



THE ORINDA NEWS

Gratis
Volume 32, Number 11

Published by The Orinda Association
Delivered to 9,000 Households and Businesses in Orinda

12 Issues Annually
November 2017

Navy Vet Ray Samuelson Honored in Celebration of Veterans

BY BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

Orindan Ray Samuelson was honored in Washington D.C. recently by the Honor Flight Network's Celebration of Veterans. "The trip was amazing," said Ray. "Virtually everywhere our group went strangers would spontaneously stand, salute, and break into applause. Many, among them a senator, two congressmen, firefighters, police and other veterans, asked to shake my hand or gave me a hug to thank me for my service to our country. It was overwhelming."

Ray traveled there with his son, Don. "Dad was the celebrity of the event as he was the only one who had served in three wars, WWII, Korea and Vietnam, and truly a member of the 'greatest generation,'" said Don. "Highlights were tours of Fort McHenry, the WWII Memorial, Vietnam Wall, Korean Memorial, Air Force Memorial, the Navy Memorial and an evening dinner party. All were humbling, inspiring and reflective. It's hard to describe the range of emotions we experienced during

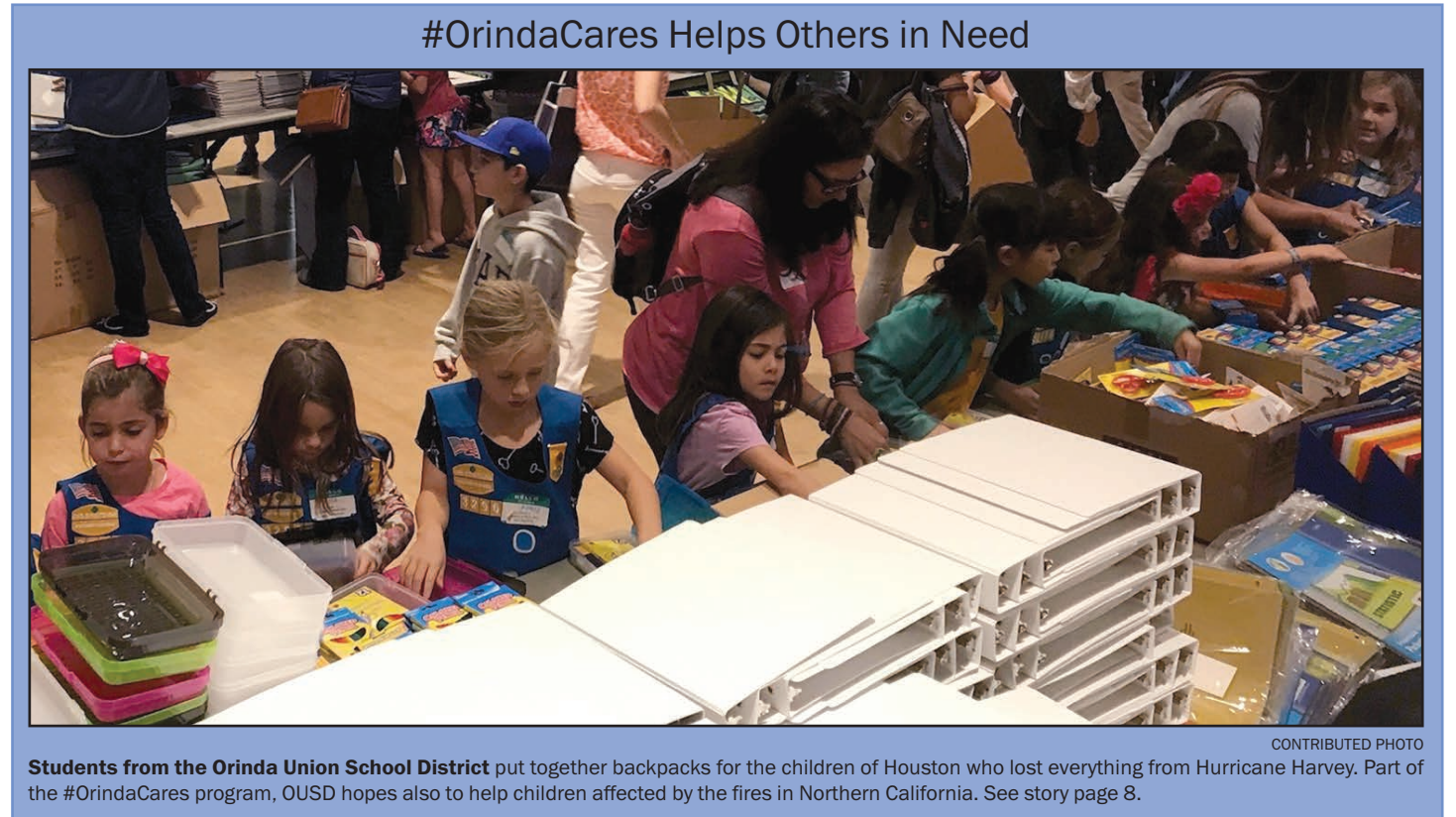


DON SAMUELSON

Ray Samuelson and son Don in Washington D.C. at the Honor Flight Network's Celebration of Veterans.

Nominate an Outstanding Community Member

Do you know someone who is an outstanding volunteer in the Orinda community or who has worked tirelessly to preserve or enhance the environment? If so, why not nominate that person for the 2017 Citizen of the Year or the 2017 William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Award? Winners will be feted at a festive dinner at the Orinda Country Club on Mar. 11, 2018. The Orinda Association is currently accepting nominations. Go to www.orindaassociation.org to download a nomination form, or call 925-254-0800.



#OrindaCares Helps Others in Need

Students from the Orinda Union School District put together backpacks for the children of Houston who lost everything from Hurricane Harvey. Part of the #OrindaCares program, OUSD hopes also to help children affected by the fires in Northern California. See story page 8.

this trip. Also, dad had a great time swapping sea stories with other Navy men."

Don, who has long been a member of the Honor Flight Network, was happy he could sponsor his dad and honor him in this way. The organization's mission is to "transport America's veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices." The organization has some 140 chapters throughout the United States. Don's is in Kansas. For this event, there were 22 Vietnam vets, 12 Korean vets, and two WWII vets. Ray was the only one who participated in two or more of the conflicts.

Looking back on his service career, Ray said, "Like most of the boys in my high school class I joined the service, and chose the Navy. Assigned to its officer training program, after schooling, I was commissioned as an Ensign. This was August 1945, [SEE VETERAN page 16]

City Extends Food Truck Program Through Spring 2018



DAVID DIERKS

Drewski's Famous Grilled Cheese & More is a regular attraction at Orinda's Food Truck nights.

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

At the Oct. 3 City Council meeting, the Orinda City Council unanimously agreed to extend the existing agreement with the Taste of the World Market (TOWM) food truck program through the completion of the request for proposal process. This extends the food truck program through the spring of 2018.

The food truck pilot program was originally approved on July 5, started on Aug. 17 and runs through Oct. 19. It is held on Thursdays from 5 to 9 p.m. TOWM holds contracts with 80 Bay Area food trucks. Each evening of the program includes six food trucks, including one dessert truck, and a beer and wine truck.

Additionally, TOWM provides live musical entertainment, tables, chairs, trash cans and games. TOWM is responsible for all setup, takedown and cleanup for each event. Setup begins at 3 p.m. and the entertainment stage is set up in front of the Orinda Library fountain with seating supplied by TOWM in front of the stage.

TOWM estimates between 500 and 600 people attend each event, with 85 to 94 transactions being conducted by each truck, which translates to approximately \$1,500 per truck per event. Attendees tend to congregate around the food trucks themselves, rather than use the Library Plaza.

"My observations about who is attending is across-the-board," said Parks and Recreation Director Todd Trimble. "I've [SEE TRUCKS page 16]

IN THIS ISSUE

News	
Local Politicians	6
MOFD	7
Nature Area Expands Services	5
Police Blotter	7
Around Town	
Performing/Visual Arts	2, 14
Preschool Directory	9-11
Schools/Students	5, 8
Backyard Getaways	18
Business Buzz	20
Calendar	15
Car Time	6
Classified	16
Editorial	4
Mats Talk	11
Orinda Association	3
Real Estate Reality	14
Seasoned Shopper	13
Something to Howl About	12
The Reel Less Traveled	17

Be Really Satisfied This Thanksgiving
Help Others on Giving Tuesday
See OA Ad pg 2



SALLY HOGARTY

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
ORINDA, CA
PERMIT #4
ECRWSS

Postal Customer



VISUAL ARTS

Library Gallery Features Paintings, Fiber Arts and More During November

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Lamorinda Arts Council presents the work of members of the Diablo Weaver's Guild: botanical art from students in Catherine Watters' classes, Karen Hildebrand's ceramics and Angelica Semame's paintings during the month of November at the Orinda Library Art Gallery. Join them on Sunday, Nov. 5, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. for their artist reception where light refreshments will be served. As a special treat, the Diablo Weavers Guild (DWG) is providing a cake to celebrate the 65th birthday of their organization.

The DWG in Walnut Creek began in 1952 with 11 members and now has about 20. The major emphasis of the founding members was cooperation and mutual assistance, with programs generated from the group members themselves. This continues today resulting in a close and mutually responsive group. Guests and beginners



Vilija Deutschman of Clayton, from the Diablo Weaver's Guild, is shown in her own completely handwoven traditional *National Dress of Lithuania*. The cotton apron shown above will be displayed in the exhibit.

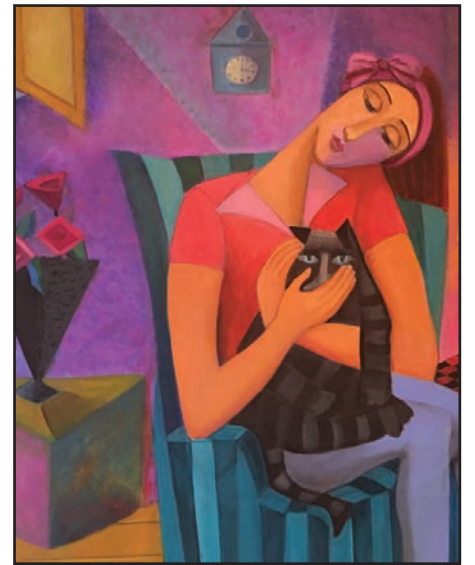
have always been welcomed as a way to share information about their very unique craft. See www.diabloweavers.org for more information.

Vilija Deutschman points out that cloth is so basic to human culture that most people don't even think about where it comes from let alone how it is produced. DWG programs center on the art and craft of weaving but sometimes include other craftspeople/artists whose work can be inspirational. Members' work ranges from the creation of useful, everyday textiles to true art pieces meant for display.

DWG weavers are incredibly creative in marrying thread, color and texture into usable cloth, a combination of art and craftsmanship. Knowing how to create the cloth is one thing; knowing how to cut and sew it together to create a one-of-a-kind usable, finished product is quite another. There are many areas in the world where people spin their own thread and weave it into cloth, some by necessity, most to keep cultural traditions alive. The group echoes those sentiments and works to keep this legacy of human history alive and productive.

Group members showing work include Joan Anderson, Carol Causey and Vilija Deutschman of Clayton, Sharon Gardner of Livermore, Tui Hedstrom of Pleasanton, Susan Hodges of Berkeley, Margie Kaplan Orinda, Pam Murdock of Lafayette, Kris Peerand of Pleasant Hill, and Lillian Whipple of Concord. Look for Whipple's *Weaver's Knot*, a 12.5" x 10" weaving of fine silk threads. She was recently awarded the Edith Whiteman Memorial Award for hand-woven artwork of the highest caliber of craftsmanship and technical ability.

Catherine Watters of Orinda teaches botanical art classes at the Orinda Community Center and other venues around the world. The botanical art exhibit she has



Angelica Samame's love of cats shows through in this colorful 30" x 30" acrylic painting on display during the month of November.

put together showcases about 30 works of 20 current and former students. Look for *Meyer Lemon*, a 9" x 12" watercolor by Gina Barrett done with meticulous detail and true-to-life color.

"Take a close look at the art and observe the amount of detail that each student puts into their work. It's a very time-consuming type of artwork that takes a detailed pencil drawing, detailed color matching and then execution," says Watters. If anyone is interested in learning more about botanical art, Watters is teaching a class at the Orinda Library on Nov. 9 at 10:30 a.m. Register by signing up online, by phone or in person (see information at end of article).

Botanical artists from Watters' classes exhibiting work include: Carol Varian of Danville; Sally De Marina and Barbara Ward of Lafayette; Pam Siefert of Martinez; Martha Bennett of Moraga; Cindy Barber,

[SEE GALLERY page 17]

Time to buy or sell? Let me help you.
See what my clients say at www.myagentsuzanne.com

Clients Are Always First

Suzanne Toner Geoffrion
925-699-4832
CalBRE# 01878803
Presidents International Sterling
Top 100 Sales Coldwell Banker SF Bay Area

©2017 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.

#GIVINGTUESDAY

#GivingTuesday
November 28, 2017
Join the Movement!

#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. One of the best ways to get involved is in your community and here's how.

Help bring joy and love this holiday to those seniors and children devastated by the October North Bay Fires.

The Orinda Volunteer Center is accepting this month, the following donations:

- Pleasure reading books for Seniors
- Reading glasses
- Children's books
- New children's toys

Visit our website for more specific donation ideas and information:
www.orindaassociation.org

TAVERNA PELLEGRINI

HAPPY HOUR
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Voted the best happy hour in the Bay Area!
\$6 food and drink menu

DINNER
4 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Live Music Saturday 7-10 p.m.
Early Bird Dinner
Take out available

65 Moraga Way
Orinda, CA 94563
Tel: 925.258.4200
Fax: 925.258.4204
www.tavernapellegrini.com

PIAZZA PELLEGRINI

A trattoria setting for Italian standards including antipasti, house-made pasta, pizzas & panini.

659 Columbus Ave
San Francisco, CA 94133
Phone: (415) 397-7355

ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President
Let the Holiday begin!



Cindy Powell

It is officially the Holiday Season. Kick it off with **Stress Awareness Day** on Nov. 1 and be aware that this season sometimes boosts the ever-present stress factors in our lives. Nov. 2 is **Plan Your Epitaph Day**. While that might sound morbid, it actually provides a great motivational tool to set goals or create lifestyle changes.

“Spring forward; Fall back”: So, move your clocks back one hour on Nov. 5. The extra hour you get back with **daylight savings time** might be an opportunity for extra productivity or activity. I, however, am going with **Zero Tasking Day** to dedicate this hour to “me time” and a leisurely Sunday brunch.

Drop by the **Artisan Faire** at Orinda Country Club on Nov. 10 to check out local artists, enjoy food and wine tasting, and buy a few locally made holiday gifts. Also, on Nov. 10 celebrate **Forget-Me-Not Day** by remembering family, friends, and loved ones and **USMC Day** to celebrate the birth of the United States Marine Corps, originally the Continental Marines, created during the Revolutionary War.

Veterans Day on Nov. 11 honors all members of the Armed Forces, particularly living veterans who served this country valiantly. Veterans gave their time, and risked their lives to preserve our way of life. Thank you!

Care Giver Appreciation Day, on Nov. 13, is a very important day of recognition for the tens of millions of Americans who selflessly give their time to care for those who are ill, disabled, or elderly. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, over 40 million Americans, age 15 or older, provide unpaid care to the elderly alone, and 29 percent of the U.S. population, about 65 million Americans, are care givers in some way. Wow!! Please reach out to a neighbor who needs a much deserved break.

