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THE ORINDA NEWS

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June 2014

Orinda Students Celebrate Graduation, Prepare for New Chapters



SALLY HOGARTY

Miramonte seniors who are members of the Leadership Council include: 1st row (L-R) **Allison Miller, Elliot Alper, Natalie Vigo**; 2nd row (L-R) **Peter Swan, Clayton Smudsky, Nick Coufal** and **Patrick Swan**. (not pictured) Abigail Brzezinski and Gianni Fiataronne.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Holden High School seniors (L-R) **Daveon Sadusky, Noah Winter, Ben Merlin** and **Dash Coffey** will graduate June 7. Not pictured are fellow seniors Sydney Taylor, David MacDannald and Carter Souza.



SALLY HOGARTY

Many of the 25 graduates of **Orinda Academy** take a break from their studies.

Heated Race for State Assembly Includes Orinda Politician

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

For the first time, an Orinda politician is running for the California State Assembly. City Councilmember Steve Glazer has his sights set on District 16, which will be vacated by Joan Buchanan when she terms out at the end of this year.

A member of the City Council since 2004, Glazer parlayed his opposition to the 2013 BART strike into a credible candidacy for state assembly.

"Initially, I wanted to run to help form a more responsible fiscal policy," Glazer explains. "The state budget really drives the state's priorities, and the politicians in Sacramento haven't shown any interest in



SALLY HOGARTY

Steve Glazer at his campaign office in Orinda Village.

paying off our debt. Budgets and pensions can offend people. But if you want to have a good pension for people, you have to have the money to pay for it."

Voters will decide in the June primary and the November election whether Glazer will have the opportunity to put forth his

[SEE ASSEMBLY page 18]

By MAGGIE SHARPE
Staff Writer

Orinda students get ready to toss their caps sky high this month as middle and high school kids from around the city mark the end of an era, new beginnings and a chance to celebrate graduation with their peers, family and friends.

There will be plenty of proud parents at the June 13 **Miramonte High School** (MHS) Commencement Ceremony at 5:30 pm at the school, 750 Moraga Way, as 300 seniors prepare to graduate and forge new paths. (Stats on how many students will

attend college, join the military, start work, etc., were not available at press time and will be published in next month's *Orinda News*.) However, three female students are set to go to Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) next fall, according to principal Adam Clark. "We usually have at least one student who goes to MIT every year," said Clark.

Some outstanding achievements by MHS students this year include: first in state for the Latin Club; third in state for Public Speaking; and *The Matador* school newspaper ranked eighth in the country. Senior Bennett Stehr, who plays varsity baseball and football, was named North Coast Section Scholar Athlete of the Year.

MHS continues its tradition of an extravagant all-night party following the graduation ceremony, with the theme this year of "Cirque de Miramonte."

According to Clark, "The Miramonte graduating class of 2014 has positively influenced the school's culture. These students have succeeded in the classroom, in extra-curricular activities, athletics and in the community," he said. "Their potential to provide constructive contributions to our global society is limitless."

Natalie Vigo, senior class president said the Class of 2014 is really special. "We came to Miramonte as a unified class and not just 300 individuals," said Vigo. "Throughout our four years, I feel like we've really left our mark, whether it was through athletics, academics or just our

[SEE GRADUATES page 11]

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Be a Part of Your Hometown Parade This Year

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Everyone loves a parade. So, what could be better than watching from the sidelines? Actually, being *in* the parade or being a part of a nonprofit booth in the park.

Every year hundreds of local residents participate – walking with their preschool, enthusiastically shouting from their swim team float, waving regally from one of the many classic cars or helping children play games in the park. From businesses to clubs to individual families, the Orinda Association's 4th of July parade and celebration is open to all.

Parade and booth applications can be downloaded from the Orinda Association's website at www.orindaassociation.org. The submission deadline is June 23.

You can also support the 4th of July parade and park celebration with a spon-

sorship donation. The cost of sponsoring one of the 45 six-foot-high city flags is just \$50. Add a zero to that number and you can become a float sponsor. All the various levels of sponsorship are listed on the website. To date, the following businesses and nonprofit organizations have already stepped up to make 2014 one of the best celebrations yet:

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- The Four Orinda Garden Clubs

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RUTH BRADEN

The Concord Blue Devils are among the many bands playing the the parade and park this year. Joining the Blue Devils in the parade are the Spirit of '29, St. Gabriel's Celestial Brass Band, the East Bay Banjo Band, the Mariachi Trio, ALMA students, Orinda Idol singers, and, of course, the Lamorinda Pick-up Marching Band. The Lewiston Jazz Band will keep the crowds entertained before the parade while The Bonafides will play New Orleans style funk and more in the park gazebo following the parade.

- Vintage Senior Living
- Gillin, Jacobsen, Ellis & Larsen LLP

The festivities begin on Friday, July 4,



SALLY HOGARTY

These two local residents joined in the parade with their own unique entry.

at 7:30 am with the Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast in the park/Community Center and the Flag-raising Ceremony at the Flagpole in front of Community Center at 7:55 am.

At 8 am, the Roadrunners' Fun Run and Haley's Run for a Reason meet in front of the Community Center for the annual run through Orinda's beautiful environs. For those more interested in exercising their minds rather than their bodies, the Friends of the Orinda Library Book Sale begins at 9 am in the library breezeway.

The parade starts at 10 am on the Theatre Square side of Orinda and travels under the freeway to the Village side, culminating at the judges' area in front of Orinda Community Center. Following the parade, there will be a plethora of park activities and music with lots of food and beverage booths as well as cooling stations.

For more information on the parade and the celebration in the park, go to www.orindaassociation.org.

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ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President
Roads and Fourth of July



Bill Waterman

Roads: June 3 is Election Day and Measure J, the “Fix Orinda Roads” bond, is on the ballot. Nearly all Orindans agree that immediate action is required – all one has to do is look around at our extremely deteriorated and potentially hazardous roads to see this. Measure J, if approved, will raise \$20 million of desperately needed funds to repair our streets, as Phase II of the four-phase plan created by city leaders to address this critical problem. These Measure J funds will be used to repair our worst roads first – as determined by objective criteria (the PCI, or Pavement Condition Index) with guidance from the Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Commission and via a public process.

While some folks want larger amounts available for road repairs now, or have other suggestions, recent polling showed that a distinct majority want action taken now,

not years in the future, and prefer a bond of this size. The sobering fact is that our worst roads are in such an extreme state of disrepair that they are potentially hazardous, and we don’t want to see any of our friends or family members critically injured by a fall caused by these substandard roadway conditions. Food for serious thought as we approach June 3.

Fourth of July: Orinda Association (OA) volunteers are now in the final stage of preparations for Orinda’s 31st Fourth of July celebration, and our “Best Hometown Parade.” Thanks to wonderful sponsorship support from Orinda Community Foundation and Orinda Parks and Recreation Foundation, as well as other sponsors including Orinda Motors, Mechanics Bank, RPM Mortgage and First Republic Bank, plus our partnership with the City of Orinda,

[SEE OA page 16]

Miramonte Students Design Instagram Campaign for 4th of July

By MIMI BOMMARITO
Contributing Writer

Two Miramonte High School sophomores, Kyle McKeen and Maya McGrath, were selected by Orinda July 4th Parade co-chair Andy Radlow to design and implement an Instagram publicity campaign for the upcoming parade and festivities this summer. The highlight of the campaign will be an Instagram photo contest, with the winner receiving a \$100 cash prize.

“The goal of the photo contest and Instagram campaign is to draw in more young people to the July 4th hometown celebration but also to tap into new technology to amp up the excitement,” said Radlow. “All ages are encouraged to participate in the photo contest, and participants can enter as many photos as they’d like. This will be great fun to see what we come up with.”

Participants should send their parade “memorable moments” to the Instagram site for the Orinda July 4th Parade by typing #orindaparade. The deadline to submit photos is July 4 by 3 pm.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Maya McGrath (L) and Kyle McKeen have designed an Instagram campaign for the 4th of July parade.

Instagram is a popular app for the iPhone and other mobile cellular devices that provides instant photo sharing, video sharing and social networking services. Kyle and Maya will receive community service hours from the Orinda Association, the non-profit sponsor of the Orinda July 4th festivities, for the time they spent developing and testing this new campaign.

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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Corrections . . .

Backyard Getaways article on Yountville listed the Bardessono as one of only three Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design platinum hotels in the county. It should have read “in the country.”

In the May issue, we reported that **Orinda Starlight Village Players** first show would be Agatha Christie’s *Towards Zero*. That show has been changed to Christie’s *Go Back for Murder*.

Letters to the Editor

There is No Road Fairy

Orinda’s roads need fixing. I don’t think a single resident of Orinda would disagree with that statement. The question is: Who will fix them? Orinda has tapped every available resource and still come up short on funding. These are our roads; they need repairs, and no one else is going to do it. We have put this off far too long. The longer we put off repairing the roads, the bigger the job and the bigger the price tag. We all need to step up and vote for Measure J to provide much needed funds for repairs.

It is our town. They are our roads. They are our responsibility. They need to be fixed now.

There is no road fairy, but together we can do this. Vote yes on Measure J.

– Nancy Booth

Seemingly Overwhelming but Doable

We Orindans recently passed a sales tax that now raises about \$1 million a year for road repairs; that is in addition to about \$1 million annually from the city’s general fund. But with a backlog of \$40 million in road and drainage work that needs to be done, that \$2 million isn’t even enough to maintain the present condition of our roads, which already rank among the worst in the Bay Area.

A group of concerned citizens is once again coalescing around an effort to pass a \$20 million bond measure in this June’s election. I tip my hat to anyone willing to do the work necessary to tackle this problem. Of course, there are those who will oppose the bond measure saying that it is too hard a sell for a variety of reasons: the cost discrepancies in assessed home values makes the tax inequitable; some oppose new taxes of any kind; others want someone else to pay for it; the 2/3 vote necessary seems too high a bar; some believe the sales tax should have fixed the problem; this bond measure doesn’t fix the whole problem so why bother; and lastly, the general distrust of city hall. These opponents would be right; it does seem overwhelming.

But I see it a little differently. My neighborhood’s experience repaving Crestview Drive was also financially inequitable. About half of the 125 property owners chipped in \$1,000, a few gave twice as much, some gave less, and over 1/3 gave no money at all, but all of us who live along Crestview have benefitted directly every

day since. We were not able to repave the entire street, rather only about 1/3 of it, but it was the section in the worst condition and we all drive it every day so the quality of life has improved dramatically for everyone. Safety is no longer such a pressing issue. Our property values and vehicles have not suffered. The road will be in good repair for many more years, and our neighborhood has enjoyed an enhanced community feeling. There were those who said it couldn’t be done, but we proved them wrong.

I intend to support the upcoming measure, both in print and in cash, as it costs money to wage and win a campaign. If you’d like to join us, you can make a check out to: Fix Orinda’s Roads Now! And send it to PO Box 54, Orinda, CA 94563. Please include the following required information: name, address, phone number, occupation and employer.

– Diana Stephens

Fix the Roads

Common sense says Fix Orinda’s Roads. They are only going to get worse and then cost even more to fix. Our “city fathers” have done a good job in starting the fix but there is much left to be done and we can’t stop now. Otherwise we will slip further back in the hole again.

– Dot and Ray Wilson

Taking a closer Look — Measure J is not the way

The May front page article, “Phase 2 of 10-Year Road Repair Plan on June 3 Ballot,” of this paper said: “A January 2014 survey revealed that 70 percent of the 402 Orinda voters polled would support such a bond measure to fix their streets.” The actual survey captions (page 13 of the survey) say: “Total Yes 70 percent.” Both the article and the survey captions are misleading. The actual survey results were: 38 percent Definitely Yes; 26 percent Probably yes; 7 percent Undecided, leaning yes. “Probably” and “leaning” are not the same as “yes.”

When we take a closer look, we find that the council has acted hastily and irresponsibly. For example, they have not made the time to develop, or cause to be developed, an appropriate and comprehensive definitive plan to fix our roads and drains. Their approach is piecemeal and lacks full disclosure of the project’s costs and dimensions. The city wants the taxpayer’s money before they’ve put together a definitive plan.



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After more than two years developing their plan, they have not even put forth meaningful design criteria. An “average” Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 70 is meaningless as design criteria. How can there be merit to a plan that lacks the most

important first step—meaningful design criteria?

And the bond language is way too open-ended. Why would any Orinda citizen agree to approve a measure that commits

[SEE LETTERS page 6]

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Send letters to: Editor, *The Orinda News*, P.O. Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563, fax them to 254-8312, or email to news@orindaassociation.org. Letters to the Editor for the July issue are due June 5, 2014.

For display advertising rates, call Jill Gelster at 925-528-9225 or email to jill@aspenconsult.net. The deadline for the July issue is June 5, 2014.

FIRE / POLICE / EBMUD

Sleepy Hollow First Neighborhood to Receive Firewise Designation

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

On May 8, the Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) recognized the Sleepy Hollow neighborhood as the first Firewise Community in Contra Costa County. The neighborhood won the award for its efforts to reduce the vulnerability of homes and landscapes to wildfire.

“We just don’t want to think about wildfire burning homes in our neighborhood, but we know it can happen here,” said neighborhood representative Deb Stephenson. “That’s why it’s so important

to keep working together to keep our community safe.”

Sleepy Hollow residents began working with the MOFD in 2011, conducting a wildfire hazard assessment and developing a plan to address safety concerns. The residents met a rigorous set of requirements to gain the Firewise status.

“Wildland/Urban intermix fires are no stranger to the East Bay,” said MOFD Fire Chief Stephen Healy. “In October of 1991, the East Bay hills firestorm started just 2 ½ miles southwest of Sleepy Hollow. That fire burned over 1,500 acres, destroyed nearly 3,800 dwellings, injured



SALLY HOGARTY

(L-R) Lamorinda Emergency Preparedness Coordinator **Dennis Rein**, Sleepy Hollow FireWise Community Representative **Deb Stephenson**, Fire Marshal **Kathy Leonard**, Fire Chief **Stephen Healy**, Cal Fire Division Chief **David Shaw**, and State Fire Marshal **Tanya Hoover**.

