
Chief of Police, Jon King ext. 7049  
**Orinda Police Department:**  
22 Orinda Way 925-254-6820  
Chief of Police, Ryan Sullivan  
925-254-6820  
Orindatip@cityoforinda.org

**Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report Sept. 1 - Sept. 7**

Alarms	18
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	10
Traffic	78
Suspicious Circumstances	4
Suspicious Subject	10
Suspicious Vehicle	6
Service to Citizen	15
Patrol Req./Security Check	18
Public/School Assembly Check	2
Supplemental Report	11
Vacation House Check	26
Welfare Check	11
Ordinance Violation	1
<b>Vehicle violations</b>	
Auto Burglary	1
1000 Block Carol Ln.	
Dui Misd	
N Silverado Dr./St Marys Rd.	
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Moraga Rd.	
Reckless Driving	
Lucas Dr./Lucas Ct.	
Moraga Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Tc - Property Damage	
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3500 Block Moraga Blvd.	
<b>Other criminal activity</b>	
Fraud False Pretenses	
3900 Block N Peardale Dr.	
Identity Theft	
1400 Block Reliez Valley Rd.	

Petty Theft From Veh  
3400 Block Shangri La Rd.  
Shoplift  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (5)  
**Nuisance to the Community**  
Disturbance-domestic  
3300 Block Walnut Ln.  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Hampton Rd.  
3200 Block Woodview Dr.  
Disturbing The Peace  
3600 Block Boyer Cir.  
Drunk In Public  
Silverado Ct./N Silverado Dr.  
Loud Noise  
1000 Block 2Nd St.  
Reliez Valley Rd./My Rd.  
1800 Block Reliez Valley Rd.  
Loud Party  
3600 Block Bickerstaff St. (2)  
1400 Block Tichenor Ct.  
1200 Block Del Arroyo Ct.  
Public Nuisance  
900 Block Moraga Rd.  
El Curtola Blvd./Eb Sr 24  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
**Other**  
Harassment  
3300 Block Carlyle Terrace  
3900 Block Woodside Ct.  
Threats  
1200 Block Rose Ln.  
Trespass W/ Vehicle  
50 Block Lucas Ranch Rd.  
Unwanted Guest  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report Sept. 3 - Sept. 16**

Alarms	9
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	4
Traffic	59
Suspicious Circumstances	4
Suspicious Subject	3
Suspicious Vehicle	3
Service to Citizen	40
Patrol Req./Security Check	26
Public/School Assembly Check	5
Supplemental Report	11
Vacation House Check	0
Welfare Check	6
Ordinance Violation	3
<b>Vehicle violations</b>	
Dui Misd	
Canyon Club Brewery	
Moraga Rd./Canyon Rd.	
Excessive Speed	
Rheem Blvd./Sheldon	
Moraga Rd./Alta Mesa (2)	
Moraga Rd./Buckingham Dr.	
St Marys Rd./Moraga Rd.	
Moraga Way/Coral Dr.	
Moraga Rd./Woodford Dr.	

Via Barceolna / Rheem Blvd.  
Reckless Driving  
Alta Mesa Dr./Alta Mesa Ct.  
Freitas Dr./Dickenson Dr.  
St Marys College  
Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.  
Moraga Rd./Campolindo Dr.  
Tc - Property Damage  
Canyon Rd./Valle Vista Staging  
Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr.  
**Other criminal activity**  
Grand Theft  
1500 Block Canyon Rd.  
500 Block Moraga Rd.  
Identity Theft  
Police Department  
Panhandling  
Moraga Way/Moraga Rd.  
Petty Theft  
Police Department  
100 Block Miramonte Dr.  
Petty Theft From Veh  
Cvs (2)  
Rape  
500 Block Moraga Rd.  
Shoplift  
Safeway  
Warrant Arrest  
14300 Block San Pablo Ave, Spa  
**Nuisance to the Community**  
Disturbance-domestic  
Not Available  
Disturbing The Peace  
Moraga Commons Park  
300 Block Rheem Blvd.  
Loud Noise  
Hacienda  
Butterfield Pl./Tharp Dr.  
Loud Party  
1000 Block Camino Pablo  
Butterfield Pl./Tharp Dr.  
Not Available  
600 Block Moraga Rd.  
Public Nuisance  
McCaulous  
**Other**  
Assault W/ Deadly Weapon  
Eb Moraga/Moraga Rd.  
H&S/Poss Marijuana  
Rheem Elementary School  
Mentally Ill Commit  
St Marys College  
Revocation Of Probation  
Not Available  
Trespass  
1800 Block School St.



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

**Election Season SPECIAL POLICY: Letters to the Editor Letters related to a candidate running for office should be a maximum of 200 words so that we will have room to publish as many letters as possible. Letters regarding ballot measures will remain up to 350 words maximum. Deadline is now NOON on Thursday prior to the issue date.**  
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. Lamorinda Weekly reserves the right to refuse publishing a letter submission. Visit [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com) for submission guidelines. Email: [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com); Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, 1480 Moraga Road STE C #202, Moraga, CA 94556



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## Not to be missed

### Art

**Art Gallery at the Orinda Library:** Stories We Tell – Contemporary and Ancient. The Lamorinda Arts Council invites you to view original artwork that demonstrates the power of storytelling using symbols and metaphors through Nov. 1. The public is invited to a reception with light refreshments in honor of the exhibiting artists on Saturday Oct. 5 from 2 to 4 p.m. Visit <https://lamorindaarts.org/current-exhibits-library-gallery/> for more information or call (925) 359.9940.

**Call for Writers and Artists:** The Lamorinda Arts Council's Oct. 26 Art Embraces Words program invites writers and artists who are in sync with its Halloween Theme to apply to read and show their work. A short Q&A follows each presentation. Featured sci fi writer Marlene Dotterer kicks off the day. All are invited to appear as their favorite literary or artistic character to compete for prizes awarded by theater costume judges. A reception in the adjacent vine covered courtyard follows. Apply at <https://lamorindaarts.org/art-embraces-words>, email [literary@lamorindaarts.org](mailto:literary@lamorindaarts.org) or call (925) 359.9940 with questions.

**Las Juntas East Bay Artists Guild Fine Art** reception on Saturday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill. Bring your friends, enjoy refreshments, meet the artists, see a variety of art mediums. [www.eastbayartistsguild.org](http://www.eastbayartistsguild.org)

**Art show at Orinda Books** in Sept. features the paintings of Sussana Griswold and the woodturnings of Steve Griswold. Sussana's award-winning oil and pastel work focuses on portraits, both human and animal, which are her favorite subjects. For Steve,

wood has always been a source of wonder: "Within the ordinary trees we walk by every day, there are miracles waiting to be discovered, and through turning wood on a lathe, I try to reveal those miracles." For a preview, visit [www.orindabooks.com](http://www.orindabooks.com). Orinda Books is located at 276 Village Square, Orinda.

**Art Gallery at Wilder:** "Presence: Portraits of Seniors" in the Art Gallery at Wilder Oct. 6 through Nov. 1. Reception Oct. 6 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. The Lamorinda Arts Council invites you to meet featured artist Marianne McCraney at a reception in her honor. View her show entitled "Presence: Portraits of Seniors." Her expressive oil paintings reveal seniors doing things they love - reading, walking, working in a tool shed and visiting a friend. McCraney works mostly in oil and watercolors as well as drawings. To view more of her work visit <https://lamorindaarts.org/online-galleries/> or [www.mariannemccraney.com/](http://www.mariannemccraney.com/).

