

City Planners Consider New Commercial Development at 25 Orinda Way

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Developer Paul Ugenti is working with the Orinda Planning Department to get a new building approved in downtown. The current proposal is for an approximately 18,600-square-foot, mixed-use retail/restaurant and office building across the street from the Orinda Library at 25A Orinda Way. The proposed building will be 35 feet tall, with architectural projections that extend to 46 feet. Sixty-nine projected off-street parking spaces will be available on the second and third floors. A BP service station was removed from the site 20 years ago, and the fenced area has been vacant ever since. Soil remediation has removed subsurface contamination from the site.

Chase Bank looked into developing the location in 2014. However, after meeting with city staff over concerns that the proposal was inconsistent with the city's General Plan, the application was withdrawn. The current proposed plan is seeking an exception to eliminate the required front, side and rear setbacks of the property as well as a variance for the proposed parking which does not meet the requirements of the Orinda Municipal Code. These changes result "in a building that has a much more 'downtown' look and feel, and is more pedestrian-friendly than the previous Chase proposal, as the building is not separated from the street by setbacks and parking spaces," said former interim Planning Director Victor Carniglia.

The proposal was brought before the



The **proposed new construction** as seen from the Orinda Library. To the right is the existing view from the library.

JOHNSON LYMAN ARCHITECTS

Orinda Planning Commission on Feb. 22. Public comments were heard from Ugenti, project architect Dave Johnson and Orinda residents Pete Hasselman, David Andrew, Alison Drasin, Tom Norris, Nick Waranoff, Natalie Klotsche, Daniel De Busschere,

Terry Murphy, Adam Henderson, Owen Murphy, Bruce London, Richard Westin, Sean Garrett and Hillary Murphy.

The lack of use of story poles (poles used to depict the outline of the project) was [SEE PLANNING page 20]

Grizzly Bears in Orinda?



Thanks to artists Alex Nolan and Chad Glashoff, Orinda now has its own grizzly bear – at least for the next year. *Ursus Redivivus* is a nearly 12-foot-tall monument of the extinct California Grizzly Bear. As part of the City of Orinda's Art in Public Places (APPC) program, the metal sculpture is on loan for one year and will reside in the Library Plaza. The interactive piece – step on the circle inside the trap and the bear's arm will move – includes part of the escalator of the Walgreens in Berkeley that was removed during a store remodel. Shown are (L-R) **Rebecca Dahlberg**, **Phillip Glashoff** (father of Chad and an artist in his own right), **Alex Nolan**, **Chad Glashoff** (at Grizzly's shoulder), **Chester Hanson** and (kneeling) artist **John Toki**. Not shown are APPC members Ted Urban and Rich Thompson.

Orindans Take Action To Make City Beautiful

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Volunteers will once again take to the streets as the eighth annual Orinda Action Day gets underway on April 23 from 9:30 a.m. until noon. Participants should check in at the Orinda Library Plaza, 26 Orinda Way, before being assigned to a project. The first 300 volunteers will receive a free T-shirt, snacks and coffee upon registration. Local D.J. and "Voice of Orinda" Steve Harwood will be presenting prizes for unusual "finds."

"Orinda Action Day, sponsored by the Orinda Community Foundation (OCF) in partnership with the City of Orinda, is a time our city comes together to not only clean and foster civic involvement, but to showcase what a wonderful, friendly community Orinda represents," said former Mayor Sue Severson.

Volunteers of all ages can sign up in advance via the OCF website (www.orinda-foundation.org) by clicking on the volunteer tab. A listing of the projects available [SEE ACTION page 20]



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Young volunteer from last year's Orinda Action Day.

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New Section Celebrations

Just in time for those spring engagements and summer weddings, *The Orinda News* will launch a Celebrations page in our May issue. Here is your opportunity to send in a photo of the happy couple and announce an engagement or the date of a wedding. It's also the perfect place to let people know about a special anniversary.

For more information on the details and cost, please email news@orindaassociation.org.

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Long Time Members of the Orinda Association: The Worth Family

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Each month a family or individual member of the Orinda Association (OA) will be profiled. We hope you enjoy getting to know your fellow Orindans, who are actively improving the quality of life in our community by their membership. This month, meet Amy and Tom Worth and daughters Betsy, Annie and Kate.

How long have you been a member of the OA?

We joined around the time we moved to Orinda in 1982, so that makes it around 34 years.

What made you want to join the organization?

We joined the Orinda Association to support the community and to become

involved in Orinda. Membership in the OA was a great way to be connected to the community.

What events/programs were you the most interested in?

Having a young family when we joined, we felt it was important to support the schools, the library, the parks and the Community Center. The OA supports all aspects of the community and brings together residents of all ages who care about Orinda.

When we moved to Orinda in 1982, the OA and other leaders of the community felt that incorporation was essential to the future of Orinda. We volunteered for the incorporation effort, including my daughter in her stroller. That daughter is now having her first child! I remember meeting Bobbie Landers when we first joined, and she made us feel so welcome.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tom, Betsy, Annie, Kate and Amy Worth at Annie's graduation from the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing.


We love the OA parade and other activities, and we feel that the OA's Seniors Around Town program is one of the most important programs in Orinda.

How has the OA changed since you've been a member?

Following incorporation, the OA continued its important role in maintaining the

high quality of life in Orinda. The leadership of the OA stays involved in important programs such as linking volunteers of all ages to volunteer opportunities, sponsoring the Seniors Around Town Program, co-sponsoring the Orinda Classic Car Show and publishing *The Orinda News*, just to name a few.

[SEE WORTH page 4]



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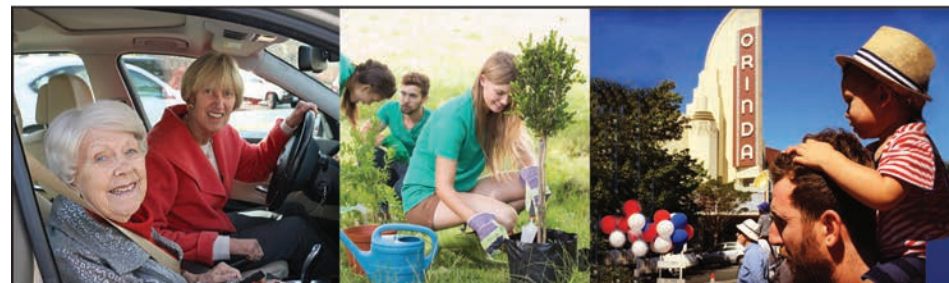
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Join The Orinda Association today to stay Informed • Involved • In Touch!

As an Orinda resident, you are invited to join The Orinda Association. For over 70 years, we have been dedicated to enhancing our community and enriching the quality of life here. Please join us – the membership fees are nominal, but the returns are immeasurable!

Some of the ways we keep you Informed, Involved & In Touch:

- Publishing *The Orinda News*
- Operating the Volunteer Center
- Hosting Community Forums
- Organizing the All-Community 4th of July Celebration
- Providing transportation through "Seniors Around Town"
- ... and more!



Visit www.OrindaAssociation.org to see all the ways we support our community. Only through your generosity and support can we maintain Orinda as one of the best communities in the nation! For more details, contact us at 925-254-0800.

To join, visit www.OrindaAssociation.org/membershiponline

PO Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563

Orinda Association's Gala Awards Banquet



SALLY HOGARTY
OA President **Cindy Powell** presents **Mark Roberts**, representing the Orinda Community Foundation, with the William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Award.



SALLY HOGARTY
State Senator **Steve Glazer** (L) and Assemblywoman **Catharine Baker** (R) present awards to Volunteer of the Year **Anna Tague**.



SALLY HOGARTY
Posing before the Feb. 21 dinner at the Orinda Country Club are (L-R) Supervisor Andersen's Field Representative **Jill Ray**, former Orinda Mayor **Bobbie Landers**, Supervisor **Candace Andersen**, OA Vice President **Joe Garvey** and OA Treasurer **Bill Waterman**.



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ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President
A Super Busy April



Cindy Powell

Hopefully, you opened your *Orinda News* as soon as it hit your mailbox! We try to get the newspaper to you before the beginning of the month – no fooling! As everyone knows it's **April Fool's Day** on April 1 but did you know it's also **Walk to Work Day**?

Here in Orinda, the first week of April means **Spring Break**, but while many residents enjoy a well deserved vacation, others will be celebrating **World Health Day** (April 7) followed by **International Moment of Laughter Day** (April 14). After all, "laughter is the best medicine."

Thank our wonderful librarians on **National Librarian Day** (April 16) with a visit to the Orinda Library and don't forget to buy a few books from the **Friends of the Orinda Library** bookstore. Go to ccclib.org/locations/orinda.html to see the great programs they provide, like the movie *An American Ascent* (April 20) celebrating the National Park Service's (NPS) 100th Birthday. Longtime Orinda Resident William Penn Mott, Jr. was Director of the NPS and the first president of The Orinda

Association 70 years ago.

Be kind to Mother Earth on April 17 by attending the **Friends of the Wagner Ranch Nature Area's annual Wildlife/Earth Festival**. See page 7 for complete information.

While New England celebrates April 18 as **Paul Revere Day**, here in Orinda residents will be busy filing their taxes. Remember your Orinda Association donation is tax deductible.

Volunteer Recognition Day (April 20) is one of my favorites given the many inspiring volunteers in our community. Please contact me at the OA office, 925-254-0800, and let me know who deserves a pat on the back.

Speaking of pats on the back, the **Orinda Junior Women's Club** will be honoring the winners of the 2016 Youth Ink competition (grades 6-8) on April 21 at the Library Auditorium. Join us in recognizing these students for their amazing stories and poems around the theme "future."

For a bit of fun on **Kindergarten Day** (also April 21), pull out old pictures of you or your kids on the first day of Kindergarten and relive the "good old days."

And, you can "Keep Orinda Beautiful!" with **Orinda Action Day** (April 23). Sign up at OrindaFoundation.org. Also, **Orinda Association's Volunteer Fair** will be held at the Orinda Library Plaza for Nonprofit and Volunteer groups. See story on page 1.

April 27 will be a busy day. Orinda Mayor Victoria Smith will present the Annual State of the City Address and discuss the latest issues, projects and financial outlook for our community. It is also **Tell a Story Day** so you can spin a tall tale around the water cooler because the next day, April 28, is **Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day**.

How about planting a tree on **Arbor Day** (April 29) or just giving thanks for the beautiful trees that adorn our town.

Yes, April is a busy month in our town and this is your chance to be involved and in touch with our beautiful Orinda. Be sure and check the calendar on page 21 so you won't miss out!

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
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Secretary	Alison Dew	Jim Luini
Treasurer	Bill Waterman	Tom Romaneck
Membership	Kate Wiley	

Join the Fun!

Be a part of the 4th of July celebration!

The 4th of July committee still has some key positions available plus lots of fun things to help with on July 3 and 4.

- Decorations Captain
- Volunteers Coordination Captain
- Security and Emergency Services Coordination Captain
- Parade Route Staffers
- Jump House Volunteers and lots more!

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Editorial . . .

Watch Out for Telephone Scams

I couldn't believe it last summer when I received a call from the "IRS" telling me I owed money and to give them a credit card number over the phone for payment. The person sounded pretty legit and even gave a file number. But, of course, it was just another telephone scam. Fortunately, I refused to give them anything and instead called my accountant and the real IRS.

Evidently, a similar scam has surfaced for this tax season. Criminals posing as IRS agents are calling and asking tax payers to verify such information as social security numbers and bank accounts over the phone. Please, if you receive a call like this, do not give any financial information to them. More information on the latest scams can be found at www.irs.gov.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor

Letters to the Editor

Don't Apologize for Gun Safety

While I agree that the Orinda Town Hall meeting on Jan. 23 was meaningful and informative, there was one area of discussion that Charlie Brown's letter omitted: gun safety. While Assemblywoman Baker was very articulate and informative on every subject discussed, she became suddenly quiet and dodgy when the issue of gun safety came up. That was distressing to see, and it made her otherwise clear-eyed look at issues seem fuzzy and partisan. It was also distressing to hear Senator Steve Glazer speaking in an apologetic tone about the gun safety proposal he backs. He went out of his way to make it seem like his proposal was only asking for a very small thing, and it was clear he was not trying to offend anyone in the room. I was dismayed, and then quite upset, that our local leaders aren't a stronger voice for common sense gun control legislation. Stop making apologies for believing in gun safety! How many times have we heard politicians begin any discussion of gun control legislation with "While I am a strong defender of the 2nd Amendment . . ." "Why do our elected leaders feel it necessary to declare this before beginning any gun control conversation? Starting from a defensive position is never a good way to win an argument, and I'm tired of it. Stop playing defense and

start playing offense! Too many lives are at stake. It is time all citizens come together and stand up against those who oppose such common sense laws.

– Maggie Reeves

A Long Road to Repair

We were excited when our street was selected to be repaired and repaved but little did we realize how long it would take. Before repairs could begin, PG&E had to inspect their poles and lines. Then all of the underground utilities had to be located and marked: the water lines, the sewer lines, the drainage culverts, the gas mains, and the electric lines. Next came the Bay Cities prep team to dig out the bad pot holes and prep them. Then after all this was done, in came the tree trimmers to make sure that the large equipment could work on the road with proper clearance. Now we thought we would see some real road repair action. But one neighbor refused to have their tree trimmed. That took two more weeks to resolve. Now we are ready for our new street which will take 10 clear weather days for a full depth reclamation (FDR). Guess what - here come our badly needed rains. Yes, we are waiting, but it will all be worthwhile in the long run because we voted "yes" for new roads in Orinda.

– Dick Burkhalter

◆ WORTH from page 2

The OA continues to evolve and adapt to changing times and has always been involved in issues important to Orinda while keeping the community informed through *The Orinda News* and the election forums.

What have you gained from supporting the OA?

We've gained a feeling of involvement in the community from the very beginning. OA leaders have been an inspiration to us over the years. They give back to our community in so many ways, making it a better place. The joy of living in a smaller community means you can connect with people of all ages in a variety of activities. The OA knits our community together with activities like the 4th of July parade.



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Why should other residents support the OA or become active members?

Supporting and becoming involved in the OA is a great way to feel connected to the community. There are many volunteer jobs that suit all interests and time availability. Volunteerism is a hallmark of Orinda, and the OA provides wonderful opportunities

to give back to the community.

The OA is a vital volunteer organization in Orinda. It reaches all segments, ages and interests in our community providing a great way for people to feel connected and involved. On its 70th Anniversary, the OA continues to fulfill the goals of community involvement that its founders embraced.

Stop Hunger Now!

