



# THE ORINDA NEWS

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## MOFD Purchases Property on Lorinda Lane

By DAVID DIERKS  
Assistant Editor

At the July 15 Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) board meeting, the board voted three to one to approve a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Lafayette. The agreement was used to facilitate the purchase of 1035 Lorinda Lane for \$1,225,000. The agreement was necessary because the property does not reside within MOFD boundaries; and, therefore, MOFD cannot purchase the property. MOFD Fire Chief Bradley said, "The purpose of the agreement is to allow the district to continue with its effort to plan for a potential fire station to serve portions of Orinda and Lafayette."

Lafayette is part of Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (ConFire). The Joint Powers Agreement with Lafayette allows MOFD to purchase the property at 1035 Lorinda Lane and hold it while MOFD and Lafayette/ConFire continue to consider the possibility of a consolidated fire station on the site. Chief Bradley added, "The proposed station concept is preliminary and remains subject to change." This potential new station would replace Station 43 in Orinda.

There were approximately 50 people in the audience at the meeting, the majority of which were against this proposal. MOFD currently has five stations, while Lafayette currently has two working stations and one closed station. MOFD board member Alex Evans said, "What do the voters of this district want? In my experiences in [SEE MOFD page 20]

## Art in the Park



SALLY HOGARTY

The Orinda Arts Council's "Art in the Park" featured a variety of art for purchase as well as entertainment by the Lamorinda Idol finalists. The event is just one of many taking place over the summer at the Orinda Community Center Park and other venues around town. See page 12 for more information on summer entertainment.

## Student-Designed Medallions to Adorn Fourth Bore Portals

By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

Next time you pass through the Caldecott Tunnel, look for brand new medallions above the portals. The three Contra Costa County student (and the three Alameda County student) winners of the Medallion Design Competition and their families were present for the recent unveiling of their designs cast in concrete. The designs on the East Portal of the Fourth Bore are by Chaya Tong, age 8, a third grader at Springhill School, Daniell McCann, age 16, a 10th grader at Acalanes High School and Penelope Watson, an 8th grader at Pleasant Hill Middle School. Their designs were

chosen from more than 300 entries.

It took eight weeks to convert the artwork to finished medallions. The process is multi-phased, beginning with the "translation" of the winning paper-borne artwork into a three-dimensional high-density foam model created by professional sculptor Johnathan Roberson-Beery. Each foam model was then covered by a half-inch layer of clay at Architectural Facades Unlimited in Gilroy. Glass fiber reinforced concrete (a mixture of concrete and glass) was sprayed into the rubber mold and then placed over the clay, creating a "mother mold." After curing for 18-20 hours, the artwork was removed from the rubber molds in the [SEE MEDALLION page 20]



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Chaya Tong of Lafayette with the medallion she designed, which will adorn the East Portal of the Fourth Bore along with medallions designed by Daniell McCann and Penelope Watson.

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### 4th of July



SALLY HOGARTY

Bridget Meagher dressed as the Statue of Liberty and rode on the Orinda Association float in this year's parade. Parade winners and more photos on pgs. 14-15.

## Plan Bay Area Continues to Cause Controversy

By SALLY HOGARTY  
Editor

Since its release on March 22, 2013 by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Plan Bay Area has sparked an often-emotional tempest among residents of local communities.

The plan attempts to outline how Bay Area communities can integrate transportation and land-use strategies through 2040. ABAG and MTC held a number of public meetings during April and May to obtain public comment on the plan and on the Draft Environmental Impact Review (DEIR).

Like their counterparts in other Bay Area communities, Orinda residents made their concerns heard with some forming the Orinda Watch group to oppose the plan.

On June 27, Orinda Watch held its second large-scale meeting at the Veteran's Memorial building in Lafayette. Approximately 300 people attended with attorney Peter Singleton of Menlo Park giving a slide show on the proposed Plan Bay Area and City Councilmembers Bob Ravasio (Corte Madera), Linda Pfeifer (Sausalito), and Greg Schmid (Palo Alto) relating their experiences with ABAG and the proposed housing plan. Master of ceremonies Dr.

[SEE PLAN page 22]

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# Orinda Roadrunners Art at Gallery

By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

The Orinda Roadrunners not only cover the Lamorinda hills and trails but also the walls and cabinets of the Orinda Library gallery this month. You are invited to view 70 pieces of artwork done by a handful of the 80 members in the group. Artwork shown includes paintings, woodworking projects, photographs and an unusual collection of decorated animal skulls. The public is invited to attend a gala reception to meet the artists and enjoy refreshments while viewing the exhibit on Friday, August 2, from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Orinda Roadrunners is on the verge of celebrating its 40th anniversary with several founding members still active. What do runners think about as they stride along the byways of Lamorinda? At least eight of them think about creating art. Orinda Roadrunners' members taking part in the exhibit include: Orinda residents Lucia Bennhoff, Therese Gladstone Gordon, Duke Herrero and Denny Weigand; Lafayette resident Dyan Bender; Moraga's George Ehrenhaft and Walnut Creek's Linda Wendt. Former Lamorindan Sally Bailey, now of Mt. Hood, Oregon, will display her nationally-acclaimed watercolors. Viewers will also be

treated to a sample of watercolor paintings by the late Gail Overaa. For more information, or to join the Orinda Roadrunners, visit [www.orindaroadrunners.org](http://www.orindaroadrunners.org).

Lucia Bennhoff began woodworking when her daughter went off to college. Surrounded by 19 year olds, Bennhoff took such teasing as "If Lucia can do it, anyone can do it" in stride. At a petite 5' tall, Bennhoff liked working with alder wood because of its lighter weight, which worked well with the table saw and was easier to carry in and out of the wood shop. She enjoyed creating her own designs and didn't work from plans; she used cherry, maple and exotic woods for her commissions.

Once she knew her design, she'd go to the lumberyard in Oakland on Ashby or the one on 28th Street to choose the hardwood she wanted to use. Stains were not for her; she prefers natural wood. Next, she had to figure out how to fabricate it so it held together. Her designs were usually commissioned by friends and included tables, boxes, frames, office desks, armoires, console tables, blanket chests and some tables with concrete tops and wood bases. Look for two small console tables she is showing the night of the reception only, as they will not fit in the cabinets. She was



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sally Bills Bailey will show *Golden Hills*, a 24' x 36' watercolor at the Orinda Library Gallery.

a woodworker for 12 years, only stopping when she reached her mid-70s. Not only did she get over her fear of machines, but she considered herself an intermediate level woodworker when all was said and done.

Sally Bills Bailey, a watercolor painter and former member of Orinda Roadrunners, taught elementary school art in Lamorinda for 20 years. Bailey says Orinda Roadrunners was a big part of her life and connected her not only to life-long friendships but a love of running and keeping in

shape. She has shown her work three times in the prestigious National Watercolor Society show. Look for 24" x 36" watercolors entitled *Passing Storm* and *Golden Hills*. See <http://sallybillsbailey.com> for more information.

Duke Herrero is a woodworker who likes creating furniture in his wood shop. Be sure and examine *Sam Maloof Rocking Chair*, made of maple, 4' tall by 2' wide with 4' runners; he spent 350 hours creating it. Other than cutting and shaping the wood, it's mostly made with hand instruments

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Duke Herrero's *Sam Maloof Rocking Chair* measures 4' tall and 2' wide and is crafted from maple.

such as hand scrapers, hand planers and hand files to make the curves involved, plus a lot of sanding. Herrero finds it zen-like to work with old-fashioned tooling rather than power equipment. For perspective, a rocking chair actually created by Sam Maloof, master woodworker, goes for \$30K.

A watercolor painter who wanders from realistic to vaguely abstract styles, George Ehrenhaft describes his paintings as "visionary realist," meaning a little visionary and a little realism. He is showing several

[SEE GALLERY page 10]

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## KIDS / FINE ARTS

## Troop 237 Celebrates 60 Years of Scouting



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Orinda's Boy Scout Troop 237 will celebrate its 60th anniversary on September 29. All scouts from 1953 through the current year are invited to participate in the anniversary festivities. This event promises to be an enjoyable evening of good food, great friends and wonderful memories. Event organizers are asking for personal stories and photographs to include in a commemorative booklet capturing the memorable experiences of Troop 237. Email your stories and/or photos to 4mcgns@gmail.com or contact Sandra McGonigle at 925-360-6077.

## NorCal Kids Triathlon Returns August 31

By DAVID DIERKS  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

August 31 will see the return of NorCal Kids Triathlon to Miramonte High School this year. The event is classified as a Super Sprint Triathlon where athletes will compete in three categories: swimming, bicycling and running. Joel O'Camb of NorCal Kids Triathlon notes, "We cater to the first timer, or nearly first time triathlete and adjust distances according to age. We are one of the very few triathlons dedicated to kids; only two others [exist] that I know of in California."

Athletes from six years to high school age are encouraged to attend and compete. There are six different classes for competitors based on their ages. O'Camb advises, "We allow many mechanical aids for participants [as age appropriate] such as floaties in the swim and training wheels on the bike. We also allow one parent to assist in the six and under category. In short, we look to ways to encourage new triathletes."

NorCal Kids recommends that young athletes who will participate in this year's event familiarize themselves with the course and the transition area, visiting the site the day prior if possible. The organization also advises competitors to eat a good meal the night before and stay hydrated. NorCal's advise to parents is to get to the event early to calm nerves and allow the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A participant from last year's triathlon runs through the streets of the Wilder housing development. This year's event takes place at Miramonte High School.

children to feel more confident. Lastly, participants should bring a bike helmet and sunscreen.

Registration is open until midnight, August 28. This year's sponsors include Orinda Motors, Orinda Aquatics, Orinda Fitness, All-In-Fitness and the Orinda Community Foundation.

For more information or to register, visit [www.norcalkidstri.org](http://www.norcalkidstri.org).

## Bernard Weston Paintings at AMFA Gallery: Atmospheric Sanctuary on Canvas

By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

The monochromatic tones of Bernard Weston's abstract paintings embody the paradox his interesting materials create. Yes, they are monochromatic, with sparse splashes of color, but they are far from boring – they pull you in.

Mixed into a Venetian plaster product is a fair amount of ground marble and diverse custom pigments. Layered on with various tools, brushes, trowels, and other drywall tools, it takes a lot of pressure to apply and days to cure. Once the pigmented plaster has dried, the canvas is burnished. Next, a proprietary wax is applied which brings out both the color and luster of the composition. He incorporates glass blower's mica into the wax, which creates a very subtle atmospheric sheen; in natural light it glows as if suffused with air. These subtleties aren't evident in photographs, so stop by the gallery to see for yourself. Weston uses hollow core doors as frames for his paintings, about 20 of which are currently being shown through the end of the month; they range in price from \$800-\$2,200.

Weston lives and works in the Santa Rosa area, has a B.S. in mathematics from Sonoma State and has shown his work all over the region. Since 2009, he has garnered collectors in Switzerland, Germany, Hong Kong, New York, Tennessee, Boston, Florida, Idaho and most major towns in Northern California. He studied Chinese brush painting and Sumi-e painting with a Buddhist monk and Gong Yuebin of Sacramento ([www.gongyuebin.com](http://www.gongyuebin.com)).

Sumi-e (ink picture) painting is a Japanese art form developed over 2000 years ago. The goal is to render the spirit or soul of the subject as simply as possible, and can be regarded as the earliest form of expressionistic art that captures the unseen. Weston is drawn to the Chinese and Japanese color palette over the European because, "It is much more comforting and quieting." He is inspired by Ai Weiwei, a contemporary Chinese artist active in all art forms by way of social, political and cultural criticism. He is also inspired by the Chinese attitude that art can lead to the illuminati - inspiration and escape from the encroachments of everyday life.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bernard Weston's mixed media on canvas called *Untitled* will be on display at the Allison McCrady Fine Art Gallery.

Weston hopes that as people view his artwork, the everyday world will melt away and they can enter a restful sanctuary. Stop by the Allison McCrady Fine Art Gallery at 2 Theatre Square, Suite 143, Orinda, call 925-788-5866 or visit the website <http://amfagallery.com> for more information.



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## Three-Quarter Century Luncheon Honors Those 75 Years of Age and Older

By BOBBIE DODSON  
Staff Writer

Friendship and connections were the operative words at the 14th annual Three-Quarter Century luncheon held at the Orinda Community Church in June. Since one has to be at least 75 to participate, most attendees exchanged greetings with long-time friends, delighted to have the opportunity to meet. I sat next to Barbara Anderson, whom I've known since 1955. Next to her were Helen and Ivan Pouschine. They turned out to be neighbors whom she'd never met, but now they intend to keep in touch. Also at the table was Regina Campbell who had taken piano lessons from Anderson. Recently widowed, Campbell said it was good to come to a gathering of friendly people.

When the Rev. Rodney Yee gave his remarks, he commended the community spirit and the examples of good works for Orinda so many people there had demonstrated in the past. "That's why we like to hold this luncheon," founder John Fazel added. "These were the movers and shakers who helped make Orinda the fine place to live that it is today. We want to honor them."

As always, the crowning of the Royal Court was suspenseful, as count downs, or ups, were held. Helen McKendell was the "baby" of the group having just turned 75 on June 5. She's lived in Orinda 42 years. Reigning King, as the oldest gentleman, was 96-year-old Bud Hiesten. When asked what he attributed his longevity to, he said he'd been in training for a long time, while his wife Orae said it was because he had a young wife.

Arline Pierre again reigned as Queen, having turned 100 on January 7. Amaz-

ingly active, Arline drives short distances around the Lamorinda area, plays bridge, belongs to a book club, and sings with the Noteables of the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. "Keep your mind and body active, and I think singing helps one's health, especially breathing," she comments.

The longest married couple was Rudi and Teeb Thomas who married on Valentine's Day 67 years ago. Teeb also had the distinction of being youngest in attendance at the first Three-Quarter Century Luncheon in 2000.

A hearty Happy Birthday was sung to emcee, John Fazel, who turned 76 the day of the event. The promising younger generation led the birthday song. From the Lamorinda Idol group, Elizabeth Becker, 11, Micheaela Sasner, 12, and Nathan Correll, 14, impressed the audience with their solo presentations, combining excellent voices with their poised stage presence.

Guest speaker Candy Pierce, Past District Governor of Rotary International, kept the audience thoroughly engaged as she spoke on "Changing Lives One Project at a Time." The main emphasis was on Rotary's Polio-Plus program, which is close to reaching its goal of eradicating polio worldwide. The organization began the project in 1985. Since then one million members have donated time and money to protect more than two billion children in 22 countries from getting polio.

"With a 99 percent decline in polio cases, the countries which still have the problem are Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and Nigeria, and there it's mostly from a wild polio virus," Pierce said. "We've lowered the cost down to 60 cents a dose. Rotarians have [SEE LUNCH page 8]



Teeb and Rudi Thomas were the longest married couple at this year's luncheon with Helen McKendell named "baby" of the year for recently turning 75.



