



THE ORINDA NEWS

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Cal Shakes Artistic Director Eric Ting Kicks Off 4th of July Parade

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Grand Marshal Eric Ting of Cal Shakes will head up Orinda's 33rd annual Hometown Parade. The Obie award winning director has been called "a magician" by *The New Yorker* magazine and "perhaps one of the most gifted young directors in our midst" by the *Hartford Courant*. Ting, 42 years old and a new dad, hails from West Virginia. He became artistic director last year and is excited to celebrate Cal Shakes' 25th year at the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda. Speaking of 25 years in Orinda, ever wonder how Cal Shakes came to Orinda?

Marilyn Langbehn, the Public Relations Director at Cal Shakes, explains it all: "In 1991, when Cal Shakes was looking for a permanent home, we wanted a place for audiences to experience world-class theater in an unparalleled natural setting, and when we turned our sights to the then-six-year-old City of Orinda, we discovered the perfect venue just outside downtown in the Siesta Valley. Cal Shakes and Orinda have grown up together; in the ensuing 25

[SEE PARADE page 4]



SALLY HOGARTY

Jonas, the marching bagpiper, Orinda Scouts and local veterans begin the parade each year with the Orinda Association banner.

Dancing with the Cars Goes Italian

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

If you're a fan of the movie *The Italian Job*, this is one event you won't want to miss. On September 9, the Orinda Country Club (OCC) goes Italian with Compari-infused cocktails, delicious Italian food and a bevy of Mini Coopers (that could have been in the movie!) as well as Maseratis, Lamborghinis and Ferraris.

It all begins at 6 p.m. around the fountain

at the front entrance to OCC with a cocktail party surrounded by the Mini Coopers and vintage Italian cars. Then inside for a hearty Italian dinner with music and dancing. A silent auction will take place prior to dinner followed by a short live auction after dinner.

"We're doing a Venetian theme both inside and out," says Orinda Rotary member and event chairman Frank Darling. "Jill Gelster and David Dierks from the Orinda Starlight Village Players are in charge of decorations and lighting to make this a memorable evening."

Members of the Starlight Players, who perform a summer season of plays at the Orinda Community Center Park Amphitheater, have provided entertainment and lighting effects and even waited on tables at previous Dancing with the Cars events. Now, they are calling on their set decorating skills to make this year's Dancing with the Cars a very special event.

"Chip Herman, who began the Classic Car Show 12 years ago, and Frank Darling asked us to make the OCC look like it has never looked before," says Gelster. "With its Mediterranean architecture, the OCC lends itself into being transformed into an Italian Villa, but we have some surprises up our sleeves that we hope will delight attendees."

Gelster and her talented team of decorators are assisted by OCC, McDonnell Nursery and Melrose Nameplate and Label Company.

[SEE DANCING page 5]



SALLY HOGARTY

Mini Coopers will be all the rage at this year's Dancing with the Cars. (L-R) Orinda Village Starlight Players' Jill Gelster, Seniors Around Town's Kate Wiley, Orinda Association president Cindy Powell, Orinda Rotary's Frank Darling and Orinda Rotary's Barbara Bontemps.

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Consultant Presents Latest Data on Downtown Parking

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Chris Kinzel of TJKM, the City of Orinda's consulting firm, presented the results of the latest downtown parking study at a June 13 community meeting at the library and gathered feedback from those in attendance.

The company collected parking data on Feb. 25 at 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. The total of 574 downtown spaces on both sides of Orinda break down into 13 percent with no time limit (on Bates Boulevard), 37 percent with two-hour limits, 30 percent with four-hour limits and 12 percent with one-hour limits.

spaces) – Orinda Way from Community Center park to freeway and including Santa Maria Way; Zone 3 (185 spaces) - Davis Road and Bates Boulevard; Zone 4 (130 spaces) – Moraga Way, Bryant Way and Southwood Drive; and Zone 5 (48 spaces) – Brookwood Road.

Kinzel noted that the BART parking lot was full by 7:45 a.m. on weekday mornings. Orinda resident Owen Murphy asked how many of the cars in the BART lot were local residents and Kinzel noted that close to 90 percent came from the greater Orinda area. Another resident suggested the casual carpool pickup area at Theatre Square be reevaluated since those people also take up street parking.

According to Kinzel, TJKM's preliminary report suggests the following actions:

Four-hour parking limits be changed to

[SEE PARKING page 8]

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Library Gallery Exhibits Work by Artists 80 – And Up!

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The Lamorinda Arts Council presents "Around the World at 80," featuring the work of local artists who are octogenarians or older. The exhibit runs through July at Orinda Library Art Gallery. More than 30 artists age 80 to 99 are showing work in a variety of media and styles including ceramics, sculptures, paintings, collages, stichery, digital images, woodcarvings, batik hand-painted goose eggs, linocuts and etchings. There is nothing tired or humdrum about this group. Join them at an artists' reception on Sunday, July 17, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. when light refreshments will be served.

Anyone can be born with a gift, but it takes courage to develop it. This means life experiences over eight or more decades have enhanced the natural talents of these artists. Expect work that is transformative and manifests the core of each artist, many of whom are not only world travelers, but have exhibited all over the world as well. Many have also written books about their art, given interviews to prestigious publications and worked as sought-after art

teachers.

Octogenarians (or older) showing work include: Kay Athos of Castro Valley, paintings; Norah Bain of Orinda, paintings; Lu Beury, paintings; Jean Calicura of Pleasant Hill, ceramics; Shirley Case, paintings; Barbara Crawford, ceramics; Lloyd Coyne, paintings; Pam Della paintings; Ed Diefenderfer of Pleasant Hill, paintings; Fran Dobin of Danville, paper collage; Barbara Falconer, watercolors; June Felter, paintings; Shirl Fink, metal plates; Art Gronner of Lafayette, carved wood; Loraine Hornbeck of Danville, watercolors; Joan Ibarolle of Walnut Creek, ceramic dolls; Nancy Jacobson of Orinda, linocuts and etchings; Ruth Janger of Danville, paintings; Katarina Kivel of Danville, watercolors; Fred Lee of Orinda, digital images; Helen Ann Licht of Lafayette, paintings; Anna Marie Lininger of Lafayette, batik hand-painted tessellated goose eggs; Maher Salama of Danville, watercolors; Bess Meek of Danville, watercolors; Freddy Moran of Orinda, quilts; Peggy Moulton of Orinda, stichery; Elizabeth Muller of Orinda, paintings; Virginia Munroe of Orinda, paintings and monotypes; Shirley Nootbaar, watercolors; Marge Rector of Sausalito, acrylic paint-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fran Dobin's *Have We Counted our Blessings for Food? Lets Look Around Us* is an 18" x 10.5" collage on display during July.

ings; Ralph Smith of Orinda, sculpture; Josef Twirbutt of Danville, wood collage; Clark Vilas, sculpture and watercolors; and Rhoda Wasserman of Danville, graphite and oil on canvas board.

Council co-curators Maggie Boscoe and Natalie Wheeler, plus gallery committee members Bill Carmel and Lois Reynolds Mead put in months of effort to make this exhibit possible. Local businesses, such as Republic of Cake, The Fourth Bore, Piccolo Napoli, Mechanics Bank and Sanvitalia contributed to the artist reception.

Virginia Munroe of Orinda, 99, had a joint exhibit some years ago with her late husband, Joseph Munroe, who was an old-time *National Geographic* photographer back before digital. She is showing two works, *Bouquet*, a 36.5" x 38.5" acrylic monotype on paper, and *Landing in Red*, a 31" x 43" acrylic on canvas. "I paint to express this world in a visually creative way and it is a challenge I love," says Munroe.

Helen Ann Licht is 83 and has been painting for more than 50 years. She lives in Lafayette and her studio is in Oakland. Her painting, *Jacob and the Angel*, is part of the Tali, Virtual Midrash in Israel. She has shown work throughout the United States and Mexico. The book on her Biblical paintings is entitled *The Many Colored Bible*. Look for *Eden Song*, a 36" x 36" acrylic on canvas painting. She paints whimsical memories of her travels, the Bible and currently paints contemporary

abstracts. See more of her work at www.helenannlicht.com.

Ralph Smith, 86, from Oakland is Orinda City Manager Janet Keeter's father. He is showing two sculptures, *Black Widow #2*, 12" x 12" x 3.4" made of copper cable, stained glass, plastic and wood and *Chrysalis*, 16" x 14.75" x 8" made of metal and fiberglass. "I look at the material until it speaks to me. I then try to mold the new-found forms into history's classical vocabulary," says Smith.

Anna Marie Lininger, also of Lafayette, is 87 and has taken an ancient Ukrainian craft and adapted it to her contemporary sensibilities. "I am not Ukrainian, nor do I claim to be. I use a wax dye process so I describe the end result as batik eggs," she says. Lininger is fascinated by tessellations; all her batik eggs are done in series of three.

A tessellation is created when a shape is repeated over and over again, covering a plane without any gaps or overlaps. M.C. Escher famously made a study of tessellations and introduced the world to their unique qualities. Some of Lininger's eggs have been displayed in the Lawrence Hall of Science in Berkeley, the museum in Pacific Grove and St. Mary's College in Moraga. Look for *Rhythm*, an orange design with white ladders, and *Tessellation Series 1*, a black-and-white design. Each group is a series of three goose eggs with similar designs done with the wax dye process. The goose eggs are approximately 9" x 5" in diameter.

As you view this outburst of creativity from our community, ask yourself Pablo Picasso's question: "Why do two colors, put one next to the other, sing? Can one really explain this? No." Visit the gallery at 26 Orinda Way during normal library hours – Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. The library is closed on July 3 and 4. For information, call 925-254-2184 or visit <http://ccclib.org>.



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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

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ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President
National Pride Month



Cindy Powell

July feels like national pride month. Our streets look patriotic with American flags flying. Thank you to Bryan Rowe and Orinda Public Works Department for putting up our flags every year.

There's lots to celebrate this month:

July 1 is **Canada Day**, a celebration of Canadian nationalism, heritage and pride. In 1867, Canada became a new federation with its own constitution by signing the Constitution Act. They are younger than us!

On July 4, 1776, our forefathers approved the Declaration of Independence and declared freedom from British rule. The **Fourth of July** is not complete without parades and fireworks. And the Orinda Parade is the best! Watching kids, neighbors and friends eat a pancake breakfast, march in the parade and hang out at the after-party is the best way to spend a great day. Stop by the OA Hospitality Booth in the park. Then off to Moraga for fireworks at dark. Thank you Orinda Association for 33 years of this fun tradition.

Chocolate Day is always July 7, although some people want to celebrate this day every day. I give you permission to eat your favorite chocolates in ample portions because chocolate is a vegetable. It comes from the cacao tree found in tropical rain forests.

July 14, **Bastille Day**, symbolizes the beginning of the democratic republic of France. To Frenchmen, Bastille Day is viewed as their liberation from the constitutional monarchy, and celebrated with military parades. Sound familiar?

July 17 (2:30 to 4 p.m.) is the artists' reception for "**Around the World at 80**" exhibit, featured through July at Orinda Library Art Gallery. Local artists 80 and older are featured and their works are lively. July 17 is also **National Ice Cream Day**. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed National Ice Cream Day as the third Sunday in July. Yummy and perfect for the hot summer weather.

Moon Day on July 20 commemorates the day man first walked on the moon in 1969. "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind," said astronaut Neil Armstrong. Watch the movie *Apollo 13* to celebrate. **National Hot Dog Day**, July 23, celebrates one of America's favorite summer sandwiches. Put a few on the grill or on a stick at a beach campfire.

And July 24 is time to celebrate family on **National Parents' Day**. The family unit is an important structure for the health of children and the nation. Spend time with your parents doing something fun and let them know they are appreciated. July 24 is also **Opera in the Park**. I have not seen many operas, but I went last year and was surprised at the number of songs I recognized. The setting and sound were wonderful in the Orinda Community Park. Give this a try, even if you consider yourself a metal or rock fan.

The **International Day of Friendship** is July 30. According to the United Nations, the day is set aside to promote friendship among peoples, cultures and countries. It is a day of respect for others, and a day to celebrate diversity. The world can be a better, more peaceful place. Friendship with animals matters too. July 31 is **Mutt's Day**. We value the diversity and uniqueness of mutts. This is a good day to appreciate the uniqueness in all of us. Celebrate by hugging your mutt or adopting one. **Sys-**
[SEE PRESIDENT page 20]

Therapy Dog Helps Students



SALLY HOGARTY

The Orinda Association's **Marie Waterman** took time out to bring her therapy dog **George** to Miramonte High School to help "de-stress" students during finals week.



Parade Guy

Let's Celebrate the Fourth!

Andrew Radlow



Hello, Fourth of July Parade fans, it's the Parade Guy with another update for this year's Orinda parade. The big day is almost upon us, and we could not be more excited. Yes, we have numerous improvements planned for you, but there are many more reasons for you, your family and friends to attend. Most of you readers know the parade is a great hometown tradition. We've been at it for a while as this is our 33rd Fourth of July Parade. It's the biggest parade in western Contra Costa and the largest community event in Orinda.

Another important reason to attend this year's parade is because, during these increasingly frenetic times, it is one of the few opportunities to mix with neighbors and friends in a relaxed atmosphere for all the right reasons. Most of us are pretty busy, over-scheduled and short on social options that are fun for the entire family – and free. Our goal is to have something interesting for everyone to enjoy together.

Finally, I recommend attending the parade because it promotes volunteerism, a vital component of any thriving community. Most everyone in Orinda wants to give back, but it's increasingly difficult to contribute, given the demands of modern life. The Parade Committee gets it! That's why we have created a diverse set of vol-

unteer options, from a significant time commitment such as serving on the Parade Committee, to a couple of hours helping to clean up after the parade. Either way, just by attending the parade you help realize and magnify the value of all the volunteer contributions made by your fellow Orindans.

The Parade Guy's recommendation is to mark your calendars for this year's Best Hometown Parade when you can:

Relax and have fun - get ready to simply enjoy yourself;

Plan to go together - bring family, friends, neighbors and schoolmates;

Get into it – dress up, buy a parade t-shirt or bring some streamers;

Win \$100 – Participate in the Instagram photo contest, #OrindaParade;

Vote for Floats – Vote for your favorite floats using BoomerangCast (get the App)!

