

Transitional Kindergarten on Hold

By Andrea A. Firth

Lamorinda have placed their plans for transitional kindergarten on hold following the release of funding for the program.

ness Act pushes the entry age for kindergarten, currently age five by December 2nd, back requiring youngest students an extra kinder-

Dublic school districts across dents must turn five by November in the fall. 1st to be eligible for kindergarten. A change lauded by educators.

The Act also includes a provi-Governor Jerry Brown's prelimi- sion for grade schools to provide final status of transitional kindernary budget, which proposes to cut kindergarteners whose birthdays fall in September, October, and The 2010 Kindergarten Readi- November with the option to attend "transitional kindergarten." This new grade level would give these children to turn five by September garten year. And, the grade school 1st. The new age requirements will districts in Lafayette, Moraga, be phased in over three years. For and Orinda had plans to offer the 2012-2013 school year, stu- transitional kindergarten starting

Dr. Fred Brill, Superintendent of the Lafayette School District, says he is not 100% sure what the garten is for the next school year. Communication about the program from different education resources has been vague and conflicting, says Brill. "It's extraordinarily frustrating, because I want to keep parents informed, especially the parents with incoming student who have November birthdays," he says. The Lafayette School District

planned to collect the names of students who age-qualify and are interested in attending transitional kindergarten during their registration in late January, but for now the program is on hold.

School District website, registration and planning for transitional kindergarten will not take place until state funding for the program is reinstated.

The Moraga School District, likewise, will not offer the un-mandated program. However, Courtney

Guinn, the Director of Educational Services and Instructional Technology for the Moraga School District, says the district will "pre-register" children for transitional kindergarten at the district's According to the Orinda Union upcoming February registration should the program's status change. Moraga School District will also hold a kindergarten informational meeting on February 2nd starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Joaquin Moraga Middle School Auditorium to further inform parents about these changes.

2012-2013 Kindergarten Registration

Lamorinda's public elementary schools will soon be registering next fall's Kindergarteners. To be eligible for Kindergarten, a child must have been born on or before November 1, 2007. You should register your Kindergartener at the school he or she will attend in the 2012-2013 school year.

Lafayette

Registration was held at the Lafayette School District's four elementary schools in January. For information on late registration, go to the district's website at: www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Moraga

Families new to the Moraga School District are invited to attend a Kindergarten Information meeting on February 2, 2012 at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium, 7:00-7:45 p.m.

Registration will take place at the Moraga School District's three elementary schools in February.

Thursday, February 9, and

Friday, February 10, 2012, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Los Perales Elementary, 22 Wakefield Drive (631-0105)

Donald Rheem Elementary, 90 Laird Drive (376-4441)

Camino Pablo Elementary, 1111 Camino Pablo (376-4435)

For more information about kindergarten registration, please go to the district's website at www.moraga.k12.ca.us.

Orinda

Registration will take place at the Orinda Union School District's four elementary schools in February.

February 6, 7, 8, 9 (Monday thru Thursday), 2012, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Del Rey Elementary, 25 El Camino Moraga (258-3099) Glorietta Elementary, 15 Martha Road (254-8770) Sleepy Hollow Elementary, 20 Washington Lane (254-8711) Wagner Ranch Elementary, 350 Camino Pablo (258-0016)

THE APP RAP

By Eric Pawlakos

Map My Run Developer: Map My Fitness For: iPhones and Androids

ing in California is the weather. maining for your daily intake. With our mild climate we have the opportunity to spend ample time outside. With "excerising more" at the top of many people's New Year's resolution list, I've discovered a fantastic app that will not only help you enjoy the outdoors, but assist you in getting fit.

Map My Run by Map My Fitness is an easy-to-use app with a wide array of options. After downloading the app and picking a user name, you can immediately begin recording your daily workout via GPS, enabling you to track running pace, speed, calories burned and your exact route. A neat feature is the route map displaying the elevation, which can really vary in the Lamorinda area.

One of the fun options is the ability to add friends to your app. It is like Fitness also offers, MapMyRide, having the support and input from a MapMyWalk, MapMyHike, and virtual running group. This mega fit- MapMyTri. ness app also offers a nutrition tap with a calorie budget. If your goal is ramonte High School and on-air reto lose weight you simply record your porter for the teen radio program, daily intake and Map My Fitness lets Express Yourself!TM

ne of the great things about liv- you know what calories you have re-

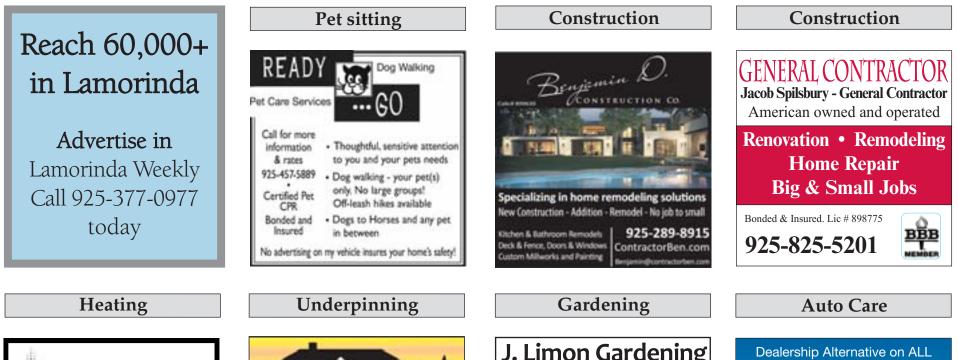
Map My Run also suggests predetermined runs mapped by other users. For instance in the Lamorinda area there are twenty-two pre-mapped runs in Orinda and Lafayette that range in distance from 3.4 miles to 10.6 miles. The routes are uploaded by local residents including routes in Sleepy Hollow, Orinda Downs, and the Lafayette Reservoir. The Lafayette/Moraga area has an enormous variety to choose from offering 208 uploaded maps with distances of three miles to a whopping 68 miles. If you are looking for a challenging run, an ascent feature is your guide.

Map My Run is a fun and easy app that motivates the user to get outside and get active. Just in case running is not your thing, Map My

For more information go to the district's website at www.orindaschools.org.

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