159 people and took 25 lives.” According to Healy, the current drought conditions mean another bad fire season for the East Bay. To date, rain totals are just 42 percent of normal.

Fire-prone communities, such as Orinda, can work with local professionals to earn the Firewise status and reduce vulnerability to a wildfire. For more information, go to www.firewise.org/usa.



POLICE BLOTTER

April Through May 12, 2014

Battery: 2 incidents at Orinda Convalescent and undisclosed location.

Burglary: 1 incident at Stein Way/Moraga Way.

Burglary, Auto: 2 incidents at Moraga Rd. and El Nido Ranch Rd.

Burglary, Residential: 6 incidents at Bates Blvd., Ivy Blvd., Juniper Dr., Bel Air Dr., Stein Way/Moraga Way and La Sombre Ct.

Credit Card Fraud: 1 incident at Orinda Way.

Identity Theft: 7 incidents at Monte Vista Rd., Oak Rd., Muth Dr., Dias Dorados Rd., Tarry Lane (2) and El Gavilan Rd.

Petty Theft: 6 incidents at Marston Rd., Camino Don Miguel, Claremont Ave., La Cuesta (2) and Crossridge Pl.

Stolen Vehicle: 5 incidents at Ardith Dr., Bates Blvd./Davis Rd. (2) and Tahos Rd. (2)

Vandalism: 5 incidents at Rheem Blvd., El Toyonal, Wilder Rd., Valley View Dr./Moraga Way, and El Nido Ranch Rd./St. Stephens.

Vandalism, Felony: 1 incident at Miramonte High School.

Arrests

Burglary, Commercial: 1 arrest at Rite Aid.

Counterfeit: 1 arrest at Wilder Parking Lot.

Driving Under Influence (DUI) – Misd: 10 arrests at Moraga Way/Camino Encinas (3), Camino Pablo/Miner Rd., Camino Pablo/Los Amigos, Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd., Camino Pablo/Santa Maria Way, St. Stephens Dr./Tahos Rd., and Camino Pablo/Camino Sobrante (2).

Drunk in Public: 1 incident at Moraga Way.

Stolen Vehicle Recovery: 2 incidents at Oak Dr. and Altarinda.

Warrant Arrests: 3 arrests at Bryant Way/Davis Rd., Hwy. 24/Camino Pablo and Oak Rd.

Orinda BART Station

Identity Theft: 3 reports.

– Compiled by Jeanette Irving,
Orinda Police Department

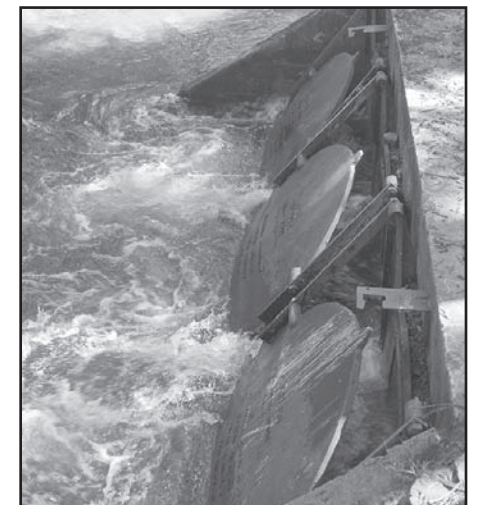
EBMUD Fills Reservoirs with Sacramento River Water

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

This year marks the second driest year on record, the driest being 1977. As a result, the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) is pumping water from the Sacramento River to help fill local reservoirs. Some 16,000 acre-feet (about 5.2 billion gallons) of water is being pumped 130 miles via aqueduct to the San Pablo Reservoir and Upper San Leandro Reservoir, which is about one month’s worth of East Bay water demand. The aqueduct will discharge 30 to 90 million gallons per day through June.

The additional water comes from the Freeport Regional Water Facility, a \$1 billion installation that was constructed between 2006 and 2009. EBMUD invested \$480 million into planning, design and construction of the project. The Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) provided the balance of the funds.

The water takes 60 days to travel from the Freeport facility to the East Bay reservoirs. The water costs between \$350 and \$450 per acre-foot to purchase, treat and deliver. All water being pumped meets or exceeds state and federal regulations on water quality.



DAVID DIERKS

Water from the EBMUD’s Mokelumne aqueduct pours into San Pablo Creek, where it flows into San Pablo Reservoir.

The Freeport project has been in the works since 1970, when EBMUD attained approval to divert water from the American River to protect against future drought years. After 30 years of negotiations, the Sacramento River was used instead of the American River and the Freeport Regional Water Authority (FRWA) was formed in 2002. In July 2007, construction began on [SEE EBMUD page 6]

Additional Police Activity From April Through May 12

- Assisted patrol units with burglary suppression.
- Attempting to have Feds file “felon in possession of a handgun” case.
- Seven misdemeanors filed.
- 2 felony DUI cases filed.
- Ongoing investigation of welfare fraud.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

◆ LETTERS from page 4

him/her to >20 years of payments but carries no contractual agreement between both financing and specific performance?

Most Orindans want to fix the roads, but we want to do so responsibly, cost effectively, and in a timely manner – e.g. eight years or less. We recognize it is a major capital improvement project. We want a real Definitive Plan that identifies the roads to be fixed with meaningful design criteria. We want to do it in manner that protects taxpayers from funding “other” roads and municipal “safety” projects that fit the Council’s whims.

Doing it right and protecting taxpayers is not difficult. Measure J is not the way.
– Chris Kniel

Please Fix Orinda’s Roads

Orinda’s roads are in terrible disrepair. I believe these poor roads are hurting property values in Orinda. We need to fix our roads. Delaying the repair process will only cost us more in the future as the roads deteriorate more rapidly over time. The citizens of Orinda have been discussing solutions for a number of years. Measure J funding will support a terrific next step in repairing our roads. We cannot delay taking action any longer.

Measure J provides funding to fix our worst residential roads. It will improve safety for drivers, passengers, bike riders, and pedestrians. It will also improve the overall quality of life in Orinda for everyone.

I urge you to vote yes on Measure J!

– Craig Jorgens

Roads are Fundamental Infrastructure

I am a fiscal conservative usually opposed to any new taxes and skeptical of government promises. But I am a realist.

Our roads are our most fundamental city infrastructure. They need our attention. Repairs are costly. Measure J’s \$20 million bond does not entirely solve our problem or make up for past neglect. But Measure J is a good investment that will make a difference. All funds are dedicated to the residential roads that need help most, managed under the oversight of a citizen committee. Vote Yes on J and stay engaged in finding solutions to fix our roads!

– Jason Kaune

DeSaulnier a Good Bet for Congress

When U.S. Congressman George Miller announced his retirement after 20 terms in Congress, many of us in his Contra Costa district wondered who would be a strong candidate as his successor. We were delighted to see State Senator Mark DeSaulnier put his name in that hat. He has been endorsed by Congressman Miller.

Senator DeSaulnier knows our district well after serving on the Concord City Council, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, State Assembly and now as our State Senator. He established policies to protect worker safety, pushed for funding that brought BART to East Contra Costa and a new fourth bore in the Caldecott Tunnel. In the California Legislature, he continues to sponsor policies to hold state agencies on public works projects accountable for how they spend our tax payer dollars and insure that valuable health and human services dollars are budgeted wisely.

We are offering an opportunity for local residents to meet Senator DeSaulnier in a casual, home setting. Please join us in a wine and cheese fundraiser to support Mark Desaulnier for Congress Saturday, May 31, 4 – 6 pm at a private Orinda residence. For more information, please contact 925 957-1123.

– Maryam Asgari and Marc Marchiel

Envisioning 21st Century Orinda

We are writing to state our support for Measure J on the June ballot which would provide \$20 million in bond funds to fix Orinda roads. The bonds would be paid for by a tax of about \$110 annually on homeowners. We find that Measure J is a sound and prudent investment in long-overdue infrastructure repairs and necessary to maintain our quality of life and the economic viability of our semi-rural residential neighborhoods. We disagree with those who urge a No vote on Measure J for the following reasons:

Measure J is part of an orderly and timely multi-year plan which supplements earlier revenues from a half-cent sales tax voters approved in 2012. Each phase of the financing plan enables the city to repair roads and storm drains so that we will no longer have the lowest rating in Contra Costa County.

Low interest rates and an urgent and unquestioned need for road and storm drain repair prompts us to agree that now is the time to approve this bond act. Further, long term debt when paid for by a designated revenue source is an appropriate and legitimate funding mechanism for capital improvements, which provide long-term benefits to the residents of our community.

Measure J contains safeguards through citizen oversight and an annual audit to convince us that the funds will be well spent implementing the Orinda Roads and Drainage Repair Plan. This plan has been vetted and publicly approved. We disagree with opponents who call for each road repair project to be specified. This is inconsistent with representative democracy and smacks of the ballot box budgeting, reviled by public finance experts.

We the Undersigned are meeting on a monthly basis to dialogue with each other and with organizations and individuals in Orinda under the umbrella theme “Envisioning 21st Century Orinda.” We are still in formation, but welcome conversation with all those who live and work here who are concerned about our community’s future. One of the values we hold dear is quality infrastructure for our city, and thus we wanted to express support for this important ballot measure.

– Karen Brockwell, David Finkbeiner, Michael Hofmayer, Rev. Hubert Ivery, Elisabeth and Michael Kersten, Eartha Newsong, Valerie Sloven and Bill Waterman

Don’t Delay Road Repairs

Everyone in Orinda understands that our roads are in deplorable condition. Mea-

sure J is a prudent and responsible plan that is designed to accelerate the repair of Orinda’s worst roads and storm drains. A Yes vote will expend approximately \$20 million over the next four years to repair the worst of our residential roads. Expenditures will be audited and are under the supervision of a citizen’s infrastructure oversight commission, using established criteria and focusing on repair of the worst roads first. A No vote will only further delay these needed repairs (perhaps for years) as the roads continue to deteriorate, costs increase, and we quarrel over how to pay for something we essentially all agree needs to be done as soon as possible. A Yes vote, on the other hand, will allow us to begin residential road repair now and to do so in a way that will have a major positive impact on our worst roads. It will improve the safety and appearance of our roads, reduce unnecessary tire wear and auto repairs, enhance property values and increase the quality of life in Orinda. We should not further delay these needed repairs. Please vote Yes on Measure J!

–Brad Barber

◆ EBMUD from page 5

the pipelines and pumping plants to connect FRWA to EBMUD’s Mokelumne aqueducts, which supply water to the Orinda Water Treatment Plant and the Upper San Leandro Water Treatment Plant.

The Freeport facility started operating in November 2011 when it began providing water to SCWA. This year, EBMUD activated its federal drought water rights and water from the Sacramento River is flowing to the East Bay for the first time.

Typically, water demand doubles, and sometimes triples, during summer months. In February, EBMUD requested that customers cut back their water use by 10 percent. By conserving water and acquiring additional supplies, EBMUD hopes to meet its customers’ water needs during the drought this summer.

EBMUD has two large reservoirs in the Sierra foothills, Camanche and Pardee, as well as several smaller reservoirs scattered around the East Bay. As of April 20, EBMUD reservoirs were at 61-percent capacity with the largest reservoir, Camanche, at 43-percent capacity. EBMUD gets the majority of its water from the Mokelumne watershed, which flows into Camanche and Pardee. In April, Mokelumne rainfall for 2014 reached 23 inches, which is just under half the rainfall of an average year.

For more information, visit www.freeportproject.org or www.ebmud.com.

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CARS

Orinda Classic Car Show Celebrates 10th Year



DAVID DIERKS

Attendees marveling at the fantastic vehicles on display at the 2013 Orinda Classic Car Show.

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

The Orinda Classic Car Show will be taking over Orinda streets in September to celebrate its 10th anniversary. This year's show will feature special exhibits of Porsches, Corvettes and Mustangs.

The three-day event starts on Friday, Sept. 12, with the *Dancing With the Cars: Rebels with a Cause* pre-show party at Orinda Library Plaza. This year's theme is the Rockin' '50s. On Saturday, Sept. 13, the car show will fill the streets around Orinda Motors and spill onto the Orinda Country Club. The event will climax on Sunday, Sept. 14, with *Speed on the Screen's* double feature at the Orinda Theatre of *Dirty Mary Crazy Larry* and *Vanishing Point*.

The car show started a decade ago when Chip Herman had a vision of bringing together the classic car community to raise money for local charities. "Car show longevity like that doesn't occur very often,"

said Herman. "It's become a cornerstone of the community." Another local car show, Lafayette's *Motorama*, was cancelled this year, illustrating how difficult it can be to keep up momentum.

The Orinda Classic Car Show works with the Orinda Association (OA), Orinda Chamber of Commerce, Orinda Country Club, Orinda Motors, Rotary Club of Orinda and Orinda Historical Society Museum. "What makes it unique are the local community partners working together to put on this great community event," said Herman. "And the ever present Orinda Motors remains our long standing Presenting Sponsor."

The OA and Rotary will reprise their roles from last year. The OA is managing the back-office logistics while Rotary will produce the Friday evening event. "The Orinda Rotary has taken the lead for the *Dancing with the Cars* event, and they have a great theme and location. The OA

[SEE CAR SHOW page 8]

CAR TIME

Motorists Beware Bogus Vehicle Repair Recommendations

by JOHN VANEK



We would like to think that all businesses are on the same moral playing field. Unfortunately, greed is a factor and consumers become victims. This is also true of the automotive repair industry. Due to the complexity of today's modern automobile, repairs and maintenance come at a significant price. However, some dealerships take advantage of unsuspecting motorists.