PHOTOS BY TOM BLACK

## Modest Orinda Residents Helped Eradicate Polio in Their Native China

By CHARLIE JARRETT  
Staff Writer

In 1955, Russia and China faced polio epidemics. Russia responded by forming the Polio Research Institute in Moscow, headed by a husband and wife team of virologists, Mikhail Chumakov and Marina Voroshilova.

Modeling the success of its sponsor, the People's Republic also turned to a husband and wife team, Dexiang Dong and Josephine Cao, to continue embryonic programs towards eradication of this terrible disease. Dong and Cao, who now live in Orinda Senior Village, recently shared their experiences and reflections on their 40-plus year lifetime as key biomedical polio researchers in their home country of China.

Born and raised in Shanghai, both Dong and Cao were assigned to Beijing's Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences as China experienced 30,000 to 40,000 cases of polio per year. In 1959, when Dr. Dong was only 27 years old and had just graduated from medical school, the Soviet Union invited him to join a team of four researchers to study the Soviet program for the development of polio vaccines at the serum and vaccine institute in Moscow.

The threat of polio during the 1950s was frightening. In 1949, 40,000 cases were reported, one for every 3,775 people. In the little town of San Angelo, Texas, located between Abilene and the Mexican border, 420 cases were reported, one for every 124 inhabitants. Of the 420, 84 were left paralyzed and 28 died, becoming one of the most severe polio outbreaks ever recorded in the world. Americans also had the image of President Franklin Roosevelt, who contracted the disease in the 1920s, and was eventually forced to use a wheelchair during his presidency.

No disease attracted as much media attention or generated as much fear as polio

because it hit completely without warning. Sometimes people would go to bed feeling fine and would wake feeling feverish with pain in one or more of their extremities, and, by the next morning, find they were unable to move one or more of their limbs. It defied all the conventional logic of other diseases, plagues, epidemics and mass infections, as it struck mostly the young and did not seem to be associated with filth, vermin, poor nutrition or the primarily poor and less fortunate masses. Further, the stigma of polio left behind terrible reminders for all to see: wheelchairs, leg braces, crutches, deformed limbs and iron lungs, and many grave markers for lives lived for much too short a time.



CHARLIE JARRETT

Formerly from China, Dexiang Dong and his wife Josephine Cao now live in Orinda Senior Village.

It has been recognized for centuries that some diseases never re-infect a person after recovery. Smallpox was the first disease people tried to prevent by intentionally inoculating themselves with infected matter. Inoculation originated in India or China some time before 200 BC. Edward Jenner created the first successful vaccination for a disease — smallpox — in 1796. At the time of the polio clinical trials in 1954, there were three widely used vaccines: for yellow fever (1937), rabies (1885), and smallpox. Today, there are over 300 vaccines for about

[SEE RESEARCHERS page 10]

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ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President  
Thank You for supporting July 4th!



Bill Waterman

On behalf of the Orinda Association, and our very dedicated July 4th Volunteer Committee, I'd like to thank everyone in Lamorinda for coming out and participating in this year's July 4th events. By all accounts, it was another fun-filled success despite the hot weather. The "fly-over" by a National Guard helicopter was a nice surprise too.

Our day began with the very popular pancake breakfast, sponsored by Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club, which served thousands of pancakes to an appreciative crowd in the Library Plaza. The Flag Raising ceremony followed, orchestrated by local veterans from VFW Post 8063. Over 350 runners and walkers of all ages then departed on the Haley's Run for a Reason, and "Boston Strong" 30th Annual Fun Run. Meanwhile, the OA Volunteers worked behind the scenes to set up the parade route, the Community Park and direct everyone to the right place for the start of the parade. Over 15 non-profit organizations set up tables in front of the Community Center.

The parade started promptly at 10 a.m., led by the VFW Color Guard, supported by members of local Boy Scout troops. Our grand marshalls, which this year were representative members of our swim clubs and the Miramonte High School Debate Team, came next, riding in beautiful cars provided by Orinda Auto Detail. The rest of the parade included cars from Orinda Classic Car Show, Orinda Police, MOFD units, members of both Orinda and Lafayette City Councils, all five local swim clubs, and diverse groups of youths (ranging in age from pre-school through high school and beyond). New to the parade this year were Moraga's Chamber of Commerce and Citizens' Network, and a surprise float from Mechanics Bank (Where did they get

those Doggie Diner dog statues?). Our very own Orinda Volunteer Marching Band and the OA's own floats rounded out the cast.

The crowd then descended on the park where the food vendors were waiting: Orinda Chamber's super-volunteers served up hundreds of hot dogs, Shelby's Restaurant served delectable burgers (Portobello mushroom burgers, too), and Lords had its much-appreciated ice cream. Orinda Rotary and the Orinda - Tabor Sister City Foundation each served up ice cold beer, and the Nichols family's Kettelcorn booth was also popular.

Besides libations, other entertainment mesmerized participants in the park. The EFO Big Band played a well-rounded selection of jazz and big band selections for 90 minutes, to rave reviews (special thanks to all band members for practicing so long and hard!). Kids loved the petting zoo, bounce houses, face painting (Thank you, Orinda Juniors) and balloon artists. Classic car fans examined the eight beautifully restored cars in front of the community center, and non-profit group representatives engaged in spirited dialogue with passers-by.

In closing, I heartily thank our event's title sponsors - Orinda Motors and Mechanics Bank - along with our financial partners (Orinda Community Foundation, Orinda Park & Rec Foundation, and the Orinda Garden Clubs). And we could not put this event on without the dedicated support of the City of Orinda's staff - Public Works, Police and Parks and Rec Departments - all of whom work overtime every year on the holiday. Last, I wish to again thank the OA's July 4th Committee of which I am but a part - whose dedication made this event a reality. Can all of you help again next year? Thanks again!



CHRIS LASZCZ-DAVIS

A special thanks to the Miramonte cheer squad who spent July 3 decorating the park and community center. Shown above are (L-R) **Hannah Gunn, Julia Gomes** and **Jessie Musacchio**.

Orinda Association's 4th of July Committee



SALLY HOGARTY

Members of the Orinda Association's 4th of July committee were publicly thanked at the Orinda City Council meeting on July 16. (L-R) **Joe Haughin, Chris Laszcz-Davis, Bill Cosden, Cindy Powell, Andrew Radlow, Susanne Tom, and Bill Waterman**. Other committee members were not able to attend.

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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Thank You Orinda!



The Orinda Association (OA) thanks Orinda for making this year's 4th of July parade and park festivities such a success. If you are not already a member of the OA, we invite you to join and help us make Orinda even better!

In addition to the annual 4th of July celebration, we coordinate the Seniors Around Town ride share program and the Volunteer Center, present the annual Volunteer of the Year and William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Awards, and publish *The Orinda News*!

For more information about joining this community-oriented, nonprofit, go to [www.orindaassociation.org](http://www.orindaassociation.org) or call 254-0800.



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EDITORIAL

Editorial . . .

It's not a secret that Orinda has seen an increase in the number of residential burglaries. Eleven were reported in June with several more in July. Orinda's upscale neighborhoods and easy freeway access make it a tempting target for thieves. The Orinda Police Department is working closely with Lafayette, Fremont and

Oakland Police Departments to apprehend those responsible.

But, for those who have experienced strangers breaking into their homes and taking not only valuable but often sentimental items, it can be heart wrenching. One such local resident submitted the following Op Ed piece as a warning to others.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor

Op Ed...

Burglaries in Orinda Rampant

In the United States, a burglary occurs every 13 seconds – that's more than 6,600 every single day. So how safe is your home? The Orinda Police Department states, "There are 20 separate groups plotting to steal your valuables in the City of Orinda alone."

A "professional" convicted thief reveals the tricks of his trade so you can do your best to keep people like him out of your house.

Many doors are lightweight and easy to open. The "pro" said he would probably have two friends with him when burglarizing a home: one would stay with the car and the other two would go to the house.

First, they'd want to make sure nobody was home. Someone would probably knock on the front door. If nobody answered that would be their invitation to go inside.

He said that with a flathead screwdriver and a crowbar, he can get into any house. A sliding glass door in back is the easiest spot for entry. Once inside the house, he said his first stop would be the living room or family room. That's where most of the electronics are going to be. Flat screen TVs are light enough these days for one person to carry – not to mention a computer or laptop. Burglars are big on electronics because they're easy to sell.

From there, the burglars would go to the master bedroom. There may be a flat screen TV to take, and he said they would also look for jewelry, cash left in drawers or even a safe, which often times is found in a closet.

Burglars are conscious of time. They try

to be in and out in five or 10 minutes. The "pro" said it would take him no longer than 30 minutes to sell the stolen stuff. Pawn shops will take it regardless, he says, when asked who buys the stolen goods. Pawn shops are supposed to check IDs and serial numbers, but he said there are pawn shop owners who know him. In fact, he said they know all the burglars in the area. It's a network. They buy it and sell it to another pawn shop. Nobody is turned in. Everybody makes money. That's why burglaries are addictive. "We know for a fact somebody is going to buy the goods we steal," he said.

Burglars usually don't show up at night. They don't want a confrontation. They usually come between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. when nobody's home. That's when the kids are at school and the parents are at work.

Dead bolts on your doors can be popped with a crowbar and the same thing with windows. Most burglars can disarm alarm systems. In the case of surveillance cameras, they just cover their faces and remove their car license.

Be sure not to leave home with your blinds open. For burglars, it's like window shopping – they call it advertising. Neighbors need to look out for each other. The best thing you can do is to know your neighbors – whether through a neighborhood watch program or just informally.

You have to watch for burglars, because, rest assured, they're watching you!

– Fran Goldman

**Editor's Note:** *The Goldman's recently had their home burglarized.*

Letters to the Editor

Confusion Over Plan Bay Area

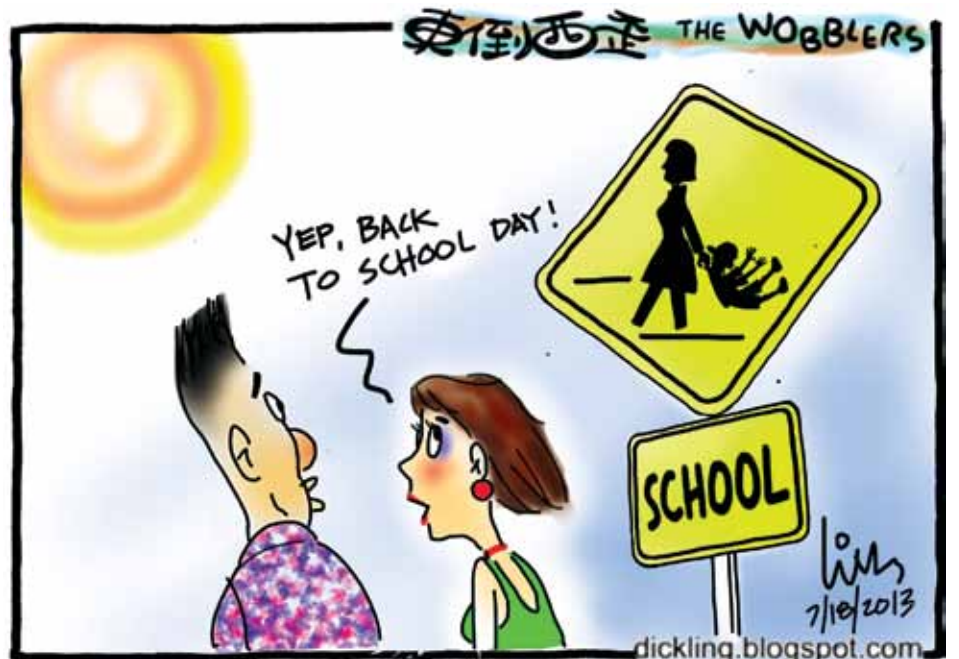
The histrionics involved in recent letters to the editor would be laughable if they were not so disturbing. There is, understandably, quite a bit of confusion about Plan Bay Area and its effects on Orinda. My intention here is not to debate the plan itself, but to bring to light some of the more noxious comments that have recently been made.

Most critics of the plan denounce the "stack and pack, low/very low-income housing projects" that could be built. The trouble, apparently, is that such housing will bring "riffraff" into the area,

turning our beloved city into "the next Manhattan."

Let us be clear: it is not the threat of crime or overcrowding that bothers us. It is the increase in low-income families, likely racial minorities, who will "pollute" our town with their very presence. Racism and classism have been couched in claims about preserving our character or keeping our community safe.

I do not have to remind us all of the shameful decision in 2004 to avoid building a homeless shelter at the site of the old Orinda library. The discourse then was very much the same—no one dared broach the



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subject of race, instead focusing on milder topics like decreased property values.

Again, I did not write this letter to advocate for (or against) Plan Bay Area. Rather, I am asking that we all be mindful of the language we use and that we challenge each other when appropriate. When colleagues claim, as an example, that low-income housing is "socialist," it is our job to unpack the classist fear in that word. When

they say a homeless shelter "threatens" our town, we must ask what kind of threat is implied.

The median household income in Orinda is nearly \$200,000. The proportion of Latino and black residents – those most at risk of poverty – is less than four percent. We simply must confront the class and race privileges with which we are endowed.

– Max Coleman

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## POLICE / FIRE



## POLICE BLOTTER

June 2013

**False Residential Alarms:** Officers responded to 139 false alarm calls throughout the city.

**Burglary – Auto:** 1 incident reported on Camino Pablo.

**Burglary – Commercial:** 1 incident reported on Camino Sobrante.

**Burglary – Miscellaneous:** 1 incident reported on Ardilla Rd.

**Burglary – Residential:** 11 incidents reported on Bates Blvd. (2), Diablo View Dr. (2), Gardiner Ct., Queensbrook Pl., Brookside Rd., Martha Rd., Tahos Rd., La Cuesta, and Bobolink Rd.

**Hit and Run – Misdemeanor:** 1 incident on Lucille Way

**Grand Theft from Vehicle:** 1 incident on Risa Ct.

**Petty Theft – From Vehicle:** 3 incidents on La Vuelta, Warford Terr., and Valley View Dr.

**Stolen Vehicle:** 2 incidents reported on Camino Pablo/Hwy. 24 off-ramp eastbound and Wilder Rd.

**Vandalism – Felony:** 2 incidents on Heather Ln./Valley Dr. and El Toyonal.

**Vehicle Accident with Injuries:** 2 incidents on Camino Pablo and Moraga Way.

**Vehicle Accident with Property Damage:** 5 incidents on Moraga Way/Woodland Rd., Greystone Terr., Glorietta Blvd., Canon Dr., and Camino Pablo/Manzanita Dr.

**Arrests**

**Driving Under the Influence – MISD:** 1 arrest on Bryant Way/Moraga Way

**Driving Under the Influence – MISD < .08:** 2 arrests on Hall Dr./Queensbrook Pl. and Hwy. 24 off-ramp westbound @ Orinda off-ramp westbound

**Other - Misdemeanor:** 1 arrest on Camino Pablo

**Stolen Vehicle:** 1 arrest on Camino Pablo/Hwy 24 off-ramp eastbound.

**Warrant Arrest:** 3 arrests on Camino Pablo/Via Corte, Theatre Square, and Camino Sobrante.

**Orinda BART Station**

**Grand Theft:** 1 incident

**Petty Theft:** 1 incident

– Compiled by Jeanette Irving,  
Orinda Police Department

## Former Police Chief Honored



Mayor Amy Worth presented former Police Chief Jeffrey Jennings with a certificate commending his service to the City of Orinda. Councilmembers praised Jennings for his accessibility to the community and for his professionalism. Jennings is now a Deputy Chief for the BART Police Department.

