

This Year's Classic Car Show Has Distinctive Italian Flavor

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

The Orinda Classic Car Show returns for its 12th annual celebration starting on Sept. 9. This year's theme is *The Italian Job*, so expect to see a great selection of Ferraris, Maseratis and Mini Coopers (they're not Italian, but they feature prominently in the movies). The event starts on



DAVID DIERKS

Orindan Terri Ellis brought in a 2013 Ferrari CV to last year's car show.

Friday, with the Dancing with the Cars pre-show party sponsored by Orinda Rotary. On Saturday, Sept. 10, the car show will fill the streets around Orinda Motors.

Things kick off Friday night at 6 p.m. around the fountain at the Orinda Country Club (OCC) with Dancing with the Cars. There will be an exhibit of Mini Coopers and Italian sports cars, followed by a hearty Italian dinner at OCC. A silent auction takes place before dinner and a live auction after dinner. Proceeds from the dinner benefit local charities, including the Orinda Association, Educational Foundation of Orinda, Rotary Club of Orinda, Lamorinda Arts Council, Orinda Starlight Village Players, Orinda Chamber of Commerce, Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation and other non-profit community partners. Tickets are available at www.OrindaCarShow.com/enjoy-dancing-with-the-cars. Over the last 11 years, the car show has raised more than \$360,000 for local charities.

The following morning the free car show will take over the streets of Orinda from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a display of over 200 vehicles, including classics, muscle cars, exotics and motorcycles. Those

[SEE CAR SHOW page 18]



DAVID DIERKS

Crowds gathered to view cars at last year's Classic Car Show.

Miracle Drug or Devil in Disguise? A Look at Proposition 64

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

The November ballot includes many contentious measures but none more so than Proposition 64, the Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA). Feelings run strongly on both sides of this initiative to legalize the recreational use of marijuana, with political leaders as well as neighbors squaring off either pro or con.

On July 12, 2016, Democratic U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein formally opposed the measure, saying Proposition 64 lacked protections for children and motorists and would clash with medical marijuana guidelines signed last fall by Gov. Jerry Brown. "I am not really for recreational use of marijuana. Medical use, yes," she said in a July 12 article in the *Sacramento Bee*.

Meanwhile, Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom is actively behind the initiative. At a July event in Santa Cruz, he called the 62-page proposition "the most comprehensive legalization initiative to be placed in front of voters." Newsom had been invited to the event by the Santa Cruz County Medical Society, which has been working with Newsom on marijuana policy reform and favors reclassifying cannabis to encourage

research on its safety and effectiveness and taxing the drug to help fund regulation, enforcement and education.

Passage of Proposition 64 would legalize marijuana under state law for use by adults 21 or older and impose a 15-percent sales tax as well as a cultivation tax of \$9.25 per ounce for flowers and \$2.75 per ounce for leaves, with exceptions for qualifying medical marijuana sales and cultivation. If passed, the initiative would go into effect in 2018.

In 2012, Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper called voters "reckless" for approving a similar measure in his state. He has, however, softened his view since then. During an appearance on *60 Minutes* on Jan. 11, 2015, Hickenlooper noted that in regulating marijuana, Colorado may "actually create a system that could work."

Andrew Freedman, director of marijuana coordination for Colorado, said the governor's views reflect a growing sense of optimism about how the industry is regulated. "Marijuana consumption has not changed much from pre-legalization levels, and there has been no significant increase in public health and safety problems," he said. According to Freedman, 70 percent of

[SEE PROP 64 page 18]

Contested Elections on November Ballot for Three Orinda Entities

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

On Nov. 8, local residents will go to the polls to vote on members of the next City Council, the Orinda Union School

District Board of Trustees and the Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD). The first two races include incumbents as well as new candidates. Interested parties had until Aug. 17 to file papers for their respective election.

Mayor Victoria Smith pulled papers for the City Council election but decided not to run for her third term. Smith has served on the Orinda City Council since 2004 including as Mayor in 2008, 2010 and 2016. Darlene K. Gee, who was appointed to the council on July 15, 2015 at a special City Council meeting to fill the seat vacated by Steve Glazer, will run for her first four-year term.

Other City Council candidates include retired medical doctor Bruce London, attorney Inga Miller and business woman Linda Sue Delehunt. Dr. Joseph Barakeh pulled papers but did not file by the deadline. A total of four candidates will vie for the two available seats on the City Council.

On the Orinda Union School District Board, three candidates will compete for two positions. Incumbent Sarah Butler is running for re-election along with new candidates and Educational Foundation of Orinda executive Board Members Hillary Weiner and Cara Hoxie. Incumbent Matt Moran decided not to seek re-election.

The MOFD will also be electing a new

[SEE ELECTIONS page 18]

IN THIS ISSUE

News	
Development/Construction	5
New Librarian	22
Parks and Rec Director	6
Police Blotter	5
Around Town	
Local Events	7, 20
Performing/Visual Arts	8, 16-17
Schools/Students	9-13
Seniors	14-15
Business Buzz	24
Calendar	20
Car Time	7
Classified	18
Editorial	4
Orinda Association	2
Real Estate Reality	6
Seasoned Shopper	22
Something to Howl About	21



The 12th Annual
Orinda Classic Car Show Weekend

Friday Night Pre-Party,
September 9th, 6:00pm
"DANCING WITH THE CARS"



The Italian Job

Our all-inclusive event is Orinda's largest community-wide fundraiser, featuring "Italian Job" capable Mini Coopers, molto belli Maseratis, not to mention favoloso Ferraris! Also enjoy Compari-infused cocktails, a hearty Italian dinner, an abundance of awesome auction items and dancing to the hits of (who else?) Dino!

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The Orinda Association

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

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

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A Message From the OA President
Lots to Sing and Dance About
This September



Cindy Powell

This quote from Vince Lombardi is how I feel about our Orinda Association (OA) members and volunteers. "Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." And we have lots of commitment here in Orinda!

September begins with a lot of screaming and fighting ... football season commences! Jonathan and I will be ready on Sept. 2 and 3 for the Cardinals, Ducks and Trojans with the appropriate mugs, shirts and hats. OA's Bill Waterman wears Oregon gear daily so it's hard to gauge when Duck season starts. Miramonte has been training all summer and will be ready to kick off this month ... GO MATS!

Sept. 4 is the most amazing show in town! The **Lamorinda Idol Finals** at Orinda Theatre showcases the best K-12 performers of the year. And the price? Free! Seeing elementary students sing like tiny professionals will make you cheer. Get there early because the audience votes and seats fill quickly.

Sept. 5 is **Labor Day**. Dedicated to you, the worker, in appreciation for the work you do in or outside of the home. As long as you work somewhere at something, this holiday is about you! Labor Day is also viewed as the official end of summer. Celebrate this weekend with one last picnic in one of our beautiful Orinda parks.

Sept. 6 is the **Downtown Orinda Planning Discussion** at the City Council meeting.

Sept. 8 is **CAIFF Opening Night** at the Rheem Theatre. California International Film Festival will run at Orinda, Rheem and Castro theatres from Sept. 8 to 14. Check the CAIFF.org website for information. Or pick up a free guide at the Orinda or Rheem Theatres. Sept. 8 is also **International Literacy Day**, which celebrates and promotes literacy all over the world. If you are reading this, then you can and should celebrate the importance of literacy to your community. Sept. 8 is also **Pardon Day**, an opportunity to seek pardon or forgiveness for mistakes and grievances you have committed. On this day in 1974, newly installed President Gerald Ford issued a Presidential Proclamation pardoning President Richard M. Nixon of any wrongdoing related to the Watergate scandal.

Sept. 9 is **Miramonte's first Home Game**. Enjoy the snack shack, bright lights

and proud parents. Also, remember that Miramonte's competitive Cheer Team took home the National Championship this past spring. To see the 2016-17 game schedule, go to www.Miramontefootball.com.

Sept. 9 is **Dancing With The Cars**, the pre-party to the **Annual Orinda Classic Car Show** on Sept. 10. This year's theme is *The Italian Job* and fancy cocktails and dinner on Friday will prepare you for the fancy autos on Saturday. (See the article on page 1.)

Sept. 10 is the opening night of **Love, Sex and the I.R.S.** at the Outdoor Theatre in Orinda Park. (See the article on page 17.)

Most of us remember the morning of **Sept. 11, 2001**, when we heard of the attacks on the World Trade Towers. This tragic day is etched forever in our memories. On the anniversary of 9/11, spend a few minutes reflecting and praying for the victims who died, and for their families and friends.

Sept. 11 is also **National Grandparents Day**. If you can, enjoy the day with them. That is the greatest gift they can receive from you. If you can't see them, call them or FaceTime them and keep them up-to-date. It seems to be more fun to be a grandparent than a parent in Orinda by all the cute photos I see of my friends' grandkids.

Sept. 13 is **National Peanut Day**. Peanuts are one of America's favorite snack foods. Actually, peanuts are not nuts. They are "legumes" like peas, beans and lentils. Peanuts are high in protein and fiber, and are now believed to help curb hunger. Grab a bag of peanuts in the shell and get cracking.

Sept. 20, the **Orinda Association** will be recognized by the City Council for its 70th anniversary!

Sept. 21 is **World Gratitude Day**, your opportunity to show your gratitude and appreciation for the great things that individuals and groups do. Give gratitude or appreciation to people in your life who have done good deeds. It could be something as simple as a "thank you" or a card. I am very grateful to our members and volunteers that support the Orinda Association's programs.

Sept. 22 is the **Autumn Equinox**, the beginning of fall. In Orinda it begins at 7:21 a.m., the point where there are exactly 12 hours of daylight and darkness at the equator. In addition to pagan rituals, it is a time

[SEE PRES. page 6]



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

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

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

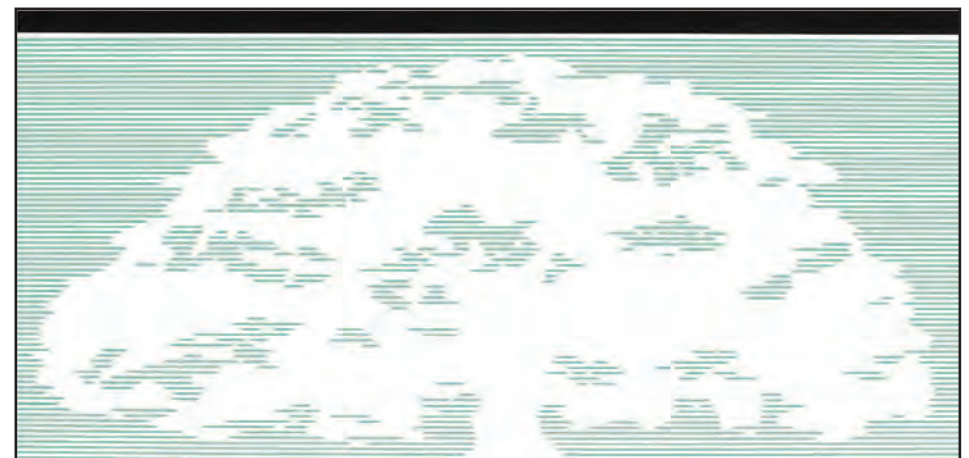
- Publishing *The Orinda News*
- Operating the Volunteer Center
- Hosting Community Forums
- Organizing the All-Community 4th of July Celebration
- Providing transportation through "Seniors Around Town"
- ... and more!



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

To join, visit
www.OrindaAssociation.org/membershiponline

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The 12th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show Weekend

Friday Night Pre-Party,
September 9th, 6pm
"DANCING WITH THE CARS"

Saturday,
September 10th, 10am-3pm
ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Exhibitors' Sponsor
Alliant Insurance

Entries by mail are now closed. Please go to www.OrindaCarShow.com for current entry information. Join us as a spectator – Admission is FREE!

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

Cruise in a Classic!
Donate \$10 and choose your ride for the Drive.



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

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

Event Schedule

Friday, September 9th, 6pm
"DANCING WITH THE CARS" FRIDAY NIGHT PRE-PARTY

The presenting sponsor for this great event is **Mechanics Bank**.

The Italian Job

Our all-inclusive event is Orinda's largest community-wide fundraiser, featuring "Italian Job" capable Mini Coopers, molto belli Maseratis, not to mention favoloso Ferraris! Also enjoy Compari-infused cocktails, a hearty Italian dinner, an abbondanza of awesome auction items and dancing to the hits of (who else?) Dino!

This community-wide fundraiser benefits our schools, our seniors, the arts, our parks, recreation programs, and more!

Buy your tickets at:
www.OrindaCarShow.com
Space is limited so don't wait.
NO WALK-INS WILL BE ALLOWED.



See a 1pm visit of vintage and modern Ferraris - including a 1965 275 GTB Competition - driving into the middle of the show!

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Special thanks to the Rotary Club of Orinda for producing this party!

ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW SPONSORS



Presenting Sponsor:



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Saturday
September 10th, 10am - 3pm
12TH ANNUAL ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Free Admission

The presenting sponsor for this event is **Orinda Motors**.

