

THE ORINDA NEWS

Gratis
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12 Issues Annually
November 2012

Nominations for Volunteer of the Year



SALLY HOGARTY
Last Year's William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Award winner **Barbara Denny** (c) with Volunteers of the Year **Carolyn** and **Chip Herman**.

The Orinda Association is currently accepting nominations for the 2012 Volunteer of the Year and the 2012 William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Award.

If you know someone who volunteers to make Orinda a better place or someone who helps the environment, send in your nominations by December 5. A gala awards dinner on January 27 will honor the recipients.

Nomination forms can be downloaded at www.orindaassociation.org or forms can be picked up at the office in the plaza level of the Orinda Library. For more information, call 254-0800.

Roads a Hot Topic for City Council Candidates Forum

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

On October 12, the three candidates running for the two Orinda City Council seats gathered at the Orinda Library auditorium for the Orinda Association (OA) sponsored forum from 7-9 p.m. Bill Waterman, OA president, introduced the candidates and moderator Ann Flynn from the League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley. A small gathering of people listened to Linda Delehunt, Victoria Smith (incumbent) and Steve Glazer (incumbent) answer a variety of questions from the audience.

Questions included whether or not to

adopt a real estate transfer tax in lieu of future bond or parcel taxes, whether Orinda has to become a Charter City to enact such a tax, what priorities would be placed on repairing Orinda's streets and roads versus arterials or main roads, how to spur commercial growth but maintain the small town feel, Moraga Orinda Fire District activities, and whether there are any tri-city (Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda) initiatives in the works to help leverage collective resources.

When asked, "What's your opinion of Measure L?" Delehunt responded, "Much ado about nothing. Visualize a tree – one branch is one foot long, the other 24 feet

[SEE COUNCIL page 24]

School Financing Major Concern at School Board Candidates Forum



SALLY HOGARTY
School Board candidates (L-R) **Jason Lurie**, **Sarah Butler**, and incumbent **Matthew Moran** fielded questions from the audience at a forum on October 15. Candidate Bekki Van Voorhis-Gilbert was unable to attend due to a family emergency.

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

On October 15, candidates for the Orinda Union School Board came together to discuss their priorities and to answer audience questions. Sponsored by the Orinda Association and moderated by Ann Flynn of the League of Women Voters, the well-attended forum focused heavily on school financing.

Candidates in attendance included Sarah Butler, Jason Lurie, and current school board member Matthew Moran. Candidate Bekki Van Voorhis-Gilbert had a last minute family emergency that prevented her attendance.

School Financing

One of the first questions asked the candidates whether they favored Prop. 30

[SEE OUSD page 21]

MOFD Receives Approval on Replacement of Station 43



RENDERING BY SHAH KAWASAKI ARCHITECTS
The architectural rendering of the newly designed **Fire Station 43**, located at 20 Via Las Cruces, was approved by the Planning Commission in late September.

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

The Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) presented their plan and architectural design for the replacement of Fire Station 43 to the Orinda Planning Commission on September 25. Fire Station 43 is located at 20 Via Las Cruces in Orinda and currently does not meet seismic requirements, was never designed for a multi-gender workforce, and does not have the space needed for modern fire equipment. All these issues will be rectified with the new design which was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission.

The new Station 43 design will be a 5,000 square foot two-story building and is scheduled to be finished at the end of 2013. Fire Chief Randall Bradley said, "We received extremely complimentary remarks from the planning commission on

[SEE STATION page 5]

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Blinded by Enchantment *Kunstanke* Explores Fairy Tales

by ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The Orinda Library Gallery is excited to host the work of *Kunstanke*, which means "art thought" in Norwegian. *Kunstanke* is a group of five women drawn together 10 years ago when they met at Diablo Valley College (DVC) in advanced art classes. They work in a variety of mediums including oil painting, watercolors, sculpture, printmaking and mixed media. Their chosen theme, *Blinded by Enchantment*, was inspired in part by Bruno Bettelheim's book, *The Uses of Enchantment*. Join them at their artists' reception on November 3 from 2 to 4 p.m. where light refreshments will be served.

Kunstanke members include mixed media artist Jimmie Beardsley of Orinda, oil painter Brigitte Bize of Danville, painter

Phyllis Lasché of Livermore, oil painter TaVee of Martinez, and watercolor painter Myra Latkin, also of Livermore. They get together to critique their work once a month and are part of the CC14 group. CC14 artists are connected through DVC in Pleasant Hill, where they often exhibit. Approximately 30 works will be exhibited.

There is much controversy about fairy tales, which makes for an interesting theme. Bettelheim's book suggests that traditional fairy tales, with the darkness of abandonment, death, witches and injuries, allow children to grapple with their fears in a remote, symbolic space removed from reality. He believed that if they could read and interpret these fairy tales in their own way and at their own pace, they would gain a greater sense of meaning and purpose in life. The book won both the National Book Critics Circle Award and the National Book



MYRA LATKIN

Included in the November exhibition is **Myra Latkin's "Jaguar,"** a 22.5 x 22.5 watercolor.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of *Kunstanke*, which means "art thought" in Norwegian are (L - R) **Myra Latkin, Brigitte Bize, TaVee, Jimmie Beardsley** and (in front) **Phyllis Lasché**.

Award.

Conversely, much of the Disney-era fairy tales focus on pretty princesses and happy endings. *The Globe and Mail* of Toronto, Canada's article, "Fairy tales or scary tales: Should we sanitize stories for our kids?" queries a number of experts and parents to answer the question. From the article: "A recent British study found that 50 per cent of parents pass on *Rumpelstiltskin* and *Rapunzel* due to kidnapping themes. Fifty-two per cent dismissed *Cinderella* as 'outdated' because it's based on a woman doing housework all day (referring to the less bloody versions). A wolf eating a grandmother disqualified *Little Red Riding Hood*." But recent TV programs in the U.S. such as *Grimm* and *Once Upon a Time*, and movies such as *Twilight*, bring out the darker elements of fairy tales.

TaVee says the theme developed partly from this controversy – the sanitized fairy tales of modern fiction versus the traditional (The Brothers Grimm, H. C. Andersen, etc.). She states, "It's interesting how in Disney-ized and modern versions of fairy tales we've skipped over or prettied up some of the more difficult and maybe informative parts of traditional fairy tales. Sometimes we get so blinded by these pretty pictures from the endings of fairy tales that we don't really do our due diligence in life. We gloss over the hours spent in drudgery, toiling away, the hours that are required before the 'magic' happens. We think we're going to have the storybook ending because the magic will somehow happen just with that true love kiss - the easy part - and so attractive. My pieces in

[SEE GALLERY page 6]

Bekki Van Voorhis-Gilbert for Orinda Schools



"My roots run deep in this community - my mother attended Glorietta and my parents met at Los Lomas High School. In addition to my significant volunteer and leadership activities in Orinda, I bring a uniquely child-centered perspective to the board. Having been actively engaged with our schools for nearly a decade, I understand our curricula, the strengths of our programs, many of our teachers interests and how the administration functions. To this intimate, on-the-ground knowledge of our schools, I bring the skills and insights of a professional educator and lawyer who is deeply committed to advancing the academic quality and the administrative accountability of the OUSD."

— Bekki Gilbert, JD, MSW, PhD

Some Cool Tools for School

- Study Blue: Online Flashcard and Study Tools (<http://www.studyblue.com>)
- The Kahn Academy: Free online learning on a multitude of subjects (<http://www.khanacademy.org>)
- Knewton & the Flipped Classroom: Information on digital, personalized knowledge (<http://www.knewton.com/flipped-classroom>)

My Credentials

- UC Berkeley Graduate
- Former Tenured Professor (CSUH/EB)
- Author/Editor of Books & Articles on Social Policy
- Attorney

Active Orinda Schools Volunteer

- Room Parent, 2004-2012
- Think First Instructor, 2005-2011
- Monster Mash, Chair, 2005
- Friendship Day, Chair, 2006-2008
- Hospitality, Chair, 2007-2008
- Parent Education, Chair, 2008-2010
- Technology Committee Member, 2010
- Ensemble Singers, Coordinator, 2010-2012
- Kennel Cruiser, 2010-2012
- Assistant Producer, "Suessical Jr.", 2012

Community Volunteer

- OYA Boys Soccer Coach
- Gift Giving Event, Seneca Center for Children & Families
- Board Member, Friends of Wagner Ranch Nature Area
- Advisory Board Member, Camp Galileo & Summer Quest
- Volunteer, Measure B
- Founder, Save Environmental Education in Orinda
- Volunteer, Bay Area Crisis Nursery



www.bekkgilbert.com • www.smartvoter.org/vote/bekki_van_voorhisgilbert

ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA Treasurer
Time to Increase Membership!



Steve Stahle

Greetings! I would like to review some interesting statistics about our city with you. Orinda has a population of 17,648 people comprising 6,596 households 20 percent of which are 65 and older. The median household income is \$160,857. We have only one newspaper, *The Orinda News*, that is dedicated solely to news about the city and its inhabitants. A recent survey found that 85 percent of Orinda residents use *The Orinda News* as their primary source of information about Orinda.

I realize that there are many demands for your contributions including churches, EFO, Orinda Historical Society, Orinda Parks and Recreation Foundation, Orinda Community Foundation, Friends of Orinda Library, Orinda Arts Council, Friends of Orinda Creeks, and, our own, Orinda Association.

The Orinda Association (www.orindaassociation.org) was founded in 1946. It focuses on promoting awareness and encouraging dialog among residents on issues of importance to the community. The association produces *The Orinda News*, a free monthly publication mailed to all businesses and residences in Orinda. Mobilizing volunteer efforts to enhance the beauty, character, and security of Orinda, the Association runs the 4th of July parade as well as the Seniors Around Town transportation program, Volunteer of the Year, public forums such as the City Council Candidates

Forum and the School Board Candidates Forum this past October, and more.

Your membership helps support *The Orinda News* and all the other valuable programs that the OA sponsors. Annual memberships are tax deductible and start at \$40 for household and \$30 for senior. We also have business (\$75) and non-profit (\$50) memberships as well. Some residents elect to contribute above these denominations with either a Gold (\$250) or Silver (\$100) membership.

As the Orinda Association's treasurer, I can report to you that our latest membership total is 473 or 7.17 percent of the households in Orinda. I would urge the 93 percent of you who are not members to join. It is easy to do. Just log into www.orindaassociation.org and click on membership.

Please support our community organization and our newspaper. We see examples everyday of how our freedom of the press and speech is vitally important to our great country.

Thanks for joining.

Next OA Meeting

November 12 at 7:15 p.m.
May Room
Library Plaza

Orinda's Joe Haughin Part of Brits State-side Celebration

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Orinda Association board member Haughin left Britain in 1956 and lived in several places before moving to Orinda in 1977. Although he still has a slight trace of an English accent and returns to Britain with his wife June every two years, Haughin thinks of America as home – that is except for Armistice Day each year.

Armistice Day, now renamed Day of Remembrance, commemorates the day the Allies of World War I and Germany signed the armistice agreement at Compiegne, France. The cessation of hostilities on the Western Front took effect at 11 a.m. (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month) in 1918. The day now honors all those who served Britain throughout the decades. Haughin proudly remembers his service in the Royal Air Force and is happy to commemorate the

day every November.

But for the past few years, he's done more than just remember. He and his fellow musicians in Concord's Salvation Army Church Band have been invited to play at the British celebration in San Francisco's Grace Cathedral for the fourth year in a row. "It's very exciting, especially this year because the Day of Remembrance falls on the actual day the war ended – November 11," says Haughin. "A lot of us in the band are from Britain, but we've lived here for a while. It's nice to have that tie back to our homeland."

The 25-member Salvation Army Church Band includes six Brits, one Welshman, two Scots, one Canadian and one Dutchman says Haughin. "I play the bass tuba. Luckily, we don't have to march when we play at Grace Cathedral. I've already done my share of marching when I was with the RAF," adds the former insurance broker.

Nominations for Volunteer of the Year

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If you know someone who volunteers to make Orinda a better place or someone who helps the environment, send in your nominations by December 5. A gala awards dinner on January 27 will honor the recipients.

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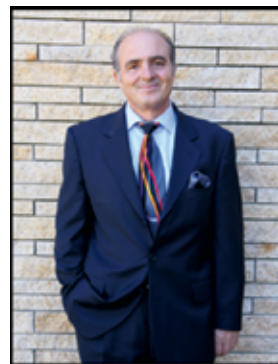
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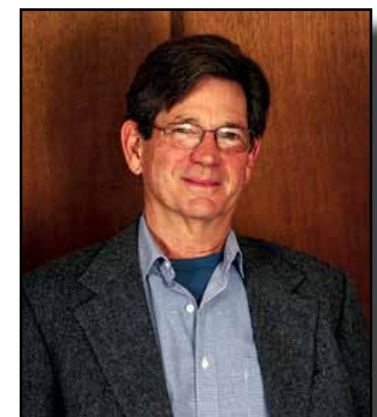
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Did You Know That...

The Orinda Association has published *The Orinda News* since 1986?

Bill O'Brian wrote for the *Orinda News* for three years in the mid-1990s and has been writing for the paper again since 2010. He has a 30+ year teaching careers during which he taught in the Acalanes Union High School District, as well as in the teacher credential program for Chapman. He will soon launch a professionally created website called OBCUS-TOMVERSE.COM where people can order custom poems for all people and occasions.



Orinda's #1 Source for News!

For information on the OA, go to www.orindaassociation.org.

The Orinda Association

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

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

P.O. Box 97
26 Orinda Way (Lower Level Library)
Orinda, California 94563
Phone: 254-0800 Fax: 254-8312
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Editorial Hospice Tree Lighting Helps Hospice Continue Its Vital Services

The Holiday season will soon be upon us. The time always seems to fly by as Thanksgiving is quickly followed by Christmas and New Year's Eve. In between the various celebrations and concerts, one particular event stands out for me this year – The Hospice Tree Lighting on December 1.

While I have attended this event in the past, this year it holds a much more personal meaning. In mid-September, my 87-year-old mother's health had deteriorated to the point that I needed to put her under the loving care of Hospice.

Although she was only in Hospice for two days, I received incredible support from the thoroughly knowledgeable staff of clergy, nurses and social workers. I marveled at their efficiency in moving a hospital bed into my mom's assisted living facility along with oxygen, etc. all within hours of being engaged. Upon assessing my mom's condition, my Hospice coordinator determined that a member of her staff would come every two-four hours. Their incredible compassion – just the right mix

of kindness and professionalism – along with the dedicated staff at my mom's assisted living home, allowed her to spend her last days in relative comfort, surrounded by family and friends. And, when my mom did pass late at night, my Hospice coordinator was there within an hour, relieving me from the routine calls necessary so that I could spend precious time with my mom.

All this wonderful assistance from Hospice is free of charge to the grateful family. The organization funds its endeavors through Medicare and a variety of grants and fundraising events, such as the Tree Lighting in Orinda, which takes place on December 1 at 4:30 p.m. at the old Oak Tree in Orinda Village, adjacent to the Bank of America. A \$20 tax-deductible contribution symbolically lights a bulb on the tree. This year, I'll be lighting one for my mom. I encourage others to do the same in memory of a friend or loved one.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor

For more information on the Hospice Tree Lighting, see the story on page 15.

Letters to the Editor

Racial Profiling in Orinda?

Yesterday morning, Monday, October 1, between the hours of 7 and 8 a.m., Mrs. Hurley and I were the victims of racially motivated harassment by the Orinda Police Department.

While on our way to a visit with family in Orinda, with Mrs. Hurley driving, our vehicle was followed by two Orinda Police Cars for about a mile down Moraga Way. Signaled by the lead police car to pull over, Mrs. Hurley did so, showing the usual required documents. The second police car parked about a block away to observe the proceedings. After going over to his police vehicle to check Mrs. Hurley's DMV records, he returned to our car and insisted that I also give him my driver's license. As I was not the driver, I was surprised but did hand over my license, and he again went back to his police car to check, also I suppose, my DMV record.

If it is the policy of the Orinda Police Department to require a driver's license of every adult in a vehicle that has been pulled over, then I should have no complaint. But the response of the officer to my question as to why he was requiring my license, clearly showed the racial motivation of this officer. His response was, "It is now allowed by the Supreme Court." It is hard to believe that the officer was not referring to the most recent Supreme Court ruling on Arizona's laws targeting Hispanic-Americans. I might add that large parts of that law were struck

down by the Supreme Court.

Would a white couple in Orinda have been treated the same way? Would Amy Worth, Victoria Smith or Sue Severson been treated this way?

It was a shameful incident that reflects not only on your police department but on the city council itself.

Racially discriminatory police practices in white suburban communities are all too familiar in this country.

Mrs. Hurley is an Asian-American, naturalized in 1975 and served as a public school teacher in California for over 25 years.

Thank you for attention.

– Richard E. Hurley

Thumbs Down on Downtown "Revitalization"

Some things to ponder:

1) Don't mistake silence for agreement. Orindans are business owners, partners, physicians, investors, scientists, project managers etc. Maintaining their income so they can care for their families is highest priority.

2) Developers have higher stakes than residents in trying to convince Orindans to spend tax dollars to "revitalize" downtown: a few hundred dollars of increased taxes can be easily overlooked by individuals while in aggregate are millions of dollars to developers and their agents.

3) A walking bridge across a highway...



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Really? Are we kidding? Who is going to find a leisurely walk across 10 lanes of Highway 24 leisurely and pleasant? Try taking a stroll or a bike ride along the bike path next to Highway 24. I applaud you if you don't need earplugs.

