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THE ORINDA NEWS

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500 Swimmers Take Part in Annual Mini Meet



JULIE ROSSITER

On June 20, over 500 swimmers took part in the 44th annual **Mini Meet** held at meadow Swim and Tennis Club. Orinda County Club took first place with Moraga Country Club in second and Sleepy Hollow Swim and Tennis Club in third place. For more information on the meet, go to www.gomeadow.com.

Housing Element Moves Forward

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

On July 15, Emmanuel Ursu presented an update on the Fifth Cycle Housing Element and associated EIR to the City Council. The housing element, which is designed to meet projected housing needs for all economic segments of the community, is a state-mandated requirement. Ursu's report included public comment at workshops held in Orinda on June 26 and July 9. [SEE HOUSING page 19]

Orinda New Home Bonanza Nears 400

By MAGGIE SHARPE
Staff Writer

The drought years are over for Orinda's new-home market. Four new developments – Monteverde Senior Apartments, Orinda Grove, Orinda Oaks and Wilder homes are for rent or for sale – for a grand total of 397 brand new residences.

Orinda Senior Apartments

There are 342 applicants for the 67 one-bedroom units at Eden Housing's Monteverde apartments on Irwin Way, according to Leslie Bown, Eden's property manager for Lafayette and Orinda. The low-income units will be ready by the end of September. The application process ended June 20. Bown said the next step is a lottery, after which the Contra Costa Housing Authority will sort the remaining applications in order of preference.

"The Housing Authority gives preference to people registered with the authority, as well as veterans or spouse of a veteran, people who live or work in Contra Costa County and those that have been displaced by disaster," said Bown. "It hasn't yet been decided if preference will be given to Orinda residents." The Housing Authority will narrow the list down to 150 for Eden Housing to begin the selection process – based on such factors as income, credit, criminal background and housing references. Each of the one-bedroom units can house up to three residents. The rent is based on income – residents will pay 30

percent of their gross income.

Amenities at Orinda Senior Apartments include a community room with kitchen, exercise room, library/computer center and a large courtyard with a barbecue area and community garden. Contra Costa Housing Authority provides rental subsidies and manages affordable housing for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities.

Orinda Grove

Of the 73 new homes in the Orinda Grove housing development on Altarinda Road, 56 have been sold, 25 are already occupied and 17 are still up for sale, according to Eric Hultz, sales consultant for the development. Pulte Homes, which owns the property, agreed to market eight of the homes at below market rate as part of the city's compliance with state-mandated affordable housing requirements.

"The below market rate homes are earmarked for people who work in Orinda and earn less than \$120,000 per family," said Hultz, who said four of the eight have been sold. "Orinda school teachers and administrators have been buying them. People who had been commuting to work can now afford to live here."

He said another group of buyers are seniors who have been snapping up the one-story homes. "Seniors are loving them – there are no stairs," said Hultz. "Some seniors had big homes in the Orinda hills with a lot of acreage and maintenance. They love Orinda but their homes were becom-



SALLY HOGARTY

More than 25 families have moved into **Orinda Grove**, including these two units. Easy maintenance, close access to BART and some single floor units have made the former school site a popular destination.

ing burdensome. Here, it's easy access to downtown and BART and the easy living that Orinda is famous for."

He added that the city is still in the process of working with the California Department of Transportation and a local commercial property owner to build a pedestrian pathway from Orinda Grove to BART. "It's not a deal breaker for buyers," said Hultz. "It's the difference between a 10-minute versus a 5-minute walk."

Pulte Homes purchased the Orinda Grove site from Orinda Union School District [SEE HOMES page 18]

Nomination Forms Available for City Council

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Three seats on the Orinda City Council will be up for election on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2014. Interested Orinda residents can obtain a nomination petition from City Clerk Michele Olsen at City Hall, 22 Orinda Way. Olsen encourages residents to set up an appointment. "It's a very thorough process that can take up to an hour, and I don't want people waiting needlessly," she says.