- The show will be held in Orinda Village around Orinda Motors and on Orinda Way
- 200 Classic and modern exotic cars as well as unique motorcycles
- Lamorinda Idol Winners Performance at Noon
- Arriving at 1pm, there will be an outstanding exhibit of vintage and modern Ferraris - including a 1965 275 GTB Competition
- Shaded seating to enjoy lunch and refreshments from the Car Show BBQ Booth
- Loard's Ice Cream and Candy
- Ride in the Drive of Classic Cars at 3pm
- Buy a 2016 Car Show T-Shirt

Proceeds benefit local charities: Seniors Around Town, Educational Foundation of Orinda, Orinda Historical Society Museum, The Orinda Association, and other local charities.

CLASSIC CAR SHOW WEEKEND PIT CREW

Hallie and Henry Alfaro	David Dierks	Emily Lambert	Janet and Ben Riley
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Letters to the Editor ...

The Essence of Orinda

What is the essence of Orinda? Why do we pay so dearly to live here and to raise our family here? What constitutes acceptable progress and change, while preserving that which is essential about Orinda?

Such questions are what every Orinda citizen should be asking himself or herself, as the city embarks on its most ambitious, public dialogue about the future of Orinda's downtown, since the 2011/2012 timeframe. That effort included nine public workshops, attended by 560 residents and also included a citizen survey with 988 survey responses. It will be a challenge for the city to solicit a higher level of participation in this latest round of dialogue. Yet thoughtful participation by the many, just as happened in 2011 and 2012, is exactly what is required, to offset the distortions of the self-interested few. Orindans, this matter affects every neighborhood, and you need to pay attention.

Read, listen, ask questions, learn and don't be shy about speaking your mind. Here are some important places to poke, when you start doing your homework.

Why did the citizens of 1985 vote to have Orinda incorporate as a city in the first place? How does the city's General Plan specifically define "village character"? What was the major, unexpected conclusion of the city-funded Retail Sales Tax Leakage Report? What is the main take-away from the city-funded Downtown Parking Study? What was the big fuss about in crafting the 4th and 5th cycle updates to the Housing Element portion of Orinda's General Plan? Who actually owns the private property in Orinda's downtown? Why do those owners seem so reluctant to improve their property and facilities? What does "vibrant" really mean? Evidently, as determined by the 2013 Orinda City Council, "vibrant" did not include Fountainhead Montessori day care and new retail space, replacing the long-vacant Phairs building.

So, Orinda citizens, please apply your considerable intelligence to this public dialogue regarding our commercial downtown. Ask yourself the right questions. Determine for yourself, just what makes Orinda "Orinda" for you.

– Owen Murphy

Coleman's Facts Wrong

In his letter to you published in your August issue, Richard Colman selectively listed nine donors who contributed to the success of Measure L, questioning why the campaign co-chairs did not specifically thank each of its donors. In fact, the campaign committee individually thanked all 74 individuals and five entities who contributed to the campaign's success. We also individually thanked the nearly 400 citizens who endorsed the campaign.

These donors and endorsers include

many civic leaders and volunteers including four City Council members; former mayors; current and former members of the Orinda Union School District Board, MOFD board, Orinda's Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Committee, Finance Advisory Committee, and Planning Commission; former presidents of the Orinda Association; past recipients of the Orinda Citizen of the Year and Orinda Volunteer of the Year awards; Orinda Realtors; and many other citizens in current or former volunteer roles who contribute to our community.

This level of support stands in stark contrast to "Orindans for Better Roads," Mr. Colman's self-described and mis-named "committee of one" (per his delinquent California Fair Political Practices Commission filing) that sent two mailers to Orinda homes opposing Measure L.

– Bob Burt

Help Orinda get \$2.5 million more service from MOFD

When the Orinda City Council proposed merging the Orinda Fire Department with Moraga's to form MOFD back in 1997, they told the voters that this would insure that Orinda tax dollars would be used for services in Orinda. Unfortunately, neither the city nor MOFD ever monitored where our tax dollars were going and now, of the \$14.5 million Orinda taxpayers currently spend on MOFD, only \$12 million is used for services in Orinda. The "missing" \$2.5 million is used to subsidize service in Moraga.

Finally, after 19 years, the three MOFD directors representing Orinda (Steve Anderson, Alex Evans and Brad Barber) are getting the MOFD Board to review the pledge that the Orinda City Council made to the voters of Orinda in 1997. They need our support. They need to know that the residents of Orinda care that they are getting full value for the \$14.5 million they spend on the emergency services MOFD provides.

Please tell them that you care. Sign the petition at www.change.org/p/use-orinda-emergency-service-dollars-in-orinda.

For more details, see www.OrindaTask-Force.org.

– Steve Cohn

Martine on the Right Path

The Orinda Community Foundation (OCF) Board was pleased to see a suggestion by Mr. Chet Martine in the August *Orinda News*. He noted the "horrible..... path between Orinda Way and BART" with "trash, broken glass and dog poop." He proposed a community-based cleanup of this area.

His idea fits very well with the OCF mission to "enhance the quality of life in Orinda by providing financial assistance to support community activities, beauti-



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	Page		Page
Arts & Entertainment		Theatre View Veterinary Clinic	21
Cal Shakes	16	Professional Services	
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Orinda Starlight Village Players	17	Cruise Adventures Unlimited	8
Automotive		Recycle Smart	16
Orinda Motors	7	Taxi Bleu	15
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Dr. Mary Smith DDS	8	Steve Stahle	10
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Orinda Ballet Academy & Co.	13	Pacific Union	
The Orinda Preschool	23	Manzone Team	23
Financial and Insurance Services		Virginia and Paul Ratto	5
Destination Wealth Mgt	12	Leila Schlein	7
Prospect Mortgage		Prime Vintage Realty	
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Tree Sculpture	2	April Matthews	14
Medical		Karen and Hillary Murphy	16
Advanced Therapy Center	20	Ann Sharf	21
Dr. Brian Clark	9	Amy Rose Smith	10
Elder Consult Geriatric Care Conference	15	Molly Smith	19
Dr. Nicollet Ionascu	19	Clark Thompson	13
Kasier Permanente	17	Restaurants/Catering	
Medicine Shoppe	19	Baan Thai	24
Dr. Kristin Walker	9	Casa Orinda	19
Non-Profits		Farmers' Market	22
EFO	22, 23	La Mediterranean	14
Orinda Association	2	Lava Pit	18
Orinda Classic Car Show	1, 3	Piccolo Napoli	22
Pet Service		Republic of Cake	6
Animal House Pet Sitting	21	Siam Orchid	20
Lamorinda Pet Car Co-Op	24	Village Inn Cafe	23

fication and the arts." We already have a community cleanup event that we organize, fund and run every year on an April Saturday. It is called "Orinda Action Day."

We invite Mr. Martine to join us. We propose that he organize and lead a project to clean up this grungy path. The OCF will provide a grant for materials to support a mutually agreeable budget. The OCF will recruit volunteers to help Mr. Martine.

We are confident that Mr. Martine's enthusiasm and vision will, in his own words,

help "all of us to become inspired."

Mr. Martine, you can email the OCF at orindafoundation@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you and to partnering on this project!

– OCF Board of Trustees

On the Future of Downtown Orinda

On September 6, the Orinda City Council will initiate a discussion on the future of

[SEE LETTERS page 12]

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Send letters to: Editor, *The Orinda News*, P.O. Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563, or email to news@orindaassociation.org. Letters to Editor for the October issue are due **September 8, 2016**.

For display advertising rates, call Jill Gelster at 925-528-9225 or email to jill@aspenconsult.net. The deadline for the October issue is September 8, 2016.

DEVELOPMENT / POLICE

Discussion on Downtown Development Set for Sept. 6 City Council Meeting

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

The much-anticipated Orinda City Council meeting on downtown planning takes place Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. in the Orinda Library Auditorium. Originally scheduled for August, the council decided to postpone the meeting until more local residents would be in town.

Residents as well as local groups focused on Orinda's downtown plan to attend. What's Up Downtown, the most recent group formed to advocate for new retail options, restaurants and other "life-style amenities," has added the restoration of the San Pablo Creek, which runs through Orinda, to its list of "must-haves" for downtown. See www.whatsuporindadowntown.com.

[SEE DOWNTOWN page 13]



POLICE BLOTTER

June 26 through August 13, 2016

Calls for Service

- 911 Hangup: 28 incidents.
- Abandoned Vehicle: 5 incidents.
- Accident Injury: 3 incidents.
- Accident Property: 8 incidents.
- Alarm, False: 203 incidents.
- Battery: 2 incidents.
- Barking Dog: 4 incidents.
- Burglary: 1 incident.
- Burglary, Auto: 3 incidents.
- Burglary, Residential: 2 incidents.
- Civil Disturbance: 27 incidents.
- CVC Moving Violation: 203 incidents.
- CVC Non-Moving Violation: 137 incidents.
- Disturbing the Peace: 6 incidents.
- Drunk in Public: 4 incidents.
- DUI Misdemeanor: 2 incidents.
- Fireworks: 5 incidents.
- Found Property: 6 incidents.
- Fraud Credit Card: 1 incident.
- Fraud False Pretenses: 1 incident.
- Grand Theft: 2 incidents.
- Grand Theft Bicycle: 1 incident.
- Hailed by Citizen: 5 incidents.
- Harassment: 2 incidents.
- Hit and Run Misdemeanor: 4 incidents.
- Identity Theft: 6 incidents.
- Illegal Entry: 2 incidents.
- Juvenile Disturbance: 10 incidents.
- Litter: 1 incident.
- Lost Property: 4 incidents.
- Loud Motorcycle: 1 incident.
- Loud Music: 2 incidents.
- Loud Noise: 13 incidents.
- Loud Party: 7 incidents.
- Medical Hospital: 5 incidents.
- Motorist Assist: 7 incidents.
- Neighbor Dispute: 1 incident.
- Occupied Stalled Vehicle: 2 incidents.
- Ordinance Violation: 10 incidents.
- Outside Assist: 36 incidents.
- Parking Detail: 151 incidents.
- Patrol Request: 81 incidents.
- Petty Theft: 4 incidents.
- Petty Theft from Vehicle: 4 incidents.

- Possible Shots Heard: 5 incidents.
- Public Assembly Check: 1 incident.
- Public Nuisance: 4 incidents.
- Reckless Driving: 15 incidents.
- Road Rage: 1 incident.
- Robbery Armed: 1 incident.
- Runaway Juvenile: 2 incidents.
- School Check: 1 incident.
- Security Check: 43 incidents.
- Service to Citizen: 229 incidents.
- Suspicious Circumstances: 39 incidents.
- Suspicious Person Stop: 24 incidents.
- Suspicious Subject: 16 incidents.
- Suspicious Vehicle: 18 incidents.
- Suspicious Vehicle Stop: 20 incidents.
- Traffic Collision Property Damage: 5 incidents.
- Tow: 9 incidents.
- Traffic Hazard: 15 incidents.
- Trespass: 5 incidents.
- Uncontrollable Juvenile: 1 incident.
- Unwanted Guest: 1 incident.
- Vacation House Check: 89 incidents.
- Vandalism: 4 incidents.
- Vehicle Theft: 2 incidents.
- Verbal Dispute: 10 incidents.
- Walk Through: 1 incident.
- Welfare Check: 12 incidents.

Arrests

- Battery: 1 arrest.
- Burglary, Residential: 1 arrest.
- Drunk in Public: 2 arrests.
- DUI: 3 arrests.
- DUI Misdemeanor: 1 arrest.
- Possession of Controlled Substance: 2 arrests.
- Warrant Arrest: 4 arrests.


BART Statistics

- Burglary, Auto: 1 incident.
- Public Intoxication: 1 arrest.

— Compiled by David Dierks
Assistant Editor

For more incident details, visit www.crimereports.com

North Lane Storm Water Mitigation



A section of the 60-inch reinforced concrete pipe (RCP).

The contractor, Bay Cities Paving & Grading Inc., finished excavating and shoring the launching pit for the 60" storm water pipe under Camino Pablo Road in early August. Extending from the EBMUD Water Treatment Plant area, the pipe was jacked, a process involving a hydraulic ram, and angled toward North Lane during the month of August. At the same time, the contractor excavated the receiving pit at the end of North Lane.

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PARKS AND REC / REAL ESTATE

Interim Parks and Rec Director

Todd Trimble has taken over the reins of the Orinda Parks and Recreation Department as the interim director. A 25-plus year veteran of parks and recreation departments, Trimble feels that Orinda is a good fit for him. "I'm a more hands-on person that likes to be involved with all aspects of the department," says Trimble. "In Orinda, I can be the department head but still be in touch with the programs we offer."

Trimble worked as assistant general manager and recreation manager for the City of Walnut Creek for 16 years, where he dealt with the Community Center, classes, the garden, parks and pre-schools. Through his membership in California Park and Rec Society, he met Orinda's former Parks and Rec Director Michelle Lacey. "Michelle let me know that she was leaving and asked if I'd be interested in the interim position," he explains.



SALLY HOGARTY

Real Estate Reality

What's the Law On Water-Conserving Plumbing Fixtures?

MAUREEN WILBUR



Sellers and buyers of property need to know that California Civil Code Section 1101 requires installation of water-conserving plumbing fixtures when the existing plumbing fixtures are "noncompliant." There are various dates for compliance with these requirements depending upon the type of structure, when it was built and when it is sold.

A noncompliant plumbing fixture means: Any toilet manufactured to use more than 1.6 gallons of water per flush; any urinal manufactured to use more than one gallon of water per flush; any shower head manufactured to have a flow capacity of more than 2.5 gallons of water per minute; and, any interior faucet that emits more than 2.2 gallons of water per minute.

