



"A little bit of myself goes into every job."
 Michael Verbrugge,
 President,
 Moraga Resident

925.631.1055
 www.MVCRemodeling.com

**Specializing in kitchens & bathrooms.
 All forms residential remodel/repair.**

Lic# 681593



**MICHAEL VERBRUGGE
 CONSTRUCTION INC.**
 General Contractor




**Clean | Courteous | Conscientious
 On-time | Trustworthy | Local References**
 Full design team resources available

~ HE'S ALL ABOUT LAMORINDA ~



CLARK THOMPSON

REAL ESTATE BROKER
 VILLAGE ASSOCIATES

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

CalBRE #: 00903367




Giving Dreams an Address



**TG
 HARDWOOD FLOORS**
 Moraga California
 DESIGN • REFINISHING • INSTALLATION
925-376-1118
 Lic # 974653

CALL TOM FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

Since 1993!
 Tom Gieryng, owner and operator




RESIDENTIAL RESTORATION PAINTING SPECIALIST
 Specializing in Wood Rot Repair with Epoxy
 Over 30 years in business
 Long-time resident of Orinda

www.dcollinspainting.com 925.254.6882 dcollinspainting@gmail.com



**ACE
 AUTO CARE**

FREE TOW & SHUTTLE SERVICES
 IN LAMORINDA AREA/BART

\$19.99 PLUS TAX AND HAZMAT OIL CHANGE INCLUDES: - UP TO 5 QUARTS - SYNTHETIC & CARTRIDGE - FILTERS EXTRA - MOST CARS	20% OFF LABOR (UP TO \$200) FOR FIRST TIME CUSTOMERS	FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT SCAN & VISUAL BRAKE INSPECTION	VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR SPECIAL DISCOUNTS FOR TEACHERS, STUDENTS, FEDERAL EMPLOYEES, & SENIOR CITIZENS.
--	---	--	---

WE WORK ON ALL MAKES & MODELS

aceautocare.net
925 284 5550

3430 MT. DIABLO BLVD, B, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549
 OUR SERVICES COME WITH A 12 MONTH/12,000 MILE WARRANTY

ALIGNMENT, TUNE UPS & OIL CHANGES, ENGINE & TRANSMISSION, MAINTENANCE

AIR CONDITIONING & ELECTRICAL, WHEELS & TIRES, BRAKES & SUSPENSION



**Bay Area
 Greenscapes, Inc.**
 Synthetic Grass - Installation - Landscaping

WATER SMART LANDSCAPING
 Free Estimates

- Synthetic/Artificial Grass
- Design & Consult
- New Landscape Installation
- Re-Landscape & Remodel
- Paver Walkways & Driveways
- Hardscape

FREE DEMOLITION WITH INSTALL

A General landscaping Contractor
 Locally Owned & Operated
 Lic. #938445

925-819-2100

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
 WWW.BAYAREAGREENSCAPES.COM

Protecting The Wild Things at Wilder

... continued from page A1



Nesting cliff swallows at a separate location, outside of Wilder.

Photo John Ehrenfeld

Unfortunately, the swallows' new environs at the bathrooms are also directly adjacent to the Wilder sports complex, home to soccer, baseball and other child-related activities. While most of the human homes in the area are still unbuilt, the swallows have built their own condo complex beneath the eaves of the human-built bathrooms, and some of the nests have been knocked down and destroyed.

"Maybe by baseball bats," said Rutherford, surveying the damage and detritus on the ground. "This doesn't look natural."

Like other natural occurrences in the natural environment, cliff swallows have remained, with their cousins the barn swallows, living in the nooks and crannies of Lamorinda's historic cliffs and walls. But when a new sports facility crops up in the midst of their environment, a new condo-like development of birds

is not uncommon. The community is diverse, as well – one team of Western bluebirds has taken charge of one of the swallows' nests and is now raising their own young in one of them.

"This is a perfect environment for them," Rutherford said of all the birds under the eaves, as she watched a bluebird flying into one of the nests built by swallows. (Bluebirds are one thing. When asked about the difference between a cliff swallow and a barn swallow, Robinson said barn swallows used partly hay to build their nests.) The problem is the Orinda nests are being destroyed, and it's nesting season. The Audubon Society, the City of Orinda, and birders are worried.

"We are concerned about it," said Alex Ramirez, of the Orinda Parks Department, who came by to survey the damage to the nests. The sports facility is on Orinda city land, so he

can do something about protecting it. Talking with the activists, a plan was concocted to put up an interpretational sign that would explain why there is bird poop on the ground near the bathrooms, and why the birds should be protected. "I'm definitely interested in protecting these guys," said Ramirez.

Cliff swallows are fast, small darting-like birds that flit by in less than a second. They are all around cliffs. They nest in crevices and need a water source, like a creek nearby, to build their houses. They take up a hunk of dirt, said Rutherford, put some water in their bills, then deposit the bit of gunk on their nests. Thus, home is built of what looks like chewed pieces of gum stacked atop.

All that cliff swallows need is available at the Wilder sporting grounds – a nearby creek, dirt, and overhangs. The message is: Please do not disturb them.

Saranap Project

... continued from page A3



Although the project is outside the city limits, and near freeway access, many residents worry about drivers opting to go through Lafayette, coupled with the overall size of the project dwarfing existing low-rise structures in the neighborhood.

Blink and you'd miss the tiny hamlet of Saranap. There's no welcome sign and even the vintage gas pumps at the service station on the way to Rossmoor at Tice Valley Boulevard that marked the neighborhood are now gone. The biggest landmark, aside from the Sanctuary, is popular Morucci's sandwich shop, just down the block.

More than a year ago, in April, 2014, mayor at the time, now council member Don Tatzin wrote a response to the Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report for the proposed mixed-use project. In his letter, he pointed out that the city council identified a number of critical

issues to be analyzed and addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Report including aesthetics, and a long list of traffic and transportation concerns.

To review the very lengthy Draft Environmental Impact Report, go to www.contracosta.ca.gov and type Saranap in the search box.



Building Specifics for the Third Generation of Saranap Village

Building A is located on the north side of Boulevard Way (currently a vacant lot) and will feature a small grocery store, about half the size of Diablo Foods. The building went from 143 rental units to 111 units comprised of 63 studios, 27 one-bedroom and 21 two-bedroom apartments.

Building B went from 62 to 52 for-sale condominiums, 11 one-bedroom, six two-bedroom townhouses, and five three-bedroom units, along with retail on the ground floor.

Building C will have 24 for-sale condominiums: three one-bedroom, 15 two-bedroom and 6 three-bedroom units.