The latest scenario involves trips to the dealership for a warranty repair or recall based on manufacturers' recommendations. However, in some cases, what starts out as a recall turns into a sales opportunity for the dealer. Any auto repair facility must have your permission to do work on your car, including an inspection. Some repair shops try to sneak in an inspection, because you may think that is normal. The free inspection is not required to perform a warranty repair but is often an attempt to sell you more parts and service.

There is nothing wrong with making a recommendation that could increase the re-

liability of the vehicle. There *is* something wrong if the recommended repairs are not warranted. We have had many phone calls from customers inquiring on the price of replacing specific items. When I ask why they think it needs replacing, they often say it was the dealer's recommendation when they took their vehicle in for a warranty repair. I have confirmed many unnecessary recommendations on items such as brakes, water pumps, suspension bushings and tires.

I recently sent a family member to a Dodge dealership in Richmond to have the water pump replaced under warranty. After they performed the inspection, they informed him that his differential fluid required service and his rear brakes were worn out. He felt intimidated and authorized the repairs. Based on a recent inspection of his vehicle at our shop, we reassured him that both items were fine and didn't need attention. He called the dealer

[SEE CAR TIME page 8]

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FARMERS' MARKET

◆ CAR SHOW from page 7

has the lead on much of the car show entry logistics," said Herman. "I'm excited to see such a broad group of organizations working together to put on this series of events in Orinda."

Over the past nine years, more than \$250,000 has been raised for local charities. Funds raised during the *Dancing with the Cars* party benefit the Educational Foundation of Orinda, which provides financial support for every student in Orinda's public schools, as well as Orinda Rotary and other local organizations. Proceeds from vehicle registration fees for the car show go to Seniors Around Town (SAT), which provides alternative transportation for Orinda seniors who are no longer able to drive, as well as other local organizations.

"Just as important as the financial support is the partnership with the car show organization – its volunteers and supporters," said SAT program manager Kate Wiley. "All of their efforts help in spreading awareness of our program to future riders and future volunteer drivers. This partnership is at the heart of what Orinda does so well, bringing people together for a common local good."

SAT has been a beneficiary since the car show's inception, with other groups added as the show has continued. Current beneficiaries include the Orinda Arts Council, Orinda Chamber of Commerce, Orinda Historical Society Museum, Orinda Starlight Village Players and Rotary Club of Orinda.



DAVID DIERKS
Gino Chiodo's 1960 Triumph TR3 was featured at the 2013 Orinda Classic Car Show.

The car show has grown steadily since it began and now brings in more than 200 vehicles every year. *Dancing With the Cars* was added to the schedule in 2008, and *Speed on the Screen* joined the weekend in 2011. "Things are changing all the time in the context of the original plan," said Herman, "It's about cars and having fun."

For more information or to register a vehicle, visit www.orindacarshow.com.

Register a Vehicle for the Orinda Car Show

The 10th annual Orinda Classic Car Show will be held rain or shine on Sept. 13 in Orinda Village at Orinda Motors. Register to display your classic or exotic car or motorcycle. Join the fun and camaraderie – and get the praise you deserve. As those exhibiting before know, it's a great community with lots of interested attendees. The 10 am to 3 pm schedule allows you time to explore charming Orinda and the nearby attractions. Car registration is \$60. Motorcycle registration is \$35. All registration fees support Seniors Around Town and other local groups.

To register, visit www.orindacarshow.com/bring-your-classic-to-the-show.

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Seasoned Shopper

Seeing Red at Market

BARBARA KOBSAR

Good things come in all shades of red this month at the Farmers' Market. Choose from red stone fruits, berries and vegetables that receive their coloring from carotenoids and flavonoids, which are both antioxidants.

Cherries usher in the beginning of the stone fruit season, followed by apricots, peaches, nectarines and plums. Skin color varies from dark red to deep purple and flavors from slightly tart to sweet (look for Brooks, Lamberts and Bing cherries). The delicate flavor of red-blushed Rainier and Royal Ann cherries are relished by many but be warned their soft flesh bruises easily.

Strawberries must be handpicked when fully ripe so what you see is what you get. It's a labor-intensive process, requiring each berry to be picked so the cap stays intact to inhibit deterioration. Shiny berries with an intense aroma and fresh green caps are guaranteed to be your best buy. The size of the strawberry does not affect its flavor – this is determined by growing conditions, stage of ripeness when harvested and variety of berry.

The most common garnet red, round beet grows year-round, a benefit of Northern California's temperate climate. Wash beets before using. Baking is the ideal way to retain flavor and juices (beets can "bleed" their color when cooked), but requires the longest cooking time.

Trim root and greens of each beet to about 1 inch and leave the skin intact. Place small- to medium-sized beets in an ovenproof dish with 1/4 inch of water, cover and bake at 375 degrees for about 1 hour or until soft when tested with a knife. Or wrap beets in foil with a little olive oil and bake at 375 degrees for 50 to 60 minutes. Cool



BARBARA KOBSAR
Emily Grasso and Steve Gentry from Steve's Bees, Orinda's own local honey.

slightly before slipping off the skin. Trim the stem and roots and serve whole, or cool and slice or chop into salads.

Don't pass up more of June's other red-colored prime produce – raspberries, rhubarb, tomatoes, radishes, red onions and red potatoes.

Enjoy and see you at the farmers' market. Barbara Kobsar, The Seasoned Shopper, can be reached at cotkitchen@aol.com For market information visit www.cccfm.org

FRESH CHERRY SALSA

Fresh cherries are fabulous in cobblers, crisps, pies and jams, but try this fresh cherry salsa with grilled chicken or pork tenderloin.

- Half-cup cilantro, coarsely chopped
- 3 tablespoons minced shallots
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- 3/4 pound fresh cherries, stemmed, pitted and halved (about 2 cups)
- 1 jalapeno pepper, sliced very thinly or chopped
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste.

Place all ingredients in a medium bowl and mix gently. Let flavors meld for a few hours in the fridge if you have time before serving. Makes about 2-1/2 cups salsa.

◆ CAR TIME from page 7

back and cancelled the bogus repairs. This kind of thing happens every day. The greed starts with service advisors who are paid on commission. Advisors who hit sales goals are rewarded, while those who don't are often replaced.

The problem ends when automotive consumers find a trustworthy repair shop that will give an honest second opinion. You are in charge, and it's okay to ask questions and get a second opinion. Don't agree to a free inspection unless you trust the people who are doing the inspecting and be aware of what you are signing. It's also a good idea to know the general condition of your vehicle. I am always available for automotive consultation.

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D-DAY / THREE-QUARTER-CENTURY LUNCH

Action Day a Big Success

Orindans turned out in force once again to support Action Day. A program of the Orinda Community Foundation, Action Day brings volunteers together to clean the creeks, weed gardens, do small repairs and much more.

One volunteer was Tom Romaneck, who has his own painting company. Romaneck gave the bathrooms in the Community Center Park a much-needed new coat of paint. "We had kids, teens and adults helping clean the streets around the business districts," said Mark Roberts, one of last year's team leaders. "The kids are especially good at pulling weeds because they're so much closer to the ground."



BILL WATERMAN

Orinda Books to Feature Special D-Day Exhibit of Art, Books and Photographs

By PETER LANDRY
Contributing Writer

To mark the 70th anniversary of D-Day, Orinda Books will present a special exhibit of art, photographs and World War II memorabilia connected to Orinda resident Don Glen-Reiland's book memoir, *From Darien to D-Day*.

Supported by the display and sales of other World War II and D-Day books, the exhibit has been organized by Orinda artist Beryl Glen-Reiland, widow of the book's author.

The exhibit will be on display at the bookstore from 1 to 5 pm on Friday, June 6—the date of the famous D-Day landing by US and Allied troops on the beaches of Normandy in France.

It will feature copies of the book, the paratrooper boots Don Glen-Reiland wore when making his D-Day jump, a painting inspired by the boots, items the author carried, photographs he took and letters that played a central role in his account of his military service during and after D-Day.

From Darien to D-Day chronicled the lives of teenagers thrown into the midst of tumultuous events. Unlike other war memoirs, it is brought to life by the original photos and correspondence, which give it both freshness and immediacy. And unlike other memoirs, it is not just a war story—it is a love story as well.

Glen-Reiland was inspired to write the book after attending the 50th anniversary observance of D-Day in France and being struck by the gratitude of the French people that persisted a half century after the U.S.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Don Glen-Reiland in his World War II uniform. Many of his photos and other memorabilia will be on display at Orinda Books.

and Allied liberation effort.

The book was published in 2004, a year before Don Glen-Reiland died at age 82.

"Don's memoir remains a compelling account of a crucial moment in our nation's history, and a fitting observance for D-Day in this milestone year," Beryl Glen-Reiland says. "As we mark the anniversary, I hope readers, history buffs and art lovers in our community will rediscover this account, and other accounts, of this historic event."

Orinda Books is located at 276 Village Square in Orinda. For information, call 925-254-7606 or go to www.orindabooks.com.

Lafayette Resident Shares Passion for Space Flight at Three-Quarter-Century Club Lunch

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

To further her dream of suborbital space flight, Mary Jo (MJ) Marggraff trained at the National Aerospace Training and Research (NASTAR) Center outside Philadelphia in the Phoenix Centrifuge. A 25-foot arm of a gondola propelled her to a speed of 2,500 mph at which point blood pools in the lower extremities, causing a "grayout" (dimming of vision), which can cause total loss of vision. Another effect was looking 20-plus years older, yet Marggraff took six simulator flights.

"The centrifuge is like the ultimate carnival ride but I held up just fine. After all, it is a small inconvenience when you get to see the universe above and return as an astronaut," she said.

Marggraff, a Lafayette resident, will share her passion for flying at the Three-Quarter Century Club luncheon on June 18, 11:30 am, at the Orinda Community Church Fellowship Hall, 10 Irwin Way. Luncheon organizer John Fazel invites all Orinda residents 75 years of age or older to attend.

"We want to honor our citizens who've reached the three-quarter century mark as



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mary Jo Marggraff trained at the National Aerospace Training and Research Center.

we know they have contributed a great deal to making our community the wonderful place to live that it is," said Fazel, who got the idea for the event from his mother's church in Iowa. He will soon be sending out invitations to those who have attended in the past. This is the 15th anniversary of the luncheon, which is sponsored by

[SEE LUNCHEON page 20]

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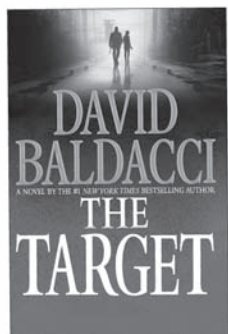
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LIBRARY GALLERY

June Gallery: *The Passage* – New Art from Oakland

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Stop by the gallery this month to see the work of an ensemble of seven prolific and visionary artists who live and work in Oakland. The Orinda Library Gallery invites you to meet John Casey, Patrick Dunaway, Obi Kaufmann, Crystal Morey, Lauren Napolitano, David Polka and Jake Watling at an artists' reception on Sunday, June 8, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. Light refreshments will be served. You will notice the common theme in this ensemble's work is the human figure as well as the exploration of notions of mystic identity. They view the world as a space between locations, a journey and not a destination.

"The Caldecott Tunnel is a convenient metaphor for this show, called *The Passage*," says Obi Kaufmann, curator/co-organizer of the show. "It can be argued that there exists a gulf of culture between

Oakland and the rest of the East Bay as you emerge from the tunnel in either direction; a gulf of economies, cultures, histories and urban/suburban dynamics that from a certain disposition can lead to distrust or, at least, misunderstanding. The tone of this show is inclusive. For one month, there will be no divide between Orinda and Oakland, and as the tunnel connects us physically, *The Passage* will connect us aesthetically." Kaufmann founded the long-running *Live Art Wednesday* events series and was a visual arts writer for the *East Bay Express*. He has been organizing art shows in Oakland for several years.

Artist and co-organizer of the show is John Casey, whose mediums are illustrations and paintings portraying compelling characters loosely based on psychological metaphor (see <http://bunnywax.com>). Patrick Dunaway is an illustrator whose immaculate, large-scale repetitive line drawings depict natural forms (see <http://patrickdunaway.com>).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The dynamic ensemble whose work will be exhibited includes (L to R) **Obi Kaufmann, John Casey, Crystal Morey, Lauren Napolitano, David Polka, Patrick Dunaway** and **Jake Watling**.

patrickdunaway.com). Obi Kaufmann paints watercolors and creates illustrations. He is noted for "Trail Paintings," created while hiking in California (see <http://obi-kaufmann.com>). Crystal Morey delicately renders ceramic busts of humans merging with animal forms (see <http://crystalmorey.com>). Lauren Napolitano's draws lyrical patterns across gentle renderings of human hands using ink on found paper (see <http://www.laurenapolitano.com>). Exhibit designer David Polka is an artist and de-

signer who places a new master's hand on found wood pieces (see <http://davidpolka.com>). Jake Watling's fun and lively paintings depict life and soul in the city (see <http://jakewatling.com>). His work portrays a whimsical sense of character balanced against subconscious, narrative stories that catch the eye and intrigue the mind.

The artists agree that there are three reasons people live in Oakland today: the food, the weather and the art. Look for *A Rose is Just a Rose*, a colorful 14" x 11" acrylic on wood panel painting by John Casey; an intricate 26" x 20" pen and ink drawing by Patrick Dunaway, *Moon*; and Crystal Morey's *Together*, an enigmatic 12" x 8" x 8" ceramic and underglaze bust.

The ensemble hopes viewers appreciate their work as being on the cutting edge of what Oakland is producing as a creative international community. They rail against the singular view of Oakland's gritty reputation of the past and wish to represent the Oakland they know and love: A potent mix of creative, youthful, proud artists who are ready for, and embracing, the world stage.

The gallery is open during normal library hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 am to 8 pm; Friday and Saturday, 10 am to 6 pm; and Sunday, 1 pm to 5 pm. Call 925-254-2184 for more information.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A Rose is Just a Rose, **John Casey's** acrylic on wood panel will be at the June exhibition.