4) Government projects rarely generate revenue to justify the cost (i.e. high speed railway from LA recently approved). In

the real world, good business and investment practice dictates seeing revenues before spending money, or making sure an up-front investment generates expected returns to pay one back for risks of putting up one's capital.

5) State and local governments tell you they are in dire need of revenue. That's

[SEE LETTERS page 10]

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Editor..... Sally Hogarty
 Assistant Editor..... David Dierks
 Advertising Representatives..... Jill Gelster, Elana O'Loskey
 Editorial Committee..... Mark Roberts, Jill Gelster, Sally Hogarty, Jim Luini, Elana O'Loskey, Kate Wiley
 Staff Writers..... Jennifer Conroy, Valerie Hotz, Barbara Kobsar, Kathryn G. McCarty, Marian Nielsen, Bill O'Brian, Elana O'Loskey, Maggie Sharpe, Steve Stahle, John Vanek, Bonnie Waters, Tom Westlake
 Contributing Writers..... Concetta Burns, Ben Drew, Tish Harwood, Stephanie Kusinski, Caryl Larson
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Letters to the Editor are printed on a space-available basis and should be no longer than 400 words. They must include the writer's first and last name, signature and telephone number.

Send letters to: Editor, The Orinda News, P.O. Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563, fax them to 254-8312, or email to news@orindaassociation.org. Letters to the Editor for the December issue are due November 5, 2012.

For display advertising rates, call Jill Gelster at 925-528-9225 or email to jill@aspenconsult.net. The deadline for the January issue is November 20, 2012.

MOFD / SCHOOL FUNDING

MOFD Held Open House at Station 41 in October

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

On October 13, the Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) and Moraga Lions hosted an open house and pancake breakfast fundraiser at Station 41 at 1280 Moraga Way in Moraga. The open house was part of National Fire Prevention Week and let residents meet their local firefighters, learn to use fire extinguishers, take a tour of the fire engines and ambulances at the station, and get information through family-oriented activities. Proceeds from the event benefited the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation.

Families learned the importance of "Have Two Ways Out." Nationwide, fire departments responded to 369,500 home fires in 2010. These fires caused 2,650 deaths and \$6.9 billion in damage. Fire Chief Randall Bradley said, "One residential structure fire was reported every 85 seconds in 2010." According to the National Fire Protection Association, one-third of American households who made an estimate thought they would have at least six minutes before a fire in their home would become life-threatening. More often there is less time available. Bradley added, "Fire is unpre-

dictable and moves faster than most people realize. Having a tried and true escape plan with two ways out is essential to ensuring your family's safety should fire break out in your home."

The MOFD advises everyone to use the following tips to plan your family's escape:

- Make a map of your home. Mark a door and a window that can be used to get out of every room.
- Choose a meeting place outside in front of your home. This is where everyone should meet once they've escaped. Draw a picture of your outside meeting place on your escape plan.
- Write 9-1-1 (or the emergency telephone number for the fire department) on your escape plan.
- Have a grown-up sound the smoke alarm and practice your escape plan with everyone living in your home.
- Keep your escape plan on the refrigerator and remind grown-ups to have your family practice the plan twice a year or whenever anyone in your home celebrates a birthday.

For more information, visit www.mofd.org, www.aarbf.org and www.firepreventionweek.org.



Dominic Patitucci hopes to be a fireman someday. He dressed the part for the MOFD open house and even got to sit in the driver's seat of the fire engine. SALLY HOGARTY

◆ STATION from page 1

the design of our fire station and how we worked with the public to ensure that it fit into the neighborhood. The public was very supportive of our plan."

The MOFD Board of Directors has two more decisions to make about the project before ground breaks. Bradley said, "We'll be coming back to the board on this project in December when we'll request to go out to bid for a general contractor, that'll be a

decision point for the board. There'll be another decision point after we receive the bids, and the board will decide whether we want to go further." The staff is working on a long range financial plan to address liabilities, equipment and infrastructure needs while maintaining service levels. The MOFD board will evaluate that plan before any decisions are made to approve the construction phase of Station 43.

For more information, visit www.mofd.org.

School Funding Propositions on November Ballot

By BILL O'BRIAN
Staff Writer

Orinda voters have a choice of two measures on the November state ballot regarding an increase in taxes to assist funding schools: Prop. 30 and Prop. 38.

Prop. 30, Gov. Jerry Brown's initiative, increases sales tax by one quarter-percent for four years from January 2013 through the end of 2016, increases personal income tax on income earners over \$250,000 for seven years from 2012 through 2018 tax years. This proposition intends to raise an average of \$6 billion per year.

The money will go to the general fund with a portion becoming part of the Prop. 98 school guarantee with \$3 billion to the schools the first year. Prop. 98, also known as the "Classroom Instructional Improvement and Accountability Act," amended the California Constitution to mandate a minimum level of education spending on grades K-12. If both propositions pass, the one with the most votes will go into place.

Passage of Prop. 30 will prevent \$4.8 billion in "trigger" cuts to K-12 schools from taking effect. At the end of last June, Gov. Brown signed this year's \$91.3 billion dollar budget, and in that budget is a mid-year "trigger" cut which will automatically kick in early in 2013 if the Governor's Prop. 30 fails to pass.

Prop. 38, Molly Munger's initiative, is a progressive increase in personal income tax from 0.4 percent for low-income individuals to 2.2 percent for those earning more than \$2.5 million, for a 12 year duration effective from 2012 through 2024. This proposition raises about \$6 billion per year for schools through 2017-18, increasing to roughly \$8.5 billion after that, all amounts beyond the annual Prop. 98 requirements.

If Prop. 30 does not pass, the Orinda Union School District (OUSD) will lose close to \$1,100,000 dollars of state support. Asked about the effect of the loss on the Orinda schools, superintendent Joe Jaconette says, "The amount has already been set aside in the event the tax initiative fails."

On the face of it, pulling a million dollars from next year's reserve to pay for current expenses may not appear that drastic, but the loss will continue each year, eventually eating up all the reserve funds. By law, the district must maintain three percent of the budget in a reserve fund every year, which comes to about \$700,000 out of an annual \$23,000,000 budget.

The OUSD has set aside a little over \$2,000,000 as a reserve for next year, out of which the loss of funds for this year will be paid. The problem compounds as the loss is carried forward to succeeding yearly budgets, where there will be fewer

reserve funds. If Prop. 30 does not pass, the district will be forced to consider the same two scenarios any family, business or government entity must address when funds fall short: increase revenues and cut costs.

The parents of Orinda school children annually give around \$1,000,000 to the schools. These donations make up about 4.3 percent of the budget and have become an integral part of the budget. The generous support of Orinda parents has continued for many years and greatly benefited the local school children.

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LIBRARY GALLERY

◆ GALLERY from page 2

this show address the blindness of enchantment by focusing on the sort of innocent happiness, blithe belief and confidence of kids placing themselves into these terrific stories in their imaginations, with maybe only a tiny hint of the scary, the treacherous, the danger that lies in wait along the road to happily ever after and beyond."

Bize believes that, "No matter what happens in our life as women, in our hearts – our imagination – the princess stories read to us as little girls are still there. Princess stories get lots of attention all over the world – why? Because they touch on the universal theme of hope – like Santa Claus. The stories speak to a part of us that needs to believe that along the way, somehow, we will appeal to somebody, maybe feel a little bit like a princess with a happy ending."

Kunstanke artists agree that the fairy tale images of the past have changed. The stereotyped and sanitized prince and princess images the media touts are the tip of an iceberg sized list of fairy tale choices. Today there is room for fairy tales with every conceivable variation, from sanitized "happy endings" to the old-fashioned Brothers Grimm to forms that don't fit into slick categories. They all serve our psyches in multiple ways – if we need the hope a happy ending brings, they are there. If we need to safely brush up against danger and death or go on a quest to the unknown, they are there as well.

In *The Globe and Mail* article mentioned above, several recommendations were made. "If your child is scared by a story, put it away," says Rebecca Brown, Toronto mother of two. However, she feels that children are more "robust" and can handle



BRIGITTE BIZE
Brigitte Bize incorporates lots of images in her 35" x 36" oil on canvas entitled "Princess."

more than we give them credit for. Scholar J.D. Zipes, professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota says, "Fairy tales are thousands of years old." He believes that the notion that we should shield children from dark fairy tales is, "hypocritical – the honest thing is to tell children violence does occur. The world is filled with struggle and conflict." He goes on to say that the key for young children is to open up the floor for discussion. "If they are upset by the Charles Perrault version of *Little Red Riding Hood* (which predates the Grimms' version) where no one is saved, then we discuss: 'Do you think that's right?'" Then, he'll read a counter-tale such as *Polly and the Wolf*, in which a plucky girl repeatedly outwits a hungry wolf.

Included in the exhibit: Lasché's two 24" x 24" oil and wax paintings, *I Left My Heart and Buzz*, and an 18" x 12" triptych oil and wax painting, *Bluebeard's Wives*; TaVee's 24" x 24" oil on paper *Alice*; Latkin's 22.5" x 22.5" watercolor, *Jaguar*; and Bize's three 36" x 36" oil paintings on black canvas, *Princess*, *After the Ball* and *Hope*. Beardsley is showing several glass-domed mixed media dolls 12" tall including *Cinderella*, *Snow White*, *Sleeping Beauty*, and *Prince Charming*. She is also showing two oil paintings, *Mirror, Mirror on the Wall* and *Pretty Is As Pretty Does*, among other works.

The bodies of Beardsley's fairy tale heroines in glass domes are bound, faces blindfolded, showing how when little girls buy into the idea that they have to wait for a prince charming to come and save them, they have essentially enslaved themselves. Even poor prince charming, who is destined to rescue fair maidens must be perfect in every way. She realizes that many of the old fairy tales are cautionary tales with layers of meaning, but in these pieces she brings the images into the vernacular of today.



JIMMIE BEARDSLEY
This 12" mixed media figure depicts a Cinderella "blinded by enchantment" as she waits for her prince.

Orinda Library Gallery Lights Up

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The two-phase Gallery Lighting Upgrade project has been completed thanks to community donors who contributed a total of \$11,300 and a variety of volunteers who assisted in implementing the project. Phase one installed LED lighting strips in all the display cases to replace the previous incandescent system, which provided subpar lighting, required frequent bulb changes and was expensive to power and maintain. The new adjustable LED lighting strips address all these issues by providing better, more uniform lighting, higher energy efficiency, easier maintenance, and a life of 50,000 hours. Phase two involved installing adjustable ceiling track lighting along the gallery auditorium wall to supplement the existing canned down lights by better illuminating and directing lighting on the hanging art.

In addition to delighting the entire community with monthly exhibits featuring local artists managed by the Orinda Arts Council (OAC), as well as sculpture installations through the Art in Public Places Committee Art Space public art program, the gallery also showcases student artwork. Each March the OAC hosts both the Visual Arts Competition for Lamorinda high school students and in April the OUSD Arts Ambassadors exhibit for Orinda students K-8. These two events provide opportunities to encourage our talented young artists.

Mike Brazil and his team from Brazil Electric Inc., Walnut Creek, installed the lighting (www.brazilelectric.net).

Display case LED lighting strips were donated at cost by Elemental LED through its REACH energy sustainability and efficiency program. In return for the subsidized LED fixtures, REACH asked the OAC and the City of Orinda to host a free public workshop on energy conservation and sustainability. This workshop was held on September 11. Both the OAC and the city are featured on the REACH website in recognition of the project (see www.reachthefuture.org/reach-partners/reach-community/orinda-arts-council). Stop by the Orinda Library Gallery and check out the brighter, lighter space.

The following groups made the new lighting possible: Orinda Community Foundation; Orinda Parks and Rec Foundation; Urban Foundation; Orinda Arts Council; Art in Public Places Committee; Orinda Parks and Rec Foundation – Anonymous Donor; Friends of the Orinda Library; Miramonte Visual and Performing Arts Club; Orinda Woman's Club; OIS Parents Club; Miramonte Parents Club; and Lamorinda Arts Alliance.

The new lighting would not be possible without the following volunteers: Susan Garell, OAC president-fundraising/lighting design/contractor coordination; Maggie Boscoe, OAC gallery co-chair/artist research, LED donation/gallery logistics; Myrna Witt, OAC gallery co-chair/artist research; Orinda Woman's Club donation/gallery logistics; Michelle Lacy, director, Orinda Parks and Rec-facilities/REACH workshop support; Jim Arth, facilities manager, Orinda Community Center-installation/facilities support; and Richard and Pamela Westin, progenitors of lighting upgrade through suggestion.

The artists hope that viewers will be enriched by the variety of art they present. Each uses different images or material to illustrate their view on fairy tales and some of the blinding that goes with them. Most of their views leave the door open to personal interpretation, which they hope viewers will communicate to them at the reception.

They believe art allows the freedom to think about, and relate to, a particular subject from different perspectives. Sometimes, it is the only way for people to communicate their ideas without the literal use of words. When this occurs, art functions as a bridge between cultures, generations and ideas. If you are interested in joining the group or want to learn more about *Kunstanke*, visit www.kunstanke.com.

Normal library hours when the gallery is accessible are – Monday through Thursday,

10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Call 254-2814 for more information.



TAVEE
TaVee's "Alice" depicts the heroine of the well-known fairytale in this 24" x 24" oil on paper.

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AUTOMOBILES

CAR TIME

What does a check engine light have to do with a smog test?

By JOHN VANEK



All modern vehicles these days are computer controlled. There are no carburetors, points or even distributors to adjust to help make the car run better. That means your engine management system has dozens of components such as switches, sensors etc. that are controlled by one or more on-board computers. The on-board diagnostic system (OBD2) was mandated by the government to identify component failures that may effect tailpipe emissions. This monitoring system can also identify evaporative emissions leaking from the fuel system. This system will constantly scan all systems and check for any components that are out of the pre-set parameters. The good news: it can identify components that are failing and allows you the option of getting it replaced before it affects the reliability. The bad news: if your OBD2 system detects a fault it will throw a check engine light that represent a specific code

which will cause you to fail the smog test. The government does not want a vehicle with a problem passing smog. It is clear that big brother is watching.

Be aware that disconnecting the battery will make the engine light go out, but it will also clear out all the monitors to ground zero. The same thing happens to your car radio and clock when the battery goes dead. It is not possible to perform the smog test with open monitors. After your car loses battery voltage for any reason, it is required to perform several "drive cycles" that includes varied driving and re-starts. It means you need to drive your vehicle for a few days after charging or replacing the battery. The check engine light will stay off once the system checks are clear. If they are not clear, the light will come back on and the vehicle will still fail the smog test. There are literally hundreds of separate causes for a check engine light. Some codes will affect immediate reliability concerns and other could be a silent killer. For instance, a misfire may be detected by your OBD2 system but not noticeable to the driver. A misfire that is ignored will cause damage to your cat-converter. Even low and dirty oil can cause a check engine light these days. Lack of maintenance is not a good reason for a check engine light to occur.

I guess the moral of the story is to pay attention to your check engine light and all warnings lights on your vehicle for that matter. Pay special attention when your smog test and registration is due so you have time to take care of it in a timely manner without the chaos that accompanies late vehicle renewal.

8th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show was a Roaring Success



DAVID DIERKS

Les Graham, (passenger seat), who works in Parks and Rec, had his 1969 Mustang in this year's car show. His wife Noreen is driving.

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

The Orinda Classic Car Show held it's 8th successful weekend September 21 through 23. This year the show expanded into a three-day event, starting on Friday with "Dancing with the Cars," the main event of the car show on Saturday, and finishing off with "Speed on the Screen" on Sunday. Organized by Chip Herman, hosted by Orinda Motors and with major support from Mechanics Bank, the event showcased 205 vehicles along Avenida de Orinda, Orinda Way and the 16th Fairway of the Orinda Country Club. The event raised over \$55,000 for local charities.

"Dancing with the Cars," the ticketed party, sold out early in the week and had over 250 attendees. The party let attendees get a sneak peek at some of the cars before the show and had a James Bond theme which showcased some iconic vehicles from the James Bond films. Proceeds from the party, which included a live auction,

went to the Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO).

Saturday was the main event with all the vehicles on display. Herman said, "Thousands attended the Car Show on that beautiful Saturday." The show ran from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., culminating in a parade where some lucky attendees were able to ride in the vehicles that had been on display. The presenting sponsor for the entire weekend event was Orinda Motors, with generous support from the Orinda Country Club in opening their 16th fairway for displaying some of the cars. Herman added, "The Orinda Classic Car Show Weekend was the combined efforts of the Orinda Association, Orinda Rotary, Educational Foundation of Orinda, Seniors Around Town, The Orinda Country Club, Orinda Chamber of Commerce, the Orinda Arts Council, and the Orinda Historical Society as well as over 75 hard working volunteers!"

Orinda's most famous Olympian, Heather Petri, appeared at the show and brought

[SEE CAR SHOW page 20]

Orinda Association Thanks

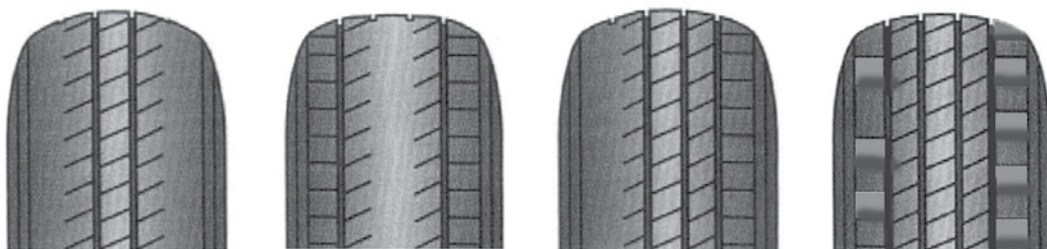
Orinda Motors and the Hermans

Thanks to Orinda Motors and the tireless work of Chip and Carolyn Herman and their dedicated volunteers, the Orinda Association (OA) and its Seniors Around Town program can continue offering service to local residents. "As a major beneficiary of the Classic Car Show, the OA is extremely grateful to the efforts of Allen Pennebaker and John Vanek of Orinda Motors and Chip and Carolyn Herman," says OA president Bill Waterman. "With the help of these wonderful people, the OA can offer such community programs as the annual 4th of July Celebration, Public Forums, and Seniors Around Town, which provides transportation to Orinda seniors free of charge. Thank you, thank you, thank you!"