World Kindness Day, also on Nov. 13, evolved from conferences in Japan 20 years ago and the Declaration of Kindness: “when we feel love and kindness toward others, it not only makes others feel loved and cared for, but it helps us also to develop inner happiness and peace.” – Dalai Lama

Great American Smokeout Day is Nov.

Citizen and Volunteer of the Year Awards Now Combined

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

The Orinda Association (OA) and the Orinda Community Foundation (OCF) recently announced a new partnership. The two nonprofit groups will combine efforts to recognize outstanding local residents at one awards ceremony. Recognition for the

Citizen of the Year (OCF) and the William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Award will take place on Mar. 11, 2018 at the Orinda Country Club.

“We are really looking forward to working with Richard Westin, Sue Severson and OCF,” says OA President Cindy Powell. “Their many years of volunteer and philanthropy work will benefit our awards



DAVID DIERKS

(L-R) The Orinda Association’s **Cindy Powell**, Supervisor **Candace Andersen**, the **Fix Orinda Roads Committee**, (2016’s Volunteer of the Year), Assemblywoman **Catharine Baker** and Orinda City Councilmember **Amy Worth**.

The Orinda Association

The Orinda Association is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to:

- Maintaining and improving the quality of life in Orinda;
- Promoting awareness and discussion of issues that are important to the community;
- Encouraging and recognizing volunteer efforts to enhance the beauty, character and security of Orinda.

P.O. Box 97
26 Orinda Way (Lower Level Library)
Orinda, California 94563
Phone: 254-0800 Fax: 254-8312
www.orindaassociation.org

OFFICERS		BOARD MEMBERS
President	Cindy Powell	Carlos Baltodano
Vice President	Joe Garvey	Jeremy Conescu
Secretary	Anil Comelo	Joe Haughin – Board Member Emeritus
Treasurer	Bill Waterman	Chris Laszcz-Davis
Membership	Kate Wiley	Jim Luini – Board Member Emeritus
City Council Liaison	Inga Miller	Carol Zischke

16. The goal of this day is quite obvious: to get people to quit smoking, resulting in fewer health problems. Also on Nov. 16, the Orinda Woman’s Club will again hold its **Festival of Trees Fashion Show** and luncheon. OWC supports many very deserving groups in our area with the funds raised at this single event. Please attend and encourage me on the catwalk, bid on a cute miniature tree, and say hello to Santa.

Orinda Holiday Bazaar is Nov. 18 and fills the Community Center with great gift options for all ages and interests, and maybe buy yourself a holiday boost!

Nov. 23, **Thanksgiving Day**, is America’s celebration to give thanks for the harvest of the past year. Start your day with a parade and end with a pledge to share your harvest with others.

Nov. 24, **Black Friday**, is the day after Thanksgiving, one of the busiest shopping days in the United States. Why Black? In the world of accountants, red signifies a loss, and black signifies a profit. For many retailers, these holiday sales represent one half to three quarters of their annual sales.

Save your energy for **Small Business Saturday** on Nov. 25 and promote small and local businesses, an important part your economy. As the Orinda Chamber says, “SHOP ORINDA.” Check out the Orinda Chamber app, stay close to home, and remember the importance of supporting local small businesses.

Nov. 27, **Cyber Monday**, is for the shoppers that feel they missed the “big” day and want to shop online for sales. My vote, though, goes to **Giving Tuesday** (Nov. 28), the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Take a break from the gift-buying and donate to charity. Renew your Orinda Association membership, donate unused items and send your nominations to us for Citizen of the Year or Mott Environmental Award nominees. And, be thankful for our kind and giving Orinda residents!

selection.”

For 31 years, the OA has presented the Volunteer of the Year Award and in 1993, began bestowing the William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Award as well. Starting with the 2017 awards, however, the OA will only present the William Penn Mott award with the OCF combining criteria for the Volunteer and Citizen of the Year awards into one.

Previously, the Rotary Club of Orinda and the *Lamorinda Sun* had sponsored the Citizen of the Year award. For nearly 20 [SEE VOLUNTEER page 7]

Steve Stahle
(925) 324-4121
stevestahle@sbcglobal.net
www.villageassociates.com

Tradition of Trust
Service You Desire

Cal BRE#01861509

~ Expertise
~ Service
~ Insight
~ Integrity

Experience Extraordinary

Call us today for a complimentary Market Evaluation & Home Enhancement Plan

just ask our clients

Virginia Varni-Ratto (925) 998-9501
Paul Ratto (925) 899-9536
vvarni@pacunion.com pratto@pacunion.com
www.rattoandratto.com • www.fixup2sell.com

51 Moraga Way, Suite 1 ORINDA, CA 94563 925-258-0090
see our open homes and many more listings with virtual & multi-media tours on pacificunion.com

TREE SCULPTURE

COMPLETE TREE CARE
Proudly serving the East Bay since 1965!
Fully Insured ❖ Certified Arborists ❖ License #655977
(925) 254-7233 ❖ www.treesculpture.com

Letters to the Editor...

Game of Thrones in Orinda?

In *Game of Thrones*, disparate leaders, each with their own personal agenda, are called upon to accept the reality of a massive threat to the very survival of their populace and to prioritize uncomfortable collaboration as their only effective means of defense.

The Orinda City Council finds itself in a similar predicament.

Senate Bill 35 strips away many of Orinda's tools for exercising local control of development matters. Big-city, urban development policy to circumvent California's environmental protection laws is being forced onto Orinda. And especially since Orinda has a BART station, that's a very significant threat indeed.

SB35 is now very real, having passed through the legislature and only awaits Gov Brown's promised signature, in order to become law. Efforts by Mayor Phillips, Senator Glazer and many others to stop or re-shape SB35 have proven to be futile. So now, how does the Orinda City Council comply with this new law and still defend Orinda's way of life?

In short, the Orinda City Council must prioritize development policy collaboration in defending what is left of local control, no matter how uncomfortable that might be for each council member on a personal level.

In particular, if a code-compliant project is proposed, which meets the current zoning requirements for that particular piece of property, then so be it. Let the chips fall.

Otherwise, the Orinda City Council, as a group, should:

Never, directly or indirectly, vote to increase the maximum residential zoning density above the current limit of 10 units per acre.

Never vote to accept grant money from any entity, for any project, if the strings attached require increasing zoning density.

Never vote to out-flank the city's recorded zoning with trickery such as high density overlays or a concentrated pooling of zoning across different properties, such as proposed by the Urban Land Institute.

Never vote to accept designation of Orinda's downtown as a Priority Development Area (PDA) in conjunction with Plan Bay Area.

To allow any of these doors to open is to expose the city to the full repercussions of SB35, and Orinda citizens won't like what they see.

Orinda's citizens should now recognize that a collaborative demonstration of zoning spine is the only effective, policy shield left for the city's leaders in defending the city. Please collaborate wisely, Orinda City Council members. All of Orinda's citizens are watching closely and are dependent on your collaboration.

– Owen Murphy

Bullying Has No Place in Our Schools

Our highest priorities as Trustees of the Orinda School Board are to provide our students with an excellent education and to keep them safe. Recently, there have been reports of some very disturbing incidents of racial and anti-Semitic bullying on our campuses. We want to emphasize that our school district repudiates bullying of any kind, and we especially condemn racial taunting and teasing.

We have been working with the rest of the board to firmly address this issue. Highlights of our work include the following:

Approving comprehensive student and staff training focused on diversity and inclusiveness at Orinda Intermediate School;

Training our elementary students with the Think First program;

Training elementary students, staff, and parents with the Kidpower program;

Approving a resolution in 2017 condemning displays of hate;

Adopting Strategic Directions in 2017, which include "Cultivate Ethical and Respectful Citizens who will develop and defend values and viewpoints that respect diversity and inclusion."

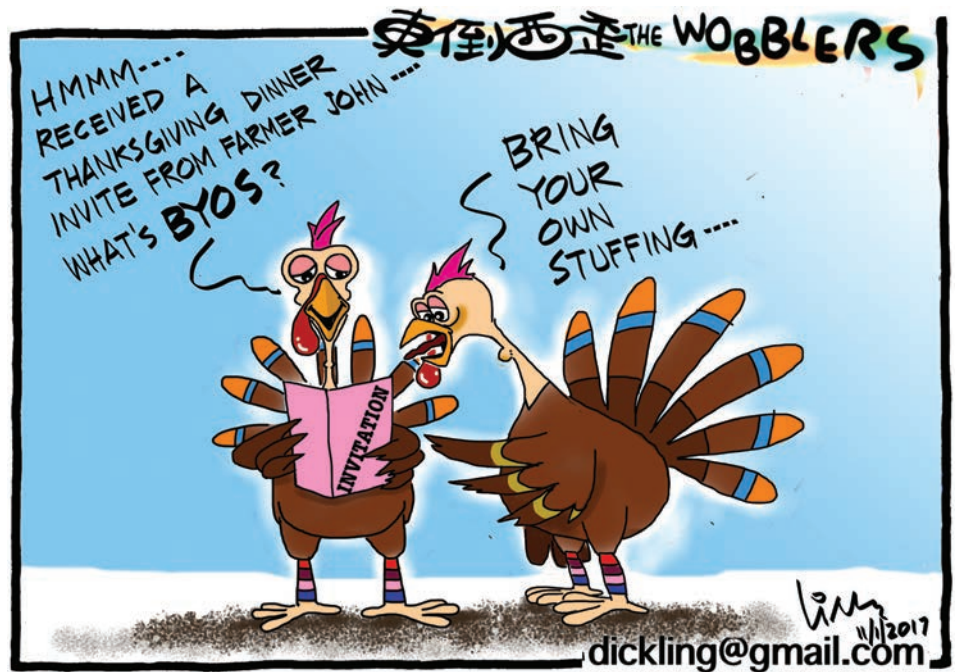
As co-chairs of our Student Safety Committee, we will be working this year with both parents and educators to find ways to continue to train teachers, students and parents to stand up to racism and bullying. Every child deserves an excellent education on a campus where they feel welcomed and safe. Our goal is to provide them nothing less.

– OUSD President Jason Kaune, OUSD Board Members Carol Brown, Cara Hoxie, Julie Rossiter and Hillary Weiner

Creek Restoration Presentation

At the October 4 meeting of Friends of Orinda Creeks, Dr. Ann Riley of Waterways Restoration Institute clarified the picture of how the restoration of the San Pablo Creek can proceed. She presented several restoration projects, most local to the Bay Area, dating from the 1970s through present with similar opportunities and challenges to the San Pablo Creek of Orinda (see list below). These projects change concrete culverts and underground channels back into places where people can enjoy themselves. The before-and-after images of these projects spoke forcefully to the potential for improved environments. A water feature of any town or city tends to be a place people gather and stroll. Orinda could have one.

For those not yet sold on the value of improved surroundings she offered several examples of cities where creek projects have resulted in significant improved economic vibrancy, and increased real estate values. Also importantly in the current environment projects within California that take



List of *The Orinda News* Advertisers

	Page		Page
Automotive		Professional Property Management	12
Orinda Motors	6	Taxi Bleu	19
Orinda Shell Auto Care	20	Real Estate	
Beauty and Fitness		Coldwell Banker	
CoreKinetics	10	Laura Abrams	11
Living Lean Exercise & Eating Program	19	Suzanne Toner Geoffrion	2
Cleaning Services		Shellie Kirby	8
Kirby Carpet Cleaning	7	Maureen Wilbur	10
Dental		Pacific Union	
Dr. Mary Smith DDS	20	Virginia and Paul Ratto	3
Educational		Leila Schlein	13
Nurtury Preschool	9	Prime Vintage Realty	
Orinda Afternoons	11	Rodney Lal	9
Garden/Landscaping		Village Associates	
Blue Ridge Landscaping	10	Dexter Honens II	8
McDonnell Nursery	18	April Matthews	7
Tree Sculpture	3	Ann Sharf	17
Medical		Steve Stahle	3
Advanced Therapy Center	9	Clark Thompson	14
Dr. Brian Clark	9	Restaurants/Catering	
Medicine Shoppe	15	Baan Thai	13
Non-Profits		Casa Orinda	18
Educational Foundation of Orinda	5	Farmers' Market	10
The Orinda Association	1, 2	La Mediterranee	14
Pet Service		Siam Orchid	14
Animal House Pet Sitting	12	Taverna Pellegrini	2
Theatre View Veterinary Clinic	12	Village Inn Cafe	20
Professional Services		Retail	
5A Rent-A-Space	12, 19	Edwards Everything Travel	13
Cruise Adventures Unlimited	12	McCaulou's	15
James Phillips Wright Architect/Builder	11	Orinda Books	17

the restoration approach are eligible for State funding and other support such that restoration projects typically result in less expense locally than "traditional" projects.

Dr. Riley informed us about techniques used to create beautiful creek and river settings in places where these waterways had been paved into concrete channels or covered culverts. The principal challenge of these transformations is to preserve safety to existing infrastructure from erosion or flooding.

Replacing concrete with stable earthen river banks is achieved through techniques dating to antiquity that have developed into a science over the past few decades. This science involves "root networks" and the biology that sustains them. Engineering publications rate these root networks at a

strength, and effective resistance to erosion, as high as the use of stone.

Dr. Riley showed several images demonstrating the limited durability of concrete used in failed attempts at permanency. Concrete and steel are a fantastic combination to provide rigid construction with high strength. But the forces encountered by concrete when channeling water involve varying hydrostatic forces, erosion and corrosion such that its structural integrity has a limited life expectancy for any realistically price project.

It should be taken into account that San Pablo Creek running through Orinda will at some point need work to replace structure that has suffered such deterioration over the decades. The cost of this could be classi-

[SEE LETTERS page 16]

The Orinda News prints 9,000 copies and is published 12 times a year by The Orinda Association. The office is located at 26 Orinda Way (lower level of the Library). All rights reserved. The publication is sent out by direct mail (Permit #4, Orinda Post Office) and distributed to key locations throughout the city.

Editor.....Sally Hogarty
 Assistant Editor.....David Dierks
 Copy Editor.....Ken Hogarty
 Advertising Representatives.....Jill Gelster, Elana O'Loskey
 Editorial Committee.....Carol Brown, Jill Gelster, Sally Hogarty, Lynn Kalmar, Jim Luini, Elana O'Loskey, Mark Roberts, Bill Waterman, Kate Wiley
 Staff Writers.....Jennifer Conroy, Bobbie Dodson, Valerie Hotz, Barbra Kobsar, Kathryn G. McCarty, Elana O'Loskey, Cindy Powell, John Vanek, Tom Westlake
 Contributing Writers.....Barbara Duff

Graphics.....Aspen Consulting: Jill Gelster & David Dierks
 Printing.....Folger Graphics

The Orinda News

A Publication of
 The Orinda Association
 Mailing Address
 P.O. Box 97
 Orinda, California 94563
 Telephone: 925 254-0800

www.orindanews.org

Find us on



The OA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Opinions of *The Orinda News* are expressed on the editorial page. Views of writers and letters to the editor are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Orinda Association or of *The Orinda News*. Advertisements appearing in *The Orinda News* are not to be construed as endorsements by The Orinda Association or *The Orinda News*.

Letters to the Editor are printed on a space-available basis and should be no longer than 400 words. They must include the writer's first and last name, signature and telephone number.

Send letters to: Editor, *The Orinda News*, P.O. Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563, or email to news@orindaassociation.org. Letters to Editor for the December issue are due November 8, 2017.

For display advertising rates, call Jill Gelster at 925-528-9225 (jill@aspenconsult.net) or Elana O'Loskey at 925-984-1751 (elanao@mac.com). The deadline for the December issue is November 8, 2017.

