

Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 08 Issue 5 Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Juniors Kitchen Tour Features Six Spectacular Kitchens

By Catherine Kauder



A built-in niche made of glass mosaic tile above kitchen designer Leilah Douglass's stove is both beautiful and practical.

Photos Andy Scheck

An eclectic mix of beautifully designed kitchens will be on the Lafayette Juniors' 15th annual Kitchen Tour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 17. This year's tour features six special kitchens ranging in style from rustic, traditional, ranch, Cape Cod and farmhouse.

One of the stops on the tour is the Happy Valley home of kitchen designer Leila Douglass. When Douglass and her husband Doug Scougale bought the property two and a half years ago, they fell in love with the land but were not as enamored of the existing small home built in 1957. So the couple



Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for May ...read on page D15

took the home apart piece by piece and recycled all of the materials to be used elsewhere. Meanwhile, Douglass got her contractor's license and spent over two years building her dream house.

Although she has been creating kitchens for clients for years, when it came to designing her own, Douglass had to decide how to merge her more transitional style with her husband's love of antiques.

... continued on page D6



The stone and copper hood serves as the focal point for Douglass's kitchen.



VLATKA BATHGATE



IF I HAD A BUYER FOR YOUR HOME WOULD YOU SELL IT?

Call me at 925 597 1573

Vlatka@BestLamorindaHomes.com

CalBRE#01390784



Orinda Downtown Location

COMING SOON!



4 bed/3baths home with approx. 2373 sqft with views of Orinda Theatre.
Price upon Request

127 Jervis Bay, Alameda

FOR SALE



Luxurious Lagoon Living, 3bd, 2.5 baths, 1972 sqft approx. of living space
Offered at \$829,000

588 Dalewood Dr, Orinda

FOR SALE



Romantic Retreat in Orinda Downs, 4bed/3.5 baths, 3545 sqft approx. of living space
Offered at \$1,749,000

FOR SALE

1234 Morning Glory, Concord



Turtle Creek Finest, 4 bed/2.5 baths, 2300 sqft approx.
Offered at \$600,000

SALE PENDING

10 Laird Dr, Moraga



Charming Rheem Valley home with huge flat yard.
Representing Buyer

1354 Meadow Glen, Concord



Private cul-de-sac in Turtle Creek, one story.
Representing Seller

SOLD IN APRIL 2014

1702 Toyon Dr, Lafayette



Where Nature meets Architecture surrounded by redwoods and creek.

52 Miner Rd, Orinda



Orinda Country Club Charmer overlooking golf course. Represented Buyer

4060 Fiora Place, Lafayette



Hidden Valley Charm sold with multiple offers. Represented Seller

EXCELLENT TIME to take advantage of strong demand to get the highest possible price on your home and buy something else while interest rates are still low. They started to go up.
If I had a Buyer for your home would you sell it?

VLATKA CAN HELP YOU WITH BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME.
WWW.BESTLAMORINDAHOMES.COM

Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	4	\$650,000	\$1,685,000
MORAGA	11	\$438,000	\$1,402,500
ORINDA	10	\$760,000	\$1,525,000

Home sales are compiled by CalREsource, an Oakland real estate information company. Sale prices are computed from the county transfer tax information shown on the deeds that record at close of escrow and are published five to eight weeks after such recording. This information is obtained from public county records and is provided to us by California REsource. Neither Cal REsource nor this publication are liable for errors or omissions.

LAFAYETTE

1630 Reliez Valley Road, \$975,000, 6 Bdrms, 4167 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 4-1-14

2 West Arbor Way, \$1,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 2006 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 4-1-14;