Until Dec. 31, 2016, if a single-family residence is altered or improved, the installation of compliant plumbing fixtures must be a condition of final permit approval.

However, after Jan. 1, 2017, all single-family residences must comply with this law by replacing all noncompliant plumbing fixtures whether or not the property is being remodeled or sold. As of that date, all sellers of single-family residences will be required to disclose to potential buyers whether the property includes any noncompliant plumbing fixture.

Until Dec. 31, 2018, as a condition of final permit approval, owners of multi-family and commercial properties must replace all plumbing fixtures with water-conserving fixtures if: Permits are obtained to increase the floor area by more than 10 percent;

building alterations or improvements exceed \$150,000 in costs; or, permits are obtained for a room with plumbing fixtures.

After Jan. 1, 2019: All multi-family and commercial properties must comply with this law by replacing all noncompliant plumbing fixtures. Sellers of such properties must disclose to the prospective buyer whether the property includes any noncompliant plumbing fixtures.

Cities and counties have different definitions for what constitutes an "alteration" or "improvement" that would trigger the need for installing compliant plumbing fixtures.

Real estate brokers cannot determine compliance with these regulations and will not verify the information.

◆ PRES. from page 2

to celebrate with fall and harvest festivals.

Sept. 27 begins **Oktoberfest**, a two-week festival in Munich, located in Bavaria, Germany, held annually since 1810. Oktoberfest celebrations are held around the world and celebrate the rich heritage of the German people. It's time to eat, drink beer and be merry!

Sept. 28 is **National Good Neighbor Day**. Being a good neighbor is an important part of the social fiber that makes this country great. We have wonderful neighborhoods in Orinda. Recognize and appreciate your neighborhood. Hold a block party, always smile and wave as you pass and be helpful when you are able. Be happy in our safe and beautiful little town.



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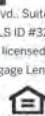
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CAR TIME / FUNDRAISER

CAR TIME

What About Air Conditioning?



By JOHN VANEK

Here you are enjoying the warm summer months. You turn on the a/c and suddenly it seems like it is cooler outside! Your air conditioning system in your vehicle is another one of those silent systems that we take for granted until it is not working. We then have the normal concerns. What is wrong? How much is it going to cost? If your vehicle is over five years old or close to 100,000 miles, your car will be subject to a/c failure. The a/c system has many components that can fail. However, it takes a skilled technician to properly diagnose the system to achieve the proper repair. Nobody can tell you what is wrong over the phone.

In most cases, there are two different scenarios possible. It is either a control problem or a lack of Freon problem. The system has many parts that operate power to main components such as the a/c compressor, etc. Sometimes, it can be as simple as a bad relay for the compressor. It can also be caused by other components that will malfunction and cause the system to not cool properly even with the correct Freon level. Other times, it is related to lack of Freon. Freon is the refrigerant gas that is used in the system. Gauges need to be hooked up to the system to determine what kind of issue we have. If both gauges read low, then that is an indication that the system is low on Freon.

Now, what is leaking? That is a good question. The next step is to add Freon to the system and check for leaks with a special detector tool. The leak could range from a simple leaking Schrader valve or hose to a condenser. Now that we have

found the leak we can replace the faulty part, add Freon and check for leaks. No leaks found, are we done? Fixed forever? Not exactly. There are several components on your vehicle that use Freon and are subject to failure. Does that mean I can spend more money on my a/c system later? Yes, it does. It is possible that you could indeed have another significant a/c repair in the future. It depends on the commitment that you have for the vehicle and the value of not suffering in hot weather. Some folks can not justify the expense and others can absolutely not live without air conditioning. A new car will cost a whole lot more than fixing your air conditioning.

Rules and regulations. Freon is actually a hazardous waste that hurts the ozone layer when it leaks out of your vehicle into the environment. The California State Government has laws about working on a/c systems. Technicians must be certified. Furthermore, there are strict procedures on how it is done. Whenever a/c work is done, a vacuum is used to remove contaminants such as air and moisture, then refrigerant oil added to lubricate the compressor and, finally, install the factory refrigerant charge as specified by the manufacturer. The bottom line is that the government does not want you to "top off" the Freon because it will continue to leak into the environment. This does not stop people from buying the do it yourself kit and adding imitation Freon. There is always the correct and responsible way to fix a car and that is not it. The real Freon that is used is also regu-

[SEE CAR TIME page 13]

Orinda Country Club Goes Italian for Upcoming Dancing with the Cars

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

It's all about the Italians as Orinda Rotary prepares for Dancing with the Cars on Sept. 9 at the Orinda Country Club. The annual event kicks off the Classic Car Show weekend, which continues on Sept. 10.

While Dancing with the Cars will feature a great selection of Ferraris, Maseratis and Minis, the Classic Car Show will take over the streets around Orinda Motors on Saturday with over 200 vehicles on display, including classics, muscle cars, exotics and motorcycles. But for those who prefer a little dancing and great Italian food with their cars, Friday night's Dancing with the Cars is the place to be. According to chairperson Barbara Bontemps, the Italian-themed event is all about Italian music (or at least music by famous Italians!), food and cars.

"Red, white and green are the colors of the day," says Bontemps. "I understand from decorations chair, Jill Gelster, that we will have some giant-sized posters and other surprise amenities to evoke the feeling of being in beautiful Roma."



DAVID DIERKS

Jill Gelster (L) and Sarah McDonnell pick plants at McDonnell Nursery for decorating at Dancing with the Cars.

In keeping with the theme, Bontemps and her crew have put together appropriate auction items including "Il Vino et la Vendetta," an Italian-themed murder mystery for 12 to 14 people on Halloween. Characters are played by the party attendees and hosts are aptly named: Robusto (Rob) Chianti, Val Policella, Malcolm (Mal) Beck, Cher Donay, Vinnie Rouge, Penny Noir and more.

Another auction item features "Christ-

[SEE DANCING page 10]

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September Gallery Library Showcases Vibrant Fabric Art and Ceramics

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The Lamorinda Arts Council presents two walls of fabric art by Kimiko Kogure and cabinets filled with ceramics by Lauri Moffet Fehlberg and Kurt Fehlberg during September at the Orinda Library Art Gallery. Meet the artists a reception on Sept. 10 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. when light refreshments will be served.

Kimiko Kogure of Orinda has worked with all kinds of media since graduating from California College of the Arts but it wasn't until her nine-year-old daughter took a class from Jennifer McCullough that she worked with quilts. She found the medium of fabric to be very forgiving, gentle, tactile and something she could fit into her busy life as a mother of three. That was eight years ago and her creative spark is still glowing.

She is showing eight wall hanging quilts and a mixed-media sculpture installation.

Keeping her work fresh means finding inspiration. Kogure says, "It is easy to find inspiration in the Bay Area, especially at the new San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. It blows my mind! I also study meditation with Veera Sanjana and am a member of the Lamorinda Arts Council, which promotes all kinds of art activities in the area."

Kogure grew up in Japan at the edge of the gently sloping Kantou plain near Tokyo that is bounded by three mountains under a vast sky. Countless experiences of nature in childhood cultivated an intimate relationship with her surroundings. For example, she learned to count the seconds from a lightning strike as the thunder rolled over the rice paddies to reach her. These experiences allow her to tap into the inner workings of Japan's natural wonders.

Look for *Sunset*, a 50" x 69" fiber art work throbbing with color, a perfect example of Joseph Chilton Pearce's assertion that, "We live in a web of ideas, a fabric of our own making." As her work is meant to



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kimiko Kogure used a 50" x 69" fabric for her *Sunset* creation.

be open-ended, her wish is that each visitor has his or her own conversation with, and interpretation of, her pieces. For more of her work visit www.kimikokogure.com.

Lauri Moffet Fehlberg of Pleasanton has been working with clay since college. As an architect, she uses the classic elements of proportion, scale, rhythm and surface treatment in her work; the same elements translate easily to composing with clay. She focuses on wheel-thrown porcelain with some hand-built components and fires in an Anagama kiln at temperatures up to cone 12.

Sea Vessel, a 6" x 22" wood fired porcelain piece, explores forms inspired by crusty, overlooked creatures of the oceans that possess their own inimitable beauty. Look for a variety of work including clay used as canvas for architectural imagery and the study of line quality. She hopes viewers are intrigued by the forms and surfaces of her artwork and remember the pieces as having their own unique character.

Kurt Fehlberg of Pleasanton started throwing pots on the wheel in his parents' basement in grade school and continued the work through high school and into college. After a hiatus where he pursued his career in architecture, he ran across Clay Arts Guild in Walnut Creek and got busy. With about 30 works in the show, his goal is to display a variety of ceramic work: wood-fired, Raku, wheel-thrown, hand-built and wheel-thrown pieces that are altered.

Look for his *Big Boy Pants* series of wheel-thrown works that are heavily altered into abstracted figures. They represent silhouette scale figures drawn into architectural projects over the years. His

Yellowstone Mud Pots series sports surface textures reminiscent of bubbling mud pots in Yellowstone. He hopes that people notice that his ceramic forms are glazed in different ways, changing the way light angles each piece and that ceramic art is more than functional cups and bowls.

As to the value of art to the community, Kogure says, "I am involved in the Lamorinda Arts Council as a chairperson for the Orinda schools because I believe in childhood art education. We are fortunate to still have very active art programs at our schools. I would love to have schoolchildren keep and increase exposure to all kinds of art forms." Lauri Fehlberg says, "In an essentially 'flat' world homogenized by mass marketing, production and shipping, art and culture is what gives uniqueness to a place. It allows artists to express ideas and concepts and the viewer to participate in that dialogue ... sometimes for a deep meaning, sometimes for the sheer joy of enjoying something of aesthetic beauty." Kurt Fehlberg says, "I grew up in a house full of art and always associated with artists. There is art in everything we experience in life. Public art invites the community to view and experience works of art and challenges the community to look for what they find is beautiful, interesting or thought provoking."

Visit the gallery at 26 Orinda Way during normal library hours – Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. The library is closed on Sept. 4 and 5 for Labor Day. Call 925-254-2184 for more information or visit <http://ccclib.org>.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lauri Moffet Fehlberg's soda fired porcelain work *Vessel* will be displayed during September.



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SCHOOLS

Glorietta Neighbors Give School District Another Earful on Solar Panels

By BILL O'BRIAN
Staff Writer

Hot on the heels of a July 18 community meeting, representatives of the Orinda Union School District (OUSD) held an Aug. 2 meeting at Glorietta Elementary School to hear from neighbors about the location of solar panels at the school. This summer, panels have been installed at all the schools in the district. The panels at Glorietta are currently located in the parking lot in front of the school and the upper parking lot.

In attendance were OUSD board members Jason Kaune and Carol Brown, Superintendent Carolyn Seaton, Director of Facilities Stuart House, Director of Business Services Teresa Sidrian, and solar consultant and president of Terra Verde Renewable Partners Rick Brown. More than 30 neighbors came to the three-hour-plus meeting to have their objections heard.

"We want to make sure we hear everyone's voice tonight," said Seaton as the meeting began. She then showed a PowerPoint presentation that included the timeline of the OUSD Solar Project, with

a total of 14 board actions itemized by date and year over a 33-month period, starting in October 2013 and ending in July 2016.

Actions taken by the board since the July 18 meeting with neighbors, including a meeting between Stuart House and a sun, light and power expert to conduct a "Sun Eye" analysis of alternative solar panel locations at the school, were noted.

The school board acknowledged the need to improve communications and develop mechanisms to promote ongoing dialogue between the district and neighbors at each site. Seaton explained that the city planner had given the district access to all the neighbors' addresses within a 300-foot radius of each school for better notification in the future.

"We acknowledge our failure to adequately communicate with the neighbors," said Kaune. "Our standard has to be fiscally responsible to the school district and the community."

As to possible relocation of the panels, he recalled that the board meetings dealing with the solar panels were crowded and well attended and that attendees "overwhelmingly did not want solar panels on

OIS and MHS Make Strides in Teaching, Infrastructure Over Summer Months

By BILL O'BRIAN
Staff Writer

Numerous changes and improvements happened at Orinda Intermediate School (OIS) over the summer.

Principal Michael Randall reports two new teachers hired. The first is Cody Wilson, a former OIS student, who will be the wood shop/makerspace teacher. Makerspaces provide hands-on, creative ways for students to design, build and invent as they engage in science and engineering. The second is mathematics teacher David Rosenbaum who previously taught for the Mt. Diablo Unified School District and at Miramonte High School (MHS). All teachers attended three days of professional development before the start of school including project-based learning workshops and equity training.

Elective offerings have been expanded for sixth-graders at OIS from four to six options, a new makerspace class has been created, and the school is implementing a block schedule this year. Site improvements include solar panels installed in the upper

parking lot, painting of the entire exterior of the parking lot and an expanded food serving area to accommodate an enlarged food service program. Additionally, the district installed air conditioning units in each classroom.

At MHS, principal Julie Parks says the two big construction projects over the summer were the installation of new irrigation pipes and the building of solar panels over the main parking lot. The irrigation pipe portion of the project was completed by the start of school, and the landscaping will be finished during the fall.

MHS teachers returned Aug. 18 for professional development, including planning for the implementation of block scheduling in the 2017-2018 school year. Additionally, teachers made plans for rolling out a "bring your own device" program for sophomores, and they continued to learn about ways to increase engagement in the classroom. The school welcomed new teachers into their English, math, science, special education, social studies and world language departments.