Orinda Rotary's 2016 international project benefits "Stop Hunger Now!" – a worldwide effort to eradicate hunger for those most in need – and you can help! Immediately following "Orinda Action Day" on **Saturday, April 23, at 11 a.m., in the Founders Auditorium at the Orinda Community Center**, volunteers will assemble and package more than 17,000 meals, which will then be distributed internationally by "Stop Hunger Now!" Food (pizza) will be served, with fun and fellowship on the side. And, it will take just a few hours of your time! For more information, contact Dick Burkhalter at 925-254-2222.

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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 May issue are due **April 5, 2016**.

For display advertising rates, call Jill Gelster at 925-528-9225 or email to jill@aspenconsult.net. The deadline for the May issue is April 5, 2016.

POLICE / DOCTORS



POLICE BLOTTER

January 31 through March 12, 2016

Calls for Service

- Abandoned Vehicle:** 2 incidents.
- Accident Property:** 2 incidents.
- Alarm Audible:** 175 incidents.
- Assault with a Deadly Weapon:** 1 incident.
- Auto Burglary:** 7 incidents.
- Barking Dog:** 1 incident.
- Civil Disturbance:** 15 incidents.
- Commercial Burglary:** 1 incident.
- Computer Fraud:** 1 incident.
- Cvc Miscellaneous:** 1 incident.
- Cvc Moving Violation:** 71 incidents.
- Cvc Non Moving Violation:** 46 incidents.
- Death Non-Criminal:** 1 incident.
- Disturbance - Fight:** 1 incident.
- Disturbing the Peace:** 1 incident.
- Forgery:** 2 incidents.
- Found Property:** 6 incidents.
- Fire/Ems Response Info:** 1 incident.
- Fraud Credit Card:** 2 incidents.
- Fraud False Pretenses:** 1 incident.
- Hit And Run Misdemeanor:** 4 incidents.
- H&S Violation:** 1 incident.
- Identity Theft:** 14 incidents.
- Intoxicated Subject:** 1 incident.
- Juvenile Disturbance:** 3 incidents.
- Littering:** 1 incident.
- Lost Property:** 2 incidents.
- Loud Noise:** 3 incidents.
- Loud Party:** 2 incidents.
- Medical Police Needed:** 1 incident.
- Motorist Assist:** 5 incidents.
- Occupied Stalled Vehicle:** 2 incidents.
- Ordinance Violation:** 6 incidents.
- Outside Assist:** 36 incidents.
- Outside Investigation:** 1 incident.
- Panhandling Violation:** 2 incidents.
- Parking Complaint:** 60 incidents.
- Parking Violation:** 70 incidents.
- Patrol Request:** 50 incidents.
- Petty Theft:** 5 incidents.
- Petty Theft from Vehicle:** 2 incidents.
- Possible Shots Heard:** 2 incidents.
- Public Assembly Check:** 6 incidents.
- Public Nuisance:** 24 incidents.
- Reckless Driving:** 19 incidents.
- Residential Burglary:** 5 incidents.
- Robbery Armed:** 1 incident.
- Run Away Juvenile:** 1 incident.
- School Check:** 23 incidents.

- Security Check:** 53 incidents.
- Service To Citizen:** 148 incidents.
- Shoplifting:** 2 incidents.
- Suspicious Circumstances:** 50 incidents.
- Suspicious Person Stop:** 7 incidents.
- Suspicious Subject:** 21 incidents.
- Suspicious Subject Stop:** 2 incidents.
- Suspicious Vehicle:** 25 incidents.
- Suspicious Vehicle Stop:** 15 incidents.
- Threats:** 3 incidents.
- Tow:** 6 incidents.
- Traffic Collision:** 4 incidents.
- Traffic Collision, Fire and Ambulance En route:** 1 incident.
- Traffic Collision Property Damage:** 8 incidents.
- Traffic Control:** 1 incident.
- Traffic Hazard:** 19 incidents.
- Traffic Stop:** 118 incidents.
- Unwanted Guest:** 6 incidents.
- Vacation House Check:** 26 incidents.
- Vandalism:** 3 incidents.
- Vehicle Blocking Driveway:** 2 incidents.
- Vehicle Theft:** 3 incidents.
- Verbal Dispute:** 4 incidents.
- Violation Custody Order:** 1 incident.
- Violation Restraining Order:** 1 incident.
- Welfare Check:** 15 incidents.

Arrests

- DUI Arrest:** 1 arrest.
- Possession of Dangerous Firearm:** 1 arrest.
- Possession of Narcotics:** 1 arrest.
- Probation Violation:** 3 arrests.
- Public Intoxication:** 2 arrests.
- Shoplifting:** 2 arrests.
- Vehicle Recovery:** 1 recovered vehicle.
- Warrant Arrest:** 3 arrests.

BART Statistics

- Bicycle Theft:** 1 incident.
- Robbery, Armed:** 1 incident.

– Compiled by David Dierks
Assistant Editor

For more incident details, visit
www.crimereports.com

New Urgent Care Center Opens in Orinda

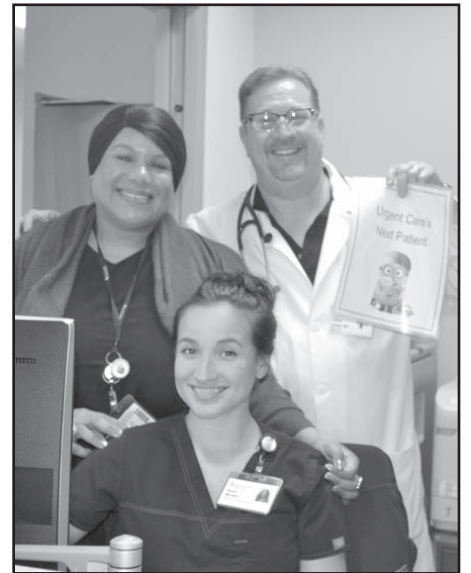
By MAGGIE SHARPE
Staff Writer

A new Urgent Care Center opened March 1 in the Sutter Health Orinda Care Center located at 12 Camino Encinas. Dr. Jeffery Leinen made the announcement at the Mayor's Liaison Meeting on March 9 at City Hall.

Dr. Leinen said the new center, which features four exam rooms, is designed for same-day care. It's open Monday through Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and on weekends and holidays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Patients may drop in or make an appointment. The center also has on-site lab and imaging services, making diagnosis and treatment quick and convenient for patients.

"Urgent care is for minor illnesses that still need to be treated within 24 hours such as sore throats, urinary tract and respiratory infections, sprains and cuts, skin infections, backaches and fractures," said Dr. Leinen. "For more serious life and limb threats, patients should go to the Emergency Room. And if you're having chest pains, symptoms of a stroke, or any life-threatening emergency, call 911."

The nearest emergency rooms to Orinda are Kaiser in Walnut Creek and Alta Bates



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
(L-R) Sutter Urgent Care Supervisor **Joy Vaughns**, Medical Director **Dr. Jeffery Leinen**, (seated) and Urgent Care Coordinator **Karen Montero**.

Summit Medical Center in Oakland. Services offered at the general Orinda Care Center include internal medicine, OB/GYN, podiatry, midwifery, rheumatology and urology.

For more information, call the Urgent Care Center at 510-204-8075 or visit www.sebmf.org/urgentcare

East Bay Sea Serpents Need Help

The spring session of the Special Olympics Northern California program began in mid-March at Campolindo High School Soda Aquatic Center. The program takes place on Sundays from 3:50 – 5 p.m. This no-cost program affiliated with Special Olympics serves intellectually disabled athletes in the East Bay from ages 5 to adult. Volunteers are needed to provide one-on-one learn-to-swim lessons as well as coaching for more advanced athletes. Visit www.ebss.team or email brian@ebss.team for more information.

"I made friends, had fun, and felt like I belonged."
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SCHOOLS / STUDENTS / BELOVED TEACHER

CYO Boy's Soccer Champs



NICOLE SIDLAUSKAS

On Mar. 5, the 6th grade Santa Maria National basketball team completed an undefeated season by winning the CYO National Invitational Tournament of Champions, following up on their West Diablo League Championship on Feb. 21. (L-R: Back row) **Julie Hoffman, Liam Sullivan, Andrew Sidlauskas, Jake Gallegos, Isaiah Teran and Griffin Brown.** (L-R): Front row) **Ethan Haines, Colin McDermott, Roan Kazmierowski, Bo Lagomarsino, Dax Sherwood and Brendan McCulloch.**

The Music Man a Success at Sleepy Hollow



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(L) **Lucy Berkman** and **Clara Grenning.**

Lucy Berkman (grade 5) was the fast-talking Harold Hill and Clara Grenning (grade 4) was Marion the librarian in *The Music Man* at Sleepy Hollow in late March.

The Meredith Wilson musical about a con man selling musical instruments to school children was the perfect choice for a fun spring production. The young performers energetically took to their roles.

The show was produced by the Lamorinda Theater Academy and sponsored by the Educational Foundation of Orinda, the Lamorinda Arts Council and the Sleepy Hollow Parents' Club.

Blue Belt Champion



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Barron Mosteller, a third grade student at Del Rey Elementary, won gold at the AAU Taekwondo National Qualifier in February as a Blue belt in the lightweight division. He competes in the California Championship on April 8-9.

Marty DeJonghe – A Special Orinda Elementary School Teacher

Marty was born in Oakland, California on May 17, 1939. She is preceded in death by her parents, Edna and Harry Bruno, and her oldest brother, Dave and survived by her youngest brother Tom.

The loves of her life are her husband Tom DeJonghe, her son Mark DeJonghe and her daughter Nicole Benter, with Sherry (daughter-in-law), Jack (son-in-law), and grandchildren Merrick, Darby and Roxy, and her extended family for half a century: the Aakers. Her extended family was nicknamed "the DeJaakers."

Marty died at sunrise, February 26, 2016, which made sense because she lit up the lives of all those she came in contact with. Marty was a magical fourth grade Orinda teacher and touched countless children. She said "If you can dream it - you can achieve it." Nothing was impossible for Marty.

A celebration of life will be at the Lafayette Reservoir. Donations may be made in her honor to Friends of Wagner Ranch Na-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Beloved local school teacher **Marty DeJonghe.**

ture Area, PO Box 821, Orinda, CA, 94563.
– Jolyn Aaker

Mindfulness at Miramonte High School Makes an Impression



REBECCA GLUCK, THE MIRADOR

Students in a Mindful Monday session slow down their hectic lives and take a moment to foster an inner calmness and focus.

Parents were able to experience their own session on mindfulness with a Feb. 22 meeting on "Mindful Parenting." Mindfulness has been established at Miramonte for several years with several teachers trained in the stress-reducing technique and with some teachers integrating the philosophy into individual classrooms. The idea of mindfulness has long been associated with well-being and health with its perceived ability to reduce depression and anxiety.

"In light of our new efforts with Challenge Success and the reduction of stress

for our kids, this topic has again become relevant," says Principal Julie Parks. To that end, freshman English teacher, Steve Poling, and Intervention Specialist, Jonathan Parker, collaborated to have all of Poling's students engage in Mindful Mondays. "Each Monday, students were guided in a mindfulness exercise," explains Parks. "The outcomes have been overwhelmingly positive, and this is leading us to investigate how to incorporate this at a larger level, bringing more equity of experience to our students."

– Sally Hogarty, Editor

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ROADS / EARTHDAY

Updates on Orinda's Roads
Road Renovations Resume



Mark Roberts

As I write this column, Orinda is in the midst of a series of El Nino storms, weather conducive to no outside activity whatsoever. Fortunately, we know that longer, warmer and dryer days are on the way. And Orinda residents will see renewed and intensified efforts to fix our city's residential roads.

As I hope you'll recall, Orinda voters have approved two revenue measures to provide funding specifically for these projects: A one-half cent sales tax in June 2012 and a \$20 million bond in June 2014. The former is producing roughly \$1 million per year while the latter is providing \$5 million per year for four years, starting last year.

Together, these measures enabled the city to select and fund 25 residential roads for repair last year. The streets were selected by the Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Commission (CIOC) and approved by the City Council. The Public Works Department then took charge of turning the plans into new pavement.

Twenty of the projects authorized last year have been completed and residents are enjoying the smoother ride. Because of challenges encountered by Public Works in the request for proposal and construction management processes, five of the projects have not yet been completed. They are, however, at the top of the list for action as soon as the weather permits this spring. These street segments are, in alpha order: Calvin Drive, Camino Sobrante, Canon Drive, Overhill Road and Valley Drive.

Please note that work on St. Stephens Drive, which was being completed as this column was written, was delayed due to the need for PG&E to relocate a gas line that was "discovered" during initial excavation. The city is also taking every precaution to make sure that any work planned by PG&E

or any other utility is completed before road work begins so that new pavement will remain undisturbed.

With the experience gained last year, Public Works is ready to tackle an additional 31 street segments this year. Here's the list, again in alpha order: Alice Lane, Altamount Drive (2 segments), Amber Valley Drive, Bobolink Road, Camino Del Diablo, Candlestick Road, Charles Hill Circle, Descanso Drive, Donna Maria Way, El Gavilan, Goodfellow Drive, Greenwood Court, Hall Drive (2 segments), Keith Drive, La Cresta Road (2 segments), Los Altos, Lost Valley Drive, Moraga Via (2 segments), Oakwood Road, Sally Ann Road, Singingwood Lane, Tarry Lane, Valley View Road, Via Farallon, Virginia Drive, Vista Del Mar and Whitehall Drive.

As part of a contingency plan, eight additional street segments have been selected as alternate roads: Berkeley Avenue, Cedar Lane, Descanso Drive (different segment), Estates Drive, Fallen Leaf Terrace, Ramona Drive, Rita Way and Warford Terrace.

Along with the projects supported by the voter approved revenue measures, the city receives return to source funding that enables renovation of arterial and collector roads. This year, a large segment of Ivy Drive, from Fiesta Circle to the south intersection of Moraga Way, will be repaved.

While we all know that many more roads than those listed above need attention and action, I hope you will agree that we can expect to see substantial improvement in the overall condition of Orinda residential streets this year. We can take satisfaction knowing that, with the exception of Ivy Drive, if we hadn't voted for revenue measures over the past four years, none of these residential roads would likely have been, or be, renovated. So we can thank

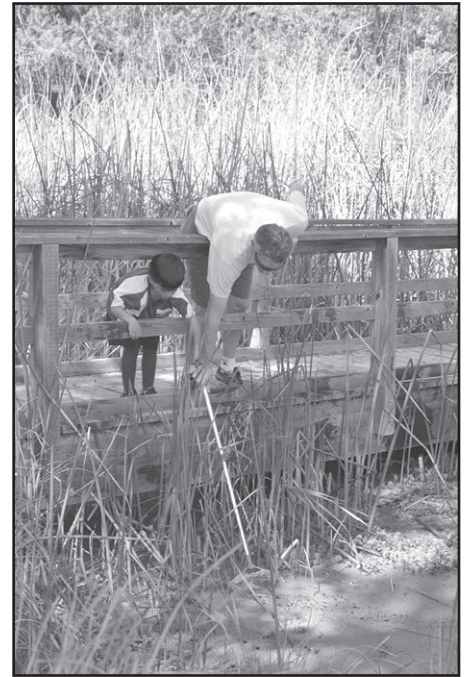
Celebrate Mother Earth At April 17 Wildlife/Earth Day Festival

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Celebrate Mother Earth and Orinda's own environmental treasure, the Wagner Ranch Nature Area (WRNA), on Sunday, April 17, from 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Friends of WRNA, the 15th annual Wildlife/Earth Day Festival takes place at the nature area, 350 Camino Pablo Road, next to Wagner Ranch Elementary School.