The Orinda Fourth of July Parade is designed for the whole family. You can be a casual observer, a power Photo Contest Instagrammer, a parade participant, a part-time volunteer, or a rocker with the Dil-Farmers at the Orinda Theater after the parade. There are so many ways to enjoy the Best Hometown Parade, it's hard to choose. If you need help choosing or just want to say hi, email "The Parade Guy" at oa@orindaassociation.org.

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.

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Editorial . . .

American's Freedoms Even More Important

As the fourth of July approaches and we prepare to celebrate Independence Day, the freedoms we enjoy in this country seem even more significant.

It's unimaginable to me what the refugees from Syria to Somalia are going through. I look around our quiet neighborhoods and business areas and wonder what it would be like if someone invaded our towns, changing our life forever.

Our roads may be full of pot holes but no one is bombing them, and we still have gasoline and electricity for our cars and lots of food in our grocery stores.

Of course, we have problems and threats to our way of life. If anyone thought we were impregnable, 9/11 certainly changed that view. The many shooting incidents since then – most recently, the tragedy in

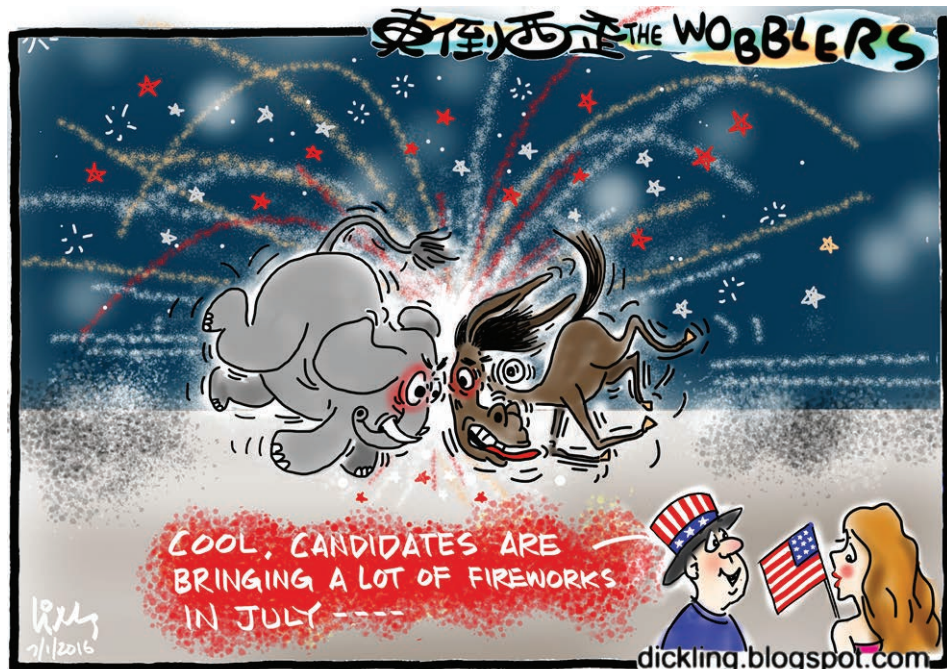
Florida – remind us to keep vigilant.

Defending oneself from terrorists without tearing apart the Constitution of the United States, the basis for our freedoms and the foundation of our country, is a difficult task, one that our legislature currently ponders with proposed gun control laws.

Yet, when I hear someone on a talk show say we must all arm ourselves because “they” are coming, it makes me a bit sick. Being prepared is certainly a good thing but being paranoid and willing to build walls or exclude people because of their race or religion is against everything that America stands for. In fact, it sounds very much like what a certain Adolf Hitler proposed in Germany. Look how that worked out.

Have a safe 4th of July and exercise your freedom to enjoy all the activities celebrating our American Independence.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor



Letters to the Editor . . .

Thank You to Community

Fix Orinda Roads Now sincerely thanks the Orinda community for approving Measure L, a \$25 million bond to continue progress in repairing our roads and drains. Also, we extend our sincere appreciation to the many volunteers who helped us reach out to citizens to inform them about the benefits of supporting Phase 3 of the Orinda Road and Drainage Repair

Plan.

To receive updates on road repairs, please sign up for the City of Orinda's e-newsletter, Orinda Outlook, by going to the City website home page (cityoforinda.org) and the Fix Orinda Roads periodic newsletter updates by visiting fixorindaroads.org.

With gratitude,

– Brad Barber, Bob Burt, Mark Roberts and Sue Severson

◆ PARADE from page 1

years, we've welcomed more than 1 million visitors to the Bruns, including many thousands from Orinda and the surrounding areas. This year's Fourth of July festivities, which coincide with Cal Shakes' 25th anniversary at the Bruns Amphitheater and the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, are the perfect occasion to celebrate our quarter-century of collaboration with the City of Orinda and to introduce our new artistic director and parade Grand Marshal, Eric Ting, to our closest neighbors and friends."

Andy Radlow, known to locals as "The Parade Guy," says the new route this year - coming from the South at Theatre Square to the North on Orinda Way instead of the reverse - will hopefully reduce the long gaps between floats and bands which have occurred in previous years. Radlow expects between 65 and 75 volunteers will be utilized, not including police, fire and emergency services. Parade volunteers will be wearing white t-shirts with the Orinda Association logo on the sleeve and Orinda Best Hometown Parade 2016 on the front. Some volunteers will also be wearing red and white parade ball caps. He asks that anyone who has a question or needs assistance ask a volunteer. Radio-equipped spot-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Eric Ting, the new artistic director for California Shakespeare Theater, is this year's Grand Marshal.

ters will work throughout the parade route to handle any emergencies. The Medical Reserve Corps will be located in the parking lot entrance of the Community Center for anyone who needs medical attention.

Thanks to generous sponsors, there will

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once again be covered seating for parade viewing in front of the Community Center: Orinda Motors will have one seating area for its invited guests, the Orinda Association will have a second covered area for its members (sponsored by Village Associates Realtors) and First Republic Bank will again sponsor covered seating for seniors. OA members can reserve a bleacher seat by calling 925-254-0800. Porta potties are located on the North side of town in the Community Center parking lot and the East BART parking lot. The parade route (it's a

bit different on the Theatre Square side this year) and other info can be accessed online at <http://orindaassociation.org/parade-info>.

Craig Lazzareschi of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church has organized a team of 20 volunteers who will function as PRMs – Parade Route Monitors. PRMs will line the parade route to ensure safety, as well as to keep the parade moving. Look for volunteers wearing the white parade logo t-shirts on the front with their church logo on the back; they will all be wearing white

[SEE TING page 7]

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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 August issue are due **July 5, 2016**.

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

CITY CLERK / MOFD

Touching Tribute to Retiring City Clerk Michele Olsen

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

On June 1, the City of Orinda and many local residents and friends bid farewell to Orinda's City Clerk Michele Olsen. Having served the city for 12.5 years, the first 1.5 as Assistant to the City Manager, Olsen and her family moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, in mid-June.

"Being your City Clerk has been more than just a job, it has been my identity in the community," said Olsen at her farewell party. "It hasn't always been easy, but it has been rewarding. Having the ability to bring some clarity to the government process and to be a conduit for residents to the City Council has been very fulfilling."

Olsen said she looked forward to the move to North Carolina and to having more

time with her family. "I loved my job as City Clerk but it did require a lot of evening work and everything is so fast-paced and hectic," she explained. "We have friends who moved to Charlotte from the Bay Area and seeing how their life changed, I realized that our life doesn't have to be so stressful. In Charlotte, I won't go back to work for a while. I'll just enjoy being with my husband Kirk and our three children: Lucas (14); Sammy (12) and Ava (9)."

According to City Manager Janet Keeter, Olsen turned the office of City Clerk "upside down – making it into this highly organized and functional place. She's an ambassador to the Orinda community, and because she also lived in the community, she would get her ear bent at baseball games, the super market, where ever she went. We will miss her so much."



SALLY HOGARTY

City Manager **Janet Keeter** hands a plaque of appreciation to retiring City Clerk **Michele Olsen**.

Looking over her years at City Hall, Olsen noted that streamlining the election process was a highlight of her time as City Clerk. During her tenure, Orinda logged the highest vote by mail in the county as well as the highest early registration and drop-off ballots and the highest percentage of registered voters. She also enjoyed making candidates for City Council feel less intimidated when filing the mountain of paperwork required. "I always tried to make it a positive experience for them," Olsen said.

The housing element process, she noted, was one of her biggest challenges. "It was hard to see this community so divided. There was animosity from all directions," Olsen recalled. "I even had my integrity questioned which was very upsetting."

Former Mayor Laura Abrams referred to Olsen as "the city employee on the front line. She was always very professional and full of warmth and grace" while former City Manager Bill Lindsay noted that the best thing he ever did was to hire Olsen. "She's a jolt of enthusiasm," he added.

Construction on New Fire Station 43 to Start in September

Firefighters Will Be Housed At Temp Quarters at St. Stephen's

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Plans to rebuild the Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) Station 43, located at 20 Via Las Cruces in Orinda, have been in the works since February 2012. The station needs to be rebuilt because it does not meet seismic standards, modern fire apparatus

does not fit in the apparatus bays and the living area does not adequately accommodate mixed gender staffing. Demolition will start on Sept. 9, 2016. The first part of the demolition is to remove any asbestos in the station. Once deemed safe, the building will be bulldozed. Construction on the new station is to start on Sept. 15 and last about one year.

While the station is being rebuilt, firefighters will be housed in temporary quarters in St. Stephen's Church upper parking lot on Via Las Cruces. A temporary building was purchased from Carmel Regional Fire Ambulance (CRFA) and was moved to the Station 43 temporary site in late June. CRFA had a building they weren't using and sold it to MOFD at a good price. "We did a favor for them several years ago," explained MOFD Chief Stephen Healy. MOFD had received a grant to replace breathing apparatus and had a surplus. "CRFA was in desperate need of airlocks. We gave them our surplus. For us, the surplus had no value." The cost for the building and moving it to Orinda was \$3,000. A new building would have cost upwards of \$100,000. "It is a great example of agencies working together for the community," said Healy.

MOFD has a lease with St. Stephen's Church for the use of the upper parking lot. MOFD will pay the church \$1,000 per month for the use of the lot and will repave the lot at the end of the lease. "They made things as easy as possible," said Healy. Firefighters will start to occupy the temporary station in the second week of July.

For more information, visit www.mofd.org.



DAVID DIERKS

While Station 43 is rebuilt, firefighters will use this temporary station being installed at St. Stephens Church.

◆ DANCING from page 1

Produced by the Orinda Rotary with Mechanics Bank as the presenting sponsor, Dancing with the Cars benefits local community groups including the Orinda Association's Seniors Around Town, the Orinda Starlight Village Players, the Orinda Parks and Rec Foundation, the Orinda Arts Council, the Orinda Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club of Orinda.

Seating is limited so purchase tickets early. Tickets are \$110 individual and \$1,200 for a table of 12 if purchased by Aug. 15. They go up to \$125 and \$1,400 respectively after that date.

The Classic Car Show takes place the next day, Sept. 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Orinda Village around Orinda Motors. In addition to the many classic cars and motorcycles on display, the show features a rolling exhibit of Ferraris at 1 p.m. For more information on the car show and to purchase tickets to the Sept. 9 Dancing with the Cars fundraiser, go to www.orindacarshow.com.



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Cyclists Pedal Across Country to Fight Breast Cancer



Team members for Laura's Ride to help fight breast cancer include (L-R) **Sarah Rubin**, cyclist **Rick Perez**, **Alejandra Garcia Aragon** and cyclist **Nick Bloisa**.

By **SALLY HOGARTY**
Editor

What better way to celebrate a life cut short by cancer than with a very special fundraiser to help others with the disease?

That's exactly what Orinda resident Nick Bloisa, 70, and his friend Rick Perez, 69, of Pleasant Hill are doing this summer. The cyclists will pedal approximately 3,000 miles from Santa Monica, CA, to St. Augustine, FL, in memory of Laura Bartron, who succumbed to breast cancer

at the age of 45 last September. "Laura, who worked as a nutritionist at Renaissance Club Sport in Walnut Creek, touched upon and enriched the lives of numerous others," says Perez.

"We leave Santa Monica on June 14 and, if all goes according to plan, we'll arrive in St. Augustine on Aug. 13," Bloisa explains. "While Rick is a more competitive cyclist than I am, I've done long trips before – enough to know that on this trip we'll be staying at Airbnbs rather than camping."

Bloisa and Perez's epic ride will raise funds for the Danville-based Lazarex Cancer Foundation, which supports patients fighting breast cancer and helps move breast cancer research forward. The nonprofit offers financial assistance directly to advanced-stage cancer patients, enabling them to access potentially life-saving treatments available through FDA clinical trials. The cyclists hope to raise \$100,000.

Driving the supply car will be Sarah Rubin, a junior at San Francisco State University, and Alejandra Garcia Aragon, a psychologist who works for a nonprofit association in Puebla, Mexico. The two will drive ahead of the cyclists, providing water and other supplies along the way as well as handling social media updates. In addition, Aragon will be working with the Spanish-language media. "I love to travel and thought this was a wonderful opportunity to see the country," says Aragon. Rubin adds, "I was feeling adventurous and thought this would allow me to meet people outside of my comfort zone."

To follow the duo's cross-country ride, go to <http://laurasride.org/blog>. To donate, go to www.crowdrise.com/lauras-ride.



POLICE BLOTTER

May 1 through June 11 2016

Calls for Service

911 Hangup: 7 incidents.
Abandoned Vehicle: 1 incident.
Accident Property: 6 incidents.
Alarm: 20 incidents.
Alarm, False: 137 incidents.
Animal Cruelty: 1 incident.
Barking Dog: 1 incident.
Battery: 1 incident.
Burglary, Auto: 2 incidents.
Burglary, Residential: 2 incidents.
Civil Disturbance: 8 incidents.
CVC Moving Violation: 135 incidents.
CVC Non-Moving Violation: 106 incidents.
Death, Non-Criminal: 4 incidents.
DUI Misdemeanor: 6 incidents.
Fire/EMS Response Info: 13 incidents.
Found Property: 6 incidents.
Fraud Credit Card: 1 incident.
Grand Theft: 1 incident.
Grand Theft from Building: 3 incidents.
Health & Safety Violation: 1 incident.
Hit and Run Felony: 1 incident.
Hit and Run Misdemeanor: 6 incidents.
Identity Theft: 13 incidents.
Illegal Entry: 2 incidents.
Juvenile Disturbance: 5 incidents.
Litter: 5 incidents.
Loitering: 1 incident.
Lost Property: 5 incidents.
Loud Noise: 8 incidents.
Loud Music: 4 incidents.
Loud Party: 1 incident.
Medical Hospital: 6 incidents.
Missing Juvenile: 1 incident.
Motorist Assist: 6 incidents.
Occupied Stalled Vehicle: 4 incidents.
Ordinance Violation: 15 incidents.
Outside Assist: 40 incidents.
Panhandling: 3 incidents.
Parking Detail: 189 incidents.
Patrol Request: 55 incidents.
Petty Theft: 8 incidents.
Petty Theft from Vehicle: 1 incident.
Petty Theft Vehicle Parts: 1 incident.
Phone Harass: 1 incident.