Previous Sale: \$736,000, 05-13-04

10 West Creek Court, \$650,000, 3 Bdrms, 1488 SqFt, 1975 YrBlt, 3-28-14

1143 Upper Happy Valley Road, \$1,685,000, 4 Bdrms, 2813 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 4-3-14;

Previous Sale: \$1,084,000, 06-28-02

MORAGA

119 Ascot Court #7, \$438,000, 3 Bdrms, 1320 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 4-4-14;

Previous Sale: \$548,000, 12-28-07

712 Augusta Drive, \$732,000, 2 Bdrms, 2079 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 4-3-14;

Previous Sale: \$662,000, 03-30-10

401 Birchwood Drive, \$1,305,000, 5 Bdrms, 2948 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 4-9-14

35 Birkdale Place, \$1,402,500, 5 Bdrms, 2732 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 4-4-14;

Previous Sale: \$920,000, 10-08-03

1463 Camino Peral, \$529,500, 2 Bdrms, 1159 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 4-8-14;

Previous Sale: \$444,000, 02-07-13

38 Corte Pinon, \$1,165,000, 4 Bdrms, 2928 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 4-2-14

1018 Del Rio Way, \$1,254,000, 5 Bdrms, 2506 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 3-28-14;

Previous Sale: \$915,000, 03-25-10

115 Draeger Drive, \$930,000, 3 Bdrms, 1945 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 4-8-14;

Previous Sale: \$136,500, 06-01-79

3872 Paseo Grande, \$1,290,000, 4 Bdrms, 2342 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 4-2-14;

Previous Sale: \$1,010,000, 06-03-08

73 Sullivan Drive, \$1,185,000, 4 Bdrms, 2132 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 3-31-14

109 Westchester Street, \$810,000, 3 Bdrms, 2291 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 4-8-14;

Previous Sale: \$775,000, 08-06-04

... continued on page D14

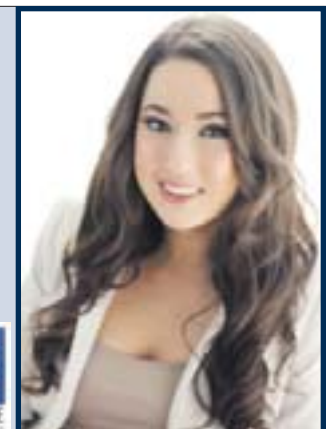
Cait Hudson

Cait.Hudson@camoves.com

(925)451-6844

BRE#01948905

www.caithudson.com



©2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. CalBRE License # 01908304



STILL #1 FOR A REASON

DANA *Green*
Contra Costa's Best

2010, 2011, 2012, 2013



Coming Soon ~ Burton Valley, Lafayette

New Construction, West Coast Traditional
Custom 4BR/3BA, 3275± sq. ft. on .37± acre
Call for Details



Coming Soon ~ Burton Valley, Lafayette

New Construction, East Coast Farmhouse
4BR/4BA, 3240± sq. ft. + cottage on .44± acre
Call for Details



Coming Soon ~ Under Construction

1420 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette
Can you guess what's behind these gates?
Watch Our Website for Details



Trail Neighborhood Gem

960 Yorkshire Court, Lafayette
4BR/2.5BA, 2243± sq. ft. on .23± acre
\$1,150,000 • 960YorkshireCourt.com



Fantastic Reliez Valley Traditional

1291 Quandt Court, Lafayette
3BR/2BA, 1656± sq. ft. on .23± acre
\$1,185,000 • 1291QuandtCourt.com



Charming Alamo Traditional

56 Crest Estates Drive, Alamo
4BR+ office/3BA, 3220± sq. ft. on .66± acre
\$1,565,000 • 56CrestEstates.com



Amazing Land Opportunity ~ Just Go!

746 Saint Marys Road, Lafayette
Premium pancake flat 1.04± acre parcel
\$1,345,000 • PremiumLafayetteLand.com



Open Sat. 1-4

3168 Rohrler Drive, Lafayette
4BR/2BA, 1752± sq. ft. on .30± acre
\$845,000 • 3168Rohrer.com



Shown by Appt.

1152 Brown Avenue, Lafayette
5BR+ office/5.5BA, 5762± sq. ft. on 1.95± acre
\$2,775,000 • 1152BrownAve.com

Call me today to view these wonderful listings!

Dana Green

925.339.1918

License #: 01482454



PACIFIC
UNION
CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

DanaGreenTeam.com



Coming Soon in Moraga!

Elegant single level home located in Rheem Valley Manor, updated throughout with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hardwood floors, Andersen dual-pane windows & doors, formal living & dining rooms, granite kitchen with Wolf gas range and adjoining family room that opens out to a beautiful level yard with patio and lawn. 2-car attached side garage.



Offered at \$1,050,000 • Call for more information

Paul & Virginia Ratto

925.998.9501
 vvarni@pacunion.com
 www.RattoandRatto.com
 License #: 00900621 | 01361537



Anne Knight presents



11 Los Conejos, Orinda

Charming 3bd 2ba home filled with character and charm. Soaring trees, landscaped terraces and privacy. Come make this home your own!

Anne Knight

Realtor
 Village Associates

C: 925 360 0296
 anne@anneknight.com
 CalBRE #01867467

Offered at
\$875,000



Jim Colhoun Presents Classical Lafayette Home

701 Glenside Drive, Lafayette



Offered at **\$975,000.**



Jim Colhoun

Relocation & Home Marketing Specialist

CalBRE# 01029160
 www.jimcolhoun.com
925.200.2795

You'll love this classic Lafayette ranch home on a beautiful .42 acre level lot with circular driveway, swimming pool and garden area. The house is a spacious 2245 square feet with large rooms overlooking the pool and patio. There is an eat-in kitchen, family room and formal dining room which are ideal for entertaining and family living. Don't miss the large garden behind the pool which could be transformed into a vineyard or a sports court. Call Jim Colhoun at 925.200.2795 to arrange a private showing.

www.701GlensideDr.com



MASON-McDUFFIE

89 Davis Rd, Suite 100, Orinda

GREAT LAMORINDA LIVING!



