

# Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 10 Issue 6 Wednesday, May 18, 2016



Feng Shui

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## Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

By Cynthia Brian

*In My Sister's Garden-A Wistful Romp through a Drought-Resistant Oasis*



A whimsical corner featuring wagon wheels, butterflies, and a grand mixture of petunias, roses, geraniums, sweet William, iris, and more.

Photo Cynthia Brian

*"Spring is the time of the year, when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade."* - Charles Dickens

One of the great things about growing up on a farm in the boondocks is that your tribe is your family. We five siblings were as thick as thieves as we climbed trees, worked the fields, pulled fences, drove tractors, branded cattle, and planted the spring garden. We played, we quarreled, and we dug in

the dirt together. By the time May arrived, we ached to get our hands grubby in the vegetable patch. Waiting for the vegetables to sprout and be harvested taught us patience and responsibility. Of course, Mom's beautiful flower gardens would already be in bloom by this time of year getting us into constant trouble because we were forever picking bouquets not only for her, but, for teachers, 4-H leaders, and Sunday masses.

As we grew into adults, our love of the earth grew as well. Following in the big shoes of my father, my brother continued the family tradition of being a farmer and has one of the most beautiful vineyards in the county. Our mother's love of gardening instructed the gardens of her girls.

Recently I walked with my sister Debbie through her eclectic garden. There is a saying that "you can take the girl out of the country, but you can never take the country out of the girl." With Deb, she's never left the land where we were born. She is a country cowgirl through and through. She's always adorned with her cowboy hat, rodeo belt buckle, and boots! She hunts, fishes, grows her food, and would have relished being a pioneer in the 1870s.

... continued on page D12



The antique plow with the cowpoke couple greets visitors.

# THE *Beaubelle* GROUP

## MORAGA - Horse Lovers 1.31 Flat Acres



This amazing 1.31 acre level property features approx. 4,000sf of living space and includes 5-bdrms and 4-baths, bonus room, gourmet kitchen and private bedroom wings. Expansive entertaining spaces effortlessly connect with multiple outdoor patios and an incredible sparkling saltwater and solar-heat pool with cascading waterfall and nearby fire pit. Just a few more steps and horse lovers will enjoy the expansive corrals, arena, three-stall barn and tack room.

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## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	19	\$590,000	\$3,500,000
MORAGA	15	\$360,000	\$1,700,000
ORINDA	19	\$825,000	\$2,850,000

Home sales are compiled by Cal REsource, 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

- 11 El Cajon, \$1,725,000, 5 Bdrms, 3934 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 4-21-16;  
Previous Sale: \$340,000, 03-11-88
- 3263 Elvia Street, \$1,385,000, 4 Bdrms, 2403 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 4-22-16;  
Previous Sale: \$489,000, 05-30-97
- 3119 Gloria Terrace, \$1,255,000, 4 Bdrms, 2589 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 4-19-16
- 3134 Indian Way, \$1,355,000, 4 Bdrms, 2468 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 4-11-16;  
Previous Sale: \$468,000, 12-17-93
- 3261 Marlene Drive, \$590,000, 2 Bdrms, 1160 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 4-5-16;  
Previous Sale: \$555,000, 08-27-15
- 3412 McEllen Court, \$1,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 1951 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 4-15-16
- 858 Mountain View Drive, \$1,780,000, 7 Bdrms, 4280 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 4-5-16;  
Previous Sale: \$400,500, 06-06-86
- 3350 North Lucille Lane, \$1,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 2923 SqFt, 2011 YrBlt, 4-12-16;  
Previous Sale: \$490,000, 01-22-10
- 1146 Palomares Court, \$1,050,000, 4 Bdrms, 1552 SqFt, 1935 YrBlt, 4-22-16;  
Previous Sale: \$377,000, 12-15-97
- 3875 Quail Ridge Road, \$1,614,000, 6 Bdrms, 3830 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 4-12-16
- 3155 Sandalwood Court, \$1,605,000, 4 Bdrms, 2174 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 4-8-16
- 599 Sky Highway Circle, \$1,730,000, 4 Bdrms, 3025 SqFt, 1980 YrBlt, 4-6-16;  
Previous Sale: \$923,000, 08-25-00
- 877 Solana Drive, \$1,407,000, 4 Bdrms, 2525 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 4-5-16;  
Previous Sale: \$700,000, 04-06-01
- 4025 Tilden Lane, \$1,920,000, 4 Bdrms, 3282 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 4-8-16;  
Previous Sale: \$579,000, 08-02-96
- 1054 Vista Bella, \$1,712,000, 4 Bdrms, 3542 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 4-11-16;  
Previous Sale: \$1,701,000, 04-07-16
- 653 Sky Ranch Court, \$1,400,000, 4 Bdrms, 2914 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 4-20-16;  
Previous Sale: \$555,000, 12-17-97
- 3553 South Silver Springs Road, \$1,600,000, 3 Bdrms, 2593 SqFt,  
1955 YrBlt, 4-20-16
- 1227 Upper Happy Valley Road, \$2,700,000, 5 Bdrms, 5502 SqFt,  
1954 YrBlt, 4-18-16
- 1141 Vallecito Court, \$3,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 4607 SqFt, 2006 YrBlt, 4-22-16;  
Previous Sale: \$870,000, 10-10-03