Public Assembly Check: 2 incidents.
Public Nuisance: 3 incidents.
Reckless Driving: 19 incidents.
School Check: 34 incidents.
Security Check: 44 incidents.
Service to Citizen: 174 incidents.
Shoplifting: 1 incident.
Suspicious Circumstances: 28 incidents.
Suspicious Person Stop: 12 incidents.
Suspicious Subject Stop: 2 incidents.
Suspicious Vehicle Stop: 24 incidents.
Suspicious Subject: 14 incidents.
Suspicious Vehicle: 13 incidents.
Threats: 1 incident.
Tow: 10 incidents.
Traffic Collision, Property Damage: 4 incidents.
Traffic Hazard: 2 incidents.
Trespass: 4 incidents.
Uncontrollable Juvenile: 1 incident.
Unwanted Guest: 1 incident.
Vacation House Check: 41 incidents.
Vandalism: 2 incidents.
Vehicle Theft: 2 incidents.
Verbal Dispute: 9 incidents.
Welfare Check: 11 incidents.

Arrests

DUI: 3 arrests.
Possession of Stolen Property: 1 arrest.
Shoplifting: 1 arrest.

BART Statistics

Battery: 1 incident.
Car Jacking: 1 incident.
Grand Theft (Catalytic Converter): 3 incidents.
Warrant Arrest: 1 arrest.

– Compiled by David Dierks
Assistant Editor

For more incident details, visit www.crimereports.com

News Briefs . . .

OUSD Bond Rating

Orinda Union School District's new superintendent Dr. Carolyn Seaton recently announced that Standard and Poor's Financial Services has changed Orinda's bond rating from AA to AA+. "This makes our bonds really attractive," she said. Founded by Henry Varnum Poor in 1860, the company's name was changed to S&P Global in April of 2016. A division of McGraw Hill Financial, S&P publishes financial research

and analysis on stocks and bonds.

Orinda City Clerk

The City of Orinda has extended the application period into July for applicants for the City Clerk position. Complete information, salary and benefits can be found at www.cityoforinda.org. Sherry Kelly, a former City Clerk with the City of Berkeley, is the interim City Clerk.



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CAR TIME / SCHOOLS

CAR TIME

Prepping for Road Trip Pays Big Dividends

By JOHN VANEK



Summer is here and it is time to take the family on a road trip. Is your trusty family hauler ready for the road? Are you ready for the road? There is definitely some preparation that needs to be done before venturing out of town in the family car.

The first consideration is the vehicle. Figure out how it stands on maintenance and make plans for a pre-trip inspection. Check the mileage and the owner's manual to see if there is any time-related maintenance due on the vehicle. Long trips are hard on cars, trucks and SUVs. Summer temperatures will test the cooling system, battery and engine. Batteries are subject to failure in extreme temperatures – a three-year-old battery may perform fine in the mild climate of Orinda but fail on the road where the temperature could be more than 100 degrees. A simple load test will establish the condition of the battery. Also, ensure tires, belts and hoses are ready for the trip. Perform an oil change if needed and make sure lights and wipers are working properly.

A trusted automotive service provider can help here, by checking such essential parts as the spare tire and ensuring there

are no leaks or problems lurking. And don't wait to the last minute. Make plans ahead of time and avoid the stress and chaos that go with last-minute planning. Allow at least a week in advance of the trip to get the vehicle serviced.

Does anyone plan on breaking down? Of course not, but it happens regardless of the best preparations. It is important to think about a game plan to prepare for this possibility. Check tow coverage – what kind do you have? Is it up to date? Do you know what phone number to call? These are all questions to answer before hitting the road. It is also good to communicate with friends or relatives about travel plans – where you are going and how long you'll be away. And always carry a "survival kit" with drinks, snacks, blanket, flashlight, etc., just in case you find yourself in the middle of nowhere without a running car.

It is impossible to know if, when or where you might break down. However, it is possible to take steps to avoid a breakdown and also be properly prepared if it happens. I am always available for automotive consultation.

◆ TING from page 4

baseball caps and carrying orange water ski flags.

Dora Chacon and Melissa Karakash of Lemon Blossom Creations are responsible for all parade decorations including balloon arches, balloon towers, reviewing stand decorations, and Community Park/ Community Center adornment where the flag raising ceremony occurs.

Parade Ops Captain Steve Meagher will organize all parade participants – floats, groups, performers and just folks into a cohesive whole. Things heat up about two weeks before the parade. "Wrangling is what I do, also known as herding cats," he says. "I enjoy the community spirit everyone puts into the parade – the veterans, the singing and music, the imagination people use for the floats, right down to just a kid on a bike wanting to be in the parade. That's why I volunteer every year; that's why we all volunteer," says Meagher. He credits the core group of unsung organizers, fundrais-

ers and planners who begin on "July 5th" for next year's parade, especially Cindy Powell, Bill Waterman and Andy Radlow.

A sampling of the 60 parade participants includes: BARTmobile with a smiley face, two balloon artists, Meadow Swim Club float, Sleepy Hollow Swim Club float, Mel Silva's Four Horse Hitch Wagon, CARDA dog rescue group, Orinda Police, Boy Scouts, Veterans, Orinda Motors Classic Cars, OA 70th Birthday float, Miramonte Cheerleaders float, ALMA Music, Orinda Pick-up Marching Band, Peter Pan Foundation, Orinda Preschool and Diablo Blue Devils C Corps marching drum and a bugle band with tall flags.

Post-parade, there are many family-oriented activities, music, food booths and nonprofit booths in the Community Center Park until 1:30 p.m. The Dil-Farmers, an Orinda rock band, will play at the entrance to the Orinda Theater from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., while The Bonafides will keep things rocking at the Community Center Park.

Miramonte Installs Solar Panels, New Irrigation Pipes



BILL O'BRIAN

Miramonte High School's parking lot will be transformed over the summer to include solar panels installed over carports.

By BILL O'BRIAN
Staff Writer

Miramonte High School students will see big changes when they return to class after summer vacation. Along with the other three high schools in the Acalanes Union High School District, Miramonte will install solar panels over carports in the main student parking lots. Another major project taking place this summer at Miramonte is the replacement of the main landscape irrigation pipes, which date back to 1955 when the school was built. "The old pipes totally failed," said Dave Humphrey, district director of facilities, maintenance and transportation.

The solar work began last month with site preparation. Construction is slated to start the first week of July and be complete by Aug. 9. The district's governing board entered into a power purchase agreement with SolarCity in June, 2015 for the installation at all four schools. There will be zero up-front capital investment as SolarCity will finance, design, construct and operate the photovoltaic solar panels and battery products at each school. Only a few parking spaces will be lost as a result of the installation.

The district estimates it will save \$110,900 in the first year on energy costs. The net value of the 20-year contract is valued at around \$2.3 million, using a conservative 2-percent utility inflation rate. The district website's Solar Project states: "The projects will allow us to substantially reduce our carbon footprint (the equivalent

of pulling about 350 cars off the road), realize significant savings in general fund operating costs, contribute substantial energy to the 'grid' during peak times (afternoon and summer), and model the use of renewable energy to our students."

The main irrigation pipe replacement is in and around buildings in front of the high school. The cost of the project is \$410,500, which is funded by Measure E, a \$93-million bond measure passed by local voters in 2008. The bond created a 10-year fund for upgrades to the schools in areas of instructional technology and site facilities. The district contracted with Cleary Brothers of San Ramon for the pipe replacement and accompanying landscaping. The pipe work will be completed by September and the planting by mid-September.

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OBITUARIES

Fred Nielsen – a True Gentleman



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

At age 90, Fred Nielsen passed away on April 19, 2016. He and his first wife, Carolee, moved to Orinda in 1952 and were founding members of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church. A widower, Fred married Bobbie Dodson in 2008. He joined her church, Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian, where they participated in six mission trips to the South and Midwest repairing homes damaged by tornadoes. Fred was also active in Orinda Rotary, Sirs, and the Grandfathers Club. He and Bobbie had a happily blended family of seven daughters, six granddaughters and three grandsons.

Arline Pierre – Music Lover

Arline Pierre celebrated her 103 birthday, January 7, 2016, and died on May 26. Born in Sacramento, she grew up in San Francisco and Los Angeles. She and her husband, Pete Pierre, moved to Orinda in 1952. Her passion was music, and she sang in the choir at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church for over 50 years. She continued to sing with their group, the Notables, until her death. She is survived by her daughters, Deanne and Wendy Pierre, five grandchildren and four great grandchildren.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Charles Edward Townsend, Jr.

■ November 28, 1919 - April 5, 2016

Charles E. Townsend, Jr., a resident of Orinda, California since 1959, passed away peacefully April 5, 2016.

Born in 1919, Charles "Bits," was raised in Piedmont, California. Charles graduated from Piedmont High in 1938 and matriculated to the University of California at Berkeley, graduating in March 1942, the last class to graduate uninterrupted before World War II.

As a freshman, Charles, a Sigma Chi, met his future wife, Mary Alice Demarest, a Pi Beta Phi. They married in 1944, had two children (Barbara and Charles) and celebrated their 71st anniversary this past December.

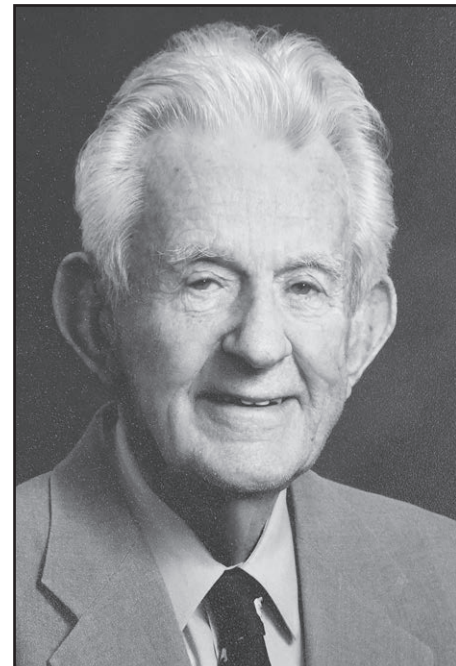
Upon graduation, Charles elected to join the Marine Corps despite graduating as a Navy ROTC Commissioned Naval Officer (Ensign). Entering as a Marine Lieutenant and retiring as a Major, Charles served overseas in the South Pacific and was the recipient of a Bronze Star. The only war stories he ever shared were about amusing incidents that he had observed or was involved in during the war years.

His quick wit and sense of humor was a dominant part of his personality. In fact, his wife at dinner parties often referred to him as her "pop up toaster" because you never knew when he would pop up for an impromptu toast.

Charles attended Hastings College of the Law, graduating in 1948 cum laude. During his last two years of law school, in addition to his intense studies, he worked an average of six hours a day while learning all he could about patents, trademarks and intellectual property (subjects not taught in law school) in the then tiny law firm of Townsend & Townsend. At the time, the firm consisted of only one lawyer, his older brother, the late Stephen Townsend.

Through hard work and dedication, Townsend & Townsend became one of the most respected patent law firms in the world, representing many Silicon Valley startups in the emerging technology industry. Charles became and remained the leading litigator in the firm with over 55 years of trial practice in many federal trial and appellate courts throughout the country. He became known, locally and nationally, as a leading pioneer in reinstituting the option to trial by jury in patent and intellectual property cases.

Outside of law, Charles had many avocations, interests and activities. As a child and teenager who spent his summers at Lake Tahoe, he became a distance swimmer, outboard and inboard motor boatman, fly fisherman, backpacker/hiker and expert horseman. He was also quite proficient in the manual and construction arts of carpentry, masonry and shop work – skills he put to use all his life in making home improvements, including the building his



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Charles Edward Townsend, Jr.

own custom Tahoe home where he and his family enjoyed 54 summers.

As a child, Charles aspired to become an opera singer but couldn't deny his talent as a natural born litigator and debater of anything that could be argued. His love of music led him to become an accomplished classical pianist, and, in later years, he composed and recorded a number of piano selections titled "In the Spirit of Classical Romance."

Charles is survived by his beloved wife Mary Alice; his children Barbara Townsend and Charles E. Townsend, III; his grandchildren Alexa Rudin (Ethan) and Jennifer Dobies (Joshua); and his great-grandchildren Jonah, Avery, Noelle and Colette.

Please send any donations to Futures Explored Inc. www.futures-explored.org/our_supporters.html or 3547 Wilkinson Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549.

◆ **PARKING** from page 1

two hours;

The 44 unmarked spaces in Zone 3 and 26 unmarked spaces in Zone 5 be marked;

Consider long-term permit parking for employees and local residents; and Increase enforcement of parking limits.

Kinzel noted that the parking fines generated from increased enforcement would pay for the additional staff position. He said they are not recommending parking meters for downtown Orinda. Kinzel also suggested that the city look into using local church parking lots for employee parking during the week. "If you charge a small fee and it goes to the church, it can be a win/win situation for everyone," said Kinzel.

TJKM will add the community input from the June 13 meeting into its report and present it to the city council at a later date. For more information, go to www.cityoforinda.org.

Obituaries of Residents in *The Orinda News*

We are happy to print information about your loved ones in the newspaper. It's a wonderful way to pay tribute to your deceased family and friends while also letting other residents know of their passing.

There is no charge for this service. The only stipulation is that the deceased be an Orinda resident or have been one in the past. Send your information or inquiries to Sally Hogarty at P.O. Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563 or email to news@orindaassociation.org.

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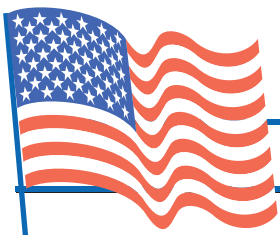
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After the Parade: Community Center Park & Theatre Square Activities

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Both sides of Orinda will have activities following this year's parade beginning at 11 a.m. and continuing until 1:30 p.m. The popular booths, children's activities and concert will take place at the Orinda's Community Center Park, 28 Orinda Way. New this year, the Theatre Square side of town will have its own rock band, the Dil-Farmers, playing at the entrance to the Orinda Theater to keep both parts of Orinda in the holiday spirit.