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LAMORINDA VILLAGE

Lamorinda Village
Questionnaire

By TISH HARWOOD
Lamorinda Village Exploratory
Task Force

As we get older, how can we continue to live in our own community independently, safely and comfortably? A group of Lamorinda citizens believe there is a successful answer to this important question. It's the village concept, or here, Lamorinda Village. We have formed a task force to explore the feasibility of establishing such a village in our area.

This innovative idea is spreading across the country. A village is a local community-based nonprofit membership group that provides those essential and enjoyable services that can help keep us in the homes and neighborhoods we love. With just one phone call to the village office, you can get invaluable help with services such as health and wellness assistance, daily living services that include transportation and shopping for groceries, organized social activities, continuing education opportunities, organized physical activities, and financial services. The annual membership fee would entitle members to some of the services free of charge. Other services, offered by a third party vetted through the village, may be offered at a discount rate.

The questionnaire to the right will help us determine your needs and your opinions about what services would be important to you and help to determine what services would be offered to village members. Whatever your interest in the village concept, we would greatly appreciate your response. Your response will make your voice heard, help to determine the feasibility of a village concept in Lamorinda, and shape the offerings that will benefit you and the community.

Simply cut out the questionnaire and mail it to The Lamorinda Village, PO. Box 57, Lafayette, CA 94549. If you are interested in taking the survey online and receiving word of future local village developments, email us at lamorindavillage@gmail.com and we will send you a link to the survey. For more information about the village concept, go to www.vtvnetwork.org

Lamorinda Village Survey

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire.
Your input will help us to assess the needs of our Lamorinda Community.

1 For whom are you answering the questions in this survey?

I am answering these questions:

- for myself
- on behalf of my spouse/partner
- on behalf of a family member
- on behalf of someone to whom I am not related

2 Health & wellness assistance services that are, or may be in the future, important to you should you stay in your home in Lamorinda:

- Referrals for medical, dental, mental health, and other therapies
- Assistance with daily living activities and medications
- Medical equipment: wheelchairs, beds, walkers, oxygen etc.
- Nutrition and diet
- Obtaining prescriptions
- Help with insurance claim forms
- Senior Case Manager

3 Continuing education opportunities you would like to participate in if you remain in the Lamorinda community:

- Local classes in a variety of intellectual subjects
- How-to-classes: computer/internet, cooking, painting, bridge lessons etc.
- Investment club
- Other

4 Daily living/home services that you need or may need assistance with in order to stay in your home as you grow older:

- Meal preparation
- Transportation
- Shopping for groceries etc.
- Laundry and dry cleaning
- General handyman
- Special services: plumber, electrician
- Other

5 Organized physical activities that you would like to participate in if you remain in your home as you grow older:

- Scheduled exercise programs
- Walking groups
- Swimming
- Dance classes
- Yoga, meditation
- Other

6 Organized social activities you would be interested in if held at a conveniently located meeting place:

- Coffee/tea/cocktail parties
- Discussion groups
- Hobbies and crafts
- Bridge, chess other games
- Concerts, movies, museum, etc
- Volunteering
- Other

7 Personal and financial services that you believe you need or will need in the future:

- Bill paying
- Balancing checkbook, budgeting
- Insurance (health, property, life)
- Investment advice
- Legal advice
- Tax preparation
- Other

8 Rank each category in order of importance (1-6), with 1 being the most important to you:

- Health & Wellness Assistance Services
- Continuing Education Opportunities
- Daily Living/Home Services
- Organized Physical Activities
- Organized Social Activities
- Personal & Financial Services

9 How much would you be willing to pay annually, per individual, for the services provided by a Lamorinda based village? (for couples add \$250 to individual fee):

- \$750
- \$1000
- \$1200

Demographics

In order to help us analyze the data provided, we would appreciate your responses to the following:

10 Number of people in your household:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- Or More

11 Age:

- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75-84
- Older

12 Gender of seniors in household:

- Male
- Female
- Both

13 Zip Code:

- 94549 - Lafayette
- 94556 - Moraga
- 94570 - Moraga
- 94575 - Moraga
- 94563 - Orinda
- Other

14 Do you use email?

- Yes
- No

For general information about the village concept, go to www.vtvnetwork.org or contact us at Lamorindavillage@gmail.com.

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FILM



THE REEL LESS TRAVELED

FILM FESTIVAL ON THE WAY

Tom Westlake



First things first. As you are reading this, there is a very real possibility that final preparations for the 15th Annual California Independent Film Festival are underway and, whereas, it is the purpose of this column to inform every one of the “extracurricular” movies playing in the area, one look at the schedule clearly indicates that there is simply too much information and not enough space to contain it all. A recommended course of action would be to check out www.caiff.org for a complete run-down of the wide variety of movies, celebrity appearances, and other ancillary events. It will run from November 8 to the 11 at both the Orinda and the New Rheem Theatre, and to those rare few that have not seen the renovations to the latter of the two, this would be your best opportunity to make up for that deficit, as well as to help support what promises to be an event that is growing in popularity with each passing year.

And speaking of film festivals, JoAlice Canterbury and Efi Lubliner have brought back a sampling from one of the many festivals they visit for their International Film Showcase. This month, they present another heart-warming tale of balance thrown askew and restored even better than before. *Three Quarter Moon* tells the story of a cab driver who, through the unenviable circumstances of his life, finds himself growing distant from just about everybody – until a fare in the form of a six-year old Turkish girl enters his life. In many ways, this is the perfect continuance of theme from last month’s film *Noodle* but with

the gender roles reversed and the cultural divide switched from the Israeli/Chinese to the German/Turkish. Indeed, these two movies would make an ideal double-bill (Remember them?). It will have a five-day engagement at the Orinda Theater from November 16-20 at 1:30, 4 and 6:30 p.m. with additional screenings on Friday and Saturday at 8:45 p.m. For more information, go to www.ifef.org.

Smack dab in the middle of all this cinematic chaos is...even more chaos when Vanessa, The Queen of the Rheem presents *The Blob*. Actually, this is a departure from nearly every other film she’s shown insofar as this one has achieved a certain accidental notoriety, elevating it to near cult status. That it introduces a very young Steve McQueen (playing a teenager although he was in his late 20s at the time) is also a point in its favor not to mention the catchy title song, written by Burt Bacharach. It will show at the Rheem on November 16 at 9 p.m.

Next, we have a film that keeps on giving. Rare is the film that requires multiple viewings, but *Chinatown* is one such film. Released in 1974, during a particularly vital and innovative time in Hollywood history, this Roman Polanski film has so many layers and such a complex plot structure, thanks in no small part to Robert Towne’s Oscar winning screenplay, that it would do you well to completely divorce yourself from whatever electronic device you feel you need to have and re-

[SEE REEL page 22]

Third Time’s A Charm for The California Independent Film Festival

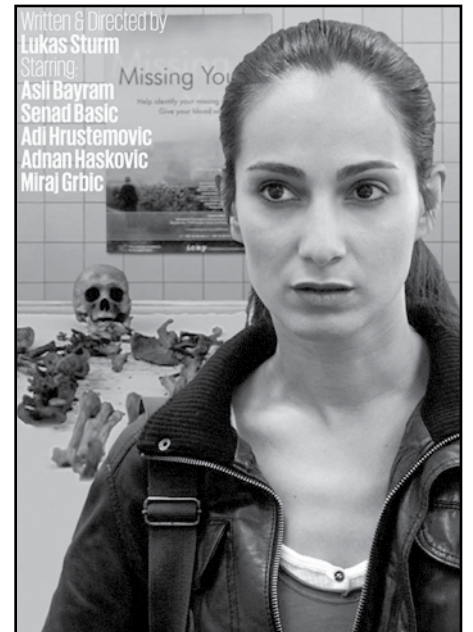
By STEPHANIE KUSINSKI
Contributing Writer

The 15th Annual California Independent Film Festival will be held for the third year in a row at The New Rheem Theatre in Moraga on November 8 through 11. The opening night reception will be held at The New Rheem Theatre from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. The films will begin at 7 p.m. Films will also be shown at the Orinda Theatre, providing attendees additional opportunities to screen films and even more ways to experience the festival.

The California Independent Film Festival Association (CAIFFA) has begun announcing this year’s impressive line-up of films (some creating Oscar-buzz), a wide variety of foreign films, documentaries, short films and children’s programs.

Films opening this year’s festival include *Body Complete*, which has been screened at 13 film festivals world-wide and is an enthralling thriller, which takes a journey through war-torn Bosnia. In synopsis, Nicole is a journalist working for a TV station in Vienna, Austria. In 2004, she travels to Bosnia to film a report about Edina, a young woman who has gone missing. Edina wanted to bury her Muslim father in Bosnia, whose remains were discovered in a mass grave. Nicole’s search takes her to Morovci, the place where Edina was last seen. Morovci, located in Republika Srpska, is a nation created after the war. It was a major site of ethnic cleansing, in which thousands of Muslim civilians perished. Nicole’s tenacious inquiries put her increasingly at risk. The fanatic nationalism and open aggression all around her make Nicole’s search a life-threatening mission.

Also opening the festival is the world pre-



CONTRIBUTED GRAPHIC

Asli Bayram stars in *Body Complete*, which opens this year’s independent film festival.

miere of *One Small Hitch*. A comedy about two childhood friends, Josh and Molly, who fake a wedding engagement to make Josh’s dying father happy. Things quickly get out of hand with their two boisterous families, and a series of events causes them to pretend to be a couple and start planning a phony wedding. When the playacting begins to foster real feelings, the two must make some serious decisions - split up and return to their lives in Los Angeles, or make a life as a couple back in Chicago.

Closing the festival this year is the much-anticipated film, *Lore*. This Oscar-buzzing film takes place in 1945. After their SS Nazi parents are taken into Allied custody, five German children undertake a harrowing journey that exposes them to the reality

[SEE FESTIVAL page 22]



Jason Lurie for Orinda School Board

Dear Fellow Orindans:

The latest Academic Performance Index scores were just released and again we have reason to be proud and excited. Our district performs among the best in the state.

Outstanding test scores are just one indicator of our ongoing excellence. We have kept many benefits and programs long forgone by most districts in the state. We are fortunate to live in a community committed to a top-notch public school system.

My three daughters have many years ahead in OUSD. If I am fortunate enough to have the opportunity, I will work side-by-side with my fellow trustees to ensure that all OUSD students, my daughters among them, receive the highest quality education. This will require an informed, pragmatic, collaborative approach to fiscal governance. That is the spirit I will bring if elected.

I ask for your vote for the Orinda School Board.

Very truly yours,
Jason

Jason has displayed a passion for service in our schools and a spirit of cooperation. He is fully committed to moving our Orinda children onward and upward in their education.

– Chris Severson, OUSD Trustee

Jason has quickly identified the fiscal challenges facing our district. His experience and collaborative nature will provide great leadership with the rest of the board to face them head on.

– Dean Orr, Orinda City Council

Jason is clearly bright, educated on the issues, and with young children, well vested in our schools. He brings an agenda-free “roll-up-your sleeves” approach to collaboration—a quality critical in these cost-cutting times.

– Riki Sorenson, Former OUSD Trustee

I am so impressed with Jason’s “can do” attitude and his desire to work collaboratively with parents, teachers and community members to address our challenges and improve our schools.

– Victoria Smith, Orinda City Council

Jason’s dedication and commitment to providing the best education for all students will be a great asset on the school board. I wholeheartedly support his candidacy.

– Julie Rossiter, OUSD Trustee

“I have no doubt that Jason Lurie will bring diligence, fairness, and a collaborative approach to the school board. Orinda students will benefit greatly from his leadership.”

– Pat Rudebusch, OUSD Trustee

“Jason has a keen appreciation for Orinda’s outstanding public schools. Jason is determined to build on this legacy of excellence to ensure that our students get the top notch education they deserve and our community expects.”

– Sue Severson, Orinda City Council

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

◆ LETTERS from page 4

because their predecessors spent your money unabated in good years and expect the current and next generation to pay for it. I've tightened my budget, so should they.

6) Average age of the population in Orinda is one of highest in the area. Baby Boomer retirees will downsize, sell their home, resetting the tax basis to much higher levels. Developers realize they are running out of time.

7) Market forces will change the character of store fronts for higher and better use when the cost of doing so makes most sense. More family-friendly and small high-quality boutique restaurants are coming. The typewriter, quill, and rotary telephone disappeared when their time was due but not before then.

8) Neither families or active retirees will live above a parking lot or close to road noise. They'll be rentals for singles/couples who won't buy a home; these folks won't spend major dollars here. Orinda isn't Emeryville, Walnut Creek or Los Gatos nor should it be.

9) Walk to downtown? If you live in Orinda, you know that there are large tree-filled properties set into the hillsides on streets without sidewalks. No one is strolling into downtown. You'd need massive parking structures to accommodate the "walking crowd" parking their car. No thanks.

— Chris Engl

Yes on Measure L

What do we do when our home's water heater fails or the roof leaks after a big storm? We fix it. Orinda's roads and drains have been failing for years and, until now, we have not formulated a plan to fix them. Many strategies have been tried – bond measures, grant funding, stimulus funds, sequestering 10 percent of the city budget for road and drain repair, and joint govern-

ment citizen commissions. And just as our home repairs become more costly when delayed, the costs of fixing our infrastructure escalate.

Polling data from January 2012 has shown that Orindans would support a 0.5 percent sales tax that would enable the council to increase the road and drain budget by approximately \$600,000 per year. So instead of focusing on main roads such as Rheem or Moraga Way, the city can put more emphasis on our residential streets.

With guidance by the council and support of Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Committee, city staff has put together a 10-year plan that if put in place will bring our roads back to good condition. Measure L, a 10-year 0.5 percent sales tax, is the first piece of the plan. Roads and drains won't be repaired all at once, but it will allow the city to accelerate repair while taking advantage of conditions in the current economic environment.

We have the opportunity to say "Yes!" to Measure L on November 6 and begin to repair our Orinda home.

— Cassandra Forth

Fix Private Roads

There will be a measure on the Orinda November ballot proposing a \$.05 percent sales tax on purchases in Orinda and on large purchases, such as automobiles, bought anywhere in the Bay Area. The proponents of the tax claim that some of the tax will go to Orinda residential streets. However, the Orinda City Manager refuses to state: (1) what portion of the tax will go to arterial and collector streets and what portion (if any) will go to residential streets, (2) which residential streets will get the tax money and what the repair will consist of, (3) when the repair will be done, if at all, in the 10-year duration of the tax.

Since the policy of the city in the past has been to spend road money only on arterial and collector streets, what reason

do we have to believe that any of the \$.05 percent sales tax will bring any road repairs to Orinda residential streets?

Since the tax goes into the city's general fund and can be used for anything, why won't the city give residents of private roads their fair share of the tax?

The Contra Costa County Grand Juries have repeatedly criticized the Moraga/Orinda Fire District for gross waste; however, Orinda City Council members Smith and Glazer voted not to appoint a committee to investigate how a financially effective fire district could help in upgrading Orinda roads, an essential requirement for fire and ambulance service.

The City Council majority, including members Smith and Glazier, when asked to appoint a committee to investigate the waste in the fire district, stated that it was not in their "purview" to review the service that another agency provides to Orinda residents. In other words, their buddy-buddy relationship with members of the fire district Board of Directors was more important than reducing the waste in the Fire District.

We need new blood in the Orinda City Council instead of ineffectual new taxes. Please join me in voting no on the \$.05 percent sales tax and in voting only for Linda Delehunt for the Orinda City Council. She is in touch with reality.

—Clyde Vaughn

Is Measure L the Right Tax to Fix Orinda's Roads?

While the City of Orinda will never fix its roads without new taxes, Measure L is not the way to get there. It is the first leg of a three part plan in which the other two parts (1) provide 85 percent of the total funding and (2) will never happen. If you want to have to wait five to 10 years before you find out your roads will not be fixed, support Measure L. If you want your roads fixed sooner, reject Measure L and force the city to create a plan that will really fix Orinda's roads.

The Measure L sales tax will only provide \$650,000 per year. This is half the money the city needs to just maintain the current system. No money will be available for the 45 miles of poor and failed residential streets unless the major roads repaired over the past six years are again ignored.

The second and third legs of the plan are two \$20 million bond measures which will cost about \$200 per household each and require a 2/3 supermajority to pass. The recent Orinda poll said that only 46 percent of the voters would support a \$200 parcel tax. How many would support this second tax on top of a \$100 sales tax? Last year, Lafayette voters rejected a similar tax that

was only going to cost each household \$90.

The voters should also consider how such a failed plan came to be. It was a product of a City Council Road Subcommittee led by Mayor Glazer. During his 2008 campaign, he stated that his top area of concern was roads. But it took him two and a half years to form a Road Subcommittee. The 10-year plan appeared for the first time eight months after the last public meeting of that committee. The plan was voted for unanimously by the full council, including the second incumbent candidate Victoria Smith, four days after it was first made public by the council. Maybe we need some new blood on the council to come up with a real plan to fix our roads.