SCHOOLS / STUDENTS

School District Joins Forces With Friends of Wagner Ranch

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Recently, the Orinda Union School District (OUSD) and Friends of Wagner Ranch Nature Area (FWRNA) formed a joint committee to expand the vision for the nature area and allow more people to access the area. “We are not where I thought we would be. But that’s good news,” says committee member and OUSD Board Vice President Carol Brown.

Brown went through all the files in the district office and discovered that OUSD made a study of Wagner Ranch Nature Area with recommendations on how to utilize it in 2006. “It turns out that they basically had the same vision that we and the Friends of the Wagner Ranch Nature Area have,” explains Brown.

Now, instead of starting from scratch, the committee has a road map to follow: “The next step is to review this, make any tweaks, take it to the board, and ask the board to adopt it. I was thinking it would be six to eight months down the road, so I’m really excited.” Brown thinks the committee could present the OUSD board with a recommendation as soon as December or January. FWRNA and joint committee member Bill Hudson adds, “At this point, we have general ideas, from whence we will be working on a plan.”

Currently, the nature area is only open for third- to fifth- grade students for one- and two-day programs. Once a student leaves fifth grade, they get nothing out of it. “In the past the nature area programs were part of OUSD curricula and, revolving around the educational use, the area itself was an asset for much of the community,” says Hudson. “The programs are an excellent fit with the

new state educational philosophy, and the OUSD board would again like to expand student and community use.”

The biggest hurdle to opening the nature area to more people is that it has to be ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible, and that means a lot of money needs to be raised. “Of course, we don’t have the money, and FWRNA doesn’t have the money,” notes Brown. “What we’re going to have to do is solicit corporate sponsorship. I’m not proposing making the nature area ‘Goggle Nature Area,’ but if we could get local businesses and some civic-minded corporations to help us with making it ADA accessible, then we could be ready to go.”

The committee has lots of ideas for the nature area. “The committee has been talking about having a visitor center. That center could be used for preparing students for the outdoor experience and orienting people to the nature area,” maintains Brown. Another idea put forward by a committee member is to “bring educators in to do outdoor educational programs. There would be a way of not just training the children, but a way of training new people to do education,” claims Brown. “So we could then educate educators from all over the country.”

The joint committee has mended fences between the OUSD and FWRNA. “There’s never been any formal agreement about how the district and the Friends work together,” says Brown. “I mentioned sitting down with the Friends, formalizing some agreements with them – what they can do there and what we can do there, so we can be a much more collaborative partnership. The Friends were very happy about that prospect, and I am too.”



ALEC ABRAHAMS

Students enjoy activities at the **Wagner Ranch Nature Area**.

“We’ve got a vision for including everyone in the community. Even this old report had a vision for opening the nature area to

other school districts,” said Brown.

For more information, visit www.orindaschools.org and www.fwrna.org.

Glorietta Student Wins Bach Competition in New York City



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Glorietta Elementary School 5th grader **Andrew Gu** performed at the Rosalyn Tureck Competition on Oct. 7.

Glorietta Elementary School 5th grader Andrew Gu won the Rosalyn Tureck Prize (1st place) in Category II at the prestigious Fifth Rosalyn Tureck International Bach Competition in New York City on Oct. 7.

Out of 12 semifinalists selected from around the world and invited to New York

City for this category, four advanced to the Final Round. Gu won this fiercely competitive category with a flawless musical execution. Gu also performed at the Gala Winners Concert Oct. 8, at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music, hosted by Robert Sherman from WQXR.



Educational Foundation of Orinda

EFO wishes to thank its Business Partners and Local Organizations for generously supporting Orinda schools during the 2016-2017 school year. Return the favor, and do business with a partner!

Join us in supporting our Orinda schools.

For more information, please visit: www.OrindaEFO.org

Leadership Circle \$5,000+

Ann Sharf, Village Associates
Clark Thompson, Village Associates
Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley
Rotary Club of Orinda
Village Associates Real Estate

Leadership Circle \$2,000+

Orinda Optometry Group, Kristine Eng Smith, OD

Sustainer \$1,500+

Sue Layng, Village Associates
Mechanics Bank
Amy Rose Smith, Village Associates
Sports Basement, Walnut Creek
Margaret Weil Zucker, Village Associates

Supporter \$1,000+

Cobain Orthodontics
Orinda Veterinary Clinic

Sponsor \$500+

Chris Anderson, Pacific Union International
Lisa Brydon & Kristi Ives Real Estate Team
Economy Lumber, Oakland
Orinda Chamber of Commerce
Orinda Mandarin Chinese Program
Orinda Masonic Lodge No. 122
Susan Hurrell, CPA
Paddy Kehoe Team, RE/Max Accord
April Matthews, Village Associates
Karen Murphy, Village Associates
Orinda Books, Ltd.
Sherrie & Billy Perlstein, Pacific Union
Leila Schlein, Pacific Union

Donor \$400 and under

Linda Ehrich, Village Associates
Europa Hofbrau
Cheryl Hata, Alain Pinel Realtors
Lamorinda Lions Foundation
La Piazza
Lamborn Family Vineyards
John Ogro D.D.S. - Orthodontics
Stephen P. Paddock, CFP
Sammann & Schlicher Orthodontics
Mary H. Smith, DDS, APC

CAR TIME

CAR TIME

Car Maintenance Inside and Out



By JOHN VANEK

Sometimes we forget that car maintenance includes exterior paint and interior. Just like the engine, a paint job will last longer if it is properly maintained. And, just like engine repair, there are good ways and better ways to do it.

Many modern vehicles have leather interiors that require upkeep to stay in good shape. Consistent car washes and waxing not only make vehicles shiny but also help protect the value. When a vehicle sits outside, the dew collects on the dirt on the car and starts to slowly deteriorate the paint job. The effects of elements such as sun and rain take their toll on paint protection.

We suggest doing a winter prep to get off to a good start. Start by making sure the vehicle is completely clean. To do it right takes a lot of work. A really dirty car may need more than one wash, especially if it is black. Once the vehicle is completely cleaned use a clay bar to safely remove grit from the paint. This offers an ideal way for the wax to bond and offer ultimate protection.

Now, it is ready for a nice coat of wax. This process will ensure adequate paint protection during the harsh seasons. Some suggestions on what not to do: It is easy to be tempted by drive-through car washes. These tunnels use very caustic PH balance soap that can strip away the wax protection. The brushes will most certainly scratch the paint. If DIY seems like a lot of work, Orinda Auto Detail will do a gentle hand car wash. Anyone planning to do the job should invest in some soft microfiber towels. There

is a good chance that old “car wash” towels will scratch the paint.

The interior of the vehicle requires maintenance as well. Leather interior will deteriorate if neglected. This is a two-part process that includes cleaning and dressing. If this is done yearly, the leather will look good forever. Vinyl dashboards or door panels also require cleaning and dressing. It is also a good idea to clean spills on seats or upholstery immediately. Use carpet-cleaning equipment or an attachment on the vacuum to clean spills. Unattended spills may cause bad odors down the road. Or, take it to Orinda Auto Detail where they use professional extraction equipment that can make a vehicle’s interior look like new.

As usual, I remind readers that the maintenance of a vehicle lies on the shoulders of the owner/operator. To make it look good for a long time, invest time and/or money to maintain the exterior and interior of the vehicle. I am always available for automotive consultation.

John Vanek can be reached at john@orindamotors.com.

Walk and Talk Town Hall With Assemblywoman Catherine Baker

Saturday, Nov. 4, 9 a.m.
St. Mary’s Road Staging Area,
1913 St. Mary’s Road, Moraga

Local Politicians Speak at Community Town Hall Meeting



(L-R) Assemblywoman **Catharine Baker**, Orinda Mayor **Eve Phillips** and Contra Costa County Supervisor **Candace Andersen** discussed various issues affecting Orinda at a Sept. 25 Town Hall meeting.

A standing-room only crowd greeted State Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, Supervisor Candace Andersen and Orinda Mayor Eve Phillips at the Sept. 25 Town Hall meeting at the Library Auditorium.

The three speakers gave a brief overview of their priorities and then opened the hour-long meeting to questions from the audience.

Assemblywoman Baker spoke on her “four pillars” or key areas of focus: educa-

tion; infrastructure; pro-job policies and good, accountable government. She also highlighted the various bills she had authored this past year including several with local State Senator Steve Glazier, who appeared at the start of the Town Hall meeting.

Questions from the audience included inquiries about the use of solar energy in California and on Prop. 64, the legalization of recreation marijuana.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor

Orinda Motors Inc.


Rated the highest quality for over 10 years by Diamond Certified

(925)254-2012

www.orindamotors.com

Has You Covered!


Orinda



AUTO RENTAL

AAA members save 10% on their rental car and discounted rates for service customers

(925)254-2014



Best Prices In Town & We pump it for you!



22 Bryant Way

ORINDA CLASSIC CAR CENTER

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S CLASSIC CAR SOLUTION

(925) 254-5454

Orinda

Auto Detail

(925)254-2011

POLICE / FIRE



POLICE BLOTTER

September 3 through October 14, 2017

Calls for Service

911 Hangup: 13 incidents.
 Abandoned Vehicle: 4 incidents.
 Accident Injury: 4 incidents.
 Accident Property: 14 incidents.
 Alarm, False: 162 incidents.
 Barking Dog: 4 incidents.
 Battery: 3 incidents.
 Burglary, Auto: 3 incidents.
 Burglary, Commercial: 1 incident.
 Burglary, Residential: 2 incidents.
 Civil Matter: 34 incidents.
 CVC Miscellaneous: 4 incidents.
 CVC Moving Violation: 127 incidents.
 CVC Non-Moving Violation: 85 incidents.
 Death, non-criminal: 1 incident.
 Dependent Adult Abuse: 1 incident.
 Disturbing the Peace: 1 incident.
 Drunk in Public: 1 incident.
 DUI Misdemeanor: 2 incidents.
 Exhibition of Speed: 1 incident.
 Forgery: 1 incident.
 Found Property: 6 incidents.
 Fraud Credit Card: 1 incident.
 Fraud/False Pretenses: 3 incidents.
 Hailed by Citizen: 1 incident.
 Health & Safety Violation: 3 incidents.
 Hit & Run Misdemeanor: 2 incidents.
 Identity Theft: 9 incidents.
 Juvenile Disturbance: 7 incidents.
 Litter: 1 incident.
 Lost Property: 6 incidents.
 Loud Motorcycle: 1 incident.
 Loud Music: 6 incidents.
 Loud Noise: 7 incidents.
 Loud Party: 14 incidents.
 Medical Hospital: 8 incidents.
 Motorist Assist: 3 incidents.
 Neighbor Dispute: 1 incident.
 Occupied Stalled Vehicle: 3 incidents.
 Ordinance Violation: 12 incidents.
 Outside Assist: 27 incidents.
 Panhandling: 2 incidents.
 Parking Detail: 186 incidents.
 Patrol Request: 55 incidents.
 Petty Theft: 4 incidents.
 Petty Theft Bicycle: 2 incidents.
 Petty Theft from Building: 1 incident.

Petty Theft from Vehicle: 1 incident.
 Phone Harassment: 3 incidents.
 Prowler Heard: 2 incidents.
 Prowler Seen: 1 incident.
 Public Assembly Check: 5 incidents.
 Public Nuisance: 6 incidents.
 Reckless Driving: 23 incidents.
 School Check: 29 incidents.
 Security Check: 45 incidents.
 Service to Citizen: 153 incidents.
 Shoplift: 2 incidents.
 Shots Heard: 1 incident.
 Suspicious Circumstances: 27 incidents.
 Suspicious Person Stop: 23 incidents.
 Suspicious Subject: 14 incidents.
 Suspicious Vehicle: 22 incidents.
 Suspicious Vehicle Stop: 43 incidents.
 Theft Access Card: 1 incident.
 Threats: 1 incident.
 Tow: 13 incidents.
 Traffic Collision/Property Damage: 2 incidents.
 Traffic Hazard: 18 incidents.
 Trespass: 2 incidents.
 Uncontrollable Juvenile: 1 incident.
 Vacation House Check: 77 incidents.
 Vandalism: 3 incidents.
 Verbal Dispute: 8 incidents.
 Violation Custody Order: 1 incident.
 Welfare Check: 20 incidents.

Arrest

Burglary, Residential: 1 arrest.
 Drunk in Public: 2 arrests.
 Misdemeanor Arrest: 1 arrest.
 Possession of Controlled Substance: 1 arrest.
 Shoplifting: 1 arrest.
 Warrant Arrest: 4 arrests.

BART Statistics

Grand Theft (Catalytic Converter): 1 incident.

— Compiled by David Dierks
 Assistant Editor

For more incidents details, visit www.crimereports.com

Jerry Lee Named Interim MOFD Fire Chief

By DAVID DIERKS
 Assistant Editor

Jerry Lee took on the role of Interim Fire Chief of the Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) on Sept. 20. Lee filled the vacancy left when previous Fire Chief Stephen Healy retired and will perform the duties of Fire Chief until a permanent Fire Chief is found.

Lee started with MOFD in 2003 as a Firefighter-Paramedic and worked his way through the ranks of Fire Engineer, Fire Captain and most recently as Battalion Chief. As Battalion Chief, Lee was responsible for emergency medical services, support services, training and writing grant applications.

Lee holds a bachelor's degree from U.C. Berkeley, a master's degree in public administration from California State University East Bay and is a State Certified Chief Officer. Lee is currently enrolled in the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy.



Interim Fire Chief Jerry Lee.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MOFD is currently preparing a description for the Fire Chief position and seeking public advice and input. A public forum was held on Sept. 27 in Moraga. For more information, visit www.mofd.org.

Are You Financially Literate?

Karla J. McAvoy, a senior financial advisor and principal of Financial Advisors, Inc. in Lafayette, will be the keynote speaker at the AAUW OML (American Association of University Women, Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette) meeting on Nov. 14, at 9:30 a.m. at Orinda Community Church.

She will talk about important financial issues facing women at different stages in their lives: Managing finances while

working and in retirement, dealing with a spouse's health issues, helping adult children and/or aging parents, and providing lessons for children and grandchildren, to name just a few.

AAUW is a 501(c)(3) organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. All meetings are open to the public and free of charge.

Orinda Instigates New Short-Term Rental Ordinance

Effective Oct. 5, 2017, the City of Orinda requires short-term rentals to be registered with the City's Planning Department. A short-term rental is a property or a guest area on a property that is rented for less than 30 days.

The Orinda City Council recently passed an ordinance approving Orinda Municipal Code Section 17.3.12, which creates a short-term rental registration system with the following requirements:

- Registration form must be submitted including contact information and other key information about the rental. The

- property owner must sign the form.
- Short-term rentals are not eligible for Temporary Event Permits.
- Maximum occupancy of two people per bedroom + three people.
- Maximum of one short-term rental per property at any given time.
- Short-term rental operators must get transient occupancy registration certificate and pay transient occupancy tax (TOT).
- Property owner must affirm that short-term rentals comply with all applicable building, fire, health and zoning codes.

◆ VOLUNTEER from page 3

years, the two organizations presented the award with the last recipient being John Wyro in 2015.

The OA and OCF are currently accepting nominations for both awards. The Citizen of the Year honors the citizen or group which has displayed outstanding contributions through volunteer efforts that benefit the Orinda community. The William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Award recognizes the citizen or group which has displayed

outstanding contributions in the area of education and/or preservation of our environment.

"Orinda has so many people working tirelessly and quietly to make our town such a wonderful place. Sometimes it is hard to find them. I hope our citizens will come forth with some great nominations again this year," Powell adds.