Current City Councilmembers up for re-election are Dean Orr, Sue Severson (Mayor) and Amy Worth. Elected for his first four-year term in November 2010, Orr is the newest councilmember. Severson first served on the council in 2006 and won re-election in 2010. Worth, the longest-serving member on the council, gained her seat in 1998 and won subsequent re-election in 2002, 2006 and 2010.

Councilmembers Steve Glazer (Vice Mayor) and Victoria Smith will be up for re-election in 2016.

Interested residents have until Aug. 8 to file a nomination petition with the City [SEE NOMINATIONS page 18]

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4TH OF JULY FUN



Kids eagerly await candy from those marching in the parade.



Alexandra Demos (L) and Charisie Green joined the All Volunteer Pick Up Marching Band this year.



Youngsters make a new friend at the petting zoo in the park.

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The Meadow Swim Club float with its water guns was a big hit.



Seniors enjoy watching the parade from the covered bleachers courtesy of First Republic Bank.

PHOTOS BY SALLY HOGARTY

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ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President
Heartfelt Thanks for Fourth of July
Plus Roads Update



Bill Waterman

First, let me again thank all of you who participated in our Orinda Fourth of July parade and park celebration. The Orinda Association (OA) volunteers have a lot of fun creating and putting on this event, and this year was another big success. We had as many participants as ever, more varied music during the parade and the greatest decorations ever. We even had our first Instagram photo contest (check out the winning photo below). All of this was made possible because of your participation and support and the efforts of our many volunteers. I especially wish to thank the dedicated members of our organizing committee, capably headed up by Andy Radlow and Steve Meagher. The committee worked hard behind the scenes to make the event so successful, so my hat's off to all of you (see our Fourth of July webpage for the listing of the committee's members).

Let me also thank the City of Orinda's dedicated staff that worked on the Fourth, including police officers, public works and parks and recreation department staffers who made the entire day possible. We thank City Manager Janet Keeter and the City Council also for making sure there is funding in the city's budget for staff time. With everyone's help, we truly had the "Best Hometown Parade" in Orinda, and next year we promise to eliminate our famous parade "gaps."

Heartfelt thanks also to the wonderful sponsors who are listed on our OA webpage. Each deserves our appreciation.

A very brief roads update: Thanks to the 75-percent approval by Orinda voters in the June election, the city will be able to raise \$20 million for road and drain repairs starting next year. These Measure J funds constitute phase two of the city's four-phase plan to fix Orinda's deteriorated roads. The Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Commission (CIOC) will decide which roads are to be put on the repair list for next year. These decisions will be made after public meetings over the next few months. Our "worst roads" will be targeted for repairs

next year. If you want to participate in these public meetings you can view the CIOC's agendas for upcoming meetings and follow the progress in deciding which roads will be placed on the repair list on the city's website. We will all be looking forward to seeing repair crews repaving and fixing our worst roads!

Enjoy the rest of summer and stay safe.

First Instagram Winner



MELISSA GODRON

The winning Instagram photo for this year's 4th of July celebration is by **Melissa Godron**, who took a photo of her son enjoying the parade.

Melissa Godron won the Orinda Association's first-ever Instagram campaign with a photo of her son enjoying the 4th of July parade. Along with the recognition and publication of the photo comes a \$100 cash prize.

Two Miramonte students, Kyle McKeen and Maya McGrath, designed the campaign. "The goal of the Instagram contest was to draw more young people to the annual celebration and also to tap into new technology," says 4th of July co-chair Andy Radlow.

- Sally Hogarty, Editor

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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Correction...

In the July 2014 issue, Charlie Jarrett wrote about the reopening of the UC Theatre. The article stated that David Mayeri got his first job at the theater at age 16, working as a minimally paid intern for Bill Graham Presents. It should read that he got his first job at 16 at the Berkeley Community Theatre as a minimally paid intern for Bill Graham Presents, while enrolled in a stagecraft class at Berkeley High School.

