

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Marin real estate agent joins The Agency

By Adrian Rodriguez
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Realty agent Tracy McLaughlin has joined a Beverly Hills-based firm to lead its new Marin office.



McLaughlin

McLaughlin will be at the helm of its Larkspur office at 285 Magnolia Ave., the firm's third Northern California branch. Over her 23-

year career, McLaughlin has sold more than \$1 billion in real estate.

McLaughlin started Morgan Lane in 2006, a real estate brand she grew until 2009. She and her husband bought Pacific Union, which grew to the fifth largest brokerage in the U.S. before recently being acquired by Compass, according to a press release.

The Agency, founded in 2011, has more than 500 brokers in offices in the U.S., Mexico, Canada and the Caribbean.

Fairfax resident Yvonne Roberts has been promoted to chief donor relations officer at San Rafael's Whistle-

stop after 10 years with the nonprofit that offers services for older adults and those living with disabilities. Roberts joined Whistlestop in 2009 to lead the development and marketing efforts. In her new role, Roberts will continue to be a member of the leadership team and will focus on donor relations.

San Anselmo resident Matt Brown, president of Meridian Commercial, a commercial real estate brokerage firm, has announced three new hires and a new office opening at 711 Grand Ave. in San Rafael.

The new hires include

Scott Gerber, Steve Easley and Kate Raphael. Gerber will serve as managing director of investments; Easley is joining as a senior director; and Raphael is an investment associate.

Meridian Commercial is a firm based in Terra Linda with 15 associates in three offices. Meridian Commercial specializes in the sales and leasing and property management of office, industrial, retail and multifamily investments throughout the region, according to a press release.

Movers and Shakers is compiled by Adrian Rodriguez and appears weekly. Send information to arodri@marinij.com.

In your town

Send us your news: We want more news items from Marin's cities and towns. Email them to our City Desk at localnews@marinij.com, mail them to City Desk, Marin Independent Journal, 4000 Civic Center Drive, Suite 301, San Rafael, CA 94903, or fax them to 382-7209. For more information about towns in Marin, visit the IJ's website at marinij.com.

Send us your photos: Send photos to photos@marinij.com and include your name and phone number so that we can get back to you for any additional information we might need.

THE COUNTY

Expo to offer tips on rental unit additions

The Marin County Commission on Aging is organizing an exposition on converting extra bedrooms into rental apartments.

The free event will provide homeowners with advice from architects, planners and builders. Nonprofit representatives will discuss how to screen tenants and write rental contracts.

The event is scheduled for 9 to 11 a.m. Feb. 7 at the Whistlestop building at 930 Tamalpais Ave. in San Rafael.

More information is available at 415-473-7118.

REAL ESTATE WATCH

Real estate sales last week in Marin

	SINGLE	FAMILY
Average	\$1.64M	\$1.5M
Median	\$1.3M	\$1.16M
Sales	24	22
ADOM*	53	69
SP/LP**	101.01%	95.92%
Highest	\$8.7M	\$5.65M

CONDOMINIUMS

	2018	2019
Average	\$963,750	\$824,167
Median	\$512,500	\$611,500
Sales	4	6
ADOM*	149	64
SP/LP**	97.74%	100.80%
Highest	\$2.45M	\$1.84M

2018: Jan. 9-15
2019: Jan. 8-14
*Average Days On Market
**Sales Price/List Price
Source: Patti Cohn, Realtor Pacific Union International; pacunion.com

STATE

Bail reform law to go on 2020 ballot

The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO » The nation's first law eliminating bail for suspects awaiting trial is on hold until California voters decide whether to overturn it, officials said Wednesday.

A referendum that qualified for the 2020 state ballot would overturn the law signed last year by then-Gov. Jerry Brown, Secretary of State Alex Padilla said in a statement. The law would replace bail with a risk-assessment system — although it's still unclear how the system will work.

The law scheduled to go into effect in October 2019. Now it must be approved by a majority of voters before it can take effect.

The rules would give the state's judicial council broad authority to reshape pretrial detention policies. Based on the council's framework, each county's superior court will set its own procedures for deciding who to release before trial, potentially creating a patchwork system based on where a suspect lives.

Most suspects accused of nonviolent felonies will be released within 12 hours

of booking, while those charged with serious, violent felonies will stay in jail before trial.

The law would give judges wide latitude to decide what to do with other suspects based on their likelihood of returning to court and the danger they pose to the public.

It's the latest development in the nationwide debate over bail, which many people say unfairly punishes people for being poor.