Nominations forms are available on the OA website at www.orindaassociation.org. For more information, call the OA office at 925-254-0800.

It's April in Lamorinda for Real Estate
 Consistently representing Buyers and Sellers in Successful Transactions

Buying or Selling in Lamorinda?
 My goal is your total satisfaction.

April Matthews
 925.253.2147
aprilmat@comcast.net
 CalBRE# 01221153

Giving Dreams an Address

SERVING LAMORINDA SINCE 1979

Specializing In:
 Spot and Stain Removal
 Orientals and Handmade Rugs
 Upholstery Cleaning
 Water Damage
 Odor Removal

We Clean for Health as well as Appearance

We Clean with **Green T.L.C.**

254-2866
www.kirbycarpetcleaning.com

Dave Steely
 Owner

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 1 **Del Rey Elementary School**, No School - Staff Development Day
Miramonte High School, 7 p.m., Governing Board Meeting, AUHSD Community Room. Also Nov. 15. 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette.
Sleepy Hollow Elementary, No School - Staff Development Day
Miramonte High School, 7 p.m., fall play, *Secret in the Wings* by Mary Zimmerman Also, Nov. 2 and 3. Tickets available at www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/Page/559.
- 2 **Del Rey Elementary School**, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sahn field trip Hyde St. Pier.
- 4 **Miramonte High School**, 2-4 p.m. Freshman Parent Social.
- 5 **Holden High School**, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Fun(d) Fest, Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda.
- 6 **Miramonte High School**, 6 p.m. Sport Booster meeting.
- 7 **Miramonte High School**, 6 p.m. Frosh Football Banquet.
- 8 **Miramonte High School**, 4 to 6 p.m., Culture Faire, Miramonte High School main gym.
- 9 **Del Rey Elementary School**, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Brock field trip Maritime Museum.
- 10 **All Schools** - Veteran's Day - No School except **Holden High School**.
- 13 **Miramonte High School**, 7 p.m., Mindfulness Meet-up.
Orinda Unified School District, 6 p.m., Board of Trustees meeting.
- 15 **Del Rey Elementary School**, Parents Club meeting.
Miramonte High School, 9:30 a.m., Parents Club meeting.
Holden High School, 6 p.m., Board of Trustee meeting.
- 16 **Del Rey Elementary School**, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Rutledge field trip -Hyde St Pier.
Del Rey Elementary School, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., First Thanksgiving (Fifth Grade).
- 20 **All Schools**, Thanksgiving Break - No school through Nov. 26.
- 29 **Del Rey Elementary School**, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., second grade Children's Creativity Museum
Del Rey Elementary School, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Third Grade Field trip to Chabot.
- 30 **Orinda Academy** - Basketball - Pescadero Tournament through Dec. 2.
Orinda Intermediate School, 4:30 p.m., Bull Dog Theater presents *Monty Python's Spamalot*. Also Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 2 at 2 p.m.

Send calendar items to Jill Gelster at calendar@aspenconsult.net

Monty Python's Spamalot at Orinda Intermediate School



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The cast and crew of OIS's *Spamalot*, playing Nov. 30 through Dec. 2.

Join Orinda Intermediate School's (OIS) Bulldog Theater as they perform *Monty Python's Spamalot Young@Part Edition*. This version of the 2005 Tony Award winning musical is designed for elementary, middle schools and youth theaters.

The story centers around King Arthur and his search for the Holy Grail. After a rather silly bit of miscommunication leads briefly to Finland, our king and his ever faithful squire, Patsy, begin their search for

knights to accompany Arthur on his Quest.

There are two casts, comprised of approximately 60 OIS students along with an additional 14 OIS students serving on the tech crew. Performances run Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 at the OIS Bulldog Theater. Performances last approximately 90 minutes, with one intermission.

For show time information and to purchase tickets, visit www.showtix4u.com. Tickets are also available at OIS Theater a half hour prior to show times.

Orindans Celebrate Thanksgiving by Helping Others

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY
Staff Writer

Orinda residents welcome the Thanksgiving season by reaching out to others who have been struck by disaster.

The recent North Bay fires were "A call to action," said Samantha Ross of Taste of the World Market (TOWM). Team members from the group mobilized with Orinda Community Park food truck vendors and hosted a donation drive for the first responders and fire victims on Oct. 12.

"I was completely blown away by the Orinda community's gifts," said Ross. The day after the food truck event, TOWM team members loaded the generous donations and headed to designated drop off areas. TOWM is continuing to receive donations and preparing for another trip to the North Bay. "Money and gift cards are most ideal donations," she said, though the group also accepts other supplies such as diapers, water and canned food (for humans and animals).

At press time, 43 lives have been lost to the wild fires that ravaged the North Bay, burning acres and destroying 5,700 structures. Almost 5,000 firefighters in Sonoma County fought four fires burning in the North Bay which scorched over 147,970 acres, and caused an estimated 100,000 North Bay residents to be evacuated from the area.

Heavy smoke from the wildfires filled Orinda and East Bay skies, creating unhealthy air quality which caused Orinda residents to experience cancellation and postponements of many activities including the Orinda Farmers Market, Orinda Park and Recreations' Doggone Fun Fest, Miramonte Parents' Club Food Truck Social and youth sports team's practices and games.

"Many of our students, staff, administration, and board members have family and close friends who lost their homes and businesses to the fires," said Orinda Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Carolyn Ann Seaton.

Seaton initiated #OrindaCares, a partner-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers organize donations for fire victims received during TOWM food truck events.

ship program between Orinda schools, The City of Orinda, Miramonte High School and the non-profit organization, Mindful Littles, which inspires Orinda students through meaningful service learning opportunities. Together with Sydney Paige Inc., the initiative recently raised money, packed 1,000 backpacks full of supplies and shipped them to children affected by Hurricane Harvey in Houston.

"When giving to people in need, the gratitude that comes back from them is incredible," said Courtney Brockmeyer, CEO of Sydney Paige Inc.

"It is my hope that we are teaching our students that when natural disasters and other devastating events occur in our world, we can make a difference. Helping our students to build good character will provide them with a foundation from which to use their intelligence to make the world a better place," said Seaton.

Seaton has been in conversations with Sonoma Valley Unified School District representatives and is working to determine how to best support the students and families in the district.

"Our current focus is on the victims of the fires in the Sonoma Valley Unified School District. The power of community shows how we have a stronger impact if we collaborate together," said Tanuka Gordon, founder and executive director of Mindful Littles. The group has several events of gratitude scheduled for November includ-

[SEE CARES page 16]

Holden Fun(d) Fest on Nov. 5

Holden High School (HHS) holds its annual Holden/Orinda Community Church (OCC) Sunday on Nov. 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. Services are held in the church sanctuary (upstairs from Holden) and are followed by the OCC's all-church silent auction and Fun(d) Fest in the OCC Fellowship Hall.

HHS is not religiously affiliated with OCC, although it is part of the church's mission to support programs such as HHS. OCC houses HHS for reduced rent in exchange for scholarships that are awarded to

families in need. Once a year, HHS shares success stories with OCC. A student, parent and co-director will share their HHS experiences, followed by a performance by HHS' Vocal Phrasing class accompanied by HHS alumni Harry Gold on piano.

Service in the OCC Sanctuary is from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., followed by Coffee and Fellowship on the OCC Patio until 11:30 a.m. The Fun(d) Fest starts at 11:30 a.m. in the OCC Fellowship Hall and runs until 1 p.m.

For more information, visit holdenhigh.org or www.orindachurch.org.

Shellie Abbes Kirby

Wishing you all a very
Happy Thanksgiving with
much gratitude to all my
Clients, Friends and Family

Office: 925-253-6321
Cell: 925-872-4257
email: shellie@shelliekirby.com



COLDWELL
BANKER



Serving the real estate needs of
clients, friends and family in
your neighborhood since 1989.

DEDICATION DILIGENCE RESULTS

DEXTER HONENS II
Real Estate Broker
Office: (925) 253-2148
Cell: (510) 918-8911
Email: honens@pacbell.net

Village
ASSOCIATES
REAL ESTATE

BRE # 01029372

PRESCHOOL DIRECTORY

Lamorinda Preschools Create Wonderful Environments for Children

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Preschool helps to form a child's personal, social and emotional development, as well as helping parents with busy schedules. Below is our list of Lamorinda pre- and after-school programs.

Contact schools for further information on enrollment and cost. Visit www.eastbay-preschools.com and www.lamorindamoms.org; both are good resources for researching preschool programs. Attend the Lamorinda Moms Preschool Fair in Lafayette on Nov. 9 from 6:30-8 p.m.; see calendar listing on page 15 for more info.

ORINDA

**Buzzy Bee Play School
Orinda (Glorietta Area)**

7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Ages 4 mos. to 3 yrs. M-F. Home-based playschool.
4stevens@sbcglobal.net

**Fountainhead Montessori School
30 Santa Maria Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-820-1343**

7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Children ages 2 to kindergarten; before and after care; summer school.
www.fms.org

**Holy Shepherd Christian Preschool
433 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-3429**

9 a.m. to noon, extended day until 2 p.m.
Ages 2 to 3, Tu/Th; ages 3.4 to 5, M-W-F
Pre-kindergarten; ages 3.5 to 5, M-F; lunch bunch noon to 2 p.m.
preschool@holyshepherd.org
www.holyshepherd.org

**Orinda Afternoons - Childcare and Preschool
El Toyonal, Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-1974**

8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Part-time and full-time programs for children ages 18 mos. to 5 years. orindaafternoons@gmail.com
www.orindaafternoons.com

**St. John Preschool
501 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-4470**

7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Ages 18 mos. to 5, half day or full day, offered two, three or five days a week.
stjohnpreschoolorinda@gmail.com
www.stjohnorinda.com

**St. Mark's Nursery School
451 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-1364**

Classes for ages 2 to entering kindergarten, M-F, 9 a.m. to noon. Children may attend 2 to 5 days per week; lunch bunch daily 12 to 2:30 p.m., extended care option 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
stmarksnurseryschoolorinda@gmail.com
www.stmarksnurseryschool.org

**St. Stephen's Preschool
66 St. Stephen's Dr., Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-3770, ext. 19**

Program for 2 year olds, 9 a.m. to noon, Tu/Th; for age 3 to 5 year olds, 9 a.m. to noon, M-W-F with optional Tu/Th 9 a.m. to noon. Lunch bunch until 2 p.m.
www.ststephenspreschoolorinda.org

**The Orinda Preschool - TOPS
10 Irwin Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-2551**

9 a.m. to noon
Preschool, ages 2 to 5. Optional afternoon lunch bunch playgroup, ages 3 to 5.
topsonline@sbcglobal.net
www.topsonline.org

**LAFAYETTE
Apple Seed Little School
Lafayette, CA
925-979-9089**

8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Preschool program for 2 to 5 year olds with extended child care.
www.appleseedlittleschool.com

**Building Bridges Preschool
1003 Carol Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-6792**

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Preschool program with extended care to 5 p.m. for ages 2 to 6.
www.buildingbridgespreschool.com

**The Child Day Schools
1049 Stuart Street, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-7092**

[SEE LAFAYETTE page 10]



A teacher at the Nurtury Preschool in Moraga entertains children during class time.

ANDREW GRUPE PHOTOGRAPHY



Brian Clark, Psy.D.
licensed clinical psychologist
PSY 25198

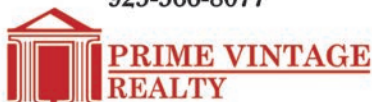
ADOLESCENTS · ADULTS · FAMILIES

specializing in:
Achievement Pressure
AD/HD
Parenting Support
Anxiety
School Stress
Depression

954 Risa Road · Lafayette
(925) 385-8050
www.brianclarkpsyd.com



Thinking about Buying or Selling
Utilize Your Local Realtors!
Rodney & Ursula Lal,
Broker / Realtor
Orinda Residents since 2007
925-366-8077



www.OrindaHomes.net
15 Altarinda Rd., Ste. 202 - Orinda
925-366-8077
RodneyLal@PrimeVintageRealty.com



when it's time to change your life

Learning Problems
Sensory Processing Issues
ADD/ADHD
Cutting Edge Neurofeedback
TBI, Depression
and Anxiety

Candia Smith, DMH
Founding Director
344 Village Square
Orinda, California
94563
925.254.7823



AdvancedTherapyCenter.org



Classes for 2-5 year Olds
and Summer Camps!

Morning Program 9am-12:30pm
Extended day care from 8am-5pm

Open House-February 12th @ 9:30am

10 Moraga Valley Lane, Moraga
www.nurturyatmvpc.com

(925) 388-0086 or Nurtury@mvpc.today.org

PRESCHOOL DIRECTORY

◆ LAFAYETTE from page 9

6:45 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.
 Ages 2 to 6, minimum 3 to 5 days per week, twos, threes, Pre-K, transitional kindergarten, summer programs.
 Lafayette@tcdschools.com
 www.tcdschools.com

Diablo Valley Montessori School



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
 Children enjoy the mixing table at **Orinda Afternoons**.

3390 Deerhill Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-283-6036

7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Infants/toddlers, 3 mos. to 2 yrs., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; two's/transition 2 to 3 yrs.; preschool/kindergarten 3 to 6 yrs., available 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. for 2 to 3 yrs.; extended care 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for enrolled students 3 to 6 yrs.; summer program 3 to 6 yrs.
 www.dvms.org

First Steps Learning Center
 3201 Stanley Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-933-6283

7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Ages birth to 2; infant care, full time only, year-round.
 info@first-steps-learning-center.com
 www.first-steps-learning-center.com

Gan Ilan Preschool, Temple Isaiah
 945 Risa Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-284-8453

Ages 2 to 5, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; extended care 8 to 9 a.m. and 1 to 5:30 p.m. Playgroup 0 to 30 months on Friday, free to all.
 www.Temple-Isaiah.org

Gymboree
 3450 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549

925-283-4896

Classes at various times/days for ages 3 to 5 years; see website.
 lafayetteca@gymboreeclases.com
 www.gymboreeclases.com

Happy Days Learning Center
 3205 Stanley Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-932-8088

7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Ages 2 to 11, preschool, kindergarten up to 5th grade. Before and after school care ages 5 to 12.
 info@happydayslafayette.com
 www.happydayslafayette.com

Joyful Beginnings Preschool
 955 Moraga Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-284-1143

Ages 2 to 5 yrs. Classes held M-F, 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. for Pre-K to 5 year olds; Tu/Th for 3 year olds; M/W/F for 4 year olds; lunch bunch, 11:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
 joyfulbeginningsschool@gmail.com

Lafayette Kids' Cottage
 Downtown Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-286-6848

8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Preschool program 2.9 to 5 yrs. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; after school program 2.9 to 10 yrs., 2:30 to 6 p.m.
 www.lafayettekids.com

Lafayette Nursery School
 979 First Street, Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-284-2448

Preschool program for 2 year olds Tu/Th, 9 to 11 a.m.; preschool program for 3 to 4 year olds M/W/F, 9 to 11:30 a.m.; preschool programs for 4 to 5.6 year olds M-Th, 12:30 to 3 p.m.
 membership@lafayettenurseryschool.org
 www.lafayettenurseryschool.org

Merriewood Children's Center
 561 Merriewood Dr., Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-284-2121

Preschool ages 2.5 to 3 yrs. Tu/Th; age 3 to 4 yrs. M/W/F; age 4 to 5 yrs. (5 days), 9 to 11:30 a.m. Early arrival at 8:30 a.m.; extended care available until 2:15 p.m.
 merriewoodchildrenscenter@comcast.net
 www.merriewood.org

Michael Lane Preschool
 682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-284-7244

9 a.m. to noon with a lunch option from noon to 1 p.m., 2 yrs. 9 mos. to K.
 www.michaellanepreschool.com

Nanny's House Child Care & Preschool



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
 Children hanging out with their friends in the green bean tunnel at the **Gan Ilan Preschool**, Lafayette.