### Music

**Front Porch Music** Presents Stellar Local Talent at Town Hall Theatre, 3535 School Street, Lafayette. Friday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m., with lobby entertainment by folk troubadour Steve Smulian starting at 6 p.m. Six local acts will be featured during the Oct. 4 performance. TICKETS: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door [www.townhalltheatre.com/front-porch](http://www.townhalltheatre.com/front-porch)

### Theatre

**The Orinda Starlight** Village Players present: Sept. 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 & 28 at 8:30 p.m., Sept. 22 at 4 p.m. and Sept. 26 at 8 p.m. adults-\$20/seniors & children \$10 tickets available at the box office, Orinda Community Amphitheater, 28 Orinda Way- Orinda, (located behind the com-

munity center, in the park) [www.Orsvp.Org](http://www.Orsvp.Org)

**Bay Area Comics** is back with a bang, bringing an electrifying stand-up comedy show to the Lafayette Town Hall Theatre. Featuring: Jeremy Curry, Shea Suga, Jose Contreras, Xavier Bronson, and Trent Babb. Hosting this unforgettable night is the charismatic Ryan Rodriguez of Bay Area Comics. Friday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. Town Hall Theatre, 3535 Schhol St., Lafayette. [www.townhalltheatre.com](http://www.townhalltheatre.com)

**Town Hall Theatre Company & Cougar Comedy Collective** presents "Laugh Lines" on Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m.. Town Hall Theatre Co, 3535 School Street, Lafayette. Tickets: \$20 [www.townhalltheatre.com/laugh-lines](http://www.townhalltheatre.com/laugh-lines)

### Literature

**Join Gail Perry at Orinda Books** on Oct. 12 at 11 a.m. Gail has created "Walks of the World," a stunning guide to 25 inn-to-inn hikes in some of the world's most interesting places, including Hawaii's Kalalau Trail, Oregon's Rogue River Trail, the Laugevagr Trail in Iceland, and the Cinque Terre Coastal Walk in Italy. Gail has inspired many to walk their way into epic adventures or simply add steps to their everyday treks. Information at [www.orindabooks.com](http://www.orindabooks.com).

**Join Sasha Vasilyuk** in conversation with Lee Kravetz at Orinda Books on Oct. 1 at noon to discuss her new novel, "Your Presence is Mandatory." This is a riveting novel, based on real events, about a World War II veteran with a secret that could land him in the Gulag, and his family who are forced to live in the shadow of all he has not told them. Information at [www.orindabooks.com](http://www.orindabooks.com).

## Not to be missed

### Other

**The Art of Making Handmade Cards** with instructor Jennifer Gerst. Learn how easy and fun it is to make beautiful cards using papers, ink, stamps, and embellishments. Step-by-step instructions and all materials will be provided to complete 4 cards per class. Session 2: Winter Holidays -- create cards for birthdays, encouragement, and winter holidays Wednesday, Oct. 9 & 16, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Elderberry Room, Lafayette Community Center. Materials Fee: \$20 per session, payable to instructor. Minimum 4, maximum 10 attendees

**Healthier Eating with Good Nutrition Instructor:** Emma Bishopp in partnership with Lamorinda Village. Looking to eat healthier and still enjoy flavorful food? This class will cover the science behind the current wisdom on nutrition. Holistic Nutritional Consultant Emma Bishopp will share information on nutrition protocols to support health and wellness and some of her favorite healthy recipes to try at home. You must register ahead of time for this class and space is limited to 12 people. Thursday, Oct. 3 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cedar Room, Lafayette Community Center. Free

**What You Should Know About Osteoporosis** with Thomas Lang, Professor at UCSF School of Medicine. Come learn more about Osteoporosis--what it is, how it's diagnosed and treated, and what you can do to reduce your risk of fracture. Thomas Lang, a long time osteoporosis researcher, will speak to us about all that we need to know on this important topic. Tuesday, Oct. 29 from 11 a.m. to noon, Elderberry Room, Lafayette Community Center. Free

## Not to be missed

**Mocktails & Cocktails** Sunday Sept. 29, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Tutu's Lafayette. Join those who love art, literature, music and everything in between at Tutu's, 53 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette. Questions? Email [LamorindaArtsCouncil@lamorindaarts.org](mailto:LamorindaArtsCouncil@lamorindaarts.org) or call (925) 359.9940.

**Confused about the California ballot propositions?** Want to quickly learn about them in depth and through a nonpartisan lens? Every election cycle the League of Women Voters presents research-based Pros and Cons information about the propositions, as well as information about major funding sources supporting or opposing them. Sept. 30 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive, Pleasant Hill. More information and Eventbrite registration at [www.eventbrite.com/e/1003832117887](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/1003832117887)

**Saint Mary's College Guild Fellowship & Fun** Benefiting SMC Scholarship Fund. Saturday, Oct. 12, 5:30 p.m. No-Host Cocktails 6:30 p.m. Dinner: Appetizer, Caesar Salad, Pasta, Bread, Chicken, & dessert to follow. Soda Center, SMC Campus \$35 per person for dinner. [shooks1223@gmail.com](mailto:shooks1223@gmail.com) or Call (925) 285-9466

**The American Association of University Women - Orinda, Moraga, Lafayette branch** and the League of Women Voters Diablo Valley will be providing a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the 10 State ballot propositions, detailing the Pros and Cons, and defining the supporters and opponents of each. All invited: Tuesday, Oct. 15, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda.

**The Lafayette Juniors** Annual Rummage Sale returns on Oct. 5! Early bird admission will begin at 7 a.m. for \$20 with general admission from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Previously loved items for sale will include clothing, accessories, shoes, small furniture, household items, electronics, toys, sports gear, baby equipment, home decor, and so much more - all benefiting their 2024/2025 beneficiaries: Grateful Gatherings, All Ages Recreation Downtown, and Bay Area Psychotherapy Institute. Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church (49 Knox Drive, Lafayette). Visit [www.lafayettejuniors.org](http://www.lafayettejuniors.org) for more details.

**Between the Mountain and the Sky** screening Oct. 12, 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Lafayette Library's Don Tatzin Community Hall. Join international non-profit, BlinkNow for a special screening of "Between the Mountain and the Sky," the inspiring story of co-founders Maggie Doyne and Tope Malla's journey

to creating the organization which serves the women and children of Nepal. Admission: \$20. For more information: <https://blinknow.org/pages/film-events>

**Parade in Moraga** on Saturday, Sept. 28 at 10 a.m. - Bring your friends and family to Moraga's 50th Anniversary Parade. Marching bands, stilt walkers, music, and more! Full route is on the town website: [www.moraga.ca.us/](http://www.moraga.ca.us/). When the parade ends, walk on over to the Pear & Wine Festival at the Moraga Commons from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come enjoy all the festivities!

**Join Saint Mary's College** for their fall blood drive and help save lives with the American Red Cross! Eligible donors have a chance to help ensure cancer patients, accident and burn victims, those living with sickle cell disease, and many other patients in our area and across the nation have access to the blood products they need. Thursday, Oct. 3 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Location: The Soda Center. To schedule an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=STMARYS](http://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=STMARYS), download the Red Cross Blood Donor App or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

**Introducing the Lamorinda Chess Club!** Come play a few games at Europa Hofbrau on Oct. 19 from 3 to 5:30 p.m. All skill levels welcome! \$10 minimum food or beverage purchase.