Orinda Community Center Park

Kids activities include: two extra-large jumpies (in front of tennis courts) with a giant exercise track and slides; face painting; henna, and Twisty Man and Oliver Twist making elaborate balloon creations. Also near the tennis courts, the Tickle Me Pony Parties and Traveling Petting Zoo from Brentwood will entice young people with its adorable animals including goats, lambs and bunnies. The Contra Costa Clean Water Program's Mr. Funnelhead and staff will teach kids how storm drains and creek work in the environment with a diorama. Friends of the Wagner Ranch Nature Area and Friends of the Orinda Creeks host hands-on activities in science, arts, crafts and games. In addition, the Lamorinda Soccer Club will set up a soccer maze for kids who love the sport.

The Bonafides will be playing their New Orleans style funk, Motown, jazz and blues sounds in the Park Gazebo while Republic Services' Recycle Smart program hosts two recycling stations and a Recycling Game Wheel with a ton of prizes. Bret Young, among many others, worked long and hard



SALLY HOGARTY

A favorite after-the-parade activity is the petting zoo located in the Orinda Community Center Park.

to ensure park activities are organized, fun and safe. Young says, "It's really nice to have a meeting place for everybody to go. The kids love the petting zoo."

The food court can be found near the entrance to the park. Look for the Baan Thai booth, Loard's Ice Cream booth, We Be Popping kettle corn, shaved ice and cold drinks booth, and of course, the Chamber of Commerce's popular hot dogs, chips and sodas. For those with a more adult thirst, the Orinda/Tabor Sister City Foundation will have big bottles of Czech beer and the Orinda Rotary Club booth will feature locally owned Drake's Beer.

Nearby, you will find the Orinda Association (OA) hospitality booth (celebrating the OA's 70th birthday) where a caricaturist can do a quick sketch of you and your family. Canopies with seating for a break from the sun to enjoy food and drink will also be available with Porta potties located in front

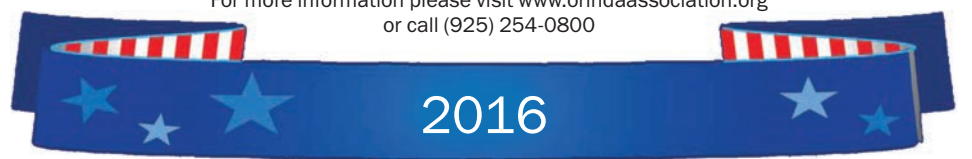
[SEE ACTIVITIES page 10]



Best Hometown Parade

- 7:30 – 10 am Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Pancake Breakfast
Orinda Library Plaza at 26 Orinda Way
- 7:55 a.m. Flag-raising Ceremony
Orinda Veterans Tom Gardener and Terry Murphy raise the colors of our flag while Charles Schretzmann of Moraga (from Bugles Across America) plays the bugle in front of the Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way
- 8 a.m. Haley's Run for a Reason
A 2-mile run/walk or a 5-mile run thru scenic parts of Orinda and EBMUD watershed. Participants meet in front of the Community Center. Haley's Run for a Reason benefits research for SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood), small donation requested. Visit www.angelhaley.org.
- 8:45 a.m. Parade Participants Arrive for Assembly
Meet in BART parking lot on East Side of Camino Pablo
- 9 a.m. Friends of the Orinda Library Book Sale
in the Library Breezeway, 26 Orinda Way, Plaza Level
- 9:30 a.m. Parade Line-Up Begins
Parade participants travel from East BART parking lot to Wells Fargo at 80 Moraga Way
- 10:00 a.m. Parade Begins
Bill Cosden announces parade entrants at announcer's stand in front of Peet's coffee, 63 Moraga Way. Parade continues under freeway to the Community Center reviewing stand.
- 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. Music & Activities
Community Park Activities and music by The Bonafides
Dil-Farmers rock music at entrance to Orinda Theater

For more information please visit www.orindaassociation.org or call (925) 254-0800



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4TH OF JULY

♦ **ACTIVITIES** from page 9

of the Community Center.

Also in front of the Community Center you'll find a line-up of area nonprofits including: American Association of University Women who will be passing out info about membership and scholarships for local girls; the Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church; Orinda Democratic Club; Lamorinda Republican Women Federated; Rescue

One Foundation; Orinda Woman's Club; Orinda City Council, Friends of Joaquin Moraga Adobe and Orinda Watch.

Clay Deanhardt, who organized the Food Court says, "We are lucky to celebrate the 4th with a wide variety of food and drinks from well-loved local vendors. Adding the activities near the Orinda Theater provides even more options for everyone to enjoy our hometown community after the parade."



SALLY HOGARTY

Twisty Man is one of two balloon artists creating fantastic balloon sculptures in the Community Center Park following the parade.



2016 July 4 Celebration Volunteer Team

Work planning and preparing for our wonderful parade and park festivities begins many months in advance. Without the tireless work of our dedicated volunteers, this popular annual event would never take place. A very big Thank You! to the following residents who made it all possible:

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SALLY HOGARTY

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4TH OF JULY

Fourth Festivities Feature Fun Musical Mix in Two Locations

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Parade-goers will be happy to discover a wide variety of musical entertainment celebrating Orinda's Fourth of July Best Hometown Parade. More than 15 talented bands, singers and dancers are set to perform from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the parade and on both sides of town after the parade. There's something for everyone's musical taste: banjo, funk, reggae, rock-and-roll, bagpipes, blues, jazz, hip-hop, folk and Motown.

Local talent includes vocalists from Lamorinda Idol as well as members of the Peter Pan Foundation singing and dancing to the theme from *High School Musical*.

The MJ's Brass Boppers, who specialize in New Orleans jazz and music fused with modern soul and hip-hop, return this year to electrify parade-goers. The group will be opening for the O'Jays at the Stern Grove Festival in August.

At 9 a.m. sharp, the Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO) Big Band and the EFO Summer Band tune up at the corner of Brookwood Road and Moraga Way by the Orinda Theatre. Across town, near the Community Center reviewing stand at 28 Orinda Way, Lewiston Jazz begins at 9 a.m. as well. All three bands play until 10 a.m. when the parade begins.

New this year is post-parade music in front of Theatre Square. The Dil-Farmers



RUTH BRADON

The Blue Devils Marching Band returns again to delight parade-goers this year.



SALLY HOGARTY

Following the parade, there will be music at the Community Center park featuring The Bonafides' mix of jazz, funk, Motown and blues while the Dil-Farmers will play in front of Theatre Square.



CORNELIUS OLCOTT

St. Gabriel's Celestial Brass Band returns for this year's parade.

will play from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Over at the Community Center Park from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., The Bonafides will perform a mix of jazz, funk, Motown and blues in the gazebo. There are plenty of choices in the park at the food court to sip and nosh in shaded seating areas.

Steve Harwood and Orinda Association president Cindy Powell (music/sound co-chairs) are excited to organize music again for the event. "Every year the bands get bigger, the Idol singers more amazing and the Orinda Volunteer Marching Band snappier," says Powell.

PARADE MUSIC PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Pre-Parade Music

EFO Big Band & EFO Summer Band, 9 to 10 a.m. at the corner of Brookwood Road and Moraga Way near the Orinda Theatre

Lewiston Jazz Band, 9 to 10 a.m. at Orinda Community Center Reviewing Stand in Orinda Village, 28 Orinda Way

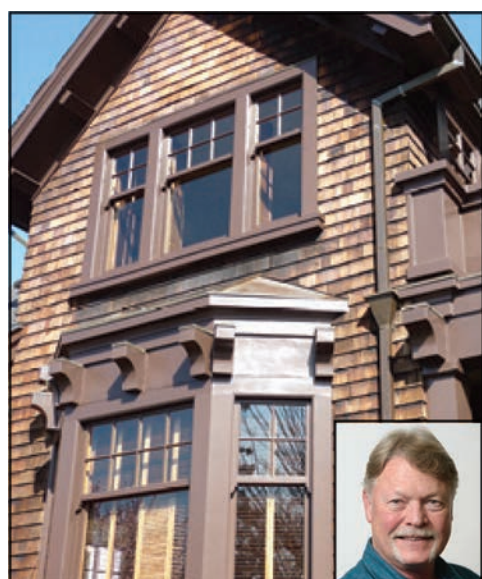
Parade Music

- ALMA Music School performs classic rock and roll
- Blue Devils C Corps marching drum and bugle band with flags
- East Bay Banjo Band performs
- Jonas the kilted marching Bagpiper
- Miramonte Competitive Cheerleading Team perform
- MJ's Brass Boppers Band performs jazz, hip hop, funk, reggae and more
- Orinda Association's 70th Birthday Float with Lamorinda Idol singers
- Orinda Volunteer Marching Band
- Peter Pan Foundation costumed singers and dancers accompany a float performing a *High School Musical* themed show
- Spirit of '29 Dixieland Jazz Band performs from their vintage truck
- St. Gabriel's Celestial Brass Band performs New Orleans jazz

Post-Parade Music

Dil-Farmers, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Orinda's own rock band performs at the entrance to the Orinda Theatre, 4 Theatre Square

The Bonafides, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., performs New Orleans style funk, Motown, jazz and blues at the Orinda Community Center Park, 28 Orinda Way




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Pride and Service to Country Run in Norman Family Tree



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In the 1950s, **Bill Norman** received his lieutenant's gold bars from his father (R), a West Point graduate and decorated Colonel in WWII. His grandfather (L) was also a veteran who as a WWII infantry major general received the Silver Star and the Distinguished Service Cross. In both WWI and WWII.

By **MONICA FITZSIMMONS**
Contributing Writer

Flying the Stars and Stripes on the Fourth of July is patriotic pride at its very best. With help from our kids and, like families everywhere, we take out the flag for the holiday. But what the flag means to Bill Norman, an Army veteran who served in the Korean DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) for 13 months, it goes much deeper than ordinary

holiday reminders. "It's very emotional, I fly it daily," he said.

For Bill, who served as an infantry lieutenant leading ambush patrols, the flag is symbolic of many freedoms, especially freedom of speech in a nation whose governing system encourages growth to match the evolving ethics, demography, and economics of the times. In expressing how its durability is not an accident, but

[SEE NORMAN page 20]

Haley's Run for a Reason Adds Splash of Color to Fourth of July Festivities



SALLY HOGARTY

Gathered to raise money and bring awareness to Haley's cause, participants of all ages will enjoy a patriotic color run this year. The run, which raises money for the Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Foundation takes place at 8 a.m. in front of the Community Center.

By **SALLY HOGARTY**
Editor

Participants in the 12th Annual Haley's Run for a Reason can join in the Fourth of July spirit by being splattered with red or blue paint as they cross the finish line. All runners will be given white t-shirts for the run. This latest running craze uses non-toxic, corn starch-based paint.

"This is an extra-special year," says founder Suzanne Tom. "Haley would have graduated from high school this year, and we wanted to do something special to celebrate. We thought the color run would be fun for our younger participants."

Haley was the first child of Donovan and Suzanne Tom. A healthy, active 21-month-old, Haley died in her sleep of unexplained causes. The Toms began Haley's Run for a Reason to bring attention to this devastating problem that affects approximately 1.5 out of every 100,000 toddlers each year. Proceeds from the run go to the Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) Foundation, which supports families who have lost children over 12 months old to this phenomenon.

"We have raised over \$250,000 for SUDC with the past 11 runs thanks to the Lamorinda community," says Suzanne. "They have really embraced this

event and all the wonderful volunteers have helped us continue." Suzanne especially thanks the National Charity League, whose mother-and-daughter teams have put in hundreds of volunteer hours before and during the run. "We just have such tremendous support from groups like the National Charity League and business sponsors like Peet's Coffee and Tea."

Participants can choose from a five-mile run that begins in front of the Orinda Community Center and continues into the hills of Orinda on EB-MUD trails, or a two-mile family walk. Check-in and late registration goes from 7 to 8 a.m. on July 4 with the run/walk beginning at 8 a.m.

In addition to the run, a silent on-line auction provides additional funds for SUDC. Items donated include tickets to various family-oriented events such as Bay Area Children's Theater and Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, tickets to California Shakespeare Theater and Alcatraz Cruises Day Tour and gift cards to Europa Hofbrau and many more.

Megan Tom, a sophomore at Miramonte High School, is the race coordinator this year with her brother Ashton, an eighth-grader at Orinda Intermediate School, an active volunteer and race participant.

For more information on the run/walk or the auction, go to www.angelhaley.org or email haleysrun@gmail.com.

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Diablo League Gold Champions



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Manager Robert Filipas credited a "true team effort" for the impressive win at the championship tournament held in June in Santa Clara. (L-R) **Ryan Ansel, Nico Hsu, Coach Robert Filipas, Amir Khan, Lucas Olsen, Nick Acevedo, Quentin Breznikar, Nick Wong, Cambell Hoskins, Nick Watson, Greg Austin, Coach Rob Ellis and Chris Watson.**

Orinda 9U Win Bigtimer Baseball Tournament



HAIDEE WONG

Strong pitching, consistent hitting and good defense propelled Orinda to victory over an impressive field at the Bigtimer tournament on May 30 in Santa Cruz. (L-R) Ground: **Luke Holden, Tyler Akel, Grant Kurtz, Gian Maguire.** Kneeling: **Preston Rguem, Kobe Wong, Luke Milmo.** Standing: **Jason Wong (coach), Archer Eames, Anderson Butner, Marc Leibowitz (coach), Charlie Watters, Ethan Yu, Tarik Rguem (coach) and David Leibowitz.**

Dog Days at Miramonte High School



SALLY HOGARTY

Miramonte High School had therapy dogs visit the campus in between finals to help relieve student stress. Students seemed to like the canine break. (L-R) Miramonte students **Maddie Robinson, Ava Killbourn, Morgan DeVane, Brigette Finger and Deanna Alzagha** with ARF therapy dog **Tova.** Part of the "Pet Hug Pack," Tova is a 3-year-old Golden Retriever who loves meeting people, going for walks and playing Frisbee.