BILL O'BRIAN

Solar panels placed over the front parking lot of **Glorietta Elementary School** continue to cause problems for some neighbors.

the playgrounds. We cannot see a responsible way to make a motion to change their location."

Carol Brown confirmed that after a review of all public comments the votes were two to one against constructing the panels on the playgrounds. Confirming the board's willingness to listen to the public, she said, "Immediately after the July 18 meeting, the board held a special meeting and removed the planned lighting for the

solar panel structures."

House further explained the board's decision to not put the panels on the roofs: "We looked at the roofs of the building, but they were not adequate to support the weight." He added that California state architects have requirements that need to take into account "wind shear" with solar roof placements. He said that home solar panels are different and weigh much less.

[SEE SOLAR page 14]



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SCHOOL CALENDAR

Note: Schools closed Sept. 5 for Labor Day.

- 7 **Acalanes Union High School District** board meeting, 7:30 p.m., 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette. Also Sept. 21. Visit www.acalanes.k12.ca.us.
- 8 **Sleepy Hollow Elementary School**, Moms' Back-to-School Fiesta Night, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., 20 Washington Lane. Visit <http://sh-orinda-ca.schoolloop.com>.
- 11 **Miramonte High School** 9/11 Memorial Play, 7 to 9 p.m., 750 Moraga Way. Visit <http://www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/miramonte>.
- 12 **OUSD Elementary** early release 1:55 p.m.
Orinda Intermediate School early release 2:45 p.m.
Orinda Union School District board meeting, 8 Altarinda Road, 6 p.m. Visit www.orindaschools.org.
- 16 **OUSD Elementary** early release 12:20 p.m.
Orinda Intermediate School early release 1:05 p.m.
Glorietta Elementary School Family Fun Night, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., 15 Martha Road. Visit <http://gl-orinda-ca.schoolloop.com>.
- 19 **OUSD Elementary** early release 1:55 p.m.
Orinda Intermediate School early release 2:45 p.m.
- 23 **Wagner Ranch Elementary School** Movie Night with Food Trucks, an all-school get-together for the whole family, 350 Camino Pablo. Visit <http://wr-orinda-ca.schoolloop.com>.
Orinda Intermediate School WEB Bingo Bash, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Visit <http://ois-orinda-ca.schoolloop.com>.
- 26 **OUSD Elementary** early release 1:55 p.m.
Orinda Intermediate School early release 2:45 p.m.

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

Creative Writing Contest Winners

By JULIE ROSSITER
Contributing Writer

The Friends of the Orinda Library recently announced the winners of the 2016 Poul Anderson Creative Writing Contest.

Named in memory of Orinda resident Poul Anderson, a popular science fiction writer of over 80 books, the writing contest is open to high school students who live or attend school in Orinda. A panel of judges who are involved professionally in reading, writing, or publishing, select the winning entries.

Congratulations to this year's winners:

Short Story

Winner: Katie Lyons, *Stolen Seconds*

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Winner: Elizabeth (Beth) Huelsenbeck, *Return to Genesis*

Poetry

Winner: Sara Aoki, *Cracks and Crevices*
Honorable Mentions: Sophie Hammond, *Sister Suffragette*; Noelle Chow, *opportunity to fly a classic WWII warbird; a week of relaxation in the Florida Keys; and a three-day Dude Ranch all-inclusive getaway for four to bring out one's inner cowboy/cowgirl.*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Katie Lyons won for her short story *Stolen Seconds*.

Skyline Snapshot.

Essay/Memoir/Biography

Winner: Carolyn Brager, *Hands, Mothers, and some Sticky Notes*

Honorable Mentions: Eli Spitulnik, *The Climbing Experience*; Noelle Chow, *Stereotype Out.*

◆ DANCING from page 7

mas with the Crawleys," a Downton Abbey/1920s extravaganza for 18 to 20 people at the beautiful and historic Casa Azul in Orinda. With each of the seven courses, there will be live entertainment, featuring performers from Miramonte High School, as well as the Orinda Starlight Village Players.

Additional fun auction items include: a Chinese New Year's banquet; a St. Patrick's Day poker party and whiskey tasting; a fabulous Tahitian Pearl pendant donated by Morrison's Jewelers; a once-in-a-lifetime

opportunity to fly a classic WWII warbird; a week of relaxation in the Florida Keys; and a three-day Dude Ranch all-inclusive getaway for four to bring out one's inner cowboy/cowgirl.

If that wasn't more than enough to entice attendees, Orinda Rotary members are also offering an exclusive raffle item: a weekend for four that includes travel by private jet on JetSuite Air out of Buchanan Field to Las Vegas with hotel and show included.

For further information on the Classic Car Show weekend or to purchase tickets to Dancing with the Cars, go to www.orindacarshow.com or www.orindarotary.org.



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SCHOOLS / STUDENTS

When a Club is More Than Just a Meeting Place – buildOn

By KENDALL ROBERTS
Miramonte Student

My name is Kendall Roberts, and this is my story. On what will be two years ago on September 23, I found my passion. Of course, I didn't know it then.

Being an unattached freshman, with a fantasy of a stereotypical high school experience, club day was a haven – a haven of resume builders. Walking around the Miramonte lawn on club day, there were over 25 clubs looking for new members. From the Polynesian Club (dressed in Hawaiian skirts, nonchalantly playing ukuleles), to Key Club (a community service club), everyone was vying for attention. After signing up for a plurality of clubs, I attended a couple meetings, and never went back. School captured my attention. I struggled in history and geometry. Simply put, I lost interest.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kendall Roberts (R) with her fellow Miramonte student Alex Sukys work at a village in Nicaragua.

However, as all things do, time passed, and so did my difficult adjustment to high school. Once again, things slowed down.

Looking back, this is when everything began to change. Still in possession of my phone number, hastily scrawled on a torn piece of paper on Club Day our buildOn club president, sent me a text: "Would you want to go on trek with us?"

After I expressed significant interest, she explained the movement. buildOn is an organization dedicated to ending the cycle of poverty, illiteracy and low expectations. Building schools where the roads don't reach, and the government cannot or will

not acknowledge, we travel worldwide, everywhere from Malawi to Nepal.

Positively obsessed with the idea of freedom, and driven by a sense of wanderlust, I obliged. Two more months passed, in which I worked harder than I had ever worked before to raise the \$2,500 needed to build the school. Bake sales, online fundraisers and events overflowed my schedule, but I wanted the opportunity more than anything.

The summer arrived, and I jumped on a plane to Pejibaye, Nicaragua, with four upperclassmen I had never met before: Mitchell Tang, Vanessa Tang, Mitchell Brooks and Alex Sukys.

So, I attended cultural activities, I dug some holes, I stirred cement, I nearly killed myself falling down a ladder...the details continue to slip away. But the one thing I will never forget – not if I lived for a thousand years – are the people. I didn't realize, not until the last day, how naive I had been.

My head stuck out the window of a colorful, rusty, muddy bus, my new family waving back at me, chasing the bus as we drove over rocky river beds and cobbled roads, I started to cry. It seemed like the bus would overflow with them. I cried not in sadness, or anger. But in fear. In fear that I would never know what happened to the villagers I became family with – I would never know what happened to Mario, on the eve of his wedding, or if my sister Bellahelle attended the school we worked so many grueling hours on. I would never know if Ivanca followed through on the marriage she was due to have at only age fourteen. But what I do know is through our combined effort, we left them better off than when we arrived.

As you can see, our journey wasn't about us. We believe that every child should have the chance to attend school. We believe that futures are built off of education, and that the cycle of poverty will be broken by ending illiteracy. As of this year, on our 25th anniversary, we will break ground on our 1,000th school, giving 125,000 students access to an education. As the mayor of the small, nameless town said, "Now our children can be mayors. They can be lawyers and scientists and change the world."

So now I ask you, to please help support our chapter as we strive to build another school, this time in Senegal. We build schools, we build hope and we buildOn.

For more information on buildOn, go to the school's website at www.acalanes.k12.us/Miramonte or contact Kendall Roberts at kendall.roberts18@auhsdschools.org.



KELLY CANNON

Appearing at the cabaret performance held at the Fourth Bore Tap Room and Grill in Theatre Square in July are **Fred Johnson** (on guitar) and (L-R) current and past Lamorinda Idol singers **Leah Woodcox**, Miramonte senior; **Emily Grey**, Acalanes graduate and Diablo Valley College freshman; **Tosca Maltzman**, Tulane sophomore; **Leah Dobson**, Drew University sophomore; **Michaela Sasner**, Acalanes Junior, and **Jen McFarlane**, Acalanes sophomore.

Lamorinda Idol Finals are Here

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

The ultimate event of the performing arts season will soon be upon us – the finals for Lamorinda Idol. The much-anticipated happening takes place Sept. 4 beginning at 11 a.m. at the Orinda Theatre.

For the past 11 years, young performers in the Lamorinda area have wowed judges and audiences alike with their singing talent

and stage presence. Originally restricted to Orinda residents or those attending school in Orinda, the contest expanded in 2010 to include residents of Moraga and Lafayette as well as groups of singers. Now, young people in kindergarten through 12th grade, who either attend school or reside in Orinda, Moraga or Lafayette are eligible either as individual soloists or as groups.

Lamorinda Idol is the brainchild of the [SEE IDOL page 17]

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Lamorinda Idol Finals

Sunday, September 4, 2016
Orinda Theatre

K-2 SOLOISTS
Lilah Anders
Shawn Smith
Roxie Tarantino

3-5 SOLOISTS
Caitie Barber
Amelia Chen
Janie Mullerbach
Alan Hwang
Mia Lee
Claire O'Connor
Mia Polichio
Sadie Pison
Amy Schuchter
Hannah Schrammer
Alexandra Wan De Poel
Katie Welch

6-8 SOLOISTS
Helle Ackdne-Pagory
Lleyton Allen
Grace Barmmer
Elizabeth Becker
Zerulda Chaprisse
Jenni Coletta
Kiera Glenn
Jurieux Maeder
Nicole Prozan
Mari Sittzmann
Grace Sjoberg

9-12 SOLOISTS
Evan Gabrielson
Arriana Glenn
Emily Gray
Avery Hansen
Claire Levinson
Samantha Martin
Lauren Ramlan
Michaela Sasner
Max Tatem
Leah Woodcox

K-5 GROUPS
BOOGIE WOOGIE BUGLE GALS
Mina Lim
Lila Moss

DYNAMIC DUO
Mia Polichio
Katie Welch

LUCKY CHARMS
Lucy Posa
Kaylin Inaba
Ava Jaccard

THE SINGING SIX
Caitie Barber
Claire Levinson
Sarah Hawkins
Janie Mullerbach
Ciana Lovell
Elle Rodriguez

6-8 GROUPS
AISLINN & ELLA
Ella Shusterdane
Aislinn Welch

DUO
Helle Ackdne-Pagory
Grace Barmmer

LILESA
Malessa Hasler
Lily Jensen

9-12 GROUPS
AVERY & GRACE
Grace Girzadas
Avery Hansen

DYNAMIC
Kate Gilbert
Gracie Guichard
Claire Levinson
Lauren Ramlan
Michaela Sasner

SWEET HARMONY
Arriana Glenn
Kiera Glenn

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

11:00 - 12:30 PM GRADES K-2 AND 3-5 SOLOISTS
1:00 - 2:30 PM GRADES K-5, 6-8 AND 9-12 GROUPS
3:15 - 4:30 PM GRADES 6-8 SOLOISTS
5:00 - 6:15 PM GRADES 9-12 SOLOISTS
7:00 - 7:30 PM ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

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(L-R) **Emilia Gutman, Helen Kaidantzis, Shannon Lipp, Reese Whipple, Abbie Lee** and **Hannah Liu** at this year's Tech Trek summer camp.

AAUW Tech Trekkers Return With Glowing Reports of STEM Fun and Learning

By JAN CUSHMAN
Contributing Writer

Six eighth-grade girls from Lamorinda returned from a weeklong Tech Trek camp at Stanford University with glowing reports of fun and learning. “This has truly been one of the most amazing experiences in my lifetime,” said Reese Whipple, who attended the camp. “This camp has helped me gain confidence of who I am as a person and that doesn’t come around every day.”

The girls attended the camp in July on scholarships sponsored by the Orinda/Moraga/Lafayette branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). The Lamorinda branch has been sending middle school girls to Tech Trek camp since 1998. To date, it has sponsored 72 girls. The cost to send each girl is currently \$900. The girls who went to Tech Trek this year were Emilia Gutman, Helen Kaidantzis, Abbie Lee, Shannon Lipp, Hannah Liu and Reese Whipple.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Michelle Song (L) and **Emilia Gutman** have fun in the Chem Lab during their week at Tech Trek.

Tech Trek math/science camp is designed to encourage seventh-grade girls to stay excited about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through high school, college and into their careers. The program features hands-on activities as well as a chance for the girls make friends with other girls interested in STEM and to meet professional women in STEM fields.

This year, core classes at the Stanford camp included Computer Coding and Cyber Sleuthing, as well as Marine Biology, CSI Forensics, 3D Math, and Engineering Design. Girls also met and heard from professional women scientists and engineers.