The red-legged frogs in the nature area pond will welcome guests with their annual mating songs while participants explore the 18 acres of meadow, forest, ponds and streams. Originally the home of Surveyor General Theodore Wagner, the site has been an environmental classroom for more than 30 years, not only welcoming visitors but also conducting a variety of workshops for Orinda's elementary school children.

During the Wildlife/Earth Day celebration, Chester Miner, elder of the Cherokee Nation, and his Native American friends will bless the Nature Area with songs and drums. A wide variety of fun and educational activities will follow including: arts and crafts, music and games, activities from the Contra Costa Avian Society, pointers from master gardener Linda Mizes, face painting, nature tattoos, solar cooking and



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Nature Area pond is always a big draw during the Wildlife and Earth Day Festival.

even a test drive in the electric BMW i3.

The festival will also honor and celebrate the lives of Marty DeJonghe and Bill Wilbur, two champions of the Nature Area, whose involvement is greatly missed by the Friends of WRNA.

For more information on the April 17 festival, go to www.fwrna.org.

each other for our continued investment in our community.

To learn more about the roads selected for repair, please visit the city's website, www.cityoforinda.org, and click on "Roads and Infrastructure" on the left side of the home page. To receive weekly updates about road

work and many other programs and events in Orinda, please go to the city's home page and look for the "Click here to receive the Orinda Outlook" box on the right side. That way you'll be in the know about what's going on in Orinda every week.

Lamorinda Idol 2016 Auditions

The Lamorinda Idol 2016 auditions will be held on May 19-21. Registration is open to all Lamorinda students or residents. Groups can include members outside Lamorinda. Register at www.LamorindaArts.org April 1-30. The Lamorinda Idol program includes workshops, multiple performance opportunities, parties and the Finals at the Orinda Theatre Sunday, Sept. 4, 2016.



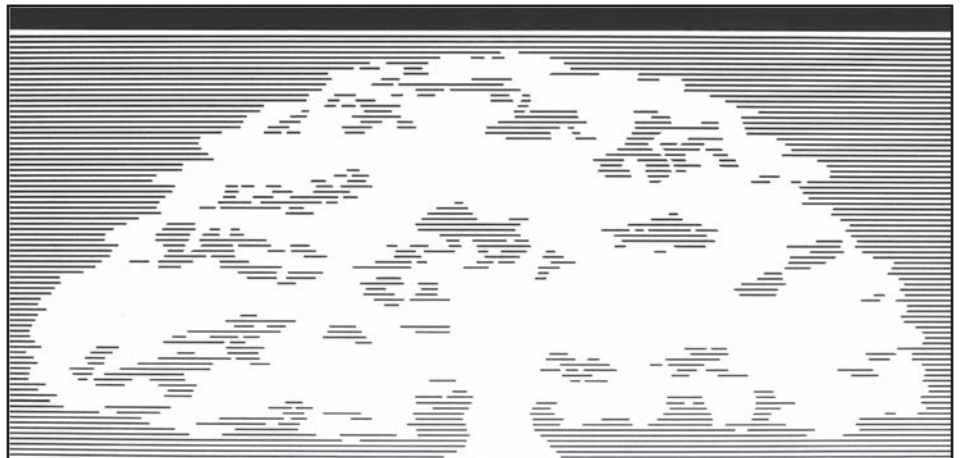
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Fava bean greens are among the many fresh items available at the Orinda Farmers' Market.

It's time to celebrate! The Orinda Farmers' Market opened its 20th season last month. Rain or shine the market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

New and returning shoppers come to expect the best of what's in season at the market. Certified farmers' markets, like the one in Orinda, offer in-season fruits and vegetables grown by the farmers and brought directly from farm to market. It's always best to buy in-season – more flavor, more choices and more value. The market also offers specialty products to round out your shopping day with baked goods, preserves, dips and sauces, kettle corn and food purveyors.

Stop by the information booth with any questions or comments. For your convenience, you can use your debit/credit card to purchase market bucks to use at any market booth. Be sure to look for free

recipes, community event information and the complimentary copy of *Edible East Bay Magazine*. Check in on the second Saturday each month for a special Kids Event. April 9 is Create Your Own Spin Art!

April promises many fresh spring crops including asparagus, strawberries, spring onions, green garlic, English peas, avocados, salad greens, cilantro and fava beans. Talk to your favorite grower about choosing his or her produce or to find out what's coming up next. They love to hear from you!

For more information, visit www.cccfm.org where you can also sign up for market specials sent right to your phone.

Market Hotline 925-431-8361.

Asparagus Tart

- 2 to 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 sheet frozen puff pastry
- 2 cups shredded cheese – choose from Gruyere, plain Swiss, Fontina, Gouda or Emmentaler
- About 24 medium to thick spears of asparagus
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Roll the puff pastry into 16-by-10 inch rectangles on a floured surface. Place on baking sheet. Lightly score pastry dough one inch in from the edges to mark a rectangle. Use a fork to pierce dough inside the markings at half-inch intervals. Bake at 400 degrees for about 15 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from oven and sprinkle with cheese. Arrange asparagus spears in a single layer to fit crosswise inside the tart shell. Brush with oil and season with salt and pepper. Bake another 15 to 20 minutes or until spears are tender. Serves 4.

Sample Orinda's Culinary Delights on Annual Restaurant Tour

By MAGGIE SHARPE
Staff Writer

Join fellow foodies for an epicurean adventure in downtown Orinda when the Chamber of Commerce hosts its 9th Annual Restaurant Tour on April 26 from 6 to 8 p.m.

This year the tour will be held in partnership with the Miramonte High School Boosters Club, with proceeds benefiting both the Matadors and the local business community.

"This will be an opportunity to showcase Orinda and be a part of what makes our city so special, all within a pleasant stroll from the iconic Orinda Theatre," said Sophie Braccini, chamber executive director. "The number of tickets will be limited to 200 to make sure food is plentiful for all, so make your reservations early."

About 20 restaurants in diverse culinary styles – including Piccolo Napoli, Fourth Bore, La Piazza and Shelby's – will serve samples of their finest fare. A jazz band, along with singers from Lamorinda Idol, will provide the musical backdrop for the evening. Visitors can also indulge in a slice of pie and a cup of coffee from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Theatre Square.

Tickets can be purchased at www.orindachamber.org.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Table 24 will once again be participating in the Orinda Chamber's annual Restaurant Tour along with its sister restaurant The Fourth Bore.

orindachamber.org. Ticket holders can pick up tickets and a restaurant map at the designated booth in front of the Orinda Theatre on the evening of the event. Call the Chamber of Commerce at 925-254-3909 for more information.

Discover Pixar's World of Animation at First Friday Forum

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

"Pixar, How Do They Make Their Movies?" is the topic of Tia Kratter's April 1 presentation at the First Friday Forum (FFF) series. Kratter, a manager of art and film at Pixar Animation Studios, will talk at 1:30 p.m. at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette. Refreshments will be served 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall prior to her talk.

Kratter joined Pixar in 1993 as a digital painter during the production of the studio's first feature film, *Toy Story*. She was subsequently art director for five other movies including *Monster's Inc.*, *A Bug's Life*, and *Brave*, responsible for specifying the color and texture of every object modeled for a film.

Currently she is the manager of art and film at Pixar University, the educational branch of Pixar, helping to foster the continuing education of Pixar's 1,200 employees. Prior to joining Pixar, Kratter was a background painter at Disney Feature Animation from 1980 to 1994 when she worked on a variety of acclaimed animated



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lafayette artist Tia Kratter at work on one of her many creations for Pixar animations.

films including *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin*, and *Beauty and the Beast*.

A graduate of Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, Kratter grew up in Orinda and currently resides in Moraga with her husband Paul and faithful Corgi, Zipper.

Kratter will present a virtual tour of the company's animation studios and explain how the movies are made. Since her talk is on April Fool's Day, we hope she won't

[SEE PIXAR page 10]



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CAR TIME

Why Is There A Diagnostic Fee?



By JOHN VANEK

When the family vehicle starts acting up we are automatically concerned about the price of the potential repair. Today's vehicles are run by computers or control modules. For example, an electronic control module or ECM controls the engine. ECMs control fuel, emissions, temperature, engine timing, braking, starting, charging, transmission shifting and speed. The electrical systems that add luxuries such as power windows, door locks, seats, mirrors, heating and air conditioning, are also run by a control module, called a body control module or BCM.

"Fixing a problem on a car is a two-part process: diagnosis and repair."

When one of these systems starts malfunctioning, a warning engine light on the dash alerts the driver. The vehicle could also malfunction by not starting, having a rough idle, running poorly or exhibiting a loss of power. To properly diagnose and recommend the appropriate repair, the automotive technician must run the necessary tests. Unfortunately, when you tap into the vehicle's ECM it does not tell you what is wrong. In fact, the ECM makes adjustments and changes to compensate for the problem, so the vehicle will still operate as closely to normal as possible. The diagnostic process starts with retrieving the codes from the ECM. The codes show the affected

circuits and the problem that the vehicle's computer is seeing. Sometimes a code will be sufficient to reveal the problem, other times additional diagnostic tests will be required.

As a comparison, a doctor has to run tests on a patient to find out what is causing their symptoms. The initial exam has a charge, whether it is blood tests, biopsies, X-rays or scans. In the same way, an auto shop charges for diagnosis and the expertise of the technician. This diagnostic process can be the most complicated part of vehicle repair. The technician who does this work is a specialist in vehicle computer diagnostics. These technicians must constantly further their education and upgrade their equipment since the systems on vehicles are constantly evolving.

Fixing a problem on a car is a two-part process: diagnosis and repair. The diagnosis is the most vital part of the process. Don't be surprised when you are quoted a diagnostic fee next time your vehicle acts up or an engine warning light comes on. It is less expensive to pay for a proper diagnosis up-front than to replace parts based on what might be failing or information on the Internet. Be wary of a shop that does not charge for diagnosis. If they don't charge for the diagnosis, they will just lump it into the cost of the repair.

Once again, I encourage you to shop for a facility that is qualified and has a good reputation rather than shopping price.

You can reach Vanek at john@orindamotors.com.

Orinda Community Foundation – All About Giving



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Orinda Community Foundation board members (L-R) Ted Urban, Dick Burkhalter, Sue Severson, Mark Roberts, Carol Penskar, Richard Stanaro and Richard Westin presented \$32,150 in grant money to local nonprofit groups including Orinda Park and Rec. Foundation, Lamorinda Arts Council, Orinda Association and Orinda Garden Clubs among many. See www.orindafoundation.org for details.

Moraga Classic Car Show Accepting Registrations

Area residents who own classic cars are invited to participate in the 8th annual Moraga Classic Car Show, which takes place Saturday, May 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. as part of the 2016 Moraga Community Faire.

The \$30 registration fee includes an entry ribbon, lunch for two, a commemorative photo and a chance for owners to display their restoration work to the public. Prizes will be awarded. The registration deadline is May 1.

The car show is sponsored by Moraga Chamber of Commerce, 5A Rent a Space, Moraga Motors, and Neighborhood Computers.

To register, go to www.moragachamber.org/faire or, call Gloria at 925-247-4473.



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**Something to Howl About...
 Animal Tales**

My Aching Paws



Jennifer Conroy

It's spring and we're feeling a mite sluggish. Maybe we've been ignoring our New Year's diet and exercise resolutions. But, hey, it's spring and the urge to get out there and get in shape is propelling us to action.

Your dog is probably curled up on its bed (or yours) and looking askance as you dig out running shoes or biking shorts or whatever other accessories deemed necessary to get in shape. In fact, your companion animal may well be quietly slipping away into some corner of the house hoping you do not insist on including her or him in your Spring Shape-Up Plans.

Just look out your front window and, by gum, there's George on his bike with Honey the golden retriever in tow. Great idea, right? You and your dog can exercise together! Wait. Put on the brakes and think about this for a moment.

First of all, if neither of you have been following a consistent exercise routine, please do not suddenly jump into a Tour de France cycling frenzy with your dog. Second, has your dog (or you, for that matter) had a physical lately? Third, what is so great about putting a dog on a lead and making it run in the road with you as you cycle or jog along?

The road, for any companion animal, is a dangerous place. Broken glass, bits of metal, tar, oil, and goodness knows what, cover a road's surface. Would you run on that on your bare feet? Yes, your dog has paw pads but the pads on many dogs are sensitive and subject to cracks.

There is also the matter of showing your dog that being on the road is not a good idea. It takes just one open gate or one unleashed moment for a dog to bluster out on a roadway. A good practice is to train

your dog to never enter a roadway no matter what. My dogs are trained to sit at every street crossing and wait for me to give the command to "go." That extra measure of the "sit" command helps break the dog's interest in dashing out to the street.

Finally, not every, or even many, dogs are long distance runners.

While you are perched on your bicycle seat or running in your \$300 running shoes, your dog is doing its best to please you and may be literally running itself ragged. Panting with tongue hanging out is not a sign of dog pleasure.

So how do you get back into the exercise game? Start by walking around the block in the early morning or evening when it's cool. Short walks first, working up to longer ones, and always keeping in mind that you're not just walking one way.

Head over to the local tennis court at times when they might be open and hit a few balls over the net to your dog. If you have a nice size yard with some trees, play hide and seek with your dog. Trust me, dogs love that game. Best of all, if you have a swimming pool, jump in with your dog and swim a few laps.

Your dog will do almost anything to please you, so make exercising safe and fun for both of you.

◆ **PIXAR** from page 8

play another trick such as the one she pulled on her co-workers when she spread the word that she was quitting. One worker wrote, "Sad - she has so much talent." Happily, it wasn't so.

"This is a rare opportunity to learn about the world of animation," said FFF committee member Caroline Giers. "Come and bring your friends."