3 Julianna Court, Moraga

Stunning estate in a private setting with pool and guest house. Over 4800 sqft, 5 Br, 5Ba, wine cellar. Beautiful grounds. Great views!

\$2,495,000

www.3JuliannaCt.com



10 Arie Lane, Lafayette

Wonderful custom home built in 2005. 5112 sqft, 5 Br, 4 Ba, office, and bonus room, 3 car garage. Great for entertaining!

\$1,975,000

www.10ArieLn.com



37 Parkway Court, Orinda

Exquisite executive estate with 2 additional buildable lots over 4 ac in total. 6000 sqft home recently completed with highest quality finishes.

\$6,300,000

www.37ParkwayCt.com



COMING SOON!



2 Peralta Court, Moraga

Terrific Sanders Ranch home with gourmet kitchen, pool & spa. 2825 sqft, 4 Br, 2.5 Ba, Nice views, close to open space.

\$1,275,000

www.2PeraltaCt.com



1386 Rimer Drive, Moraga

Completely updated craftsman style home with 5 Br, 2/2 Ba, 2742 sqft, .37 acre level lot. Lovely back yard backs to creek. Close to schools.

\$1,425,000

www.1386RimerDr.com



40 Merrill Circle South, Moraga

Warm and comfortable Sanders Ranch home in a tranquil setting. 2946 sqft, 4 Br, 2.5 Ba. Enjoy sunsets on the deck. Great value!

\$1,195,000

www.40MerrillCirS.com



ELENA HOOD
REAL ESTATE GROUP

925 254-3030 www.Orinda.com

Lafayette • Moraga • Orinda

PROFESSIONAL STAGING

We offer complementary professional staging for every listing, every time. Call us if you are thinking of a move!



Cal BRE 1221247

©2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

Juniors Kitchen Tour Features Six Spectacular Kitchens

... continued from page D1



Circular pendant lights and stainless steel appliances give this traditional kitchen a modern edge.

The answer: an English cottage-style kitchen that combines design elements of a more traditional home with modern amenities.

The kitchen's walls are lined with custom-made walnut cabinets accented with bronze hardware, with a white hutch and center island to add contrasting color. The large island has a creamy countertop flecked with oranges and browns that pick up the darker colors of the surrounding cabinetry. The countertops under the walnut cabinets are lighter than that of the island, and both are made of quartzite, a material that resembles marble but is more durable and resistant to stains and scratches.

Above the island hangs a cluster of three circular forged iron candelabra light fixtures that give a contemporary touch to the kitchen while still blending in with the traditional surroundings.

Douglass was also sure to incorporate modern conveniences like a steam oven, a stainless Sub-Zero refrigerator and a built-in Miele espresso maker in her butler's

pantry to facilitate the couple's love of entertaining.

"We do more of open-house type events where everyone just wants to hang in the kitchen," she says.

Her favorite feature of her kitchen is a beautiful stone hood topped with copper that sits above the Wolf stove. The marble backsplash behind the stovetop has a carved-out niche in glass mosaic tile that she uses to keep cooking staples like salt, pepper and olive oil within easy reach.

Across town in the trails area of Lafayette, Kieran and Jeanette Mone also fell in love with a piece of property, which just happened to have a 100-year-old house on it. The Mones lived in the original 1,400 square-foot ranch house – complete with the original furnace, windows, plumbing and electrical – for three years after they purchased it in 2008. In 2011, the couple decided to rebuild the home into a modern-day farmhouse for their family of five.

... continued on page D10

Own the Good Life...

36 Candle Terrace in Orinda Downs



A classic design with timeless style this custom home has never been offered for sale.

The feeling is East Coast Traditional yet with the casual indoor/outdoor living of California. This is a warm and friendly home with fireplaces, lush carpeting, hardwood floors, high ceilings and beautiful details that lends coziness to the four bedrooms, library, office, two family rooms and other living areas; while the formal rooms accommodate entertaining on a grand scale.

Situated on one of Orinda Downs most desirable streets, this exquisitely crafted home boasts the utmost in privacy, quality and elegance. Its .8 acre lot and approximately 4,865 square feet are rich with architectural elements.

This magnificent property effortlessly blends modern sophistication with comfortable family living.



Offered at \$2,825,000



*It's April in Lamorinda
For Real Estate*

April Matthews

925-200-0773

dreamhomelamorinda.com

aprilmat@comcast.net

CalBRE#01221153



Consistently Representing Buyers and Sellers in Successful Transactions



Pristine Creekside Location...



3628 Brook Street, Lafayette

This one is a gem! Situated in the heart of Lafayette within walking distance to award-winning schools. Four bedroom, three and one-half bathroom, gleaming hardwood floors, two bonus rooms, expansive decks with Creekside views and more.
Offered for \$1,620,000



Tim Ahlberg

925.980.1769

tim.ahlberg@sothebysrealty.com

CalBRE# 00582412

People & Properties | **Sotheby's**
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

sothebysrealty.com

Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated.

