

LAMORINDA



WEEKLY

Farmers' Market
At Orinda Village

OPENS SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST!

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From left, Moraga Mayor Teresa Onoda, District II Supervisor Candace Andersen, EBMUD Ward 3 Board Member Marguerite Young, EBMUD General Manager Alexander R. Coate, EBMUD Director of Water and Natural Resources Richard Sykes and Executive Director of the John Muir Land Trust Lynus Eukel honor the Carr Ranch preservation. Photo Andy Schreck

EBMUD Celebrates Carr Ranch watershed acquisition

With a backdrop of rolling green hills, local dignitaries, EBMUD officials and representatives of the John Muir Land Trust officially celebrated the preservation of Carr Ranch, the large expanse of land just beyond Rancho Laguna Park.

The 604 acres owned by the Carr Ranch for 103 years is not just going to be used for pristine hikes, but as a valuable watershed for Lamorinda residents. "Delivering high quality drinking water to our customers relies on EBMUD's commitment carefully managing our watershed lands," said Richard Sykes, director of Natural Resources

for EBMUD. He said his staff worked for more than eight years to create a first-ever conservation bank on EBMUD land in Pinole, which provided the funding to purchase the Carr Ranch land. He thanked the John Muir Land Trust for the "historic solution" that permanently preserves a total of 1,000 acres of watershed land.

With the Orinda water plant currently shut down for maintenance, much of Lamorinda's drinking water is coming from that watershed.

Acquiring Carr Ranch in June was a huge accomplishment for the JMLT. For almost 100 years, the 600 acres of

rolling hills and spectacular views on unincorporated land at the southern border of Moraga, including grazing land, ponds, creeks and woods and views that extend to the San Francisco Bay, has been managed by the Carr family. After years of discussion, the family made the decision to enter into a contractual relationship with the JMLT, a non-profit organization that manages expanses of open space in perpetuity throughout Contra Costa County.

The preserve should be open to the public next fall. —Peggy Spear

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Brazilian beach volleyball comes to Moraga Commons

By John T. Miller



Josie Cole Photo John T. Miller

A large dose of Rio de Janeiro arrived in the Lamorinda area recently when Fabio Ribeiro moved here to establish a Brazilian beach volleyball club. The club is called Carioca, which literally translates to "born in Rio."

"It's appropriate," he says, "since Rio hosted the first six beach championship main events back in the 80s." Ribeiro was also born in Rio, and grew up playing on the beaches there.

Although volleyball was his first love, the lanky 6-foot, 9-inch three-sport athlete — he also played basketball and swam — took a detour in order to be able to come to the United States.

"There was very little college opportunity for volleyball back then, so I accepted a scholarship to play basketball at the University of Hawaii," said Ribeiro. "I then played 10 years of pro ball in Europe." ... continued on page A14

LAC honors young local artists

By Kara Navolio



Happy winners at the 14th annual High School Visual Arts Competition: Henry Braff (Bentley Upper School), Nicole Edwards (Acalanes), Charlotte Ensley (Acalanes), April Lindblad (Campolindo), Zoe Venable (Miramonte). Photo Kara Navolio

The energy and excitement was palpable as close to 300 student artists and their families awaited the announcement of this year's winners of the High School Visual Arts Competition hosted by the Lamorinda Arts Council.

The event, on March 8, was the 14th annual

celebration of local young artists from eight area high schools, including the four high schools in the Acalanes Union High School District and four private schools in the Lamorinda community. ... continued on page A12

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Fire Districts **A8**

Lafayette to lose respected ConFire voice – page A8.

Budd Mackenzie urges people to "Get off the Couch" – page B1.



Campo girls are headed to State finals – page C2.



Colorful trees are blooming throughout Lamorinda – page D1.