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VISUAL ARTS

Orinda Celebrates 10th Arts Ambassador Exhibit Showcasing Students' Artwork

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO) and the Lamorinda Arts Council (LAC) are celebrating 10 years of hosting Arts Ambassador exhibits at the Orinda Library Gallery. The exhibits showcase artwork from students in first through 12th grade in all Orinda Union School District (OUSD) schools. To commemorate this milestone, artwork with a "Now and Then" theme is displayed in the large glass cabinet near the auditorium. The works, created by Miramonte High School students, span their years of experience in Orinda schools.

The rest of the gallery contains artwork from students in grades one through eight. Over 150 pieces of artwork are on display through April 29. The EFO invites you to meet the young artists at a Celebration of the Arts reception on April 20 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. when light refreshments will be served. The event begins when Cara Hoxie, EFO president, and interim OUSD Superintendent Kathy Marshall give the opening welcome. Next, enjoy choral performances by singers from elementary schools, Orinda Intermediate School (OIS), and Miramonte High School. The OIS Jazz band will be on hand to drum up some rhythmic entertainment in the Library Plaza. As always, student artists will get invitation letters to the exhibit from their art teachers and receive an Arts Ambassador ribbon badge.

Hoxie reminds us that Orinda's talented students are not only supported by their families and the community, but by the EFO's arts enrichment program. This program funds highly qualified credentialed arts, music and electives teachers (and many other programs) to keep education



TRACY MILLHAM
Sleepy Hollow student **Matt Elliott** stands next to his entry in the Art Ambassador exhibit at the Orinda Library Gallery.

in Orinda of the highest quality. For more information about the EFO see www.orindaefo.org.

A big shout out to the following teachers for inspiring their students to keep creating and teaching them how to display their work in a gallery: Hillery Patterson, a Del Rey and Wagner Ranch visual arts teacher and OUSD arts coordinator; Susan Zib, a Glorietta and Sleepy Hollow visual arts teacher; Susan Weiss, an OIS visual arts teacher; Christina Martin, a Del Rey, Sleepy Hollow and OIS music teacher;

[SEE AMBASSADOR page 20]

An American Ascent Screening Celebrates National Park Service 100th Anniversary

Lamorinda libraries celebrate the National Park System (NPS) Centennial by screening *An American Ascent*, a 2014 award-winning documentary, at the Orinda Library Auditorium, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda, on April 20 at 7 p.m. For more information about the NPS Centennial, see www.nationalparks.org.

A staggering number of Americans do not consider the outdoors as a place for them. In 2013, the National Outdoor Leadership School set out to achieve an ambitious goal. They aimed to put the first team of African-American climbers on the highest peak in North America (20,237 feet), the Alaskan mountain called Denali. Nine climbers set out to build a legacy and become role models for inner-city kids and people of color. Their gripping, beautifully filmed story is involving, challenging and worth viewing. For more about the award-winning documentary, see www.anamericanascent.com.

www.anamericanascent.com.

Scott Briscoe, *An American Ascent* expedition member and Oakland resident, will introduce the film and speak about his on-going work advocating for inclusivity, diversity and opportunity in wilderness adventure. Q&A follows the film.

"The event is the first in a series of talks, storytelling events, lectures, exhibits and other fun ways of saying Happy Birthday to our National Parks," says Beth Girsham, senior community library manager at the Orinda Library. To keep up-to-date on these events, call the library at 925-254-2184 or see www.ccclib.org/locations/orinda.

Sponsored by the Lamorinda Libraries National Parks Centennial Celebration and the Friends of the Orinda Library in partnership with the Orinda Association, the event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

- Elana O'Loskey, Staff Writer

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CAMPS

Summer Camp Guide From Adventure to Zoo

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Give your kids, and you, a break this summer! We hope this guide will assist you in exploring the possibilities. Now's the time to choose a summer camp for kids in grades K-12. Whatever the focus, you're bound to find it here. Review what's offered online and sign up early, as many sessions are small in number and spots fill up fast. Some locations offer scholarships, discounts for siblings and intern positions for teens.

GENERAL CAMPS

Orinda Parks & Recreation
28 Orinda Way
Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-2445
www.cityoforinda.org

This year's camps offer the same great quality, creativity and fun programming you have come to expect from the City of Orinda presented at set fees with care available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. for one low price of \$330 (resident) for an entire week! There are over 98 options for summer camps through the Orinda Parks & Recreation

Department, not including seven Summer Enrichment programs. Locations range from the Orinda Community Center and tennis courts and Pine Grove Park.

Access the Summer Camp Guide online at www.cityoforinda.org. Summer camps run for 10 weeks from June 13 to August 19. To build your child's summer camp schedule start on page three at Step one: Select your week; Step two: Find your age; and Step 3: Select a **Choose Your Adventure** or **Stand-Alone Camp** on pages three to 12 of the guide. Full descriptions of all camps are listed alphabetically on pages 14 to 21. **Choose Your Adventure** camps allow you and your child to pick a different morning and afternoon camp. All summer camps are \$180 resident/\$207 non-resident for morning (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.) or afternoon (1 – 4 p.m.) sessions. Some camps have materials fees. Or, choose both morning and afternoon camps for \$330 resident, \$380 non-resident. To receive the discount for all-day camps you must register by calling 925-254-2445 or walking in to the Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way, Orinda (see hours below).

Summer Enrichment program information is on page 13. Programs run from weeks two to five (June 20 to July 15). Options include



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mad Science is just one of the camps available through **Orinda Parks and Rec.** Call 925-254-2445 for more information.

Kindergarten Wee Folks Fun; Elementary 1 - 3rd Grade: Magical Ireland; and four **Skyhawks After Enrichment Camps: Basketball, Tennis, Baseball and Soccer.** Costs range from \$149 resident/\$171 non-resident to \$490 resident/\$530 non-resident.

Free Before, Lunch and After Care: (7 a.m. to 6 p.m.) extended care lunch bunch and extended care p.m. (4 to 6 p.m.) for all camps, weeks 1 to 10, and all ages, 4 to 14. Staff provides games, activities and crafts for your child until it is time for their camp or time for them to be picked up. For children attending both a morning and afternoon camp, staff will supervise a lunch bunch (children must bring their own lunch) and bring your child to their afternoon camp. Available only for camps located at Orinda Community Center or Pine Grove Park. Requires advance sign-up; no drop-ins.

Registration, cancellation and other camp information. If your child needs over-the-counter or prescription medication, a supplemental Parental Consent & Directions to Staff Form is recommended and available online (www.cityoforinda.org) or at the office (see address below). Register early as some camps fill up quickly. Conversely, when camps do not meet minimum enrollment two weeks prior to the start of camp they will be cancelled and a full refund issued. Staff will notify you if camp is full or cancelled. One payment may be made for all family members registering. If paying by check, make payable to: City of Orinda. Registration options include: fax at 925-253-7716 (Visa or MasterCard only); hand-carry to Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way, Orinda, open M-F 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.; via U.S. mail, Orinda Parks & Recreation Department, Recreation Program Registration, 28 Orinda Way, Orinda CA 94563; online at www.cityoforinda.org; and by phone, 925-254-2445.

Camp Brainy Bunch
19 Altarinda Drive
Orinda CA 94563
510-548-4800

www.campbrainybunch.com

Located on the beautiful Orinda Academy

campus, weeklong camps serve children in grades first through six from Jun. 27 - Jul. 29. There are eight camps, each with a different focus, including: Engineering–Powered Up, Writing–Creating Characters, Public Speaking–Mock Trial, and Leadership–Superheroes. Healthy lunches provided by Whole Foods. Sibling and multiple week discounts. Extended care available 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call and/or check website for details and registration.

Camp Galileo and Galileo Summer Quest
38 Bay Area locations
13 East Bay Camps
1-800-854-3684
www.galileo-camps.com

Camp Galileo utilizes award-winning curriculum designed by Stanford grad Pamela Briskman and her team. Pre-K – 5th grade campers are encouraged to think like innovators in one of four week-long sessions including: **Space Explorers** – make extraterrestrial inspired art, engineer launch-ready rockets; **National Parks Adventure** – It's the parks' 100th birthday – craft a textured animal totem pole, build your own backpack, hike; **Galileo Makers: Toys** – let your inner toymaker create a digital kaleidoscope or portable mini golf course, play with parachutes; **Galileo Olympics** – make wearable art inspired by Greek mythology, construct a grappling judo robot. Nine East Bay locations with varying dates, so call or visit online.

Galileo Summer Quest campers entering grades 5-8 dive into one or more of 12 immersive majors during week-long sessions. Choices include: **3D Modeling & Printing; Digital Design for the Web; Digital Filmmaking; Digital Photography; Chefology; Electric Painting Studio; Fashion Design; Launch Lab; MOD Design with Minecraft;** and **Video Game Design;** . Five East Bay locations with varying dates, so call or visit online.

Peppermint Playhouse

[SEE CAMPS page 13]

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(925) 254-7553 www.OrindaAcademy.org
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19 Altarinda Road, Orinda, CA 94563

CAMPS

◆ CAMPS from page 12

Orinda, CA 94563
925-376-7342
www.peppermintplayhouselamorinda.com

Children age 3 - 5 have enjoyed a balance of play and structured activities for over 20 years in this camp's small group setting. Snack and lunch provided; camp days run from 9:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. No camp July 4th.

Chef's Camp (ages 3.5 - 5) Mondays from Jun. 13 - Jul. 18. Includes daily cooking project and local field trip.

Three's Camp (ages 3 or just turning 3 in fall) Tues. and Thurs. from Jun. 15 - Jul. 20. Introduction to art, music, free play and new friends.

Four's Camp (age 4 or just turning 4 in fall) Tuesdays and Thursdays Jun. 14 - Jul. 21 (no camp Tues. July 5). Includes science experiments, a workshop and a local field trip. See website for cost and more information.

Walnut Creek Civic Arts Camp Community Arts
111 N. Wiget Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
925-943-5846

www.walnut-creek.org

Extensive list of choices in nine or 10- day camps from Jun. 20 - Aug. 12 for three age groups (5-7, 8-10 and 11-14) with extended care available 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Check website for all information and registration as camps are in different locations depending on their focus. Both half- and full-day camps offered. Camps include: Performance Arts (Dance, Music, Theater); Visual Arts (Clay, Drawing/Painting, Mixed Media); and Digital Media Arts (Animation, Illustration, Drumming, Photo/Video). See website for scholarships, registration and info; morning and aftercare available.

VISUAL, PERFORMING AND DIGITAL



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ZooCampers get a chance to touch a western pond turtle at the **Oakland Zoo Summer Camp** which runs mid-June through mid-August. For more information, visit www.oaklandzoo.org.

ARTS CAMPS

Academy of Language & Music Arts (ALMA)
Dr. James Fiatarone, Director
99 Brookwood Road
Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-5056 or 925-254-5053
www.alma-leap.com

This camp offers a create-your-own program featuring private lessons in music, including guitar, piano, voice, strings, wind instruments, and percussion; also, private and small group lessons in foreign languages (Italian, French, Spanish, Greek, Portuguese, Russian, Japanese and Chinese, etc.) and English as a second language. Special summer group classes include Guitar Ensemble, Rock Guitar Combo, Band Ensemble, Jazz Combo, Theory and Musicianship (all instruments), Strings Ensemble, Percussion/Drum Clinic (two levels), and Vocal Ensemble/ALMA Glee Club. New classes include: "Acting up at ALMA" (Theater, Acting and Presentation skills), and Music Technology Class (Basic Studio Recording Techniques, creating/recording songs). Check

website or call for dates, times and cost.

California Shakespeare Theater
701 Heinz Street
Berkeley, CA 94710
510-548-3422 x105
learn@calshakes.org
www.summershakespearecamp.org

Cal Shakes' Summer Shakespeare Conservatory offers two- and four-week sessions for student actors in grades 3 - 12 (ages 8 - 18). Mornings are spent in a wide variety of theater disciplines taught by working theater professionals. Afternoons are spent in rehearsals. The experience culminates in Shakespeare performances for family and

friends at the end of the program. Campers receive free tickets to the Cal Shakes Main Stage season. Payment plans available; **scholarships only available if you apply by April 30** -- see website for details or call 510-548-3422 x105 for info.

Four-Week Conservatory offered at Bentley Upper School, 1000 Upper Happy Valley Rd., Lafayette from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Jun. 27 - Jul. 22. Cost \$1400. Performances Fri. Jul. 22.

Four-Week Conservatory offered at Oakland School for the Arts, 530 18th Street, Oakland, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Jun. 20 - Jul. 15. Cost \$1400. Performances Fri. Jul. 15.


[SEE ART CAMPS page 14]

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Students from **Cal Shakes Summer Shakespeare Conservatory** rehearse a scene.



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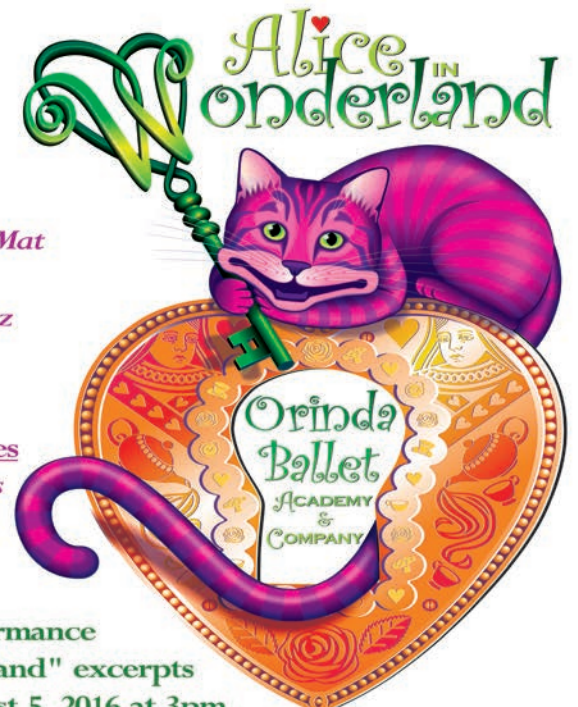
Orinda Ballet Academy & Company
Artistic Director, Patricia Tomlinson

"Alice in Wonderland"

2016 Summer Ballet Camp & Intensive
June 27 - August 5th

Pre-Ballet - Ballet 7 Divisions (Ages 3-18 years)
Ballet Intensive: Intermediate-Advanced Divisions

- Ballet Technique*
- Pre-Pointe*
- Pointe*
- Variations*
- Pas de deux*
- Pilates- Reformer & Mat*
- Stretch Classes*
- Contemporary & Jazz*
- Creative Dance*
- Private Lessons*
- Ballet Camp includes**
- Ballet Craft Projects*
- and*
- Ballet Story Telling*



Demonstration Performance
"Alice in Wonderland" excerpts
Friday, August 5, 2016 at 3pm

www.OrindaBalletAcademy.com



CAMPS

◆ ART CAMPS from page 13

Two-Week Conservatory offered at both Bentley Upper School in Lafayette (Jul. 25 - Aug. 5, Performance Fri. Aug. 5) and Oakland School for the Arts (Jul. 18 - July 29, Performance Fri. Jul. 29). Cost \$700 each. Check website for all details.

iD Tech Camps

St. Mary's College
1928 St. Mary's Road
Moraga, CA 94575
408-871-2227
<http://idtech.com>

This is the 18th season St. Mary's has hosted week-long tech camps (M - F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) offering a guaranteed 8:1 student to staff ratio. Camps are divided into co-ed age groups 7 - 12 and 13 - 17. A sample of the 14 camps offered from Jun. 13 to Jul. 22 includes: **Adventures in Robotics, Adventures in Scratch Programming, Intro to Java Coding**

with **Minecraft Modding, Mobile Game Design for iPhone and Android, Robotics Engineering & Programming with VEX, and 3D Level Design with Team Fortress**. The project oriented camps are segmented by course and age, emphasize STEM skills, provide a take home online portfolio and include games and outdoor time. Campers lunch at the university dining hall or have catered meals. See website for dates, cost and registration.