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"Voters should approve Orinda roads measure." Contra Costa Times Editorial

www.FixOrindaRoads.org FPPC Campaign ID 1343654



STUDENTS

◆ GRADUATES from page 1

strong presence around campus in general. Graduation will be a really emotional experience, but I know that Miramonte has fully prepared us for life's journeys that lie ahead. I'm excited to see where everyone ends up."

All 308 eighth graders at **Orinda Intermediate School (OIS)** will be promoted to 9th-grade at a graduation ceremony on June 12 at 6 pm at the school, 80 Ivy Drive. While the vast majority of the students will go on to Miramonte High School, a handful (less than a dozen) will attend Campolindo, Acalanes or a private school, according to OIS Principal Michael Randall.

"The OIS Class of 2014 is a remarkable group of youngsters who are academically



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

OIS 8th-graders (L-R) **Zach Weiner, Eric Banisadr** and **Anna Miskelley** competed in the National Debate Tournament last month.

strong and have the great character to be excellent citizens," said Randall.

The students scored exceptionally well on last year's standardized tests (there are no standardized test scores for the current school year). Ninety-four percent were proficient or advanced in English/Language Arts; 92 percent were proficient or advanced in Writing; 85 percent were

proficient or advanced in Math; and, of about 30 students who took the Algebra assessment last year, 97 percent were proficient or advanced. Three OIS students competed in the National Debate Tournament last month. Additionally, together the 8th-graders volunteered more than 1,000 hours this year as a part of the school's community service program.

Some eighth graders spoke about their OIS experience. "My time here at OIS has been phenomenal," said Mary Kate Henderson. "There has been a great sense of community and support since the first day of school." Amber Nathanson said she will miss "the healthy growing environment" at OIS. Megan Wong said she grew as a student, both academically and socially, while at OIS. "I made new friends that I hope to have for the rest of my life," Wong said. Meghan Taner is moving to Atlanta this summer and feels OIS has prepared her for the transition: "I'm not nervous at all," she said. Elise Ziem came to OIS as a transfer student and found a welcoming environment. "I have had a great experience at OIS, and I am glad I got the opportunity to come to this school," said Ziem.

Seven seniors will graduate from **Holden High School** on June 7 (four seniors graduated in January 2014). The graduation will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, from 11 am to 1 pm, and the community is welcome.

After graduation, several of the students will be attending Laney and Diablo Valley colleges, a few will be taking a gap year or starting a job. Senior Daveon Sadusky received a scholarship to Southern Oregon University. The students have been involved in many activities, internships and jobs during their time at Holden. David McDannald earned Eagle Scout status this year and taught welding to young people at The Crucible in Oakland. Ben Merlin worked as an automotive intern with Orinda Motors and Noah Winter works at Orchard



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(L-R) Eighth-graders **Olivia Gibbs, Virginia Clark, Stevie Earp, Ithemba Bell, Jessica Jensen** and **Taylor He** will graduate June 12 from Orinda Academy.

Supply Hardware.

"Holden provides a sense of community for those of us who couldn't find that in the public schools," said Winter. "It's hard to leave, but I feel like I'm ready for new challenges." He said the best thing about his years at Holden is "lasting friendships."

Orinda Academy sends off 25 seniors and graduates six eighth graders this year. The seniors graduate June 13 at 3 pm

at the Orinda Masonic Hall, 9 Altarinda Road. The eighth grade promotion and All School Awards will be on June 12 at 11:30 am, also at the Masonic Hall. Twenty of the seniors head to four-year colleges, including Georgetown, Rice, Reed, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, UC Irvine, State University of New York – Stony Brook, Mills and Willamette. Four graduates will [SEE GRADUATES 2 page 16]



Laura Abrams

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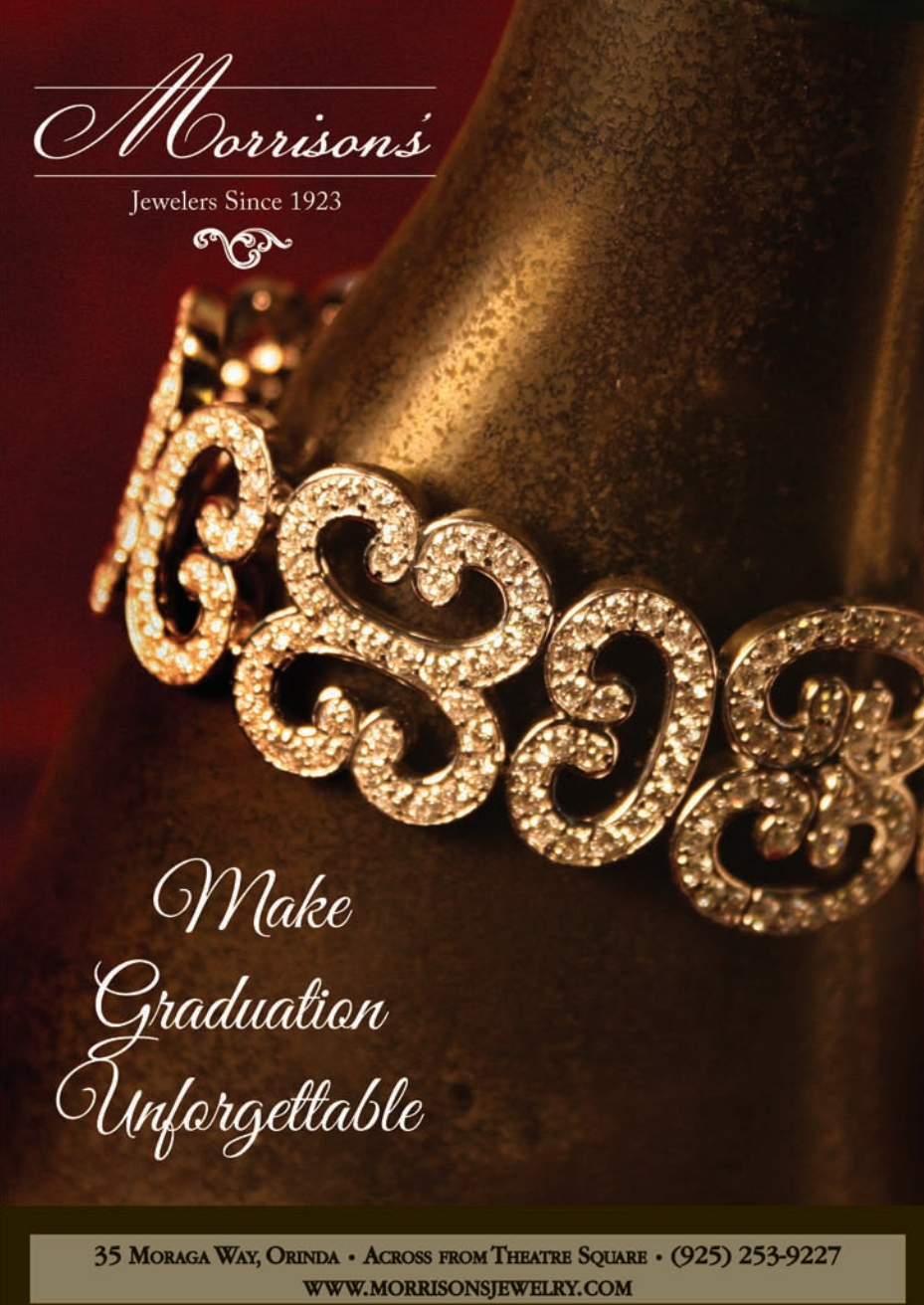

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Lamorinda Rugby Football Club Wraps Up Successful Season

By STEVE PETERSON
Contributing Writer

All teams from the Lamorinda Rugby Football Club have concluded their season. This amazing program is for players under-8 through 18 years. We live in ground zero for youth and high school rugby, with one of the best programs in the United States.

In year-end tournament action at Orinda's Wilder Sports Fields, the ferocious U8's finished fourth out of 20 teams in Northern California. The U10 team finished an incredible season and took first place in Northern California. The U12 teams took second place in the Light division and third in the Open division. In the Danville Invitational Year End Tournament, the middle school U14 teams took third place in the Light division and second in the Open division.

In the high school level, three teams versus the normal two were put on the field this season and all three reached the



The Varsity Gold Team poses after winning against a strong North Bay Rugby Club on Cal's Witter Field in mid-season.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

playoffs, finishing in third or higher in their respective divisions. Varsity Gold fell to a powerful Sierra Foothills team in the quarterfinals, but three of the final four qualifiers came from our local division, proving that we are competing in the top echelon of American high school

rugby. Our high school program also beat both Canadian teams that visited us and recaptured the coveted Bridge Cup over rival San Francisco Golden Gate, sweeping all three matches (Varsity Gold, Varsity Silver and Junior Varsity). We say goodbye to 13 seniors after many

seasons, moving on to attend various universities including Cal, Brown, Texas Christian University and Cal Poly to name a few.

Congratulations to all 300+ players in the program for such amazing accomplishments this season.

Orinda Community Foundation Presents:

NorCal Kids Triathlon
TRI 4 HEALTH

Saturday morning, August 30
Miramonte High School in Orinda, CA

Register online today: www.norcalkidstri.org

Relay and Swim Teams Encouraged at this Year's NorCal Kid's Triathlon

By CHARLES VOLLMAR
Contributing Writer

The 6th Annual NorCal Kid's Triathlon, sponsored by the Orinda Community Foundation, is scheduled for Saturday, August 30, and will be held at Miramonte High School in Orinda.

This event introduces the sport of triathlon to young people in a safe and supportive environment. The race can be whatever kids want it to be – a chance to challenge themselves to something they've never done before, an opportunity for healthy competition between friends and family, or simply a way to get out to enjoy a unique neighborhood gathering while supporting a great cause and helping give back to their community.

This year, the triathlon encourages both individual participation or relay team, especially entrees from local swim clubs, allowing for three participants of the same age to enter as a team. Each team member then completes one part of the course



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A young participant in last year's Triathlon proudly displaces her winning ribbon.

(swim, bike or run).

The race ends in the Miramonte High School stadium under a huge arch, with family and friends cheering on finishers. Complimentary food and beverages are available for participants, and of course, awards are offered for top finishers!

For more information, course distances by age, and registration, go to www.norcalkidstri.org.

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SCHOOLS / STUDENTS

Wagner Ranch Gals Have a Ball at Dolly and Me Party

By KATHRYN G. McCARTY
Staff Writer

Second-grader Hadley Orr summed up Wagner Ranch Elementary School's recent fundraiser, Dollapalooza as "the best three hours of my entire life."

Orr was one of 40 young ladies from Wagner Ranch who shared similar sentiments about the April fundraising event at Wilder Quarry House.

Inspired after attending the Glorietta Elementary School's fundraiser, a "Dolly and Me" party, co-host Julie Rhee brought the idea to Wagner Ranch and teamed with parent Rebeca Robboy and six other moms who co-hosted. Together they scoured the Internet, brainstorming ideas for the party.

The day was full of activities for moms and daughters alike. "While moms enjoyed wine, snacks and views from the Quarry

[SEE DOLLS page 18]



ERIN STEWART
Abby Coleman (R) and Grace Wood enjoyed the Wagner Ranch fundraiser and a special day with their favorite dolls.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

JUNE

- 2 **Miramonte High School** Boosters Club, library, 750 Moraga Way, 6 pm. Visit www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/miramonte.
- 3 **Miramonte High School** Instrumental Concert, theatre, 750 Moraga Way, 7 pm. Visit www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/miramonte.
- 4 **Acalanes Union High School District** (AUHSD) Governing Board meeting, 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette, 7:30 pm. Visit www.acalanes.k12.ca.us. Also June 25.
- 5 **Orinda Intermediate School** Open House, 80 Ivy Drive, 6 pm. Visit www.ois.orindaschools.org.
- 6 **Wagner Ranch Elementary School**, 350 Camino San Pablo, presents the musical *Oliver* June 6 at 4 and 7 pm and June 7 at 3 and 7 pm. Tickets are \$10 general admission or \$12 reserved and can be purchased at the door or online at www.showtix4u.com.
- 7 **Holden High School** Graduation, Fellowship Hall, Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, 11 am to 1 pm. Public welcome. Visit www.holdenhigh.org.
- 9 **Orinda Union School District Board** Meeting, 25 Orinda Way, Suite 200, 6 pm. Also June 23. Visit www.orindaschools.org.
- 12 **Orinda Intermediate School** 8th-grade Promotion, 80 Ivy Drive, 6 pm. Visit www.ois.orindaschools.org.
Orinda Academy 8th-grade Graduation and All School Awards Ceremony, Orinda Masonic Hall, 9 Altarinda Road, 11:30 am.
- 13 **Miramonte High School** Commencement, 750 Moraga Way, 5:30 pm. Visit www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/miramonte.
Orinda Academy Senior Graduation, Orinda Masonic Hall, 9 Altarinda Road, 3 pm.
- 25 **Holden High School** Information Night including campus tour, 10 Irwin Way, 6 to 8 p.m. Visit www.holdenhigh.org.

Oliver! Comes to Wagner Ranch

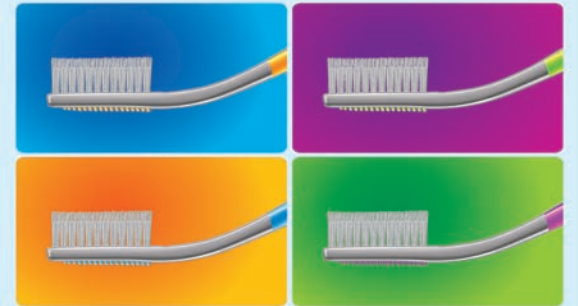


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Cast One takes time out from rehearsals for *Oliver!* Charles Dickens' classic tale of the orphan boy who asks for "more," which runs June 6 at 4 and 7 pm and June 7 at 3 and 7 pm. Ron Pickett directs with Tania Johnson as musical director. The 4th and 5th grade actors have been divided into two casts with Cast A performing on Friday at 4 pm and Saturday at 7 pm. Cast One performs Friday at 7 pm and Saturday at 3 pm. Tickets (\$12 reserved and \$10 general) are available at the door or online at www.showtix4u.com.