“Tech Trek opened up so many doors for me,” said Shannon Lipp. “For example, I never knew I liked astronomy, but because of Tech Trek, I learned that I love astronomy and would like to study it in high school and/or college.”

“The mouse trap cars were so great in engineering core class. I got mine to go the farthest. We also learned many physics laws and different calculations for engineering,” commented Emilia Gutman. “I was in the 3D math group,” said Hannah Liu. “We solved many math puzzles and some were pretty challenging.”

Helping fund next year’s Tech Trek, “A Taste of Walnut Creek,” the 19th annual walking tour of downtown restaurants will donate a portion of its proceeds to the scholarship fund.

For more information on Tech Trek or to donate, contact Jan Cushman at jancushman@comcast.net or go to <http://oml-ca.aauw.net/tech-trek>.

Nutritionist Talks on Best Foods for Women Over 50 at AAUW Meeting

By PAT BECKNER
Contributing Writer

Nutrition expert Jill West will talk about the five best foods for women over 50 at the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Showcase. “Celebrating Us” will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 9:30 a.m. at Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way.

In addition to the speaker, attendees will have a chance to hear about the chapter’s plans for the year and speak with the coordinators of Special Interest Groups, including Golf, Memoirs and Musings, Museum Mavens and International Travel.

West is a registered dietician and member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the California Dietetic Association. Prior to starting her private practice, she worked in clinics in several major hospitals, including UCSF Medical Center, Joslin Diabetes Center and UC Davis Medical Center. She is a certified health coach, a columnist for *Bay Area Parent* magazine and a blog contributor at FamTivity.com.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Nutritionist **Jill West** will speak on the best foods for women over 50 at the Sept. 20 AAUW event.

The meeting is open to the public. For more information, visit www.oml-ca.aauw.net.

Great Food Benefits AAUW’s Tech Camp

“A Taste of Walnut Creek 2016,” the 19th annual walking tour of downtown Walnut Creek restaurants will once again help provide scholarships for the American Association of University Women – Orinda/Moraga/Lafayette branch Tech Trek STEM Summer Camp.

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016 from 6 – 9 p.m.

Help send Lamorinda middle school girls to Tech Trek summer camp!

Ticket Books will be available for purchase for \$30 per person before October 10, 2016 from Jan Cushman, 143 Meadow View Road, Orinda, CA 94563. For more info: jancushman@comcast.net.

◆ LETTERS from page 4

our downtown. This will be in keeping with the council’s strategic objective to begin preparation of improvement plans for the Village and Crossroads.

The council has directed staff to recommend “ways to solicit input about what changes are needed...including a discussion of the tools available to be used.” OrindaVision has proposed, and the Chamber of Commerce has endorsed, that the City of Orinda retain the Urban Land Institute (ULI) to conduct a Technical Assistance Panel in the City. A ULI panel is a widely-used, valuable tool for soliciting both professional and community input.

Whether or not the council elects to retain ULI what is at stake in this conversation is the kind of downtown Orindans will leave for their children and grandchildren and what role citizens will have in its planning

and improvement.

A ULI panel would be a timely and worthwhile undertaking by the city. No plan for downtown currently exists. Significant downtown properties such as Phairs and Rite Aid are becoming identified as renewal opportunities. Citizen interest in their downtown’s future has increased markedly.

The panel’s purpose would be to tap into expertise from the inter-related fields of land use, market research, development strategy and public policy. Expert practitioners would analyze the health of Orinda’s downtown and make recommendations to address specific issues the city has identified.

A ULI panel is not “just another consultant’s study.” It is a unique process that combines analysis by the panel members and interviews with downtown stakeholders

[SEE PANEL page 23]

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STUDENTS

Medalists Not Just in Rio de Janeiro



PAM DRAKE

Members of the 680 Drivers U16 Women's Water Polo Team celebrate after Junior Olympics.

The 680 Drivers U16 Women's Water Polo Team took second at the Junior Olympics, out of a 64 team field, at the Junior Olympic Water Polo tournament July 28-31. The Drivers were the fourth seed entering the tournament following an impressive outing in the United States Club Water Polo Championships earlier in the summer where they brought home the Bronze Medal.

The most exciting win of the weekend was Saturday, July 30, when 680 beat #1 seed Santa Barbara 10-8 to have the best

path to the finals. Sunday morning the Drivers powered over SoCal 9-7, earning a spot in the final. The final was a tough loss, as Santa Barbara played back through the loser's bracket to get into the final, and this time Santa Barbara took the win, 12-6.

The 680 Drivers U16 Women's Water Polo Team are proud of their second place accomplishment in the largest, most competitive tournament in the country. They strongly represented Northern CA versus Southern CA in the ongoing battle of water polo dominance!

◆ DOWNTOWN from page 5

com for more information.

The Friends of Orinda Creeks, with funding from the Regional Water Quality Control Board and EBMUD, created a restoration plan for San Pablo Creek 15 years ago. Even though the City of Orinda approved the plan, the project never started. The Friends will be at the Sept. 6 meeting calling for a new effort to restore the rapidly deteriorating creek. The Friends believe a restored San Pablo Creek could create pathways full of native plants, creek side cafes and a scenic walkway through Orinda's commercial downtown area. San Pablo Creek runs from the Chevron gas station to the Bank of America in Orinda Village. See www.orindacreeks.org for information on this group of volunteers.

Other groups with interests in downtown planning include Orinda Watch and Save Orinda. Stalwarts for years against excessive development, these organizations have monitored closely any changes proposed in height and density as they fight to retain Orinda's village atmosphere. The two groups have effectively joined forces. Although not updated for some time, the groups website offers historical information. Go to www.orindawatch.org.

On the other side of the spectrum, Orinda Vision has a detailed plan on how to create a town center with places

to work, shop, dine and live. They note on their website (www.orindavision.org) that many of Orinda's commercial buildings are over 50 years old, nearing the end of their useful lives and in need of replacement.

City Manager Janet Keeter says the city staff has been busy putting together a comprehensive report for the Sept. 6 meeting. It will present various options for downtown planning, including which city documents contain existing downtown regulations, plans and policies. In addition, the report will summarize relevant existing studies and projects. The report is available via the city's website (www.cityoforinda.org). The link for City Council agendas is on the right hand column.

◆ CAR TIME from page 7

lated for sale in California. Aftermarket, imitation Freon is called "refrigerant" but is not R134a (actual refrigerant) which your vehicle requires. What they are buying is called a Hydrocarbon, also known as a propane and butane mixture.

What it comes down to deciding to invest in a cold future or spending a lot of time with windows down and a big gulp by your side, always use a facility that you can trust and is certified for air conditioning repair.

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

Moraga Valley Pool Takes First Place at Mini Meet



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Over 500 swimmers aged 8 and under took part in the annual Mini Meet with Moraga Valley Pool in first place, Orinda Country Club in second and Meadow Swim and Tennis Club in third. Above (L-R) Alison, Sam and Luke Sagara, Dylan Kan and Johnny Boccabella take time out to hang with the Del Rey Dolphin.



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Ballet 4A (Juniors, Ages 10 yrs +), Ballet 5 (Intermediate, Ages 12+ yrs)
Ballet 6-7 (Advanced, Ages 14 yrs -18yrs)



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Lamorinda Village Receives Significant Donation from DWM

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Destination Wealth Management (DWM) recently made a generous donation to support Lamorinda Village, which serves Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda seniors who wish to remain in their homes.

Through its charitable KeKokua Foundation, DWM supports and fosters non-profit organizations that provide socially responsible educational services, advocacy and supportive resources to the community.

"Lamorinda Village is a perfect match for our values," said Robert K. Jacques, DWM senior vice president. "Ke-ko-kua means 'the spirit of helping' in Hawaiian, and the Village mission is actively building a community that embraces connections, caring and choices in how we live and thrive."

Launched in 2015 after several years

of planning and research on the needs of local seniors, Lamorinda Village is a national grassroots nonprofit membership organization that combines the efforts of its members, staff and volunteers to provide services such as transportation, changing light bulbs, computer assistance, a handyman, garden help, pet sitters, or companionship. For larger and more extensive projects or jobs, such as plumbing and electrical work, the Village offers referrals to screened companies and professionals. The Village also sponsors workshops, social activities and educational events for members and guests from the community.

The Village depends on membership fees, individual and business donations and local foundations as it continues to build in its second year of operation. DWM's donation of \$7,500 will help the Village achieve its goals.

"We are deeply appreciative for Destina-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Robert Jacques of Destination Wealth Management presented a \$7,500 donation to Anne Ornelas, executive director of Lamorinda Village.

tion Wealth Management's generosity and support of the Village's efforts to enable the older members of our community to continue aging in place with security and dignity," said Ruth McCahan, president and

founder of Lamorinda Village.

For more information about Lamorinda Village, go to the website at www.LamorindaVillage.org or email: info@LamorindaVillage.org.

◆ SOLAR from page 9

He noted that designing a support system to hold the panels on the roofs at Glorietta would be equivalent to another story on the building, which would be very unsightly.

According to House, hillside placement would be more accessible to vandalism and would result in a lower solar input requiring "a lot more panels." If the upper parking lot panels were moved to the left to open a hillside view, he explained that the "Sun Eye" measurement showed only a 61 percent efficiency, which would again necessitate more panels than currently above the parking lots.

Once the floor opened for comments, district officials responded to all remarks and questions. People spoke of a variety of reasons why the solar structures were unacceptable and their feelings about how the board had treated them. Comments included: "It would have been so easy to communicate;" "It feels as though you just didn't do your work;" "You have affected some neighbors' property horribly;" "Did anyone Google 'what solar companies don't want you to know?'" "None of you want one of the structures in front of your house;" "I am appalled you don't see that this industrial structure does not fit in this neighborhood;" "You have ruined my house. It's unforgivable. Good God!"

Rick Brown said his firm has consulted on over 200 solar projects, and he has "worked with schools where a great majority of them have houses across the street, and this is the first situation where there

is a problem." When asked about the cost to place the solar structures elsewhere on the site, House gave a rough estimate of around \$500,000. In total, the estimated cost, including lost revenue to the district, for removal and reconstruction would be \$1,585,000.

In addition to attendees' comments, Kaune read two letters sent to the board. David Chenok wrote that the school board has a moral responsibility to act in the best interests of the town. "Clearly erecting hideous solar panels smack in the middle of a residential neighborhood (and in front of a school where children learn and play) is not in our best interest, no matter how much money this might save," he wrote.

The second letter from Martha Road resident Chris Severson, a former school board member (who had been the only board member against solar as a broad concept), reiterated the entire process the board followed. "If the board had decided to place the panels in the play ground area, then likely this same meeting would be taking place, but instead of the Martha Road neighbors being upset, it would the other Glorietta families upset." He continued, "It makes no sense to me to talk about moving the panels at this point. The board's role is to represent the community in making decisions for the school district and that's what's been done here. It's not how I would have voted (or did vote), but the broad Orinda community and the district parents wanted solar, and in large endeavors like this there's never a detailed solution that works for everyone."

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SENIORS

'Human Floor Lift' Lets People Who Fall Get Up Without Outside Help

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

You find your loved one lying on the floor. What can you do? Steve Powell experienced this predicament with his father who had fallen many times. An engineer by training, Powell set out to find a solution. And he did. It's the IndeeLift, a People Picker Upper or Human Floor

Lift (HFL).
"Designed to lift mobility-challenged individuals from the floor without outside assistance, it allows them to remain in their own homes longer, thus maintaining their independence, privacy and dignity," says Orinda resident David Cronin, Powell's partner who handles marketing. "After a fall, a person can be raised easily without injury to themselves or a helper. It saves

having to call for help from 911."
A simple design, the battery-operated IndeeLift has a seat that can be lowered to floor level. The person who has fallen can scoot over to the chair, slide onto the beveled seat and push a button that activates the motor to raise the chair to normal height. A companion can easily wheel the HFL to the fallen person if necessary.

Cronin knows plenty about people falling. His parents founded the Orinda Rehabilitation Convalescent Hospital in 1967, and he ran the operation from 1990 until just over two years ago when he sold the business. "A Center for Disease Control report says that 80 percent of all falls cause no injury," said Cronin. "The person on the floor just needs some help getting back on their feet. Careful as we tried to be, there were many falls in our hospital. A big problem was getting the person up without causing injury to the caregiver, especially back problems. Healthcare workers consistently rank among top occupations with disabling back injuries, primarily from manually lifting patients. Our People Picker Upper solves this."

Livermore Fire Department now carries IndeeLifts on its trucks. Fire Captain Kurtis Dickey said, "IndeeLift will prevent back



SALLY HOGARTY
Steve Powell (L) and David Cronin with two models of the IndeeLift chair.

injuries therefore extending the firefighters' careers and improving their quality of life. We think it's a great invention."

There are different models of the IndeeLift. The home model can lift a person weighing up to 300 pounds to a height of 21" off the floor. Another model, designed

[SEE LIFT page 19]

Elder Care Medical Group Hosts Conference on Early Dementia

By MELISSA CHEFEC
Contributing Writer

ElderConsult Geriatric Medicine, a medical practice that addresses the medical and behavioral issues often facing older patients and their families, is hosting a conference for families and elder care professionals on overcoming the challenges of early dementia. The conference will be on Thursday, Sept. 22, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Orinda Masonic Center, 9 Altarinda Road, Orinda. The fee is \$25 for general admission and \$45 for CEU units for selected professionals.