**Fire Station 41 Open House** on Saturday, Oct. 5, 8 to 10:30 a.m. Fire Station 41, 1284 Moraga Way, Moraga. All proceeds benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

### Garden

**Lafayette Garden Club** monthly meeting begins on Oct. 10 at 9:30 a.m. Member Wendi Shively will give a talk on Verbenas: Something for Every Garden, and the program will feature a panel on Wildfire Prevention, Risk & Response in Our Communities. Panel members are Chief Lewis Broschard of Contra Costa County Fire Prevention District and Stephanie Bontemps, manager of FireWise Program in the Lafayette Glen neighborhood. They will discuss how neighborhoods can minimize wildfire risk, the response of county agencies to fire, and the necessity for each of us to prepare evacuation plans. Lafayette Veterans Memorial Center, 3780 Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. [www.lafayettegardenclub.com](http://www.lafayettegardenclub.com)

Please submit events to: [calendar@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:calendar@lamorindaweekly.com)

## Lamorinda's Religious Services

**Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
433 Moraga Way, Orinda, 254-3422  
[www.holyshepherd.org](http://www.holyshepherd.org)

ONLINE WORSHIP SCHEDULE  
Facebook Premiere Community Worship every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Go to [facebook.com/HSLCOrinda/](https://facebook.com/HSLCOrinda/)  
WORSHIP SCHEDULE In person worship at 9:30 a.m. Live stream on [facebook.com/HSLCOrinda/](https://facebook.com/HSLCOrinda/)  
Visit our website to access the current and recent sermons.



10 Irwin Way, Orinda | 925.254.4906 | [www.orindachurch.org](http://www.orindachurch.org)  
"No matter who you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

Sunday Service 10 am or join us online.  
Mondays 9:30 am Centering Prayer in the Chapel  
Wednesdays 10 am Contemplative Worship in the Chapel

**ORINDA CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**  
24 Orinda Way (next to the Library)-925-254-4212  
Sunday Services and Sunday School 10-11 am  
Informal Wednesday Meeting 7:30 - 8:30 pm  
All are welcome  
[www.christianscienceorinda.org](http://www.christianscienceorinda.org)

## Lamorinda Weekly

is an independent publication for the residents of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, CA. 24,000 printed copies; delivered to homes in Lamorinda.

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Belong | Transform | Engage  
Join us in person or online at 9:30 am!  
[mvpctoday.org](http://mvpctoday.org)  
10 Moraga Valley Lane, Moraga CA 94556

### St. Anselm's Episcopal Church

682 Michael Lane, Lafayette

Sundays at 10 a.m.

Serving Lamorinda since 1960

[www.stanselms.us](http://www.stanselms.us)



### Lafayette United Methodist Church

955 Moraga Road 925.284.4765 [thelumc.org](http://thelumc.org)

Sunday 10am in person worship

We are a church that strives to love as Jesus loves. Our congregation welcomes, includes, and affirms everyone on their journey of faith regardless of race, ethnicity, age, economic status, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation or gender identity.

# Pinto bean hummus

By Susie Iventosch



Photos Susie Iventosch

I am still on a hummus kick and this Pinto Bean Hummus is one of my new favorites! It's a creamy blend of pinto beans, tahini, cilantro, jalapeños, lime juice, and taco seasoning! It is a great side dish for tacos, enchiladas, or a fun dip for your next party. You can also use it as a base for a 7-Layer Dip!

This hummus is bold

and vibrant with the earthy flavor of pinto beans, combined with the fresh and zesty flavors of cilantro and jalapeño. The tahini adds a rich, nutty undertone, and the garlic and olive oil give it a smooth and savory depth. The taco seasoning infuses the hummus with a hint of smoky, spiced warmth. The result is a flavorful and delicious

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 tbsp. tahini
- 2 small garlic cloves, minced
- 1-2 tbsp. lime juice
- 1/2 small jalapeño, stem and seeds removed and finely diced
- 2 tbsp. cilantro leaves, minced
- 1 (19-oz.) can pinto beans, drained and rinsed (if you can only find a 15 oz. can, then just use one whole can and part of a second can.)
- 1-2 tbsp. cold water
- 1 tsp. taco seasoning blend
- 2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil

### DIRECTIONS

Place tahini, garlic, cilantro leaves, jalapeño, and 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice in the bowl of your food processor. Process until smooth and scrape down sides of bowl with a rubber spatula.

Add the taco seasoning and 1/3 of the beans and process until as smooth as possible. Add 1-2 tablespoons very cold water and continue processing until the mixture is very smooth. Add the remaining pinto beans in two batches, processing until smooth with each batch. Finally, add olive oil and blend.

Season to taste with more lime juice as desired. Garnish with cilantro leaves and a lime wedge and serve with your favorite tortilla or pita chips.

spread with a perfect balance of heat, tanginess, and richness. As with any hummus, feel free to add more seasoning, jalapeño, cilantro, or lime juice to suit your own tastes.

I love a smooth hummus, but it's not always

easy to achieve. Even after researching and studying the subject at length, it's still a bit baffling as to what exactly makes hummus creamy. Some say that you must first process the tahini all by itself, others say adding ice water makes it

creamy, while others say it's simply the brand of food processor you use, with Ninja and Vitamix being the top choices. I've tried all of these and still don't have the perfect answer. The best solution I have discovered is to add a tablespoon or two

of very cold water after processing the first one-third or so of beans. This allows the rest of the beans to process without becoming too lumpy.

If you have a great answer to this quandary, I would love to hear how you make your hummus extra-creamy!



Susie can be reached at [suziventosch@gmail.com](mailto:suziventosch@gmail.com). This recipe can be found on our website: [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com). If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977. Or visit <https://treksandbites.com>

# Lafayette Community Garden busy as a beehive at Harvest Festival

By Elaine Borden Chandler



Photo Elaine Borden Chandler

Marilyn Borchardt explaining how LCG grows long beans during the garden tour.

Down the road from the Lafayette Reservoir lies the Lafayette Community Garden and Outdoor Learning Center (LCG), a quiet, fenced garden that most Lamorinda residents drive by but have never entered.

But on the hot Sunday of September 8th, a sign on the gate proclaimed "Welcome to the Harvest Festival" and admitted a stream of new visitors.

First opened in 2012, the LCG is a cooperative vegetable garden, where members tend to crops that are then communally shared. Every year they have a Harvest Festival where they open their doors to visitors for a day of celebration and learning. This year's topic, The Joy of Bees, was inspired by the beehives that LCG keeps and the importance of bees in plant life.

Two tours were given around the gar-

den. The first was given by Marilyn Borchardt, dressed in lively green overalls, who explained the garden and its history as she was peppered with questions by the visitors — which included a group of Master Gardeners.

The tour wound through the raised beds of fruits and vegetables that the LHC is centered around, currently filled with tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, spinach, summer squash, and grapes. Borchardt described the variety of techniques used to grow the vegetables, including compost tea, watering schedules, mesh cages, and plastic borders to keep out vermin.

She led visitors past the chicken coop, Charlie's Shed where all tools are stored and in-house repairs are done, a central area filled with various booths for the festival, and into the back

area, where there is a Miwok village and a beehive area — all this while covering topics ranging from the origin of the garden's labyrinth to the right time to harvest acorns.

The tour ended at the Miwok Village, where Kristin Gaylord and Bruce Moen talked about the Miwok and Saklan people who have lived in the Lafayette area since time immemorial and how the Miwok village is used as an education tool for third grade students. "They get to crush acorns and turn them into powder and run water through them. They just love it all," said Moen.

No acorns were served at this Harvest Festival, but instead a table covered with food made by garden members — including four different kinds of brownies, coffee cake,

yuzu compote quick bread, three varieties of apple, sourdough bread with soft butter, melon, iced tea, and lemonade.

Two of the members, Lynn Jones, an LHC co-director, and Beth Caldwell, served food, recommended activities, and informed visitors that the beehives at LCG are maintained by the Mount Diablo Beekeeper Association (MDBA) and that MDBA had a table with honey tasting. The honeys ranged from Walnut Creek Spring to Moraga Late Season to Italian Chestnut.