Wendy Means

415.690.6037

wendy.means@sothebysrealty.com

CalBRE# 01913149



Patti Camras

I believe in the art of living well.



159 Moraga Way, Orinda

A picturesque entry across a charming bridge, under a canopy of mature trees, welcomes you to this nostalgic Cape Cod. New and déjà vu are both masterfully captured in this tastefully updated vintage gem originally built in 1939, that boasts 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and approximately 2100 square feet per appraisal. The stately trees and creek side setting offer complete privacy and provide a soft background for what awaits you inside.

Offered at \$995,000



PATTI CAMRAS
REALTOR®

CalBRE# 01156248

925-899-9282

patti.camras@camoves.com
5 Moraga Way, Orinda

www.patticamras.com



THE
ART
REAL ESTATE

EAST BAY HOME TEAM

3316 Las Huertas, Lafayette



This special home, with quiet retreats and the fragrant sweet perfume of flowers, is a place where you can plant the seeds of contentment. This remodeled 4 bedroom (plus den), 5 bath treasure, includes an attached unit. Used as an in-law, this additional space works well as a combination guest or au pair suite & bonus room. Located near the Lafayette Trail.

Listed for \$1,998,000

Virtual tour:
www.3316LasHuertas.com



598 Justin Morgan, Alamo



This magnificent gated estate, on a private knoll, has unparalleled views. Completed in 2006, this special Mediterranean style home reflects the beauty of its surroundings and combines understated elegance and easy living. Located near the prestigious Round Hill Country Club.

Listed for \$4,900,000

Virtual tour:
www.598JustinMorgan.com



Kathy McCann

CalBRE#00946092

925-351-7012

McCannCan@aol.com



www.eastbayhometeam.com



Kathy
McCann

CalBRE#00946092

925-351-7012



Kathryn
O'Donnell

CalBRE#01916567

925-330-1449



Juniors Kitchen Tour Features Six Spectacular Kitchens

... continued from page D6



Jeanette and Kieran Mone's industrial farmhouse kitchen mixes colorful vintage appliances with reclaimed metal light fixtures.

Completed in 2013, Jeanette Mone describes the décor of her house as “industrial farmhouse,” which combines traditional accessories like farmhouse curtains in front of the hallway laundry nook with lighting fixtures made from reclaimed metal.

Their kitchen is fun and cheerful, with a black and white checkerboard ceramic tile floor and shaker-style white cabinets. Red and turquoise appliances dot the kitchen with color, including a 1950 turquoise KitchenAid oven, which Jeanette literally found on a curb and Kieran, a contractor who built the home, refurbished.

Kieran also repurposed a metal farm feeder into a light fixture over the kitchen island, which is topped with a dark-stained Alder wood counter and a Shaw's farmhouse sink. The kitchen's pantry and utility hallway have screen doors, which allow air to circulate and let Jeanette keep track of what's being used. Not a fan of

clutter, Jeanette's favorite thing about the kitchen is the open metal shelving on either side of the stainless steel hood, which holds the family's plates and bowls.

“We go through that entire stack of plates every week and a half,” she says. “It really is a very practical thing.”

The Mones took inspiration from the original house by duplicating the 1913 millwork in the molding around the windows and doors and used the red door from the original house as their front door, even down to the knob.

To see these and other great homes on the tour, tickets can be purchased online at www.lafayettejuniors.org or from Douglass Designs and Premier Kitchens in Lafayette. Tickets are \$40 (\$30 tax deductible) with a box lunch available for \$15.

Proceeds from this year's Tour benefit the work of five local non-profit organizations including First

Place for Youth, STAND!, the Lafayette Library, SEED, and Twin Canyon Camp. These organizations were selected by the Lafayette Juniors for the support they provide to children and families in need in Contra Costa and neighboring East Bay counties.



Open metal shelving next to the stove holds the family's plates.



A Shaw's Original Fireclay sink sits on the Alder wood island.

He's All About New Listings in May



3 Canyon View Drive, Orinda



4 Las Cascadas, Orinda



25 Las Vegas Road, Orinda



— CLARK THOMPSON —

REAL ESTATE BROKER
VILLAGE ASSOCIATES

Office: 925-254-8585
Cell: 925-998-7898
www.clarkthompson.com
ct@clarkthompson.com

*view new
listings online*



BRE #: 00903367





New Listing
102 Orchard Road
Orinda

81 MOSSBRIDGE - *Listed*

171 CAMINO PABLO - *Sold*

18 CHARLES HILL - *Sold*

17 TAPPAN LANE - *Pending*

LISTING ORINDA



AMYROSESMITH

Amy Rose Smith
 Village Associates
 93 Moraga Way
 Suite 103
 Orinda, CA 94563

Phone: 925.212.3897
 Email: amy@amyrosesmith.com
 Web: www.amyrosesmith.com
 Web: www.iloveorinda.com
 BRE: #01855959



THE BEST MOVE YOU WILL EVER MAKE



*A Locally Grown Experienced Realtor!
 Serving Lamorinda and the Surrounding Communities!*

JUSTIN BUNDY, REALTOR

As an East Bay native, I bring to my clients the knowledge & experience of living & working in the East Bay Area throughout my entire life. This gives me a tremendous advantage in knowing the subtle differences that make each community unique.