Miramonte Does Well at State Meet



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Over 100 high school teams competed in the top race of the year – the CIF State Swim Meet held in Clovis in late May. With three freshmen on the Miramonte Relay team, it was the youngest team competing at the meet. But age didn't deter these athletes who took 7th place. (L-R) **Audrey Chang, Katie Lyons, Sophia Kosturos and Eloise Eng.**

Eric Jorgensen Retires as Scoutmaster for Troop 237

For the past 10 years, Eric Jorgensen has served as the Troop's Scoutmaster spending countless hours on camping trips and outings and weekly Scout meetings. He has taught Scouts outdoor skills, assisted with merit badges and rank advancement, and demonstrated, by example, how to live by the Scout Oath and Law. Under Jorgensen's leadership, over 60 scouts have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, which is the highest rank in Boy Scouts. An Eagle Scout himself, Jorgensen started volunteering with Troop 4 in Berkeley before becoming Cubmaster of Pack 212 in Orinda. He became an Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 237 in 2006 before taking over the Scoutmaster reins in 2007.

– Barb Weikert, Contributing Writer



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sylvia and Eric Jorgensen at his retirement party.



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Del Rey Elementary Held an Interactive STEM and Art Fair



SALLY HOGARTY

Students at Del Rey Elementary School build an arch bridge during the Maker's Day Fair in June.

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Promoting interest in STEM – science, technology, engineering and mathematics – Del Rey held a Maker's Day Fair on June 2 complete with robots, Claymation, coding and so much more. The idea occurred to principal Kirsten Theurer when she became involved with the school district's solar panel project. "I kept thinking that the whole process of installing solar could be an educational experience for our students – a real world application of science, technology, engineering and math," says Theurer.

With the help of Lawrence Hall of Sci-

ence and businesses Cisco Systems, Sun, Light and Power, TerreVerde Renewable Partners and Five9, plus a great deal of community support, Theurer and her faculty and staff put together a day of science and fun. Students had the opportunity to operate robotic balls, code paths to fly quadcopters, create solar power demonstrations focusing on solar cell and clean energy, and participate in a public art project with well-known artist John Toki.

"People with incredible talents stepped up to help," Theurer says. "With our village of talented teachers, community support and local businesses, we created a day where students could experiment and explore."

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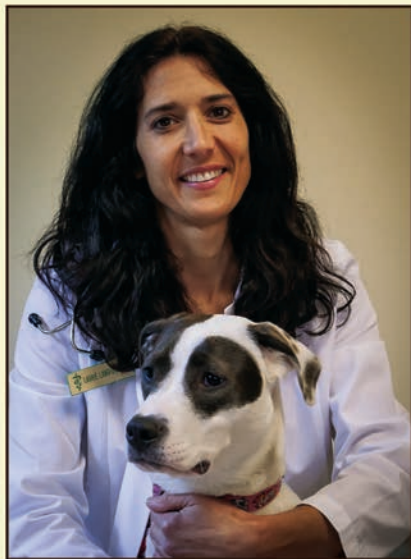
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Something to Howl About... Animal Tales

"Oh, Give Me a Home ..."

Jennifer Conroy



I'm about to confess the greatest trauma of my childhood. Yes, there is a point to this and the point has to do with buffalo – or bison, as they are rightly called.

When I was five years old, my parents decided that a city child should have some real country experience and so, with the best of intentions, they sent this New York City girl to summer camp in the "country." The country, as city folks were wont to call any non-urban area outside of New York, was based just across the northern New Jersey state line.

Three weeks stuck in a large cabin with other homesick children and a host of camp counselors who wanted us to love crafts, songs, and swimming. I hated it. I had no interest in making a wallet out of shoestring leather. I sunk like a rock in the camp swimming pool. I longed for the sounds of city traffic, police sirens and subways rumbling under sidewalk gratings.

Then, before the final week, the counselors announced that we lucky campers would be putting on a Western show. We could audition for parts in the show, like foot stomping, rope twirling and singing. I opted for the singing and, low and behold, I learned to sing *Home On the Range*.

I was in my element. On show night, I wore dungarees turned up at the cuffs, a red plaid shirt and a cowgirl hat. I got out there on the stage and sang my little heart out. Visions of buffalo, deer and antelopes roaming and playing almost became an obsession with me.

And that brings me to the point of this column. I am beyond thrilled that the buf-

falo ... I mean bison ... has been named the national mammal of the United States of America. President Obama recently signed the National Bison Legacy Act, raising the bison to the same level of honor as the American eagle. Thank you, Mr. President!

Bison are indigenous to North America and had a pretty great life before guess who arrived. Yep, we're talking about European settlers, who hunted the bison to near extinction just for the sport of it, leaving dead and dying animals across the plains as they shot at them from railroad cars.

Up until then, bison and humans lived in balance. Native Americans hunted only what they needed for sustenance and materials and they used every single bit of the animal for food, tools, clothing, shelter and ceremonial objects.

From about 100 million animals, the bison population was decimated to an extinction level of 1,000 and, to this day, the population has never recovered. There are fewer than half a million in existence today, largely under protection in conservation areas, but many of them are not pure bison. Locally, one can visit the bison paddock at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco.

As for the name bison or buffalo, there is a difference. The bison is native to North America and Europe while the buffalo, with longer horns and shorter coat, is native to Africa and Asia. So, while we will never see majestic herds of these animals roaming our plains again, I am happy to report that our native animal, the bison, has finally received national recognition. Better late than never!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The **bison**, indigenous to North America and almost extinct at one point, has been named the National Mammal of the United States.

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PERFORMING ARTS

OrSVP Continue Season with Italian-Flavored Romantic Comedy

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Orinda Starlight Village Players' second production of the season is Robert Merrill's *Aria's*, opening July 22. The play takes place in an Italian restaurant named *Aria's*, set in an older downtown of an undisclosed large city.

"*Aria's* is a romantic comedy that has a large range of character types which I think will be a challenge for the actors and a delight for audiences," said director Jill Gelster. "The comedy is more subtle because it is mixed with a large range of emotions as the characters grow during the

course of the play."

Aria's has had limited runs in Southern California; OrSVP's production is *Aria's* Northern California premiere. "The author of the play contacted me through the company website and asked me to read two of his plays to see if we would be interested in doing them," said Gelster. "Starlight has always been open to producing new works so I agreed." She describes the work as charming, poignant and funny. "Since we are a family theater I thought it was a great fit for us. It has been a pleasure working with the author who will be in the audience on opening night."

Gelster has worked with theatre groups

all over Northern California. "I started in the Bay Area working with Cliff Beyer at the Moraga Playhouse until its closure and have worked with OrSVP for the past 25 years," she said. "I have worked in every aspect of the theatre and am currently OrSVP's managing director under Geotty Chapple, the artistic director." Previous OrSVP productions directed by Gelster include *Madness on Madrona Drive* and

An additional perk of going to OrSVP productions is that on clear nights the company has telescopes set up so the audience can get a look at some of the nearby celestial objects. Audiences at this season's first production, Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Nile*, were treated to amazing views of Jupiter and her moons, as well as earth's moon. A few attendees even caught glimpses of Saturn's rings. Performances

By Popular Demand: Free "Opera In the Park" Returns to Orinda July 24

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY
Staff Writer

Relax and enjoy Solo Opera's "Opera in the Park" at the Orinda Community Center Park, on Sunday, July 24 from 4 to 6 p.m. Sponsored by the Orinda Rotary, the free concert, now in its eighth year, is a celebration of opera classics, featuring music from *La Boheme*, *Rigoletto*, *Carmen* and *La Traviata*, among others.

Sylvia Amorino, artistic director and pro-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Artistic director and producer of Solo Opera **Sylvia Amorino**.

ducer of Solo Opera, said the performance is for both opera aficionados and novice audience members. According to Amorino, it's a way to introduce those who may be unfamiliar with the genre, as well as children, to opera. As the performance's host, Amorino provides information on each of the performed selections.

Solo Opera, founded in 2000, performs modern opera, short one-act operas, operas in English, in addition to a traditional operatic repertoire. The non-profit's mission is to "educate, entertain, and enrich the community" through productions, concerts and its outreach program, (S.O.L.O. – Scenes from Opera and Light Opera).

According to Rotary Opera Committee chairman Dick Marchick, the "Opera in the

Park" concert is extremely popular. "The average concert performed in the park has an average of 150 to 300 people in the audience, but the opera concerts usually have over 1,000 people attending," said Marchick, adding that there is plenty of free parking nearby.

"I'm one of those people who loves opera and who loves bluegrass," said Marchick, who has been a season ticket holder for the San Francisco Opera "since the late 1960s." He is concerned that "opera has become so expensive, the average middle class family can't afford it." With the average ticket price ranging from \$150 to the thousands, "many people never get exposed to it."

Marchick said the average person has preconceived notions of the genre. "Someone will say, 'Oh, I hate opera,' but then they come to our show and they recognize the tune and they love it. It's a wonderful form of music, and 'Opera in the Park' is a beautiful way to share it."

"Opera in the Park' has grown through the years," said Marchick, adding that audiences return year after year. "The quality of performers has also grown. We have professional singers who have performed with San Francisco Opera and San Jose Opera. Some of them have even sung at Carnegie Hall in New York."

Vocalists Alexander Boyer, Alexandra Jerinic, Cass Panuska, Christopher Jackson, Diane Squires, Silvie Jensen, Tolef Borsting and William O'Neill with pianist Chun Mei Wilson will grace the Orinda Community Park stage, performing arias, duets and ensembles, with a program of songs in English, Italian, French and German.

Besides "Opera in the Park," Rotary will sponsor a concert featuring the Mike Vax Big Band with Cammie Thompson on Tuesday, August 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Orinda Community Park. For information, visit www.orindarotary.org.




CHARLIE JARRETT

Melanie Waters as Kay Mostyn, **Brook Robinson** as the ship's steward and **Ken Sollazzo** as Simon Mostyn in Orinda Starlight Village Players production of "Murder on the Nile," which plays at the Orinda Community Park Amphitheater through July 2.

Wrong Window! "In the past, I have directed a musical and two farces with the focus being on the comedy. What I am looking forward to the most in this production is making it our own," said Gelster. "It is not just the memorizing of the script, but what I as the director and our actors bring to the show that the author may not have envisioned."

of *Murder on the Nile* continue Friday and Saturday nights through July 2.

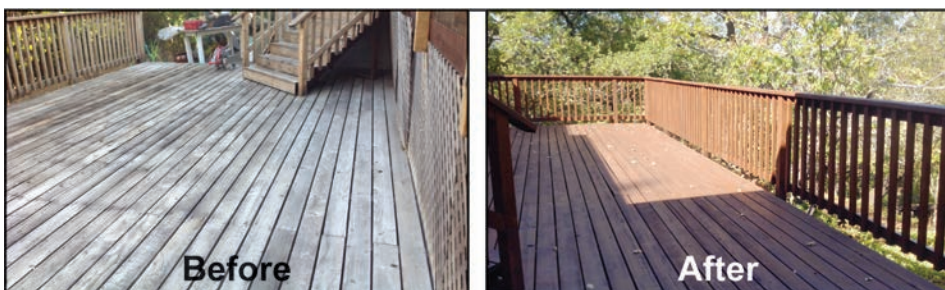
Aria's runs July 22 to Aug. 13 at Orinda Community Park, 28 Orinda Way, with Friday and Saturday performances at 8:30 p.m., one Sunday matinee on Aug. 7 at 4 p.m. and one Thursday performance on Aug. 11 at 8 p.m. For information, call 925-528-9225 or visit www.orsvp.org.



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Roving Reporter

Do you and your family have any special plans for a summer vacation?



Charlie Jarrett

Nancy Rogers, an Orinda bookkeeper: “My husband Mark and I are taking our adult children and their spouses to Maui, Hawaii. We managed to do that last year, which was supposed to be the last time, but since we have not sold our fam-



CHARLIE JARRETT

Nancy Rogers, an Orinda bookkeeper

ily condo on Ka’napali Beach yet, we’ve decided to do just one more family trip this year. Daughter Kats, her husband Andy, son Lee and wife Scarlett, youngest son Oliver will be joining us, plus our son-in-law’s mother and his brother are going to join us over there. In other words, a great big family shindig!”

Kellie Merriman, an Orinda resident for two years, her husband Jarrad, their son Max and four-year-old daughter Addie are taking a trip to their family property on the north shore of Lake Tahoe for the Fourth of July and on to Santa Barbara at the end of July.

Brandon Iverson and son **Damon** have plans to go to Whidbey Island near Seattle, Washington. While in Washington, Damon will attend several camps. They plan to visit twice, once for 10 days and once for the Fourth of July holiday.

Merica Fink and daughter **Reese** are go-



CHARLIE JARRETT

Kellie Merriman and her daughter Addie.



CHARLIE JARRETT

Brandon Iverson and son Damon.

ing on a long summer trip. Reese said they already went to the Russian River to camp on Father’s Day. They also plan to go to Yellowstone with her cousins, then to Idaho for a family reunion, then to Salem, Utah, as their final planned destination.

Madeleine Burkhart, with daughters **Gisele Anagnost** and **Eloise Anagnost**, are going on a trip that is a secret (a Disneyland surprise) for the girls. Following that, they

are going camping at Big Basin Redwoods State Park campground in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Bridgette Thomas, with daughter **Gabrielle** and sons **Charlie** and **Evan**, are going to Lake Tahoe this summer. Evan was very excited that his photograph would be in *The Orinda News* as he had not been in the paper since one previous occasion in 2012.



CHARLIE JARRETT

Merica Fink and daughter Reese.



CHARLIE JARRETT

Madeleine Burkhart (R) with daughters Gisele Anagnost (center) and Eloise Anagnost (L)

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CHARLIE JARRETT

Bridgette Thomas (far right) with (L-R) daughter Gabrielle and sons Charlie and Evan.

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FILM

Award-Winning Orinda Filmmaker Tackles How Society Treats Women

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

“One, singular sensation,” is the opening line of one of the most popular songs from the iconic musical *A Chorus Line*. Orinda resident Julie Rubio hopes that *One*, her latest film will garner some of the same attention. Currently in pre-production, *One* tackles a plethora of socially relevant issues with the lush Napa Valley landscapes as background.

“I was watching Charlie Rose one night on television, and he was talking about a Harvard study on how women weren’t graduating with the same honors as men,” says Rubio. “It wasn’t because they weren’t as smart but rather that they were timid about raising their hands in class, and how professors, regardless of gender, tended to call on men more often and remember the

thony Lucero, found a way to weave these two issues into an intriguing film about a family of Latino field workers from the Napa Valley.