After the second of three raffles, Jana Thomas gave a quick introduction speech on the history of LHC from when it was EBMUD's refuse heap to today. "One of the things that we really want to do is encourage community members to come visit us, treat us like a park," she said. "We continue to grow and change, but we would love to embrace everyone in the broader community."

Then Jamie Frankenfield and Peter Kritscher of the MDBA gave a talk on honeybees, discussing honeybee evolution, how honeybees came to America, their physiology, their eusociality, and how they have floral fidelity — they only visit one type of plant during a foraging trip — which makes them vital to crop productions.

"Folks, just look around," said Frankenfield. "There'll be bees in all directions, looking for something in that area. I love that stuff. I stay awake at night thinking about that stuff — it's so amazing."



Visitors of all ages learn about hens at the chicken coop.

Then Linda Mizes gave a talk on the native bees of California, explaining that there are 1600 species but most of them have not been studied because they pollinate native flowers and not industrialized crops. At this time of year, many of them have gone into holes for the winter because most native California flowers have stopped blooming. "In the fall when the rains come, be careful not to completely dig up all your garden. You might be digging up some of these holes," she reminded the audience.

After the talks, Cathy Pretti, a first-time visitor to the LCG, enthused, "I wish I brought a notebook, there was so much that I wanted to remember."

In addition to MDBA table and the native bee table, there were tables for the Master Gardeners giving advice on everything from dealing with aphids to root care, making folded paper

bees, and Recycle Smart. At the Recycle Smart table, Marian Woodard exhibited bin composting and vermiculture, or worm composting. She showed visitors how easily they could start a worm bin with a 10-gallon bucket, and many who stopped at her table left clutching pamphlets on worms.

As the end time of 2:00 approached, visitors made their last visits, took the free bouquets of dried flowers and lunaria, grabbed their last snacks, and wandered away.

The current visiting hours for the LCG are Tuesday 9-11, Thursday 9-12, and Saturday 9-12. These times change but are always posted on a sign on the garden's gate. LCG membership is full for 2024 but they are accepting applications for 2025. Applications can be found at their website <https://lafayetecommunitygarden.org/>.

# Letters to the editor ... continued

Carl Anduri for Lafayette City Council

Lafayette's Carl Anduri grew up in the San Joaquin Valley, attended Stanford, went to Yale Law School, taught school for a year and then...

Well then he married Sharon Woodnutt Anduri, a Lafayette resident who attended K-12 schools here. Nice move Carl! But he became even smarter after that—he moved to Lafayette with Sharon and they raised their two girls here.

Besides working at a San Francisco law firm, he decided to volunteer in town, including our Planning Commission and the City Council. Carl has a gift for understanding how our City works and is governed. He understands how California's Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) works with respect to projects brought before the City Council. Carl carefully studies both sides of an issue

whether it be a local permit application or something coming down from our State and helps guide it to a fair conclusion.

Over the past four years we have had several "matters" coming from the State regarding housing. Many of you have been gathering and studying the issues and presenting your results to the City Council. Carl has been a knowledgeable, important and constant figure on our City Council. We need to maintain our downtown and neighborhoods while complying with these new State mandates.

I have been a teacher and am a lawyer. Carl is someone I would have liked to have worked with in both areas. His performance on the Planning Commission and on the City Council have been a true gift to our City. Carl Anduri should continue to serve on the City

Council.

He definitely has my vote and I urge you to vote for Carl Anduri for City Council.

Sincerely,  
Susan Price Callister  
Lafayette

Orinda City Council

It's time for a fresh new perspective on the Orinda City Council and that is why I am supporting Candace Evans for City Council. As a long term volunteer in our community I appreciate the efforts of all the Council members but I feel it is time for a change and Candace is the dynamo that can do that. Candace has a long history of political activism and practical experience as she currently is Council Liaison in the Oakland City Clerk's Office. She is a dynamo from Generation X

and will be the first Afro-American and member of the LBGITQ Community to serve. Candace will be a strong advocate for seniors, recreational programs (including the creeks, Orinda Nature Area and development of a dog park), supports the MCE energy alternative, creating a more vibrant downtown, expansion of fire prevention and infrastructure under Measure R, and I guarantee you she will fight racism, discrimination and for social justice. If you are tired of the status quo and want someone who will give her all, I urge you to vote Candace Evans for City Council! Come to Candidate Night in Orinda on Oct. 7 and find out for yourself or visit <http://www.voteevans.net>.

Steven Danziger  
Orinda

# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## St. Mary's Rugby team's unique championship style

By Jon Kingdon



Erich Storti

Photos Rebecca Harper

There are a lot of ways to measure the success of a team – it's win-loss record, winning championships, and the post-season recognition of its players. This past season, St. Mary's touched all the bases - a national championship, an undefeated season, and just recently, the Gaels rugby team led the Professional Rugby three round draft with six players taken in a 36-player draft with only two other teams having three players drafted overall.

In the first round, the Gaels selected were Erich Storti (1), Kaipono Kayoshi (4) and Inoke Waqavesi (7). In the second round, it was Hunter Chuslansteff (19) and Jake Legrette (20), and in the third round, Lleyton Delzell (33).

Though established in 1888, it wasn't until 2013 that the team made it to the finals, and, in a total of seven trips to the finals, they have won the national championship in 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2024.

Since 2001, the one constant for the rugby team has been their head coach Tim O'Brien. O'Brien began playing rugby at the age of 17 and went on to great success as a player at California, winning two national championships in 1980 and 1981 and seven of nine men's D1 Titles with the Old Blues from 1979 to 1987 and he has brought that success to St. Mary's.

"When John Everett and I came to St. Mary's, they had a different mindset - they were competitive but lacked a drive to be their best in this 'rugby endeavor' which we embraced in college," O'Brien said. "Johnny and I were from a culture that was 100%

about winning championships. Starting out, we did things that were pretty up tempo, particularly playing with an 'attack what's in front of you' mentality and developing the skill set necessary to deliver an even more competitive team than we had when we arrived."

O'Brien and Everett were not ones to accept the status quo: "We are continually strived to evolve and improve, though evolution threatens many. I welcome change, possibly failing, changing more, and failing more – it's not a perfect science but you do a disservice to the game and the people involved by staying with the same old, same old."

The evolution process has continued with O'Brien's assistant coaches, three-time captain Andrew Cook and Mark Bass, who, with O'Brien, played in their first games together. They "strive to embrace the high performance and 'keeping the real and balanced' elements of the sport," O'Brien said.

For O'Brien and his team, that has been an ongoing process that has been revered and highly respected by both past and present players. When talking with O'Brien and his players, you hear terms that you wouldn't expect to hear connected with rugby - synergy, composure, relaxation, breathing periods, and problem solving, along with recognizing the history of the team and the players that helped make the program what it has become.

Ironically, with so many players selected in the rugby draft, O'Brien does virtually no recruiting. Kayoshi came

to St. Mary's knowing nothing about the rugby team. "My twin sister applied to St. Mary's, and I wanted to stick with her," he said. "I did play rugby in high school and just by luck I stepped into a great program with a great coach in Tim O'Brien though I had never heard of him before."

Ronnie McElligott (2023), was familiar with the team's record and reputation, but the program proved to be a revelation to him. "You don't know what goes on at St. Mary's until you arrive here," McElligott said. "Keeping yourself accountable and doing everything to the fullest are the biggest things for the team. If you don't meet those standards, you're just not going to make it, so everybody buys in really quickly and if they don't, they leave."

Storti was one of the few that knew exactly what to expect on his arrival at St. Mary's. "I was around rugby a lot since my dad was coaching at St. Mary's but at that time, it was mostly my brother and I wrestling in the soccer nets," Storti said.

It was in September 2013 when O'Brien connected with Bo Hansen, who medaled as a rower three times for Australia and went on to work within the sport and the business sector delivering leadership, management, and coach development.