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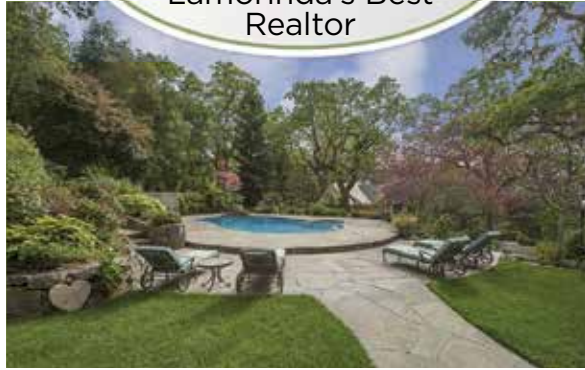
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-Rachel



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**Just Sold – Represented Seller**



**3832 Via Granada, Moraga**

**Sold with multiple offers -- \$1,438,000**

4 bedroom with large, level yard and pool in the Campolindo neighborhood.

**Just Sold -- Represented Buyer**

**Just Sold -- Represented Seller**



**2588 Oak #239, Walnut Creek**

**Sold over asking with 10-day close -- \$500,000**

2 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo with WC schools and close to BART.

**Just Sold – Represented Buyer**



**238 Paseo Bernal, Moraga**

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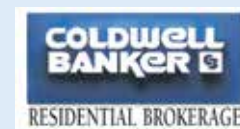
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*Feng Shui*

# Don't Get Burned By the Fire Element This Summer

By Michele Duffy



Spring and summer backyard gatherings are timely with large dining areas like the one at this Sunjams Foundation concert in Orinda.

Photo provided

Summer is just around the corner, and this is the perfect time for sprucing up your outdoor living spaces. Place cushions on furniture, switch on outdoor battery candles, landscape, paint patios or upgrade your yards, and light up outdoor kitchens, all in anticipation of more outdoor fetes and welcoming summer with open arms.

Your home is a reflection of you, so take a peek in the rooms — some inside and some outdoors — so your home's spaces are ready to go this summer.

The warmer days of summer begin soon and so will the warm fire element. We must know how to effectively control the fire element of this 2016 Fire Monkey year and avoid any burn-out from too much of a great thing.

**Control the Fire Element**

First, summer is ruled by the fire element and with all the additional gatherings the warmer weather suggests, you should enhance your front entrance lighting to be sure guests and family can access your home with ease.

Remember that the color red represents the fire element and so cooling it down is important. Cut back a bit of the red pillows, towels and accents in favor of cooler blues, agave green, turquoise — these will balance nicely the general living areas of your residence.

You can further balance the fire element with earth tones like yellow, orange and brown. In the Five Elements Theory fire creates earth so conversely, earth also drains fire.

... continued on page D8



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## He's All About New Listings in May



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3 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 2214 Sq. Ft. | 1.06 Acre



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## Feng Shui

# Don't Get Burned By the Fire Element This Summer

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This summer try to include water features, but be safe and smart. While the water element is the ultimate controller of the hot fire element of summer, remember to be mindful of all conservation and safety issues to enjoy the water element fully.