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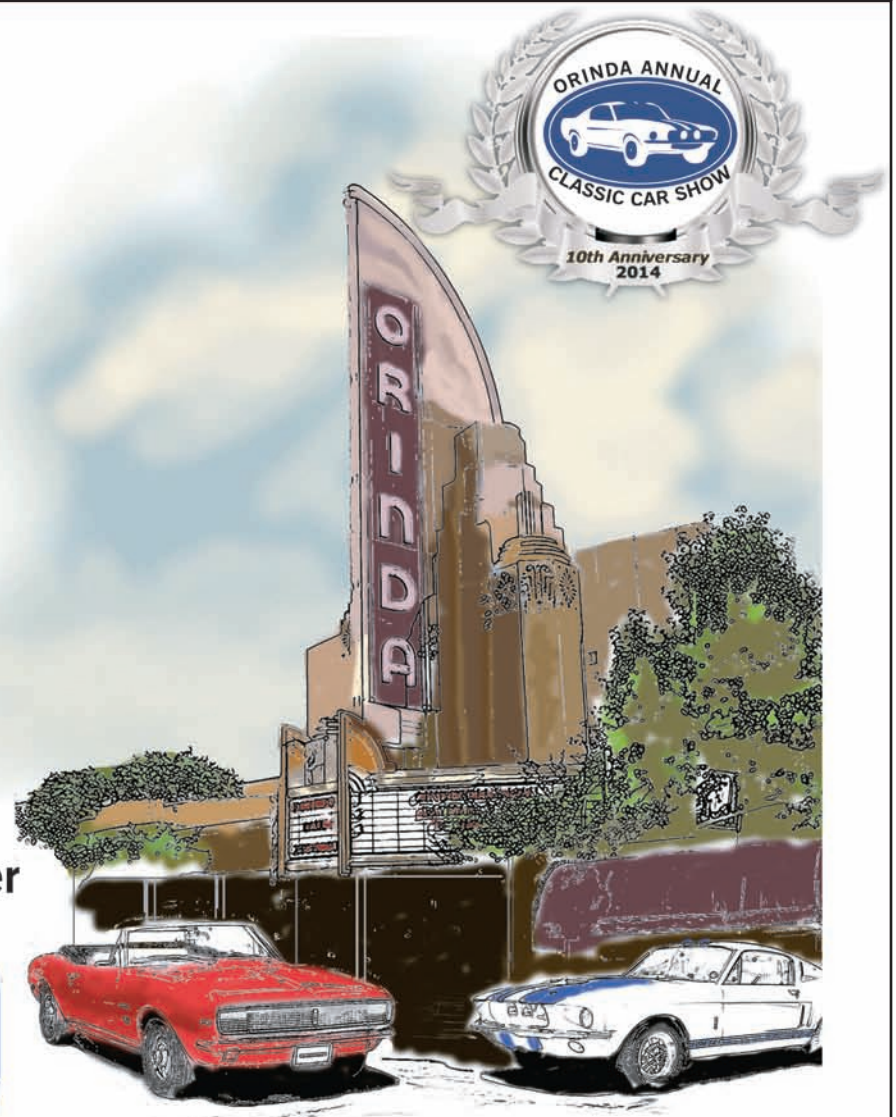
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PERFORMING ARTS / PETS

WomanSing has Southern Exposure



COURTNEY BUTLER

WomanSing presents "Southern Exposure II," on June 1 and June 3 at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church in Lafayette. Under the baton of artistic director Martin Benvenuto, the adventurous East Bay women's chorus takes a diverse journey through music that meditates on the awe of nature, expresses human yearning for freedom, and explores Latin-American music. For tickets, call 925-974-9169 or go to www.womensing.org. (L-R) Noele Martin, Audrey Espey, Alison Billman, Nancy Sheets, Jodie Bourdet (Moraga) and Colleen Henry (Orinda).

Something to Howl About...

Animal Tales

Safe Travels with Your Pet



Jennifer Conroy

Dust off that suitcase and get ready for summer travel. Maybe your travel will be a weekend away or perhaps you're preparing for a longer journey. If those plans are for domestic travel, chances are you may take your companion animal.

Travelling with animals has gotten easier over the years as the hospitality industry has learned how important it is to accommodate animal lovers. There are even websites for lodgings that accept pets – officialpethotels.com, petswelcome.com and tripwithpets.com are just a few that list animal-friendly accommodations.

Airlines have their own individual and specific sets of regulations and fees for pet travel and it's important to understand all their requirements. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requires that travelling pets pass through security – learn more at www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/traveling-pets.

Pre-travel preparations will make the difference between a joyful experience and a miserable one for both you and your animal. If you are travelling by car, help your animal become acclimated with short car trips around the block and then around the neighborhood, extending to longer distances. This will give you the opportunity to discover how well your pet travels.

Some dogs suffer from motion sickness. Depending on the severity, it may be prevented with a few ginger snap cookies as ginger helps settle the stomach or consult your veterinarian for prescription medication.

If your vehicle can hold a portable kennel, so much the better as it will provide extra protection for your companion, plus it can serve as a pet bed when you reach your destination. If you cannot fit a crate

in your car, special pet seats or pet seat belt configurations are available at pet supply stores that prevent your dog or cat roaming around the interior of your car while you are driving. Pets should be well secured, for their safety as well as yours. Give your animal a chance to get used to the seat or seat belt prior to the big trip.

Use extra caution if you leave your animal in the car for any amount of time. Window gates are available at pet supply stores and provide security while allowing good airflow. If you park in the shade, keep in mind that the angle of the sun will shift so it's important to check on the car and move it if necessary. Leave a spill-proof bowl of water in the car as well.

Frequent pit stops will be important to your pet and many rest stops include pet-relieving areas. If you want to offer water, I recommend bringing a good supply of bottled water as part of your animal's travel pack.

Also included in the travel pack should be any medications, your pet's medical record showing vaccinations, favorite toy, tick remover, grooming equipment and a pet first-aid kit. Healthy foods and snacks are available at pet supply stores across the country but it is wise to bring your own supply to avoid changing your animal's diet while travelling.

Possibly the most important step in planning travel with your pet is to get your companion animal micro-chipped. Your veterinarian can do this and many animal shelters offer this service as well. The procedure is painless, inexpensive and it serves as a "dime" for your pet to call home if you get separated.

So, enjoy the summer and have safe travels with your companion animal.



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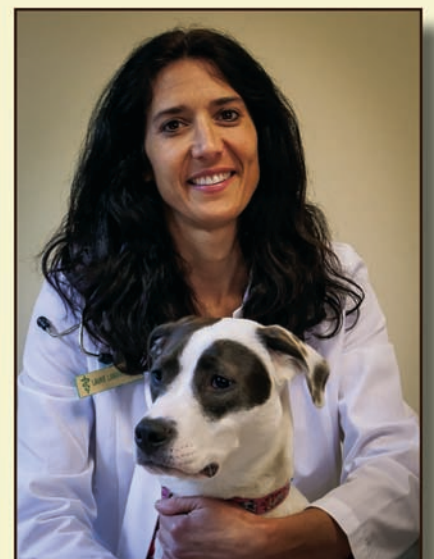


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PERFORMING ARTS

Starlight Players and Butterfield 8 Present *Treasure Island*

Butterfield 8 Theatre Company (B8), in coordination with Orinda Starlight Village Players, will present excerpts from Robert Lewis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* on June 12 at the Orinda Community Center Amphitheater, 28 Orinda Way, 8 pm. *Treasure Island* was chosen to coincide with the Northern California *Pirate Festival* in Vallejo on June 14 and 15. Admission is pay-what-you-can and all proceeds will be split between the two theatre companies.

For the last year, B8 has presented staged readings on the third Thursday of each month including works by Ambrose Bierce, Virginia Woolf, Edgar Allan Poe and Charles Dickens. Previous third Thursday performances were at B8's home in Concord, which they lost in April. Starlight has offered its stage during the summer months to help its sister company continue these third Thursday events.

For more information, visit www.b8company.com or call 925-528-9225.

– David Dierks, Assistant Editor

Renowned Director Returns to Cal Shakes With Shakespeare Comedy

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY
Staff Writer

It's been a banner year for playwright/director Aaron Posner, who returns to the Bruns Amphitheatre this month for the first time in five years to direct William Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, opening June 25.

The nationally acclaimed director just wrapped up the American Repertory Theatre (at Harvard University) production of *The Tempest*, which Posner co-directed with Teller (one-half of the famous Penn and Teller group), with music by Tom Waits and his wife Kathleen Brennan and choreography by dance company Pilobolus.

Posner was one of six finalists for the 2014 Harold and Mimi Steinberg/American Theatre Critics Association New Play Award for his play *Stupid F**king Bird* (an adaptation of Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*) originally produced by Washington, D.C.'s Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company.

In May, The Fountain Theatre in Los Angeles had a sold-out run for Posner's adaptation of Chaim Potok's novel *My Name is Asher Lev*. The play previously ran Off-Broadway, where it won the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Off Broadway Play, as well as the John Gassner Playwriting Award.



KEVIN BERNE

Danny Scheie adds his unique comedic talents to Cal Shakes' *Comedy of Errors*, running June 25 - July 20.

This year, Posner's *Who Am I This Time? (And Other Conundrums of Love)*, based on short stories by Kurt Vonnegut, has enjoyed runs at the North Coast Repertory Theatre in San Diego and at Indiana Repertory Theatre.

Posner has a penchant for Shakespeare's comedies, and is known to Cal Shakes audiences for his direction of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which received rave reviews when Cal Shakes produced the show in 2009.

[SEE COMEDY page 18]

Starlight Presents Agatha Christie Murder Mystery

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Orinda Starlight Village Players present Agatha Christie's *Go Back for Murder* starting June 20.

Directed by Suzan Lorraine, a long-time Village Players' actor and director, this play has not graced the Starlight stage since 1999. The story starts when Caroline Crale, convicted of murdering her husband 15 years ago, sends a letter professing her undeniable innocence to her daughter Carla, played by Starlight regular Laura Martin-Chapin. Carla convinces Justin Fogg (played by Ken Sollazzo), the son of the lawyer that represented Caroline Crale's defense, to aid her in clearing her mother's name. Fogg manages to gather together all those who were present on the day of her father's murder at the scene of the crime. When the witnesses reassemble, Fogg deduces the identity of the real murderer and Carla discovers her true feelings for Fogg.

In addition to Martin-Chapin and Sollazzo, the cast includes many Starlight regulars, including Malcolm Cowler, Jim Fritz, Charlie Guitron and Marian Simpson.



DAVID DIERKS

Laura Martin-Chapin and Ken Sollazzo rehearse for OrSVP's season opener, *Go Back for Murder*.

Joining Starlight for this production are Richard Friedlander, Margaret Gorrell, and Jim Woodbury.

Performances of *Go Back for Murder* run from June 20 through July 12, Friday and Saturday nights at 8:30 pm, with one Thursday performance on June 26 at 8 pm and one Sunday performance on July 6 at 4 pm. The theatre is located in the Orinda Community Center Park at 28 Orinda Way

For more information, visit www.orsvp.org or call 925-528-9225.

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Saint Mary's College Museum of Art

June 1 - July 20

Chihuly's Venetians

61 glass works of art, some enormous, and 11 of Chihuly's preliminary drawings, inspired by the artist's love of Venice and Venetian glass. From the George R. Stroemple Collection, a Stroemple/Stirek Collaboration.

Michael Collopy Face to Face: Movers and Shakers

Large scale photographs, including the Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa, Steve Jobs, Maya Lin, Bono, Alice Walker, Michael Phelps, Tim Lincecum, Kerri Walsh Jennings, Carmelo Anthony, Ray Charles, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Johnny Cash, Clint Eastwood, Carmen Electra, Dave Navarro, and more.

All Natural: Pamela Blotner and Sam Perry

Environmental Sculpture: Perry's reclaimed and fallen wood; Blotner's mixed-media, hand felted endangered animals.

California Grandeur: William Keith's Big Paintings

Opening Day: Sunday June, 1 2014
11 am - 4:30 pm,
Panel with Blotner and Perry, 2 pm,
Reception, 3 pm.

Phone: 925-631-4379
stmarys-ca.edu/museum
Hours: Wed-Sun, 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Museum Admission: \$5 Adults,
K-12 Grades Free

FILM

◆ OA from page 3

we are excited to announce the following parade highlights:

- Many new marching bands this year: The award-winning Diablo Blue Devils "C Corps" youth band makes its debut in our parade; plus newcomers MJ's Brass Boppers Jazz Band; and Mariachi Trio Guitarras de Mexico;
- Plus, favorite bands from 2012: St. Gabriel's Celestial Brass Band; Spirit of '29 and our absolute winner – The Lamorinda Volunteer Marching Band
- Plus, other fantastic youth musical units – Lamorinda Idol Singers and Peter Pan Foundation;
- Plus, two musical groups playing along the parade route – Lewiston Jazz in front of the Community Center and EFO Jazz Band on the corner of Theater Square;
- Plus, all of our favorite floats and entries: Classic Car Show cars, Orinda's schools, pre-schools, political clubs as well as Orinda Police and MOFD firefighters.

We are also pleased to announce other fun activities this year:

- A pre-event pancake breakfast (sponsored by Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club) will start at 7:30 am in the library plaza, followed by an 8 am Flag-Raising and Haley's Run For A Reason;
- Post-parade musical entertainment in the park from The Bonafides, a New Orleans style funk, Motown, jazz and blues band;
- Lots of fun activities for kids: dunk tank, balloon twisters, face painting, football toss by the MHS football team, petting zoo and, new this year, "bricks4kidz" Legos;
- Food and drink galore – Orinda Chamber's fabulous hot dogs, Shelby's delectable eats, a Kettle Corn booth, beer by Orinda Rotary and Tabor Sister-City Foundation, Loard's ice cream, plus a few surprises.