ElderConsult Geriatric Medicine founder Elizabeth Landsverk, M.D., adjunct professor of medicine at Stanford University, will be the keynote speaker and will talk about the early signs of dementia. James Treggiari, J.D., executive director of legal assistance for seniors will lead a workshop titled, "Legal Issues in Early Dementia." Stephanie Howard, assistant executive director with Regency Evergreen, will lead a workshop titled, "Dementia Misconceptions and Person Centered Care." Eileen Nevitt, LCSW, geriatric care manager,

owner of Nevitt Care Management, will lead a workshop titled, "Challenging Family Situations in Early Dementia."

ElderConsult was founded in 2006 and is based in Burlingame. Dr. Landsverk is a triple board-certified geriatrician, internist and palliative care physician, with extensive experience in addressing complex medical and psychosocial issues in older individuals. She has particular expertise working with patients with dementia and agitation.

ElderConsult is a unique house-call practice. Every patient is seen at his or her residence by a doctor and nurse practitioner team. According to Dr. Landsverk, "ElderConsult's mission is to 'make life worth living' and we practice this every day with every patient and family. Hosting this educational conference is in line with our goals to provide helpful and practical solutions to the many problems encountered with dementia care."

Registration for the conference, which includes continental breakfast and conference materials, is required. Go to www.elderconsult.com to register and for more information.

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A Conference for Families and Elder Care Professionals (CEUs)

KEYNOTE

Meeting the Challenges of Early Dementia

Join us for an interactive morning of learning, sharing and community.

Early Signs of Dementia

Elizabeth Landsverk, MD, Adjunct Professor of Medicine, Stanford University

Dr. Landsverk walks us through signs of early dementia, the hazards related to the appearance of status quo when, in fact, the elder is experiencing a decline in risk assessment or other behaviors along with specific suggestions for care and making life worth living.

WORKSHOPS

<p style="text-align: center; color: #E67E22; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;">Communication</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.8em;">Dementia Misconceptions and Person Centered Care</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.7em;">Stephanie Howard, RCFE, Assist Executive Director – Regency Evergreen</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: #E67E22; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;">Legal</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.8em;">Legal Issues in Early Dementia</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.7em;">James Treggiari, J.D., Executive Director of Legal Assistance for Seniors</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: #E67E22; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;">Management</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.8em;">Challenging Family Situations in Early Dementia</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.7em;">Eileen Nevitt, LCSW, Geriatric Care Manager, Owner of Nevitt Care Management</p>
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Thursday, September 22, 2016
9:00 AM-1:00 PM
Orinda Masonic Center
9 Altarinda Road, Orinda, CA

REGISTER at elderconsult.com -or- call 650-357-8834

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PERFORMING ARTS

Cal Shakes' Artistic Director Ends Inaugural Season With Bard's *Othello*

By KATHRYN G. McCARTY
Staff Writer

Obie-Award winning Eric Ting makes his California Shakespeare Theater directorial debut with one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies, *Othello*, running Sept. 14 to Oct. 9 at the Bruns Amphitheater. The last show of the theatre's 42nd season, *Othello* marks the finale of Ting's inaugural season as the company's artistic director.

A multiple-grant recipient, Ting was recognized as one of 25 forward-thinking artists in American Theatre Magazine's 25th anniversary edition. Ting plans on bringing that progressive thinking to Cal Shakes.

Ting has launched Civic Dialogues, a series that explores the intersections between theater and civic practice. "With Civic Dialogues, we seek to fashion a space where that relevance can be surfaced, where the art can intersect 'in dialogue' with thought leaders, policy makers, artists and community members around issues raised in our productions," he said.

"Othered in the America: a conversation on Xenophobia and Islamophobia in the U.S." will be the October Civic Dialogue related to *Othello*. The dialogue, between members of community groups and artists, will explore immigrant communities in the U.S. (with a specific focus on Islamic com-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Aldo Billingslea (L) plays Othello in Cal Shakes final show of the season. Artistic director Eric Ting (R) directs.

munities), the impact of Xenophobia and Islamophobia on public discourse, and the role of arts practitioners in creating more accuracy in the depictions of immigrant communities.

Aldo Billingslea, who performs the title role, is excited to work with Ting, noting Ting's "enthusiasm, his transparency and his courage."

The subject matter of the "Othered" dialogue is personal for Billingslea. "My mother, who was raised Southern Baptist and converted to become a Sunni Muslim, is extremely reluctant to fly, partly due to the treatment she expects from TSA, but also partly due to the reactions she expects from other travelers. Yes, even in a place like the Bay Area.

"There is such humanity in Shakespeare's plays, a rich, dense, vast expanse of all that we do, have done, have yet to do," said Eric Ting, Cal Shakes' artistic director.

"If there was ever a time when an audience needed to be aware of the dangers of selfishness and manipulation, it would be during an election. No one is immune from bias and everyone needs to be more aware."

Ting is committed to rooting the classics like *Othello* "in a contemporary moment so that we might collectively rediscover these familiar plays, see that the truths embedded in these works are as relevant today as they

were four centuries ago." Ting said he chose the Shakespeare tragedy, "in part because of the climate of racial injustice across our country."

"There is such humanity in Shakespeare's plays, a rich, dense, vast expanse of all that we do, have done, have yet to do," said Ting, Cal Shakes' fifth artistic director since the company was founded in 1973. "It's a guide post, truly, for all the work that we'll bring to the Bruns in the time to come. We're committed to creating a space where all are welcome. I can't think of a more perfect place for that than here, in Orinda, at the Bruns."

Cal Shakes hosts activities associated with its performances of *Othello* including First Look (Sept. 10), Pay What You Can Preview (Sept. 14), Open-Captioned Performance (Sept. 21), Meet the Artists (Sept. 18 and Oct. 2), InSight Matinee (Sept. 25) and Grove Talks (held 45 minutes prior to curtain).

Othello previews on Sept. 14 and 15, opens on Sept. 16 and continues through Oct. 9. Performances are Tuesdays through Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 4 p.m. There will be a Saturday matinee on Sept. 24 at 2 p.m.

The Bruns Amphitheater is located at 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda. The grounds open two hours before curtain and the theater offers free shuttle service from Orinda BART (beginning 90 minutes prior to curtain) as well as free onsite parking. For information or tickets (\$19 to \$87), call 510-548-9666 or visit www.calshakes.org.

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Sep 14-Oct 9
written by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
directed by ERIC TING

OTHELLO

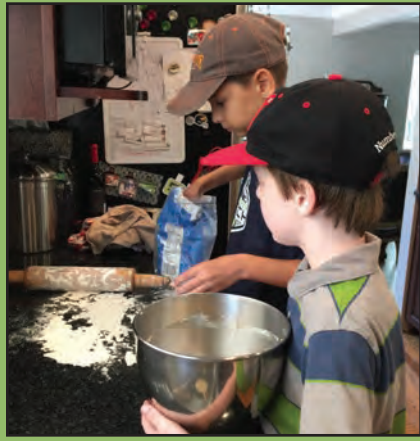
Join Orinda's Grand Marshal ERIC TING for his directorial debut at Cal Shakes!

CAL SHAKES (510) 548-9666
CALIFORNIA SHAKESPEARE THEATER www.calshakes.org

PERFORMING ARTS

Cub Scouts Bake Cookies for Police

Ryan Aars (foreground) and Paul Stephan, from Cub Scout Pack 52, Den 4, decided to show Orinda Police Officers how much they were appreciated in the best way possible – with cookies! The enterprising young bakers made over 12 dozen cookies and showed their dexterity by making chocolate chip, sugar and Snickerdoodle cookies. The two cub scouts made all the cookies themselves and had a great time doing so. They then delivered the cookies to the police station as a “thank you to the police officers who keep us safe.”



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

◆ IDOL from page 11

Lamorinda Arts Council. Founded in 1950 as the Orinda Arts Council, the dedicated group has been stimulating, supporting and advocating for the visual and performing arts in the schools and community for over 60 years.

This past May, over 200 Lamorinda Idol hopefuls auditioned for a panel of judges who had the difficult task of selecting the finalists and runners-up in the solo and group categories. When the last ballot was cast, the group had been narrowed to 38 solo contestants and 10 groups consisting of a total of 28 singers.

“This is my fourth time performing in the finals,” says 13-year-old Orinda Intermediate student Grace Barmmer. “I have so much fun performing in front of a live audience.” Ten-year-old Katie Welch concurs: “This is my third time being a part of Lamorinda Idol. I think competing is a fun thing to do where you can make new friends and learn how to sing better. The process can sometimes be a little bit stressful, but I enjoy the chance to bond with the other participants.”

While this is Juneaux Maeder’s first time competing at Lamorinda Idol, the 7th grader at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School says, “I look at it as an exciting opportunity to grow as a person and a singer.”

The finalists and runners-up have had a busy summer performing at a number of events, including workshops, performances at the Orinda Community Park, Lafayette Plaza and Orinda Theatre Square. In addition, high school finalists had the opportunity to showcase their range in a cabaret show at Orinda Theatre Square. Winners of the Sept. 4 event will be invited to perform at the Lafayette Art and Wine Festival, the Orinda Car Show, the Lamorinda Arts Council holiday luncheon and the Orinda 4th of July parade.

On September 4, soloists will compete in four categories by grade while groups will compete in three categories by grade. Winners in each category will be based on a combination of the judges’ scoring and the audience vote. An Audience Award will be given to that participant with the highest number of audience votes who was not a category winner. Winners receive cash prizes.

The schedule for the Sept. 4 finals is as follows: 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Grades K-2 and 3-5 soloists; 1 – 2:30 p.m. – Grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 groups; 3:15 – 4:30 p.m. – Grades 6-8 soloists; 5 – 6:15 p.m. – Grades 9-12 soloists; 7 – 7:30 p.m. – Announcement of Winners

Admission is free but a \$5 donation would be appreciated. For more information, go to www.lamorindaarts.org.

Orinda Starlight Village Players Wrap Up Season With Comedy

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Orinda Starlight Village Players concludes its 33rd season with Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore’s frantic comedy *Love, Sex and the I.R.S.* Longtime Village Players’ actor/director Malcolm Cowler takes the reins to bring this show to life. The show runs Sept. 10 through Oct. 1 at Orinda Community Center Park Amphitheater, 28 Orinda Way.

“It’s really well written and very funny,” said Cowler, who has directed shows at OrSVP for five years, has been performing on the stage with the company since 1995 and been involved in 35 productions. “The outdoor environment and the wonderful group of actors who keep coming back year after year make this a delightful theatre to work at.”

The play centers around two out-of-work musicians, Jon Trachtman (played by Ken Solazzo) and Leslie Arthur (OrSVP newcomer Geraldo Paz). To save money, Jon has been filing their taxes as a married couple. The day of reckoning comes when they are informed that the Internal Revenue Service is coming to perform an audit, so Jon’s fiancée Kate (Beth Donovan) helps Leslie to masquerade as a housewife. Complications include a visit by Jon’s mother (played by Linda Ellinwood) to meet her son’s fiancée, Leslie and Kate’s affair behind Jon’s back, and Leslie’s ex-girlfriend (Isabella Hermelin) showing up demanding



JILL GELSTER

Malcolm Cowler goes from starring in OrSVP’s *Aria’s* to directing *Love, Sex and the I.R.S.*

to know why Leslie won’t see her anymore. Shawn Bonnington, John Chapin and Barry Hunau round out the cast.

Performances of *Love, Sex and the I.R.S.* are on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m., Sunday matinees on Sept. 18 and 25 at 4 p.m., and one Thursday performance on Sept. 29 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$16 or \$8 for seniors and children.

An additional perk of going to OrSVP productions is that on clear nights the company has telescopes set up so the audience can get a look at some of the nearby celestial objects. This year, audience members have been treated to spectacular views of Jupiter and it’s moons, Saturn and its rings and the Moon.

Orinda Starlight Village Players is completely volunteer run and no one at the theatre is paid. Anyone interested in any aspect of the theatre is encouraged to contact the group at www.orsvp.org or 925-528-9225.

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Orinda Starlight Village Players

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Van Zandt & Milmore’s



Fridays and Saturdays, at 8:30 p.m. Sept. 10 through Oct. 1
Sunday, Sept. 18 & 25, 4:00 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 29, 8:00 p.m.

At the Outdoor Theater, Orinda Community Center Park,
26 Orinda Way (Across from Rite Aid). Two blocks from BART.

Regular admission \$16, Discount admission \$8

Orinda Starlight Village Players,
4946 Santa Rita Rd, Richmond, CA 94803

www.orsvp.org

Tickets at Box Office or call 925-528-9225 or email info@orsvp.org

Starlight Dinner Theater Offer

Bring a receipt from an Orinda restaurant to the theater and get two regular theater tickets for the price of one. (Restaurant receipt must be from the same night as the performance. One discount per party.)

FUNDRAISER/PHOTO CONTEST

Growing Kids, Growing Learners and Growing Readers



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

John and Debra Constantine and Orinda resident Kim McAtee attended Super Star Literacy's fundraising gala.

By DANIEL LAWLOR
Contributing Writer

“Super Stars Literacy’s (SSL) methodology doesn’t just help the students, it can help the whole family. I am so proud to be part of this organization,” says Sarah Morrison, a local architect and board member of Super Stars Literacy.