You can immerse yourself in water by changing up your décor to include more blues and greens, adding wavy art pieces or photos of water, like from the Lafayette Reservoir.

### Kitchen Tips

What are the primary areas of Feng Shui redesign in our homes during summer with the dominating fire element? The fire element is right at home in the kitchen and plays a major role with both indoor and outdoor stoves and grills, especially convenient and smart with the warmer summer days. All this yummy warmth is nicely countered and balanced by preparing in our kitchens cooler liquids to further balance our own personal Qi. Be sure to have fresh, cooler greens on hand. And it's no wonder why Gelato tastes best in summer.

Your kitchen should ideally be a focus for de-cluttering with color pops to be more of a gathering place. Allow the kitchen to sparkle this time of year, adorned with fresh flowers and fruit. Finish your kitchen projects in spring to fully enjoy this area in summer.

Place seating and stools so while finishing touches are placed on a meal, there is an ease to visiting, celebrating and connecting with others.

Cooling salads, fresh vegetables, and artisanal local fare allow guests to be nourished seasonally. It is great Feng Shui to mix things up a bit, so create a custom beverage as a signature gift to your guests. Kitchen counters adorned with colorful glass pitchers of mint Meyer lemon water or Sun Tea sweetened with local honey are especially nice. It's easy to grow both mint and fruit in pots near your kitchen, and placing fresh flowers from a farmers' market on kitchen islands brings the season indoors.

### Don't Forget Dining Areas

Next are the dining areas, indoors and out, which can also be an extension of your kitchen this time of year. Remember to create plenty of outdoor dining areas, plus grilling areas, too. Create gathering places for shared late-night conversations after sumptuous meals under the stars or outdoor string lights.

Outdoors, summer is the very best time to incorporate many clever Feng Shui elements with passion and flair, but especially a feng shui water feature will work hard to balance Fire Qi. Also, creating livable, conversationally arranged seating and social spots with outdoor solar lights twinkling on starlit evenings, and meditative areas with jasmine or orange blooms wafting in the soft summer breeze, creates great feng shui and outdoor spaces that can be fully and completely utilized by all.

Many outdoor areas also include feng shui features like flowering arbors, windchimes and bird baths. Knowing how to place and arrange pieces to produce desired results is the key to auspicious feng shui.

For example, to activate the wood element of late spring and abundance, hang a bamboo (and not a metal) wind chime in the far left area of your yard.

Summer is also time for relaxing under a tree with a lovely book, slowing down to smell the wisteria and allowing yourself to recharge a bit. If you can make it to the beach, swim in the salty sea, which will allow you to be truly cool when the warm sun fills the summer sky — and who doesn't want more of that? If you can't make it to the beach, a backyard pool will do.

And with these tips your home will be ready to allow you to retreat and recharge properly, without getting burned by the fire element.



Hummingbirds attract positive Qi so make them feel welcome with a feeder. Photo provided



Michele Duffy, BTB M.F.S. is an Orinda resident who, since 1999, enjoys creating "Space as Medicine" Feng Shui one space at a time, as well as hiking in nature, cooking, and spending time with her family; Canyon Ranch Feng Shui Master, International Feng Shui Guild (IFSG) Red Ribbon Professional. To schedule a professional 2015 Feng Shui Consultation, contact Michele at (520) 647-4887 or send an email to [spaceharmony@gmail.com](mailto:spaceharmony@gmail.com).