SALLY HOGARTY

## MOFD Appoints Interim Fire Chief and Fills Board Vacancy

By DAVID DIERKS  
Assistant Editor

**New Interim Chief**

At the July 15 Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) board meeting, Battalion Chief Stephen Healy was appointed Interim Fire Chief, replacing Fire Chief Randall Bradley, who submitted a letter of resignation on June 25 with an effective date of July 16, 2013. Bradley will be taking a new position as fire chief with the Modesto Regional Fire Authority, which is closer to his home in Manteca. Bradley said the move will cut his daily commute from three hours to 15 minutes.

The board has formed a Fire Chief Selection Ad Hoc Committee to hire a consultant to manage the selection and hiring process for a new fire chief. The ad hoc committee was chosen to provide oversight on the recruitment, selection and hiring process with an outside consultant because there is a potential internal candidate.

**Board of Directors Vacancy**

On May 15, Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) Board of Directors president Frank Sperling resigned because he was moving out of the district. The resulting reshuffling of board positions found board vice-president John Wyro elected to the president's seat. To fill remaining positions, Alex Evans became vice-president, Steve Anderson became secretary and Fred Weil became treasurer.

Sperling's resignation left the board with a vacancy, which could be filled three ways. If the board does nothing, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors will appoint a

new member of the board. The board could, however, choose to make an appointment or to hold an election. Because it is an odd year, an election would cost \$37,000 and would be held as a special election in November with the vacant seat empty until December 2013.

At their June 20 meeting, the MOFD board decided in a three to one vote to invite applicants to apply for appointment. Weil, the dissenting voter, cautioned, "I'm concerned about an appointment process. I think that the choice should be made by the voters. It may cost a little more, but for us to be making that decision is inconsistent with what we've done in the recent past. There is less reason to fill the vacancy in the circumstance where there will be four board members."

The rest of the board felt that the appointment process was the best route because the last time MOFD went the election route, all candidates ran unopposed. Evans said, "In my case, no one ran against me, as was the case with Director Anderson. We were both interested in the appointment. There was no appointment. We both ran unopposed. It is pretty frequent that these elections run with only one candidate." Anderson added, "I am very uncomfortable with a four person board because there is no way we can reconcile."

Applications were due on July 10. Three applications were submitted and interviews were conducted at the July 22 special MOFD board meeting. The Division 1 position was appointed to Kathleen Conroy Famulener, who will be sworn in at the next MOFD board meeting.

For more information, visit [www.mofd.org](http://www.mofd.org).

## Additional Police Activity During May/June

- On June 14, officers responded to a residential burglary where the suspects kicked in the front door of a house. The homeowner was home and called the police. The area was searched but the suspect was not found. A neighbor was contacted, and he stated that he saw the suspects in the neighborhood jumping a fence about a half hour before the incident. The neighbor stated that he was in a hurry and did not have time to call the police. We would like to remind everyone that the police need your help in apprehending suspects. Do not hesitate to call when you notice suspicious activity.
- Officers Pryor and Patacsil attended a neighborhood watch meeting and answered questions about recent burglaries and crime trends. They also stressed for the community to be vigilant - know your neighbors and the vehicles they drive and communicate with your neighbors when you plan to be away from your home for an extended time. As a result of this visit, eleven households signed up for the Home Security Audit.
- The Investigation Unit arrested a subject in Oakland with two no bail warrants. This subject was responsible for two recent commercial burglaries in Orinda. The suspect was interviewed and confessed to the crimes.
- The Investigation Unit packaged five felonies and three misdemeanor cases for filing by the D.A. They exchanged information with Pleasant Hill Police and positively identified a known burglar who is now in custody. The unit followed up on an investigation involving Nordstrom in Walnut Creek regarding a possible ID theft/burglary ring. The Detectives also exchanged information with Moraga PD regarding a possible burglary suspect.
- Officer Gregory stopped a vehicle for California Vehicle Code (CVC) violations. The stop resulted in a passenger going to jail for outstanding warrants while the driver was cited for driving on a suspended license and false registration tags on the vehicle. The vehicle was towed. The occupants were from out of town and a crowbar was found in the front passenger area.
- The investigation unit continued follow up investigations on recent residential burglaries. The unit did surveillance on suspects in Oakland that might be responsible for the residential burglaries. They are also doing a probation search on a subject living in Rodeo who might be related to crimes in Orinda. Orinda detectives are working closely with Lafayette, Fremont, and Oakland Police Departments and the Sheriff's Office on all of the recent burglary cases. Progress has been made and some of the stolen items from Lafayette cases have been recovered.

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BETWEEN THE LINES

◆ LUNCH from page 4

raised over \$1.2 billion for polio eradication. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gave a \$255 million grant which was matched by Rotarians at \$100 million. The Gates Foundation gave another \$100 million, which was also matched by Rotary. Then they gave the clubs three years to make the \$200 million match. When the challenge was met six months early, the



**John Fazel** crowns **Arline Pierre** as Queen of the luncheon. Pierre turned 100 on January 7.

Gates Foundation gave an additional \$50 million. It's an astounding partnership."

Pierce told the audience that as district governor she has worked on many projects, but the one she's most proud of is the Ellen Meadow Prosthetic Hand Foundation. "Ernie Meadows wanted to do something to honor his daughter who was killed in an automobile accident. He hit upon the idea of providing prosthetic hands that would "enable kids to tie their shoes." Meadows designed the hand and was directed to Stack Plastics to get needed material. It was Rotarian Michael Mendonca's company at the time. Mendonca partnered with Meadows to complete the design of the hand and get it distributed. Mendonca is now the president of the Ellen Meadows Prosthetic Hand Foundation. Rotary paid for making the original molds for the hands with over 13,000 having been distributed thus far. The club has been responsible for the majority of the fundraising for the hands, which has reduced the cost to just \$50 each. Pierce concluded her remarks by saying she was proud to be a Rotarian where "we change lives one project at a time."

The Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club sponsored the event along with BHG Mason McDuffie Real Estate and the Orinda Community Church. Members of the various groups pitched in to provide a delicious chicken luncheon with all the trimmings.

Between the Lines  
Summer Reading: The Long  
and the Short of It

Marian Nielsen, Orinda Books



**M**eg Donohue (*The Art of Eating Cupcakes* and *All the Summer Girls*) opened a recent essay in *Publishers Weekly* with a celebratory cheer for the kickoff of summer, or what she prefers to call "the reading season." She traces this back to the summer months of her youth when school work didn't limit the amount of leisure reading one could do – and you could choose your own books! I think a little of that sense of summer as "free" reading time lingers in all of us. In June and early July, bookstore visitors of all ages are in search of the perfect "summer" read.

Some consider the lazy days of summer an opportunity to dig into something "literary" and mind-expanding while others seek frivolity and "Escape" with a capital "E." Whether the subject is frothy or heavy, the long plane rides that summer brings can often be the best way to do justice to a big fat novel – always more satisfying and meaningful to read in big chunks than in 10 minutes each evening before our eyes close.

Two of our most popular new books this summer, and, at the top of the best-seller lists, have been hefty reads: Khaled Hosseini's *And the Mountains Echoed* and Dan Brown's *Inferno*. Another well-received summer book has been Philipp Meyer's *The Son*, a massive Texas family saga. Meyer's research is extensive as he chronicles one Texas dynasty from the Comanche wars of the mid-19th century to the oil booms of the 20th Century. This is memorable historical fiction that deserves the rave reviews it has received. And moving from fiction to fantasy, length has not deterred readers young and old from gobbling up George R.R. Martin's *Game of Thrones* (all 864 pages of it), the first volume of his *Ice & Fire* series and then galloping on to the subsequent volumes – all long – in the series. According to fans, science fiction and fantasy are better when longer – more pages to enjoy. Martin's fans are anxiously awaiting the paperback edition of *A Dance with Dragons* (#5 in the series) that is due in stores this October.

Also new this season are two totally delightful – as well as shorter and frothier – New York novels: *Fin and Lady* by Catherine Schine and *No One Could Have Guessed the Weather* by Anne-Marie Casey.

Schine (*The Three Weissmans of Westport* and *The New Yorkers*) sets her new novel in the 1960s and brings the freedom-seeking youth of that decade to sparkling life. And, in Anne-Marie Casey's debut novel, readers are introduced to a group of contemporary New York women, their friendships, their affairs, and their often dysfunctional families. Casey's screenwriting background enables her to create "short takes" on her characters that are very effective.

Good reading – short or long – still engages us, sustains us, and informs us. It brightens our summers as well as every month of the year. We are blessed with novelists, biographers, and historians who have the courage get out a yellow pad, open their laptops, or sit down to their loyal Royals and build worlds for us – 19<sup>th</sup> c. Texas, 20<sup>th</sup> c. Afghanistan, contemporary Italy (with touches of Dante), New York City, or totally fictional continents such as Martin's Westeros and Essos. The author, Kate Atkinson, whose own new novel, *Life after Life*, is superb summer reading, writes at the conclusion to her Whitbread-award-winning *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*: "In the end, it is my belief, words are the only things that can construct a world that makes sense." And so many writers have built worlds for our summer enlightenment and entertainment – we are grateful.

We do not want our favorite writers to be like the crayons in *The Day the Crayons Quit*, Drew Daywalt's and Oliver Jeffers's charming new picture book – a superb back-to-school gift for 3 to 7 year olds. Duncan goes to his crayon box one day and finds only a stack of letters addressed to him, one letter from each of his crayons. In his letter, Red Crayon complains about being over-used – too many fire-engines. Orange writes that he and Yellow are not speaking to each other because each thinks *he* should be the color of the sun, while Pink says he is angry because Duncan thinks he is a "girl's" color. Duncan solves his crayons' issue by creating a picture which uses every one of his crayons. We can only hope that none of *our* writers (like the crayons) decide to take the day (or year) off. We hope that they continue to be happy and creative at their laptops and that every summer we have the pleasure of their latest offerings.

Happy Reading!

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## CARS

## CAR TIME

Making the Car Repair Process Easier

By JOHN VANEK



As busy as we are these days, it is hard to make time for the old family hauler. We rely on our vehicles every day, and when they don't run, it is a real hassle. As the years go by and the miles collect, your vehicle is subject to wear and tear. It also requires up-keep and continued maintenance.

Many families have made the decision to keep their current vehicles for a while longer. The owner must also make the decision to take care of it as well. Long term car ownership becomes easier when the owner/operator is a part of the process. It starts with keeping track of your vehicle's maintenance and service intervals. You need to understand what the routine intervals are. Your car care provider will help you with the process, but it is better if you are paying attention. Many motorists contact us regarding maintenance and do not have a clue as to what is required for their car's current mileage. They often don't know when the oil was changed last, when the service was performed, or who performed it.

Taking your vehicle into a facility is a two-part commitment. It is a partnership that involves a skilled facility that is dedicated to honest service, and a car owner that is committed to being part of the process. The easier it is for the car care facility the better it will be for the car owner. I have some tips from the car care provider side that will help the relationship with your car care provider and subsequently improve the service you receive.

The first suggestion is to understand what your vehicle needs at what mileage and what will be required when you take you

car in for service. The maintenance intervals are explained in the owner's manual. You can also find this information on the Internet. In many cases, you are only due for a routine inspection and oil change. It is best to know the history of the maintenance as well. What was done at the last service? Who was the last shop to work on it? Tip number two, find a good shop you can trust and stick with it. When you jump from shop to shop, it makes it difficult to recognize the proper pattern of maintenance and repair. If you have many repairs performed over the years at many different shops, it is difficult for one shop to stand behind the repairs.

Give your facility ample notice before bringing in the vehicle. Have a phone conversation about what is going to take place. If you have an emergency breakdown, then you have no choice but to show up unannounced. However, if you drop in unannounced to check out a problem that has been going on for weeks, you put your car care provider in a situation that could be avoided.

Many motorists also bring in the vehicle to be checked out the day before they go on vacation. What if that vehicle needs more than one day's worth of work? The repair shop will have to buckle down and figure out a way to get it done. It is best to avoid that stress and chaos. Plan on bringing in your vehicle a week before you go on a road trip. Auto repair facilities run a schedule that involves servicing many vehicles in one day. Proper planning and communication on the part of the car owner will help make

[SEE CAR TIME page 22]

## Orinda Country Club Opens Fairway for 9th Annual Classic Car Show

By DAVID DIERKS  
Assistant Editor

This year, the Orinda Classic Car Show returns in September for its 9th anniversary. An added feature again this year will be having a portion of the classic car exhibit on the Orinda Country Club's fairway next to the Orinda Way display area. Chip Herman, organizer of the show, said, "It's the only car show in the East Bay on grass, the ultimate type of car show venue." In addition to allowing cars onto the fairway, the country club and car show organizers will set up a garden pavilion with shaded seating for over 100 as well as a barbeque stand, taco booth and bar for refreshments. "The setting makes the car show the only place to be from 10-3 on September 21. Don't miss one of the greatest experiences that Lamorinda has to offer," added Herman.

The Orinda Country Club has been supporting the car show for the past few years. "A number of our members are participants in the show," said Greg Davis, general manager of the Orinda Country Club. "Chip Herman, who was on the membership outreach committee, approached the club and said he wanted to try to replicate the concourse experience of Pebble Beach." Doug Johnson, a long time exhibitor at the car show added, "It's really nice that the country club does that. Everyone has a big car show on the street. When we got to go on the lawn, it made us really special. It's like saying use my beautiful backyard for your party. It's nice that an exclusive place can be community driven."

Since the expansion onto the country club, car show entries and attendance have increased dramatically. "The club's really



DAVID DIERKS

Doug Johnson's 1935 Bolus trailer is a perennial favorite at the car show.

enjoyed being a part of it. The board and members are all about community and are glad to be a part of it," Davis said.

Anyone who has attended the car show in the last few years will remember Johnson's 1935 Bolus trailer, a precursor to the Airstream trailers. "I've brought lots of things to the show, from a Kaiser Darrin to a Shelby Series 1. This show draws a lot of really nice vehicles, many from Orinda," said Johnson. Another wonderful attraction of the car show is the ability to purchase a ticket to ride in a car during the parade at the end of the show. "We're the only show that gives rides at the show," added Johnson. Ride tickets are \$10, and all proceeds go to Seniors Around Town, an Orinda Association sponsored program which offers alternative transportation to Orinda seniors who cannot drive themselves.