3099 Old Tunnel Rd., Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-878-5795

Full time and part time programs, 6 weeks to 5 years old.
 nannyshouse@ymail.com
 www.nannyshouselafayette.com

Old Firehouse School
 984 Moraga Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-284-4321

8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
 Infants to pre-kindergarten 12 mos. to 5.
 ofslafayette@gmail.com
 www.oldfirehouseschool.com

Seedlings Preschool
 Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church
 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-284-3870

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Ages 6 mos. to 5 years, infant/toddler, preschool, Pre-K, developmental kindergarten; extended care ages 2 and up to 3:30 p.m.
 seedlings@lopc.org
 www.lopc.org/seedlings

Tiny Tots Preschool
 at the Lafayette Community Center
 500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
 925-299-3266

9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., 3.5 to 5+ yrs. M/W/F 9 - 11:45 a.m., 2.4 to 3.6 yrs. Tu/Th, optional lunch bunch to 12:30 p.m.; Pre-K 4 or 5 day options 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 www.lovelafayette.org

Tot Drop - Preschool by Appointment
 [SEE MORAGA page 11]

PILATES

*Nationally Certified, experienced teachers.
 *Innovative Classes and Private sessions
 *We work with every BODY and All ages

Visit our website for great offers.

CoreKinetics Take control of your health.
 www.CoreKinetics.com

The Well Balanced Workout
 925-708-3279
 Please call for an appointment
 50 Vashell Way, #120, Orinda, CA 94563

BLUE RIDGE

LANDSCAPE CO. INC.
 LICENSE # 818633

510 847 6160

BLUERIDGELC.COM

DESIGN
 INSTALLATION
 IRRIGATION
 DRAINAGE
 STONE WORK
 CONCRETE WORK
 DECKS
 FENCES
 PATIOS
 LAWNS
 PONDS
 CLEAN UP & HAULING

LICENSED INSURED. CLCA

Maureen Wilbur

I give Thanks to ALL who Serve and Sacrifice Allowing me and Others to Live and Work in Our Great Country!

Happy Thanksgiving

Maureen Wilbur
 Previews Property Specialist
 International Presidents
 Premier
 My Clients are #1!

Coldwell Banker
 Orinda, CA 94563
 925-253-6311 VM
 www.MaureenWilbur.com
 DRE# 01268536

Farmers' Market
 Celebrating 20 Years!

Morning Market & Music

SATURDAYS 9-1PM • APRIL - NOVEMBER

PRESCHOOL DIRECTORY

◆ MORAGA from page 10

500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-3999

Any portion of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Ages 1 to 5, M-F, pay as you go, maximum 20 hours/week. \$12/hr. with \$1 discount when siblings attend together.
www.totdrop.com

Viva el Español
25 Village Center, #2, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-962-9177

Toddler, preschool and elementary school classes, flexible scheduling. Rolling enrollment.
info@vivaelespanol.org
www.vivaelespanol.org

White Pony/Meher Schools
999 Leland Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-938-9958

7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., preschool, Tu/Th, M/W/F; kindergarten and grades 1 to 5, 5 days.
www.meher.schools.org

Wirlybirds Treehouse
1085 Marguerite Court, Lafayette 94549
925-310-4429

Quality childcare enrichment programs for toddlers, preschoolers and early school-age children. Drop-in program available

9 a.m. - 3 p.m., M-W-F; text or call 925-822-4454.
marty@wirlybirds.com

MORAGA
The Child Day Schools
372 Park Street, Moraga, CA 94556
925-376-5110

6:45 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.
 Infant/toddler, ages 1 to 2; preschool, ages 2 to 3; Pre-K and summer program.
moraga@tcdschools.com
www.tcdschools.com

Creative Playhouse, Inc.
1350 Moraga Way, Moraga, CA 94556
925-377-8314

7 a.m. to 6 p.m., infants and toddlers 3 to 24 mos.; preschool classroom 2 to 3 yrs.; Pre-K classroom 4 to 5 yrs.
creativeplayhouseinc@yahoo.com
www.eastbaypreschools.com

Growing Tree Preschool
1695 Canyon Road, Moraga, CA 94556
925-376-8280

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Seedlings 1.5 to 2 yrs.; sprouts 2 to 2.5 yrs.; maples 2.5 to 3; yrs. mulberries 3 to 3.5 yrs.; cedars 3.5 to 4; redwoods 4 to 4.5; sequoias 4.5 to 5+.
growingtreemoraga@gmail.com
www.growingtreepreschool.net

Lamorinda Montessori

1450 Moraga Road, Moraga, CA 94556
925-377-0407

7 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1.5 yrs. up to first grade entry, toddler, preschool, Pre-K/Dev. K programs.
office@lamorindamontessori.com
www.lamorindamontessori.com

Mulberry Tree Preschool
1455 St. Mary's Road, Moraga, CA 94556
925-376-1751

8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Variable schedule, ages 2 to 5, extended care available (hourly), 5 days/week.
www.mulberrytreepreschool.com

The Nurtury Preschool
Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church
10 Moraga Valley Lane, Moraga, CA 94556
925-388-0886 Connie or Jenifer

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 Ages 2 to 5 yrs., K-readiness; extended day options 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
nurtury@mypctoday.org
www.nurturyatmypc.com

The Saklan School
1678 School Street, Moraga, CA 94556
925-376-7900

Pre-K ages 3 to 5; half-day option for age 3; extended day 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
www.saklan.org



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
 Children playing at **Old Firehouse School**.

Ode to Lefty

I spend too much time complaining about life's mediocre disappointments; not enough money, not enough time... never enough chocolate.

Enter Lefty, AKA the left turn signal onto El Toyonal.

In this world of self-imposed middle class gloom, the left turn arrow shines like a beacon of hope. No matter what foibles the day brings, as soon as I pull into that left-turn pocket, I know I can count on almost instant gratification. Lefty never disappoints.

- Anonymous Poet

MAT'S TALK

Academic Pressure: Formative or Destructive?

Chelsea Pelchat



As a junior, I've spent the past few months both watching and experiencing the late nights and stress, as many of us realize that we've taken on course loads that far surpass what we can reasonably handle. That being said, the issue of academic pressure and competition seems to beg the question of whether or not it's the driving force behind success, or a recipe for misery.

Of course, the purpose of taking a rigorous schedule is to challenge yourself in subjects that spark your interest; yet it's easy to see it as a measure taken to appease expectations, as many people have admitted to taking these classes merely for the sake of the extra point added to their GPA. This is when we begin to see the effects of pressure in its physical form, with the majority of students coming to school, red-eyed,

and struggling to function with an average of four to six hours of sleep as a result of their workload.

In fact, the reality is that taking more weighted classes is more a matter of proving your aptitude for success, as well as your ability to "keep up" with the rest of your peers. Yet with the new block schedule, as well as its incorporation of an academy period, it's clear that Miramonte has been working hard to tackle stress, the ultimate by-product of this issue. Even though it may be a propelling force that seems to push us out of our comfort zone in raising the bar for success, it's important to acknowledge that knowing your limits should be a priority to maintain both your happiness and sanity throughout these four years of high school.

Orinda Afternoons
 Preschool & Childcare

Come and meet us at the Lamorinda Moms Preschool Fair in November

Limited Openings in our 2s Program Fall 2017

Accepting Applications for 2s and 3s for Fall 2018

www.orindaafternoons.com or call 925-254-1974.

FCCH #073407526

Healthy Home Renovations & New Construction

Expert cost-effective design for quality living
 "Improve the health of your family and save on your utility bills"

Architect-Builder & Building Scientist

James Phillip Wright AIA **925-788-5520** mobile

Magical Estate Designed by William Wurster with Formal Gardens by Thomas Church

515 Miner Road, Orinda

Offered at \$ 3,450,000
 On Private Cul-de-sac

www.515MinerRoad.com

Exquisite Presentation
 International Presidents Elite
 Top 100 Coldwell Banker Bay Area

PETS

PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT 

CA BRE 01902148

LAMORINDA SPECIALIST

Leasing • Rentals • Management
Residential | Commercial | Retail

925-254-5636 ppm4rent.com

Serving the East Bay Area

 **animal house**
PET & HOME CARE

Fall or Winter Travel Plans?

Let me take the worry out of what to do with your home and pets while you are away.

- Pet Sitting
- Dog Walking
- Pet Taxi
- Home Watch/Security
- Collect Mail and Newspapers
- Water Plants
- Insured and Bonded

925-254-3677 Office
925-368-8978 Cell
animal-house@comcast.net

MORAGA Office Space

Premium office space available in Moraga across from Rheem Shopping Center and restaurants. Building faces scenic Moraga Road. Beautifully landscaped, grounds maintenance included. Available NOW. **First month FREE!**


Suite C
\$625/mo. +CAM fees \$75/mo.
342 sq.ft.

Suite H
\$625/mo. +CAM fees \$75/mo.
315 sq.ft.

CONTACT LINDA
(510) 727-1800 x318 or
Email LindaP@5Aspace.com



Introducing your dedicated travel consultants!

5 REASONS TO CONTACT US TODAY! 


KNOWLEDGE & DESTINATION EXPERTISE
We've traveled the world. Benefit from our first-hand experience and insider connections.

EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGES
Enjoy a wide range of exclusive benefits when you reserve your cruise, hotel or resort vacation with us.

GLOBAL NETWORK
Worldwide partnerships enable us to create unique, tailor-made travel experiences that will exceed your expectations.

BEST VALUE FOR YOUR TRAVEL DOLLAR
Visit our website to easily search and compare multiple options. Plus, sign up to receive our latest offers and travel tips. Our pricing is highly competitive.

PEACE OF MIND
Leave the planning to a professional who will be there for you before, during & after your trip.


Valerie O'Connell and Colleen O'Connell

CRUISE ADVENTURES UNLIMITED
1610 Locust Street, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925-935-7447 • 800-788-0193
M-F 9 - 5:30, Saturday 10:00 - 2:00
www.cruiseadventuresunlimited.com

Family Owned & Operated

Something to Howl About... Animal Tales

Gratitude For All Seasons

Jennifer Conroy 

As we move toward seasons of thanks and of giving, thoughts turn to the people who do so much for animals throughout the year. Gratitude knows no season when it comes to helping animals in need. Witness the horrific hurricane season this year followed by the terrible fires in Northern California, and the images all of us saw: cattle, horses, cats, dogs, creatures of all species thrown into chaos and relying on us to help them.

Heroes to animals and people alike, regular folks jumped in to help their neighbors, be they humans or animals. Cowboys herded cattle out of flooded areas. Furniture stores opened doors to people and pets. Many shelters did accept pets, but some did not. Animal shelters and humane society sent out rescuers.

Some animals were lucky. Others were not, and we do not actually know the final toll of animal lives lost. We do know that animal organizations here in the Bay Area also joined in the rescue efforts and brought some animals back to be placed in new homes.

There are practical steps that can be taken now to help ensure safety for our animal companions. First, each of us must include our animals in all of our plans. That includes emergency situations, evacuation locations, and significant life changes. We can check in advance what evacuation sites might be available and what the policy is around pets. We can advocate for and support pro-pet policies that enable our animal companions to remain with us. We can include our animals in our life planning, stating who will care for them when we are gone.

Here, especially in earthquake country, we must be prepared at all times with up-to-date vaccinations, an earthquake kit that

includes all of our animals' needs, a carrying case for cats and/or a foldable kennel for dogs. Even those of us who have lived in earthquake country for many years become startled when we feel a minor quake. Do not wait for the big one. Prepare now.

We can also support those programs that have proven to be true heroes to our animals. We can show them gratitude for the work they do throughout the year through contributions and through direct service as volunteers.

Let's not forget the people and organizations that champion animal welfare across the globe. As I write this, a dear friend is in Kenya working with an elephant sanctuary. Others are working on behalf of whales, wolves, rhinos, and birds of prey. They deserve our gratitude and support.

Hurricanes, and other disasters, will continue to happen come what may, leaving trails of ruin and heartbreak. They remind us of the fragility of all life. And while hurricanes have their season, gratitude, compassion, and support for the animals who share this planet know no season. Our animals and the people and organizations who help them need us and, frankly, we need them.

Dog-Walkers Wanted

Join the 16th Annual Sleepy Hollow Holiday Walk on Dec. 2 at 9:30 a.m. Meet at 76 Tarry Lane to walk around the neighborhood loop (about 1.5 miles). A festive event full of holiday cheer and great friends.

Refreshments for two and four legged attendees. Santa will be there for photos (bring your own camera). The walk happens rain or shine.



Dr. Laurie Langford and Dr. Amelia Ausman invite you to come check us out at Theater View Veterinary Clinic.



P: (925) 317-3187
F: (925) 334-7017
E: tvvc@theaterviewvetclinic.com
W: www.theaterviewvetclinic.com

1 Bates Blvd., Suite 200
Orinda
CA 94563

LOCAL BUSINESS / FARMERS' MARKET

Family Owned Business Takes Some of the Worry Out of Travel

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Travel today is not quite as easy as it was when Art Reiningger and his sister Sophie opened Sophie's Army Surplus in Monterey shortly after World War II. Noting that their generation had become adventurous and ready to travel the world, Art and Sophie were joined by Sophie's husband Herman and their brother Edward. The four moved the business to San Mateo in 1946, focused on luggage and changed the name.

Operating for over 70 years, Edwards Everything Travel now has four locations – Palo Alto, San Mateo, San Francisco and Walnut Creek – and is run by the second generation of Reininggers.

"We grew as the family grew," said Marty Reiningger, one of Edwards second-generation co-owners. He and his wife Laura, his sisters Randy MacKenzie and Leslie Ebert, and Leslie's husband Fred, run the company.

"It actually works surprisingly well," says Randy. "We're a really close family and our skill sets are a little different. Merchandise is what I love, so I work with the buyers and am involved with the day-to-day operations at the stores."

Randy recalls growing up in the family business. "We were brought up in the 1950s and would go with our parents on buying trips. Then, we would work on Saturdays and during Christmas," she says. "I still re-

member my mom calling me at UC Berkeley and asking when I'd be done with my finals because she needed me at the store."

A long-time Lafayette resident, Randy moved to Portola Valley in 2014 but spends a great deal of time in the Walnut Creek store where she offers popular monthly packing demonstrations.

"So many people stress about what to bring on a trip. Most think they need a lot more than they really do. In our demonstrations, I ask people where they're going and for how long and then I help them decide what they really need to take. Most people only need a carry-on and a small backpack or tote bag," she says. "I'm always surprised at the positive response I get even from seasoned travelers who maybe haven't thought of something that I've brought up."

Randy will be offering one of her packing demonstrations at the Walnut Creek store, 1180 Broadway Plaza on Nov. 11 from 10 – 11 a.m. The free demonstration includes how to pack more efficiently, lots of insider tips and information on items that make travel easier. The event is free but signing up in advance is appreciated. "We like to keep the classes small and informal," Randy explains. "If we know more people are coming, then we'll add another demonstration."

To register, call the Walnut Creek store at 925-988-9098 or go online to www.edwardseverythingtravel.com and go to packing demonstrations.