Justin Bundy, CalBRE #01376492
 Office: 925-855-4030
 Mobile: 925-330-0579
 Justin@JustinBundy.com
 www.JustinBundy.com



Reach 60,000+ in Lamorinda
 Advertise in Lamorinda Weekly
 Call 925-377-0977 today



Local newspaper delivered to Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda
 www.lamorindaweekly.com

Lana Fitzpatrick

Coldwell Banker Top 100 Producer Presents

101 Brookline, Moraga



Offered at \$995,000

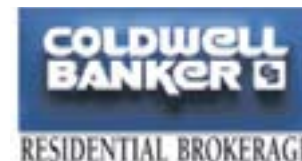
Impeccably remodeled, detached view home in the Moraga Country Club with a spacious front and back yard! The chef's kitchen was completely updated with Juparana Delicatus granite slab counters, restaurant style stainless steel appliances, a tumbled stone backsplash & a chocolate brown granite coffee station. The master bath was expanded to create a spa like space with heated stone floors, large custom shower and a deep soaking tub. Master bedroom closet and office enjoy custom wood painted cabinetry to help you organize your life. The ample .17 acre corner lot is professionally landscaped from front to back, including a custom fence, raised flower beds, a lawn area and a terrace. Home Statistics - 2055 square feet, 2 bedrooms, office, 2 bathrooms, dining room, formal living, family room and breakfast bar.



Personal Service, Proven Results

Lana Fitzpatrick

Top 100 Realtor
(925) 872-4660
lana.fitzpatrick@camoves.com
www.lanafitzpatrick.com
CalBRE # 01805218



To DIY or hire, that is the question

By Andi Peterson Brown

I don't know about you, but last night when I watched the same commercial from Lowe's four times in 30 minutes that kept telling me to Never Stop Improving, I have to say that it worked. They got me. All of a sudden I had a burning desire to improve something, anything. It was 9:15 at night but I wanted to jump in the car right then and there and drive to Lowe's to buy brushes and cans and sprays and plants and on and on and on...

They made it look so fun, so happy, and so relaxing to repaint the house, landscape the yard, and sandpaper the front porch. The sun was shining, everyone smiled as they worked - I mean how could you not want to sandpaper your front porch when it could bring such joy?

Sure there are lots of projects that are a-ok to stock up at Lowe's for and do-it-yourself, but many are better left to the professionals. So how do you know when to hire a professional? Hire a professional when:

- The project is elaborate or extensive. Adding on? Rebuilding kitchen cabinets? Call an expert.
- You just aren't handy with a hammer and never will be.
- You don't have the time. If you don't have the time, you will end up with 2/3 of a completed project. Trust me.



andi
PETERSON
brown

CB Bay Area Top 100 Realtor
AndiBrownHomes.com
925.818.4588



CalBRE# 01738605

real local • real knowledge • real value

©2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. CalBRE License # 01908304

WWW.HOLCENBERG.COM

Client satisfaction: a family tradition

One-Story Campolindo Charmer with Large, Level Yard

New listing



394 Calle La Montana, Moraga

This 3 bedroom, 2 bath, single-story Campolindo charmer is ready for you to move in and enjoy! Featuring newly refinished hardwood floors, a remodeled kitchen, and dual-paned windows, the home opens onto a large, level yard with grassy area, play structure, deck, patio and open area beyond. There is also a large side yard for boat or RV parking, bike riding, basketball and more. With an excellent commute location and close to Campolindo High School and the Cabana Club, this could be the one you've been waiting for. **Offered at: \$879,000**

©2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. CalBRE License # 01908304



Wendy Holcenberg

wendy@holcenberg.com

925.253.4630
CalBRE#00637795

Michelle Holcenberg

michelle@holcenberg.com

925.253.4663
CalBRE#01373412



Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

... continued from page D2

ORINDA

63 Bates Boulevard, \$1,099,000, 3 Bdrms, 2126 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 3-28-14

1 Camino Del Cielo, \$1,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 4901 SqFt, 2003 YrBlt, 3-31-14; Previous Sale: \$1,400,000, 06-25-10

60 Davis Road, \$1,525,000, 4 Bdrms, 3346 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 4-2-14

58 East Altarinda Drive, \$1,205,000, 4 Bdrms, 2290 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 4-8-14; Previous Sale: \$470,000, 03-29-91