Entries for the car show are still being accepted. The car fee is \$60 and motorcycles are \$35. Entry fees also go to Seniors Around Town. "Mark your calendars to attend and make sure you have your car

[SEE CAR SHOW page 26]



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CONTINUATIONS

◆ RESEARCHERS from page 4

30 different diseases. A vaccine tricks the body's immune system into producing antibodies to fight a form of the virus that is not harmful. Then, if the person ever encounters the real and dangerous virus, the body is ready to prevent it from harming any cells. Thus, common persuasive logic during the polio outbreak seemed to cry out for the development of a vaccine to quell this highly publicized disease.

The quest for a polio vaccine intensified in the early 1950s. In the United States, the vaccine development quest had three main crusaders, Albert Sabin, a long time researcher from the University of Cincinnati, Jonas Salk, a relative newcomer from the University of Pittsburg, and Hillary Koprowski, a scientist in private industry working for Lederle Laboratories.

Sabin and Koprowski championed the live-virus vaccine approach designed to trigger a natural infection strong enough to generate lasting anti-bodies against polio, but an attenuated or weakened virus that was too weak to cause a serious case of the disease. Salk favored a killed-virus version strong enough to produce the desired antibodies without creating a natural infection. At the University of Pittsburgh in 1952, Salk used formaldehyde to inactivate polio-virus. Formaldehyde chemically freezes the virus, effectively stopping its reproduction. However, most polio researchers at the time favored the former strategy, contending that a live-virus would provide better immunity against polio and lead to its complete eradication over time.

Through the Soviet Union's unique connection with the American sponsored co-operative biomedical program, the Chinese medical community gained important insights. China, however, was politically estranged from the United States at the time and lacked direct educational contact with the medical community in America.

In 1959, the opportunity arose for the Chinese, through its political ally the Soviet Union, to explore Sabin and Salt's vaccine programs and to begin the long hard work of developing a program that would work in their country.

A modern laboratory was built in Kunming, China where the environment was perfect for the proliferation of the monkeys essential to development of the live-virus vaccine. The live-virus vaccine had numerous advantages to what was, at that time, a relatively poor country.

Kunming is the capital and largest city of Yunnan province in Southwest China. It is also home to several universities, museums, galleries and other important economic, cultural, and educational institutions. Between 1941 and 1942, Kunming served as Claire L. Chennault's base for the 1st American Volunteer Group of the Chinese Air Force, also known as the Flying Tigers. Chennault's volunteer pilots assisted the Chinese in their defense against the Japanese war machine prior to the United States entry into World War II.

China's supply of polio vaccine has been produced there since the 1960s. "We spent our whole adult life time dedicated to the perfection and distribution of that vaccine," says Cao. Most of this dedicated career was

spent in Kunming, which is now home to the Institute of Medical Biology and Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, which has evolved today from Cao and Dong's original research institute.

With the world's largest population today and 17 million newborn babies each year, China is now the world's fourth largest vaccine market. It also has the largest vaccine manufacturing capabilities in the world.

Cao met her husband at Shanghai Medical College. They were originally trained to be physicians, but in time, they were assigned to the Beijing Institute of Microbiology & Epidemiology. Even though they had attended the same college, they did not know each other until they were sent to this Institute. It was there that they met, fell in love and were married. They spent their married lives working side by side to bring polio under control.

These two dedicated and distinguished doctors worked under very trying and difficult socialist doctrines for most of their adult lives in the pursuit of a most worthy goal, the eradication of polio in their native country. The demands and rigors of their all-consuming work schedule dictated that their children be sent to Shanghai to live with their grandparents until they were adults. Today, even though they are retired from the Institute of Medical Biology

and live in Orinda, they are retained as consultants.

Dong and Cao modestly tell friends they did just what the government exhorted them to do with the skills they had gained through their state directed education and training, an education destined to create a pathway to solving a national tragedy.

Cao came to America on scholarship, conducting research at a lab in Berkeley from 1981 to 1984. Invited to return by her Berkeley supervisor, she coordinated additional studies from 1985 through 1988. Four of her siblings became American citizens. Her brother lives in Orinda and her daughter and son-in-law live in Moraga. Cao and Dong, who prefer being known as retirees rather than scientists or doctors, pronounce life in Orinda as "so good."

The climate in Orinda, according to the couple, is not unlike that of Kunming, China, where the couple lived for a major portion of their lives. Cao says that Kunming is where "all seasons are like spring." She and Dong may often be seen walking around the Orinda Senior Village. As an on-call resident, Cao assists staff, visitors and residents with translation, while Dong serves as a frequent listening ear. Cao and Dong, who saved many lives in their native country, love Orinda, their adopted home.

◆ GALLERY from page 2

watercolors including *Boathouse*, 14" x 22," *In San Gimignano*, 17" x 14" and *Yosemite Valley 2*, 11" x 24." Not long ago, while *plein air* painting on the Moraga-Lafayette Trail, Ehrenhaft had a passerby stop and say, "Oh, wow! I never realized the trail was that pretty." It made his day. He is often surprised by the unpredictability of watercolors and may do a painting two or three times, until he either gets sick of it or gets it right. He has exhibited extensively, won prizes and invites folks to see what he's up to by visiting [www.mesart.com/gehrenhaft](http://www.mesart.com/gehrenhaft).

Denny Weigand is a photographer both on and off the trail. He restores old photographs and teaches Photoshop, among other programs. Orinda Roadrunners gives him an opportunity to get into the countryside. He usually has a camera with him. Look for 16" x 20" photographic prints, *Benicia Railroad Locomotive* and *San Francisco From Crockett* among others. See [www.digitalwhims.com](http://www.digitalwhims.com) for more information.

Ehrenhaft, organizer of the show, says, "We hope that those who view the exhibit will have an enjoyable experience and will be impressed with the variety and quality




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
George Ehrenhaft captures a village's quaint street in his watercolor *In San Gimignano*.

of art being created by their fellow Lamorindans. We also hope that our art will stir the viewers' emotions, cultivate their spirit, foster their creative thinking, and enhance their understanding of themselves and the world. Those goals, after all, are what the humanities are all about."

Visit the gallery 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. Call 254-2814 for more information.

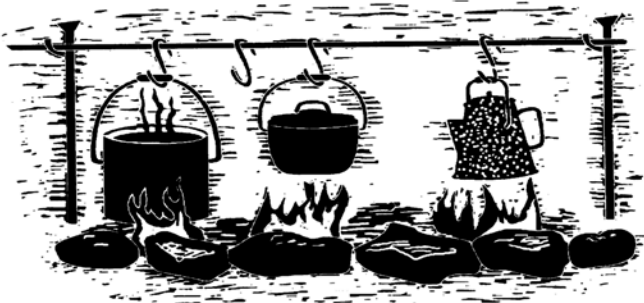
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Friday Night Pre-Party,  
September 20th, 7pm  
"DANCING WITH THE CARS"

Saturday,  
September 21st, 10am-3pm  
ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Sunday,  
September 22nd, 5:30pm and 7:45pm  
"SPEED ON THE SCREEN"

Enjoy vintage and modern exotic cars and motorcycles, food, music, and more! The show will be held in Orinda Village on Orinda Way and the 16th fairway of Orinda Country Club. Join us as a spectator or to show your car or motorcycle! Register online today!



## Enter Your Car and Make Party Reservations Today at [www.OrindaCarShow.com](http://www.OrindaCarShow.com)

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

### Event Schedule

Friday, September 20th, 7pm  
"DANCING WITH THE CARS" FRIDAY NIGHT PRE-PARTY  
The presenting sponsor for this great event is Mechanics Bank.

**A Bootlegger's Bash**  
Come Party in the Plaza! Step back to the Roaring 20's and party under the stars in the plaza at Club 26, Orinda's notorious speakeasy (aka Orinda Library Plaza).

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

For our guests' pleasure, there will be a private showing of exquisite classic cars from the 20's and 30's and ample champagne and bathtub gin to ensure a good time. The evening will feature hosted cocktails, dinner, music and a live auction. Proceeds of this event primarily benefit the Educational Foundation of Orinda.

Saturday **Free Admission**  
September 21st, 10am - 3pm

### 9TH ANNUAL ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The presenting sponsor for this great event is Orinda Motors.

- The show will be held in Orinda Village around Orinda Motors and on Orinda Way.
- This year's car show will expand again to include the 16th fairway at Orinda Country Club with food and beverages served on the fairway!!!
- + 200 Classic and modern exotic cars as well as unique motorcycles
- Lamorinda Idol Winners Performance at Noon
- There will be a special exhibit of Lotus race and sports cars as well as cars that were featured in both of the "Gone in 60 Seconds" movies
- Shaded seating for over 100 to enjoy lunch and refreshments from the Car Show BBQ Booth and Orinda County Club Taco Bar
- Lord's Ice Cream and Candy
- Ride in the Parade of Classic Cars at 3pm
- Buy a 2013 Car Show T-Shirt

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

Sunday  
September 22nd, 5:30 and 7:45pm  
"SPEED ON THE SCREEN" Gone In 60 Seconds....Twice!  
Conclude the great weekend with two American movie classics at the classic art deco Orinda Theatre! Imagine a special screening of both of the "Gone in 60 Seconds" films! Two of the greatest car theft and chase films in history right at the Orinda Theater. Admission \$10 each showing, beer and wine included.

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HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

# Hot August Nights Bring Cool Jazz, Smoldering Blues and More

By MAGGIE SHARPE  
Staff Writer

Don't sizzle inside this summer. There is plenty of outdoor entertainment this month with three free concerts at the Community Park as well as under-the-stars productions by California Shakespeare Theater and the Orinda Starlight Village Players.

There will also be a performance by Lamorinda Idol finalists on August 24 at 3 p.m. at Orinda Theatre Square.

Bask in the balmy evening air as Orinda Starlight Village Players celebrates "30 years in the park" with Bill Chessman's



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
The band **littledog2** from Moraga performs on August 13 at the Orinda Community Center Park beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Live Radio Plays. Each weekend will see the cast perform two radio shows per night for a total of six different radio

plays performed over the three week run. "These are the plays we've done over the last three months at Under The Sun Studios in Concord," says Chessman. "Five of the six pieces are comedies, but *Crazy Mike's Place* is very dark."

The radio plays run from August 9 through 24 at Orinda Community Park, 28 Orinda Way. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 p.m., Sunday, August 18 at 4 p.m. and Thursday, August 22 at 8 p.m.

Don't forget to bring a blanket. For tickets and information, call 925-528-9225 or visit [www.orsvp.org](http://www.orsvp.org).

There will be more than a wee bit of fun when Celtic Sands takes the stage at the Orinda Library on August 7 as part of the library's Summer Music Series. The concert kicks off at 6:30 p.m.

The talented four-piece band will perform a mix of traditional reels and jigs, Celtic airs and ballads with a dash of Celtic rock.

Founding member Lara Garner is a classically trained pianist who also plays whistle, flute, recorder and bodhran – the traditional Irish drum. Alina Polonskaya hails from the Ukraine. She is a classical violinist who has performed all over the Bay Area. Dave Sahn plays guitar and says



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
**Celtic Sands** brings some Celtic rock plus traditional tunes to the Orinda Library on August 7 at 6:30 p.m.

he loves all styles of folk music from Irish to swing. Rounding out the band is Greg DeLaune on guitar and vocals.

The city hosts two free Summer Concerts in the Park in August beginning with *The Crisis* on August 6 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The group features their distinctive blues and rock covering classic artists like Janis Joplin and The Rolling Stones, blues favorites by Bonnie Raitt and The Allman Brothers and recent hits by Radiohead, Adele and Pearl Jam.

"The Crisis has been performing in the East Bay for the past decade, and we are happy to return to Orinda for the 2013 concert series," says band member Alison Wegener.

[SEE AUGUST page 13]

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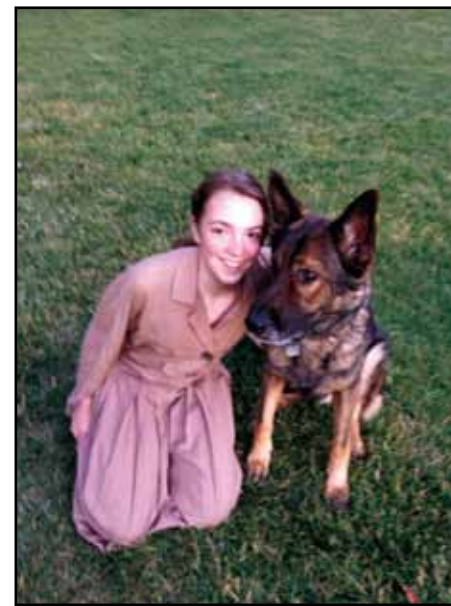
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
**Natalie Chapin** and **Bear** from Orinda Starlight Village Players first production of the season: Frank Vosper's *Love from a Stranger*, adapted from an Agatha Christie story.

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HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

◆ AUGUST from page 12

Starting at 6 p.m., concertgoers will be able to chill out with some Loard's Ice Cream or a "dog" from Rebel Dog Catering.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Emily Kitchens stars in Cal Shakes production of *Lady Windermere's Fan* running August 14 - September 8 at the Bruns Amphitheater.

Also at the park on August 13, grab a blanket for littledog2, from right down the road in Moraga. This three-guy, two-gal band promises to have the audience on its feet and dancing to rock standards from the '70s, '80s and '90s – as well as current crowd favorites.

If you don't have time to pack a picnic,

there will be three food trucks on site from 5:30 p.m., including The Melt Bus SF, Street Dogs and Yummi BBQ – as well as cool treats from Loard's Ice Cream.

The curtain rises August 14 on Oscar Wilde's popular play, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, at California Shakespeare Theater. Like many of Wilde's comedies, the play - first produced in 1892 - biting satirizes the morals of Victorian society, particularly marriage.

The story centers on Lady Windermere, who suspects her husband of having an affair. Much intrigue and confusion ensues. Lord Darlington sums up the messy situation in a one-liner: "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."

The play runs through September 8 at Bruns Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespeare Theatre Way, Orinda. For tickets and information, call 510-548-9666 or visit [www.calshakes.org](http://www.calshakes.org).

Check out the talents of *Lamorinda Idol* finalists on August 24 at 3 p.m. when they perform at Orinda Theatre Square.

"This is a wonderful event as it provides kids a fun and casual setting that is very supportive," said Casey Sasner, publicity co-chair of the 2013 competition.

Twenty-five finalists in categories ranging from solo to group performers will entertain. *Idol*, now in its 9th year, is open to local students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Moraga's Summer Concert Series happens every Thursday evening at Moraga Commons Park from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and offers a nice mix of music. August attrac-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The ever-popular band **The Crisis** returns to perform at the Orinda Community Park on August 6 at 6:30 p.m.

tions include Gator Beat (Cajun Zydeco, August 1); Moonalice (early San Francisco rock, August 8); Zebop! (Latin rock, August 15); and Rodeo House (country music, August 22).

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy dinner at the Snack Bar if you don't feel like cooking. It opens at 6 p.m. The park is located at 1149 Moraga Road.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

August 16 - 18  
Lafayette's Town Hall Theatre Company  
A Student Production  
925-283-1557,  
[www.townhalltheatre.com](http://www.townhalltheatre.com)



TOM BLACK

Lamorinda Idol finalists (L-R) Nathan Correll, Elizabeth Becker and Micheaela Sasner, shown here with John Fazel at their performance at the annual Three-Quarter Century Luncheon, will be joined by fellow Idol finalists for a concert on August 24 at 3 p.m. in Theatre Square.