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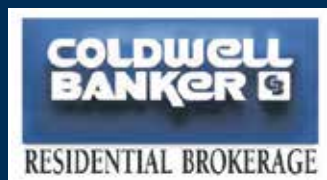
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# Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

... continued from page D2

## MORAGA

1930 Ascot Drive, \$725,000, 2 Bdrms, 1613 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 4-14-16  
 2055 Ascot Drive #106, \$360,000, 2 Bdrms, 1076 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 4-7-16; Previous Sale: \$330,000, 08-13-04  
 35 Ashford Place, \$1,510,000, 4 Bdrms, 2267 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 4-18-16; Previous Sale: \$159,000,  
 951 Augusta Drive, \$1,185,000, 5 Bdrms, 3969 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 4-6-16; Previous Sale: \$750,000, 06-21-96  
 1477 Camino Peral, \$572,000, 2 Bdrms, 1265 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 4-12-16; Previous Sale: \$422,500, 03-01-04  
 731 Crossbrook Drive, \$1,371,000, 4 Bdrms, 2897 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 4-7-16; Previous Sale: \$567,000, 06-10-94  
 2121 Donald Drive #8, \$435,000, 2 Bdrms, 1224 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 4-13-16; Previous Sale: \$163,000, 05-07-92  
 422 Fernwood Drive, \$1,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 2898 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 4-19-16; Previous Sale: \$435,000, 01-19-94  
 5 Fieldbrook Place, \$1,315,000, 4 Bdrms, 2045 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 4-8-16  
 18 Fieldbrook Place, \$1,700,000, 4 Bdrms, 2262 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 4-19-16; Previous Sale: \$850,000, 08-29-14  
 25 Ross Drive, \$1,255,000, 4 Bdrms, 1979 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 4-13-16; Previous Sale: \$850,000, 09-01-11  
 1072 Sanders Drive, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 2333 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 4-5-16; Previous Sale: \$539,000, 06-08-00  
 142 Selborne Way, \$1,127,000, 4 Bdrms, 1991 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 4-7-16  
 25 Tamarisk, \$1,080,000, 3 Bdrms, 2172 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 4-19-16; Previous Sale: \$869,000, 07-26-07  
 17 Thune Avenue, \$1,275,000, 4 Bdrms, 2167 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 4-22-16; Previous Sale: \$1,135,000, 03-18-14

## ORINDA

100 Acacia Drive, \$825,000, 3 Bdrms, 1829 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 4-15-16; Previous Sale: \$200,000, 10-31-01  
 3 Briones View, \$1,230,000, 2 Bdrms, 1477 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 4-13-16; Previous Sale: \$960,000, 07-21-04  
 8 Camino Del Diablo, \$1,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 3252 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 4-22-16; Previous Sale: \$1,750,000, 05-30-03  
 31 Crestview Drive, \$1,875,000, 5 Bdrms, 3275 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 4-8-16; Previous Sale: \$390,000, 02-23-95  
 60 Donald Drive, \$2,850,000, 4 Bdrms, 5250 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 4-15-16  
 55 Donna Maria Way, \$1,277,000, 4 Bdrms, 2576 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 4-15-16  
 7 East Altarinda Drive, \$1,685,000, 3 Bdrms, 2001 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 4-12-16; Previous Sale: \$1,225,000, 05-30-08  
 23 Frogs Leap Way, \$2,495,000, 5 Bdrms, 3906 SqFt, 2014 YrBlt, 4-19-16; Previous Sale: \$750,000, 08-15-14  
 42 Haciendas Road, \$1,675,000, 3 Bdrms, 2369 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 4-21-16; Previous Sale: \$1,420,000, 01-05-11  
 249 Ivy Place, \$1,200,000, 3 Bdrms, 1994 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 4-5-16  
 88 La Espiral, \$1,310,000, 4 Bdrms, 2201 SqFt, 1935 YrBlt, 4-13-16; Previous Sale: \$1,150,000, 07-27-07  
 159 Lombardy Lane, \$1,967,500, 4 Bdrms, 3486 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 4-8-16; Previous Sale: \$1,555,000, 10-12-12  
 22 Martha Road, \$1,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 2090 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 4-8-16; Previous Sale: \$735,000, 12-28-01  
 26 Martha Road, \$1,235,000, 3 Bdrms, 1700 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 4-19-16; Previous Sale: \$810,000, 05-11-04  
 310 Miller Court, \$2,490,000, 4 Bdrms, 3835 SqFt, 2014 YrBlt, 4-12-16; Previous Sale: \$2,263,500, 07-23-14  
 141 Orchard Road, \$1,121,000, 3 Bdrms, 1843 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 4-19-16; Previous Sale: \$959,000, 11-17-06  
 133 Overhill Road, \$988,000, 3 Bdrms, 1321 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 4-6-16; Previous Sale: \$80,000, 11-19-76  
 10 Pico Court, \$1,312,000, 5 Bdrms, 2827 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 4-18-16; Previous Sale: \$200,000, 11-18-85  
 7 Whitehall Drive, \$1,252,000, 3 Bdrms, 1630 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 4-8-16; Previous Sale: \$799,000, 10-07-10