Stay Fire Safe

Letters to the Editor

Great 4th of July

Congratulations to Bill Waterman and the entire OA team for this year's Orinda 4th of July parade and events.

It felt to me that this year's participation far surpassed previous years. I also saw a qualitative leap in terms of parade entries and community park activities and booths.

Good show! We had a great time.

– Bob Burt

Housing Element Workshop Loses Public Support

Last year, the City Council and Planning Department orchestrated the Housing Element update (a key section of the General Plan) clandestinely through an outside consultancy. The 100-page effort, largely completed between November 2012 and June 2013, was submitted and accepted by HCD in June of last year, when horrified citizens first became aware of what had transpired. Through countless meetings, letters and speeches, the public tried to remove some of the more egregious language and restore a semblance of "semi rural" structure, which is the foundation for Orinda's General Plan.

In spite of these efforts, the final approved plan (Dec 2013), was essentially identical to the June draft, which City Manager Keeter had often stated was merely a "draft." The City Council's dismissal of citizen input left negative feelings and has adversely impacted Orinda's public process. When considered with other Council actions, such as the approval of the 50 subsidized Eden housing structure just after telling residents they would hold off on multi-story structures violating Orinda's building codes, emails discovered through a Public Records request showing Mayor Severson influencing Planning Commissioners on the Montessori pre school application, and recent efforts (claimed as

a mistake) to sneak through a change to measuring aggregate building height, many residents understandably no longer trust the planning staff or the City Council.

This past week, at the well advertised Housing Element workshop, informed, intelligent but frustrated citizens told PMC (the new Housing Element consultant), staff, and attending City Council members, they were fed up with controlled, make-pretend workshops that didn't allow for honest public discussion and straightforward input as promised by the planning staff. There is much to be learned from that meeting, but undoubtedly the local powers will arrive at conclusions oblivious to what Orindans want and don't want.

In one of the break-out sessions, Planning Director Ursu supervised a map of Orinda where people were allowed to vote with dots where they "wanted" the next 252 units (Orinda's "allocation") of low income, subsidized, non taxable housing to be located—a divisive approach perhaps intended to pit neighborhood against neighborhood.

But the broader, more relevant issue is, why are we following ABAG's subsidized housing allocations at all? The reality is the agencies, regional entities, and their unelected bureaucrats have overstepped their authority. There is nothing in SB 375, "Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008," that says a city must conform its General Plan to a "sustainable communities strategy." It is against the California statutes and the U.S. Constitution for agencies to impose such mandates. Consequently, Orinda should opt out of the ABAG numbers game altogether. The position would likely foster significant support for candidates running for the three expired City Council positions this November.