Seasoned Shopper
Stock Up for the Holidays
BARBARA KOBSAR



A young boy enjoys hanging out in the pumpkin patch.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Thank you, Orinda! The farmers' market season is coming to a close on Saturday, Nov. 18, but it's been another successful season featuring locally grown produce and specialty products.

During the next few weeks you'll find lots of great things to help start your holiday meal planning, gift giving and festivities.

Winter squash and sweet potatoes are great "keepers" so pick up your favorite variety and store in a dry, well-ventilated space until needed. Root vegetables like carrots, beets, turnips, and rutabagas also keep well in the refrigerator until ready to use.

Persimmons and pomegranates add color and flare to the holiday table. Persimmon cookies and cakes are a part of many family traditions. Pomegranate seeds add extra flavor and interest to winter salads, ice cream or yogurt dishes and glasses of champagne or apple cider.

Home cooks shop the market for fresh-crop almonds and walnuts, raisins, eggs, jams, honey, and dried fruits to create their special dishes. Fresh-baked goods, cut flowers, granola and hummus help round out a full shopping experience each week.

Enjoy and see you at the market. Contact the Seasoned Shopper at cotkitchen@aol.com.

The Orinda market closes for the season on Saturday, Nov. 18. Thank you to the community, city, volunteers, local businesses and other non-profits who have supported and contributed to our 21st market season.

Be sure to visit many of your favorite growers and vendors from the Orinda market at the year-round Sunday market in Walnut Creek.

For more information, visit the website at www.cccfm.org or call the market hotline at 925-431-8361.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Edwards Luggage founders with their children at their San Mateo store in 1961. (L-R) Last Row: Steve Levy, Ron Levy, Arthur Reiningger, Harriet Reiningger, Herman Levy and Sophie Levy; Front Row: Leslie Reiningger Ebert, Randy Reiningger MacKenzie and Marty Reiningger.

Are you considering buying?
Do you want to know what your home is worth in the current market?
Are you wondering what is happening to home prices in the area?

For current information, give me a call about your real estate needs.



LEILA SCHLEIN

925.899.7927 Leila@LeilaSchlein.com www.LeilaSchlein.com



A Member Of Real Living



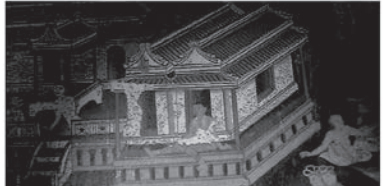

Baan Thai RESTAURANT
Eat Healthy, Live Healthy

ORGANIC SALADS MADE FRESH DAILY.
MANY VEGETARIAN OPTIONS.
WE COOK FROM FAMILY RECIPES.

FOOD TO GO, CATERING & GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE

Open for Lunch:
Mon. - Sun. 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Dinner: Sun. - Thurs. 4:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Fri. - Sat.: 4:30 - 10:00 p.m.


99 Orinda Way, Orinda
(925) 253-0989

Learn How to Pack Like a Pro!

At a FREE Packing Demonstration

Step 1 Step 2 Step 3



Next Free Event
Saturday, November 11th at 10am

Store Location
Edwards Everything Travel
Broadway Plaza, Walnut Creek

Visit EdwardsLuggage.com
for additional times.



Popular Artisan Faire Returns to Orinda Country Club on Nov. 10

By Barbara Duff
Contributing Writer

Join friends and neighbors at the 11th Annual Artisan Faire on Friday, Nov. 10, from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante. This popular event is organized by local volunteers to showcase the abundant talent in the area, featuring many new artists as well as returning favorites.

Over 30 artisans will display their distinctive artworks and crafts, including jewelry, ceramics, paintings, glass, fiber art, clothing, photography, woodwork, cosmetics and culinary products.

To add to the festivities, complimentary wine tastings will be available as well as delectable samples from Hofssi Chocolates and Cottage Kitchen. There will also be an exciting free raffle to win beautiful works of the artists.

Returning to the faire is perennial favorite, Orinda's Gerry Wallace, whose whimsical painted ceramic pieces are true collectors' items to brighten any home.

Another returning artist is Olga Jusidman, who produces dramatic, one-of-a-kind ceramic pieces, working creatively with texture, color and contrast. Her work is always evolving with new pieces depicting imaginative flowers. Her creativity extends to designing exquisite silver jewelry, often incorporating natural stones in distinctive



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Olga Jusidman's sculptures grace the Artisan Faire.

designs.

An exciting new artist this year is Natasha Foucault, who works in the medium of painting on silk cloth using silk dyes. She creates colorful, translucent paintings and stunning pieces of wearable silk art, such as scarves, ponchos, jackets and dresses. Having studied fine arts in her native Russia, she often depicts scenes from nature or from her extensive travels and finds inspiration in works of famous artists.

The faire will also highlight community organizations including the Rescue One Foundation, which supports vital emergency services of the Orinda-Moraga Fire District. Also, the Kerosene Lamp Foundation, which empowers youth to become healthy and well-educated leaders, will benefit from the sale of children's books written by former Golden State Warrior Adonal Foyle, who founded the organization.

For more information, call 925-254-6698.

Dine Out Orinda

Enjoy Orinda restaurants and get a 10 percent discount on Thursday evenings. See Orinda Outlook or call Orinda Chamber of Commerce at 925-254-3909 for list of participating restaurants.



Authentic Cuisine of Thailand

- Family Owned
- 3 Generations of Thai cooking experience
- All sauces made fresh
- Full Bar

Lunch: Mon.-Fri. 11-2
Dinner: Mon.-Sun. 4:30-9:00

23 F Orinda Way, Orinda
(925) 253-1975

Real Estate Reality

Proposition 60: Possible Statewide Changes Will Be Beneficial

MAUREEN WILBUR



In my real estate practice, I am often asked questions regarding selling a home and taking the tax base to another county within California. Recently, there has been some legislative discussion about changing Proposition 60 to allow transferring the existing tax base, after 55 years of age, one time to all counties in California. I encourage anyone interested in this change to contact their state legislators.

What is Proposition 60?

Prop. 60 was a constitutional amendment approved by the voters of California in 1986. It is codified in Section 69.5 of the Revenue & Taxation Code, and allows the

transfer of an existing Proposition 13 base-year-value from a former residence to a replacement residence, if certain conditions are met. This benefit is open to homeowners who are at least 55 years old and can meet all qualifying conditions.

The only counties that have adopted an ordinance to allow values from other counties are:

Alameda, El Dorado, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Ventura

This list can change at any time. Contact the local assessor to see if the value of your original property can be transferred to a replacement property in that county.

Orinda's 41st Annual Holiday Bazaar at Community Center



JENNIFER WEISS

Santa entertained the young and young at heart at last year's Holiday Bazaar.

Do your holiday shopping early at the annual Orinda Holiday Bazaar. This year, the popular event takes place Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Orinda Community Center. For 40 years, community members have been coming to the Orinda Community Center to shop for one-of-a-kind holiday gifts.

This year, individuals will have the opportunity to browse and purchase items

from over 50 vendors at the 41st Annual Holiday Bazaar. Live up your holiday shopping experience with handmade holiday items, clothing, jewelry, cosmetics, candles, home decorations, homemade knit ware, organic food items and more. The event occurs rain or shine and admission is free.

If you are a vendor or are interested in being a vendor, please contact Jennifer Weiss at JWeiss@cityoforinda.org.



Celebrating 35 Years

"For your next special occasion try our Party Platters and our Chicken Pomegranate!"

Free Delivery to Lamorinda
(within 10 miles, with \$300 min. order)

(510) 540-7773

www.cafelamed.com

2936 College Ave. at Ashby . Berkeley . CA 94705




CLARK THOMPSON



REAL ESTATE BROKER
VILLAGE ASSOCIATES

925.254.8585

33 Years Lamorinda's
#1 Individual Broker

www.clarkthompson.com



License# 00903367

CALENDAR

ON THE CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 2 **City of Orinda**, 5 p.m. The Taste of the World Market Street Feast food trucks Orinda Community Center. Also, Nov. 9, 16 and 30.
- Orinda Books**, 10 a.m., Story Hour with Cathy G. 2-4 year olds and their grown-ups are invited for a lively hour of books and fun. Also Nov. 9, 16 and 30. 276 Village Square, Orinda, info@orindabooks.com, 925-254-7606.
- 5 **Orinda Library Art Gallery Reception**, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Meet the artists and enjoy refreshments including a special cake for the Weavers' 65th birthday. Exhibit features Diablo Weavers Guild, Botanical Art, Ceramics and Paintings on view all month. See article page 2.
- 6 **Terry's Kids Songs and Stories**, benefit, 6:30, Mojito Monday Reception, 7 p.m. Songs and Stories Performance, Orinda Library Auditorium, Tickets \$35, tmkids.org, 925-285-0996.
- 8 **Orinda Books**, 3 p.m., 2nd Wednesday Book Club discusses *Dark Money* by Jane Mayer. 276 Village Square, Orinda, info@orindabooks.com, 925-254-7606.
- 9 **Orinda Parks and Recreation Department Senior Trips**, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., guided tour through Castello Di Amorosa in Calistoga. After exploring this Tuscan style castle, you will have the opportunity to taste their Italian-style wines in your private tasting room. \$129. www.cityoforinda.com, 925-254-2445.
- Orinda Books**, 6 to 8:30 p.m., Julie Lythcott-Haims presents *Real American* followed by Artist Reception for Dan Lythcott-Haims, 276 Village Square, Orinda, info@orindabooks.com, 925-254-7606.
- Lamorinda Moms**, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Preschool Fair, Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, Over 40 preschool representatives will be at this child-friendly event.
- 10 **Mindful Littles**, 10 a.m., Peace Kits & Gratitude for Veterans, Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, info@mindfullittles.org.
- Orinda Country Club**, 4 to 7:30 p.m., Artisan Faire. For more info. email GailSolt@gmail.com, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante. See article page 14.
- 11 **Edwards Everything Travel**, 10 a.m., free packing demonstration. Broadway Plaza, Walnut Creek. www.edwardsluggage.com.
- 12 **Orinda Books**, 2 to 3:30 p.m., Enjoy Afternoon Tea with Mitali Perkins & the launch of *You Bring the Distant Near*, 276 Village Square, Orinda, info@orindabooks.com, 925-254-7606.
- 14 **Saint Mary's College Guild Luncheon and Rummage Sale**, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saint Mary's College Soda Center, Moraga. Lunch is \$35 per person. For more information, call Dolores McGonible at 925-376-4339.
- 16 **Orinda Books**, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Eddie Hart & Dave Newhouse discuss *Disqualified: Eddie Hart, Munich 1972*, and the *Voices of the Most Tragic Olympics*, 276 Village Square, Orinda, info@orindabooks.com, 925-254-7606.
- Orinda Woman's Club's 31st Festival of Trees**, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., San Ramon Marriott Hotel, 2600 Bishop Drive, in San Ramon, Tickets are \$90. For more information, call Betty Brotherton at 925-963-6356 or go to www.OrindaWomansClub.org.
- 18 **Orinda Holiday Bazaar**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way. Over 55 exhibitors, roaming clown making free balloon animals, 925-254-2445.
- 21 **World Affairs Book Group**, 3 p.m., will discuss *THE REAL NORTH KOREA: Life And Politics In The Failed Stalinist Utopia*, by Andrei Lankov. The discussion will be lead by Kate Pope. Orinda Books - 276 Village Square, 925-254-7606.

AT THE LIBRARY

All events are free unless otherwise specified. For more information, call 254-2184 or visit www.cclib.org/locations/Orinda.html. The library will be closed on Nov. 10, 11 and 23. Nov. 22 the library will close at 6 p.m.

- 1 **Toddler Lapsit**, 10 to 10:25 a.m. and 10:30 to 10:55 a.m. Songs and stories for babies, toddlers (0-5) and their caregivers. Drop in to any Lapsit, attendance is limited to once per week. Also Nov. 8, 15, 22 and 29.
- 2 **ESL Conversation Circle**, 1 p.m. For adults, practice and improve English conversation skills in a small, informal group, Registration not required. Also Nov. 9, 16 and 30.
- 3 **Teen Coloring Club**, 4 p.m. Join the Orinda Library TAG to de-stress, relax and have fun. The library provides age appropriate coloring books and colored pencils you provide the inspiration and creativity. Free and open to all. Also Nov. 17 and 24.
- 6 **Maker Monday**, 2:30 p.m. Whether it's Legos, Minecraft, a craft, there's always something interesting happening on Maker Mondays. Also Nov. 13, 20 and 27.
- 7 **Peek-a-Boo Time**, 11:30 a.m. Rhymes and rhythms for infants and pre-walkers (16 months) and their caregivers. Gallery Room, Families with older siblings are welcome. Also Nov. 14, 21 and 28.
- 14 **Orinda Library Writers Group**, 6:30 p.m. Meet with a friendly group of beginning writers in a supportive environment to motivate, critique and inspire one another. Share two pages of your writing (any genre) and get feedback from the group. Also Nov. 28.
- 17 **Mystery Book Club**, 3 p.m. Join the Orinda Mystery Book Club to uncover and discuss the new mystery book of the month, *Heirs and Assigns* by Marjorie Eccles.
- Orinda Library Teen Advisory Group**, 4 p.m. monthly meeting.
- 30 **Herbal Gift Making for the Holidays**, 10:30 a.m. Learn how to make herbal vinegar with fresh herbs and a mini-wreath from fresh greens. Materials and handouts provided. Presented by Elana O'Loskey, former host of Gardening With Spirit radio show. Register online, by phone or in person. Sponsored by the Friends of the Orinda Library.

CLUB MEETINGS

- American Association of University Women (AAUW)** General meetings third Tues. except for Nov., second Tues., http://oml-ca.aauw.net or email Marty Schimbor at mgschimbor@comcast.net. Oct. 17, 10 a.m.
- Diablo Star Chapter #214**, Order of the Eastern Star. Second Monday, 7:30 p.m. Orinda Masonic Center, Karen Seaborn, 925-689-0995.
- Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe**. Third Monday, 7:30 p.m., Garden Room, Orinda Library, www.moragaadobe.org.
- Friends of the Orinda Creeks**. Fourth Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., May Room, Orinda Library, 925-253-1997.
- Guided Meditation**. Wednesdays, 9 a.m. St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 451 Moraga Way, Orinda, focuses on health, harmony and wholeness, 925-254-5965
- Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition**. Third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room, 925-687-8844, ext. 227.
- Lamorinda Nature Walk and Bird watching** for seniors. Wednesdays, 9 to 11 a.m., free. Call 925-254-2445 for weekly meeting place.
- Lamorinda Sirs** for retired men. Second Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga, Pete Giers, 925-254-4667.
- Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary**. Every Friday, 7 a.m., Lafayette Park Hotel, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, www.lamorindasunrise.com or 925-283-8288. Nov. 3 Semi-annual Club As-

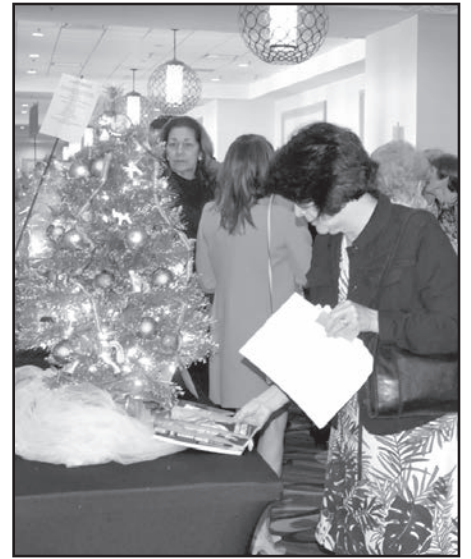
Last Chance for Festival of Trees Tickets to be Held Nov. 16

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

There is still time to be a part of the Orinda Woman's Club's 31st Festival of Trees on Thursday, Nov. 16. The popular event will be held at San Ramon Marriott Hotel, 2600 Bishop Drive, in San Ramon.