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# Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

... continued from page D1

Debbie and her husband are the ultimate recyclers and repurposers. With their barnyard of adopted animals – pigs, goats, donkeys, chickens, even Texas long horns at one time – all the weeds and garden cuttings feed the animals and the manure is then recycled back to the garden. They collect rooftop rain runoff in used wine barrels then pipe it to a storage tank to help with summer watering. It's never enough, but every drop helps. Their garden art includes rusted plows, wooden swings, a plethora of homemade birdhouses, multiple fountains made from found objects, wagon wheels, antlers, the cutest country chicken coop you ever did see, and a sleeping shed outfitted with a bear hide, antique fishing gear, pinecones, and found treasures of every sort. From their patio they watch the wildlife on their hillside property – deer, bobcats, raccoons, turkeys, skunks, and the occasional mountain lion. It's a playful, restful garden setting, albeit with a watchful eye for the rattlesnakes that enjoy this oasis as well.

What I love about Debbie's garden is how it reflects her unique personality, her love of the land, and her admiration for the history of the Wild West. As we ambled around the property with her happy dogs in the lead, the songbirds sang, a bevy of butterflies delicately landed on her flowers, and the koi in the pond swam to the surface to greet me. This time together immersed in this sustainable landscape nurtured my soul and brought our childhood memories to vivid life. Although we grow the same plants, shrubs, trees, and succulents in both of our yards, our designs and esthetics are completely different. And that's the beauty of creating a garden, making it your own special paradise where you can find peace, tranquility, and restoration in tandem with the wild kingdom.



*A winding gravel path dotted with bearded iris, lavender, and fruit trees leads to the bucolic hillside view.*



*Aeonium succulents*



*Photos Cynthia Brian An antique plow with a recycled wooden swing is a special place to enjoy sunsets.*





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## East Bay Luxury Home Sales Rebound in March

Submitted by Steve Maita

After a slow February, the East Bay's luxury housing market rebounded in March with sales nearly tripling from the previous month and jumping more than 21 percent year-over-year, according to a new report by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, the Bay Area's leading provider of luxury real estate services.

The figures are based on Multiple Listing Service data of all homes sold for more than \$1.5 million last month in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

A total of 119 luxury homes changed hands in March, up from 43 sales in February. Sales were also up 21.4 percent from the 98 transactions in March 2015. The upper end of the luxury market was strong as well with 44 sales over \$2 million, up from 12 the previous month and 37 a year ago. There were also nine sales over \$3 million, up from six a year ago.

Meanwhile, the median sale price of a luxury home last month was down fractionally from a year ago, settling at \$1,840,215, off 1.4 percent from March 2015. Last month's median sale price was also off slightly from February's level of \$1,850,000.

"The East Bay's luxury housing market turned around nicely in March and continues to be one of the hottest housing markets in the entire Bay Area," said Mike James, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "We still can use more inventory, but there are signs that listings have started picking up. That should help sales in April and May."

Some key findings from this month's Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage luxury report:

- The most expensive sale in the East Bay last month was five-bedroom, three-bath approximately 4,400-square-foot home in Lafayette that sold for \$3.9 million;
- Pleasanton and Alamo boasted the most luxury sales with 14 each, followed by Danville with 12, and Fremont, Lafayette and Oakland with 11 each;
- Homes sold in an average of 28.9 days on the market, down from 34.8 days a year ago and 50.9 days the previous month;
- Sellers received an average of 105 percent of their asking price, up from 104 percent a year ago and 103 percent the previous month.

The East Bay Luxury Housing Market Report is a monthly report by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, a specialist in high-end real estate sales. Through its internationally renowned Coldwell Banker Previews® program, Coldwell Banker is recognized around the world for its expertise in the luxury housing market.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage has nine East Bay offices serving Berkeley, Castro Valley, Danville, Fremont, Oakland, Piedmont, Orinda, Pleasanton, and Walnut Creek. For more information, please call 925.771.5285.