For more thoughts and details, see www.RoadToNowhere.info.

—Steve Cohn

Share the Responsibility for our Community

There is much to appreciate about living in a place as beautiful as Orinda. We all share the responsibility of keeping Orinda a great place to live and part of that responsibility is caring for its infrastructure. Our roads are the foundation of our city and right now our foundation is crumbling. We have deferred maintenance for many years and now we are paying the price. The longer we delay addressing the maintenance problems, the more difficult and costly repairs become. We must act now. Measure L is a good start on the long range plan which will restore our roads to a good safe condition. I urge you to Vote yes on Measure L.

— Leslee Larner


Support Matt Moran for OUSD

Orinda has outstanding schools, among the best in the state. Credit for this belongs to the current school board in general and Matt Moran in particular, who have maintained this strong legacy in very difficult times.

This success is an ongoing challenge, especially regarding funding. The primary source of school funding in California is property taxes that are collected by the state, which doles them out to local districts based on ancient formulas. On a per pupil basis, Orinda Union (OUSD) is near the bottom of the list. To keep our schools top notch, the community makes up the rest, providing about one third of OUSD funding.

Maintaining this fiscal foundation while emphasizing quality education is very challenging. In his tenure on the OUSD Board and as its president, Matt Moran has worked with the board, the administration

[SEE LETTERS 2 page 20]



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PRESCHOOLS

Lamorinda Preschools Create Wonderful Environments for Children

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Preschool is an important part of forming a child's personal, social and emotional development, as well as helping parents with their busy schedules. Below is *The Orinda News'* list of Lamorinda preschool and after-school programs.

See the article on Lamorinda Moms' Preschool Fair, Nov. 15 from 6:30-8:30 p.m., page 13 for more information.

Contact the schools for further information on enrollment and cost. Also, visit www.eastbaypreschools.com, a handy resource for families researching programs for their children.

925-254-1974
10am to 4pm
Transitional Kindergarten and / Kindergarten Children
www.orindaafternoons.com
orindaafternoons@gmail.com

Holy Shepherd Christian Preschool
433 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-3429
9 a.m. to Noon, extended day until 2 p.m.
Ages 2-3, Pre-kindergarten (ages 4-5),
Extended care (monthly or hourly)
www.holyshepherd.org

St. John Preschool
501 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563

www.stmarksnurseryschool.org

St. Stephen's Preschool
66 St. Stephen's Dr., Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-3770, ext. 19
2 year program 9 a.m. to 11:30, Tu/Th,
age 3 to Pre-K 9 a.m. to noon, MWF, with
optional lunch bunch on MWF until 2 p.m.
<http://preschool.ststephens.org>

The Orinda Preschool – TOPS
10 Irwin Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-2551
8:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Preschool (ages 2-4), optional afternoon
Lunch Bunch Playgroup (ages 3-5), Tran-
sitional Kindergarten (age 5)

www.topsonline.org
topsonline@sbcglobal.net

Lafayette
Apple Seed Little School
Lafayette, CA
925-979-9089
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
2 to 5 years old, Preschool Program with
extended child care
www.appleseedlittleschool.com
[SEE PRESCHOOL page 12]



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Children get creative at Tot Drop in Lafayette, run by Orinda resident Ruth Kaiser.

Orinda
Fountainhead Montessori School
30 Santa Maria Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-820-1343
7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Children ages 2 to Kindergarten, Summer School
www.fms.org

925-254-4470
7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Ages 2-5.
www.preschool@stjohnorinda.org

St. Mark's Nursery School
451 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563
925-254-1364
Age 3 (Tu/Th) 9 a.m. to noon, age 4
(Mon/Wed/Fri) 9 a.m. to noon, Lunch
Bunch daily.
stmarksnurseryschoolorinda@gmail.com

Orinda Afternoons - An Outdoor Adventure Program
103 El Toyonal, Orinda, CA 94563



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

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

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

Attitude of Gratitude
AOG



Kind words can be brief
and simple, yet they echo in
our memories forever.
Chinese Proverb

Green Buddha
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The Orinda Preschool
10 Irwin Way, Orinda
925.254.2551

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4s and 5s
- Play based preschool for 2, 3,
and 4 year olds
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year olds
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- Accepting applications year
round.

www.topsonline.org
topsonline@sbcglobal.net





LA ORINDA



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Mario@Caldecott.com
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Happy Thanksgiving!
from my family to yours...

RECENT TRANSACTIONS (LAST 30 DAYS)

2381 St Ashley Pl. Walnut Creek **SOLD** \$1,035,000

3559 Old Mountain View Rd. Lafayette **SOLD** \$1,250,000

1216 Upper Happy Valley Rd. Lafayette **SOLD** \$1,300,000

47 Woodland Dr. Alamo **SOLD** \$830,000

Working, Negotiating & Networking For Buyers & Sellers

PRESCHOOLS

◆ **PRESCHOOL** from page 11

Building Bridges Preschool
1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-6792
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Preschool Program with extended care to 5 p.m., ages 2 to 6.
www.buildingbridgespreschool.com

Center of Arts, Technology & Science
961 1st Street, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-4500
7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
4 yrs 9 mos and up, Pre-K, before/after school care year round, summer camp

The Child Day Schools
1049 Stuart Street, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-7092
6:45 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.
Ages 2-6, minimum 3-5 days per week, Twos, Threes, Pre-K, summer care, developmental Kindergarten
www.tcdschools.com

Diablo Valley Montessori School

3390 Deerhill Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-6036
7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Infant/toddler (3 months to 2 yrs.), 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Two's/Transition (2-3 yrs.), Preschool/kindergarten (3-6 yrs.) with times available 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., half-day morning program (2-6 yrs.), extended care (7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for enrolled students), summer program (3-6 yrs.)
www.dvms.org

First Steps Learning Center
3201 Stanley Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549
925-933-6283
7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Ages 0-2; infant care, full time only, year-round.

French for Fun
3468 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite B100, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-9822
Tots at Play, 15 mos. to 3 yrs., M&W, 11:15 a.m. to noon. French Immersion, 2.5 to 3.5 yrs., (3 or 5 days) 9 to 12:00 p.m.
Madame@frenchforfun.com

www.frenchforfun.com

Gan Ilan Preschool, Temple Isaiah
3800 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-8453
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.: ages 2-4
8 to 9 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.: Extended Care
www.Temple-Isaiah.org

Happy Days Learning Center
3205 Stanley Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549
925-932-8088
7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Age 2-5+, Preschool, Kindergarten up to 5th grade. Before and after school care ages 5-12

Joyful Beginnings Preschool
955 Moraga Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-1143
3 year program Tu/Th 8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. 4 year program MWF 8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Pre-K M-F 8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Lunch Bunch 11:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
joyfulbeginnings@sbcglobal.net

Lafayette Kid's Cottage
Downtown Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-6423
Preschool Program 2.9 yrs. to 5 yrs. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. After School Program 2.9 yrs. to 10 yrs. 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
www.lafayetttekids.com

Lafayette Nursery School
979 First Street, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-2448
Preschool Program 2 yrs. to 3 yrs., 5 yrs. T-Th, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
4 to Pre-K Afternoon Program: M-Th 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
lafayettenurseryschool@mail.org
www.lafayettenurseryschool.org

Merriewood Children's Center
561 Merriewood Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-2121
Toddler-parent class, Monday only 9 to 11:30 a.m. Preschool: Age 2.5-3 (2 day), age 3-4 (3 day); Age 4-5 (4 or 5 days) 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Extended Care available until 2:15 p.m. www.Merriewood.org

Michael Lane Preschool
682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-7244
9 a.m. to noon with a lunch option from noon to 1 p.m.
2 yrs. 9 mo. to K
www.michaellanepreschool.com

Old Firehouse School
984 Moraga Road, Lafayette, CA 94549

925-284-4321
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Infants to Prekindergarten (12 months to age 5)
www.oldfirehouseschool.com

Seedlings Preschool
Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church
49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-3870
9:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.
Infant/toddler, Preschool, Pre-K, Developmental Kindergarten, Extended care, ages 2-4 to 3:15 p.m.
seedlings@lopc.org
www.seedlingslopc.org

Tot Drop / Preschool by Appointment
500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-284-3999
Any portion of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Ages 1-5, pay as you go, Maximum 12 hours/week
www.totdrop.com

White Pony
A division of the Meher Schools
999 Leland Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-938-9958
7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Preschool, Pre-K, Kindergarten (also grades 1-5)
www.meherschools.org

Moraga
The Child Day Schools
372 Park Street, Moraga, CA 94556
925-376-5110
6:45 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.
Infant/Toddler (age 1+), Ages 2-3, Pre-K, Summer care, Junior-kindergarten
www.tcdschools.com

Creative Playhouse Preschool
1350 Moraga Way, Moraga, CA 94556
925-377-8314
7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Young Preschool (2-3), Preschool (3-4), Pre-K (4-5), Minimum 2 days per week
www.eastbaypreschools.com/
creativeplayhouse

Growing Tree Preschool
1695 Canyon Road, Moraga, CA 94556
925-376-8280
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Seedlings 1.5-2; sprouts 2-2.5; maples 2.5-3; mulberries 3-3.5; cedars 3.5-4; redwood 4-4.5; sequoia 4.5-5+
www.growingtreepreschool.net

Moraga Valley Presbyterian Nursery Preschool
10 Moraga Valley Lane, Moraga, CA 94556
[SEE PRESCHOOL 2 page 13]

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FCCH # 073407526

Orinda Afternoons offers a series of fun, outdoor adventure camps for children enrolled in TK/Kindergarten through second grade throughout the year.

We have a limited number of spaces left in our "Turkey Days" (November 19, 20, 21 and 23) and our "Tree Homes and Winter Habitats" camps (Dec 31-Jan 4). All camps run from 10am to 4pm, include lunch and healthy snacks, with before and aftercare available for an additional cost.

Orinda Afternoons offers children a chance to be outside, play, explore and learn about natural history. Our outdoor education includes hands-on social studies, with an introduction to life and physical science. In addition to our outdoor time, we do a daily craft linked to the outing of the day. To the extent that inclement weather limits our journey, we are fortunate to have a "Base Camp" facility complete with a dedicated art studio, playroom, climbing gym, sandbox, organic garden, trampoline and tree house all in a park-like setting. For more information, visit our website at www.orindaafternoons.com or call 925-254-1974.

Vote For SARAH BUTLER
for OUSD School Board

Experienced Leadership in Orinda Schools

12 years of experience: Attendance at over 50 OUSD School Board meetings; Legislative Representative (current); Legislative Team Co-Chair, 2008-2010; EFO Board Member, 5 yrs; Parents Club Board, Glorietta & OIS; School Site Council, Glorietta & OIS; OUSD Strategic Planning Committee, 3 yrs.

Priorities:

- Maximizing Use of Existing Resources & Fiscal Responsibility
- Improving Communication and Collaboration Between All Stakeholders
- Strengthen Information Technology Resources, Training, and 21st Century Curriculum
- Expanding the Arts, Music and Critical Thinking Skills

Awards:

- EFO Friend of Education Award, 2010
- ALPHSD Sue Stauffer Friends of Education 2012 Award, Measure A Citizen's Oversight Committee

Experience Matters! I respectfully ask for your vote.



PRESCHOOLS

15th Annual Lamorinda Moms Preschool Fair – Major Timesaver

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Caught in a maze of preschool indecision? What's the best choice for your child's personality, convenient to where you live, and in your budget? Do you have personal recommendations from a neighbor or relative? These are just a few of the questions a parent wrestles with when shopping for the best fit for their child. Cast your worries aside and show up on Thursday, November 15 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Here you will find directors and parents from over 40 local preschools available to discuss their programs and answer your questions – children welcome, of course. Lamorinda Moms has been sponsoring the event since 1997 and will provide you with a comparison of each participating preschool.

Lamorinda Moms (LM) is a social and support club for parents with children under five years of age in the greater Lamorinda area including the cities of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda. The group is one of the largest parenting organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area with more than 900 members, according to Jennie Dobies, publicity chair. Their purpose is to help members enrich their lives through cultivating new friendships, personal and professional growth, and community involvement. The organization is staffed by busy parent volunteers who've each gone through the process of enrolling their child with all the best info LM provides. Here's a sample of things they recommend to consider before making your decision:

Basic Information

- Is the preschool accredited?
- When did the preschool last go through the accreditation process?
- How the preschool is organized (one room, multiple rooms, centers)?
- Does the preschool have lunch bunch, drop off or reduced participation programs?
- What is the process for dropping off and picking up a child?
- What is the admission policy?
- When are admission decisions made?
- Is toilet training required?
- What happens if the child has separation anxiety?
- How does the preschool resolve conflicts between children?

Curriculum

- What is the preschool's philosophy?
- Describe the preschool's typical daily schedule.
- Is the preschool's program more structured or more open play?
- What is the curriculum for a given month?
- What does the outdoor play yard look like?
- Is there an outside curriculum?
- Are there any field trips?
- Areas of development?

Check out their website, www.lamorindamoms.org, to learn about the dozens of activities and special events they host every month, read a newsletter or look for membership info (\$55 the first year). Contact Jennie Dobies by email at publicity@lamorindamoms.org.



ZARAH SAPORITO

Ben Mieszkowski-Lapping (L) and Sebastian Ziegler enjoy some leisure time at TOPS Preschool in Orinda.

◆ PRESCHOOL 2 from page 12

925-376-4800 x248 Connie
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

2-5 yrs., 9 a.m. to Noon; Preschool to Pre-K, Noon to 3 p.m. Extended care
www.mvpcetoday.org/nurtury

Mulberry Tree Preschool

1455 St. Mary's Road, Moraga, CA 94556
925-376-1751
8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Variable schedule, ages 2-5, Extended care available (hourly), 5 days/week
www.mulberrytreepreschool.com.

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451 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563. Phone: 925.254.1364
www.stmarksnurseryschool.org
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We're Voting to Re-elect Victoria Smith to Orinda City Council



"As a Council Member, Victoria works tirelessly to hear all sides and build consensus."
—Dean Orr, Orinda City Council

"I appreciate Victoria's work in support of small business and the Chamber of Commerce."
—Janet Boreta, Orinda Books

"Victoria and I have worked together to enhance safe routes to schools, new and improved playing fields and recreation for our students."
—Matt Moran, Chair, OUSD

"Victoria respects Orinda's small town community and history, while looking for ways to improve services and amenities."
—Bobbie Landers, Former Mayor

"I worked with Victoria on improving walkways and traffic safety around our schools, and I couldn't be happier to support her re-election to City Council!"
—Shannon Fuller, Former Parks and Recreation Commissioner

Elected Officials

Congressman George Miller, 7th District of California
Ellen Tauscher, Undersecretary of State, Former Congresswoman
Tom Torlakson, California State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Mark DeSaulnier, State Senator, 7th District
Nancy Skinner, Assembly Member 14th District
Joan Buchanan, Assembly Member 15th District
Steve Glazer, Orinda Mayor
Amy Worth, Orinda Vice Mayor
Dean Orr, Orinda City Council Member
Laura Abrams, Former Orinda Mayor
Joyce Hawkins, Former Orinda Mayor
Bill Judge, Former Orinda Mayor
Bobbie Landers, Former Orinda Mayor
Allan Tabor, Former Orinda Mayor
Gregg Wheatland, Former Orinda Mayor
Tyson Krumholz, Orinda Union School District Board Member
Matt Moran, Chair, Orinda Union School District Board Member
Julie Rossiter, Orinda Union School Board Member
Pat Rudebusch, Orinda Union School District Board Member
Jack Bontemps, Former Orinda Union School District Board Member
Linda Landau, Former Orinda Union School District Board Member
Jean T. Lyford, Former Orinda Union School District Board Member
Susie Epstein, Acalanes Union High School District Board Member
John Wyro, Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board Member
Steve Anderson, Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board Member-Elect
Alex Evans, Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board Member-Elect
Eugene Gottfried, Former Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board Member
Brook Mancinelli, Former Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board Member
Dick Olsen, Former Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board Member
Pete Wilson, Former Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board Member
Robert Campbell, Contra Costa County Auditor-Controller
Tomi Van de Brook, President-Contra Costa Community College District
Gail Murray, BART Board of Directors
Katy Foulkes, East Bay Municipal Utility District Board Member
Richard Rainey, Former Contra Costa County Sheriff/ State Senator
Sue Rainey, Former Mayor, City of Walnut Creek

Community Supporters

Louise & Ken Adamson
David & Sandra Anderson
Glenn & Lynne Alper
John & Judith April
Laura Abrams & Joel Sheiman
T. Wesley Ayers
Christie Batterman-Jordan
Reg & Kathy Barrett
Todd Berryhill
Hera Z. Blazer
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Janet Boreta
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Karen S.Fenchel
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Gary Fryer
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Peter & Sandy Golze
Alex Evans & Katherine Guptill
Phyllis & Eugene Gottfried
Pam & Alan Hall

Peggy & Ernie Hartz
Nora Harlow
Joyce Hawkins & Jack Sweitzer
Beatrice Heggie
Elle Hoffnagel
Aram Hodess & Suzanne Fox
Keith J. & Susan Horrocks
Randy Holleschau & Jeff Johnson
Jeff & Allison Holland
Tim Hyden
Toris Jaeger
Elisabeth Jewel & John Smith
Bill Judge
John E. Kolman
Kathryn S. Korn & Chris L'Orange
Nicholas Kosla
Tyson & Anna Krumholz
Becci & Jack Kunzman
Craig Labadie & Debra Margolis
Linda & Jim Landau
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Carol & Doug Marin
Dr. Carol Moll
Matt Moran
Bielle Moore
Eartha Newsong
Tom & Karen Norris
Richard J. Olsen
Dean Orr & Alissa Lillie
Diane Oshima

Carol & Mark Penskar
Bill & Mary Phelon
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Re-elect

VICTORIA SMITH to Orinda City Council

JOHN MUIR / EVERYDAY CHANGES

Specialty Children's Health Services Now Available at John Muir

By BEN DREW
Contributing Writer

John Muir Health and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford have announced that they are partnering to provide access to comprehensive children's specialty services for families in Contra Costa County and surrounding communities.