Kids on Camera TV/Film Acting School and Day Camp
415-440-4400
info@kids-on-camera.com
www.kids-on-camera.com

Lights, camera, action and fun for ages 6 - 12. Students expand their creativity and improve listening and speech. Video feedback makes learning fun, 35th year. See www.kids-on-camera.com for success stories.

Comedy, Scenes, Film Acting and Improv
Aug. 1 - 5, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Extended Care



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Aspen Network Team Campers get ready for an evening meal during one of the weekend tent camping excursions in the Lake Tahoe area.

7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Piedmont Veteran's Memorial Building. Parents join students for a review and live improv 1 - 3 p.m. on Aug. 5. Enroll online at www.ci.piedmont.ca.us or call 510-420-3070. Cost \$420 - \$450; see website for details.

Orinda Ballet Academy

28 Orinda Way
Orinda, CA 94563
924-254-2445
www.orindaballetacademy.com

Patricia Tomlinson is a world-class professional whose name is synonymous with ballet in all forms. Choose between 17 *Alice in Wonderland* (AIW) Camps and/or Intensives offered Mon. - Thurs. at the Orinda Community Center from Jun. 27 - Aug 5. Camps/intensives are divided between eight girl's divisions. On Aug. 5, summer dance students demonstrate excerpts from AIW at 3 p.m. Costs range from \$200/resident to \$1300/resident plus \$20 costume crafting supply fee at registration. A variety of private ballet lessons (level 3B - 6) and private Pilates reformer lessons (levels 3 - 6) are available as well. See website for details.

SingOut! Musical Theatre
Diablo Theater Company Firehouse
1948 Oak Park Blvd.
Pleasant Hill CA 94523
925-944-1565
www.singouttheatre.org

Rachael Pergamit offers youth musical theatre programs for kids aged 4 - 18 at Diablo Theater Company Firehouse (DTC). Summer camp rehearsals at the Firehouse run from Jun. 13 - 30.

Summer Theatre Camp, Disney's Peter Pan Jr. After just 2-1/2 weeks of crazy fun rehearsals with the DTC's SingOut! professional staff, kids will put on performances for family and friends. Cast members will learn songs, dances and scenes and make lifelong friends. They will receive a t-shirt, script and make memories to last a lifetime. Performances for family and friends are Jun. 29 - 30 at 4:30 and 7 p.m. All tickets \$15. Ages 8 - 14 rehearse M - F from 1

- 4 p.m. Ages 4 - 7 rehearse M - F from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$500 for ages 8 - 14 and \$350 for ages 4 - 7. Inquire for high school interns.

Triple Threat Workshop This 2-1/2 week intensive pushes incoming 6th graders to graduating seniors farther than they ever thought possible to hone acting, singing and dancing skills. Open to serious students who want to work hard. At the end of the intensive, students receive a DVD of their performances to share with friends and family. Camp runs 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., M - F. Tuition is \$500 alone or \$850 if combined with the afternoon **Summer Theatre Camp**.

Town Hall Theatre Company

3535 School Street
Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-6673
Ginny.Wehrmeister@townhalltheatre.com
www.townhalltheatre.com

From Jun. 13 - Aug. 6 kids aged 4 - 18 receive a mix of training and production-based classes in live theater. Depending on child's age, they could participate in *Disney's Little Mermaid Jr.*, *Twelfth Night*, or *Arcadia*. Whether your student is a seasoned pro or just a beginner, they will be taught by the best working theater artists in the area. Check extensive website for times, cost and productions.

SCHOOL-RELATED CAMPS
Fountainhead Montessori School
30 Santa Maria Way
Orinda, CA 94563
925-820-1343
www.fms.org

A Montessori-based summer camp and summer school with many options. One week camp programs are offered Jun. 20 - Aug. 19 for ages 5 - 9, from 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. with optional before and after care from 7 - 8:45 a.m. and 3 - 6:30 p.m. \$349 tuition per week for camp time. Summer school program for ages 18 months to 6 years. Session 1 runs Jul. 5 - 28; Session 2 runs Jul. 29 - Aug. 23. See website for weekly options such as Language Immersion, Theater [SEE SCHOOLS page 15]

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Oakland Strokes Summer Rowing Camps

Rowing Camps for Boys and Girls Ages 12 - 17

Learn to Row Crew!

Our summer program is designed to provide an enjoyable but very real introduction to the great sport of rowing. We use these introductory camps as a recruiting program for all of our rowing teams. They provide excellent training for beginning rowers in rowing technique, teamwork, physical fitness and endurance. Within a week rowers will gain enough experience to compete in their very first race, an exciting experience for all! Classes now available on the San Pablo Reservoir or Oakland Estuary.

One Week Introductory Sessions (8:30 - 11:30am)

June 13 th - 17 th	(Intermediate* 10:30am - 1:30pm)
June 20 th - June 24 th	(Intermediate* 10:30am - 1:30pm)
June 27 th - July 1 st	(Intermediate* 10:30am - 1:30pm)
July 11 th - 15 th	(Intermediate* 10:30am - 1:30pm)
July 18 th - 22 nd	(Intermediate* 10:30am - 1:30pm)
July 25 th - 29 th	(Intermediate* 10:30am - 1:30pm)

*Intermediate sessions available to athletes who have completed a prior one week introductory session or our middle school program

Ideal for students entering 9th or 10th grade!

Learn More & Sign Up!
www.oaklandstrokes.org

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201 Lafayette Circle, Suite 100
Lafayette, CA 94549

CAMPS

◆ SCHOOLS from page 14

and Drama, Robotics and Lego and much more.

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

www.holy shepherd christian preschool.org

Kids have seven weeks of summertime activities to choose from in a small class environment: cooking week, water week, planting week, spirit week, train week, mixed-up crazy week and pet week. Camps runs from Jun. 20 - Aug. 12, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. M - F with extended care available to 2 p.m. at \$8/hour. No camp on July 4.

Orinda Academy (OA)
19 Altarinda Road
Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-7553 or 925-478-4504
www.orindaacademy.org

Open House for interested families on April 20, from 7-9 p.m. The OA offers fully accredited academic classes for high school students which meet state requirements and are U.C. approved. Two three-week Summer School sessions are offered: Jun. 20 - Jul. 12 and Jul. 14 - Aug. 5, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. with a student/teacher ratio of 8:1. Books are included in tuition. Courses offered include: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, English (grades 9-12), English as a Second Language for International Students, Mandarin, and Coding. Additional blended online courses. Fee for a one semester course (5 credits) is \$900 and \$1700 for a two semester courses (10 credits). See website for details.

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

www.saklan.org/community/summer-saklan

Summer at Saklan provides culture, language and summer fun for ages 3-11 from Jun. 13 - Aug. 12. Mornings are filled with enrichment in Mandarin, French, Japanese, Spanish and Italian. Afternoons are packed with summer fun, including field trips, swimming, art and music. Three-week sessions 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Extended care available. Visit website for more information or to register.

SPORTS-RELATED CAMPS
Orinda Parks & Recreation
28 Orinda Way



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Campers from **Roughing It Day Camp** take some time to get to know their horses.

Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-2445
www.cityoforinda.org
Go to the website for information on accessing over 98 camps listed in the Orinda Summer Camp Guide.

Oakland Strokes (OS)
4675 Tidewater Avenue (at High Street)
Oakland, CA 94601
510-926-4100
oaklandstrokes@gmail.com
www.oaklandstrokes.org

Learn how to row and what real teamwork is all about. OS is a 14 time national champion and Men's Rowers 2015 Youth National Champion. **Summer Rowing Camps** are one week sessions designed to provide an enjoyable but very real introduction to the great sport of rowing. The camps provide training in rowing techniques, fitness, teamwork and endurance. Within a week, participants will gain enough skill to row their first race. Camps are held at the San Pablo Reservoir in Orinda and the Tidewater Rowing Center in Oakland. **Beginner and Intermediate Sessions 4 - 6** in Orinda run from Jul. 11 to Jul. 29; participants must be 12-17 years old. Varsity camps available. Check website for more details and to register online; limited scholarships available.

Saint Mary's Athletic Camps
Saint Mary's College
1928 Saint Mary's Road
Moraga, CA 94575
925-631-4386

smccamps@stmarys-ca.edu
www.smccathleticcamps.com

Saint Mary's College offers 30+ outstanding Athletic Summer Camps to children and teens between the ages of 4-18 from Jun. 5 - Aug. 12. Overnight, Day, Half-Day, Team and Specialty Camps include All Sports, Baseball, Basketball, Lacrosse, Running, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball. Athletes can expect to participate in daily competitions, conditioning, skill development and other activities. Residential camps are reserved for high school students only. Please see camp website for details regarding specific camps including dates, times, prices and descriptions. Early morning and extended care options available. Please call or email with questions or for more information.

Sherman Swim School
1075 Carol Lane (off Mt. Diablo Blvd.)
Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-2100
www.shermanswim.com
Celebrating 55 years, the school offers

year-round swimming and diving lessons in a warm, protected environment for ages 9 mos. to adult. The instructors love children and have received extensive in-water training. Private lessons coupled with patient, encouraging teachers and extremely comfortable water (90° - 94°) creates an ideal learning environment for swimmers of all ages. Their goal is to build a strong foundation for a safe and happy swimmer. **Spring and Summer Sessions** run from Apr. 25 - Sept. 2 between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sessions are 3-4 weeks long, Mondays through Fridays for one, two or three days per week. Private swim lessons are 15 to 30 minutes; small group dive lessons are 30 minutes. Facility is available for birthday parties. Check online for entire schedule and registration forms.

Sleepy Hollow Swim & Tennis Club (SH)
1 Sunnyside Lane
Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-1126

[SEE SPORTS page 16]



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Moraga Valley Swim & Tennis Club

Come Join the Fun!



Open House
Sat April 16th
3pm-5pm

Memberships Available
Enjoy a beautiful, park-like setting including a six lane lap pool with shallow play and deep diving areas, as well as a separate baby pool. Work on your serve on our Har-Tru clay tennis courts. Join in on Learn-to Swim lessons, Competitive Swim Team, Masters Swim program, and year-round Adult and Junior Tennis Programs taught by USPTA certified coaches.

NEW this summer! Camp Marlin, a day camp for kids ages 5-12.



Swim Team Registration Opens March 12
moragavalleypool.org
email: membership@moragavalleypool.org



Farmers' Market

Morning Market & Music



SATURDAY'S 9-1PM
www.cccfm.org

CAMPS

◆ SPORTS from page 15

email: shstc@comcast.net
www.sleepyhollowclub.com

Private recreational facility; inquire regarding membership. SH is dedicated to providing excellent recreational opportunities in an environment that fosters legendary pride and spirit. **Legendland** is a supervised drop-off day swim camp for kids aged 5–9 and runs for eight weeks. **Summer Tennis Camp** runs mid-June through early August; call for details.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AND NATURE CAMPS

Aspen Network Team Camp

15 Vallecito Lane

Orinda, CA 94563

925-262-3135

info@aspennetwork.net

www.aspennetwork.net

Youth aged 13 - 27 who experience social fears and anxieties or difficulties with spectrum differences are welcome to learn and grow with like peers at this 16-day camp. The camp is located at a summer retreat in the Lake Tahoe area and runs from Jul. 5 - 20. Activities include light back packing, river rafting, campfires, and many educational opportunities to improve social skills while having fun. Pick-up/drop-off at Reno Airport available for an extra fee.

Lindsay Wildlife Experience

1931 First Avenue

Walnut Creek, CA 94597

925-935-1978

www.wildlife-museum.org/education/kids

Camps for kids age 4 to 18 with a camper to counselor ratio of 4:1 and a maximum class size of 25. The camp uses Lindsay Wildlife Museum's two private classrooms, outdoor gardens and adjacent Larkey Park. Camp shirt, snacks and drinks are included for all camps. Register online, view or download a Program Guide for detailed information about many programs and events, not just summer camp. Below is a sampling of summer camps offered, all of which run Tues. – Thurs. Description for each session: Learn about wildlife in your neighborhood, local parks and all of California. Adventures with live animals, songs, games,

art projects.

Camp Lindsay Session I 740, age 4 to 6, Jun. 14 – 16, from 1 - 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$80 member, \$100 non-member.

Camp Lindsay Session II 742 age 7 to 10, Jun. 21 – 23, from 1 – 4 p.m. Cost is \$95 member, \$115, non-member.

Camp Lindsay Session III 744 age 4 to 6, Jun. 28 – 30, from 1 – 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$80 member, \$100 non-member.

Camp Lindsay Session IV 746 age 4 to 6, Aug. 4 – 6, from 1 – 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$80 member, \$100 non-member.

Camp Lindsay Session V 748 age 7 to 10, Aug. 7–10, from 1–4 p.m. Cost is \$95 member, \$115 non-member.

Orinda Summer Adventure Day Camp

Base Camp: Wilder Fields

10 Wilder Road

Orinda, CA 94563

www.bayareaadventurecamp.com

Extensive list of full-day and half-day eod camps online for kids aged 7-14. **Sports Only Half Day Camp** (ages 5-12) is for kids who are interested in a variety of sports such as: flag football, basketball, soccer, beginner Lacrosse (no pads/no contact), baseball and/or kickball. Jun. 20 – Jul. 28, Mon. – Thurs., 9 – 11:30 a.m., cost is \$55 per week. **All Day High Adventurers Camp** (ages 7–13) includes indoor skydiving, river rafting, horseback riding, kid's rock climbing, bowling, etc. Jun. 20 - Aug. 12, Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., cost is \$395 per week. Extended care available. Door to door transportation available for full day (but not half day) campers, \$85.