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# Mechanics Bank's Winning Parade Entry



JESSICA SMITH

**Mechanics Bank** struck it rich as it won the grand Prize for Best Overall parade entry. Looks like the folks over at the bank are cooking up some hot deals for customers!

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SALLY HOGARTY

The petting zoo in the park following the parade is always a popular destination.

The Orinda Arts Council presents

# Lamorinda Idol Finals

formerly Orinda Idol

Orinda Theatre  
Sunday,  
September 8, 2013  
11:00 am - 7:30 pm

from previous Orinda Idol Finals:

**Schedule By Category:**

- 11:00 am Elementary K-2 and 3-5
- 1:00 pm Groups K-5 and 6-8
- 3:15 pm Middle School
- 5:00 pm High School
- 7:00 pm Announcement of Winners

For a list of Finalists visit [www.OrindaArtsCouncil.org](http://www.OrindaArtsCouncil.org)

**See More of the 2013 Winners & Finalists This Fall!**

- Aug. 24 Orinda Theatre Square Performance
- Sept. 21 Orinda Classic Car Show
- Sept. 24 Orinda Restaurant Tour

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4TH OF JULY

# Congratulations to July 4 Parade Winners!

- Best Musical Group – Spirit of 29
- Largest Participation – Sleepy Hollow Swim and Tennis Club
- Best Antique Car – Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary
- Most Original Mode of Transportation – Chris MacIntosh on motorized Lay-z-Boy
- Best Costume Coordination – Orinda Karate-do
- Best Animal Group – Lamorinda 4-H Club
- Best Family Group – The McCaulou Family
- Best Community Service Group – Lamorinda Boy Scouts of America
- Best Old Fashioned Float – Spirit of 29
- Most Clever Theme Unit – Miramonte Latin Club
- Best Out-of-Town Entry – East Bay Banjo Club
- Best Small Antique Car – Alan Smith – 1963 Corvair
- Best Decorated Group Vehicle – Lamorinda Republican Women Federated
- Best School – Miramonte Football team and Cheer Squad
- Best Costume – Orinda Association
- Best Spirit Group – Moraga Valley Pool/MVP Swim Team
- Best Equestrian Unit – Friends of Joaquin Moraga Adobe – 4 Horse Hitch Wagon
- Most Informative – Lamorinda Democratic Club
- Most Refreshing – Jeremy the Juggler
- Oldest Group of Participants – Orinda Masonic Center
- Best Young Entry – All That Entertainment
- Best Neighborhood Group – Orinda Park Pool Swim Team
- Sister-to-Sister Award – Orinda/Tabor Sister City Foundation
- Best Marching Group – Orinda Volunteer Marching Band
- Most Cheerful – Meadow Swim and Tennis Club Swim Team
- Most Enthusiastic Group – Peter Pan Foundation
- Best Commercial Entry – Blodgett's Abbey Carpet Flooring
- Loudest Group – Orinda Country Club Swim Team
- Best Fleet of Cars – Orinda Classic Car Show
- Best Military Tank – Kids in Mini Tank – 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment
- Grand Prize (Best Overall) – Mechanics Bank



The Friends of the Moraga Adobe rode in style to a win for Best Equestrian Unit in the parade.



Boy Scouts and local veterans lead the parade.



Little red wagons continue to be a popular way to ride in the annual 4th of July parade.

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4TH OF JULY / HELPING OTHERS



PHOTOS BY SALLY HOGARTY  
**Phoebe Wood (L) and Tatum Schmedding** enjoy the pancake breakfast before the parade while **Blanch (L) and her owner Emilie Lyon** take time out for a photo op.

Thank You July 4 Volunteer Team!

Co-Chairs Chris Laszcz-Davis and Bill Waterman thank their dedicated group of volunteers without whose help the July 4 parade and celebration would not be possible!

- |                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Andrew Radlow  | Mark Roberts                     |
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| Bobbie Landers | Miramonte High School Cheer Team |
| Cindy Powell   | Nick Ross                        |
| Claire Roberts | Paul Dew                         |
| Isela Barel    | Richard Westin                   |
| Jan Cushman    | Ron Barel, Sr.                   |
| Jay Lifson     | Ron Melvin                       |
| Jim Lautz      | Sally Hogarty                    |
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| Joe Haughin    | Steve Meagher                    |
| John Fazel     | Steve Stahle                     |
| Lisa Burlini   | Suzanne Tom                      |
| Marie Waterman | Timi Rana                        |

Ace It! Tennis Tournament Raises \$7,800



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Orindawoods annual tennis tournament raised almost \$8,000 this year for the Carol Ann Reed Breast Health Center at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center in Oakland. The center is named after Orinda resident Carol Ann Reed who lost her battle with the disease. Shown above are winners of the Mixed Doubles round, **Steve Stanton** and **Janet Govan**.

MOFD Personnel to the Rescue



PHOTOS BY ANN O'CONNELL-NYE

What could have been a disastrous event for local resident **Helen O'Drain** turned out fine thanks to nearby fire personnel (L to R) **Jon Ford**, **Evan Edminster**, **Aaron Bates**, and **Steven Gehling**. O'Drain had parked her car in the parking lot of the Orinda Village shopping center when she dropped her keys down the drain. Ann O'Connell-Nye decided to help by walking to the fire station on the corner and asking for assistance. A fire truck and four firemen were immediately dispatched. After a bit of probing with a long pole, the firemen were able to retrieve her keys.

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STUDENTS

## OIS Golf Team Has Successful Season



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 2013 OIS golf team had fun and learned what competitive golf is all about. (Top row L-R): **Coach Chris Hoff, Jordan Grelling, Christian Lim, Brendon Choe, Andrew Hoff, Sam Sernett, Ben Hogan**, and assistant coach **Jose Anaya**. (Bottom row L-R): **Nick Millham, Sarina Chang, Edward Anaya, Tori James, Alex Meyers, Kieran Weiszmann, and Franny Caronna**.

## New Meet Record Set at Meadow's Mini Meet

By AMY CAMPBELL BROWN  
Contributing Writer

Over 600 swimmers between the ages of three and eight from nine Lamorinda swim clubs participated in this year's 43rd Annual Mini Meet. The event took place at Meadow Swim and Tennis Club on Sunday, July 14.

Six-year-old Meadow swimmer Grant Kurtz broke the meet record for the boys 6-and-under 25 yard freestyle, which was set back in 1972 by two-time Olympian Matt Biondi, with a time of 16.19 seconds. In the same race, Bronsen Trunzo from Miramonte Swim Club tied the old record with a time of 16.50 seconds.

"We are so excited for Grant," said Mini Meet co-chair Mallory Samora. "To break such a longstanding record held by a two-time Olympian is an incredible feat."

The first place trophy went to the Sleepy Hollow Legends for the third year in a row. Orinda Country Club came in second place with Meadow Swim and Tennis Club taking third place.

The final point standings are as follows:  
Sleepy Hollow Legends (518 pts.)  
Orinda Country Club (467 pts.)  
Meadow Swim and Tennis Club (440



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Meadow swim coach **Ben Luchese** (L) presents first place trophy to **Steve Lucas** of the Sleepy Hollow Swimmers.

pts.)  
Moraga Country Club (417 pts.)  
Orinda Park Pool (261 pts.)  
Moraga Valley Pool (253.5 pts.)  
Moraga Ranch Swim Club (230.5 pts.)  
Miramonte Swim Club (147 pts.)  
Campolindo Cabana Club (42 pts.)  
For more information on the annual meet, go to [www.gomeadow.org](http://www.gomeadow.org).



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## Bottoms Up Supports Youngest in Each Age Group

Held at Acalanes High school on July 7, the Bottoms Up swim meet allows those in the bottom of each age group (5-6; 7-8; 9-10; etc.) to compete with just their age group. For instance, most swim meets divide into say 5-6 year olds with the five year olds competing against those 6 and sometimes 7 years old, which can be frustrating for the younger and often less developed swimmers. Sponsored by Moraga Valley Pool, Bottoms Up encourages the younger swimmers who might otherwise drop out of swimming.



CHARLES VOLLMAR

**Aidan Vollmar** was the boy's 11-year-old high point winner in the Bottoms Up swim meet.

### Individual High Point Awards

5 year olds: Josie Haast (Orinda Park Pool); Charlie Hwang (Orinda Country Club)

7 year olds: Maren McDonald (Sleepy Hollow Legends); Henry Eng (Orinda Country Club)

9 year olds: Virginia Vazquez-Azpiri (Moraga Country Club); Chase McFarland (Orinda Park Pool)

11 year olds: Eloise Eng (Orinda

Country Club); Aidan Vollmar (Orinda Park Pool)

13 year olds: Nicole LaCour (Meadow Swim Club); Michael Dakis (Meadow Swim Club)

15 year olds: Madison Tagg (Orinda Park Pool); Spencer Tagg (Orinda Park Pool)

- Sally Hogarty, Editor

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## Move of the Month

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1. Sit on bosu ball with the flat side down.
2. Raise both feet off the floor and find your center of balance.
3. Straighten out both legs, then place hands by the side of your head.
4. Bend one knee and bring it in towards the chest.
5. At the same time twist the torso, so the opposite elbow meets the opposing knee.
6. Repeat for the other knee, twisting the torso to the opposite side.

For more information, contact Sheena with **Living Lean** personal training and eating for elite fitness, at 925-360-7051 or [www.thelivingleanprogram.com](http://www.thelivingleanprogram.com).

## Everyday Changes

### Five signs of CSD (classic spa deficiency)



Bonnie Waters

Do you yearn for time for yourself... time to just get away and “indulge” in a massage, facial, mani and pedi? Do you find it difficult to justify the time and cost? A few hours of TLC at your local day spa can refill your energy and replenish your mental and emotional reserves. If you are displaying many if not most of the classic signs of spa deficiency, a trip to the spa may not be a luxury but rather a necessity. Read on to see if you are suffering from any or all of the signs of “classic spa deficiency.”

1. You suffer from acute “techno-mania.”

#### Key symptoms:

- You find it difficult to switch off your cell phone;
- You suffer anxiety if you don’t check your daily email frequently;
- You are obsessed with what’s happening on your social media pages.

#### Antidote:

Take time away from all your digital devices. Swap out the ringing phone and the glare of the computer screen for the spa’s soft lights, calming music and aromatherapy.

2. Your stress level is off the charts.

#### Key Symptoms:

- Your muscles are knotted and you find it difficult to relax;
- Your blood pressure is elevated;
- You don’t laugh as often as you would like.

#### Antidote:

Massage and Spa Services are calming and can actually lower your blood pressure

and improve circulation. Don’t ignore your own needs. Give yourself permission to relax and renew. Remember: You can **DE-STRESS FOR SUCCESS!**

3. Your beauty routine is in a rut.

#### Key Symptom:

- Your daily regime is like a Pavlovian response – the alarm clock rings and you respond in the same way you have for years;
- You haven’t changed your skincare routine or makeup techniques and products in decades.

#### Antidote:

Include a facial and makeup application during your spa-getaway. The experts at your spa getaway can give you an updated, fresh new look and suggest anti-aging skincare products that can reverse the signs of aging.

4. You haven’t spent sufficient quality time with your mom, sister, girlfriends or significant other.

#### Key Symptoms:

- You keep saying, “We need to find time to get together;”
- Together time is frequently relegated to texting, emailing or talking on the phone to those who mean the most to you.

#### Antidote:

The spa environment can be a wonderful gathering point for family and friends. It is a perfect opportunity to relax and renew relationships. Unlike traditional family gatherings, no one has to do dishes. Some spas have special couples rooms where you can share soothing massage and spa treatments alongside your partner.

5. You’ve forgotten how to really enjoy life.

#### Key Symptoms:

- Life occurs as one challenge after the other;
- You experience anxiety and worry;
- You ruminate about the past and worry about the future and have a difficult time being in the moment.

#### Antidote:

Remember -- life is precious and fleeting. In the relaxed environment of the spa, get in touch with what is most important to you. Let your spa takeaway be to stop and enjoy the moment on a daily basis with an ongoing “attitude of gratitude.”

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STUDENTS

# Miramonte Public Speaking Places in Top 10 at National Championships

By KIM WOLFE  
Contributing Writer

The Educational Foundation of Orinda proudly announces that teacher and head coach Kristen Plant and nine of her best and brightest competitive public speakers won top honors at this year's National Forensic League (NFL) tournament held in Birmingham, Alabama from June 16-21.

Each spring, thousands of students across the country compete in local speech and debate tournaments to earn the privilege of qualifying for NFL Nationals, the largest academic competition in the world. Plant, who was also honored with her first Diamond Award for her achievements as a coach, had high expectations for this year's group after the Matadors had enjoyed

great success at the California High School Speech Association's State Championships in April, and the team did not disappoint.

Incoming sophomores Jonathan Zhou and Daniel Ginsburg advanced to the elimination rounds of Public Forum debate on the topic "Resolved: The benefits of American drone strikes against foreign targets outweigh the harms." Another incoming sophomore, Bryan Wang, finished in the top 20 in supplemental event, Extemporaneous Commentary, where students analyze the issues of the day in the style of television news-anchors. Daniel Galarza, an incoming senior, represented well on the theatrical side of the competition, with his Dramatic Interpretations of literature, and incoming senior and team co-president, Ethan Miles, advanced to elimination rounds in International Extemporaneous

Speaking.

Most notably, Miramonte's continued success in Congressional Debate makes it the premier high school for Congressional Debate in the country. Graduated senior, and this year's state champion in the event, Charles Correll, earned 14th in the Senate, and incoming senior Bennett Stehr placed 11<sup>th</sup>. Incoming senior Connor Meckfessel placed in the top 5 in the House of Repre-

share all that they learned at Nationals with the rest of the team.

Thanks to the Matadors' achievements in both speech and debate events, Miramonte was honored as a School of Outstanding Distinction, an award given to the top 10 schools at the national championships. Less than 20 percent of American high schools offer public speaking programs, but Miramonte Public Speaking is thriving

# Young Filmmaker at Famed Interlochen Summer Camp

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY  
Staff Writer

Summer camp for Orinda resident and Campolindo senior Nolan Englund offers a "very strange juxtaposition of camp life and college life," he says. "We sleep and hang out in rustic cabins with beds made for people half our size, but attend classes in a campus that rivals my high school or even some colleges," adds the 17 year old.

But it's the music that really makes a difference. "People are playing music everywhere," he enthuses. "It such an amazing feeling walking to class and passing a practice room where some kid is playing a cello better than you have ever heard...until you pass the next room!"

That's normal at the renowned Interlo-

chen Arts Camp in Michigan, where Englund was awarded a scholarship to study digital filmmaking. The world's premier summer arts program offers a wide variety of disciplines to aspiring young artists in grades 3 through 12. The camp attracts students, faculty and staff from all over the United States, as well as 40 other countries. This summer, over 3,000 student artists studied dance, theatre, creative writing, visual arts, music and film.