"We are partnering with Packard Children's in response to requests from families and general pediatricians to enhance and expand the availability of children's specialty services in our community so families may access and receive the care they need close to home," said Jane Willemsen, president and CAO of John Muir Health's Walnut Creek medical center. "This will build on our already strong foundation of pediatric care and enable us to offer the most comprehensive children's services

of any health system locally, services that we would not be able to offer on our own."

John Muir Health and Packard Children's began a successful partnership in urology and a growing number of surgical and medical services in 2011. The collaboration will now expand to include outpatient, inpatient, neonatal and emergency care, which will enable children with conditions ranging from allergies or bedwetting to more complex illnesses to see LPCH specialists locally through John Muir Health.

Many of the patients with complex cases will be treated through the new 16-bed pediatric complex care unit John Muir Health opened in 2011 in Walnut Creek, which includes private rooms. Additionally, the new facility has a 35-bed state-of-the-art Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, the only Level III-B NICU in Contra Costa County.

"A partnership of this type provides a tremendous benefit for children and fami-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The impressive **John Muir Health Center** in Walnut Creek now includes a 16-bed state-of-the-art Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

lies in the John Muir Health region," said Christopher G. Dawes, president and CEO at Packard Children's, the only Bay Area children's hospital with care programs ranked in the nation's top 10. "Increasing access and convenience to both of our hospitals' world-class care will have a major impact in the communities John Muir Health serves."

"John Muir Health has long provided children's services to families in Contra Costa County, and this partnership allows

us to significantly expand the services available to the community and benefit our patients for years to come," said Robert Kadas, M.D., chair of the Pediatrics Department at John Muir Medical Center, Walnut Creek. "At a time when many health systems are reducing their inpatient and outpatient children's services, we will be expanding our services to help meet the needs of children in our community."

For more information, visit www.johnmuirhealth.com.


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Everyday Changes
Make Your Holidays "Heavenly, not Hectic"

Bonnie Waters



Thanksgiving will soon be here and the holiday season will be in full swing. At the time of year that should be peaceful and joy-filled, we often find our holidays hectic not heavenly. The resulting stress, which for many of us is typical, can be avoided. However, as the saying goes, "If we keep doing what we have always done, we will continue to have what we always have had." If hectic holidays is a reoccurring theme in your life, commit this year to making changes. Before the intensity gets into high gear, take the time to contemplate, plan and implement some of the following ideas:

Enjoy Quality not Quantity

Follow the "Rule of Three." Pick no more than three holiday traditions that you enjoy doing most. I say no more than three because if you choose a major event like hosting an open house or holiday dinner, then decorating for the holidays pairs nicely and should suffice. Trying to do it all by making homemade gifts, writing a holiday letter, and baking cookies is certain to make the holidays hectic rather than heavenly.

Give Yourself the Gift of Relaxation

It's great to entertain and to spend time picking the perfect gift for family and

friends. It is equally important to give yourself the gift of relaxation. Book yourself a massage and treat yourself to an afternoon of rejuvenation after a day of holiday shopping. (For a real treat, visit us at Changes Salon and Day Spa where you can unwind in our Steam Therapy Lounge and sip a warm cup of tea beside the water wall in our Aqua Terra Room.)

Give the Gift of Gratitude

Eliminate the frantic search for a token gift and, instead, write personal letters of gratitude. Take time to reflect on why each person is a unique gift in your life. I personally enjoy receiving heartfelt letters of gratitude. My favorite was a note from a friend that she framed in a simple but tasteful frame. I hung it by my mirror so that I can read it each morning. Not only does this thoughtfulness warm my heart, but it reminds me that true friends are the best gift of all! This inexpensive gift is full of value and is a gift that continues to give throughout the year.

Lastly, but most importantly, remember the "Reason for the Season." Taking the time to enjoy a peaceful holiday is your personal contribution to "peace on earth and goodwill towards all." May you have a joyful and relaxed holiday season with your friends and family.

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BALLET / TREE LIGHTING



SALLY HOGARTY

Orinda Ballet founder **Patricia Tomlinson** and fellow professional dancer **Kendall Sparks** will perform with their students in the December Nutcracker production.

Orinda Ballet Performs Holiday Favorite

By KATHRYN G. McCARTY
Staff Writer

Orinda Ballet artistic director Patricia Tomlinson describes her company's *A Sweet Dream Nutcracker* as being "more magical" this year.

This is the fourth year the company has produced the show, which will run December 7-9 at the Orinda Community Library Theatre. The performance involves student dancers, ages 3-18 years old, and will feature Tomlinson with her former dance partner Kendall Sparks as well as guest artists, Jackie McConnell and Michael Galloway, from Company C.

Tomlinson, a New York native, studied at the School of American Ballet and has been coached by some of the greatest contemporary ballet artists of our time: George

Balanchine, Alexandra Danilova and Helgi Tomasson. She danced with the Houston and Pennsylvania ballet companies before moving to the Bay Area.

"This is our fourth year producing the ballet," Tomlinson said. "Every year we try to add something new to the scenery and to the show to make it a richer, a nicer experience."

A Sweet Dream Nutcracker performs December 7 at 6:30 p.m., December 8 at 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and December 9 at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for all seats. The tickets are available online, at brownpapertickets.com.

To learn more about the dance programs at the school, visit www.orindaballetacademy.com. Orinda Ballet Academy will perform *Swan Lake* in the spring of 2013.

Hospice Tree Lights the Way Once Again This Season

By CARYL LARSON
Contributing Writer

People are eagerly awaiting the Hospice Tree Lighting ceremony at the beautiful old oak tree at Orinda Village Square on Saturday, December 1, at 4:30 p.m.

The festivities begin with school choirs from Del Rey, Orinda Intermediate, Glorietta and Wagner Ranch performing traditional holiday music followed by the lighting of the tree in front of the Bank of America. In keeping with tradition, Santa Claus will arrive on a Moraga - Orinda Fire Engine with treats for the children and holiday cheer for all.

The magic of the tree lighting is sponsored by Friends of Hospice - Orinda and the Orinda Chamber of Commerce. A tax-deductible contribution of \$20 symbolically lights a bulb on the tree during December and early January. Why not begin the holiday season by honoring the memory of a friend or loved one with a light on the tree?

Proceeds from the tree lighting help support Hospice of Contra Costa. This private non-profit care program provides special



SALLY HOGARTY

Santa Claus is always a big draw at the annual Tree Lighting in Orinda Village.

care and support for ill and terminally ill patients and their families. Donations can be made the evening of the event or may be sent to: Hospice of the East Bay; attention Orinda Chapter, 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill, CA, 94523.

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Orinda City Council

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- * Prioritized repairs of roads most traveled
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Fiscal Watchdog

"Mayor Glazer has been an effective voice in spearheading greater transparency and fiscal accountability. He has been a staunch advocate for the Orinda schools. I unequivocally support Steve for Orinda City Council."

– Susie Epstein

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"In a town with more than its fair share of talent, Steve Glazer stands out among the most capable, reliable, and selfless volunteers working on behalf of all Orindans."

– Sue Severson, Orinda City Council

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"For more than a decade, Steve has successfully led efforts to increase funding for Orinda schools. He has been a champion for our schools and our city."

– Pat Rudebusch

President, Orinda Union School District Board

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Paid for by Steve Glazer for Orinda City Council 2012.

Dear Orinda Friends:

It has been a distinct honor serving you and the Orinda community as a member of the City Council. Working with my fellow council members, I believe that we have fostered an open and collaborative environment to chart a positive course for our city. With your support, I hope to continue serving with the same passion and enthusiasm. I hope you will consider supporting me.

Sincerely,

Steve Glazer
Steve Glazer
Mayor
City of Orinda

LOCAL GROUPS

Move of the Month

Shadow Boxing



Jab

Bend knees and keep chin up. Extend lead fist towards the target, starting with thumb up and rotating to palm down as the arm is extended.

Cross

Lead fist starts under chin and is propelled forward towards target. Rear shoulder is also propelled forward. Simultaneously hips are rotated counter clockwise and weight is transferred from rear foot to lead foot.

For more information, contact Sheena with Living Lean Personal Training, Nutrition, Cardio Classes for Elite Fitness 925-360-7051, www.livingleanprogram.com

Two New Logos Added to Non-profit Sign



Welcoming people to Orinda as they drive south on Camino Pablo Rd. are colorful insignias of non-profit organizations in town. Recently, two more were added to the work of art – the Orinda Community Foundation and the Educational Foundation of Orinda.

The sign was originally proposed to the Orinda City Council and designed by the Rotary Club of Orinda in 2007. Logos include: The Orinda Association, Orinda Rotary, Orinda Chamber of Commerce, the Masons, Lions International, Orinda Roadrunners, Orinda Woman's Club, California Shakespeare Theater, and American Discovery Trail.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor

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Orinda Community Foundation Expands Its Board



Now in its third year, the Orinda Community Foundation (OCF) has expanded its board to include new trustees Erik Andersen, Mark Roberts and Ted Urban. Shown above L-R (1st row) **Urban, Carol Penskar** and **Sue Severson**; (2nd row) **Roberts, Dick Burkhalter, Andersen,** and **Richard Westin.**

OCF works to enhance the quality of life in Orinda by encouraging philanthropy, building partnerships, and providing financial assistance for a variety of community activities. Major fundraisers include the Everyday Heroes Golf Tournament and Nor-Cal Kids Triathlon. For more information on OCF, go to www.orindafoundation.org.

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SCHOOLS / STUDENTS

OIS Presents Favorite Play from *Chronicles of Narnia*

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Orinda Intermediate School (OIS) has chosen a beloved children's story for its fall production. C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, part of the Narnia series, will be performed by 48 OIS student in two casts November 7 – 10 in the school's multi-purpose room. An additional 18 OIS students on the tech crew will keep things running smoothly.

The story begins in 1940 during World War II when four siblings — Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy Pevensie — are evacuated from London to escape the Blitz. They are sent to live with Professor Digory Kirke,

a relative who lives in a country house in the English countryside. While the four children are exploring the house, Lucy looks into a wardrobe and discovers a doorway to a magical world called Narnia. The adventures begin as soon as the children step through that doorway.

Christina Martin directs the OIS production with Jack Henry as the assistant director.

Tickets are available online at www.showtix4u.com or at the door. The box office is open one hour prior to each show. Show times are: November 7 and 8 at 4:30 p.m.; and November 9 and 10 at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for students 17 and under, \$8 for standard seating, and \$10 for premier seating.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Middle school students from OIS rehearse a scene from C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. The show runs November 7 - 10 at OIS' multi-purpose room.

Local Youth Run Bridge to Bridge



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(L-R) **Jenna Miles** (Joaquin Moraga 7th grader), **Cassidy Hasket** (OIS 6th grader), **Nik Moore** (Stanley 8th grader), and **Jack Mader** (OIS 7th grader) prepare to run from the Ferry building to the Golden Gate Bridge in the annual Bridge to Bridge run held September 30. Miles and Hasket were the top female and age group finishers in the 7K race with Moore and Mader finishing 4th and 5th overall and 1st and 2nd in the 13-16 age group. The four are members of the Diablo Valley Track and Field team.

Important Upcoming Events at Miramonte High School

Incoming 8th Grader Information Night at Miramonte

Miramonte High School will host an informational meeting for parents of incoming 8th graders for next year's 2013-14 ninth grade class. All high schools in the Acalanes Union High School district offer these nights at each high school campus annually.

The evenings these events occur varies by high school. The Miramonte meeting will be held on Thursday, November 8, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

Miramonte College Information Night

Miramonte counselors will review key information about college requirements, admissions, the application process, the Naviance program, and surviving the process. This meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

College Athletics: What You Need To Know at Miramonte

Jennifer "JT" Thomas, former Berkeley soccer coach will give the inside scoop on what really goes on with athletic recruiting and admissions. This meeting is on Thursday, November 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the school theatre.

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ANIMALS

Something to Howl About...
Animal Tales

Thanking Those Who Partner With Animals



Jennifer Conroy

Thinking about Thanksgiving brings to mind not just the animals in our lives but all the humans who work with animals to help make our world a happier, safer, more productive place.

So, while a multitude of thanks goes out to all creatures great and small, let us say "thank you" to the human side of people-animal partnerships.

Thank you First Responders who, on 9/11 with trained canines, raced to the scenes of attacks on our country to search for victims. Over 350 trained teams of dogs and handlers worked through debris at the various sites trying to find survivors and retrieve victims. These teams risked their own lives and some of their stories can be found in the book *Retrieved* by Charlotte

Dumas.

Search and Rescue Teams of humans and canines work throughout the year to find children and adults lost in the woods, skiers buried in avalanches, and victims of crimes. Thank you to the handlers who spend weekends and evenings in fields and woods, along riverbanks, and in the snow, carefully training dogs of all breeds and mixes in the skills of finding people.

Law Enforcement Canine Units experience the heights of heroism and the depths of loyalty. Thank you to the human officers whose faith in their canine partners has helped to deter criminal activity and apprehend suspects. This type of work includes bomb detection and narcotics detection where the canine's 200 million scent receptors outpaces the human's 50 million scent receptors!

Our Military K-9 Teams patrol borders, detect explosive devices, and locate targets. One such team was part of the U.S. Naval Seal Team operation that uncovered Bin Laden and, yes, the Navy Seal Dog was parachuted into the compound along with its handler.

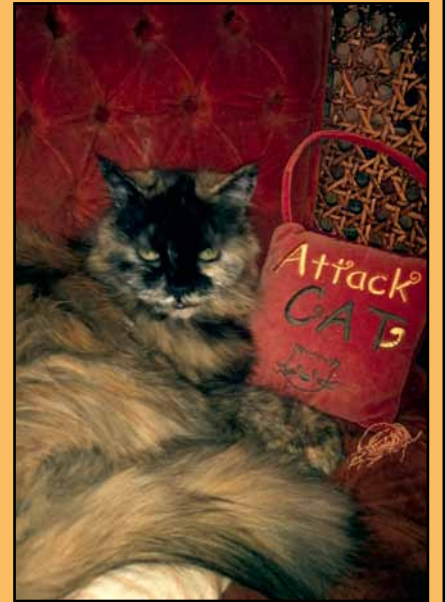
Thank you to all those serving in the military and especially to our wounded warriors who are forging partnerships with Service Dogs. Men and women returning from military conflicts with vision or hearing loss are learning to use specially trained dogs as guides for the blind or visually impaired or to work with dogs trained to signal those who are deaf or hard of hearing. Veterans who have lost limbs are able to team with service dogs trained to work with people in wheelchairs.

Thank you to the doctors, nurses, physical therapists, teachers, and others who engage Facility Dogs in their daily work with patients and students. From hospices to classrooms, trained dog handlers are integrating canine skills and attributes into therapeutic and educational activities.

Animal Control Officers, we thank you for finding our lost pets, for protecting animals from harm, for stopping traffic to help an injured animal, and for countless kindnesses.

Humane Educators from humane societies and animal shelters across the country

Pet of the Month



Lena is our November Pet of the Month. Her owner, Lois Mowat, says not to let the pillow beside her that reads "Attack Cat" fool you. "She's extremely gentle. And, at 16 years old, still quite alert and can easily jump up on the sofa." To have your pet considered for Pet of the Month, email a photo to www.orindanews.org.

are to be applauded as well. These trained teachers bring animals, birds, and other critters into classrooms and community centers to instill respect for all living creatures and to teach us, for example, that snakes are not slimy!

Thank you to the pet store owners who carry quality products and make it easy for us to keep our cats and dogs well fed and well groomed.

The biggest thanks of all must go to all those who choose veterinary medicine as a career path – the veterinarians and technicians, who are there to comfort us and our pets, to offer remedies and healing, to hold us when it is time to let go.

Happy Thanksgiving animal lovers, partners, workers, and protectors. Our animals are very lucky to have you.

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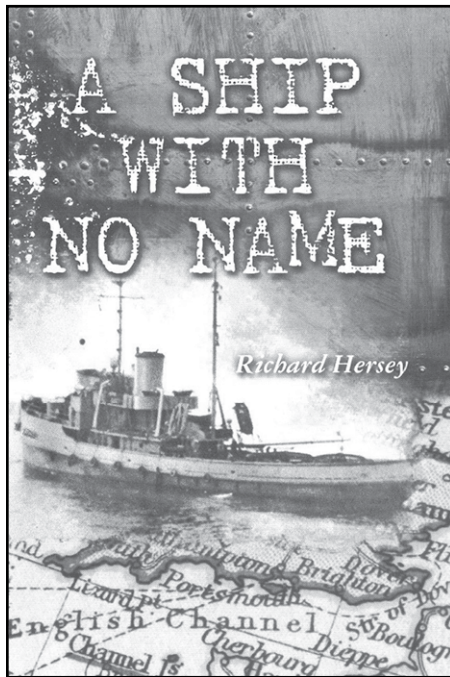
A Ship With No Name Lauds Rescue Tugs

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

Richard “Dick” Hersey, 92, of Orinda spent a year writing his book *A Ship with No Name* spurred on by two goals: 1) to create a record of his time in the military so that when his great-grandchildren became interested in family history, they could learn about his part in WWII; 2) to tell a part of the story about the Invasion of Normandy that had never been told – the rescue tugs.