An Oakland-based non-profit, SSL depends on the energy and talents of people across the East Bay. It was founded to create new opportunities to move young people out of poverty – particularly through improving reading skills.

Kim McAtee, one of the founding board members, and an Orinda real estate leader notes, “When adults connect, we are able to leverage opportunities for young people. The reading opportunities Super Stars Lit-

eracy is able to leverage bring a lifetime of difference.”

Both Kim McAtee and her daughter Megan, also a realtor, have a long history with the organization, with Kim supporting behind the scenes and Megan serving previously in the classroom. “Super Stars Literacy makes a world of difference for young people,” Megan notes.

SSL raised an outstanding amount of \$150,000 in their fourth annual gala, “Going Places with Super Stars,” that was held at Scott’s Seafood Grill & Bar located in Oakland’s Jack London Square. Eight East Bay low-income public elementary schools will now be receiving full service reading support including trained literacy instructors during the day, afterschool reading clubs, and family engagement nights throughout the year.

◆ LIFT from page 15

to meet the requirements of the Emergency Services Industry, can safely lift someone weighing up to 550 pounds without causing injury to emergency services personnel or the fallen person.

IndeeLift has just partnered with Meals on Wheels and Senior Outreach Services (MOWSOS). “Our fall prevention program works diligently to educate the community about fall risks and the benefits of fall prevention – things like home modification, medication review, exercise and balance assessments, and proper nutrition,” said Elaine Clark, chief executive officer of MOWSOS. “But when a fall cannot be pre-

vented, IndeeLift is an absolute life-saver.”

Cronin and Powell originally met in the music field as they both perform as singers. Powell also owns Tesla Vintners in Livermore where he is known as The Singing Winemaker. “The invention and development of the Human Floor Lifter is my personal attempt at changing the world in a positive way,” said Powel. Cronin, who performs gigs throughout the area with his wife, Jami, adds, “We are coming from the basic place of wanting to help people and believe the IndeeLift can do just that.”

For more information, visit www.indeelift.com, email Cronin at david.cronin@indeelift.com or phone 1-844-700-5438 or 925-455-5438.

City of Orinda Announces Photo Contest

The City of Orinda is preparing to launch a new website and is asking the Orinda community to share photos. Submitted photos will be used on the city’s new website. The contest is open to photographers of all ages and skill levels. Categories include:

- Parks and Open Space
- Built Environment
- Community Life
- Digitally Altered

For contest rules, visit www.cityof-orinda.org or call 925-254-2445.

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ON THE CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 1 **Orinda Library Gallery** presents "Vibrant Fabric Art and Ceramics" with artwork by Kimiko Kogure and Lauri and Kurt Fehlberg through September. Artists reception Sept. 10, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., refreshments will be served. See article page 8.
Story Hour with Cathy Goshorn for children 2 to 4 years, with reading, songs and games, every Thursday, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 10 to 11 a.m.
California Shakespeare Theater presents George Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell* through Sept. 4 at Bruns Amphitheater, Orinda. Visit www.calshakes.org or call the box office at 510-548-9666.
- 2 **International Film Showcase** presents *The Carer* for a one-week engagement at Orinda Theatre. Visit <http://internationalshowcase.org> for details.
Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary every Friday morning at 7 a.m. at the Lafayette Park Hotel and Spa, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Sept. 2 speaker is Fred Stambaugh, Wells Fargo VP, talking on Brexit. Email lamorindasunrise@gmail.com or visit www.lamorindasunrise.org.
- 3 **Orinda Books** hosts Hilary Benford discussing her new historical novel, *Sister of the Lionheart*, 276 Village Square, 3 p.m. Call 925-254-7606 or visit www.orindabooks.com.
WomenSing, celebrating 50 years, holds auditions for its female choral group, with appointments required for experienced singers. Scholarships are available for qualified singers. For information, email audition@womensing.org, or visit <http://womensing.org> for information.
- 4 **Lamorinda Idol** finals at Orinda Theatre, 11 a.m. Admission is free but a \$5 donation is appreciated. For more information, go to www.lamorindaarts.org. See article page 11.
- 8 **Classic Film Showcase** presents free movie night, Orinda Theatre, 7 p.m. Free movies are screened the second Thursday of each month.
Yappy Hour hosted by Lamorinda Pet Care Co-op's Kristina McCann. Learn how to trade pet sitting with your neighbors. Fourth Bore Tap Room and Grill, 2 Theatre Square, #134, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Free. 925-567-4328. See ad p. 24.
- 9 **Dancing with the Cars**, Orinda Country Club 6 p.m. See article page 7.
- 10 **12th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information, visit www.orindacarshow.com or see article page 1.
Orinda Starlight Village Players presents Van Zandt and Milmore's *Love, Sex and the I.R.S.* through Oct. 1 at Orinda Community Center Park Amphitheater. Tickets \$16 general, \$8 for seniors and children. Call 925-528-9225 or email info@orsvp.org. See article p. 17.
- 15 **Orinda Books** hosts Risa Nye discussing her memoir, *There Was a Fire Here*, 276 Village Square, 7 p.m. Call 925-254-7606 or visit www.orindabooks.com.
- 16 **California Shakespeare Theatre** presents *Othello* through Oct. 9 at Bruns Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda. For information or tickets (\$19 to \$87) visit www.calshakes.org or call 510-548-9666. See article page 16.
- 17 **Orinda Books** hosts Christine Sunderland discussing *The Fire Trail*, 276 Village Square, 3 p.m. Call 925-254-7606 or visit www.orindabooks.com.
- 20 **The World Affairs Book Group** will discuss *Flashpoints: The Emerging Crisis in Europe* by George Friedman, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 3 p.m. The group meets bimonthly and welcomes new members. Call 925-254-7606 or visit www.orindabooks.com.
- 22 **ElderConsult Geriatric Medicine** hosts Conference for families and elder care professionals on overcoming the challenges of early dementia. Orinda Masonic Center, 9 Altarinda Rd., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit www.elderconsult.com to register. See article page 15.
Maria's Book Group will read and discuss *Full Planet, Empty Plates: The New Geopolitics of Food Scarcity* by Lester Brown, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 11 a.m. The group meets monthly at Orinda Books. Attendees are asked to call ahead, 925-254-7606.

AT THE LIBRARY

All events are free unless otherwise specified. Note the library will be closed Sept. 4 and 5 for Labor Day. For more information, call 925-254-2184 or visit <http://ccclib.org>.

- 1 **Special Book Sale.** Hosted by Friends of the Library, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
English as a Second Language Conversation Circle. Volunteer teachers lead informal group discussions, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Preregistration not required. Also Sept. 8, 15, 22 and 29.
- 13 **Toddler Lapsit.** Stories and songs for one-to three-year-olds and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 10 and 10:30 a.m. No registration required, but attendance limited to once a week. Also Sept. 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28.
Peek-a-Boo Time. Rhymes and rhythms for infants and pre-walkers (16 months) and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 11:30 a.m. Families with older siblings are welcome. Also Sept. 20 and 14.
Paws to Read. Children in grades K-5 can practice reading with a friendly dog, 3:30 p.m. Sign up at the library or call to register. Also Sept. 21.
- 16 **Mystery Book Club.** Members (18 and over) discuss *Mourning Gloria* by Susan Wittig Albert, 3 to 4:30 p.m. New members welcome.

CLUB MEETINGS

- Diablo Star Chapter #214,** Order of the Eastern Star. Second Monday, 7:30 p.m. Orinda Masonic Center, Karen Seaborn, 925-689-0995.
- Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe.** Third Monday, 7:30 p.m., Gallery Room, Orinda Library, www.moragaadobe.org.
- Friends of the Orinda Creeks.** Fourth Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., May Room, Orinda Library, 925-253-1997.
- Guided Meditation.** Wednesdays, 9 a.m., St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 451 Moraga Way, Orinda, focuses on health, harmony and wholeness, 925-254-5965.
- Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition.** Third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room, 925-687-8844, ext. 227.
- Lamorinda Meditation.** Every Monday and Thursday, 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, 7:15 p.m., Career Wisdom Institute, 1036 Country Club Drive, Moraga, Suite 100. Meditate in silence for 30 minutes, \$5 donation. Contact Gaby Mozee at gcmoozee@gmail.com.
- Lamorinda Nature Walk and Bird watching** for seniors. Wednesdays, 9 to 11 a.m., free. Call 925-254-2445 for weekly meeting place.
- Lamorinda Sirs** for retired men. Second Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga, Pete Giers, 925-254-4667.
- Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary.** Every Friday, 7 a.m., Lafayette Park Hotel, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, www.lamorindasunrise.com or 925-283-8288. Sept. 9 speaker is Rotary District

Festival of Trees on Nov. 17

By SUSAN DOMINGOS
Contributing Writer

Save the date for the annual Festival of Trees scheduled for Thursday, November 17, at 10:30 a.m., at the San Ramon Marriott.

Sponsored by the Orinda Woman's Club, a non-profit organization benefiting women and families in need, the Festival of Trees features fashions from Helen Lyall of Napa. Dan Ashley, co-anchor at Channel 7 news, will be the Master of Ceremonies.

The event includes a silent auction as well as a trip raffle and a gift raffle. Win a one week stay at Poipu Kai Beach Kauai, Hawaii, or a one week stay at a condo resort at the destination of your choice. The Registry Collection includes the U.S. Canada, Mexico, Portugal, Italy, Austria, United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

The luncheon will be catered by San Ramon Marriott and includes several full service bars. This year, the money raised at the Festival of Trees will go to Monument Crisis Center, whose mission is to provide, education, assistance and referrals to fami-



CHARLIE JARRETT

Santa made an early appearance last year when he walked down the runway at last year's November Festival of Trees.

lies, youth, seniors and individuals in crisis; and to the Community Service Committee, which donates funds to nonprofit groups locally and internationally, and education grants to improve the lives of women and families and those aging out of the foster care system.

Tickets are \$90 and can be ordered by calling Janet Nelson at 925-451 0559 or by going to www.orindawomansclub.org.

Governor. Sept. 22 speaker Walt Shafer will address "Water: Our Most Precious Resource."

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

Montelindo Garden Club. Third Friday, 9 a.m., September through May, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephen's Drive, www.montelindogarden.com. The coordinator of Save the Gravenstein Apple will talk on "All About Apples" with apple tastings.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CITY/FIRE DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

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

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

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

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

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

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PETS / FITNESS

Something to Howl About...
Animal Tales

Canine Heroes of 9/11



Jennifer Conroy

Moxie, Tara, Kaiser, Wusel, Hansen, Sirius ... and so many others. The count stands at 950 responding but probably there were more. They came from across the United States, from various services – FEMA, police and fire services, state and national search and rescue programs, Port Authority, emergency response teams.

They worked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon sites, some for 17 hours at a stretch. They stayed for days and days, symbols of hope and comfort in a time of despair. Many of them eventually died of conditions now thought to result from toxins they faced as they worked through the rubble and debris of treacherous search fields.

The last one, Bretagne, passed earlier this year at 16 years of age. As a young golden retriever, she and her partner travelled to New York City from Texas with a task force. They slept outdoors. When they weren't working the site, they were comforting responders.

This month marks 15 years since a day those of us old enough to remember will never, ever forget. We called upon the best in each other and we called upon the best in our dogs. Their abilities to hear, to scent, to alert handlers to the possibilities of life amidst horrifying destruction were the stuff of heroes. When humans despaired, the dogs persevered. Bloody paws, coats thick with dust, they kept on, applying the training they and their handlers had so often practiced and experienced in the past.

Labrador retrievers, German shepherds, goldens, Belgian shepherds, border collies, other purebreds, and mixed breeds. The breed didn't matter so much as did the incredible training each one had undergone to amplify the unique abilities of canines. Working seamlessly with their human partners, they scoured the sites of the World Trade Center and Pentagon. They only stopped when their handlers demanded it and when they did, they were met with volunteer veterinary treatments,

food, water, a bit of rest, and, always time to bow a head to the hand of a human first responder.

Dogs trained for search and rescue are just one component of the working dog sector. On 9/11, dogs took their place beside the heroic humans who tried desperately to find survivors. Every day there are dogs working to help humans and each canine job description focuses on the special skills needed for a particular type of work.

Search-and-rescue dogs, regardless of breed, need first to be solidly trained in basic obedience, followed by utility training that teaches them to focus on specific tasks. Beyond that is the more specific training that enables dogs to find victims of avalanches, individuals lost in the woods, and even corpses underwater.

The California Rescue Dog Association was established in 1976 and is among the state's search-and-rescue groups that are called upon by the California Office of Emergency Services. A volunteer organization, there is no charge for the services, human or canine. Both dog and handler are required to be "mission ready" and able to respond to calls from law enforcement and other agencies when needed.

For information about canine search-and-rescue work, contact your local animal shelter or law enforcement agency or visit www.carda.org. To learn more about the dogs of 9/11, read *A Tribute to the Dogs of 9/11* by Ron Burns. To see artifacts from the courageous work of those dogs, visit the 9/11 Memorial Museum in New York City.

Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 8 at 10 a.m.

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
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Time to groom those favorite pets for the annual Blessing of the Animals. For more information, call the church at 925-254-3422.