Roughing It Day Camp

P.O. Box 1266

Orinda, CA 94563

925-283-3795

www.roughingit.com

Celebrating 44th summer as Lamorinda's hometown camp. Sessions run Jun. 20 – Aug. 19. A traditional all-outdoor day camp located at the Lafayette Reservoir for ages 4 to 16. Our flagship Four and Eight Week Day Camp groups campers by grade and gender. Activities include horseback riding, swimming, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, sports, crafts, and many more adventurous activities!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

At **iD Tech Camps** held at St. Mary's College, students ages 7-17 can learn to code, design video games, model 3D characters, and more.

Longer sessions are designed for social growth, skill development, friendship and fun for every camper. Other Programs available: Two week Little Raccoons for younger campers entering K or first grade; two week Specialty English Riding Horse Day Camp for horse loving campers entering fourth to tenth grade; and one week Outdoor Explorers for entering first to sixth graders. Free transportation to and from home in Orinda for four and eight Week Day Campers and from Orinda Rite Aid for all other programs; six other Lamorinda bus stops available. Free extended care. Learn more and register online.

Zoo Camp

Oakland Zoo

9777 Golf Links Rd.

Oakland, CA 94605 (off Highway 580)

510-632-9525 x280 (Zoo Camp hotline)

info@oaklandzoo.org

www.oaklandzoo.org

The Oakland Zoo takes great pride in creating age-appropriate options for campers age four through high school. Camp sessions are one week long and run from mid-Jun. to mid-Aug. Campers learn about nature and animals through games and songs, creating-and-making, discovery hikes, and science activities plus plenty of up-close time learning about their more than 660 native and exotic animals. Full summer camp schedule, registration and need-based scholarship applications on the website. Extended care available. Open daily 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

PreK and Kindergarten: Busy Beasts Full Day 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for pre-K and kindergarten kids who must be potty trained; also, no nap time provided. **Class A Week:** What's the difference between diurnal and nocturnal? Who is the biggest animal that lives at the zoo, and who is the smallest? Jul. 6-10, Jul. 20-Jul. 24. **Class B Week:** Do you live in a house? Apartment? Nest? Animals build and protect homes for their families, just like people. Come discover some wild animal homes and habitats! Jul. 13-17. Cost \$301 for members, \$331 for non-members.

PreK and Kindergarten: Busy Half Day 9 a.m. - 12 noon, same ages and requirements. Cost \$206 for members, \$231 for non-members. **Class A Week:** June 13 - 17, June 27 - July 1, July 11 - 15, July 25 - 29, August 8 - 12.

Class B Week: June 20 - 24, July 5 - 8, July 18 - 22, August 1 - 5. Cost: \$206 for members, \$231 for non-members.

First Grade: Furry Friends: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. **Class A Week:** What makes a bird a bird? Or an ant an ant? The animal kingdom is made up of millions of different families-wild and wonderful and sometimes just weird. Sessions: June 13 - 17, June 27 - July 1, July 11 - 15, July 25 - 29, August 8 - 12. **Class B Week:** Who keeps you safe? Who gives you good food? Who tucks you in at night? Many animals help and care for their families in all kinds of ways. Sessions: June 20 - 24, July 5 - 8, July 18 - 22, August 1 - 5. Cost: \$309 for members, \$339 for non-members.

First-Fifth Grades Together: Nature Play Camp 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Kids will tour the zoo, explore Knowland Park, build forts, look for wildlife and come nose to nose with nature. Grade 1 - 5 campers play together. Sessions: June 13 - 17, June 20 - 24, June 27 - July 1, July 5 - 8, July 11 - 15, July 18 - 22, July 25 - 29, August 1 - 5, August 8 -

12. Cost: \$309 for members, \$339 for non-members.

Second and Third Grade: Animal Adventures: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. **Class A Week:** Ever been on "safari"? Do you know any other Swahili words? Do you know which zoo animals are from Africa and which aren't? Africa is whole continent filled with amazing animals, diverse landscapes, and fascinating cultures. Sessions: June 13 - 17, June 27 - July 1, July 11 - 15, July 25 - 29, August 8 - 12. **Class B Week:** Ever wonder how giraffes talk to each other? How do elephants know when to meet their friends at the water hole? Animals communicate with each other using sound, visual signals, scent and so much more. Sessions: June 20 - 24, July 5 - 8, July 18 - 22, August 1 - 5. Cost: \$309 for members, \$339 for non-members.

Fourth and Fifth Grades: Eco-Explorers 9 a.m.–4 p.m. **Class A Week:** : Do all bats use echolocation? Do hyenas really laugh? Do snakes really unhinge their jaws? Are all tarantula bites deadly? There are so many amazing things to learn about animals, come uncover the facts vs. the fiction. Sessions: June 13 - 17, June 27 - July 1, July 11 - 15, July 25 - 29, August 8 - 12. **Class B Week:** Do you think you can run faster than a tiger? How about leap further than a lemur? Who do you think would be able to go across the monkey bars faster - you or an actual monkey? Learn all about these and other awesome animal athletes, and find out why they would take the gold every time! Sessions: June 20 - 24, July 5 - 8, July 18 - 22, August 1 - 5. Cost: \$309 for members, \$339 for non-members.

Grades 6-8 Wild Survivor 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Learn important survival skills; includes your own emergency survival kit to take home. Sessions: June 13 - 17, June 20 - 24, June 27 - July 1, July 5 - 8, July 11 - 15, July 18 - 22, July 25 - 29, August 1 - 5, August 8 - 12. Cost: \$329 for members, \$359 for non-members.

Grades 6-8 Zoo Art: How would you choose to represent the "elephantness" of elephants? The tenacity of tigers? The merriment of meerkats? Join us for a week of art camp where we'll use all sorts of mediums to represent Oakland Zoo animal residents. Sessions: June 13 - 17, June 20 - 24, June 27 - July 1, July 5 - 8, July 11 - 15, July 18 - 22, July 25 - 29, August 1 - 5, August 8 - 12. Cost: \$329 for members, \$359 for non-members.


High School: Grades 9-12 Teen Assistants 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Love animals and kids? Come to camp as a Teen Assistant and spend three weeks helping to create a fun and exciting experience for campers. Help lead games, crafts and more while earning community service hours Sessions: June 13 - 17, June 20 - 24, June 27 - July 1, July 5 - 8, July 11 - 15, July 18 - 22, July 25 - 29, August 1 - 5, August 8 - 12. Cost: \$60 for members, \$80 for non-members.

Lamorinda Arts Council Call for Artists: Around the World at 80

During the month of July, 2016, the Orinda Library Art Gallery will showcase local artists who are octogenarians or older. The Council requests work that is transformative and manifests the core of the artist - work that breathes the spirit of life into those who view it.

Selection of artwork will be determined by Council curators. Guidelines as to content and installation of artwork can be found online at www.lamorindaarts.org. Assistance in transporting artwork to and from the gallery available.



Submit three to six photos of artwork via email in jpg or PDF format by June 1 to Maggie Boscoe or Natalie Wheeler at galleries@lamorindaarts.org. Include the following for each photo: Artist's name; address; phone number and email address. Artists will be notified via email of work selected on or before June 10. Questions? Call Maggie at 925-258-4488 or Natalie at 925-518-3233.



Lamorinda's Hometown Camp

Lafayette Reservoir Site • Ages 4-16
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Come Visit Camp!
roughingit.com/events

www.roughingit.com 925.283.3795

ROVING REPORTER / PERFORMING ARTS

Roving Reporter

To fool, or not to fool, that is the question?



Charlie Jarrett

“How do you feel about April Fool’s Day traditions?”

“I love April Fool’s Day because I know I can always play a fool up until noon on April 1,” says Ellen Paasch. “As a woman of Scottish heritage and beliefs, we are only supposed to be practitioners of foolish pranks until noon on April 1 in our home country.”

According to Brigitta Turnipseed, “April 1 is very special to me, every year, as it is my husband’s birthday!”



CHARLIE JARRETT

(L-R) Brigitta Turnipseed and Ellen Paasch

I love April 1 surprises,” says Sarah Guenter. “My husband loves it too, as he is always doing something funny and different at home and even at work! Now that you ask me what it is he has done, of course I can’t remember any specifics. Gaby, does Dom do anything special on April 1 with you or your family?” “No, not really,” replies her friend Gaby Viglas. “You know, I’d love to see him doing something super funny with your family too,” Guenter adds.

Louis Knox stopped on his way to a job



CHARLIE JARRETT

(L-R: back row) Sarah Guenter and Gaby Viglas (L-R: front row) Frankie O’Sullivan, Juniper Pinel, Eleanor O’Sullivan (R: background) River O’Sullivan.



CHARLIE JARRETT

Louis C. Knox, J.D.

interview in Orinda to say, “Instead of playing jokes on others, I would prefer that we should be celebrating and appreciating life. After all, every day we wake up is a day of thanksgiving, and if we woke up today, then we have something to be thankful for today. As for me, I have to make the best of every day, after all, at the end of the day, we are what matters! I love the poem by Emily Dickinson, which says, ‘If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain; if I can ease one life the aching, or cool the pain, or help one fainting robin unto his nest again, I shall not live in vain.’”

Poul Anderson Creative Writing Contest

Named in honor of the late Poul Anderson, a popular science-fiction writer and Orinda resident, the annual creative writing contest is now accepting entries.

High school students who reside in Orinda or attend an Orinda high school are eligible to participate. The entry categories include science fiction/fantasy, essay/memoir/biography, poetry and short story. Students may submit one entry in any of the four categories for a total of not more than three entries. Submission deadline is April 22 at noon.

Judged by a panel of Orinda writers and residents, four winners will each receive \$250 in prizes underwritten by the Friends of the Orinda Library.

Entries should be submitted to school representatives or at the Orinda Library. For additional information, go to www.friendsoftheorindalibrary.org or email contest@friendsoftheorindalibrary.com.

Orinda Starlight Village Players Hold Season Auditions - Come Tread the Boards



CHRISTINE KESSEL

Director Malcolm Cowler goes over technical notes with Emily Kessel at last years rehearsal for Carlo Collodi’s Pinocchio.

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

The Orinda Starlight Village Players (OrSVP) holds its season auditions on Sunday, April 3, at the Orinda Community Center Park Amphitheater at 4 p.m. and on Tuesday, April 5, at the Orinda Community Center Carpentry Room at 7 p.m. This all-volunteer group has been presenting live theater in Orinda for over 30 years and is always looking for new volunteers, both on and off-stage.

The first production of the season will be Agatha Christie’s *Murder on the Nile* directed by Suzan Lorraine. OrSVP is well known for its productions of Agatha Christie plays. Lorraine has been directing the Christie shows for the past several years to great acclaim, carrying on the tradition set by OrSVP founder Charlotte Meyer. Lorraine will need a variety of adult ages for this show. Rehearsals begin in late April. Performance dates are June 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, 24-25, 26, 30, and July 1-2.

The second production of the season is Robert Merrill’s *Aria’s*. This charming romantic comedy is premiering in the Bay Area. Merrill is an up and coming playwright from Southern California who will be traveling to Orinda to see the production so the OrSVP group will get to meet the

author. He is planning his vacation around their production. Merrill contacted Jill Gelster who will direct the show and wanted the group to produce one of his two new plays. After reading the scripts, Gelster and artistic director Geotty Chapple were excited about the plays. “We had trouble deciding between his two scripts, they were both so good,” says Gelster. “We plan on doing the second show next season.”

In past seasons, Gelster directed the comedies *Wrong Window* by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore and *Madness on Madrona Drive* by Louis Flynn. Gelster will need a variety of adults as well as someone who can play a 7-year-old boy. Rehearsals begin in June and performances are July 22-23, 29-30, August 5-7, 11-12 and 13.

The final production of the season will be Billy Van Zandt and Jame Milmore’s *Love, Sex and the IRS* directed by OrSVP regular, Malcolm Cowler. Last year Cowler directed the very popular *Carlo Collodi’s Pinocchio*. Cowler is known for his use of multimedia in his productions. Rehearsals for this production will start in August with performances Sept. 10, 16-17, 23-25, 29-30 and Oct. 1.

Come prepared to read from the scripts for the directors. No prepared monologues are necessary. For more information, call 925-528-9225 or email info@orsvp.org.



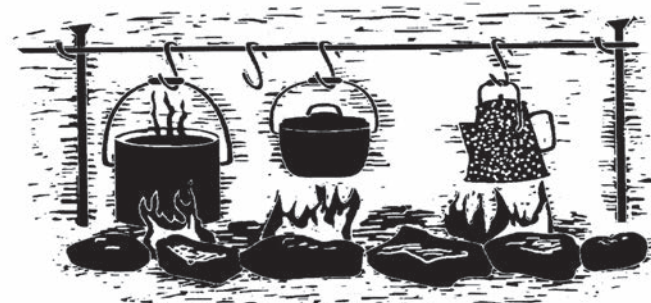
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FILM / SCOUTS



THE REEL LESS TRAVELED

APRIL SHOWERS MOVIE BUFFS
WITH LOTS OF PICKS



Tom Westlake

First off, I wish to remind everyone about the free movie nights every second Thursday at the Orinda Theatre. This month's free movie is the American action movie *Die Hard*, starring Bruce Willis and the late Alan Rickman on April 14 at 7 p.m. Keep checking in at www.caiff.org and click on Events so as not to miss out.

Next, I get to announce that April 16 will be forever after known as Irwin Allen Day! To many that name might mean nothing but when you look up his filmography, you will find that that name was, back in the day, synonymous with bold sweeping spectacles such as *The Towering Inferno* and *The Poseidon Adventure*. He was also responsible for producing equally engaging television shows such as *Land of the Giants* and, most notably, *Lost in Space*.

In honor of the contributions he has made to the American cinematic landscape, the Rheem Theatre will showcase two of his films, *Lost World* and *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea*. There will be celebrity guests on hand to reminisce about their involvement with this legendary producer. Marta Kristen, who starred in *Lost in Space*, and Gary Conway, from *Land of the Giants*, will talk, answer questions and present clips of their respective shows. This is the fourth such program that the Rheem has presented, and they've all been warmly received. This looks to be no exception. The April 16 show begins at 1 p.m. and tickets are \$35.

The Rheem will also play host to the Moraga Movers on April 20 for a showing of *Penny Serenade*. This is one of those films that runs the gamut from heart-wrenching tragedy to gentle poignant comedy and back again. To guide us along

this journey are Cary Grant, Irene Dunne and the music that, in many ways, defines their on-screen relationship. If the course of true love wends a rough path through our existence, then this is the film that manages to put it on screen. Bring your hankies to the Rheem at 2 p.m. and take the journey with them.