One, with the subtitle “One voice can change the world,” follows Grace Acevedo, a bright young woman raised by her grandmother who earns a scholarship to Harvard. Before leaving on this life-changing adventure, she discovers her mother’s journal and learns that her mother also attended Harvard but never had the chance to graduate. In flashbacks, the film shows that the mother was raped while attending Harvard, returned to the Napa Valley when she discovered she was pregnant and later died giving birth to Grace.

While at Harvard, Grace first interns for a woman prosecuting rape cases through Title 9. But when Grace is discovered using some of the research material to locate



SALLY HOGARTY

(L-R) **Elijah Kahleo Stavena**, who just released his latest rap CD “Stranded,” filmmaker **Julie Rubio** and Miramonte intern **Rachael Gamson** work on the script for Rubio’s latest film.

men’s responses more than the women’s. Harvard has since made professors aware of their unconscious biases, and women now graduate with the same honors as their male peers.”

Around the same time that Rubio saw the Harvard study, statistics on campus rape came out, including the multiple allegations of sexual harassment and misconduct at U.C. Berkeley.

“I began to look at how women were undervalued – not called on in class, not paid the same as men in the work force and the epidemic of rape in our institutions,” Rubio explains. “It made me realize that if you don’t value someone, then you can rape them. I just felt I needed to make a film that would address these issues.”


The producer of the award-winning *East Side Sushi*, along with writer/director An-

her biological father, she finds herself transferred to another professor working on the history-making study to eradicate gender inequality.

“I have lots of people reading the script right now to be sure I’m accurate,” says Rubio. “One woman, who graduated from Harvard and is now a doctor, was once a migrant farm worker picking grapes. Another is a lawyer making sure my language is correct. I’m adding more layers as different people read it.”


Rubio also has the help of interns Rachael Gamson and Christian Santiago, both of whom graduated from Miramonte in June. “They came to me via the WISE program at Miramonte run by Steve Poling and Peter Clausen. They helped with the trailer for the movie and on so many

[SEE ONE page 20]



THE REEL LESS TRAVELED

OF KINGS, QUEENS AND FOUNDING FATHERS



Tom Westlake

July is known for patriotism, so many might wonder why the headline above refers (mostly) to the very governmental system we escaped from more than 200 years ago. The short answer is that the three films featured this month have a spurious connection to kings, queens and founding fathers, even though they’re American through and through (though one of them doesn’t even take place in America at all). The long answer is a little more complicated.

Starting off with the “kings” part, the better term might be King, as in Stephen King. I need add little to that, as the name is eminently recognizable. Even those who are not fans of King’s writing cannot deny his contribution to the written word and, of course, the cinematic world as well. Of the more than 50 books he has written (at least it’s 50 at the time of this writing – by the time you read this it could be more than 60!), over half of them have been turned

into movies or TV shows. Further, it would seem that the films that have achieved the most success have little to do with his usual mien of supernatural horror. *The Shawshank Redemption*, *Misery*, *Dolores Claiborne* and this month’s Classic Film Showcase selection, *Stand By Me*, have not a single vampire, ghost or zombie anywhere to be seen. Based on one of King’s short stories (*The Body*), this coming-of-age story is reminiscent of a Ray Bradbury tale as it concerns four boyhood friends who hear tell of a dead body. Their morbid quest is the heart of the film, as well as memories and obstacles they encounter on the way. Notable for its young cast (Wil Wheton, the late River Phoenix and the equally young, but no less menacing Kiefer Sutherland), there is a tender air of nostalgia that belies the author’s usual modus operandi. To see this unexpected side of King, just show up at the Orinda Theatre on Thursday, July 14

[SEE REEL page 20]



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Sunday, Aug. 7, 4:00 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 11, 8:00 p.m.

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'Tis Season For Mouth-Watering Melons

BARBARA KOBSAR 

The Orinda Farmers' Market is a "must do" in July – corn for grilling, peaches for pies, tomatoes for salads and many melons.

There are two broad categories of melons – muskmelons and watermelons. Muskmelons have either a netted skin (like cantaloupe and Persian) or a smooth skin (like Crenshaw, Juane Canari or honeydew). All muskmelons contain seeds in the fibrous center and the flesh is seed free.

The watery texture of watermelon is probably its most desirable quality on a hot summer's day. Although refreshing, it lacks the texture and full flavor of muskmelons. There are many varieties of watermelons offered in a choice of shapes, sizes and

color, but the seedless types tend to be the most popular.

Careful scrutiny is needed when choosing the perfect melon. Most are sold slightly under-ripe and need a few days at room temperature. All melons should be free of bruises, soft spots or mold, but one side may be "bleached" from where the melon



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO


Melons are plentiful at the Orinda Farmers' Market.

touched the ground while growing. Signs of sweetness on netted muskmelons include prominent netting over an orange or golden-yellow colored skin. The blossom end should give to gentle pressure and have a definite sweet aroma. Watermelon skins are dull rather than shiny when ripe.

Store cut or ripe melons in a sealed plastic bag in the refrigerator since the ethylene gas emitted by melons speeds up the spoilage of any nearby produce.

Enjoy and see you at the market!

The Orinda Farmers' Market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Orinda Way. For information visit www.cccfm.org.



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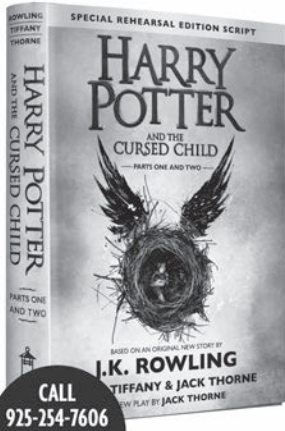


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Orinda Optometrist Receives Award




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kristine Eng (center), O.D. of Orinda, California was named Alameda Contra Costa Counties Optometric Society Optometrist of the Year. She is a native of Orinda and a third generation optometrist. Dr. Eng resides in Orinda with her husband, Michael Smith, and two children, Pierson and Anarose. She took over her father's practice in Orinda in 2003. In her family-friendly practice, she donates vision screenings for infants through InfantSEE®, a public health program, managed by the AOA Foundation. In her free time, she helps fundraise for local schools and organizations, volunteers time and expertise to local schools and events, as well as mentors students aspiring to enter into the healthcare profession. Shown above: (L-R) Colleen Tashiro, Weylin Eng, Kristine Eng, Serene Ngin and Charmaine Ngin.

JULY 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, 8:30 a.m., May Room, Orinda Library, 925-253-1997.
- Guided Meditation.** Wednesdays, 9 a.m., St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 451 Moraga Way, Orinda, focuses on health, harmony and wholeness, 925-254-5965
- Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition.** Third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room, 925-687-8844, ext. 227.
- Lamorinda 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 gcmozee@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.
- Orinda Garden Club.** Fourth Thursday, 10 a.m. to noon, September through May, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante.
- 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 Association.** Second Monday, 7 p.m., Orinda Library, May Room, 925-254-0800.
- 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/Tabor (Czech Republic) Sister City Foundation.** Fourth Thursday, 7 p.m., social, 7:30 p.m., meeting, call 925-254-8260 for location.
- 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/>.
- Walnut Creek Garden Club.** Second Monday, 9:30 a.m., September through June, Camellia Room, Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Road, Walnut Creek, <http://californiagardenclubs.com/content/walnut-creek-garden-club> or mslitt44@gmail.com.



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CALENDAR

ON THE CALENDAR

JULY

- 1 **Orinda Library Gallery** presents "Around the World at 80," showcasing local artists who are octogenarians or older, through July. A reception for the artists with light refreshments will be held July 17 from 2:30 – 4 p.m. See article, page 2.
- Orinda Books** hosts a Bingo Reading Program through Aug. 22 to encourage children to read different genres. The store is also hosting a "Where's Waldo Scavenger Hunt" in July, culminating in a party July 31 at 2 p.m. at the store. Pick up a bingo card or Waldo passport at 276 Village Square. Visit www.orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606.
- Orinda Starlight Village Players** presents Agatha's Christie's *Murder on the Nile* at the Community Park at 8:30 p.m. Also July 2. Visit www.orsvp.org or call 925-528-9225.
- 4 **Orinda Fourth of July Parade and Celebration** kicks off with pancake breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at the Community Center, followed by the flag-raising at 7:55 a.m. At 8 a.m., Haley's Run for A Reason meets in front of Community Center. Parade begins at 10 a.m. at Orinda Theatre. Outdoor activities are scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the park and Theatre Square. Friends of Orinda Library will hold a sale in the library breezeway from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit <http://orindaassociation.org/parade-info>. See story, pages 9-13.
- 5 **Tuesday Summer Concerts in the Park** features the funk, soul and rock 'n roll sounds of Floorshakers, with food available from El Ranchero taco truck, Orinda Community Park, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- 6 **California Shakespeare Theater** presents August Wilson's *Fences* through July 31 at Bruns Amphitheater, Orinda. Visit www.calshakes.org or call the box office at 510-548-9666.
- 7 **Summer Movies in the Park Series**, *Hotel Transylvania 2* at dusk, Orinda Community Park. Free. Visit www.cityoforinda.org and click on Parks & Rec/Upcoming Events.
- Story Hour with Cathy Goshorn** for children 2 to 4 years, with reading, songs and games, every Thursday, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 10 to 11 a.m.
- Thursday Night Storytime**. Meet a policeman and firefighter and hear stories about community heroes, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 6 p.m. Cookies and juice served. Visit www.orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606.
- Endless Summer Dance Party for Teens** at Rheem Theatre, 350 Park St., Moraga, 8 p.m. Also July 14, 21 and 28. Tickets (\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door) include complimentary water, soda and popcorn. Visit www.lamorindatheatres.com for information.
- 12 **Tuesday Summer Concerts in the Park** features the R&B, soul, disco and rock music of What the Funk!, with Chicago-style hot dogs available at Streetdogs food truck, Orinda Community Park, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free.
- 14 **Classic Film Showcase** presents a free screening of *Stand by Me*, based on a Stephen King book, Orinda Theatre, 7 p.m.
- Thursday Night Storytime and Sleepover**. Children bring a favorite stuffed animal as Lisa Bakos reads her new book, *Too Many Moose*, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 6 p.m. Pick up next day. Visit www.orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606.
- 19 **The World Affairs Book Group** will discuss *Full Planet, Empty Plates: The New Geopolitics of Food Scarcity*, by Lester R. Brown, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 3 p.m. New members welcome. Call 925-254-7606.
- Tuesday Summer Concerts in the Park** features Lamorinda Idol performers, with food available at Kenny's Heart & Soul food truck, Orinda Community Park, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free.
- 21 **Thursday Night Storytime**. Want to be a Ninja? Learn how at Ninja Night featuring Arree Chung, author and illustrator of *Ninja Attack of the Clan*, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 6 p.m. Visit www.orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606.
- Summer Movies in the Park Series**, *Cinderella* at dusk, Orinda Community Park. Free. Visit www.cityoforinda.org and click on Parks & Rec/Upcoming Events.
- 22 **Orinda Starlight Village Players** presents Robert Merrill's *Aria's* through Aug. 13 with performances at the Community Park amphitheatre on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m., Aug. 7 at 4 p.m. and Aug. 11 at 8 p.m. Visit www.orsvp.org or call 925-528-9225. See story, page 15.
- 23 **Rheem Theatre** presents Eileen and Brett singing great American ballads from Judy Garland to Frank Sinatra, 7 p.m. For tickets and information, visit www.lamorindatheatres.com.
- 24 **Opera in the Park**, presented by Solo Opera at Orinda Community Center Park, 4 to 6 p.m. Sponsored by Orinda Rotary, the free concert features music from *La Boheme*, *Rigoletto*, *Carmen* and *La Traviata*. Bring a blanket and a picnic. See story, page 15.
- 26 **Monthly Book Club** for children entering fourth and sixth grades, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 11:30 a.m. Stop by the store for book titles.
- 28 **Maria's Book Club** will discuss William Trevor's *Love and Summer*, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 11 a.m. Open to all but call ahead to tell them you're coming. Visit www.orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606.
- Thursday Night Storytime**. Learn to draw with local author and illustrator Michael Slack, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 6 p.m. Suitable for all ages. Visit www.orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606.
- 30 **Orinda Books** celebrates the publication of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* with quizzes, costumes and prizes, 276 Village Square, 10 p.m. to midnight. Visit www.orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606.
- 31 **Orinda Books** hosts "Where's Waldo Scavenger Hunt Pizza Party" for all participants in the store's July Waldo adventure, 276 Village Square, 2 p.m. Visit www.orindabooks.com or call 925-254-7606.

AT THE LIBRARY

All events are free unless otherwise specified. Note that the library is closed July 3 and 4 for the Fourth of July holiday. For more information, call 925-254-2184 or visit www.ccclib.org/locations/Orinda.html.

- 1 **Summer of STEAM!** Summer Reading celebrates Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (and Reading!) Visit <http://ccclib.org/summer> or the library to pick up an activity sheet.
- 2 **Saturday Morning Live**. Family story time for children 3 to 5 years, Picture Book Area, 11 a.m. Also July 9, 16, 23 and 30.
- 4 **Friends of Orinda Library Book Sale**, library breezeway, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., during Fourth of July celebration.
- 5 **Toddler Lapsit**. Stories and songs for children 1 to 3 years and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 10 and 10:30 a.m. No registration required, but attendance limited to once per week. Also July 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26 and 27.
- Peek-A-Boo Time**. Story time for children 0 to 5 years, 11:30 to 11:55 a.m. Also July 12, 19 and 26.
- Paws to Read**. Earn summer reading points with a friendly dog, for children in grades K-5, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Also July 12, 19 and 26.
- 7 **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.
- 14 **Kids Club at Theatre Square**. Free story time for children 0 to 5 years, every Thursday in

Diverse Groups and Movies Play in July at Community Center Park



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The original blues and soul group **Blind to Reason** plays July 26 in the Orinda Community Center Park. (L-R) **Eric Prosch**, saxophone; **Steve Studebaker**, guitar and vocals; **Tim Leong**, bass and vocals; and **Chris Ruiz**, drums and vocals.

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

The Concerts in the Park are well underway with an entertaining line-up of musical groups planned. Supported by the Orinda Parks and Recreation Foundation and the City of Orinda, concerts take place on Tuesday evenings from 6:30–8:30 p.m. with the exception of Opera in the Park on July 24. Each concert is paired with a complimentary food truck.