Not only will attendees be treated to a delicious luncheon and fashion show, filled with beautiful fashions by Helen Lyall of Napa, but they will also help a deserving nonprofit - Pillars of Hope, a residential restorative care program focusing on life skills, therapy and job re-entry programs to survivors of human trafficking. Funds will also go to Berkeley Hope Scholars, an academic retention program at UC Berkeley that provides support and resources to incoming freshman, transfer and continuing students who are current/former foster youth or orphaned.

Popular silent auction items include: a dinner by Charles Volmer; two nights at Meadow Wood; a handmade quilt called Dancing Colors from an award winning quilter; a tea for four put on by Susan Leech; a mosaic table by Lynda Lawrence and a garden consultation by Suzanne



SALLY HOGARTY

Attendees at last year's **Festival of Trees** admire the small trees available through the silent auction.

Murrillo. In addition, there will be a raffle of small holiday trees, wreaths and gift baskets.

The emcee will once again be Dan Ashley from Channel 7 News.

Tickets are \$90. For more information, call Betty Brotherton at 925-963-6356 or go to www.OrindaWomansClub.org.

sembly Meeting; Nov. 10, speaker James Wright, owner of the "Yellow House" in Orinda.; Nov. 17, speaker Don Jenkins shares highlights of his life you'll really want to hear about!

Lamorinda Toastmasters. Every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Temple Isaiah, 945 Risa Road, Lafayette, http://lamorinda.toastmastersclubs.org.

Montelindo Garden Club. Third Friday, 9 a.m., Sept. through May, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephen's Drive, www.montelindogarden.com. Nov. 17 at 9 a.m., Presentation: Floral Design: A Demonstration; Speaker: David Mulkey

Orinda Association. Second Monday, 7 p.m., Orinda Library, May Room, 925-254-0800.

Orinda Garden Club, Nov. 16, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., general meeting. Guest Day- Max Gill Floral Design, 315 Camino Sobrante, Orinda 925-257-0668 or going to www.eventbrite.com.

Orinda Hiking Club. Every weekend and first Wednesday, www.orindahiking.org or Ian at 925-254-1465.

Orinda Historical Society. Call 925-254-1353 for times and location of meetings.

Orinda Job's Daughters. First and third Monday, 7 p.m., 9 Altarinda Road, 925-283-7176.

Orinda Junior Women's Club community service group. First Tuesday, September through June, 7 p.m., www.orindajuniors.org.

Orinda Rotary. Every Wednesday, noon, Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way, 925-254-2222, www.orindarotary.org. Saluting First Responders and The Military: Nov. 1 - High Tech at the Crime Lab, Pamela Hofsass, CC Forensic Services Division Chief; Nov. 8 - Salute To Veterans, Steven Burchik, "Vietnam: An Ordinary Year, An Extraordinary Time" Nov. 15 - 4-Way Test Speech Contest Miramonte Public Speaking Program; Nov. 29 - Contra Costa Dispatch Center. Tickets can be purchased through our website: orindarotary.org.

Orinda/Tabor (Czech Republic) Sister City Foundation. Fourth Thursday, 7 p.m., social, 7:30 p.m., meeting, call 925-254-8260 for location.

Orinda Teen Advisory Council. Second Wednesday, 4 p.m., Community Center, 28 Orinda Way, email orindateenadvisorycouncil@gmail.com.

Orinda Woman's Club. Second Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. to noon, call Jean Barnhart, 925-254-3881, or www.orindawomansclub.org.

CITY/FIRE/MEETING SCHEDULE

City Council. First and third Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Library Auditorium, www.cityoforinda.org.

Historic Landmarks Committee. Fourth Tuesday, 3 to 5 p.m., Library Garden Room. Call 925-788-7323.

Moraga-Orinda Fire District. First and third Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m. Visit www.mofd.org/board/meetings; meeting location will be posted on the agenda.

Planning Commission. Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Orinda Library Auditorium, www.cityoforinda.org.

Send calendar items to Jill Gelster at calendar@aspenconsult.net

The **Medicine Shoppe**
100% Pure PharmacySM

Happy
Thanksgiving


Alan Wong, R.Ph.
Next to Hollyhock and McCaulou's
282 Orinda Village Sq. • 254-1211
www.medicineshoppe.com

McCaulou's
and
Hollyhock
always

FREE Gift Wrap!
on items **15.00**
or more.


Orinda Village Square

FILM



THE REEL LESS TRAVELED

THE REVELRY SEASON



Tom Westlake

The Revelry Season is well upon us now, which makes this month's installment somewhat of a challenge insofar as there's not all that much to revel about. The International Film Showcase is taking its usual sabbatical (although I have it on good authority that they've got January and February already planned) and though I'm sure Lord Blood-Rah is probably planning something, there's no news of that yet, which is why I'm constantly harping on everyone to keep checking out the website (<http://lamorindatheatres.com>) for late-breaking information.

The best thing I can offer this time is a recommendation for the two films (and one event) happening this month. Both movies I'll be talking about have many champions – they're both considered classics – and there's nothing like seeing them on the big screen with others who are just as appreciative.

We'll start out with a film that many will rank as suspense but, as far as I'm concerned, it is a template for almost every action film that comes after. Now, the reason I mention suspense, of course, is because this film was directed by Alfred Hitchcock. That, and the fact that suspense usually depends on a quiet buildup of dread and foreboding, but in the case of *North by Northwest*, the movie opens on a high frenetic note – thanks to the high energy Tango-like score by Bernard Herrmann – and doesn't really let up until the end.

Indeed, there is a high level of suspense but it's mixed liberally with some genuinely nail-biting action pieces: There's explosions, car chases, plane chases, some gunplay and even some fisticuffs – and that's not even mentioning Mount Rushmore. And all through that, there's Cary Grant (playing a beleaguered Mad Man), Eva Marie Saint, James Mason and, in an interesting bit of synchronicity, Martin Landau in one of his first screen roles. (Remember, he was spotlighted fondly at the last International Film Festival in one of his final screen roles in *The Last Poker Game*.) This rollicking adventure will screen at the Orinda Theatre on Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. and the only thing you won't be anxious about is the

price of admission – because there isn't one.

Another adventure awaits those that wish to venture to the Rheem Theatre several days after. The Moraga Movers are still with us, and this month they're featuring *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*. By this time in his career, Humphrey Bogart had let the suavity that defined him lapse a little so he could get some really meaty roles and, indeed, we remember him just as much for his “sad-sack” roles as we do for those earlier hard-boiled characters that made him a matinee idol.

And no role is as sad as Fred C. Dobbs. Even more down on his luck than Charlie Allnutt, Dobbs soon finds himself inadvertently channeling another famous movie character McTeague as he achieves one goal only to fall victim to it. Though Bogart carries the film, some credit must go to the Hustons: John behind the camera, Walter in front of it. Like *African Queen*, this is very much a man's film and one can almost smell the dust and sweat. It will be showing at the Rheem on Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. No badges required.

Lastly, I'd like to call your attention to a fun little event that the whole family can participate in. On Nov. 18, Lamorinda's ivory tickler Patti Leidecker will take her place at the Rheem's baby grand to regale with favorite musical numbers from famous children's films. For the most part, many have fond memories the first time they heard the Oompa-Loompa song from *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Newer memories may spring forth for songs like “Hakuna Matata” from *The Lion King* or, more recently, “Let It Go” from *Frozen*. Some older readers may even distinctly remember the first time they heard Judy Garland sing “Over the Rainbow.”

The importance of these songs and how they tie into the movies cannot be emphasized enough and although there's no telling what songs will be presented, it's pretty much a certainty that some fond memory will be brought to the surface. Derek Zermak will also be on hand to provide some background to these much-loved tunes as well as show video clips. In any case, make every effort to show up at the Rheem on Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. for an evening you won't soon forget. Admission will be \$15.

And now, I'm going to start finding out about December. I already know some details but I'm not going to tell anyone about it until next month. All I can say is that it'll be worth the wait, so until then, remember to stay in the dark for that's where the reel magic lies.

Music from Children's Films

Nov. 18 - 7 p.m.

Rheem Theatre – Moraga
Pianist Patti Leidecker plays musical numbers from famous children's films including *The Lion King*, *Frozen* and *The Wizard of Oz*.



Ann Sharf

Top Producer. Strong Negotiator. Proven Results.

#1 Agent 2016 Lamorinda Sales

Be certain your largest asset is in the hands of a professional who represents both buyers and sellers.

Let me help you navigate through this ever changing real estate market.

(925)253-2525
ann@annsharf.com
www.annsharf.com



93 Moraga Way, Orinda

Czech Festival



SALLY HOGARTY

A festive Czech band playing by the Linden Tree in Orinda Community Center Park marked the opening to the Czech Festival on Sept. 29. The festival included a gala dinner at the Quarry House on Friday night, music and dancing in the park and a plethora of children's arts and crafts and other activities in the Community Center on Saturday and a Czech Composers concert on Sunday. Dignitaries in attendance included: William Lobkowicz, the American-born Prince of Lobkowicz; Pavol Sepelak, Czech Consul General from Los Angeles; Richard Pivnicka, Czech Honorary Consul General from San Francisco; Barbara Pivnicka, Slovak Honorary Consul General from San Francisco and Czech-American Olympian Rink Babka.

◆ GALLERY from page 2

Gina Barretta, Betsy Chovanes, Marlene Howerton, Linda Kam, Carol Lee-Chung, Tina Locke, Joyce Nelson, Laura Sawczuk, Melanie Widroe, Jane Wisner and Jean Wiegand of Orinda; and Janice Ransley, Midge Zischke and Linda Wendt of Walnut Creek.

Karen Hildebrand of Pleasant Hill has been creating ceramics nonstop for the past seven years, mostly at the Walnut Creek Ceramics Studio. As a pediatric nurse she works hands-on with her patients. Clay for her is another way of working hands-on. “It has endless possibilities as to what you can do with it,” she says. Look for *Untitled II*, a 9” x 7.75” raku-fired ceramic vase with bold incised leaf patterns and a nuanced patina that changes color as your eyes travel over it.

There is a wide spectrum of techniques in her work accomplished by using different clays, glazes and surface treatments. She combines throwing on the wheel with hand building – off the wheel, i.e., at a table with the clay, to sculpt different things. Hildebrand builds her skills to go in both directions. As far as design influences, there are two. She grew up surrounded by Asian art and is also drawn to botanicals. She uses apricot branches, cedar leaves as stencils for glazes, Heavenly Bamboo or Japanese maple leaves, into the pots – fun and endlessly available. You can see more of her ceramic work on Instagram at kehilde.

Angelica Samame of Lafayette has been painting for 17 years. Born in Peru, its imagery is often portrayed in her work. She paints to weave colorful experiences about women's lives onto canvas, often with hu-

mor. Her works stays fresh because as part of the Moraga Art Gallery she shows work every two months. Among the 20 paintings she is showing, look for *Peruvian Mother*, a 30” x 30” acrylic on canvas, and *Sunday Market in Cuzco*, a 24” x 24” acrylic on canvas.

Samame studies and explores all kinds of art – cubism for example. At the Lafayette Library, she is part of a group that visits local museums every month. They read up on the exhibiting artists and explore art history including books and films. She likes George Bernard Shaw's take on art: “Without art, the crudeness of reality would make the world unbearable.”

As to the value of art to our community, Deutschman says, “The sheer pleasure of working with one's hands so that even when creating contemporary cloth we imbue it with the spirit of the past which carries on an important human tradition.” Watters says, “Art is valuable to everyone. Nowadays, it's a great escape from the craziness of this world of ours. Art is therapeutic for the artist and the viewer.” “Expressing oneself with art is very freeing. Whether it's paint, clay, or glass an individual can show themselves and express themselves without words,” says Hildebrand. For Samame, “Artists communicate their life experiences so that people who view their work can connect with their ideas.”

Visit the gallery at 26 Orinda Way during normal library hours – Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. The library is closed on Nov. 10 and 11 for Veterans Day; closes at 6 p.m. for Thanksgiving on Nov. 22 and all day on Nov. 23. Call 925-254-2184 for more information or visit <http://ccclib.org>.

A DOUBLE FEATURE at ORINDA BOOKS

Thursday
Nov. 9

Artist Reception at 6 PM

DAN LYTHCOTT-HAIMS, photographer and designer

*I make pictures of small things that get overlooked...
The decayed and the worn. Pattern, color, texture, light,
shadow, repetition.*



Author Event at 7 PM

JULIE LYTHCOTT-HAIMS will discuss her debut memoir, *Real American*, Henry Holt \$27.

Beloved and bestselling author of *How to Raise an Adult* pulls no punches in her recollections of growing up a biracial black woman in America.

Love Your Local

Orinda Books

276 Village Square • 925-254-7606 • orindabooks.com • M-F 10-6, Th 10-7, Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3

BACKYARD GETAWAYS

Backyard Getaways and Beyond Goats and Llamas and Cheese, Oh My!



Bobbie Dodson

Our destination was David Walley's Hot Springs Resort and Spa founded in 1862 in Genoa, Nevada. In 1887, Mark Twain wrote, "The springs, without a doubt, have no equal on this coast for the cure of rheumatism and all afflictions that necessitate one visiting there. I now leave without crutch or cane, entirely well, not only relieved from pain but gained in spirit." We were four ladies in our eighties. With that recommendation, we were ready to give it a try.

The resort is an easy drive from Lamorinda, just half an hour past South Lake Tahoe. Checking into our double room – two bedrooms with living, dining areas and a full kitchen – we reveled in the beautiful view from our patio across the valley to the snow-covered Sierra Nevada mountains. About one mile from Genoa, Walley's extensive grounds make it just the place to relax and get away from the hustle and bustle of city life.

The six hot spring pools, some with jets, have a temperature of 101-104 degrees. They are easy to enter, and then you don't want to leave. Walley's brochure about the water reminds the reader that hot mineral spring bathing is an ancient healing practice tracing its roots to early Egyptian and Roman times. The brochure lists the spa's main minerals: potassium, which they say assists with the normalization of heart rhythms and assists in reducing high blood pressure while promoting healthy skin; sodium, which assists with the alleviation of arthritic symptoms; and sulphur, the main mineral in the water at the resort. It is known as "nature's beauty mineral because your body needs it to manufacture collagen, which keeps your skin elastic and young looking." At the mineral water swimming pool, kept at 80 degrees, water aerobics is offered several times a week for a fee. To enter the hot springs and pool area, where there are changing facilities and lockers, it costs \$50 per person (children four and under free) and \$55 on the weekend. If, however, you are a time share exchanger,

as we were, it is free. A nice perk!

The resort has 211 rooms, a fine dining restaurant, coffee shop and the hot springs as well as a Wellness Center that offers a multitude of services from Total Body Vibration, Peat Mud Bath to Leg Compression Massage and a Spa featuring Facial Treatments, Massage Therapy and Body Wraps and Scrubs. It is also a popular venue for weddings.

If you want to venture out, Genoa, pronounced with the accent on the "o," and it's a long "o," is five minutes away. The Mormons established the first trading post in Nevada here in 1851. Today the Mormon Station State Historic Park has a museum, which is a replica of the first trading post, plus a stockade and wagon shed. The town was a Pony Express station and the day we visited men and women on horseback, reenacting the Pony Express ride, stopped by the Park to the delight of the young boys who were there for a Cub Scout Day Camp. The excellent Courthouse Museum has an exhibit dedicated to the Pony Express which features this poster, "WANTED: Young, skinny, wiry fellow, not over 18. Must be expert rider willing to risk death daily. Orphans preferred." The Museum is well worth a visit.