5 Francisco Court, \$921,000, 3 Bdrms, 1322 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 4-1-14; Previous Sale: \$465,000, 11-30-00

120 Glorietta Boulevard, \$859,000, 3 Bdrms, 1621 SqFt, 1945 YrBlt, 3-28-14

11 Los Cerros, \$1,187,000, 4 Bdrms, 2959 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 4-2-14; Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 05-21-02

18 Mira Loma Road, \$1,360,000, 3 Bdrms, 2546 SqFt, 1930 YrBlt, 4-8-14; Previous Sale: \$1,375,000, 06-17-08

112 Spring Road, \$760,000, 2 Bdrms, 1395 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 3-31-14; Previous Sale: \$475,000, 07-29-11

18 Sunnyside Lane, \$1,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 2788 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 4-1-14

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for May

"Now every field is clothed with grass, and every tree with leaves; now the woods put forth their blossoms, and the year assumes its gay attire." – Virgil

By Cynthia Brian



A path lined with larkspur, cineraria, lambs ear, penstemon, and white roses invites a springtime stroll.

Photos Cynthia Brian

May is one of the most beautiful months of the year in our California gardens. The weather is warm, yet mild, as our landscapes burst into bloom. The birds are chirping while building nests, the bees are buzzing, the frogs are croaking, butterflies and hummingbirds flit through the air. A renaissance of nature is in full swing and we are the delighted recipients of the rewards.

This is the month that we really get up, get out,

and get going as summer entertaining approaches. The colors, shapes, textures, and fragrance of spring's cool combinations create a tapestry of sensory explosions. It's easy to spend hours, days even, working the earth to design the drama and harness the harmony that we crave and need. Drought tolerant and native plants are our go-to specimens for the season. Add velvety lamb's ears or gray Artemisia, both deer and rabbit resistant,

to your beds of warm hued snapdragons for a punch of genius. For a mega health boost, make sure to plant a variety of carrots in red, orange, yellow, and purple. They are not only great for our eyes, but are loaded with Vitamin A and C, rich in antioxidants, including beta-carotene, high in fiber and cancer fighting nutrients, and low in calories. Welcome to your garden!

... continued on next page

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for May

... continued from page D15

- CONSERVE water by sweeping patios and driveways.
- PROVIDE pollen and nectar sources for bees by growing a variety of trees, shrubs, annuals, and perennials with many shapes, textures, sizes, and colors. Echium, Goldenrod, Lemon Balm, Sweet Clover, and Borage are all easy to establish and are favorites of our pollinators.
- PLANT summer bulbs of dahlias, gladiolas, cannas, and callas. Once in the soil, forget about them until they sprout and bloom.
- THIN the fruit on your apricot, peaches, pears, plums, and other trees so that your harvest will produce larger fruit.
- SOW seeds for succession plantings of radishes, beets, lettuces, carrots, and beans.
- CONTINUE handpicking snails and slugs or set out bowls of beer to help with the eradication.
- LEAVE the foliage of daffodils, tulips, Dutch Iris, and hyacinth in your garden until the leaves are very dry and crispy. Don't tie them back with rubber bands and don't prune if you want to have flowers next spring.
- SET a packet of seeds on each place setting for your Mother's Day celebration.
- INCLUDE children in the gardening process by allowing them to tend to a special section of the garden. The responsibility and patience learned will last a lifetime plus the pride of growing something instills confidence and grows self-esteem. Suggestions for magical sowing include sunflowers, beans, and carrots.
- CUT stalks of the vibrant Bird of Paradise for a flower arrangement. Whether grouped with bearded iris or arranged as a solitary statement, Bird of Paradise provides a long lasting cut flower that is elegant and different.
- SOAK the seeds of Echinacea for 24 hours before planting. The National Garden Bureau has designated 2014 as the year of Echinacea, one of the top five perennials in the United States. Easy to grow, Echinacea is a magnet for hummingbirds and bumblebees with medicinal benefits as an anti-depressant and immune system booster as extra bonuses.
- TRANSFER pots of tuberous begonias to a shady area where they will bloom for months.
- CLEAN patio furniture. Freshen your outdoor look with paint, new cushions, or throw pillows.

... continued on next page



Meyer lemon blossoms fill the air with the fragrance of spring.



Easy to care for with colorful blooms year round, anthuriums, also known as flamingo flowers, scrub the air of common VOCs.



Snapdragons dazzle with color amidst the gray leaves of Artemisia, also known as Dusty Miller.



A baby squirrel climbs the magnolia tree with calla lilies underneath.

