

# Lamorinda OUR HOMES

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Home Sales and Foreclosures

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## All in the Family: Second Generation Homeowners

By Cathy Dausman



*The Jacobsen family in their living room*

*Photo provided*

Local realtors tout quality of life in Lamorinda, and residents tend to stay put. Some have even moved into the house

their parents originally owned. They are proud Second Generation Homeowners.

Bill Leone is one example. His

parents bought a single story rancher in Lafayette in 1965. Leone marveled at the home's "high" price (\$46,000) because it had a pool. After 20 years

in a two-story Walnut Creek home, Leone and his wife were ready to downsize. "I started thinking about stairs," he says. His family had rented out the Lafayette home after his father's death, but it suffered water damage and needed remodeling. "Let's not rent," said Leone to his wife, "let's remodel and move in." Their children supported them, and Leone was ready to take on a project (he's doing some of the work himself). Renovations include a new master bedroom wing, new bathrooms and a new kitchen. He wants to make the house "as green as possible," and make it his own. There are even future plans for a wood shop. Leone admits it was "weird, at first, to move into my mom's house." But he loves the fact that it is single story, and close to schools and the Lafayette-Moraga bike trail. He brags playfully that he can even have an extra beer when dining out because he can walk home. The couple expects to move in by Christmas.

As Miramonte classmates, Susan and Keith Jacobsen are longtime Orinda residents. Keith's grandfather built his home even before Susan's parents built their home in 1948. Susan's mother, Anne, grew up on Oahu and designed the living room bay windows "to bring the outside in."

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