Advocates of the California law say incarceration should depend on a suspect's risk to public safety,

not the ability to pay.

Opponents, including some social justice groups, argue the new law gives judges too much power to decide who should be released and will allow dangerous people to go free.

The law would let counties set up their own pretrial assessment agencies or run their risk assessment programs through existing probation departments.

The referendum needed more than 402,000 signatures to qualify for the 2020 ballot, and it exceeded that threshold this week, Padilla said.

Wage

FROM PAGE 3

in October 2018 that they sponsored analyzed how this accelerated wage in-

crease would affect workers in several North Bay cities. He said about 7,000 workers based in Novato would be affected by the proposed wage hike.

"Ultimately, we want to move toward a regional-

wide minimum wage higher than the stat and over time have most jurisdictions in the North Bay approve our legislation," Bennett said to the council.

Councilwoman Pam

Drew said she enthusiastically supports the idea, saying, "I think we can agree that in a time of prosperity when wages are not increasing there is a direct way we can increase the minimum wage."

March

FROM PAGE 3

losi is taking star turns in the Oval Office during showdowns with President Trump and a record number of women are considering runs at the White House.

At least one chapter, in New Orleans, canceled its event. Chicago also canceled its march, blaming financial concerns and a lack of volunteers, but said the conflict made the decision easier. And in New York — where the national leaders broke apart — two marches will go forward on Saturday, one ostensibly celebrating diversity and the other led by Wruble's new group, March On, denouncing anti-Semitism.

Adding another layer of intrigue was the announcement earlier this month that the official march in

Humboldt County — where more than 70 percent of the population is white — was canceled when organizers said their leadership was "too white."

At each of the Bay Area marches, speakers from diverse backgrounds will take the stage. More than 150,000 are expected to march at events throughout the Bay Area, including up to 70,000 in both San Francisco and Oakland and about 25,000 in San Jose.

Fairfax resident Jody Timms, who is one of the founders of the activist group 350Marin, said she has been a social justice demonstrator since the 1970s, fighting for women's rights, among other causes. For the past two women's marches, she has not hesitated to join the rally.

"People are seeing the value of the women's marches, despite the controversy," Timms said. "We

BAY AREA MARCHES

Saturday schedule:

San Francisco: Civic Center Plaza. Rally starts at 11:30 a.m. and then march at 1:30 p.m. down Market Street to the Embarcadero Plaza.

San Jose: City Hall. March starts at 11 a.m. at City Hall, followed by rally at the Arena Green East (next to the SAP Center).

Oakland: Lake Merritt. March starts at 10 a.m. with rally at Frank Ogawa Plaza.

Alameda: Corner of Park St. and Santa Clara Ave. March starts at noon.

need to keep an eye on the goals, which is to change society so that it is more humane for everyone."

Among one of the larger factions from Marin participating in the march is the Mill Valley Community Action Network (MVCAN), which is bringing a few dozen people into the city.

June Cooperman, a

founding member of the MVCAN organization, said she traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the first march fueled by the election of Trump.

"It was an important turning point and the launching of the entire resistance," Cooperman said.

Cooperman said many people involved have turned to long-term activism and participate in other social justice efforts on a regular basis. She pointed out that this year's theme revolves around the hashtag #TruthToPower, which she said is the perfect message.

"So we're saying, pull out your old pink hat, make your own signs, and we'll see you there," Cooperman said. "It's about equality, in the broadest sense, and that we can have it in America."

Bay Area News Group contributed to this report.

CORTE MADERA

Kids' crafts session scheduled at library

The library is planning a children's workshop on making snowflake patterns by cutting paper bags.

The session will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday. The library is at 707 Meadowsweet Drive.

The event is intended for children ages 5 and older.

SAN RAFAEL

Seat available on design committee

The city is preparing to seek applicants for a vacancy on the Design Review Board.

Robert Huntsberry, whose term expires in June 2020, retired last month. The City Council will vote on a resolution Tuesday to set a Feb. 13 application deadline for the seat.

The board, which includes five members and

an alternate, consists of design professionals who advise the City Council on development and remodeling projects.

SAUSALITO

Donations sought for sale at church

St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church is seeking donations for its upcoming attic sale fundraiser.

Donors can drop off items at the church from 9 a.m. to noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays through Feb. 11. The church is at 180 Harrison Ave.

The church is seeking items such as clothing, shoes, toys, framed art, rugs, jewelry, furniture, kitchen appliances cookware and electronics. The donations should be clean and in working condition.

The attic sale is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 16 and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 17.



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