McDonnell Nursery



family owned since 1933

Trees • Shrubs • Vines • Annuals • Perennials
Vegetables • Containers • Statuary & Fountains
Indoor Plants • Decorative Items

www.mcdonnellnursery.com

196 Moraga Way • Orinda • (925) 254-3713 • Open Daily



Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for May

... continued from page D17

- PHOTOGRAPH your landscape and study the photos to reveal spots that may need added attention.
- DRAPE vigorous climbing clematis on arbors, walls, fences, and trellises for beautiful blooms spring through fall.
- FRESHEN the air in your interiors with a potted anthurium. Besides sucking up harmful VOCs, houseplants have been proven to increase concentration, productivity, and boost well-being.
- BANISH insecticides from your garden to protect our pollinators and birds. The calamity of the bee colony collapse is still puzzling scientists but while researches investigate the cause of this jeopardy, we can do our part to help honeybees survive.
- RAISE the mowing height of your lawn mower and remove the bag at least twice a month allowing the cut grass to feed the roots.
- RAKE your soil to remove debris and lift the matted leaves.
- WEED, weed, weed! Any and all weeds are sapping the moisture and nutrients from your other plants. Get rid of them swiftly.
- WATCH for baby squirrels scampering on fences and trees. Their playful antics are entertaining. (As long as they aren't munching on your veggies!)



Romantic Clematis surprises perennially with its rich, luscious dinner plate size flowers.

- GATHER nasturtium blossoms along with mustard greens and kale to spice up your salads for peppery flavors and bright colors.

SPRING GARDEN/NATURE EVENTS NOT TO BE MISSED

- PARTY at the Mother's Day Soiree on May 10 and 11 at Annie's Garden in Richmond with over 2.5 acres of rare native varieties found nowhere else. <http://www.anniesannuals.com>.
- PICK up your free bag of potpourri at the Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3 charity booth at the Moraga Faire in Rheem from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 10. Meet a few of Lamorinda Weekly's Teen Scene writers.
- THANKS to all the Lamorinda Weekly readers who came to meet and chat with me at the Earth Day and Wildlife Festival. Keep on growing!

Celebrate the givers of life this May. Hurray for moms and Mother Nature.



& Landscaping

Family owned in Moraga since 1987



*Your friendly neighborhood
ISA arborists Darren and Lew Edwards*

KEEPING TREES HEALTHY

Generally speaking, trees don't need us to grow. But they need our help to stay healthy and safe. Having your trees checked by an ISA arborist on a regular basis is a wise choice. As a professional we may be able to see the dangers that lurk ahead and can solve them before they can become a bigger problem or even dangerous.

So don't wait until it's too late, have a complete inspection by your local ISA Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service and Landscaping for all your tree care needs.

Advance Tree Service

Your Authority on Trees and Landscape.



925-376-6528

advancetree@sbcglobal.net www.advancetree.com

*Follow us on Twitter (advancetree) and like us on Face Book
(ADVANCETREESERVICEANDLANDSCAPINGINC.)*



Bird of Paradise adds flair to the landscape and to floral arrangements.

©2014

Cynthia Brian

The Goddess Gardener

StarStyle® Productions, LLC

Cynthia@goddessgardener.com

http://www.goddessgardener.com

925-377-7827

Cynthia is available as a speaker and consultant.



DESIGN
INSTALLATION
IRRIGATION
DRAINAGE
STONEMWORK
CONCRETE WORK
DECKS
FENCES
PATIOS
LAWNS
PONDS
CLEANUP &
HAULING

BLUE RIDGE

925-258-9233
CELL: 510-847-6160

LANDSCAPE COMPANY INC.
BLUE JAY FELDMAN
OWNER/OPERATOR
WWW.BLUERIDGE.LC.COM

LICENSED
INSURED
Lic# 818633

Natural Landscaping Contractors Improving Quality of Life By Building Great Landscapes

Landscape Planning, Design & Construction - Exceeding Your Expectations

Call Today For Your Free Consultation
OFFICE: 925-687-8926 • CELL: 925-247-4337
www.nlcontractors.net

Mention this ad for
15% Off*
Planting & Irrigation Work
*Exp. 6-30-13. Not valid with other offers

LIC. # C-27 853176

Thank you for recycling this paper. It is printed on at least 50% recycled material and vegetable based ink and should be recycled again.

Lamorinda's Leading Independent Real Estate Firm

ORINDA



New Listing

11 Los Conejos Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with beautiful hardwood floors. Soaring trees, landscaped terraces and privacy. Come make this home your own!

\$875,000

ORINDA



New Listing

1 Westwood Court Fantastic contemporary w/big views & privacy. This 3bd+ofc/2.5ba boasts cul-de-sac locale & living, formal dining & two family rms w/picture windows & decks capitalizing on fantastic views of the Oakland Hills.

\$1,150,000

ORINDA



New Listing

484 Dalewood Drive Special home of stylish design enhancements w/gracious flr pln, fam. living & entertaining inside & out. Large windows, vaulted ceilings & kit/fam rm. Lush, mature landscaping, privacy, w/in "Downs" nghbrhd.