Englund has made films on the weekends and in his Campolindo Video Production class for the past two years. He won the Interlochen scholarship with his short film *Writing for Life*, which was entered into the Lamorinda Acalanes Unified Film Festival. Under the tutelage of Campolindo teacher Justin Seligman, Englund has entered other

[SEE FILMMAKER page 24]



Miramonte Public Speaking Team (top row L-R): Head Coach **Kristen Plant**, **Connor Meckfessel**, **Charles Correll**, **Bennett Stehr**, **Daniel Galarza**, **Bryan Wang**, and coach **Sandra Maguire**. (Bottom row L-R): **Daniel Ginsburg**, **Ethan Miles**, **Mathison Young**, and **Jonathan Zhou**.

representatives for the second year in a row. Retired teacher and hall of fame coach, Sandra Maguire, continues to serve the program as an assistant coach focusing on Congressional Debate. Maguire joined Plant and the students on stage at the awards ceremony to accept the Senator Karl E. Mundt Congressional Trophy. This marks the third time Miramonte has won this prestigious award recognizing ongoing excellence in this form of debate where students author and debate legislation in a format similar to our elected legislators. Stehr and Meckfessel, the Congress co-captains, can't wait to

after 30 years with the help of EFO funding. Indeed, over 180 students signed-up for the class next year, so Plant's colleague Franck Reyherme (who, like Plant, graduated from Miramonte having enjoyed success as a competitive Public Speaker) will help teach a class next year. "I'm so excited that seven of our national competitors will return to lead the team next year. Whether students focus on building communication skills in the classroom, or test their talents in competition, Miramonte Public Speaking allows them to speak their truth and to gain invaluable life skills," says Plant.



Nolan Englund prepares to film one of his short student films.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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CONTINUATIONS

◆ MOFD from page 1

this business, very few people think they're a minority. Opposition tends to be over represented at meetings. Honestly, I don't know if there are more people for it or against it. We have a financial plan that if everything goes well, we're in reasonably good shape. But it requires some things to happen that I'm not confident will happen. If we have seven stations, who should pay for those? I propose we continue to work out an agreement where, rather than MOFD paying for five and ConFire/Lafayette paying for two, we pay for four and a half and they pay for two and a half. That saves us some money and improves our financial stability in the long run." MOFD board member Steve Anderson added, "When I look at the total picture of MOFD and what this opportunity represents to us, it is a very compelling argument. It represents long term sustainability for this district."

MOFD Station 43, at 20 Via Las Cruces in Orinda, has been in the planning process of being rebuilt since February 2012. Station 43 was to be being rebuilt because it does not meet seismic standards, modern fire apparatus does not fit in the apparatus bays, and the living area does not adequately accommodate mixed gender staffing. ConFire Station 16, at 4007 Los Arabis Avenue in Lafayette, was closed in June 2012 because mold and rodents infested the station. At that time, the crew from Station 16 was relocated to ConFire Station 15. In January 2013, the crew from Station 16 was eliminated due to budget cutbacks.

In January, ConFire Chief Louder contacted Chief Bradley and asked if MOFD would be interested in working with ConFire to build a new station where each district would pay for half of the station. A station costs about \$2 million to run per year. A joint station would therefore cost each district about \$1 million per year to run, saving each fire district about \$1 million a year. Chief Bradley brought it to the MOFD board and they gave him the go ahead to look into the deal and put the Station 43 rebuild on hold.

In March, MOFD staff found a prop-



DAVID DIERKS  
The south side of the property at 1035 Lorinda Lane and El Nido Ranch Road which may become a joint fire station between MOFD and the City of Lafayette/ConFire.

erty on the Lafayette/Orinda border, 1035 Lorinda Lane, that they felt would work. The preliminary time studies from this location indicated that some of the areas currently serviced by Station 43 would have an increase in response times, but that other areas currently served by Station 43 would have a decrease in response time and that areas currently serviced by Station 45 (downtown Orinda) could be covered by the new station and those response times would decrease.

MOFD placed their half of the deposit, \$7,500, on the property in March. ConFire was not able to get their board of directors, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, to approve their half of the deposit before the deposit deadline due to scheduling conflicts, so MOFD placed the second half of the deposit, another \$7,500, for ConFire in April. The Board of Supervisors rejected the proposed joint station at their May 14 meeting, leaving MOFD responsible for the entire \$15,000 deposit.

Since the property in question was not located in Orinda, MOFD was unable to purchase the property. Chief Bradley contacted the City of Lafayette to see if they would purchase the property on behalf of

MOFD. Chief Bradley said, "I believe the location we've chosen for that fire station is by far the best location to provide services to the western portion of Lafayette and the eastern portion of Orinda. I still believe that's a better location than our current Fire Station 43." The City of Lafayette agreed, and the proposal was brought before the MOFD board. Don Tatzin, vice mayor of Lafayette said, "We took the position reaffirming our support of the idea of a

consolidated station. On the basis that it obviously provides better service to us and over the long term takes costs out of the county wide fire system."

On June 10, the Lafayette City Council formed an Emergency Services Task Force to look at the efficiency of fire and emergency medical services provide to Lafayette residents. The report provided the Lafayette City Council with the processes that the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) requires for the potential detachment of Lafayette from ConFire and the formation of a Lamorinda Fire District.

At the June 20 MOFD board meeting, with Lafayette's interest in a combined station confirmed, the board gave Chief Bradley authorization to enter into negotiations with the owner of the Lorinda Lane property. Chief Bradley arranged a purchase agreement with the owner of 1035 Lorinda Lane with the following key terms: purchase price of \$1,225,000; "as-is" sale; escrow to close by July 25, 2013; the seller is entitled to lease back the home for 18 months at \$1,000/month; and the seller has the first right to negotiate if the property is subdivided creating surplus lands. Chief Bradley was also given authorization to talk with Lafayette and ConFire to facilitate the purchase which resulted in the Joint Powers Agreement with Lafayette.

For more information, visit [www.mofd.org](http://www.mofd.org).

◆ MEDALLION from page 1

presence of the young artists, revealing all of the detail that will adorn the Fourth Bore for years to come. The six hexagonal medallions are three feet in diameter and will be divided between the east and west portals of the new Fourth Bore.

Chaya Tong says, "My drawing illustrates what I love best about Contra Costa County: rolling green hills, bright sun, and the many plants." Daniell McCann says, "In this design, I tried to capture Mt. Diablo's rugged hills with the classic oak tree in front." Penelope Watson adds, "When I think of the Bay Area, I immediately picture San Francisco but that's not all the beauty surrounding our home. Entering the Caldecott Tunnel, I see the towering hills with wildlife everywhere, especially deer." These young artists have made history by designing an important architectural element for the project, which will be enjoyed by motorists for decades to come.

The Fourth Bore Project will alleviate regional traffic congestion and represents a partnership between the Federal Highway Administration, the California Department of Transportation, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Contra Costa

Transportation Authority and the Alameda County Transportation Commission to build a two-lane fourth tunnel bore north



CONTRIBUTE PHOTO  
Penelope Watson of Pleasant Hill was one of the student artists chosen to have her design grace the medallions on the east side of the Caldecott Tunnel.

of the existing three Caldecott tunnels. The fourth bore is slated to open to traffic in late 2013.

For more information, go to [www.caldecott-tunnel.org](http://www.caldecott-tunnel.org) and search for Medallion Design Competition.

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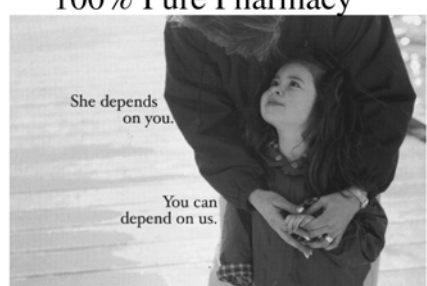
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LOCAL BUSINESS / LOCAL ORGANIZATION

# Charlie's Chocolate Factory (also known as See's Candy) Now in Lafayette

By CHARLIE JARRETT  
Staff Writer

Lafayette has a brand new See's Candy Shop, 3518 Mt. Diablo Blvd., right smack dab in the middle of the Lafayette Shopping Center, with Jamba Juice on one side and Peet's Coffee and Tea on the other. With more than 100 candy varieties, each made from scratch, this is a super sweet spot loaded with luscious chocolate candies, peanut brittle, lollipops and a plethora of other scrumptious products to tempt the palates of candy aficionados throughout Contra Costa County.

The Lafayette shop will resonate with See's Candy lovers, refreshing fond memories with everything familiar, ranging from its iconic black-and-white checkered décor to its friendly and accommodating customer service reminiscent of a gentler time when store clerks were anxious to meet, greet and serve their customers. See's 90-year tradition of providing a product where only the very best of every ingredient will ever be used, stands out from first sight to



CHARLIE JARRETT  
Employee **Renee Betz** (L) and store manager: **Kathy Cormier** display the delicious treats at the new See's Candy in Lafayette.

last bite. See's is, of course, famous for its boxed chocolates, truffles, nuts and chews, and lollipops – all of which are gluten free. At the candy counter, guests can create their own custom mixed boxes of candy to keep or to wrap up as a gift for others, aided by See's welcoming and upbeat service providers. Don't forget, every guest is always offered a free sample upon arrival in the shop. How can you resist?

See's Candy has been and still is one of America's major success stories. In 1920, an immigrant, by the name of Charles A. See, his mother Mary, his wife Florence and their two children, Laurance and Margaret, pulled up their Canadian roots and moved to the new booming land of opportunity, Los Angeles, California. It was Mary

See's legendary family candy recipes and Charles' marketing and sales experience that gave him the confidence to open a new store in a city congested with a myriad of candy makers. See's Candy was founded on two principals that would never ever be compromised, his mother's recipes and the finest butter, cream, chocolate, fruits and nuts that money could buy.

A 38-year-old Charles See opened his first candy store in Los Angeles in 1921. He didn't have to invent a motherly icon for his candy company as General Mills (Betty Crocker) did that same year. Charles already had his own saintly mother, Mary See. Before long, the visage of his mother adorned every See's Candy box as it still does today. Business challenges came and went, and, by 1925, there were a dozen See's Candy stores across Los Angeles. But four years later, the greatest challenge came when the stock market crashed, and in just four years, 13 million Americans were put out of work.

Smart marketing, good luck and a key new employee, Ed Peck, kept the company on the slow but steady road to recovery, when just about everyone else was failing. In 1936, Ed Peck opened their first facility in San Francisco. In 1939, See's Candy was introduced to the world by way of the See's exhibit store and miniature candy kitchen at the 1939 San Francisco World's Fair on Treasure Island. There were 49 See's Candy stores in California at that time.

Even Lucy and Ethyl loved See's Candy, and in 1952, a producer from the *I Love Lucy* show called the plant manager Forrest Jordan in Los Angeles' La Cienega plant and told him that they wanted to use the candy production line in one of their upcoming shows. The answer was, of course, yes, and Lucille Ball and Vivian Vance spent half a day learning the ropes, dipping chocolate and packing candy on the production line. The result of their educational endeavor was an outrageously funny show entitled "Job Switching" that aired on September 15, 1952. Most of Lucy's loyal fans remember that particular show as one of their absolute favorites with those dark naughty nougats flying everywhere, except into the little white boxes where they were supposed to go!

See's Candy now operates over 200 stores in the U.S. Kathy Cormier, Lafayette's new store manager, invites you to drop by, sample a taste of See's melt in your mouth goodness, and pick up a box for that someone you love.

See's Candy  
3518 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Lafayette Shopping Center



Volunteers take out non-native plants along the creek area.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# Friends of Orinda Creeks Looking for Volunteers

By SALLY HOGARTY  
Editor

A non-profit organization established in 1994, Friends of Orinda Creeks promotes awareness and protection of our creeks, both as a community and natural resource. Thanks to this dedicated group of volunteers, Orinda creeks are not only more attractive to look at but their healthier waters provide a home for native plant life.

"Our mission is to conserve and restore beauty and healthy habitat to the creeks in

Orinda. We also strive to educate the public about the values of, and threats to, those same creeks," says member Jim Luini.

Working with volunteers, the group removes trash and non-native plants from the creeks and restores the habitat with native plants. They also remove hazardous waste from creek banks and attach "Do Not Dump" labels to storm drains. Dedicated members also conduct GPS mapping of the creeks and BMI (Benthic Macroinvertebrate) sampling to measure creek health

[SEE CREEKS page 22]

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## CALENDAR

## ON THE CALENDAR

August

- 1 **Moraga Art Gallery** presents *Beauty and the Feast* with paintings by Josie Osolin and ceramics by Elayne Isaacs. The show runs through Aug. 10 at 522 Center St. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Visit <http://moragaartgallery.com>.
- Free Summer Concert Series** in Moraga on Thursdays features Gator Beat (Cajun Zydeco, Aug. 1); Moonalice (early San Francisco rock, Aug. 8); Zebop! (Latin rock, Aug. 15); and Rodeo House (country music, Aug. 22), Moraga Commons Park, Moraga Road, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Snack Bar opens at 6 p.m.
- 3 **Relay for Life Lamorinda**, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, Burton Valley Elementary School, 561 Merriewood Drive, Lafayette. The relay starts at 9 a.m. and runs through the night. For information, visit [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org).
- 6 **Story Hour** for 2- to 4-year-olds and their caregivers, every Tuesday, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 10 to 11 a.m. Call 254-7606.
- 9 **Orinda Starlight Village Players** Bill Chessman's Live Radio Plays (see article this page) through Aug. 24, Orinda Community Park, 28 Orinda Way. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 18 at 4 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 22 at 8 p.m. For information, call 925-528-9225 or visit [www.orsvp.org](http://www.orsvp.org).
- 14 **California Shakespeare Theatre** presents Oscar Wilde's *Lady Windermere's Fan* through Sept. 8, various times, Bruns Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespeare Theatre Way, Orinda. Call 510-548-9666 or visit [www.calshakes.org](http://www.calshakes.org).
- Second Wednesday Book Group** will discuss *The Garden of Evening Mists* by Tan Twan Eng, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 3 p.m. Call 254-7606.
- 15 **Lamorinda Community Picnic** at Moraga Commons, 1149 Moraga Road, Moraga. For more information, call Jay Ingram, City of Moraga Parks & Rec. Dept., 925-888-7050.
- 19 **Voices of Musica Sacra** rehearsals resume Monday evenings, St. Paul's Church, 1924 Trinity Ave., Walnut Creek, 7 to 9 p.m. Chorus is open to all voice parts, especially tenors and basses. For details, visit [www.vmschorus.org](http://www.vmschorus.org).
- 24 **Lamorinda Idol** finalists perform at Orinda Theatre Square, 3 p.m. Twenty-five finalists in categories ranging from solo to group performers will entertain. The event, now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year, is open to local students in K-12th grades. This year's competition is in September.
- 25 **CongoSwim 2013**. Swim at your local pool to support peace and an end to violence against women and girls in the Congo. [www.congoswim.org](http://www.congoswim.org).
- 31 **Norcal Kids Triathlon**, for kids 5 and older, features swimming, biking and running, Miramonte High School, 750 Moraga Way, 9 a.m. Register at [www.norcalkidstri.org/norcalkidstri/hub](http://www.norcalkidstri.org/norcalkidstri/hub).