"A lot of my evolution developed after reading a piece by Bo 'Achieving Synergy in Your Rowing Crew.' I hadn't finished the article before I called him looking to connect. That connection was a significant moment in time for me and SMC rugby. Over

the past eleven years 'evolving,' we have gone sideways but we have not gone backwards and have had overall great success since winning our first championship in 2014."

Relaxation technique was a foreign concept initially for the players but something that connected with them, on and off the field. "It was weird at first, but it was really good for getting the guys together, to be centered with each other," McElligott said. "We always did synchronized breathing before practice and it gave everybody a moment to relax before we started. Rugby is a chaotic sport so if you can find peace in the storm a lot of the time, it'll help you play better, allowing you to slow things down."

"We took those breathing techniques to heart, and it has shown in the results," Kayoshi said. "Whether we got scored on or before practices, it helps to calm our mind and sharpen our skills."

Storti carried this over away from the team. "I had a class where before it would start, we would do a realignment and reconnecting things, talking about why we would do that, and it was very similar to what we did on the field," Storti said. "In those chaotic moments on the field, it's a way to realign and reconnect through a breath. No one's talking and it's just a good moment for the team."

As in many things, O'Brien gives the players their space for "breathing time." The goal of breathing time is getting the team to relax and focus. "It's a time reserved for the athletes to find inner peace, strength and resolve without the coaches yelling at them," O'Brien said.

Synergy is an interaction or cooperation giving rise to a whole that is greater than the simple sum of its parts. O'Brien has made it clear to his players that this is a key aspect of the team's success and analogizes it to an eight-man rowing crew. "When one man is off beat, a domino effect can take place, leading to poor results. When you have synergy in rowing and rugby, everything seemingly falls into place and that's the beauty of the sport," O'Brien said.



Kaipono Kayoshi

It's clear that the players have adopted that belief as well. "It's not just knowing your own role but everyone's role, being able to pick up off each other," Kayoshi said. "Our teams just have a great chemistry, and we can tell if something or someone is off and we're able to fix it."

O'Brien focuses on accountability, responsibility, and each team striving to be equal or better than the previous year's squad. "Each journey is unique in and of itself," O'Brien said. "We are nowhere without the leadership and synergy of the players. The players manage the ship, the coaches plot the course, and together we navigate towards the ultimate goal."

The leaders know that if they feel a change needs to be made, O'Brien is there to listen: "After a disappointing game versus Central Washington, Junior Waqavesi grabbed me and said that we need to change the lineup and who would know better than the players. I want to listen to them and empower them to make those decisions."

Playing like you practice is easy to say but hard to pull off. "It did take some adjustment to get used to the velocity and dedication demanded of us," McElligott said. "Tim's not going to shortchange us, so he expects no less from his players. Getting used to his way of coaching, the commitment, and the culture of the veteran players was definitely a shock to me, and it took me a few months to get used to it."

O'Brien has also made it clear to the players that they are responsible for their own success. "I'm just the coordinator of the people and the process,"

O'Brien proclaims and Kaipono confirms it. "Coach O'Brien is really the good word coordinator, and he gives us the recipe and we tweak it to the players based on the ingredients we have and it's heaven on earth."

The commitment that O'Brien has for his players carries over away from the field. Storti (MBA), McElligott (MBA) and Kaipono (Communications) have all received their master's degrees. "Tim not only looks at us as players, but as people as well," Kayoshi said. "The game does not last forever so it's important to find something outside of rugby and be ready for that when that time comes, and getting a master's degree certainly helps that transition."

It's also crucial for the current players to understand what and who came before them by bringing generations of players together by having group outings like going to Yosemite Backcountry or taking ski trips together. "We share stories, and they're kind of similar, but different in their own way and having former players like Mike McCarthy and Kevin O'Connor, and others who have won multiple championships for St. Mary's, still giving back on these trips means a lot," Kayoshi said.

Storti echoes those sentiments. "There are legends in the club that you just hear about, and it gets passed down through the years. As freshmen, we looked up to the fifth years and they were like storied war heroes and as we got older, we saw the younger guys looking up to us so it's a cycle, and the names stick around and that really gives the heart and soul to our program."

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

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# St. Mary's first annual cross-country invitational

By Jon Kingdon



Runners at the St. Mary's Invitational

Photo provided

St. Mary's Head Coach Marty Kinsey and his assistant coach Marc Kaiser were looking for a way to showcase their cross-country program, and to market the college. They produced a way to kill two birds with one stone by having the first annual St. Mary's Cross Country Invitational on the campus.

"Marc and I thought that an event like this would be a great way to show off the school by getting the athletes, their family, and friends to come out for the event," Kinsey said. "The bigger picture was getting 750 kids to St. Mary's to compete, not all of whom are going to run in college, and they can see how

nice the campus is and would be a good way for St. Mary's to attract more students."

With the event at St. Mary's, the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) required that a college cannot solely host a cross-country race for CIF teams and had to partner with a high school. "It was then that

we reached out to Concord High School's cross-country coach Lynette Stanziano (whose daughter Rayna ran cross-country and runs track for St. Mary's)," Kinsey said. "Lynette did a great deal of work in organizing, getting in touch with coaches and helping to set up what proved to be quite the

spectacle, which brought about 1,500 people on to the campus for the event."

Kinsey had anticipated ten teams and running four races but ended up with 23 teams and five races comprised of frosh-soph boys, frosh-soph girls, varsity boys, and varsity girls. "With so many entries, we

added a fifth race for the overflow of frosh-soph boys and even that was a little crowded. None of the Lamorinda teams competed in the event. "Campolindo has a pretty strict schedule, but Miramonte and Acalanes are good candidates to compete in our future events," Kinsey said.

... continued on Page 16

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# Campolindo Interact Club holds bicycle fair

Submitted by Rich Render



On Saturday, Aug. 16, the Campolindo Interact Club held a Bicycle Fair at Camino Pablo School to celebrate the beginning of a new school year and the return of kids riding their bikes to school. The Fair included an obstacle course, a bike wash, bike decorating, and a maintenance and chain oiling event

for the young and old. Interact sold snacks and refreshments as a fundraiser, and there was a very appreciative turnout of Moraga parents and kids for this community service project.

The Fair was headed up by Interactors co-presidents Thea Stratford and Bhavana

Kasalanati, Treasurer Sean Hu, and Lion's Leo club member Maria Castillo. Moraga Rotarians Mary Sue Erickson and Rich Render joined in the festivities, and Lions Club member Andy Boggeri supported the event with buckets, supplies, and equipment.

Obstacle Course at Interact Bike Fair

Photo provided

# Creek project by OIS middle school Girl Scout troop

Submitted by Erika Rosenberg

Girl Scout troop 30573 completed their bronze award this past spring. The girls worked with Friends of the Orinda Creek to identify the plants along San Pablo Creek in Orinda. Each troop member picked a plant along the creek to learn about, which they then created an artwork of the plant and researched information about. The girls then created plant markers by pounding out metal

spoons to stick in the ground by various plants along the creek walkway, labeled with their drawings of the plants shrunken to fit on the spoons.

The final part of troop 30573's bronze award project was to create a permanent sign that provides details about all the plants along the San Pablo creek walk. The community can now walk along the creek and read about

the various plants they will see around them.

Throughout the process of working on this project, the Girl Scout troop was very fortunate to have Toris Jaeger as a guide. Toris offered many hours of her time to educate the troop about the plants along the creek, help the girls identify their plants when they put in their markers, and be a presence when the sign was hung.



Photo provided

# St. Mary's first annual cross-country invitational

... continued from Page 16

The race was two miles long and went along the St. Mary's rugby front fields, which parallel St Mary's Road and goes down a gravel hill into a fire trail, and

then on back to the fields. Thankfully, the weather cooperated with a cooler than usual day.