In Hersey’s book, readers follow the adventures of the ATR-3, a naval ocean-going tugboat with a steam engine built especially for invasion duty during WWII, narrated by a 24-year-old executive officer. The tale begins with the author trying to figure out what an ATR-3 vessel is, and ends in a New Jersey dry dock, ATR-3 in the air, as he recalls all it has been through and contemplates meeting his new bride in Manhattan. In between are chapters depicting confrontations with German E-boats, mines, strafing by the Luftwaffe, shelling by German 88s, the sinking of the transport ship Leopoldville, and a variety of rescues of both English and French civilians, some of whom weren’t happy with Americans.

Hersey remembers looking over the engine with the chief engineer for the first time: “I was embarrassed that it was a steam engine. The chief engineer laughed at my astonishment. That quite often happens – the Navy trains you for one thing and you end up doing another, based on need. The guy I replaced was taken off the ship in a straightjacket. Before we went across in the Normandy Invasion, there were a lot of



Dick Hersey’s book is available through Orinda Books.

psychological problems. Such as, nobody wanted to go over there and get killed! Three officers maneuvered themselves off the ship.” Although Hersey was only an ensign, he became an executive officer almost overnight.

“In the early days after Pearl Harbor, I was on a ship the Navy took over and we carried provisions between Norfolk and Iceland. Enemy submarines were sinking a lot of ships,” explains Hersey. “This was a brand new ship and could do 18 knots. One captain was smart enough to figure out that if we steered zigzag, the submarine only had one shot at us. The ship was done over [SEE SHIP page 22]

Local Author’s Time Travel Romance to Become a Film

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY
Staff Writer

“It’s surreal,” author Tamara Ireland Stone murmured as she posed for photos and signed books at the October reception for her debut book *Time Between Us* at Barbacoa Restaurant. Stone calls *Time Between Us* a time travel romance. “I think of it as a contemporary story with a bit of a supernatural twist,” the author said of her young adult work.

“Everyone in this community has blown me away with their support and enthusiasm,” said Stone, an Orinda resident for 12 years, adding the event “was a testament to how lucky we are to be part of a community that gets excited when something nice happens to one of its own!”

At first, she kept mum about the book. “In the beginning, it was something I was doing just for me. Once it became serious, I didn’t want to say anything in case nothing ever came of it.”

It wasn’t until Stone secured an agent that she started telling friends all the good news. First, *Time Between Us* sold in a publishing house bidding war. Then the book sold in 15



Local Author Tamara Stone is hard at work on her next novel, which has already been sold.

countries. Then, her agent sold the movie rights to CBS Films.

Now, she says, she is at work on her second novel, *Time After Time*, which has already been sold and will be published by Hyperion in Fall 2013.

Stone was inspired to write *Time Between Us* [SEE STONE page 24]

Between the Lines Books to Wish For!

Marian Nielsen, Orinda Books



At holiday time, readers searching for the perfect bookish gifts for family and friends will find countless choices at Orinda Books. In October and November, publishers bring out a staggering amount of compelling new fiction, mouth-watering cookbooks, thoughtful biographies, sage histories, as well as a delightful mix of beautifully illustrated pleasures for the very youngest readers. Many of the fiction titles that follow have actually been reader-tested. Orinda Books shoppers have given their endorsement to many of the titles that follow though a few were, as they say on SF Gate, “too late for review.”

One of our favorites this fall has been *Where’d You Go Bernadette* by Maria Semple (Little Brown \$25.99). Readers looking for a lively take on contemporary life in Seattle will welcome this sprightly satire featuring a Microsoft biggie, his architect wife, and their young daughter. Don’t bother with *Fifty Shades of Grey* — Semple does Seattle much better than E.L. James.

J.K. Rowling and John Lanchester have both looked long and hard at life in the United Kingdom today. Rowling’s novel, *A Casual Vacancy* (Little Brown \$35), is a darkly comic (the emphasis more on

dark than comic) narrative about what happens when there is an opening on the Parish Council in a town divided between the haves and the have-nots. As we know, Rowling is a storyteller to be reckoned with and she does not disappoint. John Lanchester’s *Capital* (Norton \$26.95) introduces us to the inhabitants of Pepys Road in London — both the newly posh and the dispossessed—in an immensely entertaining “big fat” novel.

In *Beautiful Ruins* (Harper \$25.99), one of the most cleverly constructed and entertaining novels of the year, Jess Walter weaves together six or seven story lines, from Rome in the 1960s to contemporary Hollywood, with breathtaking narrative skill. *The Light Between Oceans* (Scribner \$25), Australian M.L. Stedman’s stunning debut novel, has captured many fans at Orinda Books. On a remote lighthouse station, a young couple, unhappily childless, determine to keep a baby, washed ashore in a dinghy. They are confronted later by the knowledge that the baby’s mother is still alive. Wrenching moral choices make this a thoughtful and moving read. And a favorite holiday gift is bound to be Michael Chabon’s remarkable new novel, *Telegraph* [SEE BOOKS page 20]

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CONTINUATIONS

◆ CAR SHOW from page 7

her four Olympic medals – silver in 2000 (Sydney), bronze in 2004 (Athens), silver in 2008 (Beijing), and gold in 2012 (London). Petri won the medals while on the U.S. Women's National Team. Petri started playing water polo while at Miramonte High School where she helped start the girls' water polo program. Vice Mayor Amy Worth declared September 22, 2012 to be Heather Petri Day in Orinda.

The Sunday event, "Speed on the Screen," included two showings of the Steve McQueen film classic *Bullitt* with pre-screening talks by Derek Zemrak from the Orinda Theatre. Over 300 people attended the screenings and raised over \$2,500 for the Lamorinda Theater Foundation.

Organizations benefitting from the show include EFO, Seniors Around Town, Orinda Association, Orinda Rotary, Orinda Arts Council and the Orinda Historical Society. For more information about the Orinda Classic Car Show and to see a photo gallery of some vehicles in the show, visit www.orindacarshow.com.



DAVID DIERKS
Four-time Olympic medal winner, **Heather Petri**, was honored at the car show.

◆ LETTERS 2 from page 10

and the community to maintain a full 180 day school year, class size reduction in grades K -3, professional development for our teachers, and upgrades in technology infrastructure.

During Matt Moran's tenure, the board has been collaborative and productive, which has made it very effective. Matt Moran has been critical in this success.

So please join us in voting for Matt Moran. Let's continue under his leadership to maintain the quality, fiscal foundation, and effective governance that keep our schools at the top.

– Carol and Mark Penskar

Delehunt for City Council

We residents should all thank Linda Delehunt for running against the incumbents for the Orinda City Council --- making it a contested election.

With her background in budgets and

working with the public sector, she has a plethora of excellent ideas and much expertise to offer. It's important to have a fresh approach and to have a candidate who will meet with the community and listen to residents on major issues.

We're voting for Linda Delehunt.

– Gary and Ann Nye

Re-elect Matt Moran

In the words of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, "Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education." As November 6 approaches, "we the people" properly focus on the selection of individuals to serve us on the national, state and local levels. As education is critical to our community and our nation, thought and care should be exercised when voting for our local school board members. We write today in support of the reelection of Matthew Moran to the Orinda Union School

◆ BOOKS from page 19

Avenue (Harper \$27.99), a lively homage to our sister cities, Berkeley and Oakland.

A number of long-time favorite authors have new titles scheduled for November, some making an appearance after many year's absence: Herman Wouk, now 96 — remember the splash he made with *The Caine Mutiny* — has written *The Lawgiver* (Simon & Schuster \$25.99), a novel about the life of Moses; and Tom Wolfe is bringing out a big panoramic look at Miami in *Back to Blood* (Little Brown \$30), which promises to be edgy and entertaining. Always thoughtful and always totally engaging, Barbara Kingsolver, in her new book, *Flight Behavior* (Harper \$28.99), returns to her native Appalachia where she asks us to consider some of the truths of climate change.

Well-plotted and crafty thrillers are forthcoming from two bestselling authors — John Grisham with *The Racketeer* (Doubleday \$28.95) and Michael Connelly with *The Black Box* (Little Brown \$27.99). Both of these authors are masters of the fast-paced novel that delivers character as well as criminal derring-do. And we must not overlook the Nordic phenomenon, Jo Nesbo, whose newest Harry Hole novel, *Phantom* (Knopf \$25.95), is already on the best-seller lists.

And, speaking of "Books to Wish For" mystery fans will delight in *Books to Die For* (Atria Books \$29.99). This surprisingly wonderful anthology, put together by John Connolly and Declan Burke (themselves writers of crime fiction), brings mystery lovers short essays by many of their favorite mystery writers about their favorite mystery writers. Read what Tana French (*Broken Harbor*) has to say about Donna Tartt (*The Secret History*) or Deborah Crombie

District Board of Trustees.

Matt Moran has tirelessly served the Orinda Union School District for the last four years. As a member of the OUSD Board of Trustees, he has doggedly worked to provide the highest quality education for our children in this community. During this time of economic challenges, Matt's work with his fellow trustees has shielded our children from the impact of reduced funding from the State of California. He is committed to a balanced and rounded educational environment for all of our children. He has worked in a spirit of partnership with our teachers, administrators and parents. His focus and determination have been to provide the best educational opportunities to the children of the district.

We have reaped the harvest of Matt's toil. Our three children have benefitted immensely by the unparalleled education provided by the Wagner Ranch School and the Orinda Intermediate School. Matt has served them well for the previous four years. Were our children Orinda-registered voters, we have no doubt that they, too, would vote for Matt. Perhaps you fear

about P.D. James, and Laurie King about Peter Dickinson. This is a feast for fans of detective fiction—truly to die for!

Two magisterial biographies are new on our shelves. The long-awaited final installment of William Manchester's (1922-2004) Churchill trilogy was completed at Manchester's request by Paul Reid. *The Last Lion: Winston Spencer Churchill: Defender of the Realm 1940-1965* (Little Brown \$40) brings to a conclusion this seminal work. And Jon Meacham, who did such justice to Franklin and Winston and *American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House*, has brought out a stirring new biography, *Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power* (Random House \$35).

Big beautiful and lushly illustrated cookbooks are always welcome gifts for the holidays. Ina Garten's *Barefoot Contessa Foolproof: Recipes You Can Trust* (Clarkson Potter \$35) takes us from soup (easy tomato) to nuts (salted caramel brownies) in her own inimitable style. In *Bouchon Bakery* (Artisan \$50), the French Laundry's Thomas Keller goes back to the tastes of his childhood with a bountifully illustrated volume that is a "must" for foodies.

Younger readers have been anticipating both *Diary of a Wimpy Kid #7: The Third Wheel* by Jeff Kinney (Amulet \$13.95, ages 8-12) as well as *Who Could That Be At This Hour* (Little Brown \$15.99, ages 9-12) from Lemony Snicket (of *A Series of Unfortunate Events* fame), while young adult readers are ready for Sara Shepard's *Pretty Little Liars #12 Burned* (Harper Teen \$17.99). And at Orinda Books, we continue to be proud of the success of local author Tamara Ireland Stone whose *Time Between Us* (Hyperion \$17.99) is a time-travelling adventure that will touch your heart.

Happy Holidays—may your stockings be stuffed with readables.

our view is clouded by nearly a decade of friendship with the Morans? Do not only consider the opinion of the Atkinsons. Matt Moran is also endorsed for reelection by every member of the Orinda City Council and four out of five Trustees of the Orinda Union School Board. Matthew Moran has selflessly served this community for four years. He is willing to serve again for the benefit of our children. We owe it to ourselves, our children, and our community to ensure that Matthew Moran be elected to continue his support for our students.

– Dick & Julie Atkinson

Congratulations to Eagle Scout

I commend Ryan Andresen for not hiding the fact that he was gay when applying for the rank of Eagle Scout. Although the Boy Scouts' twisted anti-gay policy is largely ignored and looked down upon by most involved, I look forward to the day when job applicants, athletes, and those deserving other honors will not feel they need to hide their sexual orientation before applying for what they deserve.

– David Finger

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◆ OUSD from page 1

or Prop. 38 and why. The two state propositions each fund education in different ways. Prop. 30 increases the sales tax by one-quarter cent for four years and increases personal income tax rates on upper-income taxpayers for seven years with 89 percent of the revenue earmarked for K-12 schools and 11 percent directed to community colleges. Prop. 38 increases personal income tax rates on annual earnings over \$7,316 using a sliding scale and continues for 12 years. During the first four years, it would allocate 60 percent of revenues to K-12 schools, 30 percent to repaying state debt, and 10 percent to early childhood programs. Thereafter, 85 percent will be allocated to K-12 schools and 15 percent to early childhood programs.

Matt Moran stated his support of both propositions as per the California School Board Association's recommendation. "The OUSD board also passed a resolution to support Prop. 30," he said. According to Jason Lurie, "both propositions are a band-aid on a much larger problem. But we will have a significant problem if one of these doesn't pass. Our district will lose \$1 million, which we can cover out of reserves for a few years, but what happens after that?" Sarah Butler agreed noting that Prop. 30 only needed a majority to pass whereas Prop. 38 needs two-thirds of the vote.

When asked what was the greatest challenge facing the school district, all three candidates agreed it was school funding. "We're very fortunate that we have such wonderful local sources that have allowed us to build up significant reserves to help us ride out these fiscal storms," said Moran. Lurie and Butler concurred, praising the Educational Foundation of Orinda, the parents' clubs, and local residents support through parcel taxes.

Asked to cite their school financial experience, Lurie felt his experience on the Las Trampas council gave him a good grasp on the historical funding in California while Moran noted that service on the school board has been a "real eye opener." He continued, "There's a real backwards nature to school financing and we're very fortunate to have a chief business officer and superintendent that give us great info enabling the board to make the best decisions for our district." Butler felt her 10 years on the Legislative team and on the Measure A Oversight Committee as well as both the Glorietta and OIS School Site Councils helped her deal with school financing. "I've found that collaboration is very important when dealing with budgets," she said. "All the stakeholders - parents, teachers, staff and the outside community - need to have input."

When asked whether they would consider another parcel tax to fund education Lurie said he would prefer to raise revenue resources rather than make additional cuts to the schools. "No one wants to pay more taxes, but I would support a parcel tax if it was for the kids." Moran didn't feel it was necessary to look at a parcel tax at this time. "We do have significant reserves set aside for the next year, and I worry about tax fatigue among our supporters." Butler said

that if both propositions fail in November that the district should look at a parcel tax. "We need on-going revenue to pay teachers' salaries. A bond would pay for facilities, but the district just sold the old Orinda school site with those funds earmarked for facilities."

The subject of going to a unifying fundraising model such as Lafayette went to this year saw all three candidates in agreement that it was too early to tell if the cost savings would result in increased fundraising. "Given all the work fundraising is for each parents' club, centralizing it under one entity does seem to make better use of human resources," Lurie said. "But if it results in lower fundraising amounts, it's not worth it." Moran felt strongly that Orinda should stay with its current method of fundraising. "I know it's a lot of work, but it also creates an incredible sense of community as people work together and celebrate together." Butler suggested a possible compromise similar to the San Ramon School District's model. "They have an overall group that coordinates all the fundraising, but donors can specify a particular subgroup or school where they want their money to go."

Common Core Standards

Developed through a state-led initiative, the Common Core Standards System establishes consistent, clear education standards for English-language arts and mathematics across the nation. It's a three-phase transition with full implementation expected by the 2014-15 academic year. For more information on the plan, go to www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/index.asp.

When asked how it will benefit OUSD to move to the Common Core Standards, Lurie said he was excited by the nationwide movement and thought it would be beneficial to local students. "It takes the current standards and reduces them to the core. It's application-based rather than lecture-oriented, more interactive with less emphasis on homework." Butler agreed saying that it was "important to move away from state-wide curriculum that emphasizes test scores and give kids more hands-on learning." Moran acknowledged that he was "not waving the common core flag" saying that he didn't want to take discretion away from the teachers "who know our kids."

One of the final questions asked was what two things would the candidates like to change about the current way the OUSD operates. Butler said she would like to improve communication and collaboration between the various stakeholders. "It's good now but we could make it even better, such as bringing budget meetings to school sites so more parents could give their input." She also wanted to find additional ways to support teachers especially with the change to Common Core Standards.

Lurie also listed communication as an area that was good but should always be improved and that he would look at any cost inefficiencies that should be addressed. Moran cited he wanted to get everybody with children to donate to their parents' club and EFO and to also donate their time. "The kids benefit when the parents are part of the volunteer experience."

Karen Richardson Joins Local Alain Pinel Realtors

By CONCETTA BURNS
Contributing Writer

Alain Pinel Realtors (APR), the largest privately-owned and independent residential real estate company in California, proudly announces the addition of Karen Richardson and the Karen Richardson Group to the Orinda office team.

Karen Richardson joins APR from Coldwell Banker where she was named a member of their Diamond Society for the past eight years. Richardson has 10 years experience in real estate and specializes in the Lamorinda area. She is consistently a top producer in the Lamorinda area and is recognized among her peers for her ongoing commitment to her clients and her professionalism. Richardson looks forward to bringing this same professionalism and client dedication to her career at APR.