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Orinda's New Senior Librarian Welcomes New Chapter in Long Career

By CHELSEA PELCHAT
Contributing Writer

Growing up in Marin County with a library just down the street, Sierra Campagna not only developed a love for books, but for the facility as well. "Every day after school, I would head over and



SALLY HOGARTY

Sierra Campagna is Orinda's new head librarian

just dive into a book for a few hours." As if predestined, a few decades later, she now finds herself as Orinda's senior community librarian in a town much like the one where she was raised.

"I actually worked in a lot of other fields before I ultimately decided to become a librarian," said Campagna, who now lives in Berkeley. After majoring in cinema at San Francisco State University, she held a variety of positions in the multimedia industry, from audio engineer at Grace Cathedral to working for post-production film companies.

However, it wasn't until she spent time working with a career counselor at UC-Berkeley that she decided to obtain her master's degree in library and information science. With her warm smile and sincere nature, it's easy to see why a service-oriented career would be a perfect fit. "Although I loved working in these other fields, libraries provide me with unlimited opportunities to learn and apply new skills. It's a really dynamic profession," she said.

During the past 15 years, Campagna has worked in academic, public and private libraries. She recalls fondly her time at an East Bay middle school library, where she "helped reshape people's [students and

staff] idea of what a library is and what it has to offer." Upon her arrival, the library was a quiet spot, with only a few students visiting every day. Determined to make a change, she completely renovated the physical space, updated the collection, and made an effort to connect with the students on an individual basis. Over time, people began flooding through the doors, turning what once was only her vision into a reality. After living in San Francisco for 12

years, Campagna finds that living in Berkeley with her 14-year-old daughter and 12-year-old son provides her with a great compromise between city and suburban life: "Even though I love the buzz and excitement of the city, I also value my quiet time, which is why Berkeley is such a desirable place for me."

For the past few years, she has held positions in several branches of the Contra [SEE LIBRARIAN page 23]



Seasoned Shopper

Apples, Grapes and Pears Plentiful
in September

BARBARA KOBSAR


Farmers' market shoppers know the benefits of following a healthy diet. Much of what they eat comes from the weekly Saturday market, and September offers an array of fresh produce, specialty foods and baked goods. September is also Five-A-Day Month and a great time to enjoy the bountiful harvest to get your five servings (or more) of fruits and vegetables every day.

Pears, apples and grapes are in the spotlight this month. Pears and apples are related with similar shapes and the telltale core filled with seeds. Grapes are classified as true berries because the fruit wall is fleshy all the way through. All are carefully handpicked and at their peak of perfection.

Alhambra Valley Farms grows the quintessential Bartlett pear – smooth, creamy and intensely flavored. Farmer Darryl Pereira credits using dry farm practices where the tree roots grow deep to find water and the soil is turned about one inch deeper each time the ground is cultivated to bring moisture up to the surface. Pears are separated according to ripeness – those ready to eat and ones needing a few (or

several) days on the kitchen counter to ripen up. Pears are ripe when they give off a beautiful aroma and the stem end yields to gentle thumb pressure.

Any great eating apple must be crisp. Flavors vary from sweet to spicy tart so just choose one that suits your taste. However, baking apples should hold their shape when heated, so Granny Smith, Pippin and Rome Beauty tend to be some of the better choices. Golden Delicious work well for applesauce since they do not discolor as quickly as others. Remember apples ripen 10 times faster at room temperature than in the fridge. They're ripe and ready to eat so choose your favorite variety and if necessary store in a plastic bag, away from strong odors, in the refrigerator for up to two weeks.

Grape season is off to a great start. Table grapes account for only 12 to 15 percent of the total grape harvest – the rest are raisin and wine grape varieties. But there are plenty to choose from at several stands at the market. Green Thompson and Red Flame usher in the grape season followed by Crimson, Ruby and Fantasy seedless. Most of the seeded, hardier varieties arrive a little later in the fall and offer a full-bodied flavor for those not annoyed by the seeds. Grapes are an easy choice when it comes to filling your five-a-day quota – a topping for cereal, an easy snack and a great smoothie. Combine two cups red seedless grapes (freeze first if you like a frosty smoothie), one cup plain nonfat Greek yogurt, one cup of two-percent low-fat milk and one tablespoon sugar in a blender. Cover and blend until smooth.


Enjoy and see you at the market!
The Orinda Farmers' Market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Orinda Way. More information is available at www.cccfm.org.



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BUSINESS BUZZ

◆ PANEL from page 12

over an intensive two day period: Councilmembers, planning commissioners and staff, property owners, merchants and citizens concerned about downtown's vitality and its future. The conclusion is a public meeting in which the panel's findings and recommendations are presented and audience participation is encouraged.

The panelists are members of ULI, the premier real estate research organization in the country. They volunteer their time and knowledge for the betterment of their communities. The cost is currently \$15,000 for the administration of the panel, far less than the typical consulting contract a city engages in for the benefit of comparable expertise.

Similar panels have been conducted in over 500 cities in 12 countries. Thirty-two cities in the Bay Area have taken advantage of this service. It would be an excellent way for Orinda to begin a community conversation that is focused and conducted on a professional plane.

– Tom Trowbridge

◆ Full Disclosure needed from Evasive Colman

Richard S Colman, perennial Orinda critic, seems to be trying to deceive Orindans about the identity of his financial backers. The implication is that money funding his political activities either comes from outside of Orinda or is provided by certain City Council candidates or both.

Orindans should demand honesty and integrity from Colman and his gang.

During the spring campaign for the roads bond, mystery mailers twice landed in Orinda mailboxes. Opposing the bond, these mailers did not provide information regarding whose money paid for them. The address given was a box at the Orinda UPS Store. A phone number given went to a fax machine.

After the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) fingered him, the man behind the curtain turned out to be Mr. Colman.

He missed several campaign reporting deadlines, a violation of state law. When Colman did finally file his tardy reports, just five days before the election, he claimed to be a "committee of one" and that he was the sole source of the \$6,600 mailer costs.

Really? Colman spent \$6,600 of his own

money on this righteous cause?

The FPPC (Fair Political Practice Commission) was established via a voter initiative in 1974. Its purposes are "to ensure full disclosure of the sources of money and political influence on public issues." Coleman's subterfuge and evasion may imply a cover-up. Who is he trying to protect? And why?

Colman, with Bruce London and Kathleen Jenkins, were the sole signers of the ballot arguments opposing Measure L. All are frequent spokespersons for the gadfly group Orinda Watch.

London has filed papers to run for City Council this fall.

And now Mr. Colman sends a very expensive piece, with four glossy pages in color, addressed to individuals.

Who paid for this one, Mr. Colman? Did the money come from outside Orinda? Or was it from within the community and, if so, from whom?

Orinda voters deserve to know who is spending thousands of dollars trying to disrupt our community decision making and collaboration.

– Carol Penskar

◆ LIBRARIAN from page 22

Costa County Library. Most recently she managed both the Walnut Creek and Ygnacio Valley libraries. Campagna has only worked at the Orinda library for a month, but she has already found Orinda to be "an amazing community of warm, welcoming, and enthusiastic readers."

Amongst her many ambitions, she has her sights on expanding programs to reach underserved populations, while also maintaining the status quo. Campagna hopes to create technology-centered library programs, offering the senior community aid in downloading eBooks and using email. Additionally, she's considering providing story times in foreign languages.

"Libraries are constantly shifting their services, programs and resources to best fit the needs and interests of the communities they serve," says Campagna, adding that she's delighted to begin this new chapter in her career. "I'm looking forward to learning more about the Orinda community. My hope is that we can work together to explore new ways for the library to help people feel engaged, inspired, educated, and supported."

◆ BUZZ from page 24

Bob Mahon and Jan Tambellini as co-owner of Coiffure Hut," says Sepasy, who trained at Marinello Beauty College in San Francisco. She has provided make-up and hairstyling services for newscasters at KOFY-TV in the past and is adept at the art of threading and shaping eyebrows and removing facial hair.

Sepasy offers a variety of special discounts this autumn. For a limited time only, all services - haircuts, highlights and threading - are 50 percent off for all Orinda Intermediate and Miramonte High students. In addition, for the entire month of September, there is a special 25 percent off colors and full highlights for all clients. On Monday, Sept. 12, Sepasy offers a 50-percent discount on haircut prices for men, women and children.

Coiffure Hut was originally established in 1965 and has undergone an updating of the premises. With large windows allowing plenty of sunshine throughout the salon and lovely views of the Orinda hills, it is a relaxing atmosphere. Parking is plentiful within steps of the entrance.

An avid dancer, Sepasy pursues Zumba in her free time. She especially enjoys walking and hiking the East Bay hills, as well as swimming. Available in Orinda three days each week, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, Sepasy encourages clients to call her directly for an appointment at 510-695-5897. To reach Bob Mahan, Faye Enferadi, Jan Tambellini or manicurist Judi Johnson at Coiffure Hut, call 925-254-3373.



VALERIE HOTZ
Farnoosh Sepasy is a new hairstylist and colorist at Coiffure Hut.

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BUSINESS BUZZ

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Valerie Hotz



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Sutter Urgent Care At Convenient Orinda Location

Recognizing the need in our community for same-day, non life-threatening medical care for adults and children, Sutter Urgent Care was established by Sutter East Bay Medical Foundation at 12 Camino Encinas this past spring. The office is open Monday to Friday, 5 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“Our experienced medical team consisting of emergency medicine physicians and family medicine physicians, evaluates and treats a variety of conditions,” says Jeff Leinen, M.D., director of Urgent Care. “For example, in urgent care we take care of general coughs, colds, back aches, urinary tract infections, sprains and simple fractures. On-site laboratory and X-Ray

services are available, and we can treat lacerations and skin infections, conditions that are not life-threatening.”

People often wonder what constitutes urgent care versus a visit to the emergency room. “If you feel like you do not want to go work, that is urgent care. If you feel so lousy that you feel like dying, then you should go to the hospital,” says Leinen. “Any kind of chest pain, major trauma, severe pain or stroke symptoms, one should go to the hospital.”

At Sutter Urgent Care, if a patient needs a higher level of care, they will be referred to the emergency department. According to Leinen, urgent care offices take about 25 percent of the time and one-tenth of the cost of emergency room visits, depending on the need.

These after business hours visits do not come with an additional charge. Many major health insurance plans are accepted



SALLY HOGARTY

The staff at Sutter Urgent Care are ready to help after hours and on weekends. (L-R) Alisha Valencia, Brendalynn Manno, Dr. Jeffrey Leinen and Torey Rainey.

including Aetna, Blue Shield, Anthem Blue Cross of California, CIGNA, Health Net, Sutter Health Plus and UnitedHealthCare and others. Check with your insurance company for its current list of approved healthcare providers.

For more information about Sutter Urgent Care Orinda, call 510-204-8075 or visit the web site at <http://www.sebmf.org/urgentcare>.

Baja Cali Taqueria and Grill

After growing up in the business – his parents own and operate Mazatlan Taqueria and Grill in Hercules - Mauro Cazarez acquired his own restaurant, Baja Cali, serving authentic Mexican dishes. This taqueria is located at 23 Orinda Way, across the street from the Orinda Library.

“I worked from the ground up, doing every job in my parents’ restaurant, including washing dishes, line cook, inventory and prep. I know the business inside out,” says Cazarez. “Although I always enjoyed helping my family, it was time for me to have my own business. My father was a little sad to see me go, but he also knew it was time for me to do my own thing and he is supportive of that.”

The dishes served up at Baja Cali are tried and true authentic Mexican recipes with an unusual twist. Olive oil is used in everything, with the exception of the refried beans, which are prepared with soybean oil.

“We experimented with different oils and found everything tasted much better when we cooked with olive oil. Many dishes are sautéed to bring out the best flavors,” explains Cazarez.

Several salsas are made in-house, with steak, chicken and seafood offerings. The steak is certified Angus beef. “We cook everything fresh. It is not fast food. We cook for each customer to ensure great flavor,” he says. Breakfast (offerings include Huevos Rancheros), lunch and dinner are available, as well as a kids’ menu for the little ones.

You will find delicious Mexican soups, Pozde and Chicken Tortilla Soup, as well as vegetarian offerings here. Horchata rice milk is served and dessert is traditional Flan. A Baja Cali classic refreshing beverage is Michelada, consisting of a cold beer with spicy Clamato juice, lime salt and a special black sauce.

Operating his restaurant is a 24/7 proposition with not much time off for Cazarez. He likes to reminisce about traveling with his family to San Felipe beach on the Sea of Cortez every spring for the past 15 years. Whenever time allows, he enjoys wake boarding at Lake Berryessa and spending time in Lake Tahoe.

Baja Cali is open seven days a week, Sunday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. You may visit the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BajaCaliTaqueriaGrill. To-go orders may be phoned in ahead by calling 258-9987.

Farnoosh Sepasy Joins Coiffure Hut

Farnoosh Sepasy is a colorist and hairstylist, offering threading services and make-up consultations as well. She recently purchased an ownership interest in the well-established Orinda hair salon, Coiffure Hut. Currently, Sepasy is taking appointments Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays in Orinda, splitting her time between Regis Salon in San Francisco and Coiffure Hut.

“I have enjoyed cutting and styling hair my entire life, ever since I was a child. My clients include women, men and children. It is a great pleasure to join Faye Enferadi,

[SEE BUZZ page 23]



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VALERIE HOTZ

Mauro Cazarez is the owner of Baja Cali, a new Mexican restaurant in Orinda Village.



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