925-377-0977 Wednesday, December 8, 2010 read it online: www.lamorindaweekly.com Photo Doug Kohen

# State Champions!

Quote of the Week:

**Town News** 

Latters to the Editor

"Thomas Jefferson later claimed he could not possibly have maintained his estate at Monticello, with all its deciduous trees, had he not been the beneficiary of Ben Franklin's redesigned leaf blower." Read Letters to the Editor, page A&

A2 - A7

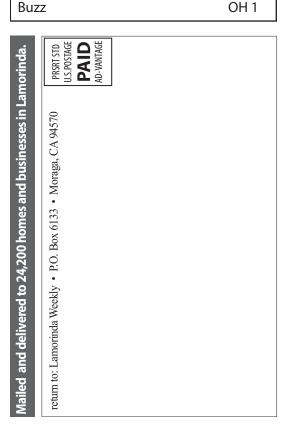
H4

L7

Letters to the Editor	Aδ
Business	A9 - A10
Not to be Missed	H2
Life in Lamorinda	L1-L5
Service Directory	L2
Classified	L3
Dining	L4
Sports	L6-L8
Schools	L9
HOW TO CONTACT US	L9
Love Lafayette	L10
Our Homes	OH1-8
This Week Read About:	
Path Possible?	A3
Town Energy Savings	A4
Senior Housing	A7
Diablo Foods Tree Unlit	L3
A Home for Christmas	H1

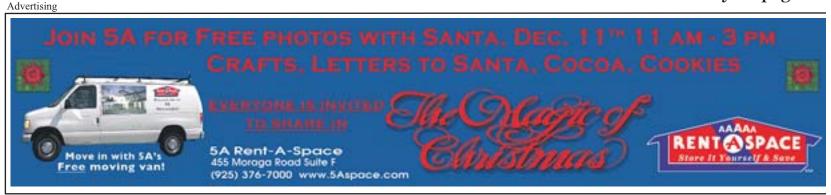
A Glowing Tradition in Moraga

Gaels Tough Road Trip



# Campolindo Volleyball Takes the Title

Read the full story on page L8



#### Fire Chief Warns of Possible Fire **Station Closures**

By Cathy Tyson



Station 16, at risk of closure

ithout a parcel tax next year, up to eight fire stations could close said Fire Chief Daryl Louder at a recent Board of Supervisors workshop, due to a projected \$12 million budget shortfall for fiscal year 2010/2011.

Calling a parcel tax "crucial to the survival of the District," Louder explained the dire financial straights of the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

... continued on page A3

Photo Cathy Tyson

### The Caldecott Tunnel—History in the Making

(CCCFPD).



By Andrea A. Firth Tunnel building technology has changed

significantly since a group of merchants from Oakland pooled their resources to fund the first hand-dug passageway through the hills over 100 years ago. What hasn't changed is how long it takes to tunnel through the dirt and bedrock between Orinda on the east side and Oakland on the west.

... read on page L1

## Going, Going...Sold

By Andrea A. Firth

rinda recently acquired two sculptures that have been on loan to the City for the past few years: Gale Wagner's Outta Here, more commonly know as the frog that jumps over the Library fountain, and Springtime, a columnar sculpture located in front of the Community Center on the right as you enter.

"This has been possible through a wonderful partnership between the City and the APPC [Art in Public Places Committee]," said Ted Urban, Chair of the APPC, at Monday's City Council meeting. The Council voted unanimously to purchase the two sculptures, which had a combined price tag of \$46,000, with a combination of Park Dedication funds and private donations.

Park Dedication fees are assessed on commercial and residential development projects, and the funds may only be used for the creation and improvement of park and recreation facilities in the city, explained Parks and Recreation Director Todd Skinner. The Council set aside \$20,000 over the past two years for the procurement of public art, and the APPC set to work to solicit matching funds.

"There is enthusiastic support for the Art in Public Places program," said Urban, reporting that the Committee was able to exceed the matching fund goal to raise a total of \$26,000 to make the purchases possible.

... continued on page A6

#### **Sneetches Spotted in Orinda**



#### By Lou Fancher

Liz Piatt's Orinda home is being overrun by Dr. Seuss characters and she isn't going to take it anymore. Instead, she's sending The Cat in the Hat, a pair of Six-foot Sneetches, Horton the Elephant, Thing One and Thing Two, and more than 50 other soft, hand-sewn sculptures she created to Orinda Books.

... read on page H1