The fun begins with the funk soul/rock group **Floorshakers** on July 6 followed by **What The Funk!** with its combination of R&B, soul, disco and rock on July 12.

A special treat is in store on July 19

when the **Lamorinda Idol** singers perform followed by the Orinda Rotary sponsored Opera in the Park on Sunday, July 24, from 4–6 p.m.

The original blues and soul band **Blind to Reason** closes out the month with their special melting pot of styles from the Delta to Detroit to San Francisco on July 26.

Movie night in the park continues through July with **Hotel Transylvania 2** scheduled for July 7 and **Cinderella** showing on July 21. The movies begin at dusk and families are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs and picnic baskets for a special summer treat.

For more information, call 925-254-2445 or go to www.cityoforinda.org.

summer in front of Republic of Cake, 11:30 to noon.

15 **Mystery Book Club**. Members (18 and over) discuss the new mystery of the month, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

28 **Contra Costa Tale Spinners**. A monthly story swap (for 18 and over) with featured speaker, Gallery Room, 7 to 9 p.m. Share a story or just come to listen. Call 925-478-8488.

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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CLASSIFIEDS

◆ REEL from page 17

at 7 p.m. Admission, as usual, is free. Going down the line of succession, we turn to the Queen – and the Moraga Movers has that one covered. The African Queen is a difficult movie to write about insofar as its incomparable. To continue with the King-and-Queen theme, mentioning that Hollywood royalty was responsible for its making might have something to do with its success. Starring Humphrey Bogart at his most slovenly and Katherine Hepburn at her most righteous (at least to begin with), The African Queen may be as unclassifiable behind the scenes as it was onscreen. Directed by John Huston, the tales of the hardships all of them went through are legend (Hepburn even wrote a book about it), but one can hardly argue with the end result. I guess there's something to be said about total immersion because the two leads are wholly convincing. Indeed, what you will see is less a performance and more an ac-

◆ PRESIDENT from page 3

tem Administrator Appreciation Day, also July 31, gives recognition to the hard workers that ensure your computers, printers and servers are working and in good condition. They are often not appreciated or even thought of – until a computer or an internet connection goes down.

July is also Independent Retailers Month. Supporting our local businesses means supporting our community, and it's a proven fact that money spent in a locally owned business remains in the local community a lot longer. Shop at the ice-cream store around the corner, your favorite local boutique or gallery. Sometimes you can speak with the owner to get special service.

Summer is in full swing and life is good in our safe and happy Orinda. If you are home this summer, consider volunteering to be a Seniors Around Town driver. We are often low on drivers during holiday and summer seasons.

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I buy 1950's Furniture. Danish modern, Herman Miller, Knoll wanted. 1 item or entire estate! Call Rick at 510-219-9644. Courteous house calls.

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tual tale of survival, one that will have you clutching the arms of your seat, but with enough humor to avoid making viewing the movie a chore. And, make no mistake, view it you should! It will screen at the Rheem on Wednesday, July 20 at 2 p.m.

Lastly, a few words about the Founding Fathers. Now, it would be easy enough to assume that I refer to the men and women who helped form this great nation, but that's not what I'm talking about. What I do wish to call attention to are the founding fathers of cinema. Indeed, I could run down a list but, for the purposes of brevity, I'll just tell you that the father I'm talking about is Charlie Chaplin. That's the role the Little Tramp finds himself in when he discovers that someone had discarded The Kid in a trash can.

To watch this film is akin to watching history in the making and, to the astute

◆ ONE from page 17

viewer, you will see a master class in filmmaking – all from the talent of one man. (He wrote, directed, produced, edited and starred in this film.) There is equal joy in just going to see The Kid as you'll quickly find yourself charmed, touched and finally ebullient. (It's also a good measure to see if you're human – if you're not moved to tears, you might want to check your DNA, just to make sure.) Additionally, as this is a silent film, you'll have the rare treat of seeing it with a live piano accompaniment by Patti Liedecker. The Kid will screen on Saturday, July 30 at 7 p.m. at the Rheem Theatre. Tickets are \$15.

And that's all until next month. Information is already coming in for August but we'll contend (hint, hint) with that then. Remember to check in with www.lamorindatheatres.com and stay in the dark, for that's where the reel magic lies.

in its history. Stravena, who goes by Kahleo, recently released his second CD, Stranded.

"I think it's really important to tell this story," comments Rubio on her latest film. "We need to learn how to value each other – to all be one. And, this film also has beautiful Napa locations and wine."

Rubio hopes One will replicate the success of East Side Sushi, which won 16 film festivals and nine audience awards. For more information on One, go to www.onewomenmen.com.

◆ NORMAN from page 12

took hard work, Bill's delivery was crystal clear, genuine and moving.

In part, he takes pride in having served his country because he followed in the footsteps of his father, a West Point graduate who was badly wounded at the Battle of the Bulge in 1945, and his grandfather, a major general who was awarded Silver Star medals and the Distinguished Service Cross in both WWI and WWII. Bill's great-grandfather was a Confederate soldier who surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse, buried his cannons, and then walked all the way home to Georgia.

There are many values that Bill attributes to his service, including focus and discipline. He says he's a better man for serving his country. He said one of his proudest moments was when his father and grandfather pinned on his lieutenant's bars at Officer Candidate School (OCS) graduation day (see photo).

The flag is symbolic for many of us, and after meeting Bill, I have a newfound appreciation for its meaning. Today, Bill is a litigation partner at the law firm of Cooper, White & Cooper in San Francisco. He's raised a daughter and son in Orinda, and is an avid runner who participates every year in the Fourth of July Parade's fun run. He and his wife Kay, former president of the Orinda Historical Society, attend the parade every year. Please wave to Bill if you see him on the Fourth!

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2015 Publication Schedule

Table with Issue and Deadline columns: August 2016 (July 8, 2016), September 2016 (August 8, 2016)

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Enclose your check payable to The Orinda Association and mail to Orinda News, P.O. Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563. We reserve the right to reject any ad. Classified ads must be prepaid. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

LOCALS

Renowned Diva Charms At Three-Quarter Century Club Luncheon

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

In a walk down memory lane, acclaimed songstress Holly Penfield sang the songs of Judy Garland at the recent 17th Annual Three-Quarter Century Club luncheon. BHG Mason McDuffie Real Estate, Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary and the Orinda Community Church sponsored the lunch for Orindans 75 years and older, with John Fazel serving as chairman and master of ceremonies.

Penfield grew up in Orinda, graduated from Campolindo High School and has starred on the London stage as a cabaret diva for 15 years, including performances for Prince Charles and Lady Diana. Her winning performance at the Three-Quarter Century Club included such favorites as *Zing Went the Strings of My Heart*, *You Made Me Love You* and a show-stopping *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*.

Since John Fazel recently celebrated his birthday, Penfield invited him up on stage, presented him with a rose and then sang *I Can't Give You Anything But Love*.

In the audience were Penfield's friends



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

John Fazel (L) with **Lilly** and **Rain Regelson**, married the longest at 69 years. At age 92, Rain was also crowned king.

Ann Copenhagen, her former Girls Campfire leader, and Janet Pease whom she met while out walking and who recommended that she perform at the annual lunch.

Attendees also vied for spots in the Royal Court. Hank Sarmadi, who turned 75 in November, won out as the youngest. Lilly and Rain Regelson were the longest married at 69 years and were presented with a bottle of champagne and two fluted glasses. Rain also won as the oldest man present, at 92, and was crowned King.

Queen for the day was Molly Gravelle at 100-1/2! She attended with her helper, Claudia Avila, who said Gravelle still gardens and is especially proud of her peonies and roses. The centenarian taught mechanical drawing for many years at Miramonte. Bill Cooper said she was his son's favorite teacher. Avila also revealed that Gravelle doesn't like vegetables – so eating them is not the reason for her longevity.

Cooper, a former Orinda Citizen of the Year for his contributions to Scouting (79 years at last count) traded war stories with Rain Regelson as they both served in the Pacific Theatre during World War II. The Regelsons are well known in Orinda for their community work. Lilly was on the planning commission when the general plan for city was developed.

Betty Ann Williamson was once named



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Holly Penfield entertained seniors at annual luncheon.

the "baby" of the Quarter-Century Club and fondly remembers the prize was getting to [SEE CLUB page 23]

Orinda Author Juggles Multiple Fictional Genres in Latest Novel

■ Don Maker's Latest Book Is 1950s Sports Comedy

By KATHRYN G. McCARTY
Staff Writer

Don Maker describes the creative process of writing his books as "something like organized chaos."

His latest release, *The Jersey Jupiters*, a sports comedy set in the 1950s, is based on actual players and teams and "describes the playing conditions, racial discrimination, zany events on and off the field, and lack of public interest during that era for an NFL team to survive, let alone win a few games."

Maker, who lives in Orinda, writes about



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Orinda author Don Maker's latest book *The Jersey Jupiters* is a sports comedy set in the 1950s.

"whatever really catches my fancy" and in multiple genres, including Historical and Young Adult (YA) fiction. The author of *Zenobia* and *The Grindstone* is preparing the sequel for his popular young adult novel, *Miranda's Magic*, and is beginning another YA novel, written in conjunction with his daughter.

Maker said working on multiple books simultaneously helps keep "writer's block" at bay. He is juggling several projects, including his first series, *The Franks*, set in "a pivotal period in western civilization." Maker explained it was the time in Europe "when the Roman occupation of Gaul ended and the wild Gothic tribes transformed the territory into modern France and Germany."

The Shakespeares and the Crown is Maker's second historical fiction in progress, about the civil upheaval in England during the Elizabethan era. The writer has spent three years researching for the book which he says reveals "a lot of fascinating stuff, both about the Shakespeare family and how Elizabeth's spymaster manipulated world events."

"The challenging part is the research," he says. Maker reads everything he can about his characters. While accessing data for his more modern novels might take six months, research for most of his books is "often measured in years."

In the genesis of his books, Maker makes detailed notes of his characters, conflicts and resolutions, "snatches of dialogue," and

ideas for transitions. "I stick these bits into the outline where I think they might fall, knowing I can switch them around as the plot develops." Maker said he does several outlines, and that "the eventual outline may be up to 150 pages."

The author then begins to focus on the tone he wants to take in his writing. "From a message standpoint, what do I want to leave the reader feeling, as well as knowing?" He said it is important to share with the reader

"ideas, emotions, philosophies and all other aspects of life."

Maker believes the goal of a good writer is "the ability to connect with the rest of humanity and perhaps, in some way, to achieve some tiny degree of immortality. Regardless of what I may achieve in my career, that is what brings satisfaction."

For more information on Maker's books, email donmakerauthor@gmail.com or visit DonMakerthewriter on Facebook or his Amazon author page.

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Everyday Changes

Declare To Live a Life of Freedom and Happiness

Bonnie Waters



It's July and we are halfway through 2016. The month kicks off with America's most important celebration: the Fourth of July.

It was this historic day in 1776 when the Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence and American democracy was founded on the promise of liberty, equality, inclusiveness and tolerance. These principles are as important today as they were 240 years ago.

Each July 4 we decorate with red, white and blue. We line up early in the morning and wait with anticipation to be dazzled with a grand parade. As night falls, we enjoy spectacular displays of fireworks. It is so easy to get lost in all this activity and lose sight of the meaning behind the Fourth of July celebrations.

This year, add a meaningful activity to remind your family of the price our forefathers paid for the freedom we enjoy. While your family waits for the firework displays, enjoy the musical *1776* about the birth of our nation.

Our forefathers gave us the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. What we choose to do with these gifts is all-important. Create a life of beauty, wellness and peace of mind by writing your own personal declaration. Below I am sharing the declaration I created in order to achieve a beautiful life, personal liberty and happiness.

My Declaration of Independence

To pursue more of what makes me happy and free:

- I am happy when I spend quality time with those I love.
 - I am happy when I walk in nature.
 - Fresh flowers in the house make me happy (I love orchids).
 - I am happy when I feel like I am growing as a human being.
 - I am happy when I read nurturing and uplifting literature. I will keep an inspirational book beside my bed and read a few pages each night.
 - I am happy when I love myself despite breaking my resolutions. I will not judge myself if I get off track.
 - Regular massages, manicures and pedicures make me happy.
 - I am happy when I do things for others. I will look for opportunities to serve others daily.
 - I feel happy when I contribute my time and talents to worthy causes.
 - I feel happy when I don't need to spend a lot of time in order to look and feel beautiful. I free up time by having a simplified beauty routine.
 - I feel happy when my home and work environments are neat and organized. I will pick one area at work and at home (even as small as a drawer) each week and clean and organize them.
 - I feel happy when I love and appreciate myself no matter what. I will freely love and acknowledge myself for how awesome I am being and becoming.
- Join me in honoring our forefathers and embracing a beautiful life of freedom and happiness.

Move of the Month

Boxing for a Six Pack, Left Jab, Right Cross

1. Stand in your boxing stance

Hands up, elbows in, hips between your feet, knees slightly bent, and back heel lifted. Left foot forward at slight angle generally pointing towards the bag, back foot about 45 degrees diagonal.

2. Jab

Now extend (PUNCH) your left glove towards the bag, while exhaling a sharp breath. Retract your arm.

3. Cross

Rotate your hips and upper body counter-clockwise as you pivot your right foot (about 90 degrees). Extend your right fist straight out from your chin. Do not let your head lean past your front knee.

4. Repeat as many times as you can.

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



Real Estate Reality

Why Buy Title Insurance?

Protecting Biggest Financial Investment

MAUREEN WILBUR



A home is usually the largest single investment any of us ever make. When you buy a home, you will purchase several types of insurance to protect your home and personal property. Homeowner's insurance protects against loss from fire, theft or wind damage. Flood insurance protects against rising water. And title insurance protects against hidden title hazards that may threaten your financial investment in your home.

Protecting your largest investment

Title insurance is not as well understood as other types of home insurance, but it is just as important. When purchasing a home, instead of purchasing the actual building or land, you are really purchasing the title to the property – the right to occupy and use the space. That title may be limited by rights and claims asserted by others, which may limit your use and enjoyment of the property and even bring financial loss.

Other types of insurance that protect your home focus on possible future events and charge an annual premium. On the other hand, title insurance protects against loss from hazards and defects that already exist in the title and is purchased with a one-time premium.

There are two basic kinds of title insurance:

- Lender or mortgagee protection

- Owner's coverage

Most lenders require mortgagee title insurance as security for their investment, just as they may call for fire insurance and other types of coverage. When title insurance is provided, lenders are willing to make mortgage money available in distant locales where they know little about the market.