## AT THE LIBRARY

All events are free unless otherwise specified. For more information, call 254-2184 or visit [www.cclib.org/locations/Orinda.html](http://www.cclib.org/locations/Orinda.html).

- 1 **Kids' Club** for children 0-5 years features music and fun at the Republic of Cake in Theater Square. Enjoy music with Melita at 11 a.m. and stories at 11:30 a.m. Also Aug. 15.
- ESL (English as a Second Language) Conversation Circle**, practice your English conversation skills in an informal group setting, Tutoring Room, 1 to 2:30 p.m. No registration required. Also Aug. 8, 15, 22 and 29.
- 3 **Saturday Morning Live** features story time for children 0-5 years, Picture Book Area, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Also Aug. 10 and 17.
- Book Sale** sponsored by Friends of the Orinda Library, Book Shop and Sorting Area, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 6 **Toddler Lapsit**, stories, songs and fingerplays for infants to 3-year-olds and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 10 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 to 10:55 a.m. Drop-ins welcome, but attendance limited to once per week. Also Aug. 7.
- Peek-A-Book Time**, songs, stories, rhythms and rhymes for infants to 16 months old and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 11:30 a.m.
- 7 **Summer Music Series** with the Celtic Sands trio playing traditional Irish music as well as Celtic rock, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.
- 13 **Toddler Dance Party** for children 0-5 years, 10 to 10:55 a.m. Also Aug. 14.
- 17 **Summer Reading Program**: last day to pick up prizes.
- 22 **Talespinners of Contra Costa**, tell a story or just come to listen, featuring a special storyteller, Gallery Room, 7 to 9 p.m. Adult program.

## CLUB MEETINGS

- Diablo Star Chapter #214**, Order of the Eastern Star. Second Monday, 7:30 p.m., Orinda Masonic Center. Call Karen Seaborn, 689-0995.
- Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe**. Third Monday, 7:30 p.m., Better Homes and Garden Mason-McDuffie Office, 51 Moraga Way, Orinda.
- Friends of the Orinda Creeks**. Fourth Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., May Room, Orinda Library, 254-6208.
- Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition**. Third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room. Call 687-8844, ext. 227.
- Lamorinda Sirs** for retired men. Second Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Luncheon speakers plus golf, tennis, bocce, bridge and astronomy. Call Pete Giers, 254-4667.
- Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary**. Every Friday, 7 a.m., Celia's Mexican, 3666 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 254-0440, ext. 463.
- Lamorinda Toastmasters**. Every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Temple Isaiah, 3800 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, [www.lamorinda.freetoasthost.net](http://www.lamorinda.freetoasthost.net).
- Orinda Garden Club**. Fourth Thursday, 10 a.m. to noon, September through May, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante, [www.orindagardenclub.org](http://www.orindagardenclub.org).
- Orinda Juniors Woman's Club** community service group. First Tuesday, September through June, 7 p.m. Contact Julie Mercer or Charlene Robinson at [info@orindajuniors.org](mailto:info@orindajuniors.org) or [www.orindajuniors.org](http://www.orindajuniors.org).
- Orinda Rotary**. Every Wednesday, noon, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante, 254-2222.
- Orinda Association**. Second Monday, 7:15 p.m., Orinda Library, May Room, 254-0800.
- Orinda Hiking Club**. Every weekend and first Wednesday. Visit [www.orindahiking.org](http://www.orindahiking.org) or call Ian at 254-1465.
- Orinda Historical Society**. Third Wednesday, 3 p.m., Historical Society Museum, 26 Orinda Way, 254-1353.

## OrSVP Continues Season with Live Radio Shows

By DAVID DIERKS  
Assistant Editor



DAVID DIERKS

Bill Chessman wrote a series of radio plays that OrSVP is presenting in August.

The Orinda Starlight Village Players will open the second production of their 30th anniversary season with a collection of radio shows on August 9. There will be two radio shows performed each night with a different pair of shows done each weekend. The shows were written by Bill Chessman, a longtime Starlight actor. Chessman said, "The basic idea is to do a pair of radio plays each weekend complete with live and recorded sound effects. We will perform them just the way they would be done in the studio except in this case it will be live, and we will be recording them."

The first weekend, August 9 and 10, will feature performances of *You Only Eat Twice*, followed by *Space Monster-rama*. *You Only Eat Twice* follows Agent 0037, Burt Suave, as he is taken off suspension. Before he can be reinstated, however, he must go through reconditioning. *Space Monster-rama* begins with mysterious flesh-melting objects that are falling from the skies. Professor Ken Fujinorimaki figures out space aliens are to blame and Earth must enlist the aid of the giant monster Fusili to save the planet.

The second weekend, August 16 through 18, will feature *Crazy Mike's Place* and *Instant Radio*. *Crazy Mike's Place* is a ghost story about Jimmy's old army buddy, Danny, who disappeared 30 years ago. Then, out of the blue, he invites Jimmy and his wife, Nicole, to come visit him at his home in the back end of nowhere. What will Jimmy and Nicole find when they get there? *Instant Radio* is 24 hours worth of programming compressed into 30 minutes. News,

sports, weather, commercials, radio serials, talk shows, public service announcements, and a few surprises.

The final weekend, August 22 through 24, will be *Does It Bother You When I...?* and *Seven Fingers and Three Toes of Death*. The first show is about Tamara Travertine, a student who has finally landed an intern position as an assistant to Dr. Waldo Wombat, the foremost brain research professor in the world. The second show follows Don Faulkner and his girlfriend Evelyn Bainbridge as they are being chased by thugs. Evelyn decides to enroll Don in martial arts training so that he can become her protector and beat up those naughty thugs.

Performances run from August 9 through August 24, Friday and Saturday nights at 8:30 p.m. with a Sunday matinee on August 18 at 4 p.m. and one Thursday performance on August 22 at 8 p.m. For more information visit [www.orsvp.org](http://www.orsvp.org) or call 925-528-9225.

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

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

**Orinda Teen Advisory Council**. Second Wednesday, 4 p.m., Community Center, 28 Orinda Way. Email [orindateenadvisorycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:orindateenadvisorycouncil@gmail.com).

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

## CITY/FIRE/SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

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

**City Council**. First and third Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Library Auditorium, [www.cityoforinda.org](http://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](http://www.mofd.org/board/meetings) meeting location will be posted on the agenda.

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

**Planning Commission**. Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Library Auditorium, [www.cityoforinda.org](http://www.cityoforinda.org).

Send calendar items to Maggie Sharpe at [m.sharpe66@gmail.com](mailto:m.sharpe66@gmail.com)

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## Oscar Wilde's *Lady Windermere's Fan* Up Next at Cal Shakes

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY  
Staff writer

Actor and educator Aldo Billingslea says he and wife Renee are “big” fans of the PBS series *Downton Abbey* so he is looking forward to his role in California Shakespeare’s upcoming *Lady Windermere’s Fan*.

Billingslea, who is a theater professor at Santa Clara University and newly appointed Associate Provost for Diversity and Inclusion, plays Lord Windermere.

The actor says he’s “gleeful” at the opportunity to be set in a similar world where Wilde’s characters effortlessly toss about quips like Maggie Smith’s Dowager Grantham as marriage and London’s high society take it on the chin.

“Wilde creates a dramatic sense of urgency in following *Lady Windermere’s* situation, which is very compelling to follow and perfect fare for the intelligent audiences at Cal Shakes,” says Billingslea, who recalls performing in Cal Shakes’ production of Zora Hurston’s *Spunk* as “one of the highlights of my career.”

Considered Wilde’s first commercially successful play, *Lady Windermere’s Fan* revolves around a naïve young woman who discovers evidence of her older husband’s apparent infidelity. Directed by Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) company member Christopher Liam Moore, it runs August 14 through September 8 at the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda.

In addition to Billingslea, Moore’s talented cast includes Emily Kitchens (Miranda in 2012’s *The Tempest*) in the title role, as well as Cal Shakes Associate Artists Danny Scheie, James Carpenter, L. Peter Callender and Stacy Ross.



KEVIN BERNIE  
**Aldo Billingslea** from last season’s *Spunk* at Cal Shakes. He portrays Lord Windermere in Oscar Wilde’s *Lady Windermere’s Fan*.

A guest artist for the past four seasons at OSF, Moore directed such productions as *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Dead Man’s Cell Phone*, and *August: Osage County*.

As an actor Moore created the role of Jon in *Ghost Light*, directed by Jonathan Moscone, which premiered at OSF and Berkeley Rep as part of American Revolutions: the United States History Cycle.

For information on the season and for tickets, call the Cal Shakes Box Office at 510-548-9666 or go to [www.calshakes.org](http://www.calshakes.org).

## THE REEL LESS TRAVELED ON A RETURN TO NORMALCY



Tom Westlake

After a summer full of such blockbusters as *Superman*, *The Lone Ranger*, *Pacific Rim* and all of the other mainstream releases, August brings back a sense of normalcy as the Moraga Movers and the Film Classics Showcase return.

Not only are we glad to welcome back the International Film Showcase, but we have three other films that are noteworthy in their own right, starting off with *Dr. Zhivago*!

Though July has just past, I’m fairly certain that the memory of the several heat waves we suffered through still lingers and no film that I can think of can counter that memory as well as *Dr. Zhivago*. Ice and snow are everywhere, and, thanks to David Lean, it has never looked more majestic. Though taken to task for its deviation from the Pasternak novel, the epic sweep of the film along with the all star cast, more than make up for it. The lovely Julie Christie alone is worth the price of admission, which, by the way, might be misconstrued as an insult in this case as there will be no admission charged! Yes, you read this right. In a rare instance of good fortune, you will be able to see this classic absolutely free so make sure to get to the Orinda Theatre in advance of the 7 p.m. showing on August 8 because seats may be limited.

The next film on the list is something of an odd duck, not only because it’s often thought of as a throwaway effort but more, for our purposes here, for the manner in which it will be presented. To those that remember the ‘80s, the very mention of the name Prince might conjure up his rather unique appearance or the questionable way in which he presented himself on stage or the many rumors regarding his personal life...or even his music but one thing that can not be disputed was the impact he made on the musical scene during that time. Parlaying that popularity, he went on to star in *Purple Rain*, which, he thought would have the audience attending in droves. They didn’t and the film has since gone on to achieve a sort of dubious status as one of *those films*. Regardless, the Orinda Theatre will be showing it anyway in a format that I can not endorse but if the whole “Sing-a-Long” novelty has any worth, it might as well be attached to this movie. (Fair warning, though. If any of you start doing this with *The Sound of Music*, we will definitely have a problem.) It will show on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00. Bring your vocal cords.

Over at the Rheem, the 1939 version of *Wuthering Heights*, starring Merle Oberon, Laurence Olivier and David Niven, will be

showing. According to IMDB, there are at least 24 versions of this venerable tale (counting the many TV versions), and this one is recorded as the second. There is a silent one made in 1920, but it’s all but lost. It is also regarded as a classic, scoring a slew of Academy Award nominations and a win for best cinematography. It will be sponsored by the Moraga Movers and will screen on August 21 at 4 p.m.

And, back at the Orinda, we extend a warm and grateful thank you for the return of the International Film Showcase – and what a return it is. JoAlice Canterbury and Efi Lubliner present *The Hunt*, which is garnering rave notices everywhere it plays. Our old friend Mads Mikkelsen, who is currently burning up the television screen with his portrayal of Hannibal, assays a different sort of role here as a teacher accused of a heinous crime. Part *Straw Dogs* and part Kabala fable, it follows the travails of a decent man who must deal with the damaging effect of rumors and short tempered townsfolk. It will screen during the week of August 23 at 1 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 9 p.m.

So, all in all, August appears to be chock full of choices – though I see no reason why you should have to choose at all. Collect the whole set and see them all.

And remember to stay in the dark. That’s where true magic lies.

### ◆ FILMMAKER from page 19

film festivals and competitions and volunteered on the set of some Indie movies, including *Witness 1*,” an Indie production filmed at 32 Ten Studios in Marin County.

Englund has learned a lot from the camp’s instructors. “I had high expectations, and as the camp progressed my expectations were exceeded beyond anything I ever thought,” he says. “The projects consist of four short films. We split into two groups and we each make two films. At the beginning of camp, we all wrote a screenplay, and four of them end up in production.”

The young filmmaker has great aspirations, “I hope to work somewhere in the film business as an editor or even a director.” Perhaps one day he will join the ranks of his favorite directors, Martin Scorsese, Quentin Tarantino, Ron Howard and Christopher Nolan. “My experience at Interlochen is something that I will never forget,” Englund adds.

Visit the website for Englund’s fledgling production company at [www.vanaheimproductions.com](http://www.vanaheimproductions.com).

## Orinda Starlight Village Players

Presents  
Live Radio Shows...

August 9, 10: “You Only Eat Twice” and “Space Monster-rama”  
August 16, 17 & 18: “Crazy Mike’s Place” and “Instant Radio”  
August 22, 23, 24: “Does It Bother You When I...?” and “Seven Fingers and Three Toes of Death”

Friday and Saturday performances are at 8:30 p.m.  
Sunday Matinee is at 4 p.m.  
Thursday is at 8 p.m.



### Starlight Dinner Theater Offer

Bring the receipt from an Orinda restaurant to the theater and get two regular theater admissions for the price of one.

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Orinda Starlight Village Players,  
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[www.orsvp.org](http://www.orsvp.org)

Tickets at Box Office or call 925-528-9225 or email [info@orsvp.org](mailto:info@orsvp.org)

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LOCAL BUSINESS

# Republic of Cake's Kids Klub a Sweet Success

By CHARLIE JARRETT  
Staff Writer

The Republic of Cake, located at #2 Orinda Theater Square in Orinda, is not only a purveyor of the ultimate designer cupcakes, it also demonstrates its special love for children in many ways. Besides making mouth-watering classics, sophisticates and tantalizing savories for adult taste buds and appetites, The Republic created a special mini-kiddy size classic cupcake for little gals and guys. If they can handle the regular size classic cupcakes, owners Peter McNiff and Chih (pronounced Chee) Fang will throw in an 8 oz. carton of milk for free.

And that's not all. During the summer holidays, Republic of Cake sponsors special "Kids Klub" events every Thursday between 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. right outside the shop under a shady canopy. Events might include a magical musical sing and dance-along with Melita Silberstein, who brings her guitar and music right down to a level at which the little guys and gals can

truly connect. Silberstein sings old favorites and original compositions, including "I've Been Working On The Railroad," "This Little Light of Mine," "Old King Cole" and other popular children's songs.