In case you want to view a bit of history on the walls and ceiling of the building, go to the Genoa Bar which proclaims, "Welcome to Nevada's oldest thirst parlor." Established in 1853, part of the original bar remains, as does the Diamond Dust Mirror which came from Glasgow, Scotland, in the late 1840s and was shipped around the horn and then brought to the bar by covered wagon. The bartender kindly shone a flashlight on the mirror enabling us to see the diamond dust. Famous visitors included Mark Twain, President Ulysses S. Grant, and Carol Lombard and Clark Gable who went there to play high stakes poker games with the local cattle barons. A number of movies have been shot here, including "The Shootist" with John Wayne.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Walley's Hot Springs Resort is just the place to get away from the hustle and bustle city life.

Genoa is also famous as the first capital of the Nevada Territory, and as having the first hotel, newspaper and court. Today, the town of about 1,000 residents also has a variety of shops and appealing restaurants, along with several golf courses. With skiing nearby, in the winter Walley's Hot Springs attract patrons as the place to come

to soothe the body after a day on the slopes.

Other nearby places to visit include Carson City, Minden, and Gardnerville, or you can head for Reno or the Tahoe area. But then return to Walley's where we enjoyed the peaceful setting and the opportunity to soak in the healing waters of the hot springs.

Director of the Training and Counseling Institute in Lamorinda Retires

Orinda resident Robert Marino, Ph.D., who co-founded the Bay Area Psychotherapy Institute (BAPTI) in Lafayette 25 years ago to train post masters and doctoral degree therapists while providing therapeutic services at a reduced fee to clients in the East Bay, retired June 30. Dr. Marino has lived with his family in Orinda for 30 years. From 1993 to his retirement in June of 2017, he maintained a private practice of psychotherapy in Lafayette and Orinda with a particular focus on the treatment of addicts and their family members.

Dr. Marino will be honored on Nov. 3 for his many years working in the field of addiction and mental health. Each year Constellation Behavioral Health hosts the Miracles Breakfast, an opportunity to gather to celebrate the miracle of recovery and honor the Northern California professionals whose dedication to the fields of addiction and mental health disorders is an inspiration to us all. Dr. Marino will receive the Courage Tribute Award, which honors a professional who has empowered the addiction and mental health communities through advocacy, leadership, and courage.

Working with colleagues from psychology and psychiatry, Marino helped create the *Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program* (ADAP), which has since been adopted (and adapted) as the Northern California Kaiser Hospitals treatment model, now called CRT. From 1985-2000, as a faculty

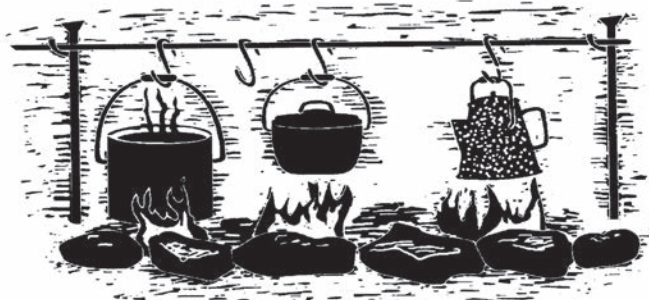


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Robert Marino, Ph.D. retired after 25 years.

member at the graduate schools of John F Kennedy University and St. Mary's College, Dr. Marino taught a variety of courses that focused particularly on educating students regarding the identification and treatment of addiction in mental health settings. His courses also focused on work with family members affected by an addiction. Dr. Marino has left behind a legacy of clients and their families whose recovery from addiction has been reinforced, and of hundreds of Bay Area therapists who are better trained and more experienced in the practice of psychotherapy in variety of issues, thanks to his lengthy and important contribution.

To find out more information about the Bay Area Psychotherapy Institute in Lafayette, visit its website at www.bapti.org.



CASA ORINDA
RESTAURANT

Dinner served nightly from 4 p.m.

925.254.2981 ■ 20 Bryant Way ■ Orinda, CA 94563

McDonnell  Nursery

Christmas trees coming Thanksgiving week

family owned since 1933

Holiday Open House
Tuesday November 14 from 5:00 -7:30

Appetizers and Drinks
Special pricing on all Holiday decor and gifts

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

BUSINESS BUZZ

◆ BUZZ from page 20

experienced a chronic, recurring injury, we pursued talks about purchasing the business. We realized we offer the same high quality cleaning services along with friendly customer service as he did. It was obvious it was a great fit, and we look forward to offering customers the same excellent service,” says Steely.

Prior to relocating to the East Bay in 2001, Dave and Michelle Steely owned and operated Steely Steam Cleaning in San Mateo County. They enjoy visiting various parts of California and traveling to coastal and lake communities in their motor home whenever possible. “I used to be a body-builder, and I still work out at the gym with my son Brandon,” adds Dave Steely.

A week’s notice for booking is appreciated. However, Maximum Carpet Cleaning is available for urgent matters. “Things happen and that is part of our day-to-day operations,” says Steely. For more information, visit www.kirbycarpetcleaning.com, email KirbyCarpetCleaning1@gmail.com or call 925-254-2866.

McDonnell Nursery Hosts Open House

With the holidays fast approaching, now is the time to check out McDonnell Nursery for diverse and creative offerings. A family-owned business since 1933, third generation McDonnell, Sarah, continues to be assisted by her father Dan, in operating this delightful nursery located at 196 Moraga Way.

“Our Christmas Trees begin arriving the week of Thanksgiving, which is a great time to purchase and decorate. We encourage customers to bring in their stand and we will attach the stand to your tree and de-



VALERIE HOTZ

Sarah McDonnell is a third generation owner of McDonnell Nursery.

liver to your home within Lamorinda at no charge,” explains Sarah McDonnell, who takes pride in usually being able to deliver on the day her customer requests.

The Holiday Open House takes place at the nursery on Tuesday, Nov. 14, from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Drinks and appetizers will be served and featured discounts will be applied to your shopping on this night. “Early this month our whole shop transitions to Christmas and everyday gift items such as drink ware, jewelry, candles, walk plaques, outdoor pillows, hummingbird feeders, indoor plants and ceramic pots, all continue to be available,” McDonnell says. “Other gift ideas include wood chimes, scarves, birdbaths and attractive planters. Potting services are available here.”

Now is the time to plant tulip and daffodil bulbs for radiant blossoms this coming spring. The rose sale continues at McDonnell Nursery through the month of December. “You can also think cyclamen, pansy and primrose for annual color that

Orinda Tree of Lights – Dec. 2

For over 30 years, the Hospice Tree of Lights ceremony has offered members of the Orinda community a way to honor the lives of friends and loved ones. This year’s ceremony takes place on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 4:30 p.m. and includes singing by local school choirs and visit from Santa Claus.

By dedicating a Memorial Light for a suggested gift of \$30, people can honor someone they love while directly supporting end-of-life patient care. Memorial donors of \$100 and higher also have the option to have their names listed in the lighting ceremony program of their choice.

To dedicate a memorial light or become a sponsor, go to www.hospiceeastbay.org. Your support makes all the difference!

SALLY HOGARTY

Thanks to the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, the Hospice Tree Lighting ceremony includes a visit from **Santa Claus**.

lasts through the winter months,” points out McDonnell.

With the beehives on the property having been recently harvested, delicious McDonnell Nursery honey is available for purchase. “By actively supporting the bee population, we also encourage flower production amongst our own plants here,” says McDonnell. The hives are managed by Orindan Mike Vigo, owner of The Bee Ranchers, which was previously featured in this column.

“For a contemporary look, the air plants – properly known as Tillandsia - make a great gift. These are very popular. They require no soil and once a week you transfer them to get a drink of water and then return them

to display,” says McDonnell. While visiting the nursery, be sure to visit the household plants section and take advantage of the staff’s knowledge about all manner of plants, both indoor and outdoor.

A fun special indoor display features children’s gardening tools and gloves for nurturing a new generation of green thumbs. You don’t need to wait until the Open House to head down to McDonnell Nursery. A longtime member of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, McDonnell Nursery is open every day from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.mcdonnellnursery.com, email info@mcdonnellnursery.com or telephone 925-254-3713.

Fitness Tip of the Month

The Aging Process

What is it?
Body Breakdown – Muscle and bone loss.

How can we slow it down?
Rebuild with Diet and Exercise To Improve Your Current Condition

How can we reverse it?
Become Stronger and More Fit than You Have Ever Been In Your Life

For more information, contact Sheena with Living Lean personal training and eating for elite fitness, at 925-360-7051 or www.livingleanprogram.com.

TAXI BLEU

All Airports Served 24/7

Dispatch:
925-849-2222

Direct:
925-286-0064

www.mytaxibleu.com
mytaxibleu@gmail.com

Did you know that 5A will move you in FREE with our moving van?*

It's one of our best kept secrets...But now we're telling you! Rent a unit and we'll move you in. What a great way to get rid of all the stress & hassle of storing your things!

It's Getting Close To Holiday Time... Let 5A Storage Help You Get Ready!

Give the Gift of Storage to yourself! Make room at home for Holiday Celebrations!

45% OFF
select units. Example: 8 x 7 reg. \$192..
now only \$105.⁶⁰

*Select units limited, not available at all locations, call for details - rent today! Special discounts expire 11/30/17. Check with 5A office to get details and guidelines for FREE moving van when you rent a unit.

Give us a review, we're happy to hear from you, appreciated! Check our website & on Facebook to find out about upcoming events

455 Moraga Rd. Ste. F (925) 643-2026 www.5Aspace.com

Visit 5A & ask for your FREE Gift!

THE LIVING LEAN PROGRAM

PERSONAL TRAINING
• 30-45 minute customized weight/cardio session

GROUP CLASSES
• Spin, TRX and circuit training

BODY FAT MEASUREMENTS
• 7-point caliper/waist and hips measurements

NUTRITIONAL CONSULTATION
• Diet review, goal setting and counseling

Additional Services

MASSAGE
• 60-minute (on-site) Swedish or deep tissue

HEALTHY MEALS TO GO
• Customized meals for pick-up from local restaurants

2 Theater Square, Suite 140, Orinda
3125 Camino Diablo, Lafayette

www.livingleanprogram.com
925-360-7051

living lean.
by Sheena

BUSINESS BUZZ

Business Buzz Putting a Personal Face on Local Business

Valerie Hotz



To send items for consideration, email Hotz at v.hotz@att.net.

Luminance Vision Optometry Also Offers Boutique Frames

Step into the bright, modern and contemporary space of Luminance Vision Optometry and you are instantly put at ease by the welcoming atmosphere created by owner Mei Lee Fleming, O.D. and her on-staff optician, Irene Jandt. Located in Lafayette at 3444 Mt. Diablo Blvd., it is open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday by appointment.

A Bay Area native and graduate of U.C. Berkeley's School of Optometry, Dr. Fleming has 16 years private practice experience

in the East Bay. Prior to establishing Luminance Vision Optometry, she spent time as a stay-at-home mother for her two sons and owned Alamo Optometry.

"We find people tend to forget the importance of annual eye examinations, which are just as crucial as regular physical exams. When people routinely have their eyes checked on an annual basis, we can detect visual abnormalities earlier, in order to begin treatment that much earlier for a better long-term outcome," says Fleming. Especially vital in young children is making sure their binocular vision develops properly. Binocular vision helps with depth perception and tracking while reading.

"What distinguishes my practice is that



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Maximum Carpet Cleaning's (L-R) Brandon, Michelle, Dave and Anthony Steely.

we provide digital examinations. Digital exams are the most precise method and we have the capability of photo documentation. Using Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT), we are able to detect abnormalities or defects occurring in the eyes at the cellular level," explains Fleming.

Luminance Vision Optometry carries hand-selected unique eyewear collections available in prescription, nonprescription and sunglasses. "Our frames are created by independent manufacturers that specialize in high-quality and high design, including children's frames and those specifically designed for petite faces," she adds.

"We do careful fitting for our clients, which is extremely important. Eyeglasses are the one thing that serves as both a fashion accessory and also as a medical device, including sunglasses. Protecting eyes from ultraviolet light, for both children and adults, is a priority for long-term healthy eyes. We advocate maintaining a diet rich in anti-oxidants such as kale, blueberries, and spinach. It has been demonstrated that an appropriate amount of the 'good fats,' including fish oil, avocado and flax seed is important to preventing, Dry Eye Syn-

drome," says Fleming.

Fleming places a priority on keeping physically healthy and this includes healthy eyes. She enjoys cycling, karate and kick boxing in her free time, as well as baking and preparing delicious meals.

Luminance Vision Optometry takes great pride in fitting clients with fashionable frames that are an excellent fit. This practice participates in the Vision Service Plan (VSP). For more information, call 925-900-8977 or visit www.luminancevision.com

Diamond Certified Maximum Carpet Cleaning – A True Family Business

Last month, this column featured the retirement of John Kirby, owner of Kirby Carpet Cleaning, a household name in these parts. After careful vetting of the candidates, Kirby sold his business to Dave Steely, whose company, Maximum Carpet Cleaning is a family affair, owned and operated by Dave, his wife Michelle and sons Brandon and Anthony.

With over 20 years of experience in the business, Dave and his sons do the work together, while Michelle manages the office, handling scheduling and calls. "I hold the certified Master Textile Cleaner certificate, which is the highest certification bestowed by the Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification – the IICRC," says Steely. "Both Brandon and Anthony are certified carpet cleaning technicians." In addition to carpet, upholstery and area rug cleaning services, Maximum Carpet Cleaning offers hard surface cleaning, including stone, tile and hardwood floors. Dave Steely has taken the Advanced Area Rug Cleaning course hosted by Master Blend. "We place a lot of value on training and being current with our industry standards, adds Steely. Their expertise is further reflected by the fact that customers voted to make Maximum Carpet Cleaning a member of Bay Area Consumers' Checkbook.

"When John Kirby's senior employee [SEE BUZZ page 19]



Kurt & Kathy Bellows
Your Hosts *Since 1986*
Proudly serving Orinda for 31 years!



orindacoffeeshop.com
Menu, Directions, & More



204 Village Square
Orinda

254-6080
On Orinda Way Near
McCaulou's

Fresh food.
Clean restaurant.
Good service.

Tuesday – Friday
5:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Breakfast Until 11:25

Saturday
6:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Breakfast Until 11:25

Sunday
7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Breakfast Only All Day



Orinda Shell Auto Care

- Complete Auto Care -
Scheduled Maintenance - Smog -
Air Conditioning - Electrical Repairs -
Brakes and Suspension - Warranty
Repair - Wheel Alignments -
Free Shuttle Service
Walking Distance from BART

Celebrating Over 15 Years in Business
Thank You Orinda!





925 254-1486 • fax 925 254-3427
9 Orinda Way
e-mail orindashell@sbcglobal.net



VALERIE HOTZ

Lamorinda resident **Mei Lee Fleming**, O.D. recently established Luminance Vision Optometry in Lafayette.

MARY H. SMITH, D.D.S. • CECELIA THOMAS, D.D.S.
A Professional Corporation
96 Davis Road, #5 - Orinda, CA 94563
925.254.0824



Taking care of all your dental needs for you and your family.
Emphasizing cosmetic dentistry with implants, and Invisalign.
Nitrous oxide is available. Consultations are complimentary.
Dentistry with Excellence.

YOUR SMILE IS EVERYTHING