The bulk of the St. Mary's women's team and members of the men's team volunteered to help run the event and Hubert Higueros, one of

St. Mary's athletic trainers, was also present for any medical conditions that could have arisen.

"We provided water and snacks for the runners at the end of the race, and we had a concession tent that we hosted as far as snacks, Gatorade and

even t-shirts for sale," Kinsey said.

Kinsey made it a point to meet with all of the head coaches after the race to thank them, and asked for feedback to make the races even better for the second annual race. "In the end we

were really encouraged, and the feedback that we got was all constructive and definitely things that we can implement to make the event more smooth," Kinsey said. "We will groom the course a bit and may add a community race, saying

to Lamorinda: 'Bring your family and kids and we can have five and ten K races.'"

"I couldn't have hoped for a better first event," Kinsey concluded.

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# Lamorinda

# OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly

Volume 18

Issue 16

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024



Lamorinda Home Sales

... read on Page OH2

## *Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian*

### **Dear Deer!**

By Cynthia Brian



**Bucks in the orchard.**

Photos Cynthia Brian

*"We are part of the earth, and it is part of us... the deer, the horse, the great eagle: these are our brothers." – Chief Seattle.*

Now that fall has arrived, foraging deer have become a nuisance in suburban gardens. The Columbian Blacktail was abundant during the 18th century in California. The population plummeted after the Goldrush due to over-hunting for venison and rawhide. The Department of Fish and Game speculates that between 1900-1910, fewer than 300,000 deer of all species roamed the state. In 1907, deer hunting was regulated, resulting in deer residents soaring to over a million by the 1940s. The decline of the horned herbivores began when fire suppression increased, agricultural plots swelled, and wildlands became suburban developments. Yet, the dear deer acclimated to their new environment and today claim our gardens as their favorite restaurants.

As I've been busy with garden consultations this past month, the issue of deer damage continues to be a major concern. The hills are dry, edible resources have diminished, and the most inviting source of delectable treats grows in our private landscapes. Oh deer!

As a child, I remember going out into the orchards and vineyards on



**The deer love agapanthus but know that oleander is poisonous.**

our farm at dusk every September evening to scare the herds as they could easily devour a year's harvest. All the methods we tried didn't work until we built fences surrounding the property.

I have always admired these beautiful, gentle creatures, and I enjoy watching the big bucks in the hills, sometimes sparring. In the spring when the mothers show their fawns where the newly sprouted green weeds are growing, I am doubly delighted. As much as I enjoy these wild, peaceful prowlers, like all gardeners, I don't want them devouring my plants.

It is essential to be clear. There is NO DEER-PROOF plant. If the animal is hungry enough, it will eat anything. The only deer-proof garden is a fenced garden. In this article, I'll share a few strategies for you to attempt. However, I reiterate, that the only foolproof method is to fence your yard. Since most people don't fence their front gardens, I am including a list of plants that deer relish munching and a list of plants they prefer not to consume, although they'll eat the new, tender shoots of most. Keep this handy list as a reference as you plan to plant.

... continued on Page OH8

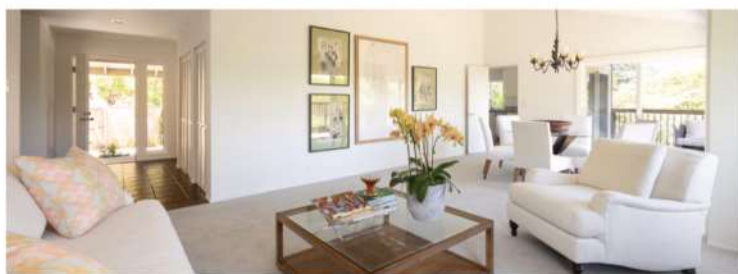
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MORAGA	12	\$679,000	\$3,200,000
ORINDA	12	\$875,000	\$2,500,000

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

- 914 Brown Avenue, \$685,500, 2 Bdrms, 1024 SqFt, 2022 YrBlt, 08-16-24
- 953 Carol Lane, \$1,750,000, 5 Bdrms, 2023 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 08-12-24,  
Previous Sale: \$253,000, 09-01-88
- 1850 Del Rio Drive, \$1,308,000, 4 Bdrms, 1757 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 08-13-24,  
Previous Sale: \$990,000, 06-01-16
- 411 Donegal Way, \$1,450,000, 3 Bdrms, 1548 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 08-23-24,  
Previous Sale: \$1,041,000, 03-12-24
- 3097 Hedaro Court, \$1,625,000, 4 Bdrms, 1955 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 08-21-24,  
Previous Sale: \$875,000, 09-10-13
- 617 Murray Lane, \$2,800,000, 5 Bdrms, 3399 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 08-12-24,  
Previous Sale: \$620,000, 09-01-89
- 23 Shreve Lane, \$1,202,000, 4 Bdrms, 2035 SqFt, 2013 YrBlt, 08-23-24
- 3110 Sweetbrier Circle, \$1,555,000, 3 Bdrms, 1429 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 08-19-24

### MORAGA

- 119 Ascot Court #2, \$679,000, 2 Bdrms, 1140 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 08-13-24,  
Previous Sale: \$520,000, 08-30-18
- 936 Augusta Drive, \$1,600,000, 3 Bdrms, 2470 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 08-12-24,  
Previous Sale: \$765,000, 03-15-12
- 251 Calle La Montana, \$1,900,000, 4 Bdrms, 2423 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 08-14-24
- 3911 Campolindo Drive, \$1,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 2337 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 08-12-24
- 320 Deerfield Drive, \$1,752,000, 4 Bdrms, 2588 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 08-15-24
- 411 Fernwood Drive, \$1,654,500, 4 Bdrms, 2019 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 08-16-24
- 17 Hammond Place, \$1,600,000, 3 Bdrms, 1580 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 08-12-24,  
Previous Sale: \$218,000, 02-01-88
- 3 Julianna Court, \$3,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 3983 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 08-15-24,  
Previous Sale: \$2,320,000, 06-20-17
- 176 Natalie Drive, \$1,700,000, 3 Bdrms, 1552 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 08-16-24,  
Previous Sale: \$850,000, 10-02-19
- 3 Peralta Court, \$1,845,000, 4 Bdrms, 2735 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 08-13-24,  
Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 03-25-13
- 1720 Saint Andrews Drive, \$1,310,000, 3 Bdrms, 2039 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-20-24
- 415 Stonefield Place, \$1,925,000, 4 Bdrms, 2187 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 08-19-24,  
Previous Sale: \$1,285,000, 06-24-13

### ORINDA

- 237 Glorietta Boulevard, \$2,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 3013 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 08-14-24,  
Previous Sale: \$2,450,000, 04-07-23
- 102 Glorietta Boulevard, \$1,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 1412 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 08-14-24,  
Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 06-10-24
- 6 Irving Lane, \$2,015,000, 3 Bdrms, 2592 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 08-12-24
- 6 Lloyd Lane, \$1,800,000, 3 Bdrms, 2049 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 08-23-24,  
Previous Sale: \$1,460,000, 10-09-19
- 14 Los Altos Road, \$875,000, 2 Bdrms, 1460 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 08-14-24
- 3 Los Conejos, \$1,820,000, 5 Bdrms, 2888 SqFt, 1940 YrBlt, 08-16-24,  
Previous Sale: \$1,340,000, 12-14-16
- 15 Miramonte Road, \$1,450,000, 3 Bdrms, 1736 SqFt, 1983 YrBlt, 08-19-24,  
Previous Sale: \$308,000, 08-01-87
- 43 Monte Vista Road, \$1,750,000, 3 Bdrms, 1845 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 08-13-24
- 27 Moraga Viax, \$2,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 2980 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 08-19-24,  
Previous Sale: \$2,020,000, 05-24-18
- 230 Moraga Way, \$1,750,000, 2 Bdrms, 2709 SqFt, 1946 YrBlt, 08-12-24
- 578 Tahos Road, \$2,368,000, 4 Bdrms, 2574 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 08-20-24,  
Previous Sale: \$1,860,000, 12-26-19
- 25 Via Floreado, \$1,400,000, 3 Bdrms, 1524 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 08-15-24,  
Previous Sale: \$1,100,000, 09-09-15



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## Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

### Dear Deer!

... continued from Page OH1

#### What plants are deer attracted to?

Deer enjoy sweet, soft, delicate plants that won't annoy their tongues or their sensitive palates.