\$1,935,000

ORINDA



New Listing

528 Tahos Road Style+design come alive in this total renovation 5bd/4+ba of exceptional quality. Granite, stone + custom wood moldings/trims of finest materials. All rms light/bright w/lrg wndws. Grassy yd, decks, balconies.

\$2,295,000

ORINDA



New Listing

645 Miner Road Inviting trad. w/separate guest apt, ideally situated at bottom of cul de sac in desirable Sleepy Hollow school district. Incredible kit. w/granite counters & central island. Priv. mstr suite. Pool & mature redwoods.

\$2,750,000

ORINDA



New Listing

81 Mossbridge Lane Beautifully updated approx. 4540 sf, 6bd/5.5ba Traditional Orinda Downs gem! Form meets function in this exquisite home perched on a private lane. This is the home you have been waiting for!

\$2,795,000

ORINDA



New Listing

36 Candle Terrace First time ever for sale, exquisitely crafted custom hm offering elegance of an East Coast Trad. w/California casual indr/outdr living. Apx. 4,865sf on .8ac. Main flr mstr retreat, 2 large family rms, chef's kitchen.

\$2,825,000

MORAGA



New Listing

2133 Donald Drive #11 Stunning totally renovated 3bd/2ba one level end unit opening to private patio. Turnkey throughout w/sparkling remodeled kitchen & beautifully updated baths. Great loc. w/in walking distance to town.

\$479,900

MORAGA



New Listing

120 Miramonte Drive Great Miramonte 3bd/3ba townhome with updated kitchen & baths. Sought after location. Backs up to Moraga Country Club. Golf course views from living room and master bedroom.

\$625,000

MORAGA



New Listing

278 Birchwood Drive Just Listed! Fabulous contemporary ranch style home w/soaring ceilings, gourmet kit, priv. mstr retreat. Gorgeous 2/3 acre knoll setting features sparkling pool, beautiful view, fenced yd w/lawn & garden.

\$1,279,000

MORAGA



New Listing

2 Magee Court Gorgeous, sunny and updated! Single level 4bd/3ba Sanders Ranch. Oversized family room with vaulted ceilings opens to kitchen. Flat yard with pool, patio and lawns. Basketball area.

\$1,575,000

LAFAYETTE



New Listing

945 Mountain View Drive Cutest home on the block! Charm abounds in this exceptionally cozy 1bd/1ba full of 1940's style bungalow. Ambiance & style. Enjoy incredible curb appeal. Lwn & grdn, very priv., ideal loc. near everything!

\$565,000

LAFAYETTE



Coming Soon

533 Silverado Drive Highly sought after Burton Valley nghbrhd. 4bd/2ba single level ranch hm on level .23ac. Spacious/priv. bcktyd, hdwd flrs, dual pane windows/slider, 2 car-attached gar. Close to schools, swim club & trails.

\$1,110,000

LAFAYETTE



New Listing

1245 Panorama Drive New Happy Valley listing! Wonderful traditional home updated plus light & bright. Fabulous .70 acre gated yard that is picturesque, private and near school & trails. Great home and value!

\$1,650,000

LAFAYETTE



New Listing

3431 St. Mary's Road Stunning remodeled 5 bedroom, 3 bath farmhouse with open chef's kitchen/great room, family room with fireplace, 3 car garage, level lawns and pool.

\$1,795,000

WALNUT CREEK



New Listing

1277 1B Avenida Sevilla Stunning Villa Verde, magnificent setting, views of hills, oaks. Beautifully updated upper end 2bd/2ba 1507sf unit. Single level living, high ceilings, lots of glass, den, two decks, attached garage, loft.

\$620,000



THE VILLAGE ASSOCIATES:

Ashley Battersby
 Patricia Battersby
 Joan Cleveland
 Shannon Conner
 Joan Eggers
 Linda Ehrlich
 Joan Evans
 Linda S. Friedman
 Marianne Greene
 Dexter Honens II
 Anne Knight
 Susan Zeh Layng
 Art Lehman
 Charles Levine
 Erin Martin
 April Matthews
 Karen Murphy
 Ben Olsen
 Sue Olsen
 Tara Rochlin
 Jaime Roder
 Altie Schmitt
 Judy Schoenrock
 Ann Sharf
 Amy Rose Smith
 Molly Smith
 Jeff Snell
 Lynda Snell
 Clark Thompson
 Angie Evans Traxinger
 Ignacio Vega
 Terri Bates Walker
 Ann Ward
 Dan Weil
 Margaret Zucker



[facebook.com/VillageAssociates](https://www.facebook.com/VillageAssociates)

twitter.com/villageassoc

93 Moraga Way, Suite 103 • Orinda, CA 94563 • Phone: (925) 254-0505

Visit www.villageassociates.com Click on

Sunday Open Homes