Silberstein is a key member of the iconic Berkeley musical group known as "Octopretzel," which regularly appears at schools, children centers and even in professional adult venues such as the Ashkenaz Music and Dance Community Center on Solano Avenue in Berkeley. If you are looking for a children's musical entertainer, you can contact her at 510-684-3629.

A recent Kids Klub event also included the Orinda Library's popular children's librarian Lin Look, who read interactive stories with the children. When Look asked the children to point out a specific button on the book's page, young Drew Brosnan became so excited that he marched right up and immediately pushed the bright red button, narrowly edging out another young lady in the upbeat race to satisfy Look's request. When not rushing to push buttons,



CHARLIE JARRETT

Orinda Children's Librarian **Lin Look** enralls children with her interactive stories.

the children clapped, jumped and swayed their arms and legs almost in sync with the storyteller's gestures.

The Kids Klub program occurs every Thursday at Republic of Cake until school starts on August 15. The Orinda Library also has a summer reading program. According to Look, even reluctant readers will enjoy the program as they can read graphic novels or listen to audio books.

Republic of Cake owners, McNiff and Fang, started the Kid's Klub three years ago as an important component of giving back to the community that supports them.

Fang, the baker with over 15 years of experience, began as a line cook doing an internship at the famous Chez Panisse restaurant in Berkeley. McNiff, on the other hand, came from a background in marketing and management. Together, they have dreams of becoming the very best in their very unique niche, the specialty cake business, where demand is constantly growing. For more information, call 254-3900.

## Parks Make Life Better! Photo Contest

To celebrate Parks Make Life Better! month we are holding a photography contest. Parks and recreation makes lives and communities better NOW and in the FUTURE. Photos taken in the Orinda city limits or by a family residing in Orinda are eligible to compete in the "Parks Make Life Better!" photo contest.



### Categories

Photographers must identify in which category they would like to compete. Only one category per photo. You may submit multiple photos in various categories; however, photographers may only win in one category. Photo Display and Usage Photographs submitted may be used in Activity Guides, City publications and promotional materials, on the city website and social media, and enlarged and display in city facilities.

- Play
- Nature
- Exercise
- Positive Spaces
- Gathering Places
- Forever- Valued today & always

### Awards

Category Winners-\$25, Judges choose a winner from each category.  
Best Overall-\$50, Judges select overall best photo from the category winners.  
Opportunity for photo to be displayed in the Orinda Activity Guide and *The Orinda News!*

### Entry Information

All photos must be submitted in digital format and be accompanied by an entry form. All photos must be received by August 9.

### Email

For email registrations, please send your photos to [orindaparksrec@cityoforinda.org](mailto:orindaparksrec@cityoforinda.org) with the following information: name, address, phone, email, category, title of photo.

### Mail In

Mail a CD or disk to 28 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563 with the registration form included.



CHARLIE JARRETT

**Drew Brosnan** managed to be the first to point out the correct button in the story that Lin Look was reading.

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ANIMAL COLUMN



DAVID DIERKS

Drew Serb's Shelby Cobra 427 was part of last year's Shelby display on the Orinda Country Club's 16th Fairway.

◆ CAR SHOW from page 9

entered early," advised Herman.

Cars are exhibited throughout Orinda Village, and Orinda Motors suspends business for the day to provide space for vehicle displays. In addition to being the presenting sponsor of the car show, Orinda Motors is the honorary host of the Dancing with the Cars event.

The car show weekend starts Friday, September 20, with the ticketed event Dancing with the Cars: A Bootlegger's Bash, a roaring '20s party which will be at Orinda's new speakeasy, Club 26 (Orinda Library

Plaza at 26 Orinda Way). On Saturday, the free car show runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 200 cars will take over Orinda Motors, the streets of Orinda Village and spill onto the Orinda Country Club's 16th Fairway. The show weekend concludes on Sunday, September 22, with Speed on the Screen, a special screening of *Gone in 60 Seconds*, showing both the 1974 and 2000 versions at the Orinda Theatre (tickets are available the day of the event).

For more information, to purchase party tickets or to enter your car visit [www.orindacarshow.com](http://www.orindacarshow.com).

Something to Howl About...  
Animal Tales

Before You Bash That Bee



Jennifer Conroy

It's summer and there are bugs a plenty buzzing around. There is one insect in particular deserving of respect and protection and that is the honey bee. Aha, you say, but what about those bees that killed a Texas farmer recently. Those bees had two strikes against them. One, they were Africanized bees, and, two, their hive was disturbed. Certainly all bees will try to protect their hives but the Africanized bee is a particularly aggressive variety and, when threatened, all of them go into action. The European bee, prevalent though seriously decreasing, in our country, is relatively passive and, in fact, only a small percentage of European bees fly into action to protect a hive; whereas, 100 percent of a hive's Africanized bees will move to protect their home and their queen.

How can you tell the difference? You really can't based on a cursory bee passing through your garden. The best thing to do when you see a bee is leave it alone. Don't flail at it. Don't scream at it. Simply walk away. For a bee to sting means its death as the loss of the stinger results in a fatal rupture to the bee's abdomen. Bees are attracted by scent and by color; although, it has been reported that bees cannot see the color red even though a bee has five eyes. A floral or sweet scented perfume may be too alluring for a bee to resist; so consider restraint in color and scent when enjoying the outdoors.

The enormous value of the bee cannot be underestimated. The decline in hives over the years has bee specialists and agriculturists very worried. In fact, the term for what is happening is Colony Collapse Disorder. It entails the death of entire bee colonies, the birth of deformed bees, and bee susceptibility to various viruses and parasites. The importance of bees to agriculture

goes far back in history. Amberized bees have been discovered dating from over 100 million years ago! Ancient cave drawings in Spain show a human harvesting honey from a cliff-side hive. Bees had special status in many ancient cultures, including Sumeria and Egypt. During the First Dynasty in Egypt, a special administrative office was created titled, The Sealer of Honey. Throughout the Mediterranean, bees have been cultivated for centuries. Beehives were maintained on Roman farms and beekeepers highly regarded. Wine laced with honey was popular, and honey was an essential component of every medicus' "doctor's kit."

Bees keep fruits on our tables and flowers in our vases. Without them, our farmers' markets would be barren indeed. The hard work of these creatures is beyond comparison. A single bee will visit about a hundred flowers to extract the pollen or nectar that she carries back to the hive. These bees are undeveloped females, and even with all of her hard work, a bee's effort will produce only a tiny bit of honey in her lifetime. A colony can be comprised of thousands of bees, and a fully productive hive might produce a couple of pounds of honey a day.

Bees are affected by weather with most bees dying off in the winter while a new queen bee lies in hibernation, so do not destroy what appears to be an abandoned hive. If you come across a hive, consider feeling fortunate that bees have chosen that location to make a home and do not disturb it. If it needs to be removed, contact a professional bee keeper. The Mount Diablo Beekeepers Association is a good resource for all things bee-related. And keep in mind what Henry David Thoreau said of beekeepers: "The keeping of bees is like the direction of sunbeams."



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## BUSINESS BUZZ

## ◆ BUZZ from page 28

approach in providing clients with a personalized skin care regimen that promotes health and beauty. "My goal is to get people feeling good about themselves and not have a need to wear make-up," explains Buddington. Med EstheticsRX has been situated at 50 Vashell Way, near Casa Orinda, since 2009. Free street parking is abundant on adjacent Davis Road, and the office building has an elevator, making it accessible for disabled individuals.

"I specialize in acne and anti-aging skin care, providing more of a medical treatment than a typical spa facial. I customize treatments to fit each client's individual needs, incorporating his or her own personal goals. Focusing on what is important to them is a priority, and then I use a combination of professional treatments and good basic daily care to get results that work with a client's individual lifestyle," says Buddington.

Examining diet and lifestyle is an element of Buddington's facial care program. "I take a holistic approach to acne, which includes developing an individual treatment plan and advising on physician strength products if necessary," she adds. "New clients mentioning this article in Business Buzz will receive 20 percent off their first treatment."

The Express Cleansing Treatment includes microdermabrasion, extraction treatments if necessary and either hydrating ultrasound or a lactic acid micro peel. The appropriate treatment depends on skin type and desired results. The Spot-on Body Glow Treatment features a microdermabrasion and paraffin moisture wrap for hands, décolleté, arms and elbows, back and feet.

Buddington has six years of continuing medical education working with doctors and she continues to partner with a physician. When appropriate, she refers clients to a dermatologist for further care. A full line of products and mineral powder is available

at Med Esthetics RX.

An artist and painter in her spare time, Buddington enjoys landscape painting and charcoal figure drawing. "We are lucky to live here in such a beautiful area. I really like hiking locally and gardening whenever I get a chance," she says.

Buddington sees clients at Med Esthetics RX by appointment only Tuesday through Saturday, usually between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Saturday 9:30 to 5 p.m. Evening appointments are available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information, visit the website at [www.med-estheticsrx.com](http://www.med-estheticsrx.com) or call 258-0055.

#### **Cruise Adventures Unlimited Is a Full Service Travel Agency**

The mother-daughter team of Valerie and Colleen O'Connell purchased Cruise Adventures Unlimited in 2002 and take pride in providing exceptional personal service for clients in order that they may enjoy an exceptional travel experience.

They are located at 1610 Locust Street in Walnut Creek, just across from the Leshner Center for the Performing Arts, with plenty of convenient parking available. Eight people staff the office and 20 agents work from home to serve clients' needs.

As a full service travel agency, Colleen and Valerie organize journeys for groups of people, as well as individuals and have extensive experience working with all the major cruise ship lines. "We organize and arrange private tours for clients in conjunction with planning a trip. A good example is having a privately guided tour of the Vatican while visiting Rome, rather than ride a bus with 50 other tourists," says Colleen.

"We are experiencing a shift with people shifting back from making their own travel plans online to understanding the value of working with a travel agent. We have traveled a lot, and if we do not know a destination personally, we use our resources



VALERIE HOTZ  
Colleen and Valerie O'Connell run Cruise Adventures in Walnut Creek.

to get information for clients. Having a local travel agent who can answer questions immediately is very convenient," explains Colleen, an Orinda resident.

Working within a client's budget is important to the O'Connells, whose business grows every year thanks to satisfied clients who refer friends and colleagues. "We advise clients to know what their budget is and decide what type of hotel they prefer.

Understanding travel insurance is very important. We believe travel insurance is an essential part of the trip planning, and we make it a priority to explain the various details to clients," says Valerie, who has over 20 years experience as a travel agent.

When Colleen was growing up her parents, Valerie and Bill traveled extensively, taking Colleen along. Naturally Colleen developed a love for travel. "I grew up cruising and have a passion for travel." Bill serves as an advisor to Cruise Adventures Unlimited and is a member of the board of directors.

"It is fantastic when people return from a trip we have booked for them and say they had a nice trip. It is extremely rewarding," smiles Colleen. "If I could have one thing, I would love for people to give us a call and give us an opportunity to earn their business. We offer a lot of other benefits that help make a vacation special including upgrades, private tours and travel insurance," she adds.

To learn more about Cruise Adventures Unlimited, visit the website at [www.cruiseadventuresunlimited.com](http://www.cruiseadventuresunlimited.com) or call (925) 935-7447.

*Business Buzz profiles businesses in Orinda and Orinda residents with businesses throughout the Bay Area. To be considered for the column, email Valerie Hotz at [v.hotz@att.net](mailto:v.hotz@att.net).*

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BUSINESS BUZZ

# Business Buzz Putting a Personal Face on Local Business

Valerie Hotz



To send items for consideration, email Hotz at v.hotz@att.net.

### Piccolo Napoli for Authentic Italian Pasta, Pizza and Gelato

Orinda has an abundance of excellent restaurants and another new addition – Piccolo Napoli - opened inside Theatre Square this summer. Located near Entourage Spa & Salon and across from Republic of Cake, this new Italian restaurant is family owned and managed by native Orindan Peter Eberle and his wife Maria. Their four children, Aja, Hailey, Alex and Ariel fulfill their responsibilities at the pizzeria after school and during the summer.

Eberle spent the past 20 years trading on the options exchanges in San Francisco, Chicago and New York. “We lived in Germany and traveled extensively in Italy, and basically, have been eating pizza everywhere we travel. We really wanted to have our own restaurant and incorporate my

wife’s family recipes, especially here in my hometown. Maria’s maiden name is Napoli, and we are excited to provide delicious specialty Italian dishes from her family’s authentic recipes,” explains Eberle.

With a primary focus on pizza, Piccolo Napoli offers classic starters including Caprese Mozzarella salad, Bruschetta and Caesar salad. The main course dishes are Fettuccini Alfredo, Spaghetti Di Carne and Penne Pollo – a Penne pasta with grilled chicken and homemade pesto sauce. Eggplant parmigiana and a meatball dish made with super moist pork, beef and veal round out the main course offerings. The Piccolo Napoli pesto sauce is pinenut free, and a gluten free nine-inch pizza is available.

Pizza selections range from the uncomplicated six-cheese blend, grape tomatoes with local pepperoni, to Pietro’s pizza featuring fresh mozzarella, prosciutto, organic basil and truffle oil. What is really fun about this place is having the opportunity to make



VALERIE HOTZ

Peter Eberle and his wife Maria (back row) have the help of their children (L-R) Aja, Hailey, Alex and Ariel at Piccolo Napoli.

your own pizza from a wide assortment of ingredients such as fresh mushrooms, artichoke hearts, sautéed spinach, red onions, caramelized onions, pineapple, pears, prosciutto – the list goes on. An attractive beer selection includes Angry Orchard Hard Cider, Shock Top Belgian White, Stella Artois, Sierra Nevada, Goose Island IPA and Bud Light. A nice assortment of wine offerings from Italy and Northern California is available by the glass or by the bottle.

The interior has a 1950’s Roy Lichtenstein pop art flavor to it, featuring bold horizontal striped walls, a motif accomplished by Eberle’s sister-in-law, Carmen Napoli, an artist who does murals for the Ritz-Carlton and other establishments. Outdoor seating in Theatre Square is available where up to 22 guests can be accommodated. You will not want to miss the homemade gelato. The current flavors are vanilla, lemon and salted caramel, with more flavors being added soon. “Our customers are a real pleasure, and I enjoy seeing how excited people are

about our pizzas,” says Eberle. “Sarah Pugh joined us from Bonfire Pizzeria. She has done a great job helping with many details,” he adds.

Peter and Maria enjoy golf and swimming, with Peter competing in triathlons. “I like doing a one half Iron Man triathlon every year,” he says. Their children are involved in water polo, swimming and rugby. Alex and Hailey are sophomores at Miramonte High School, Ariel graduates from Campolindo High School in 2014 and Aja is studying at U.C. Santa Cruz. “We have a very active and engaged household. Everyone, including Maria, works at Piccolo Napoli,” smiles Eberle.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. “We will stay open until our guests want to leave,” adds Eberle. Piccolo Napoli is a member of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit the website at [www.piccolonapoli.com](http://www.piccolonapoli.com) or call 253-1225.

### Med EstheticsRX Celebrates Fourth Anniversary in Orinda

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VALERIE HOTZ

Certified Medical Esthetician Elizabeth Buddington.



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