And lastly, over at the Orinda, the International Film Showcase will present *A War* for a one-week run starting on April 29 at 7 p.m. Like many of the films that Efi Lubliner and Jo Alice Canterbury present, this is one of those "no easy answers" movies that will provoke heated discussion on the way home. The war in Afghanistan is but one of the points of focus in this 2015 Danish film. In many ways *A War* expounds on themes first presented in 2008's *The Hurt Locker*, namely how war itself pushes men to make horrific decisions and the effect those decisions have on the rest of their lives. Notable for its realistic portrayal of both the inner and outer turmoil most soldiers and their families go through, the Oscar-nominated movie will hopefully drive home the simple fact that war is ultimately a no-win scenario that does far more harm than good. For additional information, please check out <http://internationalshowcase.org>.

Wow! I must be out of shape. Telling you all about all the wonderful stuff that April has to offer has left me winded. So, if you'll excuse me, I'm going to lie down for a bit. You may want to do that, too, but don't nap for too long. You might miss something. On second thoughts, don't follow my example but instead find another dark place to rest – like a movie theatre, for instance. As has been said many times before, that's where the reel magic lies.

Orinda Troop 237 Honors Five New Eagle Scouts



MICHAEL NOVOGRADAC

(L-R) **Griffin Ansel**, a Miramonte junior, designed, built and organized storage cubbies for Miramonte's football team; **John Novogradac**, a sophomore at Head-Royce, cleaned, organized and built shelving for the Oakland Girls Softball League; **Ian Livingston**, a sophomore at Miramonte, built nursery houses for bats and mounted them at Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve; **Carter Fife**, a senior at Bentley High, led a door-to-door collection of books, sorted them and sent them to Books for Africa and the Oakland Library; and **Jack Jorgensen**, a senior at Miramonte, created navigational aids to help first responders in an emergency.

Orinda Troop 303 Celebrates Three New Eagle Scouts



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(L-R) **Kyle Wallace**, a senior at Miramonte, designed and built a rainwater harvest system and garden bed for his former preschool; **David Whisnant**, a freshman at Campolindo, constructed a wood-framed stair system leading from the Oakland Zoo parking lot up to the zoo's veterinarian clinic; and **Jonathan Date-Chong**, a senior at Miramonte, designed and directed construction of four wooden benches at Wagner Ranch Elementary School.

Orinda Troop 249 Adds Three New Eagle Scouts



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(L-R) **Alex Linney**, a junior at Miramonte interviewed U.S. veterans, put together recordings and sent them to the Library of Congress; **Spencer Pugh**, a junior at Miramonte, organized a peanut butter drive for the Contra Costa Food Bank collecting over 1,000 pounds; and **Blake Severson**, a junior at Miramonte, repaired and improved his local LDS Chapel retaining wall and yard.

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BOOKS / STORIES

Between the Lines Over the Hills and Far Away!

Marian Nielsen, Orinda Books



Last month, Orindans welcomed the return of the weekly Farmers' Market and began to check out the lavish displays of annuals and new sustainable plantings at our local nurseries. At Orinda Books, we also have noticed that Orindans are busy organizing their vacation getaways often by picking up the brightest and best of the 2016 travel guides.

A few years ago, publishers lamented that the internet would mean the death of DK's Eyewitness Travel, Rick Steves, Fodor's, Frommer's, and Lonely Planet – all those trusty guide books which had served us so well. But, happily those gloomy predictions have proved wrong. There has been a winnowing (some of the lesser guides have folded), but, in 2015, *Bookscan* reported that sales of travel guides were up for the first time since 2007. Huzzah! While your hand-held device can give you (usually) the current opening times for the Uffizi Gallery, your guidebook can often be more productive in suggesting the top 10 sights you will enjoy within walking distance of the Piazza Della Signoria and give you a readable map (larger than the screen on your phone) in which to find them. And perhaps those trusty guidebooks aid most effectively in that most delectable part of travel – the planning!

It is interesting to note that competition from the Internet has actually encouraged publishers to enhance some of the features readers are now welcoming in the newest print guidebooks. For one, the books are brighter and more beautifully illustrated than ever. At Orinda Books, we have always been partial to Dorling-Kindersley's Eyewitness Guides. Their lavish use of color spreads led the way, prompting Frommer's and Fodor's to run to catch up. DK's "Top Ten" guidebooks are on our shelves now with new 2016 editions inviting you to travel with them from Rio de Janeiro to Reykjavik. The "Top Ten" guides are particularly suited to travelers with limited time in a city. DK's editors have suggested that city tourism is on the rise because of travelers' access to non-hotel accommodations and an increase in people planning shorter trips to more and more destinations.

March through June is when many of the new travel guide editions become available. This year, *National Geographic* will help travelers celebrate the centennial of the National Park Service with an array of new guides for the whole family, along with some special editions just for kids. And Rick Steves, a longtime favorite, has a new series of "Best Of" guidebooks, all being

published this spring and summer. They will include more maps and more color, and above all, Rick's no-nonsense recommendations. The "Best Of" books will be tailored to travelers with limited time for planning. Steves's son, Andy, whom PBS viewers watched grow up in the years he traveled with his dad, is introducing *Andy Steves' Europe: City Hopping on a Budget*. Andy launched his own student travel company in 2010 with backpacker-friendly itineraries. It is these engaging itineraries that have informed his new travel guide – a perfect gift for young and independent explorers.

Lonely Planet is one of Orinda Books popular guidebook publishers and this year, targeting a new audience, they are publishing *Pop-Up New York*, *Pop-Up London* and *Pop-Up Paris*, aimed at 5- to 8-year-olds. These are wonderful, colorful and great fun for the small people travelling with their family. Lonely Planet also features, for 8- to 12-year-olds, a new *City Trails* series, Paris, London and New York – directing kids to lead their grown-ups off the tourist trail and into some unique adventures.

Bill Bryson, one of the most entertaining travel writers at work today, has said: "To my mind, the greatest reward and luxury of travel is to be able to experience everyday things as if for the first time, to be in a position in which almost nothing is so familiar it is taken for granted." Words to cherish as you stow your carry-on in the overhead. And Bryson's own newest travels in his adopted England are delightfully chronicled in *The Road to Little Dribbling: Adventures of an American in Britain* just published in January.

Travels aside, sometimes when riffling through trade magazines such as *Publishers Weekly*, I find the most surprising facts surfacing. For example, in a "Bestseller Stat Shot" last month, *Bookscan* reported that James Patterson's *NYPD Red 4* was the bestselling book in the country, but it only topped the charts in the Eastern region. In the great big Western region (11 states including Alaska), the bestseller was Marie Kondo's *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up!* Fancy that! What conclusions can be drawn? Are we Westerners neater or messier and more in need of tidying up? Are West Coast sock drawers miracles of order? And has the heated *noir* of Patterson's *NYPD Red 4* been essential in helping East Coasters thaw out after their Big Freezes of early 2016? Something to think about!

Happy Travels and Happy Reading on whichever coast!

Storytellers Close Book On 30-Year-Old Festival

By KATHRYN G. McCARTY
Staff Writer

It's the final chapter for the Bay Area Storytelling Festival (BASF), which hosts its last festival April 29 to May 1 at the Orinda Community Center. For 30 years, the festival has been bringing nationally and internationally renowned storytellers to the Bay Area.

"We're going out with a bang!" said festival co-chair Linda Yemoto. "This year we have it all, from contemporary personal stories to time-tested tales from many cultures, told by some of the best-loved performers we've hosted."

Yemoto attended her first BASF in 1982. For over 25 years she has served as chair or co-chair for the festival. This year she once again shares co-chair responsibilities with Michael Baefsky. While the festival has been very successful, Yemoto said some of the founding committee members are now in their 80s. "It's been very difficult getting younger generations involved in producing this event," she said.

"I believe we hear the story we need to hear, when we need to hear it," says Festival Co-Chair Linda Yemoto.

A retired naturalist, Yemoto also enjoys telling stories, "but not as often as I did when I was at Tilden Park." She explains that storytelling is an intimate art form. "Unlike acting, there is no fourth wall. You are relating directly to your listeners, responding to them, and yet at the same time you disappear. You're the vehicle for the story, and your words guide the listeners' imagination; but your goal is for the story to shine."

"Storytelling reaches your head through your heart, it touches our emotions," Yemoto said, adding that the performers often make the audience think, offer a new perspective, or help people get through difficult situations. "I believe we hear the story we need to hear, when we need to hear it."

According to Yemoto, the weekend festival will feature tellers from across the country with a diversity of styles, subject matter and cultural traditions. Performers incorporate mime, dance, music and puppetry in their stories.

Each day of the festival features profes-

sional tellers along with a variety of other presentations. Friday activities include a puppetry and storytelling workshop by Willy Claflin, and tours by tellers to five local schools. Friday's opening reception will have music provided by the Pinole Valley High School Jazz Band. Both Saturday and Sunday activities include an open mic, when festival goers are invited to share their own stories. Family Fun programs (suitable for children 4-plus) will be held Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The festivities conclude Sunday with dancing, music provided by Éclair de Lune.

While this is the last chapter of the BASF, Yemoto said the producers of the festival, the non-profit organization Storytelling Association of California, have "exciting things" planned for 2017. "We will continue to bring storytelling to the Orinda community and beyond. Nature abhors a vacuum; it's time for something new to come and fill that space," she said.

For more information or to purchase tickets (including single tickets and all-weekend family passes), visit www.bayarastorytelling.org or call 510-869-4946.

2016 Featured Tellers

Bil Lepp is an internationally known storyteller and humorist, author and recording artist; recipient of the Circle of Excellence Award from the National Storytelling Network.

Antonio Rocha blends storytelling with movement and mime. A student of Marcel Marceau and Tony Montanaro, Rocha has performed at the Kennedy Center and the Smithsonian Institution.

Elizabeth Ellis was honored by the National Storytelling Network with both a Lifetime Achievement and Circle of Excellence award. In her 35-year teller career, she has performed for over a half a million people.

Eth-Noh-Tec (founded by Nancy Wang and Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo) are movement-based performers, incorporating cultural elements of the East and West. They've performed at President Obama's inaugural celebration, at the Smithsonian and Kennedy Center.

Willy Claflin weaves music and puppetry into his performance and has been headliner and master of ceremonies for the National Storytelling Festival.

Diane Ferlatte, a 2008 Grammy nominee, tours internationally and has been honored with The Circle of Excellence Award.

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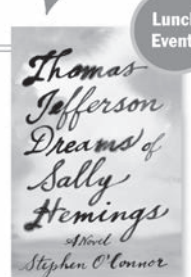
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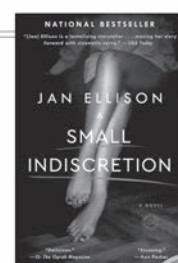
Two Very Special Author Events in April!



Thomas Jefferson Dreams of Sally Hemmings
Stephen O'Connor
Viking \$28

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13
11:30 AM

Join us for lunch with Stephen O'Connor and celebrate the publication of his new novel.



A Small Indiscretion
Jan Ellison
Random House \$28

THURSDAY, APRIL 28
11:00 AM

Meet Jan Ellison and hear her discuss her debut novel, *A Small Indiscretion*—a *San Francisco Chronicle* Best Book of the Year.



Orinda Books

276 Village Square • 925-254-7606 • orindabooks.com • Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3

CALENDAR

ON THE CALENDAR

APRIL

- 1 **Orinda Library Gallery** 10th Annual Arts Ambassadors exhibit through April 29. Reception April 20 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Story page 11.
First Friday Forum, Tia Kratter discussing "Pixar, How Do They Make Their Movies?" Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, 1:30 p.m. Story page 10.
Orinda Books launch party for Miramonte High graduate Dr. Jacob Towery's *The Anti Depressant Book*, 276 Village Square, 6 p.m.
- 3 **Orinda Starlight Village Players** season auditions, Community Center Park Amphitheater, 4 p.m., and on April 5, Orinda Community Center, 7 p.m. info@orsvp.org or 925-528-9225.
Orinda Books reception for the Artist of the Month, Phil Simon, 3 to 5 p.m.
- 7 **Story Hour** with Cathy Goshorn for children 2 to 4 years, Orinda Books, 10 to 11 a.m.
- 9 **Orinda Books** hosts Sisters-in-Crime Janet Dawson and Wendy Hornsby, 1 p.m.
Orinda Books hosts Orinda author Steven Goetz and illustrator Eda Kaban in a storytime featuring their new picture book, *Old MacDonald Had a Truck*, 11 a.m.
- 13 **The Second Wednesday Book Group** will discuss *Steve Jobs* by Walter Isaacson, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 3 p.m.
Orinda Books host a luncheon with author Stephen O'Connor, discussing his new novel *Thomas Jefferson Dreams of Sally Hemings*, 11:30 a.m.
- 14 **Seniors' Trip** to the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum in San Jose, includes a planetarium show, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 residents, \$29 non-residents. Trip includes walking and long periods of standing. Sponsored by the city's recreation department.
California Independent Film Festival free movie, Orinda Theater, 7 p.m. www.caiff.org.
- 16 **Classic Science Fiction Film Fest**, Rheem Theater, personal appearances by actors Marta Kristen and Gary Conway. California Independent Film Festival. www.caiff.org
St. Mary's College Fund Annual Fashion Show, "Lavender and Lace," Soda Center, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fashions by Draper and Damon. Wine, beverages and hors d'oeuvres at 11 a.m., lunch at noon. Tickets \$40. Send check payable to "SMC Guild" to Patricia Wiegmann, 39 Carr Drive, Moraga, 94556. 925-376-6088.
- 17 **Orinda Books** hosts Orinda resident Joni Binder discussing her new book, *Mile 46 Face to Face in Maasailand*, 3 p.m.
Wagner Ranch Nature Area 15th Annual Wildlife/Earth Day Festival, 350 Camino Pablo Road, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Visit www.fwrna.org. Story page 7.
- 20 **Lamorinda Libraries** Centennial Celebration of the National Park Service with free screening of *An American Ascent*, Orinda Library Auditorium, 7 p.m. See story page 11.
POISE hosts Jaime Askew, discussing how stress affects children and how nutrition can reduce it, Orinda Books, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. tague6@gmail.com.
- 21 **Youth Ink Competition** sponsored by Orinda Juniors, 6 p.m. Orinda Library Auditorium. www.orindajuniors.com.
- 23 **Orinda Books** hosts a local, self-published author festival, 276 Village Square, 1 p.m.
Orinda Action Day, eighth annual volunteer cleanup, 9:30 to noon. Meet at Orinda Library Plaza and OA Volunteer Fair. Visit www.orindafoundation.org. See story page 1.
Orinda Rotary Club hosts "Stop Hunger Now" following Orinda Action Day, Orinda Community Center, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 75 volunteers needed to package food items for distribution around the world. www.orindarotary.org or 925-254-2222.
- 26 **Orinda Chamber of Commerce** presents its Annual Restaurant Tour. Visit www.orinda-chamber.org. See story page 8.
- 27 **State of the City** address by Mayor Victoria Smith, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. www.orindarotary.org.
- 28 **Maria's Book Group** features author Jan Ellison discussing her novel, *A Small Indiscretion*, Orinda Books, 11 a.m.
- 29 **The International Film Showcase** will present the Danish Oscar finalist in the Foreign Language Category film, *A War*, at the Orinda Theatre for a one-week run, 7 p.m. www.lamorindatheatres.com.
Bay Area Storytelling Festival, through May 1, Orinda Community Center. www.bayareastorytelling.org. Story page 19.