So be sure to get your parade applications in (go to OA's website at <http://orindaassociation.org>), mark your calendars and don't miss this year's event – Tahoe can wait!

◆ GRADUATES 2 from page 11


attend community college and one is pursuing culinary arts.

"I am extremely proud of the Orinda Academy Class of 2014," said Head of School Ron Graydon. "They have set a positive tone for the whole school. They will be going to excellent universities and have very bright futures ahead of them. They are also collectively outstanding individuals with high moral standards who have been very positive role models."

Student body president Ellie Portnoy said that Orinda Academy gave her and her classmates the tools they need to be successful in the future. "Orinda Academy also gave us the self-confidence needed to


overcome our deficits and insecurities," said Portnoy. "As we prepare to graduate, I look at my classmates and I am amazed at how much we have grown. Orinda Academy has transformed all of us into self-advocates who are passionate about whatever interests us. The Class of 2014 will make the world a better place with our compassion and talents that have been fostered at Orinda Academy."

All but one of the six eighth grade Orinda Academy graduates will return next year for high school. "The eighth grade class of 2014 has been a real pleasure to teach," said Mollie Mowat, Middle School Dean. "They are critical thinkers who truly enjoy learning – bright, talented individuals who strive to do their very best."



THE REEL LESS TRAVELED

LOCAL MOVIE SOURCE TAKES
SUMMER HIATUS



Tom Westlake

We'll lead off this month's column with a little behind-the-scenes action. Most of what you read here is dependent on outside sources, including local theatre websites (www.lamorindatheatre.org and www.CAIFF.org); Lamorinda Theatres' Lindsay Pirkle, who keeps me posted on films being presented by Moraga Movers and the Classic Film Showcase; and Efi Lubliner and JoAlice Canterbury, who run the International Film Showcase (<http://internationalshowcase.org>).

Sadly, the showcase will take its usual summer hiatus for the next two months. It seems the summer blockbusters released by the major studios at this time of the year make it difficult for the showcase to compete. But Efi promises a special cinematic treat when the showcase returns in August, so stay tuned.

As to what is showing, *The Goonies* will be screened at the Orinda Theatre on June 12 at 7 pm. Directed by Richard Donner (*Superman I* and *Superman II*, 1978-9) and starring a youthful Josh Brolin, the movie came out during one of the more magical times in Hollywood. Not only was Steven Spielberg at the height of his popularity as a director, he was also writing and producing films for other directors. He co-wrote *The Goonies* with Chris Columbus – a story about a gang of "losers" on a quest for treasure, who encounter dangers along the way, in the style of Indiana Jones. Despite lukewarm reviews, the film gained a kind of cult status. Though the perils faced by the main characters are truly horrific, there's a

real sense of fun behind it all with the *de rigueur* Spielbergian happy ending.

Harking back to 1945, the Moraga Movers offer *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, a film set in the early 1900s and featuring the Nolan family who are poor but possessed of an unshakable optimism. The film marks one of Elia Kazan's more noted works, made well before his landmark *Streetcar Named Desire*, his association with Senator Joe McCarthy and the dreaded blacklist. This is unsullied Kazan with remarkable performances by Dorothy McGuire, Joan Blondell and – in a performance said to rival the prolific actress Margaret O'Brien's early work – Peggy Ann Garner as the Nolans' daughter, Francie. *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* will be screened at the Rheem Theatre on June 18 at 1 pm.

Don't forget to check out the websites mentioned above for movie surprises and, as always, remember to stay in the dark. That's where the reel magic lies.

Community Center Park Concerts

- June 10 - Hey Jude
 - June 17 - Brian Moran Jazz Trio
 - June 24 - Extended Roots
 - July 1 - Bay Bridge Beat
 - July 8 - David Correa and CASCADA
 - July 15 - Lamorinda Idol Singers
 - July 22 - Mike Vax Big Band
 - July 27 - Opera in the Park
 - Aug. 5 - littledog2
 - Aug. 12 - Marc Levine and TLC
- All concerts are 6:30-8:30 pm except July 27, which is 4-6 pm.

A "Thank You" to the DelRietta Golf Tournament Sponsors

Del Rey and Glorietta Schools and Parents Clubs are grateful to the sponsors of
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LOCAL EVENTS

Friday Forum Marks 70th Anniversary of D-Day With Talk on Two World Wars

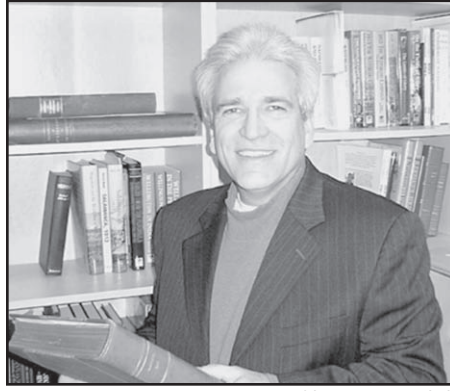
By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

On June 6, which is the 70th anniversary of D-Day when the Allied invasion of Nazi-controlled France began – a critical step in the final liberation of Europe – the topic for the First Friday Forum (FFF) will be “World War I, the Versailles Treaty and Why Germany Lost World War II,” presented by historian Dana Lombardy. The forum will be held in the Sanctuary of Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, at 1:30 pm.

Lombardy says that the “sudden” cease-fire in November 1918 was later used by Nazi propaganda as proof the Germans’ “unbeaten” armies were “stabbed in the back” by their political leaders. In addition, the 1919 Treaty of Versailles worried many important people at the time that the treaty’s harsh terms would only lead to another war. Lombardy will discuss what the real impact of the treaty was on World War II.

Lombardy will also answer such questions as: Why did World War II happen? How were the United States and its allies able to defeat Nazi Germany? What does this mean to Americans today? What lessons can we learn from the mistakes of the past?

Since 1972, Lombardy has worked as a researcher, consultant, cartographer,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Historian **Dana Lombardy** discussed World War II at the First Friday Forum.

designer, editor, speaker and writer on hundreds of history projects. He has appeared in more than 20 historical television documentaries, including multiple episodes of the History Channel’s series Tales of the Gun. He owns Lombardy Studios, a company that produces books and games covering historical military topics and has recently published *World War I Illustrated*, a new book for the World War I Historical Association.

“Dana is an outstanding speaker,” says Fred George, FFF committee member. “Come hear this timely topic and bring a friend, along with your questions.”

Refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall at 1 pm. For information, call 925-283-8722.

Community Celebrates Orinda Library’s 100th Birthday

By ELANA O’LOSKEY
Staff Writer

All who attended the family-friendly celebration on Saturday, May 17, enjoyed a fun party at the library from 3 to 5 pm. Mayor Sue Severson presented Susie Epstein, president of the Friends of the Orinda Library, with a proclamation commemorating the event. Kristen Correll, who coordinated the musicians and singers from Miramonte High School, was delighted with the exuberant performances of the Miramonte Jazz Band, Miramonte Treble Makers and the girls of A caBella. Republic of Cake kept everyone supplied with energy with its tasty birthday cupcakes.

Artist Pascale Cerdan turned her talents to face painting as part of the day’s festivities as she festooned youngsters with ladybugs, butterflies and other colorful designs. Children also received gold balloons handed out by volunteers and made crafts in the Gallery Room under the guidance of librarian Lin Look. Look focused on crafts celebrating the library’s 100th birthday



SALLY HOGARTY
Mayor **Sue Severson** (L) and City Councilmember **Amy Worth** (R) presented a proclamation to Friends of the Orinda Library president **Susie Epstein**.

theme because, “Children find it easy to relate to birthdays.” More than 40 children participated. Some wrote “My favorite memory [of the library]” on individual library birthday cards. Others left wearing colorful birthday crowns and brought home paper birthday cupcakes, complete with decorations and a flameless candle.

Liz Piatt, award-winning quilt designer, [SEE LIBRARY page 20]

The DelRietta Golf Challenge

By FRAN MILLER
Staff Writer

Del Rey Elementary School’s annual golf tournament included a new twist this year with the addition of participants from Glorietta Elementary School. Dubbed the DelRietta Golf Challenge, 64 parents came together on May 5 for a sunny day of 18 holes and various contests at beautiful Moraga Country Club to raise money for their respective schools’ parent clubs.

It was the first time in 13 years that Del Rey strayed from form. Dads Jayson Haines from Del Rey and Al Eames from Glorietta strategized the joint venture during their sons’ season on the same Orinda Baseball Association team. “By getting Al, and thus Glorietta to participate, we accessed a totally different community of parents and were able to raise a bit more money for the schools,” said Haines. “Everyone really enjoyed the event.”

The sponsor support from local businesses, doctors and dentists greatly enhanced the event and was much appreciated. “It was simply a beautiful day to be in out the sun, enjoying the social aspects, raising money, and...oh yeah, I got to hit a little white ball every once in a while,” said tournament foursome winner Edwin Lee.

Sponsors included: Barbacoa and Table 24; Let Us Copy & Print; C.R. Hunt Building & Design; Arborwell; Village Associates, Margaret Zucker and Ignacio Vega; Mackenzie Capital Management; Dr. Pete Heckler; Diablo Foods; Mancheno Insurance; C Cubed; Smario Electric Inc.; Aloha Denistry; John Ogro - D.D.S. Orthodontics; Dr. Keith Gronbach; Axelrode Orthodontics; Mary H. Smith - D.D.S. Orinda; Walnut Creek Honda; Acura of Walnut Creek; Village Pizza; and *The Orinda News*.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
DelRietta Golf Challenge organizers (L-R) **Al Eames** and **Jayson Haines**, with participant **Rod Welch**.

Living Lean, Orinda’s premiere personal training and fitness program specialist, was title sponsor. “Living Lean began as an effort to help others lead healthier, happier lives,” said owner Sheena Lakhotia. “Supporting the community by sponsoring events such as the DelRietta Golf Tournament falls right in line with the Living Lean mission.”

Del Rey won the tournament by a 28-point margin (Del Rey lowest 5 scores: 320; Glorietta lowest 5 scores: 348), though [SEE GOLF page 18]



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CONTINUATIONS

◆ GOLF from page 17

there were many other happy winners of various contests scattered throughout the course. Results included: Lowest Score 58 – Haines, Patterson, Lee, and Chan; Closest to Hole 5 – J. Berquist at 2'10"; Closest to Hole 7 – G. Johnson at 9'11"; Closest to Hole 10 – R. Welch at 22"; Closest to Hole 15 – S. Reichenbach at 46"; Closest to Hole 17 – D. Whipple at 11'5"; Men's Most Accurate Drive Hole 8 – S. Reichenbach at 4'0"; Women's Most Accurate Drive Hole 8 – L. Karp at 14'8"; Longest Drive Hole 13 – E. Lee.

◆ DOLLS from page 13

House, the girls sipped lemonade from tiny cups and snacked on doll-sized delights, including cupcakes donated by Republic of Cake," Robboy said. Activities included crafts and games, an imaginary slumber party and a hair salon where girls and dolls got their hair styled by middle school volunteers.

After the girls were "dolloed up," they were treated to a photo shoot in a giant American Girl box. After a choreography lesson, they treated their mothers to a dance routine and fashion show. "The girls rocked the runway with their dolls," said Robboy.

Budget cuts are forcing parents to find new and creative ways to raise money for schools, according to Robboy, whose two first graders attend Wagner Ranch. She said the successful fundraiser used "a lot of mom power."

The moms also had a lot of help from their daughters. Robboy's 7-year-old daughter Phoebe learned a lot from working on the event, "including why we need to help raise money for her school," Robboy said. "The doll parties are a lot of work but

The fundraising goal was \$10,000, and organizers are confident their goal was met. "We will put these funds to good use," said Glorietta Parents' Club Co-President, Courtney Bennett.

"We hear it over and over and can become inured to it, but state budget cuts are taking a toll on our public schools," says Eames. "But with an event such as this golf tournament, we can have fun and at the same time provide a little help to our wonderful Orinda elementary schools. We hope next year to possibly include Sleepy Hollow and Wagner Ranch. The DelRietta Waglow Golf Challenge perhaps?"

certainly more fun, and they are a great way for parents to get to know each other. Schools need to augment more traditional wrapping paper fundraisers and check-writing campaigns."

Rhee, who has two daughters who participated in the doll party, added, "The parties that the parents and school offer range widely and they are great community builders."

When the Wagner Ranch party concluded, co-host Allison Skidgel's 7-year-old daughter Ava lamented, "I wish we were just getting here to start the party again."

Glorietta Elementary parent Amy Stevens is looking forward to Glorietta's second Dolly and Me party on Sunday, June 8 from 1 to 4 pm. The party will be in a beautiful garden setting in a home in Orinda. "The girls and their dolls will enjoy a spa fantasy and a garden celebration they will remember for years to come," said Stevens.

Tickets to the Glorietta event are \$50 per child with proceeds benefitting the Glorietta Parents Club. Contact Aimee Stevens at 925-570-5654 or via email at 4stevens@sbcglobal.net for more information.

◆ COMEDY from page 15

Cal Shakes has a variety of educational events that run with each of its season's productions. On June 29 and July 13, audiences can attend *Meet the Artist* events to discuss *The Comedy of Errors* with members of the cast following the show. Audience members who wish to learn more about the show may meet the dramaturg during the *Insight Matinee* after the show on July 6; and young people ages 13-18 can enjoy pizza and a special backstage tour before the show during *Teen Nights* on July 8 and July 17. Nightly *Grove Talks*, led by professional dramaturgs and educators, will be held 45 minutes before curtain. In addition, Tuesday *Tasting Nights* will be

held throughout the run.