Owner's title insurance lasts as long as you or your heirs have an interest in the insured property. This may even be after you have sold the property.

Depending on local practices and state law, you may pay an additional premium for an owner's policy or you may pay a simultaneous issue charge – usually a smaller amount – for the separate lender coverage. You may even split settlement costs with the seller for the lender or owner's policy.

What does the premium pay for?

An important part of title insurance is its emphasis on risk elimination before insuring. This gives you, the policyholder, the best chance to avoid title claim and loss.

Title insuring begins with a search of public land records affecting the real estate concerned. The title agent or attorney conducts the examination on behalf of its underwriter to determine whether the property is insurable. The examination is intended to fully report all material objec-

[SEE REAL ESTATE page 23]

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BUSINESS BUZZ

◆ BUZZ from page 24

system,” she said. “These sophisticated modern systems require a level of expertise and maintenance that I was not accustomed to and we are finding most people are not equipped to oversee the ongoing maintenance that is necessary.”

The Bloemkers have four boys, Zach, Mitchell, Bodhie and River. “Starting our new business leaves practically no free time, as you can imagine. We treasure attending our sons’ sporting events and whenever possible we like to travel,” says Bloemker.

Prior to establishing Glasshouse, the couple owned FiveTen Capital, a real estate investment service. Bloemker became a certified, licensed home inspector as part of overseeing the business. Developing a better model for taking care of home sweet home has been her mission.

For information about Glasshouse, visit www.Glasshouse.com or call 510-922-9966.

◆ Hartog Baer Hand Offer Estate Planning

This year marks the 25th anniversary of John Hartog moving his law practice, spe-



CHARLIE JARRETT

David Baer (L) and John Hartog of Hartog, Baer and Hand trust and estate attorneys. Not shown is partner and co-owner Margaret Hand.

◆ REAL ESTATE from page 22

tions to the title.

Here are some examples of documents that can present concerns:

- Deeds, wills and trusts that contain improper wording or incorrect names
- Outstanding mortgages and judgments or a lien against the property
- Easements that allow construction of a road or utility line
- Pending legal action against the property
- Incorrect notary acknowledgments

Through the search and examination, title problems are disclosed so they can be corrected whenever possible. However, even the most careful preventative work cannot locate all hidden title hazards.

◆ Hidden title hazards – your last defense

In spite of all the expertise that goes

cializing in trust and estate law, to Orinda. Located at 4 Orinda Way, Suite 250-B, the firm is in a growth mode, having literally doubled in size over the past year and increasing from eight lawyers on staff to 13, with a total of 28 individuals in the office, including the additional support staff.

“We practice high-quality law. Our tremendous growth is a function of the quality of work we do for our clients and the fact that we take a lot of pride in what we do and how we do it,” says Hartog. A legal consultant to the California Wills and Trust document assembly program, Hartog is a specialist in estate planning, trust and probate law and taxation law.

Named to Super Lawyers for the 12th consecutive year and within the top 100 lawyers in the state each time, Hartog’s partners David Baer and Margaret Hand are also selected to Super Lawyers. The firm represents individuals, families, business owners, investors, nonprofit entities, trustees, beneficiaries and parties involved in challenging trust and estate issues.

“People are often reluctant to take the time to plan their estate because they do not want to contemplate their own death,” says Hartog. “The process of planning your estate is less painful than visiting the dentist. I always advise people they can expect to pay as much as they pay for a nice vacation.” He advises those who have their estate plan in place to revisit it every five years, and more frequently when there has been a change in circumstances, such as the birth of children or grandchildren.

An avid cyclist throughout the year, during his lunch hour Hartog can be found riding the Three Bears and recently returned from an adventuresome cycling trip through Sardinia. “Orinda’s location makes it easy to jump on the bike and be in the country in no time,” he says.

A longtime member of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, you may learn more about Hartog Baer Hand by visiting www.hbh.law or call 925-253-1717.

into a title search and examination, hidden hazards can emerge after closing, resulting in unpleasant and costly surprises. Some examples of hazards include:

- A forged signature on the deed, which would mean no transfer of ownership to you
- An unknown heir of a previous owner who is claiming ownership of the property
- Instruments executed under an expired or fabricated power of attorney
- Mistakes in the public records

Title insurance offers financial protection against these and other covered title hazards. The title insurer will pay for defending against an attack on title and will either perfect the title or pay valid claims – all for a one-time charge at closing.

A home is your most important investment. Before closing, ask about title insurance and protect your home with an owner’s title insurance policy.

Better Homes and Gardens Clean Up Senior Village Gardens



DAVE DIERKS

Volunteers from Better Homes and Gardens Mason – McDuffie Real Estate office in Orinda worked together on May 18 to clean, repair and manicure the Orinda Senior Village Community Gardens. Volunteers at each of the real estate company’s 32 locations are providing some type of community service on “Giving Back Day.” (Back Row (L-R): Larry Jacobs, Adam Hamalian, Amanda Smith, Regina Englehart, Teresa Ramirez, Rachel Lederman, Tomi Izuno, Maureen Caldwell-Meurer, Kelly Smith, Tania DeGroot, Oksana Lawlor and Randy Shaffer. Front Row (L-R): Lisa Shaffer, Sassa Oznowicz, Melody Shahid, Dana Fillinger and John Fazel.

◆ CLUB from page 21

ride in the Fourth of July parade. She said she enjoys events such as the club luncheon as she gets to see many people that she misses. Bill Phelan says it’s a great time to get together and socialize.

That was Fazel’s intent when he began the Three-Quarter Century Club. “I wanted to honor the people of our community who helped make it the special place it is today,” he said. “I modeled it after a club in my mother’s town of Perry, Iowa.” His loyal helpers from the three event sponsors not only cooked the chicken dinner, they also served as the wait staff. The Rev. Jim

Brommers Berquest of Orinda Community Church gave the invocation. Special guest Juneaux Maeder, a finalist in the Lamorinda Idol contest, also sang “Somewhere Over the Rainbow.”

For those who might want to see the “local girl who made good,” Penfield will present her show, “The Rhythm of Life,” at Feinstein’s at the Nikko, 222 Mason St., San Francisco, on July 15 and 16. For tickets, call 1-866-663-1063 or visit www.feinsteinsatthenikko.com. Anyone who will be 75 or over by the middle of June, 2017, can join the Quarter-Century Club by contacting Fazel at runmnts@prodigy.net or 925-324-2017.

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Loard's Ice Cream and Candies

This classic all-American ice cream and candy shop has been serving our community at the same Crossroads location, 230 Brookwood Rd., since opening in 1952. Currently under new ownership of husband-and-wife team Candi and Anthony Brooks-Williams, mouth-watering ice cream, sherbet and sorbet, pies, cakes and candies continue to be available. The good news is nothing has changed.

"When the previous owners Brooks and Brad Stubblefield decided to sell, they had specific criteria, wanted a buyer who would keep the institution alive, value Loard's role here and its longstanding commitment to the community," said Candi Brooks-Williams. "They wanted to hand it



VALERIE HOTZ
(L-R) Assistant Manager **Colin Johnson** and Loard's Ice Cream and Candies owner **Candi Brooks-Williams**.

over to someone who valued it as much as they did."

This institution, which has been a hallmark of childhood to several generations of Orindans, will remain exactly as it always has been. "We appreciate not only the spirit of Loard's, but also the history as well," said Brooks-Williams. "If anything, we will make it even more retro. Where else do you find pink-and-white candy-striped benches, photos on the wall from the 1950s and this tremendous legacy of customer service?" Grandparents have been known to come in with their grandchildren and share stories of being a child themselves and visiting Loard's with their own grandparents back in 1950.

"We are grateful to the staff here who do a fantastic job every day. Tyler Morrison is our manager and Colin Johnson our assistant manager. They are phenomenal at routinely delivering excellent service to our customers," says Candi.

All the familiar Loard's ice cream flavors are to be had here, along with sherbet and sorbet, as well as fresh, locally made chocolates. Candi is on a mission to step up the chocolate offerings, discovering mouth-watering Hoffssi caramels and chocolates made in Moraga that are available at Loard's. The ice cream pies and cakes make parties even more special. If ordering an ice cream cake, be sure to place your order at least 48 hours in advance.

When hosting a party, think of Loard's famous ice cream. Give Brooks-Williams and her staff a call with details including

date, time, number of guests and location. You will receive a proposal suiting your needs for your event. Keep in mind they will need access to an electrical outlet.

The Brooks-Williams family hails from South Africa, having relocated to Orinda in 2009. The couple has nine-year-old twins, Tanith and Talleulah. Sports enthusiasts to the core, Candi competes in adventure racing events, Tough Mudders and Spartans, while Anthony plays golf at Moraga Country Club, where Tanith and Talleulah also swim. Anthony serves as chief executive officer of HVR Software.

Loard's Ice Cream and Candies is a longtime member of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce. Look for their booth at the Fourth of July festivities in Orinda Community Center Park. Treat yourself and your family to one of Orinda's finest traditions. Loard's Ice Cream and Candies is open Sunday to Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Thursday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. For information call 925-254-3434.

Glasshouse Expands to Orinda

The brainchild of Shannon Bloemker and her husband Rob, Glasshouse provides quality preventative home maintenance service on a quarterly basis throughout the year for your most valuable investment – your home.

"Our business service is like having an asset manager for your most valuable asset," said Shannon Bloemker. "We discovered that most people wait until something breaks in their home before calling for a service professional. Quite often homeowners do not have the expertise or tools to perform maintenance or make repairs. A dedicated Glasshouse manager oversees preventative maintenance to keep everything in running order."

Managers are fully trained and insured. A one-year membership includes cataloging all appliances and systems, including emergency utility access locations, changing of



SMEETA MAHANTI
Glasshouse co-owner **Shannon Bloemker**.

refrigerator water and air filters, vacuuming of refrigerator compressor coils, complete dryer vent clean out, faucet leak and drainage checks, foundation, downspout and sump pump drainage systems checks, changing HVAC filters, water heater servicing and much more.

The Glasshouse house manager is a generalist with a network of specialists to refer to when servicing or repairs are necessary. These specialists have been vetted by Glasshouse to ensure they have necessary licensing and insurance to do a specific repair. "We can put a homeowner wishing to undertake a remodel in touch with a reputable general contractor who has liability insurance," adds Bloemker.

It was after doing several remodels herself that Bloemker became inspired to establish Glasshouse. "I did not know how to maintain our state-of-the-art energy-efficient LEED Platinum home, which features two solar panels, a solar hot water system, gray water system and rain water

[SEE BUZZ page 23]

Orinda Motors Presents



The 12th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show Weekend

Friday Night Pre-Party,

September 9th, 6:00pm

"DANCING WITH THE CARS"

Produced by Orinda Rotary/Presented by **Mechanics Bank**

Saturday,

September 10th, 10am-3pm

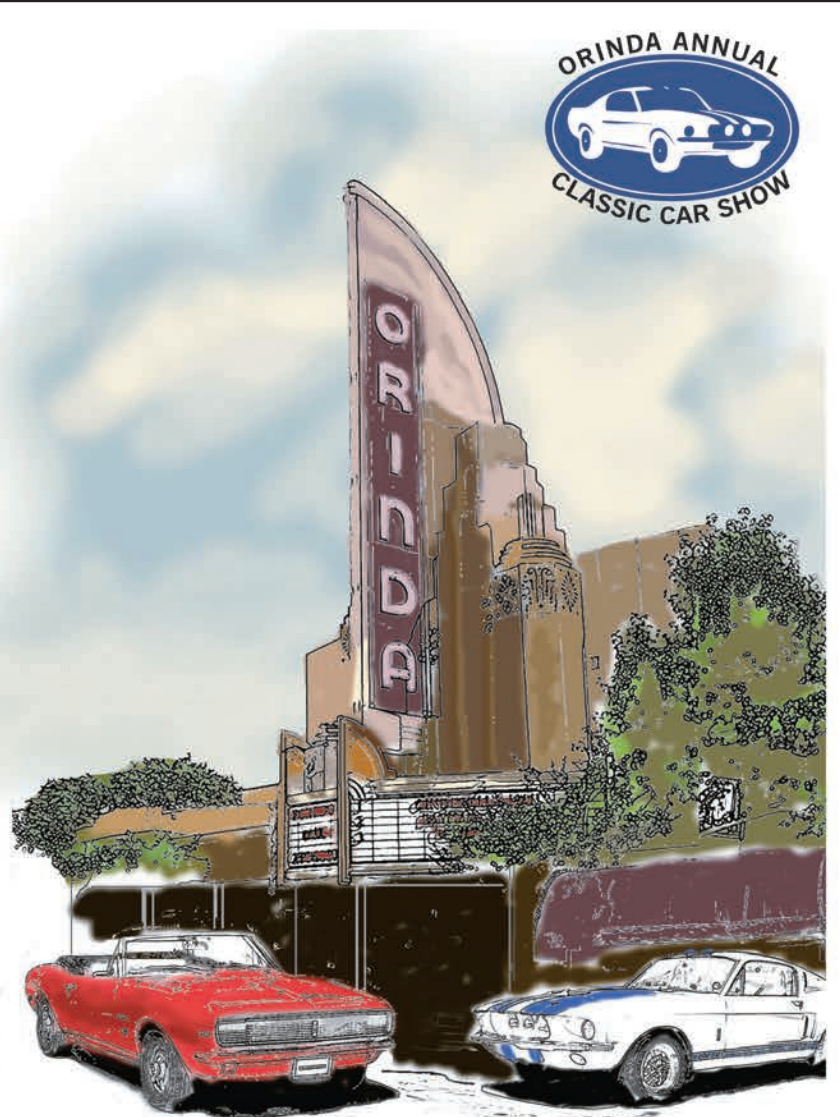
ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Join us as a spectator or to show your car or motorcycle!
Register online today!

Enjoy vintage and modern exotic cars and motorcycles, food, music, and more! The show will be held in and around Orinda Motors, 63 Orinda Way.

Cruise in a Classic!

Donate \$10 and choose your ride for the Drive.



Enter Your Car and Buy Party Tickets Today at www.OrindaCarShow.com

These events benefit the Seniors Around Town transportation program, Educational Foundation of Orinda and other local charities. We would like to thank our partners for helping make these events happen: Orinda Association, Rotary Club of Orinda, Orinda Historical Society Museum, Orinda Country Club, Orinda Chamber of Commerce, EFO, Orinda Arts Council and Seniors Around Town.