– Chris Kniel

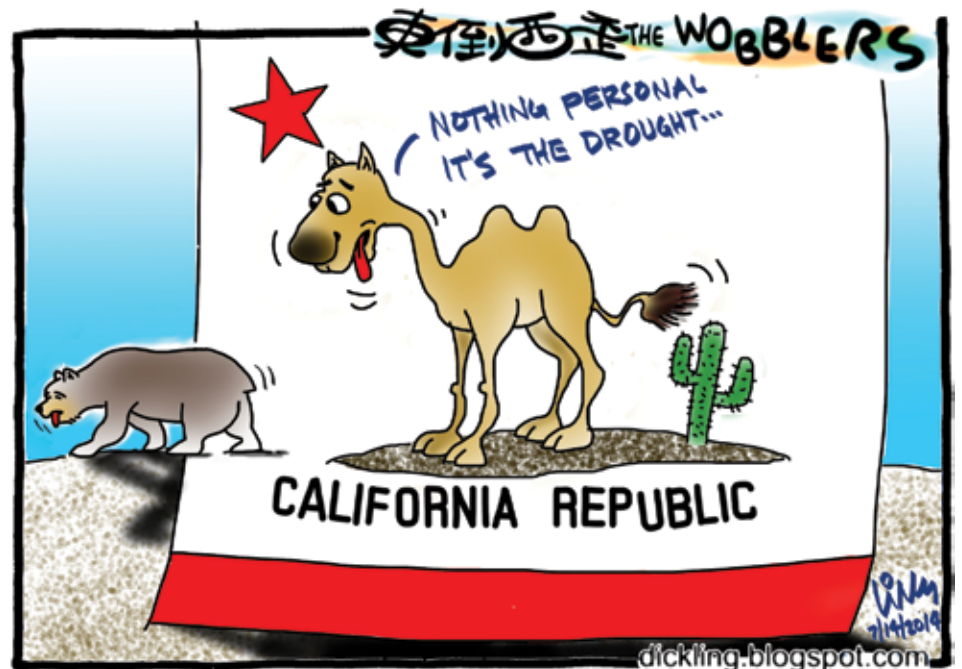
Orinda Desperately Needs New Leadership

Dictator Oliver Cromwell told the English Rump Parliament in April 1653: "You have been sat too long here for any good you have been doing. Depart, I say, and let us have done with you. In the name of God, go!"

Cromwell's words are applicable to the Orinda City Council. For the last four years, the council has made parking and traffic worse, favored plans that will lead to overcrowded schools, approved downtown buildings that violate the 35-foot height limit, and failed to control crime.

Members of the current council are Steve Glazer, Victoria Smith, Amy Worth, Sue Severson and Dean Orr. The terms of the last three members expire this year.

As *The Orinda News* so ably reported in March 2014, "Parking in Orinda is getting so bad that business owners are losing customers." On January 25, 2013, ground breaking began on a 67-unit senior citizens



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center at the intersection of Orinda Way and 2 Irwin Way (across the street from Citibank and the Safeway). The center, which may open later this year, has about 30 parking spaces, not enough to make Orinda's miserable parking and traffic situation better. The center will exceed the 35-foot height limit, blocking the views of nearby hills. Precious, irreplaceable trees

were cut down to make room for the center.

In 2013, the city adopted a Housing Element, a plan requiring Orinda to construct residences for low-income individuals. There is nothing wrong with low-income individuals living in Orinda. However, a more efficient way to develop shelter for such individuals is to give them cash to

[SEE LETTERS page 6]

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

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

SCHOOLS

Projections Show AUHSD Could Face Budget Cuts

By BILL O'BRIAN
Staff Writer

The budget for Acalanes Union High School District (AUHSD) for fiscal year 2014-15 is in "pretty good shape," according to Chris Learned, associate superintendent for business. For the following two fiscal years, however, district projections show there will be cuts in funding. Fiscal year 2015-16 will see cuts of about \$1.5 million, and 2016-17 around \$1 million. The projected cuts result from increased district payments for teacher retirement, decreases in state funding for the Regional Occupational Program and rising business expenses.

Where will those cuts be made? The district has already reduced the maintenance budget over the last five years, leaving little to trim but, Learned says, some cuts will have to be made in that area. Additionally, some classes will likely be cut, such as those with small enrollments or single electives.

Increased district costs for teacher retirement plans is the result of this year's state budget, which requires the State Teachers Retirement Fund be fully funded over a 30-year period. This goal requires all participants (teachers, districts and the state) to increase current contributions. These increases will occur gradually over the next seven years.

Presently, teachers pay eight percent of their salaries for retirement; by 2021, the amount will be 10 percent. By then, the state will contribute up to six percent. The biggest increase will fall on the district: their current contributions are 8.25 percent (\$2.3 million per year) and by 2021 will be 19.1 percent (\$6 million).

Another increased cost to the district is its annual payments for employee retirement health plans. For many years, the district paid for health care benefits for retirees for up to five years until they reach the age of 65, when they are eligible for Medicare. For example, if a teacher retired at 63, the district paid for the health care for two more years. This situation has changed, however. While the interim health plan payments used to be a maximum of five years, now it has become a lifetime benefit. This is because retirees were getting the temporary health plan through CalPERS (California Public Employee Retirement System). Now, once retirees get to Medicare age and still have a health plan, it is blended with Medicare but still managed through CalPERS.