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# Digging Deep

... continued from page D12



## Tips to Creating Your Own Unique Playground

- Don't over-think it! Make lists of everything you enjoy in a garden then do it.
- Be conservation conscious as well as considerate of nature.
- Be creative. Think swathes, angles, circles, and flow. There is nothing more boring than a box.
- The hardscape must include natural materials: rocks, gravel, barn wood, shells, or anything meaningful to you.
- Instead of buying art, repurpose childhood toys, old sinks, even a commode overflowing with flowers can be comical.
- Be playful. When you are going to spend time in the outdoors, you want to enjoy yourself. Allow your personality to shine.
- Add surprises, secret gardens, hedged rooms, anything that will enhance the whimsical and magical element to your garden experience.
- Lead to a focal point or view with meandering paths, walkways, and trails.
- Invite the pollinators; bees, butterflies, and birds by providing housing, nectar flows, protection, fountains, and ponds.
- Mix it up. For a drought resistant garden, consider an array of beautiful succulents, cactus, lavender, bulbs, iris, daylily, geraniums, and other plants that will add color, texture, form, and structure, yet require little maintenance and minimal water.
- A potager, pots, or area designated for edibles and herbs is a must have. There is nothing better than picking your dinner from your own property.
- Benches, swings, lounge chairs, umbrellas, and places to unwind, watch the clouds, savor sunsets, and marvel at the stars make your garden your home.



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## Mulching Trees and Shrubs Conserves Water

Mulching is important for trees and also shrubs. Besides being attractive, mulch can be used to conserve soil moisture, to buffer soil temperature extremes, to control weeds and competing vegetation and to replenish organic matter and nutrients in the soil.

The majority of landscape trees evolved in a woodland environment with natural mulch around them. Often the practice is to rake up or blow away any natural mulch in a home landscapes.

In a natural environment, trees generally do not grow in lawns or meadows and their root systems do not compete well against lawn grasses. A mulched area around a tree should be provided for the benefit of the tree. The size of the mulched areas around a tree depends on the size of the tree.

So don't wait until it's too late have a complete inspection by a Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service.

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What's so fun about our family gardening experience is the sharing that we all do in giving each other clips, snips, cuttings, bulbs, and volunteers. We grow the same specimens and as we stroll and admire our handiwork, we can't remember who gave what to whom first.

As I said farewell to my sister, she handed me a hand-painted tin filled with blooming echeveria from clippings I had given her a few years before. We shared a laugh.

The circle of life continues.

Happy Trails to you.



*Edible and fascinating, Debbie cultivated a living fence of prickly pear cactus.*

## Cynthia Brian's Mid-Month Fresh Ideas

**CHECK** irrigation lines and sprinkler systems for leaks. The water district reminds us that our California drought is not over yet!

**RELEASE** ladybugs into your garden if you spot aphids. Ladybugs (also called lady beetles) only stay in a garden when there is sufficient food. If yours fly away, don't be dismayed. Pat yourself on the back as your garden is healthier than a neighboring landscape.

**TUCK** edibles into your flowerbeds. Parsley and garlic chives look especially handsome as a border.

**REGROW** scallions by sticking the root ends in water after snipping. You'll get a fresh crop very quickly.

**SCATTER** wildflower seeds in an area where you want a wild, natural appearance. It's not too late!

**HARVEST** overwintered root crops such as carrots and parsnips before they lose their flavor and robustness.

**THIN** apples and stone fruit to insure a bigger, healthier harvest. Leave two to three fruit per cluster.

Happy gardening. Happy growing!

©2016

Cynthia Brian

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Tune into Cynthia's Radio show at [www.StarStyleRadio.com](http://www.StarStyleRadio.com)

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A wine barrel collects roof runoff.



Cynthia's mother, sister cowgirl Debbie, and Cynthia in the garden.