The Comedy of Errors runs June 25 through July 20, Tuesdays through Thursdays at 7:30 pm, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, and Sundays at 4 pm. There will be one Saturday matinee on July 19 at 2 pm. The Bruns Amphitheater is located at 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda. The grounds open two hours before curtain and the theater offers free shuttle service from the Orinda BART station (beginning 90 minutes prior to curtain) as well as free onsite parking. For more information or to charge tickets (which are \$35 to \$66) by phone, call the Box Office at 510-548-9666. Additional information and online ticketing are available at www.calshakes.org.

◆ ASSEMBLY from page 1

fiscal policies, but he has already succeeded in offending a number of people, primarily Service Employee International Union Local 1021, one of the unions that counts BART transit workers among its members.

"The hit pieces have been amazing," says Glazer, a Democrat whose wife Melba and daughters Alex and Ariel help staff his campaign office. "It underscores a lot of the meanness in politics. It's nothing new, but it's more difficult to take when it's about you."

The direct mail pieces Glazer refers to accuse him of being a top political consultant for a political action committee funded by tobacco, oil, pharmaceutical and insurance companies. A charge Glazer denies.

"I know I've offended the transit unions with my opposition to BART strikes," Glazer says. "But I felt I needed to speak up. If there is an issue with BART, the discussion should include those who use the service and the taxpayers who pay for it. It's not that I don't care about the employees. I want them to be fairly compensated. But, how can you shut down BART when the entire Bay Area is built around public transit?"

A long-time advisor to Governor Jerry Brown, Glazer also hopes to strengthen public schools, protect open space and the environment if elected. The Mayors of Orinda, Lafayette, Moraga and Lafayette, the California Association of Realtors and the *San Francisco Chronicle* endorse Glazer (www.glazer4assembly.com).

Glazer's opposition in the Assembly race includes fellow Democrat Newell Arnerich, the Mayor of Danville and an award-winning architect, who wants to streamline regulations to attract businesses and jobs as well as create long-term strategies to fund roads and schools (www.arnerichforassembly.org). "I don't know if a proven leader who doesn't take special interest money can win, but I'd like to try," Arnerich says in one of his campaign pieces.

Republican Catharine Baker, an attorney working with small businesses and non-

profits, hopes to work across party lines to update regulations that suppress job creation and to make infrastructure investments that support economic prosperity. "I have two primary motivations for running: Kate and Alex, my 10-year-old children," says Baker on her website (www.bakerforassembly.com). "As a parent raising young children in California, I consider what kind of state I want my children and their generation to live in."

Democrat Tim Sbranti, the Mayor of Dublin and a 16-year high school teacher and coach, says he will promote renewable energy and implement effective water conservation measures if elected. "Some of the things I want to bring to Sacramento are the things I've focused on in Dublin, which include the priorities of education, jobs creation, transportation and infrastructure and a balanced budget with surpluses," he says in a video on his website (www.timsbranti.com). Sbranti counts the California Democratic Party, Sierra Club California, and the Deputy Sheriffs Association of Alameda County among his endorsers.

According to Glazer, winning isn't everything. "Of course, I'd like to be elected, but my life isn't wrapped up with someone calling me an Assembly person or a City Council person," he says. "It's about family and friends and civic engagements that are meaningful. Sometimes, the ambition people have for these positions can get in the way."

The statewide primary election takes place June 3. According to Proposition 14, passed by California voters in June 2010, the two candidates receiving the highest and second-highest number of votes will move on to the general election in November, even if both are from the same party.

Election Day
June 3

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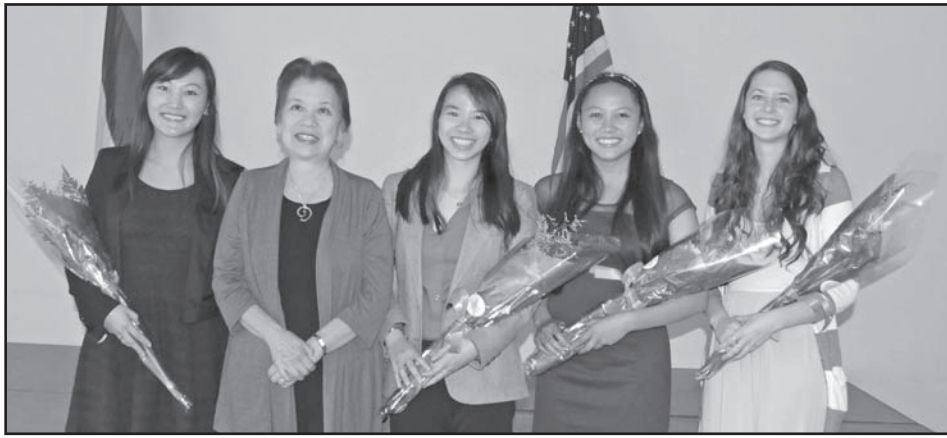
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AAUW-OML Branch Tech Trek and Scholarship Winners an Inspiration



SANDY FOXNER

Scholarship Award winners (L-R): **Karen Trang**, speaker **Dr. Marinda Wu**, **Linda Phung**, **Samantha Garcia** and **Emma Patton**.



SANDY FOXNER

Tech Trek Scholarship winners (L-R): **Sharon Yuan**, **Claire Gallagher**, **Sofia Elise West**, **Dara Kazmierowski**, **Dr. Marinda Wu** (speaker), **Ally Scarpitti** and **Jane Fong**.

By SANDY FOX-SOHNER, MARY ANN MCLEOD AND SALLY SWANSON
Contributing Writers

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette (OML) Branch hosted the win-

ners of six tech trek camp scholarships and four college age scholarships on April 27.

With the help of the scholarships, six Lamorinda middle school girls will attend the Grace Hopper Tech Trek camp on the

Stanford University campus in July. Since 1998, AAUW-OML has sent 59 girls to Tech Trek camp.

This year's awardees included: Jane Fong, Orinda Intermediate School, a builder from Legos to woodworking and Origami who wants to create safe buildings to save lives; Dara Kazmierowski, Orinda Intermediate School, who loves biology and is focused on a career in science or medicine; Ally Scarpitti, Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, a passionate "techie" since she was five years old who helps family, friends and neighbors with technology challenges; Sharon Yuan, Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, a curious, big thinker who loves many areas of science including computer programming, biology and medical science; Claire Gallagher, Stanley Intermediate School, who exudes enthusiasm for math and science and hopes to build a robot that can explore the ocean so she can combine being an engineer and an oceanographer; and Sofia Elise West, Stanley Intermediate School, who is interested in engineering and math, with a

possible career in chemical engineering or veterinary medicine.

Keynote speaker Dr. Marinda Wu provided an inspirational presentation regarding the challenges she faced as she pursued her Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry at a time when few women were entering such fields. She not only overcame the obstacles but went on to a successful career as an industrial chemist, a leadership role in the scientific community as president of the American Chemical Society, and as an ambassador for science and technology education.

In addition to the six intermediate school age award winners, four young college age women were acknowledged for their academic achievements and passion for the sciences with scholarships. They included: Karen Trang (\$5,000 award from the Gayle Uilkema gift), St. Mary's College; Linda Phung (\$5,000 award from the Gayle Uilkema gift), Miramonte High School; Samantha Garcia (\$800 from the AAUW-OML), Campolindo High School; and Emma Patton (\$800 from the AAUW-OML), Miramonte High School.

Spontaneous Smiley Joins Operation Smile for Medical Missions

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Spontaneous Smiley, the brainchild of Tot Drop founder and Orinda resident Ruth Kaiser, is going to the Philippines in June on a medical mission with Operation Smile, which provides free surgeries to repair cleft lip, cleft palate and other deformities for children around the world. "What Operation Smile does is just phenomenal," said Kaiser. "They do a surgery for every \$240 donation. Forty-five minutes on the table and they're fixed."

Spontaneous Smiley is Kaiser's art project that draws attention to smiley faces in ordinary objects. In 2009, Kaiser contacted Operation Smile and offered to donate \$1 for every smile uploaded to Spontaneous Smiley. Each year, Kaiser pays for the first surgery provided by Spontaneous Smiley and the community funds the rest. "Small groups and individuals contact me through the website to keep the dollar-a-smile pledge alive, enough to pay for 30 kids," said Kaiser.

Kaiser is going to the Philippines for 10 days with Operation Smile. "I'm going to be on a team of about 150 people from all over the world - anesthesiologists, orthodontics, dentists and surgeons. About 800 kids will get new smiles," said Kaiser.

Anytime there is a gap in the schedule, the team will perform a surgery on an adult. "In some of these communities, there are people who've lived up to 50 years with a deformity, and they've never had it fixed. It's pretty debilitating," said Kaiser. "It can be a visible cleft that gets you taunted. It can also be a cleft inside, a hole in the roof of your mouth, which means that when you



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ruth Kaiser shows off the staging area for the toys and art supplies she will take to the Philippines.

eat, food can go right into your sinuses. It makes swallowing hard, it makes speaking hard, it makes enunciating difficult."

The first day of each medical mission is a screening, when hundreds of children show up. Every child gets a full medical workup to see if they qualify for surgery. "The ones who get turned down are then given a list of things they need to do to be ready for surgery," said Kaiser. "Some kids come in with a fever, so they can't have surgery. Or they're underweight. Or, they are so malnourished that they're not strong enough for surgery. Operation Smile gets them hooked up with medical people so that the next time Operation Smile shows up, six months or a year later, those kids are ready for surgery and are at the top of the list."

Operation Smile works with high school clubs all across the USA. High schoolers raise funds for the organization and teenagers who have been very involved

[SEE SMILES page 23]



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CALENDAR

ON THE CALENDAR

JUNE

- 1 **WomenSing** presents *Southern Exposure II* at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, 4 pm; also June 3 at 8 pm. Tickets are \$30 premium seats, \$25 general admission, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for students/youth 18 and under. For tickets visit www.womensing.org. Tickets also available at the door.
Story Hour with Cathy Goshorn for 2 to 4 year olds and caregivers, Thursdays, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 10 to 11 am. Call 925-254-7606.
- 4 **Orinda Books** hosts John Shors discussing his new book, *Temple of a Thousand Faces*, a novel of love and betrayal 1,000 years ago against the backdrop of the legendary temple of Angkor Wat, 276 Village Square, 2 pm. Call 925-254-7606.
- 6 **Orinda Books** hosts Orinda resident and artist Beryl Glen-Reiland in a talk and exhibit commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Normandy landings on D-Day. Her late husband, Don Glen-Reiland was the author of the historical memoir, *From Darien to D-Day*, 276 Village Square, 1 pm. Call 925-254-7606.
First Friday Forum features a talk on *World War I, the Versailles Treaty and Why Germany Lost World War II*, presented by historian Dana Lombardy, Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, 1:30 pm, with refreshments prior to the talk at 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- 7 **Orinda Farmers' Market**, Orinda Way, Saturdays, 9 am to 1 pm.
- 8 **Orinda Books** hosts Jacqueline Widmar Stewart discussing her new book, *Champagne Regained*, an illustrated book about the history and culture of the famed French region, 276 Village Square, 1 pm. Call 925-254-7606.
- 10 **Concert-in-the-Park**, Hey Jude, '60's and '70's rock, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Orinda Community Center Park. www.cityoforinda.org.
- 12 **Butterfield 8 Theatre Company**, in coordination with Orinda Starlight Village Players, presents excerpts from Robert Lewis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* at the Orinda Community Center Park, 28 Orinda Way, 8 pm. Visit www.b8company.com or call 925-528-9225.
- 17 **Concert-in-the-Park**, Brian Moran Jazz Trio, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Orinda Community Center Park. www.cityoforinda.org.
- 20 **Orinda Starlight Village Players** presents Agatha Christie's *Go Back for Murder* through July 12, with performances Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 pm, Thursday, June 26 at 8 pm and Sunday, July 6 at 4 pm in Orinda Community Center Park, 28 Orinda Way. Visit www.orsvp.org or call 925-528-9225.
- 24 **Concert-in-the-Park**, Extended Roots, bluegrass, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Orinda Community Center Park. www.cityoforinda.org.

AT THE LIBRARY

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

- 5 **English as a Second Language Conversation Circle**, practice English conversation skills in an informal, small-group setting, Tutoring Room, 1 to 2:30 pm. Preregistration is not required. Also June 12, 19 and 26.
- 3 **Peek-A-Boo Time**, songs, stories, rhythms and rhymes for infants to 16 months and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 11:30 am. Families with older siblings are welcome at Toddler Lapsit. Also June 10 and 17.
- 7 **Saturday Morning Live** features family story time for 3 to 5 year olds, Picture Book Area, 11 to 11:30 am. Also June 14, 21 and 28.
Secrets to Stress-free Travel with Babies and Young Children. Family travel author Shelly Rivoli shares secrets to stress-free family travel, including where to travel during a child's first years and how to childproof during travel, 11:30 am.
Book Sale hosted by Friends of the Orinda Library, Book Shop and Sorting Room, 10 am to 1 pm.
- 14 **Summer Reading Program** kicks off with *Busy Bee Dogs*, a family show featuring rescued dogs performing comedy and stunts. Funded by the Friends of the Orinda Library, Garden Room, 3:30 pm.
- 17 **Toddler Lapsit** features story time for 1 to 3 year olds and their caregivers. No registration required, but attendance limited to once per week, Gallery Room, 10 and 10:30 am. Also June 18, 24 and 25.
- 20 **Mystery Book Club**, Tutoring Room, 3 to 4 pm. Adult program (18+), new members welcome.
- 25 **Musical Performance** by Orinda's The Real Placebos, an Orinda band playing acoustic blues, 6:30 pm.
- 26 **Talespinners of Contra Costa** features adult storytelling and a guest speaker, Gallery Room, 7 to 9 pm.
- 28 **Weekend Paws to Read**. Earn Summer Reading minutes with a friendly dog. Children in grades 1 through 5 can practice their reading skills with a friendly dog, 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Call to register.
- 30 **Kitten Shower**. Bring donations for homeless kittens in Lamorinda and Contra Costa, make cat toys and crafts and learn about fostering and adoption, Garden Room, 3 pm.