Richardson is a member of the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Contra Costa Association of Realtors, and California Department of Real Estate.

She joins a group of distinguished real estate professionals who are all part of a sophisticated and technologically advanced marketing firm specializing in distinctive properties and estates.

APR was ranked the sixth largest residential real estate firm in the United States



Karen Richardson recently joined the Orinda office of Alain Pinel.

based on its closed sales volume in 2009 and has consistently ranked in the Top 10 firms in the country. The firm has nearly 1,400 agents in its 32 offices throughout the Bay Area. Founded in 1990 by CEO and president Paul L. Hulme, APR is celebrating its 20-year anniversary. For more information, visit the website at apr.com.



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CONTINUATIONS

◆ SHIP from page 19

so it could handle more troops. We took the first marine division to Wellington, New Zealand, a staging area for Guadalcanal. When we were sent to Sydney, Australia a Japanese torpedo shot right across our bow. We also made several trips from San Francisco to Australia."

Hersey relates that, "There were 17 tugboats, made in New York, Maine and Massachusetts. The tugboats had wood hulls, and they had trouble at the time finding the right shipwrights to make them. The wooden hulls could not be detected by German mines, which were magnetic and only reacted to metal. While we were ashore playing softball in Cherbourg, France, three ships blew up in the harbor, but our ATR was safe. We speculated the wooden hull had saved us from the mines." According to Hersey, blockships were used to form harbors of refuge for small craft. Concrete caissons formed the primary breakwater and provided sheltered anchorage for cargo ships at Utah, Omaha and other locations in preparation for Normandy. The tugboats towed the huge cement blockships, code named Phoenixes. The book proceeds chronologically to the ATR's arrival back in New York. During his time in the Navy, Hersey served on the following ships: USS *Mizar* AF12, three combat stars; USS ATR-3, one combat star; and USS *Okanagan* APA 220, two combat stars (Korean War).

Commander Hersey was a member of the Naval Reserve for 41 years. He attended the Naval Training Station, Rhode Island; Storekeeper School in Toledo, Ohio; Midshipman School at Notre Dame; Naval Diesel Engineering School at the University of California, Berkeley; Salvage Diving School, Pier 92, and Firefighters School, New York; Sonar School, San Diego; Ship Handling School, San Diego; Instructor

Training School, Treasure Island, San Francisco, and Cargo Handling School, Oakland Supply Depot. He also attended Boston University and Golden Gate College and has a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. When not on active duty, he worked as an auditor. He worked at the Atomic Energy Commission, Federal Communications Commission and the Dept. of Housing. After becoming Chief of Finance and Mortgage Credit for HUD, San Francisco, he retired.

Hersey met his wife, Eleanor Ballou, at UC Berkeley in 1944. They met and married within a month and have been married 68 years. "I told her, 'It's now or never,'" he quips. They traveled together to the East Coast right after they were married so he could attend diving school. Eleanor stayed with his family in Maine during this time. In 1946, they returned to UC Berkeley, where Hersey took business administration courses. Eleanor, being from this area, liked Orinda, and Hersey preferred the weather to that found in Maine. They began building a home in the late 1940s. In 1950, Eleanor moved in while her husband was in Korea; he returned in 1952. They had a son who became a doctor in New York, but who, unfortunately, died at 40 years of age. Their daughter, Janet Wagner, is a registered nurse, retired now, who lives in Moraga. Janet takes good care of Eleanor, who is confined to a wheel chair. Their grandchildren and great-grandchildren keep them pretty busy. They chose Orinda for its natural beauty, good schools and sense of community. Hersey says, "Although I use a cane, I get around pretty well and am an active member of the Walnut Creek Sirs."

Hersey, whose wit and memory continue razor sharp, draws a compelling picture of naval life and combat tours in *A Ship With No Name*. The book is available at www.sunoasis.com/atr3 and www.amazon.com in print or Kindle versions.

◆ FESTIVAL from page 9

and consequences of their parents' actions. Led by the eldest sibling, Lore, they set out across a devastated country to reach their grandmother in the north. After meeting the charismatic Thomas, a mysterious young refugee, Lore soon finds her world shattered by feelings of both hatred and desire. She is transfixed by her fear of the young man, but must learn to trust the one person she has always been taught to hate in order to survive. *Lore* will be screened at 6 p.m. on Sunday, November 11, at The New Rheem Theatre and will be followed by the wrap party to conclude the festival.

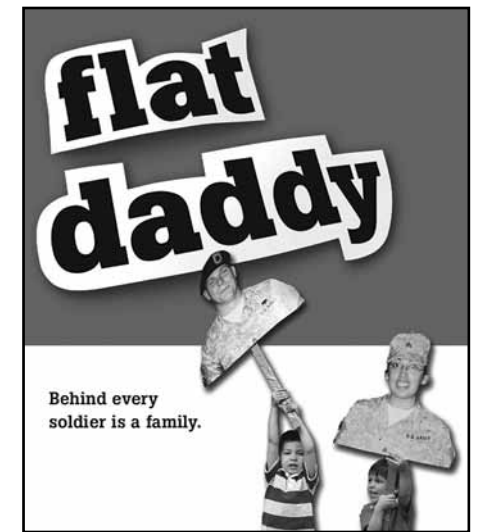
Filmmakers of all experience levels are encouraged to join the 2012 Iron Film-maker competition. The contest is free, and contestants have 24 hours to create a three-minute short film, based on criteria provided at the kick-off. Judges will view the films prior to the film festival, and the winner will be awarded \$250. All films produced will be shown at the film festival. Kick-off begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 27, at The New Rheem Theatre at 350 Park Street in Moraga. Films must be submitted by 10 a.m. on Sunday, October 28, at the same location.

This year's film festival brings actresses Dawn Wells and Connie Stevens to Lamorinda. Best known as Mary Ann from *Gilligan's Island*, Dawn Wells will be presented with the Diamond Award, given each year to a woman for her outstanding contribution to the entertainment industry. In addition to starring in over 150 television performances, six motion picture films and 50 theatrical performances, Wells is also a producer, author, journalist, motivational speaker, entrepreneur, teacher and chairwoman of the Terry Lee Wells Foundation, which helps women and children in northern Nevada. Currently, the Dawn Wells Production Company has two reality shows in production and Wells' book, *A Conversation Between Mary Ann and Dawn* will be released in 2012. Wells will be honored at the 15th Annual Slate Awards, as part of the film festival, on Saturday, November 10, at 7 p.m. *On Screen and Beyond* moderator, Brian Zemrak, will be hosting a conversation with Wells on Saturday, November 11, at 11 a.m.

Connie Stevens will be presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Stevens career has spanned over 50 years in motion pictures, television, Broadway, as well as

being an international recording artist and, most recently, a major force in the cosmetic industry. A teen idol in the '60s, Stevens is best known for her role as Cricket Blake in the hit detective series *Hawaiian Eye*.

Her musical career began with a vocal quartet, "The Foremost" and continued throughout the years. She was a regular entertainer on Bob Hope's USO Tours and, because of this, it is fitting that she will be presented with this award over Veteran's Day weekend, on November 10. Fifty local veterans have been given tickets to the



CONTRIBUTED GRAPHIC

Flat Daddy will be shown on November 11.

celebration and tribute.

Veteran's Day weekend will also be lauded with a showing of *Flat Daddy*, a documentary detailing the use of "Flat Daddies" and "Heroes on a Stick," which are life-sized cardboard cutouts of those serving overseas, to ease the pain of repeated deployments. *Flat Daddy* follows four such families as their lives unfold over the course of one year. *Flat Daddy* will be shown on Sunday, November 11, from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. in the main auditorium of The New Rheem Theatre.

Presenting Sponsors of the 15th Annual California Independent Film Festival are *Lamorinda Weekly* and The Murdy Foundation/Dave Trotter. Other 2012 California Independent Film Festival Sponsors include Ale Industries, Concentric Wealth Management, *Diablo Magazine*, Douglah Designs, itb Designs, Marriott, Moraga Country Club, Park Place Wealth Advisors, Senior Solutions, The Olsen Team/Village Real Estate, Town of Moraga and Underdog Wine & Spirits.

For more information, please visit CAIFFA at www.caiffa.org.

◆ REEL from page 9

ally pay attention. Jack Nicholson, Faye Dunaway and the legendary John Huston, with a cameo by the director himself, all conspire (and everything about this movie feels like some sort of conspiracy) to bring early Los Angeles to life. This enthralling film will (unfortunately) screen only once at the Orinda theatre on November 17 at 7 p.m.

And then there's *Roman Holiday* (1953) with Audrey Hepburn, playing to type as a frustrated and constrained princess, and Gregory Peck, playing against type as a journalist who just happens to come across her after she escapes her royal duties.

Voted the fourth best romantic comedy by the American Film Institute, this film also popularized scooters as a viable mode of transportation in America. It's also one of the first American films shot entirely overseas (to save costs as well as to avoid the tendrils of Senator Joe McCarthy) and in glorious black and white (so as to avoid the city of Rome from upstaging the actors). Moraga Movers will present this film at the Rheem at 4 p.m. on November 21.

As ever, you are encouraged to visit the Lamorinda websites for unexpected additions and surprises. Don't forget about the 15th Annual California Independent Film Festival but most of all, remember to stay in the dark for that is where the magic lies.

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CALENDAR

ON THE CALENDAR

- 2 **Orinda Chamber of Commerce Luncheon**, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante, noon to 1:30 p.m. Guest speaker is Amer Bata, California Department of Transportation Supervisor and Bay Bridge engineer. Tickets are \$30. Visit www.orindachamber.org/events.htm.
- 3 **Holiday Bazaar**, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Orinda Community Center, sponsored by Orinda Community Center Auxiliary. Call 254-2445.
- 7 **OIS Bulldog Theatre Company** presents *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* at 4 p.m., also Nov. 8 at 4 p.m., and Nov. 9 and 10 at 4 and 7 p.m. Visit www.showtix4u.com.
- Miramonte High School** presents William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, MHS Theatre, 750 Moraga Way, 7 p.m. Also Nov. 8 and 9 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$6 to \$10, purchase at www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/miramonte/ or at the door.
- 8 **Saint Mary's College Guild Holiday Faire and Luncheon**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saint Mary's College, 925-820-8002.
- California Independent Film Festival** continuing through Nov. 11 at both the Orinda Theatre and the New Rheem Theatre. Go to www.caiffa.org for details.
- 13 **Orinda Books** hosts authors Ron Hansen and Megan Mayhew Bergman discussing and signing their new short story collections: *She Loves Me Not* and *Birds of a Lesser Paradise*, 286 Village Square, 1 p.m. Call 254-7606.
- 15 **Festival of Trees**, 10:30 a.m., San Ramon Marriott Hotel. Annual Orinda Woman's Club fundraiser. View mini-trees/gift baskets beginning at 10:30 a.m., followed by luncheon and fashion show. Go to www.orindawomansclub.org.
- Artisan Faire**, 4-7:30 p.m., Orinda Country Club, unique gifts, wine tasting and book signing.
- Lamorinda Moms Preschool Fair**, Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. More than 40 local preschools present their programs. Free, children welcome. Visit www.lamorindamoms.org.
- 16 **International Film Showcase** presents *Three Quarter Moon* through Nov. 20 at Orinda Theatre. Daily shows at 1:30, 4 and 6:30 p.m. with additional screenings on Friday and Saturday at 8:45 p.m. Visit www.lfef.org.
- 20 **World Affairs Book Group** discusses *Cambodia's Curse, The Modern History of a Troubled Land* by Joel Brinkley, Orinda Books, 286 Village Square, 3 p.m. Call 254-7606. New members welcome.
- 30 **11th Annual Tarabrook Drive Holiday Boutique**, 1 Tarabrook Drive (formerly Overhill Holiday Boutique), noon to 8 p.m., also Dec. 1 and 2, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., features handcrafted gifts and foods by 30 local artists. Percentage of proceeds benefits National Breast Cancer Foundation. Free admission. Call 254-3944.

AT THE LIBRARY

All events are free unless otherwise specified. The library will be closed Nov. 11 and 12 for Veterans Day, Nov. 21, at 6 p.m. and Nov. 21 for Thanksgiving. For more information, call 254-2184 or visit www.ccclib.org/locations/Orinda.html.

- 3 **Book Sale** sponsored by Friends of the Orinda Library, Book Shop and Sorting Area, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 13 **Toddler Lapsit**, stories, songs and fingerplays for infants to 3-year-olds and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 10 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 to 10:55 a.m. Drop-ins welcome, but limit attendance to once per week. Also Nov. 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28.
- Peek-A-Boo Time** features songs, stories, rhymes and rhythms for newborns through 1-year-olds and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 11:30 to 11:55 a.m. Also Nov. 20 and 27.
- 16 **Mystery Book Club** members discuss *No Mark Upon Her* by Deborah Crombie, Tutoring Room, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Adult/teen program, drop-ins welcome.
- 17 **Saturday Morning Live**, family story time for 3- to 5-year-olds, Picture Book area, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Also Nov. 24.
- 20 **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** docent talks about the theatre's latest production, *The White Snake*, Fireside Room, 7 to 7:55 p.m.
- 29 **Talespinners of Contra Costa**, storytelling for adults with a featured speaker every month, Garden Room, 7 p.m. Share a story or just come to listen.

CLUB MEETINGS

- Diablo Star Chapter #214**, Order of the Eastern Star. Second Monday, 7:30 p.m., Orinda Masonic Center. Contact Karen Seaborn, 689-0995.
- Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe**. Third Monday, 7:30 p.m., Moraga-Orinda Fire District Conference Room, 1280 Moraga Way, Moraga, www.moragaadobe.org.
- Friends of the Orinda Creeks**. Fourth Wednesday, 7 p.m., May Room, Orinda Library, 253-1997.
- Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition**, every third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room. Call 687-8844, ext. 227.
- Lamorinda Sirs** for retired men. Second Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Luncheon speakers plus golf, tennis, bocce, bridge and astronomy. Call Pete Giers, 254-4667.
- Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary**. Every Friday, 7 a.m., Postino, Lafayette, 254-0440, ext. 463.
- Lamorinda Toastmasters**. Every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Temple Isaiah, 3800 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, www.lamorinda.freetoasthost.net.
- Montelindo Garden Club**. Third Friday, September through May, Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, 9 a.m., www.montelindogarden.com. This month's speaker is Janet Sluis, consultant for plant development and horticulturist who traveled the world for 20 years looking for unusual plants.
- Orinda Juniors Women's Club** community service group. First Tuesday, September to June, 7 p.m. Contact Julie Mercer or Charlene Robinson at info@orindajuniors.org or www.orindajuniors.org.
- Orinda Rotary**. Every Wednesday, noon, Community Center, 28 Orinda Way, 254-2222.
- Orinda Association**. Second Monday, 7:15 p.m., Orinda Library, May Room, 254-0800.
- Orinda Hiking Club**. Hikes every weekend and the first Wednesday of the month. Visit www.orindahiking.org for weekly schedule or call Ian at 254-1465.
- Orinda Historical Society**. Third Wednesday, 2 p.m., Historical Society Museum, 26 Orinda Way, 254-1353.
- Orinda Job's Daughters**. First and third Monday, 7 p.m., 9 Altarinda Road, 283-7176.

Holiday Bazaar and Artisan Faire Provide Unique Seasonal Gifts

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Local residents have two opportunities to pick up those one-of-a-kind items for that special person on your gift list this year. The Orinda Community Center Auxiliary's (OCCA) 36th annual Holiday Bazaar takes place on Saturday, November 3, from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Orinda Community Center and the Artisan Faire takes place November 15, from 4-7:30 p.m. at the Orinda Country Club.

This year's Holiday Bazaar will feature children's arts and crafts, live entertainment for the entire family, and raffle prizes as well as a wide variety of over 50 vendors displaying unique gift items.

Participants will have a difficult time deciding among such diverse booths as children's clothing, home décor, beautiful hand-crafted jewelry, specialty foods, eco-friendly products, organic skin care, original art, holiday decorations, and even handmade cards.

All of the proceeds benefit the Orinda



SALLY HOGARTY
Candles, wrapping paper, toys and much more will be on display at the Holiday Bazaar.

Parks and Recreation Department. Since 1986, the OCCA has been supporting the various programs offered through the Parks and Rec with such projects as refurbishing the kitchen in the Community Center, renovating the playground equipment in the Community Center Park, sponsoring the summer Concerts-in-the-Park, and much more.

For more information on the bazaar or joining the OCCA, call the Orinda Community Center at 254-2445.

The Artisan Faire also offers unique, creative gifts from ceramics to photography to wearable art. In addition, there will be wine tasting and book signings by Jim Roethe, Jill Plummer and Suzanne Woods Fisher. The Faire takes place on the main floor of the Orinda Country Club with gift wrapping available by Miramonte High School students.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
This wooden bowl by George Lucido will be among the many items available at the Artisan Faire.

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

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

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

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. Third Wednesday, 7 p.m., Administration Building, 1280 Moraga Way, Moraga.

Orinda Union School District Board of Trustees. Second Monday, 4 p.m., OUSD Conference Room, 8 Altarinda Road. 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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Local Pro Ball Player Owes Inspiration to Young Woman

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Brett Jackson grew up in Orinda and played baseball at Miramonte High School before going on to play at UC Berkeley. All the time, his father Peter was there throwing endless rounds of batting practice in their Orinda backyard. Today, Brett takes batting practice with the Chicago Cubs. But, when you ask Brett what coach helped him rise to the big leagues, he doesn't hesitate to give credit to a 22-year-old woman who died from lung cancer.