If you want to offer deer a bountiful buffet, these are a few of the plants they gravitate to:

Agapanthus	Sunflower	Hollyhock	spinach, chard)
Pansies	Crocus	Morning glory	Beans
Daylilies	Gerbera	Blackberries	Cabbage
Hosta	Hydrangea	English ivy	Broccoli
Violas	Rhododendron	Grape vines	Beets
Violets	Azalea	Kiwi	Carrot tops
Dahlia	Hibiscus	Peas	Corn
Tulips	Clematis	Greens (lettuce,	



Deer do not like blanket flowers.



Rhododendrons are delicious desserts for horned herbivores.



Ornamental grasses do not appeal to the deer palate.

#### Deer-Resistant Species

In general, marauding stags and does stays away from strong-smelling, bitter-tasting, fuzzy, leathery, spiny, toxic, and fibrous foliage. They will eat these as a last resort because no flower or leaf is deer-proof. They innately know what plants are poisonous. If you want to deter deer from dining chez vous, try planting the selections below.

<b>Natives:</b>	Nasturtiums	Daphne
Yarrow	Kangaroo Paw	Lilac
Manzanita	Cosmos	Weigela
Sage (salvias)	Rudbeckia	Chinese Fringe flowers
Pot marigolds	Lantana	Barberry
California poppies	Gaillardia (Blanket flower)	Russian Sage
Milkweed	Camellia	Silky Dogwood
Ferns	Sweet Alyssum	<b>Vines:</b>
California Fuchsia	Dicentra (Bleeding Heart)	Passionflower
Deer Grass	Primrose	Pink Bower Vine
Pink flowering currant	<b>Bulbs:</b>	<b>Other Grasses:</b> (many grasses are not recommended due to being fire-prone)
Elderberry	Crocsmia	Lomandra grass
Blue-eyed grass	Wild leeks	Mexican Feather grass
California lilac (ceanothus)	Daffodils	Zebra grass
Grevillea (peaches and cream)	Iris	Fountain grass
Muhly grass	Allium	New Zealand flax
Jerusalem sage	Dutch iris	Egyptian Papyrus
<b>Other Perennial Plants:</b>	Crocus	Mondo grass
Bee Balm	Woodland hyacinth	Blue Oat grass
Lavender	Naked Ladies	
Catmint	Anemone	
Society Garlic	<b>Annuals:</b>	
Ornamental onion	Verbena	
Echinacea	Snapdragon	
Hardy Geranium	Marigold	
Pinks	Bachelor Buttons	
Astilbe	Calendula	
Red hot poker	Annual Vinca	
Peony	Lobelia	
Dusty Miller	Larkspur	
Lambs ear	Tobacco	
Hellebore	Stock	
Penstemon	Strawflower	
Digitalis (Foxglove)	Mexican Sunflower	
Sea Foam Statice	Zinnia	
Ferns	Nasturtium	
Coral Bells (Heuchera)	<b>Bushes:</b>	
Coreopsis (Tickseed)	Boxwood	
Russian Sage	Butterfly Bush	
Sea Holly	Viburnum	
Nigella	Deutzia	
	Rose of Sharon	



Strawflowers, known as paper daisies, are too rough and scratchy to entice deer diners.





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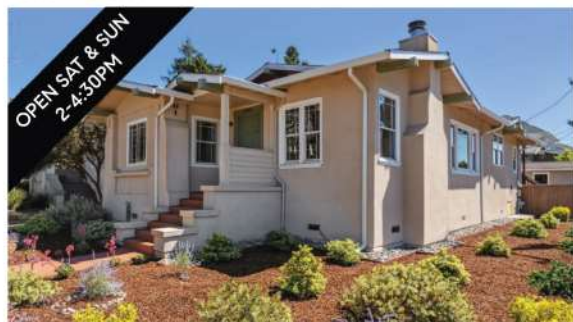


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Square footage, acreage, floor plan and other information herein, has been received from one or more of a variety of different sources. Such information has not been verified by HouseKeys, Inc. If important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation

### 2300 Ward Street

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4 BD | 2 BA | 1,426± SF | .01± AC  
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Wonderfully remodeled Craftsman home nestled in a coveted, central South Berkeley location. This 4BD/2BA/1,426 sq ft home offers a newly renovated kitchen, updated bathrooms, gleaming hardwood floors, and sun filled rooms. Flexible and open floorplan, living room with a fireplace, and a formal dining with a passthrough window to the kitchen. Ideally located near everything – Elmwood shops and restaurants, Cal campus, BART, Berkeley Bowl, Whole Foods, Alta Bates, and close to NOBE, Rockridge, and Temescal amenities. A perfect blend of classic style home with modern amenities sited in the heart of South Berkeley.

### 27 Edgemont Circle

WALNUT CREEK  
27Edgemont.com



4 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,195± SF | .34± AC  
Offered at \$1,795,000

Magical Mid Century with Mt Diablo Views



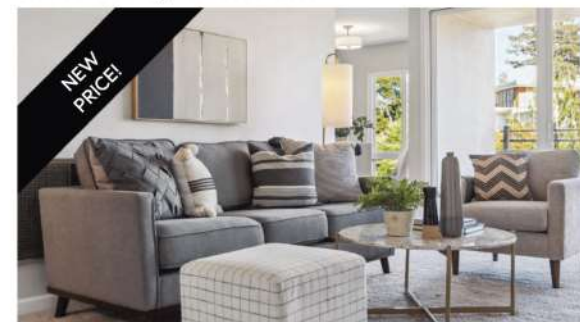
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### 5340 Broadway Terrace #408

OAKLAND  
5340BroadwayTerrace408.com



3 BD | 2 BA | 1,087± SF  
Offered at \$815,000

Amazing New Price! Stunning, Contemporary 3BD,2BA, and 1087±SF condo in an ideal Rockridge location. Open and versatile floor plan with stylishly updated kitchen and bathrooms, new dual paned windows, private balcony with views make this move in ready. Amazing location near College Avenue vibrant mix of restaurants, boutiques, coffee shops, markets, the Claremont Country Club, and close to Rockridge BART, and AC Transit/TransBay bus line. Your wonderful urban paradise awaits!

## Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

### Dear Deer!



Foxglove, AKA digitalis is toxic to deer.



The hellebores may protect the azalea in the forefront from dining deer.

... continued from Page OH8

#### Deer Deterrents

Many people have experimented with deer deterrents. Other than allowing your dogs to roam the perimeter, installing fencing around the area, or putting wire around every single plant, I have not found that any of these worked. Give any a try and let me know if you are successful.

1. Sprays that include rotten eggs, panther urine, garlic, and soap. If sprayed everywhere every few days, you might be in luck. Deer Away and Liquid Fence have been mentioned as effective when used according to directions.
2. Motion-activate sprinklers. They do work to scare the deer away, but I hate wasting a drop of water.
3. Whirly flags or spin wheels, but you'd need a dozen or more.
4. Shaved soap, usually Irish Spring. I think the herbivores loved the clean scent.