CLUB MEETINGS

- Diablo Star Chapter #214**, Order of the Eastern Star. Second Monday, 7:30 pm. Orinda Masonic Center. Call Karen Seaborn, 925-689-0995.
- Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe**. Third Monday, 7:30 pm, Gallery Room, Orinda Library, www.moragaadobe.org.
- Friends of the Orinda Creeks**. Fourth Wednesday, 8:30 am, May Room, Orinda Library, 925-253-1997.
- Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition**. Third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 am, Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room. Call 925-687-8844, ext. 227.
- Lamorinda Nature Walk and Birdwatching** for seniors. Wednesdays, 9 to 11 am, free. Call 925-254-2445 for weekly meeting place.
- Lamorinda Sirs** for retired men. Second Wednesday, 11 am to 1:30 pm, Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Call Pete Giers, 925-254-4667.
- Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary**. Every Friday, 7 am, Celia's Mexican, 3666 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-283-8288.
- Lamorinda Toastmasters**. Every Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Temple Isaiah, 3800 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, www.lamorinda.freetoasthost.net.

Concerts-in-the-Park Start in June



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Extended Roots, a bluegrass group, will play on June 24 at the Orinda Community Center Park.

The always popular summer concerts-in-the-park will take place most Tuesday nights during June, July and August from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at the Orinda Community Center Park.

Sponsored by the Orinda Community Center Auxiliary, the concerts are supported by the Orinda Parks and Recreation

Foundation, Orinda Community Foundation and the City of Orinda. June concerts include **Hey Jude**, a '60s and '70s rock band on June 10, the classic jazz of the **Brian Moran Jazz Trio** on June 17 and the bluegrass sounds of **Extended Roots** on June 24. For July and Aug. concerts, go to www.cityoforinda.org.

Montelindo Garden Club. Third Friday, 9 am, September through May, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephen's Drive. Visit www.montelindogarden.com.

Orinda Garden Club. Fourth Thursday, 10 am to noon, September through May, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante.

Orinda Juniors Women's Club community service group. First Tuesday, September through June, 7 pm. Contact www.orindajuniors.org.

Orinda Rotary. Every Wednesday, noon, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante, 925-254-2222.

Orinda Association. Second Monday, 7:15 pm, Orinda Library, May Room, 925-254-0800.

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

Orinda Historical Society Museum. Third Wednesday, 3-5 pm, 26 Orinda Way, 925-254-1353.

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

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

Orinda Teen Advisory Council. Second Wednesday, 4 pm, Community Center, 28 Orinda Way. Email orindateenadvisorycouncil@gmail.com.

Orinda Woman's Club. Second Tuesday, 9:30 am to noon, call Jean Barnhart, 925-254-3881. Visit <https://sites.google.com/site/orindawomansclub/>.

Walnut Creek Garden Club. Second Monday, 9:30 am, Camellia Room, Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Road, Walnut Creek. Visit <http://californiagardenclubs.com/content/walnut-creek-garden-club> or contact mslittle44@gmail.com.

CITY/FIRE/SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

Acalanes Union High School District. First and third Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., district office, 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette.

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.

Orinda Union School District Board of Trustees. Second Monday, 6 p.m., OUSD Conference Room, 25 Orinda Way—Suite 200, Orinda, CA 94563. For the latest listing of dates, please check the website at www.orindaschools.org.

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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Everyday Changes

Here Come the Sun – June Is the Time to Summer-ize

Bonnie Waters



You can start this summer looking as though you just returned from a tropical vacation. Read on to discover some incredible ideas that will help you “summer-ize” your nails, hair, skin and body.

Give Your Skin That Summer Glow with a Body Polish

This is the perfect time to exfoliate and moisturize your body before heading to the pool or donning summer apparel. It will leave your skin feeling fresh and renewed.

Summer-ize With the Ultimate Mani-Pedi

Sandals, anyone? Nothing says, “Let’s hit the beach!” more than colorful nails. Play up your toes, mix vibrant polish colors and let your feet show the world your summer spirit!

While a corporate dress code, a social engagement or time might dictate a neutral or conservative nail polish on the hands, take a vacation from pale pink and go a little wilder on your toes. Bright fuchsia, vibrant coral, ocean blue and shocking yellow are all on trend to pair with the cutest flip flops you can find.

Solarize Your Skin for an Instant Tan and Make Your Skin Sensationally Shimmering with Body Bronzer and Sunscreen

All the experts recommend staying out of the sun’s harmful rays, so for your summer glow take advantage of the breakthroughs in self-tanning technology. Gone are the days of orange, streaky tans. Self-tanners can be so natural that it is often difficult to tell the difference. Say goodbye to Fake Bake and hello to Faux and Fabulous.

Bronzing is good for all skin types to create a subtle but immediate all-over tan. Bronzers can look incredibly natural adding a hint of shimmer from light-reflecting particles.

Summer-izing Your Body Inside and Out Through Lymphatic Detoxifying

Our body’s systems are compromised when toxins aren’t being eliminated. Toxins held in our body affect every cell. Our bodies must then work overtime to function normally and maintain good health.

Lymphatic massage combines varied pressure and a specific pattern of massage strokes toward your lymph system to stimulate blood flow. This increases oxygen to the tissues and stimulates organs to function better to eliminate toxins. During a massage, fluid is moved through the lymph system and is best expelled by drinking plenty of water to flush toxins naturally.

Another way our body expels toxins is through sweat. Exercise increases blood flow and creates perspiration so it’s an excellent way to remove toxins. Relax and stimulate your body and mind with detoxifying steam therapy. Always drink plenty of water to rehydrate during and after summer exercise or steam detoxification.

The Biggest Tip: Never Forget Your Sunscreen

Sunscreens are your best anti-aging defense. When you apply sunscreen, be careful not to forget your neck, the back of your hands, and the tip of your nose, which are all areas that get a lot of sun exposure but are often overlooked. Especially vulnerable are the tops of the ears, where skin cancer loves to make a debut. Also, don’t forget to use sun-protecting lip balm.

Our beautiful summer season is a shining reason to live in California. With a little summer-izing effort we can all look California Fantastic! Have a fun-filled, safe summer!

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BUSINESS BUZZ

◆ BUZZ from page 24

in management consulting and finance, having served as a managing partner at Andersen, a global consulting firm. She and Jackson met when their children were in pre-school and Jackson knew Martinelli professionally. They employ a full-time staff of seven, with an additional five interns in-house. "We maintain a casual work environment and the young engineers really enjoy working in Orinda," says Breber, a 27-year resident of Orinda and active volunteer in the community.

For more information, go to the Apple App Store and download Ziploop for free.

The Medicine Shoppe in Village Square

Alan Wong, pharmacy doctor and graduate of the University of the Pacific Pharmacy School, established the Medicine Shoppe in Village Square near McCaulou's in 2000. Step inside this pleasant well-lit shop and you will immediately notice the friendly atmosphere. A children's table



VALERIE HOTZ
Alan Wong has been the trusted proprietor of Medicine Shoppe for many years.

with pint-size chairs overflows with toys to keep youngsters busy while parents get prescriptions filled. In addition to being a full-service pharmacy, compounding service is also available.

"In compounding, we do a lot of things that are no longer commercially available in this country, or maybe the treatment is not available in a specific dose," says Wong. "We also compound for pets. Compounding is pretty much a lost art today, but there is definitely still a need for it."

Pharmacy items include over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, lotions, treatments and supplies for diabetic patients, as well as common homeopathy treatments such as Arnica. There are a variety of arthritis care stockings by Jobst and SensiFoot, in

addition to braces for knees, ankles, wrists and elbows. "For the international traveler, ProBiotics help maintain digestive function while traveling, and are particularly helpful for individuals who are on heavy doses of antibiotics," says Wong.

The Medicine Shoppe is your quintessential friendly neighborhood pharmacy. "We have a one-on-one relationship with our customers and offer personal service as well as special orders. I really enjoy being part of this community. I have seen the change over the past 14 years and literally watch children grow up before my eyes," says Wong, who wears a headset while

working so he can talk with customers who phone in with a question. Pharmacy technician Kathy King assists Wong in providing great customer service.

Wong is well known as a car enthusiast. His favorite hobby is driving cars on the track – he used to do autocross but recently gave it up. "I used to go to Germany just to drive the cars," says Wong. He is married to Lily Wong who works in banking. "We enjoy watching movies together at home."

The Medicine Shoppe is open Monday through Friday from 10 am to 6 pm, Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm. For more information, call 925-254-1211.

◆ SMILES from page 19

get the chance to go on one of the medical missions. "If you were going to send your 17-year-old to Vietnam, you'd probably like a grown-up there who actually pays attention to them," said Kaiser. "All the other adults on the mission are medical staff, so they send a person like me to make sure these two teenage kids have somebody to turn to."

In addition to being a chaperone, Kaiser and the high schoolers are also the "play-ologists" and liaisons between the families and the medical staff. "Lots of families walk from their village to get to the hospital, so there's mommy, daddy, grandma and four children. One of them has the cleft. Local high schools come and bring jump ropes, soccer balls and art supplies. My two kids, my American high schoolers and I, entertain the families," said Kaiser.

Before the trip, the American students take classes from Operation Smile on oral rehydration, diarrhea prevention, burn prevention, burn care, proper hand-washing techniques and proper dental hygiene. "They've prepared posters, hand-outs and games. They teach these little units to the kids," said Kaiser. "The kids are sitting around for hours – they're a captive audience. They teach these kids how to do all this stuff and reward them with stickers, toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste."

The American students visit dentists before the trip and gather donations to take with them. "Their carry-on bag is their clothes, but the big suitcase that they check is full of toys, toothpaste, toothbrushes and art supplies," said Kaiser. "There's just so much time to kill. That's our role, to make that time go more easily."

For more information or to donate, visit spontaneousmile.com/operation-spontaneous-smiley.

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Orinda Frame Store Preserves Precious Art – and More

The Orinda Frame Store has been at 110 Village Square, behind Safeway and adjacent to the Village Barber, since 1988. Rudy Brdar acquired the business after realizing he could combine a lifelong passion for woodworking with the goal of owning his own small business.

“I really like the creative aspect of my work and enjoy combining my design and woodworking skills every day,” says Brdar, who previously worked as an electrical engineer. In addition to original works of art, clients bring a myriad of items to be framed including sports jerseys, baseball bats and university degrees – even a wooden crew paddle. “We probably have the largest selection of frames in the Bay Area. We use acid-free archival quality mats with glass that filters out the damaging rays of the sun

in order to preserve our clients’ art.” The latest trend in interior decorating is to disguise a flat screen television to look like a mirror. Clients even disguise their television with a painting or family portrait. When it’s time for entertainment, with a press of a button the canvas quietly rolls up inside the frame to reveal the flat screen television. “All the designers love this feature and their clients are embracing



VALERIE HOTZ
Rudy Brdar of the Orinda Frame Store has a passion for woodworking.



VALERIE HOTZ
Ziploop assists digital shopping. Back row (L-R): **Jake McGuire, Brendon Verissimo,** Front row (L-R): **Peter Jackson, Autumn Fjeld, Sandy Breber** (president), **Darby Anderson** and **Paul Martinelli**.

the trend.”

Brdar enjoys framing unusual objects and his current favorite is an antique padlock from Alcatraz Prison, complete with key. With 20 years of experience, designer Sherill Guiliano assists Brdar in handling clients’ needs. “It is a real pleasure to frame children’s art work from pre-school and elementary school,” says Brdar, who also works with local public schools, helping them with mat board needs. “Their art is so impressive. I am constantly amazed by paintings that 5 year olds have created. We can do the framing inexpensively and preserve it for many years to come.”

Brdar has two sons – Michael is 20 and attends Diablo Valley College where he plays on the baseball team. Nick, 14, is heading to De LaSalle High School this fall where he will also play baseball. In his free time Brdar relishes watching his sons play baseball, as well as going to A’s and Giants’ games. “I love cooking, gardening, landscape design and, of course, woodworking,” he says.

The Orinda Frame Store is open from 10 am to 5 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 am to 6 pm on Thursdays and Fridays and 10 am to 4 pm on Saturdays. For more information, call 925-254-4465 or email orindaframe@sbcglobal.net.

Ziploop - Your Digital Shopping Assistant - Available At Apple App Store

Three dynamic Orindans, Sandy Breber, Peter Jackson and Paul Martinelli, joined forces and created a new mobile shopping application that organizes all purchase receipts, retail promotions and rewards in several different ways on your SmartPhone, iPad desktop or laptop computer. They named their application “Ziploop” which can be downloaded from the Apple App Store for free. The company is based at 25 Orinda Way.

“I created it, Paul builds it and Peter markets it,” says Sandy Breber, president of Ziploop. “I call it a digital shopping assistant because it is an efficient way to maintain and organize receipts, either by purchase date, store, category or location. Many merchants will email your receipt and, by providing your Ziploop email address, your email account does not get inundated with retail rewards, promotions or receipts. Everything is at your fingertips within Ziploop.”

Ziploop users save money by making timely use of reward coupons provided by retailers. “There are a lot of things merchants will do for their customer if the customer has the receipt,” says Breber. For those retailers that do not email receipts, a user may take a photo of the receipt with their Smartphone camera and store it in Ziploop for at least 5 years.

“Stores will give customers discounts when they sign up to receive email and provide their Ziploop email address,” says Breber. Since its launch in December 2013, the number of Ziploop users has grown to 50,000 in 50 states and 50 countries. The goal is to increase that number to 100,000 this summer.

Before downloading the application and signing on, users can view a brief “Learn More” slide show that walks them through the available features and provides instruction on how to use the app. There is also a push notification to alert users of the expiration of rewards. Users can even shop online through the Ziploop app.

Breber’s professional background is [SEE BUZZ page 23]

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