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Campolindo's Adam Mancebo (#14) makes a nice reverse lay-up during the win against the Mats on Tuesday, January 12.



The hero of the night, Liza Kats (#10) of Miramonte, pushes her way to the basket giving Miramonte the game winning lay-up as they beat rival Campolindo 83-81.



Spencer McDonald (#2) of Miramonte stretches out for a rebound along with Campolindo's Garrett Franklin (#45). Photos Jordan Fong

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Boys: Campolindo Defeats Miramonte

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Girls: Miramonte Defeats Campolindo in Third Overtime

DFAL competition heats up

By Conrad Basset

At the beginning of the year for the Diablo Foothill Athletic League girls' basketball season it was predicted that any of five outstanding teams could win the league. After the first two weeks of the regular sea-

son, it is proving to be just that.

The three Lamorinda teams came into the DFAL season with a combined record of 29-8 and, coupled with Dublin (11-2) and Dougherty Valley (11-1), the

stage was set for each game between these teams to be a battle.

Campolindo blasted Las Lomas 91-32 in their opener before falling to Dublin 65-41 on the road.

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F.A.I.R. Proposes to Dissolve MOFD and Contract with ConFire

By Andrea A. Firth

Almost 150 people packed the Orinda Library Auditorium at the January 5th Orinda City Council meeting to hear a presentation by the citizen group Fire and Infrastructure Renewal (FAIR) that proposes to dissolve the Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) and contract with the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (ConFire) and American Medical Response (AMR) for the City's fire and emergency medical services. The contractual arrangement would save \$65 million over the next 12 years that could be reallocated to fund Orinda's infrastructure needs, according to FAIR.

Representatives from all three agencies in the fire/emergency service triangle [Orinda-Moraga-MOFD] were on hand to hear the hour-long presentation by FAIR lead-

ers Al Resnick and Art Haigh. These attendees included the five Board of Directors of the MOFD, Fire Chief Randy Bradley along with several uniformed firefighters; and Moraga's Mayor Ken Chew, Councilmember Mike Metcalf, and Town Manager Mike Segrest.

"We are here to propose a better model for the delivery of fire and EMS. It's better because it costs less, leaving funds to address other infrastructure needs," stated Resnick, a 33-year resident of Orinda. "We also need to address the cost inequity between Orinda and Moraga. The money saved will be used to improve the safety of the city," he stated, adding that FAIR members want the MOFD tax reallocation investigated before the City proposes any new taxes. ...continued on page 6

AUHSD Faces \$4 Million in Education Cuts and Teacher Layoffs

By Andrea A. Firth

"It's just a bleak picture," stated Chris Learned, Associate Superintendent of the Acalanes Union High School District (AUHSD) in the budget update presented to the Governing Board on January 13th. Based on the Governor's proposed budget, AUHSD will receive \$ 4 million less in revenue from the State in the next school year (2010-2011). This revenue loss, which has ballooned upward from the \$2.6 million deficit that the District had previously projected, could translate to laying off as many as 50 teachers and other staff.

Noting that notification for dismissal of teaching staff must be done by March 15th, AUHSD Superintendent John Stockton reviewed a draft list of staff cuts which would result in increased core class sizes, reduced elective choices and advanced placement classes, a skeleton counseling staff, and one librarian for the four traditional high schools. The District is also considering the closure of Del Oro High School, an alternative education program located in Walnut Creek.

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Botanical Art Discovery



By Sophie Braccini

Sometimes the stars align and things just happen the way they were meant to be. Catherine Waters, a botanical painter from Orinda, was looking for a venue at which the Northern California Society of Botanical Artists could hold an exhibition. At the same time Paul Licht, Director of the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden, was looking for a way to bring botanical art to the Garden.

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Crab Catch!



By Susie Iventosch

Many of you may recognize Bruno Bartolini, one of the many helpful faces behind the seafood counter at Diablo Foods in Lafayette. Though semi-retired, Bartolini is just as often at work, helping customers and teaching them the ins and outs of the seafood industry. In the business for 40 years, he...

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