AT THE LIBRARY

All events are free unless otherwise specified. For more information, call 925-254-2184 or visit www.ccclib.org/locations/Orinda.html.

- 2 **Saturday Morning Live**. Family story time for children 3-5, Picture Book Area, 11 a.m. Also April 9, 16, 23 and 30.
- 5 **Toddler Lapsit**. Stories and songs for children aged 1 to 3 and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 10 and 10:30 a.m. No registration required, but attendance limited to once per week. Also April 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26 and 27.
Peek-A-Boo Time. Story time for children ages 0 to 5, 11:30 to 11:55 a.m. Also April 12, 19 and 26.
Spring Break Matinee. Suitable for children 5-11, 2:30 to 4 p.m.
- 7 **Special Book Sale**. Hosted by Friends of Orinda Library, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
English as a Second Language Conversation Circle. Practice English in an informal, small-group setting, Study Room A, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Preregistration not required. Also April 14, 21 and 28.
- 9 **Sudden Oak Death Blitz**, Citizen Science presentation. Learn how to participate in local surveys and prevention ideas, 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Suitable for high school students - adults.
- 12 **Math Lounge**. Drop-in math tutoring for students K-12, sponsored by MathElf, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Also April 19.
- 15 **Mystery Book Club**. Study Room A, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Adult event.
- 21 **Awaken the Spirit of Creativity**. Explore artistic expression as a way to move with greater awareness and trust through challenging times with local artist Felicia Morris, 1 to 2 p.m. Adult event.
- 27 **Teen Advisory Group**. Help guide the library's teen collection and events while having fun. Open to teens who live or go to school in Orinda, Gallery Room, 4 to 5 p.m.
- 28 **Contra Costa Tale Spinners**. A monthly story swap with featured speaker, Gallery Room, 7 to 9 p.m. Adult and teen event. 925-478-8488.
Support Your Struggling Learner. Three education professionals will speak about tools and strategies for parents, 6 to 8 p.m. No registration required.

CLUB MEETINGS

- 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., Gallery Room, Orinda Library, www.moragaadobe.org.
- Friends of the Orinda Creeks**. Fourth Wednesday, 9 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

OIS Bulldogs Present
James and the Giant Peach, Jr.

JEANETTE LIPP

The Ladybug cast of *James and the Giant Peach, JR.* poses for a group photo during the first day of rehearsal. The Roald Dahl adventure runs April 28-30. Go to www.showtix4u.com.

Sarge Littlehale Room, 925-687-8844, ext. 227.

- Lamorinda Meditation**. Every Monday and Thursday, 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, 7:15 p.m., Career Wisdom Institute, 1036 Country Club Drive, Moraga, Suite 100. Meditate in silence for 30 minutes, \$5 donation. Contact Gaby Mozee at gcmoozee@gmail.com.
- 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, <http://www.lamorindasunrise.com/> or 925-283-8288.
- 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., September through May, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephen's Drive, www.montelindogarden.com. Speaker Katie Creighton will talk on "Having Fun With Garden Design Challenges."
- Orinda Association**. Second Monday, 7 p.m., Orinda Library, May Room, 925-254-0800.
- Orinda Garden Club**. Fourth Thursday, 10 a.m. to noon, September through May, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante.
- 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 Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante, 925-254-2222.
- Orinda/Tábor (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 <https://sites.google.com/site/orindawomansclub/>.

CITY/FIRE DISTRICT 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., Library Auditorium, www.cityoforinda.org.

Send calendar items to Maggie Sharpe at m.sharpe66@gmail.com



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Move of the Month

Dumbbell Lunge with Biceps Curl



Holding dumbbells at your sides, step your right foot forward and bend your knees until your left thigh is nearly parallel to the floor. As you lunge, curl the weights in front of your chest, palms up. Reverse to return to start, then repeat with the left leg. That counts as one rep. Try to do 12 reps.

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

Cal Shakes Celebrates 400th Anniversary of Bard's Death



Cal Shakes new Artistic Director **Eric Ting** gets to know audience members as he gears up for his first full season. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By KATHRYN G. McCARTY
Staff Writer

April marks the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death, but his plays are alive and well at theatres across the world. The festivities will be plentiful as California Shakespeare Theatre enjoys the 25th anniversary of its tenure at the Bruns Amphitheatre, celebrating the most notable writer in the English language with two Bard classics: *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Othello*. Playwright August Wilson's *Fences* and George Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell* round out the company's 42nd season.

Jackson Gay directs the season opener, Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, adapted by Kenneth Lin and Gay, with additional text by Lin. The *New York Times* named Gay one of the "power players of Off-Broadway." Her directing credits include work at Yale Repertory Theatre, The Geffen Playhouse and La Jolla Playhouse. Lin, in addition to his work as a nationally known dramatist, is a writer for the Netflix series *House of Cards*. Shakespeare's hilarious romantic comedy runs May 25 to June 19.

Fences is the first of Wilson's plays to be performed at Cal Shakes and will be directed by Raelle Myrick-Hodges, running July 6 to 31. Wilson won both the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and Tony Award for *Fences*. Myrick-Hodges is former artistic director for San Francisco's Brava Theatre and currently serves as the curator of performance arts for the Contemporary Arts Center in New Orleans.

Lisa Peterson directs Shaw's *You Never Can Tell*, running Aug. 10 to Sept. 4. Peterson will stage Shaw's comedy in modern times. An Obie Award winner for directing, Peterson spent a decade as resident director at the Mark Taper Forum. Her prestigious

directing resume includes work at the La Jolla Playhouse, Guthrie Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Arena Stage, McCarter Theatre, Yale Rep and Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Eric Ting makes his Cal Shakes' directing debut with one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies, *Othello*, the final show in Ting's inaugural season as the company's artistic director. *Othello* will run Sept. 14 to Oct. 9. "*Othello* strikes me as the perfect choice for our final Main Stage production of the Cal Shakes 2016 season and my directorial debut at the Bruns," said Ting.

Before coming to Cal Shakes, Ting served as associate artistic director of Long Wharf Theatre from 2004 -2015. A multiple-grant recipient, he was recognized as one of 25 forward-thinking artists in *American Theatre* magazine's 25th anniversary edition. Directing credits include Manhattan Theatre Club, American Repertory Theatre, the Public Theater and the Goodman Theatre, as well as internationally at theatres in Singapore, France, Canada, Romania, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Bali. In the Bay Area, Ting has directed at American Conservatory Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Marin Theatre Company, Shakespeare Santa Cruz and the Bay Area Playwrights Festival.

Season tickets and group tickets for parties of 10 or more are available. Prices start at \$168 for a four-play subscription, with discounts available for seniors, youth and full-time K-12 educators.

Cal Shakes Main Stage season runs from May 25 through Oct. 9 at the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda. Four-play season packages range from \$124 to \$248 with discounts available for seniors, youth, and full-time K-12 educators. Single tickets are also available, ranging from \$39-\$55. For tickets and information, visit www.calshakes.org or call the box office at 510-548-9666.



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BUSINESS BUZZ

◆ BUZZ from page 24

niently located on the street level of Theatre Square, adjacent to Sweet Dreams and the 4th Bore Restaurant. Coldwell Banker validates parking for clients and visitors to its office.

Schultheis offers a free no-obligation consultation for any of your real estate needs, so if you are thinking of buying or selling now is the time to act. "Coldwell Banker is the brokerage I most identified with because of its excellent reputation and philanthropic values," she said. "Most recently it was recognized with the NRT Humanitarian Award for 2016 because of its exceptional fundraising effort for Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, raising a total of \$100,000 throughout the Bay Area."

Schultheis relocated here from Alameda 13 years ago. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, films and reading. Passionate about her volunteer work mentoring 25 to 30 high school girls every week at Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church (MVPC), she also volunteers building homes in Tijuana, Mexico every spring with the Amor Ministries through MVPC. "I am grateful that I am so fortunate to live and work in this exceptional community."

Her two adult daughters are both graduates of Campolindo High School. Emily earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Pennsylvania and is a political reporter for CBS News. After earning her bachelor's degree at UC San Diego, Sarah is pursuing an acting career while also working at 7 For All Mankind.

For more information, contact Cathy Schultheis at 510-915-2277 or visit www.brokcathy.com.

Hilton House Consign and Design

This upscale home décor and accessories emporium has undergone a remodel featuring an open floor plan, fresh paint and a consignment bar situated in a private area. Shopping at Hilton House is like going on a treasure hunt. You never know when you will run across a gem. It's convenient location at 21 Orinda Way, across the street from the Orinda Library, makes it easy to stop by often.

Owner Cyndi Hilton-Girgis established Hilton House 16 years ago after remodeling her own home. "I had some very fine furniture and envisioned a market in the Bay Area for quality, high-end used furniture," said Hilton-Girgis. "Now we have people coming from as far as Napa and Beverly Hills. Our inventory has expanded over the years to include jewelry, fashion accessories for men and women, artwork, beautiful crystal pieces by Waterford, Tiffany, Baccarat, Stueben and Lalique. With inventory



VALERIE HOTZ
Hilton House carries new fine jewelry as well as costume and estate jewelry.

arriving daily, we encourage people to stop by regularly as our inventory turns over quickly. You will find one-of-a-kind items, like the gorgeous pool table that we received on consignment from Beverly Hills."

The fine jewelry selection alone is worth the visit. Inventory ranges from new pieces to pre-owned and estate jewels in gold, white gold, diamonds as well as gemstones. "We want to give the best bargain price whenever possible on every item," said Girgis-Hilton.

A 38-year Orinda resident, Girgis-Hilton is pleased that her vision of recycling and reusing home décor has been well received, becoming an anchor business for the community. Hilton House Consign and Design has won several awards over the years, most recently named "Best Store in Orinda" in 2014 by the Orinda Chamber of Commerce.

No appointment is necessary for consigning items. If it is jewelry, Girgis-Hilton advises to bring it into the shop. Photographs of larger items should be emailed to consign@hiltonhousedesigns.com. Hilton House Consign and Design is open Monday to Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on Sunday. For more information visit www.hiltonhousedesigns.com or call 925-254-1113.

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ORINDA ACTION DAY

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9:30 am - noon
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Co-Chairs Holly Henkel & Sean Sabarese

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.

Gypsea Bungalow Celebrates First Anniversary

This eclectic shop offers a delightful variety of home accessories and personal items that just can't be found anywhere else. Orinda Danya Stehr and Lafayette resident Pam Lewerenz have been friends for over 25 years. After managing their cupcake business, Yummie, they knew they wanted to bring this unique shopping experience to Lamorinda. If you have not already visited Gypsea Bungalow, it is time to drop in and browse this California beach

chic boutique, located at 3413 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette, near Brown Avenue.

"Our passion is fashion and design and our shop reflects that, offering inventory evocative of California living that we love and want to share with our friends and greater community," said Stehr. "We both enjoy traveling and finding things that you can't find back home," said Lewerenz. "We have been able to operate by word of mouth. It allows us a lot of freedom and makes our items more personal."

The wide range of offerings include a luxurious cashmere shawl in luscious colors – perfect year round for Northern California weather, absorbent hand towels made in

Turkey by Fouta that may be used in the kitchen or bath, the Swell water bottle that keeps hot beverages hot and cold beverages cold, and a delightful fragrance line made in California by Kai that includes lotions, perfume and body oils and many more fun accessories. Check out Habit nail polish, available in gorgeous colors that includes myrrh extract, an ingredient that naturally strengthens nails.

Several favorites are tie-dyed espadrilles, beach shell wreaths, the clear plastic bag by Truffle in several sizes, and personal notebooks, perfect for journaling the running commentary of daily life. Relax in the comfortable patio area, where you will find additional gift ideas.

"Danya and I are following our dreams in bringing Gypsea Bungalow to our community," said Lewerenz. "You can follow your dreams anytime in your life, a great lesson to be learned. Part of this includes offering personal service to our customers."

"This is a meeting place for people, with special events taking place every month," said Stehr. "On April 21 we host Orinda author Amanda Haas who will be signing



(L-R) Pam Lewerenz and Danya Stehr are owners of Gypsea Bungalow.

copies of her book, *The Anti-Inflammatory Cookbook*, from 4 to 6 p.m." Check the website for details about next month's special event featuring personalized stationary.

An Orinda resident for 21 years, Stehr is married to Jim Stehr, owner of Paragon Investment Advisors. The couple has three sons. Eldest son Bennett is a sophomore at Georgetown University and Clayton and Peter both attend Miramonte High School.

Lewerenz and her husband John have been Lafayette residents since 1996. They have four children. Mary is a freshman at Colorado University at Boulder, while Jack and Kate attend Acalanes High School. Ella attends the seventh grade at Stanley Middle School.

These longtime friends love to shop and truly enjoy bringing their finds to the Lamorinda community at good prices. Open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Gypsea Bungalow is a member of the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit www.gypseabungalow.com, call 925-310-4201 or bump them an email at gypseabungalow@gmail.com.

Cathy Shultheis – Broker Associate at Coldwell Banker

With 28 years of experience in the industry, Cathy Schultheis enjoys a reputation as a knowledgeable real estate professional serving Contra Costa and Alameda counties with special expertise in the Lamorinda area. A broker associate with Coldwell Banker since 2003, Schultheis joined colleagues welcoming clients at the recent reception for the firm's new offices located in Theatre Square.

"The Lamorinda market is hopping right now," said Schultheis. "It is fast-paced and constantly changing. We are seeing homes that are priced correctly and prepared for the market receiving offers well beyond asking price and are pending within 14 days of being listed."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Cathy Shultheis is a broker associate at Coldwell Banker.

The current real estate climate is the perfect storm, she says. "With low interest rates and lenders loosening guidelines a bit, it makes for a desirable sellers' market. It is even more necessary in this competitive market for buyers to have an experienced negotiator representing them in order to achieve success."

Coldwell Banker's new offices are conveyed
[SEE BUZZ page 23]

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