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## ORINDA



New Listing

**19 Glorietta Court** Ideal location on convenient, quiet cul de sac near 12 years of schools + commute. Charming well maintained 3bd/2ba on one level with easy access outside to privacy and tranquil setting. **\$935,000**

## ORINDA



New Listing

**37 Camino Don Miguel** Great 1 level, very well-maintained home set on gorgeous knoll w/views, privacy & grassy yard. Fully renovated Chef's kitchen adjoins family rm. Separate studio/ofc. Prime OCC neighborhood. **\$1,285,000**

## ORINDA



New Listing

**9 Fleetwood Court** Wonderful Harold Smith traditional home located at end of court & backs up to open space. Hardwood floors, kitchen with island & dining area. Formal living, dining + family room. **\$1,395,000**

## ORINDA



New Listing

**213 Overhill Road** Wonderfully remodeled Glorietta home on .5+ acres! State of the art custom kitchen, high ceilings, Andersen windows & doors, 4bd/3ba, apx 2350 sf. Close to town & top rated schools K-12. **\$1,549,000**

## ORINDA



**15 Estates Drive** Redesigned & renovated. Living, dining & island kitchen all in a "Great Room." 4bd/3ba + study/den. Hardwood floors. Patio & side yard. Close in location on .53 acre lot. Top rated Orinda schools. **\$1,595,000**

## ORINDA



**111 Bear Ridge Trail** Gated 1.22ac lush knoll parcel. Custom 5bd/4.5ba, 3952 sf home w/ light & bright rooms, walls of windows & high ceilings. Modern kitchen w/ informal eating area & adj. family room. Views! **\$1,799,000**

## ORINDA



New Listing

**352 Dalewood Drive** Impressive Orinda Downs custom home on cul-de-sac with hill views & majestic oaks, Chef's kitchen adjoining family room with 2 private outdoor decks. Hdwd flrs, vaulted ceilings, + office. **\$2,100,000**

## ORINDA



New Listing

**16 La Cintilla** Exquisite OCC 6bd/6ba two story home located on a private oak-studded .30ac lot. Vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, gourmet kitchen, spacious game room & private au-pair guest suite. **\$2,150,000**

## MORAGA



New Listing

**2121 Donald Drive #6** Desirable Moraga Manor 2 story, 2bd/1.5ba remodeled 1,224 sf condo with granite kitchen, fireplace & patio. Steps from pool & designated parking. Close to shopping, trails. Top schools! **\$445,000**

## MORAGA



New Listing

**1400 Camino Peral** Beautiful 3bd/2ba townhome, fresh paint, two car garage. Conveniently located near shopping, transportation, park, trails, and library. **\$685,000**

## MORAGA



New Price

**202 Paseo Bernal** Beautiful 3bd/3ba end unit, light, bright w/vaulted ceiling, large downstairs family room w/bdrm & updated bath, hdwd flrs throughout, inside laundry & attached 2-car garage. **\$769,000**

## MORAGA



New Listing

**12 Carnoustie** Fabulous end of cul de sac single family view home. Master & main living on entry level w/cathedral ceilings. Updated decks w/sunrise view. Full CC membership. Top schools. **\$1,100,000**

## MORAGA



New Listing

**9 Shannon Court** Sanders Ranch estate property over 1.5 acres, 4966 sq. ft., Chef's kitchen, hardwood, new carpet, fresh paint, pool, ideal indoor/ outdoor living spaces. **\$3,250,000**

## LAFAYETTE



New Listing

**1167 Monticello Road** Fabulous mid century contemporary nestled on gorgeous private level .5+ acre. Walls of glass, soaring ceilings, open floor plan. 6 spacious bedrms. Pool, expansive deck, lawn & gardens. **\$1,939,000**

## LAFAYETTE



New Listing

**30 Tiana Terrace** Super style living on dramatic over-sized parcel within Tiana enclave of custom homes. Great style + design integrity with high quality amenities in/outside. Total privacy. Mt. Diablo Views! **\$2,450,000**

## WALNUT CREEK



New Listing

**1872 Cannon Drive** Beautifully updated townhome in desirable Skywest. 2bd/2ba, 1263sf, 2-car garage. Move-in ready, private setting w/patio, oak views & no rear neighbors. Pool, park, tennis. Great location! **\$530,000**



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