When the foraging pickings are slim, the deer adapt to whatever is available. In autumn, deer lack sustainable food resources. Our lush landscapes are extremely attractive to them. As you decide what to plant this season, select smartly and with the knowledge that no plant is deer-proof.

We are all part of this earth. Do your best to get along with our nature's brothers and sisters.

Dear deer!

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



Because of their waxy leaves and strong fragrance, tangerines and all citrus trees are deer-resistant.



Agaves deter deer, even in pots on sheds.

P.S. Come to the Parade at 10 a.m. and the Pear and Wine Festival from 11 a.m. To 4 p.m. on Sept. 28. Visit me at the 2024 Nonprofit of the Year's Be the Star You Are!® booth if you'd like to pick up free seeds and potpourri or buy autographed books.

[www.bethestaryouare.org/events-1/2024-pear-and-wine-festival](http://www.bethestaryouare.org/events-1/2024-pear-and-wine-festival)

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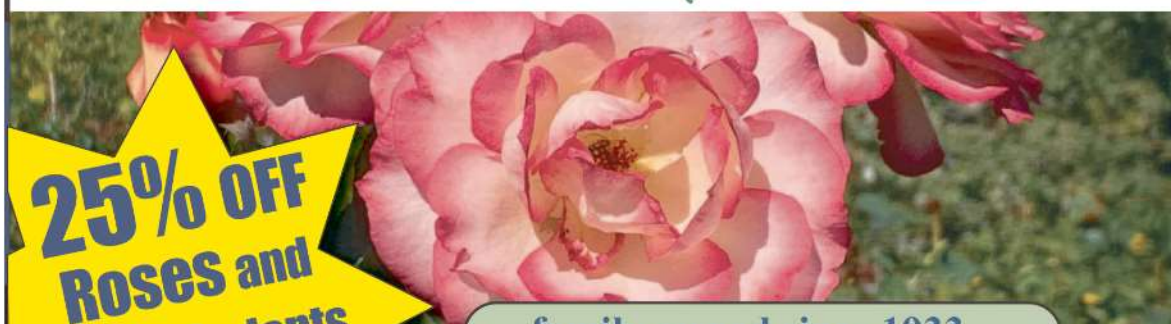
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Cynthia Brian in the autumn garden.

For more gardening advice for all seasons, check out Growing with the Goddess Gardener at <https://www.CynthiaBrian.com/books>. Raised in the vineyards of Napa County, Cynthia Brian 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 which was just honored as the 2024 Nonprofit of the Year by the Moraga Chamber of Commerce. Tune into Cynthia's StarStyle® Radio Broadcast at [www.StarStyleRadio.com](http://www.StarStyleRadio.com). Her newest children's picture book, Books in the Barnyard: Oh Deer!, from the series, Stella Bella's Barnyard Adventures is available at <https://www.CynthiaBrian.com/online-store>. Hire Cynthia for writing projects, garden consults, and inspirational lectures. [Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com](mailto:Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com) <https://www.CynthiaBrian.com>

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**60 Coachwood Terrace, Orinda**  
7 Bd | 5.5 Ba | 6602 Sqft | \$6,995,000

This secluded 7 bd/ 5.5 ba property offers views & a European vibe w/ close to town convenience & excellent schools!



**27 Orinda View Road, Orinda**  
5 Bd | 5.5 Ba | 5335 Sqft | \$5,150,000

This private 5 bd/ 5.5 ba retreat is above it all offering unobstructed sweeping views out nearly every window!



**291 Monte Vista Ridge Road, Orinda**  
5 Bd | 4.5 Ba | 5576 Sqft | \$4,250,000

This exquisite home combines luxury, comfort, quality, privacy, & convenience to SF & top tier Orinda schools.



**523 Miner Road, Orinda**  
5 Bd | 4 Ba | 3945 Sqft | \$3,750,000

Experience luxury living in this modern architecture masterpiece, designed by Bud Evenson & stylishly remodeled in 2015.



**24 La Campana Road, Orinda**  
4 Bd | 3 Ba | 3858 Sqft | \$3,495,000

In the heart of the OCC neighborhood, this custom 4 bd/ 3 ba home offers breathtaking views from the glass walled veranda!



**11 Idyll Court, Orinda**  
6+ Bd | 4.5 Ba | 4020 Sqft | \$2,795,000

Located at the end of a cul-de-sac on a generous .67 acre, this home enjoys over 4000 sqft of living w/ a pool & sports court!



**New Listing!**

**16 Honey Hill Road, Orinda**  
2 Bd | 2 Ba | 1960 Sqft | \$1,550,000

Orinda Mid Century, single story with walls of glass and concrete floors throughout!



**76 La Cuesta Road, Orinda**  
3 Bd | 2 Ba | 1762 Sqft | \$1,395,000

Va-Va-Views! This stylishly updated Orinda home is immersed in nature & a peaceful escape, yet right in town.



**New Price!**

**3930 Quail Ridge Road, Lafayette**  
4 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 3771 Sqft | \$2,958,000

Stylish retreat in Happy Valley hills w/ views from every room! 3771 sq ft, 4 bd + office, pool, wine room & greenhouse on 1+ acre!



**1087 Rahara Drive, Lafayette**  
3 Bd | 3 Ba | 2685 Sqft | \$2,595,000

This expansive 3 bd/ 3 ba home spans 2,685 sf on a generous 0.56-acre lot in the coveted Happy Valley neighborhood.



**New Listing!**

**650 Glorietta Blvd, Lafayette**  
3 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2265 Sqft | \$1,850,000

Serene & private setting w great yard & pool, at end of cul-de-sac in superb, close-in neighborhood. Happy Valley Elem!



**New Listing!**

**1760 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette**  
3 Bd | 3 Ba | 3055 Total Sqft | \$1,598,000

Charming Reliez Valley 3055 sq ft home, private location, 1st time on market in 25 years!



**655 Augusta Drive, Moraga**  
2 Bd | 3.5 Ba | 2352 Sqft | \$1,495,000

This lovely townhome situated in desirable MCC offers vaulted ceilings & French doors leading to a patio perfect for entertaining!



**1200 Leisure Lane Unit 4, Walnut Creek**  
2 Bd | 1 Ba | 1262 Sqft | \$450,000

Bright, charming 2 bd/ 1 ba condo conveniently nestled within the vibrant & serene community of Rossmoor.



**6915 Ridgewood Drive, Oakland**  
3 Bd | 2 Ba | 1464 Sqft | \$1,495,000

On a private lot, set within a verdant garden oasis, this Montclair gem offers modern luxury & tranquility!



**6681 Charing Cross Road, Oakland**  
3 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2199 Sqft | \$1,295,000

This sleek Hiller Highlands townhome seamlessly combines comfort & style w/ its functional split-level design.



**357 Tracy Way, Alamo**  
4 Bd + Office | 2.5 Ba | 3279 Sqft | \$1,995,000

A rare opportunity for country club living in this expansive home within walking distance of the prestigious Round Hill Country Club!



**New Price!**

**1167 Kaski Lane, Concord**  
4 Bd | 3.5 Ba | 2237 Sqft | \$1,189,000

Fall in love with this beautifully updated, 4 bd/ 3 ba, single-level home w/ an ideal layout!



**5722 Lewis Way, Concord**  
4 Bd | 2 Ba | 1919 Sqft | \$1,030,000

Situated in the Dana Farms neighborhood, this single level rancher has a great floor plan & wonderful indoor/outdoor flow!



**New Listing!**

**201 Hidden Creek Court, Martinez**  
3 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 1382 Sqft | \$640,000

Darling updated 3bd/2.5ba condo with private fenced-in patio close to commute & shopping!

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