Jill Costell was one of the first people Brett met at UC Berkeley. In fact, she introduced him to Darby Anderson, who would become his girlfriend. The coxswain for the school crew team, Costell never smoked cigarettes yet was diagnosed with lung cancer at 21 years of age and died on June 24, 2010. Her stamina was an inspiration for Brett, helping him through tough times in his career.

Brett remembers being in the Florida State League when she died struggling with the heat and not hitting very well, "I remember looking at the bracelet I wore in support of her and thinking, 'this 100 degree heat is nothing compared to what she's going through.'"

Anderson, who now works for the Bon-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Former Orinda resident Brett Jackson now plays for the Chicago Cubs.

nie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation, coordinates Jill's Legacy, a series of "Jog for Jill" fundraisers. Brett is a big supporter and takes part when his playing schedule allows. On October 13, Saint Mary's College in Moraga held a "Jog for Jill" fundraiser, where they raised almost \$8,000 to help fight lung cancer.

For more information on the "Jog for Jill" events, go to www.lungcancerfoundation.org.

November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month

By GIGI CHEN, MD
Contributing Writer

Lung cancer accounts for about 14 percent of all cancer diagnosis, however, it is responsible for almost 29 percent of all cancer deaths. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for both men and women in U.S. In 2012, an estimated 226,200 new cases of lung cancer will be diagnosed. The incidence and death have been decreasing for men but had been rising for women until around the year 2000 when they began to level off. The major cause of lung cancer is smoking, which is responsible for 85 percent to 90 percent of lung cancer. Other risk factors include environmental and occupational exposures such as asbestos, radon, air pollution, radiation and second hand tobacco.

The most common symptoms patients experience are decreased appetite, fatigue, weakness and cough. Currently, most patients with lung cancer are diagnosed at an advanced stage. There has been recent promising data in the area of lung cancer screening with low dose CT scans increasing early detection. Treatment of lung cancer requires

a collaborative effort between patients and their medical oncologist, thoracic surgeons and radiation oncologist.

There are a number of new and exciting drugs in lung cancer that can target cancer at a molecular level. Erlotinib is an oral drug that works effectively in patients with EGFR mutation, which can be found in up to 50 percent of Asian patients and about 10 percent Caucasian patients. Another example is Crizotinib, which is effective in patients with tumor express EML4-ALK rearrangement, which occurs in about 10,000 patients in US. Bevacizumab and Cetuximab which are monoclonal antibodies can be used in conjunction with chemotherapy in newly diagnosed non-small cell lung cancer. Understanding lung cancer genomics and biology will enable development of medicines that are more effective and have fewer side effects.

November is National Lung Cancer Awareness Month and the cancer center at Diablo Valley Oncology has arranged to offer complimentary consultants for screening during the week of November 12-16. To learn more about this lung cancer awareness program, please call 925-826-1900.

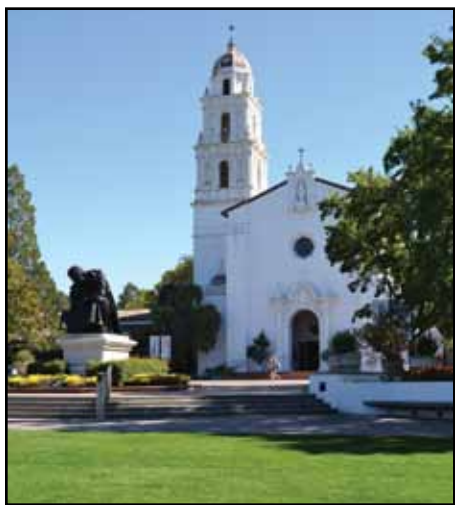
Holiday Faire and Luncheon at Saint Mary's College

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

The Saint Mary's College Guild will hold its annual luncheon on November 8 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The traditional Thanksgiving luncheon will be served at noon. Proceeds from the event benefit the college scholarship fund.

"It's a wonderful place to shop for holiday décor, stocking stuffers and hostess gifts," says coordinator Cyndie Harrison. "After you have found the perfect item for your favorite in-law, housekeeper, hair stylist, and all the other special people on your list, just sit back relax and enjoy. You'll have a festive time and help some very well deserving students at the same time."

A preview and boutique shopping takes place on November 7 from 4 – 7 p.m. For



KHYBER PRATT
Saint Mary's College is the location for the annual Holiday Faire and Luncheon.

more information, call Harrison at 925-820-8002 or email her at cyndie@cyndie.net.

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SEASONED SHOPPER



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Farewell to the Orinda farmers' market after another successful season! On Saturday, November 17, the tables that offer beautiful displays of produce and the tents where you find your favorite grower will be taken down one last time until next May. Fortunately, many of the growers and ven-

dors we visit every week in Orinda are also over at the Sunday year-round market in Walnut Creek with an amazing assortment of fresh produce during the winter months.

Winter squash are great "keepers" so I can pick out favorites to last through the holidays. They come in a dizzying array of colors, shapes and sizes. Most winter squash offer a rich, slightly sweet flavor but none are exactly the same in taste or texture.

Long ripening on the vine allows winter squash to develop their telltale hard skin and inedible seeds (roasted pumpkin seeds



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are one exception). Pumpkins are one of the most popular types of winter squash but now that the annual pumpkin growing contests have passed, it's time to concentrate on their other uses - unique containers for soups, rice pilaf and chili or for pie fillings and side dishes.

The sweet, fine-grained sugar pumpkins (also called pie pumpkins) are ready for baking or steaming in pies, soups and deserts. They tend to have thicker walls and feel heavier than common carving pumpkins. To cook, slice in half crosswise and scoop out seeds and strings. Place cut side down on a baking sheet, add a few tablespoons of water and bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 45 minutes until soft. Cool slightly, scrape out meat and mash. Use immediately, refrigerate for a few days or freeze for a few months.

You'll find other familiar types of winter squash at several growers' stands at the market. Deeply ribbed green or golden acorn squash are always popular along with the dense-fleshed kabocha (Japanese), delicata and sweet dumplings.

Butternut squash are slightly nutty in flavor and pound per pound yield more flesh than most winter squash. This one is always a hit in my butternut squash risotto or raviolis. Other more unique types of the winter squash family include the turban, spaghetti and opo. Turban squash are aptly named to describe a mottled green top that sits on a larger orange colored base. Spaghetti or vegetable squash make a nutritious pasta substitute - once the squash is cooked, the flesh is removed using a fork, to produce long, spaghetti like strands. Light green colored, oblong opo squash taste like a combination of summer squash and cucumber and when allowed to grow large are often used as containers - hence the alternate name bottle gourd.

The very large bumpy Hubbard squash or long, cylindrical banana squash are not hard to spot, but I need a plan when buying one whole. Sharing with a neighbor or family members might be a good idea when it comes to eating a winter squash that can weigh between 10 and 35 pounds.

Be sure to check out some of the beautiful but edible heirloom variety winter squash like Galeaux d'eyesines, Fairy Tale and Rouge Vif D'Etampes.

The entire cabbage or cole family puts on a show this month! It includes broccoli, brussel sprouts, cauliflower, kale, collards and kohlrabi, and all are nutritionally rich in fiber and Vitamin C, contain no fat or cholesterol, and are low in sodium.


Cabbage is the most diverse of the family with several varieties now at market. Head cabbage, whether green, red or savoy, are common, but bok choy and Napa cabbage have earned their place on the produce stands due to the increased popularity of Oriental vegetables.

Green and red headed cabbage are basically the same except for color and price differential (green usually costs less than red). You may find those large, loose, impressive looking wrapper leaves around each head at the markets - they're typically removed before commercial shipping.

The crinkled, pale to dark green leaves of Savoy cabbage grow in a loose, full head and are more tender and milder tasting than other head cabbage. The pink, purple or white hearts of salad savoy or ornamental kale make colorful garnishes but are just as versatile in salads. Nappa cabbage is a favorite of mine in Chinese Chicken Salad - the mellow tasting, tender leaves add a slightly peppery undertone to the dish.

Enjoy and see you at the market!

The Orinda market closes for the sea- [SEE SHOPPER page 27]





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BUSINESS BUZZ

◆ BUZZ from page 28

“Every year, we match customer’s donations up to \$1,000 and then deliver that gift to various East Bay charities. Last year, we donated to A Better Way, which works with foster children, and the Animal Rescue Foundation.

A member of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, Peet’s Coffee and Tea is open Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call 258-9328 or visit the website at www.peets.com.

Kathleen Conroy and State Farm Insurance Serving Orinda for 25 Years

With an office staff featuring a combined 65 years of experience, State Farm agent Kathleen Conroy’s office, located at 23 Orinda Way, suite 304 (across from the Orinda Library), celebrates 25 years in business this fall. Shannon Cereghino started the business with her mother while a teenager, cold calling prospective clients. After completing her education and practicing law for 12 years, she returned to the family business as Office Manager. Office Associate Gina Hamersley rounds off the staff of this child and family friendly business.

Conroy is a longtime member of the Orinda community, having taught biology, physical science and earth science and serving as the Resource Specialist at Miramonte High School prior to establishing her State Farm office. “I led an annual outdoor science field trip in conjunction with the Yosemite Institute and was named Rotary Scholar by the Orinda Rotary Club in 1981,” says Conroy. Her teaching background is an asset, as she routinely educates clients about auto, home, life and business insurance policies that best suit their needs. “State Farm offers a host of financial products including bank accounts, credit cards, mutual funds, CD’s, home mortgages, and

auto loans,” says Conroy.

With strong customer service serving as the backbone of her business, Conroy takes the time to know her clients and to thoroughly explain coverage limits. “One individual has thousands of dollars invested in his wine collection, and we discovered that the existing policy did not cover the contents of the wine cellar, which we proceeded to change,” explains Conroy. “We have family insurance check ups once a year to keep up with clients’ changing circumstances. We ask everyone to do this in order to have appropriate insurance in place. If you have jewelry with a value in excess of \$5,000, a separate personal property policy needs to be in place to cover that jewelry. In addition, earthquake insurance is a separate, stand alone policy.”

With so many individuals operating a business enterprise from their home, Conroy advises that a separate business office policy be set in place, separate from the homeowner’s policy. “In addition, many feel they do not need a flood policy, but if your home is located close to a creek, it is crucial to take a closer look. Homes located in Mendocino and Sea Ranch require special policies,” she explains. Conroy’s office insures anywhere in the State of California. With State Farm Insurance being a Fortune 500 company, she cannot say enough good things about it. “State Farm is the Cadillac of insurance companies. If we can’t do it, we will find a place to get you insured,” says Conroy.

Living an active lifestyle has always been important to Conroy, who studied at Diablo Valley College to become a certified aerobics instructor. She enjoys hiking and mountain biking and is an avid gardener and has volunteered for many years with the Special Olympics.

For more information about services provided by this State Farm Insurance office, call Kathleen Conroy at 254-3344 or visit the website at www.statefarm.com.



VALERIE HOTZ

(L-R) Shannon Cereghino, Kathleen Conroy and Gina Hamersley of State Farm Insurance.

◆ SHOPPER from page 26

son on Saturday, Nov. 17. Thank you to the community, city, local businesses and other non-profits who have supported and contributed to a very successful market this year. See you next May!

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

Barbara Kobsar can be reached at cot-kitchen@aol.com

Roasted Butternut Squash Risotto

- 1 butternut squash (about 3 pounds)
- Salt to taste
- About 6 cups reduced sodium chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 and one half cups Arborio rice
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- One half cup dry white wine
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese

1 and one half teaspoon chopped fresh sage
Preheat oven to 425. Cut squash in half lengthwise and scoop out seeds. Season with salt. Place cut side down on a baking sheet. Roast about 40 minutes or until tender. Scoop out flesh and cut into half inch chunks.

In large, deep skillet, melt butter on medium high heat. Add onion and cook until softened, about 4 minutes. Add rice and garlic, cook, stirring frequently, about 3 minutes. Add wine, stir. Cook until wine is absorbed. Reduce heat to medium.

Add enough broth to barely cover rice mixture. Cook, stirring frequently, until broth is absorbed. Add one half cup broth stirring frequently until broth is absorbed. Continue in same manner, adding broth one half cup at a time. Repeat until rice is very creamy and cooked *al dente*. (There may be broth left over). Stir in squash, cheese and sage. Simmer 1 minute. Makes 6 servings.

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BUSINESS BUZZ

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Republic of Cake Celebrates Third Anniversary

Yes, it has been three years since this delightful cupcake shop in Theatre Square appeared on the scene. Locally owned and operated by Chih-Chung Fang and Peter McNiff, Republic of Cake offers ten different delightful cupcake flavors, in addition to two savory selections, Corn Cheddar Jalapeño and Butternut Bonanza. Current seasonal favorites – Caramel Apple Crisp and Pumpkin Dulce Delicious – are exactly what their names imply. A wheat-free selection, Black Velvet, made with deep dark devil’s food cake and sweet vanilla cream cheese frosting, is available Wednesday and Saturday only.

“We value supporting the local economy and minimizing our carbon footprint so we use local providers whenever possible. Our chocolate comes from Guittard in Burlingame, coffee from McLaughlin Coffee in Emeryville, flour is California-grown and milled by Giusto’s in South San Francisco, and Clover Stornetta in Petaluma sources

our diary on the North Coast,” explains Fang, master baker *extraordinaire*. “We keep it simple, baking our cupcakes fresh everyday from scratch with real, quality ingredients,” he adds.

Republic of Cake was named the 2012 Business of the Year by the Orinda Chamber of Commerce. Promoting the theme “Keep Calm and Eat More Cake,” Fang begins baking each and every morning at 4 a.m. You won’t spend more than \$2.75 for your cupcake. Fang likes to point out that the savory cupcakes are cake, not muffin, and Republic of Cake uses only in-season fresh local produce.

This business comes with a social conscience, supporting local charities such as We Care Services for Children, Children’s Hospital Oakland, Court Appointed Special Advocates and others. Ten percent of all sales every Monday benefit the Educational Foundation of Orinda. Customers are never bored with a menu that changes every month. Fang and McNiff enjoy introducing new and exciting flavors to ensure their loyal customers keep coming back. Plus, they are really nice guys.



VALERIE HOTZ

Co-owner of Republic of Cake Peter McNiff tempts Isabelle Hechinger with one of his tasty cupcakes.

“Cupcakes are different from other treats that come and go,” points out McNiff, general manager and quality control specialist. “Cupcakes are part of Americana – our cultural heritage that ranks right up there with apple pie and ice cream – what could be better than spending the day baking cupcakes?” Sam’s Very Messy Chocolate Cupcake has a very special place in McNiff’s heart, not only because of its delicious chocolate flavor, but also because it is named for one of his very special children. The total charity donation flowing from sales of Sam’s Very Messy Chocolate Cupcake since Republic of Cake opened amounts to \$17,500.

Mark your calendar for the special third anniversary event taking place on Saturday, December 8. “We invite the entire community to celebrate with us. We will have a bouncy house for children and other surprises that day,” says McNiff.

A member of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, Republic of Cake is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 254-3900 or visit the website at www.republicofcake.com or friend them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/republicofcake.

Peet’s Coffee and Tea Features Two Open Houses

With the holidays upon us, you won’t want to miss two events taking place at your local Peet’s on November 17 and December 8. Located at 63 Moraga Way, across the street from Orinda True Value Hardware, this gourmet institution features hand-roasted coffee made up in small batches and delivered fresh to every store within 24 hours from its Emeryville location. A combination of the superior quality beans and darker roasting style implemented by the late founder, Alfred Peet, produces coffee

fee with a distinct richness and complexity.

A tea buyer in the Netherlands, when Alfred Peet arrived in the United States he was appalled by the poor quality of coffee being consumed by Americans. “He brought this style of specialty coffee and tea and is credited with starting the “coffee revolution,” part of a broader artisan food movement that began in Berkeley in 1966,” says Andrew Rodriguez, Orinda store manager. Rodriguez oversees the store with enthusiasm and wants readers to know if you bring in a large bucket, he will gladly fill it with coffee grinds for composting your garden.

Your local Orinda Peet’s is bustling with loyal customers nicknamed, “Peetniks.”

“This is a gathering spot for our community and regulars enjoy meeting friends to linger over a cup of their favorite coffee or tea. It’s a pleasure to get to know customers by name, and I really enjoy the personal interaction that takes place here,” says Rodriguez. “We are looking forward to an all day Thanksgiving Open House on November 17. Select hostess gifts will be 20 percent off during this event and our Holiday Sales Event on December 8 will feature 20 percent off gifts during a



VALERIE HOTZ

Andrew Rodriguez is the manager of Peet’s Coffee and Tea in Orinda.

three hour time frame that day,” he adds. Throughout this holiday season there will be ongoing events showcasing holiday coffee, teas and gifts and for a limited time you will find 15 percent off select items in the store.

This year’s Holiday Blend is made from the highest grade Kenya bean and the River Gura Peaberry bean. “The fruit berry flavor is distinct, with a cocoa and spice finish,” says Rodriguez, who goes on to explain that the commitment to quality and passion for delivering the most delicious cups of coffee and tea are what attracted him to Peet’s. With over 30 different specialty teas, customers won’t get bored. “We have great coffee and tea. A customer favorite, Winter Solstice tea, is coming back. Our tea director, Elliot Jordan, perfected this special blend. Every year, I am amazed at Elliot’s expertise and artanship,” says Rodriguez.

Rodriguez moved to the Bay Area seven years ago from his hometown of Chicago. An avid photographer in his spare time, he especially enjoys street photography and also does weddings. Rodriguez oversees the Orinda Peet’s philanthropic ventures.

[SEE BUZZ page 27]

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