About five years ago, the district paid \$14 per retiree annually to CalPERS; now they pay \$121. CalPERS will increase that fee by three percent per year. "What was once considered a five-year benefit is now a lifetime benefit," said Learned. Since the district negotiated the original temporary benefit with its two unions, the only way to make a change is to renegotiate with the unions.

Miramonte Calendar

Aug. 6 - Residency Verification
Aug. 11 - First practice for cross country and football*
Aug. 18 - First practice for all other fall sports*
Aug. 19 - Mats Day (student ID photos)
Aug. 25 - School starts
*Athletic registration must be completed online and residency verified.

Public Speaking Wins Top 10 Nationally



GLORIA JANG

Over the summer, Miramonte High School's debate and public speaking team competed with 3,300 students in the largest academic competition in the world. Due to its success in both speech and debate, the school was awarded the highest honor of School of Outstanding Distinction out of a field of over 1,000 schools. (L-R) back row: **Coach Kristen Plant, Charles Hinman, Cecelia Andrews, Caie Kelley, Fatima Hasanain, Asher Kalman, Bennett Stehr.** Front row: **Alex Jang, Connor Meckfessel, Ethan Miles, Noah Goldstein, Sandra Maguire.**

Julie Parks Named New Principal at Miramonte

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

With the start of the 2014 school year, Miramonte High School welcomes new principal Julie Parks. A graduate of Acalanes High School, Parks happily returns to the Lamorinda area.

"I feel very fortunate to have grown up in this area where I received a wonderful education," she says. "It's always been my dream to return and give back to this community."

After graduating from Acalanes High School, Parks attended UCLA where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Anthropology. She subsequently earned a Master of Science for Teachers degree at Pace University and Master of Science in Educational Leadership degree at California State University, East Bay. Parks comes to Miramonte from the San Ramon Valley



SALLY HOGARTY

Miramonte principal **Julie Parks.**

Unified School District where she was an assistant principal at San Ramon Valley High School. Her previous teaching experience includes work as a science teacher in the Bronx, NY, and the Mt. Diablo Unified School District.

"Teaching in the Bronx as part of Teach for America was quite a culture shock," [SEE PARKS page 9]



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FARMERS' MARKET

◆ LETTERS from page 4

live in a place of their choice. What would happen if Orinda constructed hundreds of new homes for low-income people and nobody moved in? Who would pay the bill? The City Council never bothered to find out if more Orinda residents would lead to overcrowded schools, lowering the quality of the city's excellent educational system.

Between 2012 and 2013, burglaries in Orinda soared. According to official figures from the Orinda Police Department, burglaries went from 56 to 86, a 54 percent increase!

Orinda needs new leadership. Orindans should, in the words of Oliver Cromwell, tell its City Council: "In the name of God, go!"

— Richard S. Colman

Another View

I was unable to attend the Housing Element Community workshop on June 26, however, I have attended Orinda City Council meetings for the last two years. I have witnessed the disregard of input from the public over and over again. I would imagine the people that raised questions and were dismissed spoke up because of frustration and disgust.

In the article in the *Lamorinda Weekly*, "Heated Housing Element Workshop Sparks Fear— But Also Determination," by Laurie Snyder, July 2, it appears the interviewer only questioned people who were unfamiliar with the history of citizens' efforts on behalf of their families and neighbors to bolster the semi-rural character of our city and maintain the quality of our schools. Ms. Snyder did not interview anyone that spoke up to find out their concerns or why they voiced their frustration. This was obviously a one-sided report.

I implore Orinda citizens to get informed of the issues we are facing in our beautiful town. There are forces at work to increase housing density, significantly raise building height limits, lift current set back restrictions on second units and many more issues regarding taxpayer subsidies. To begin with, think about what this means for our roads with increased traffic and schools with increased student population. No one I know is against improvements — what, where, how are the questions.

Orinda Watch and Save Orinda write monthly newsletters that have a great deal

of information on the housing element and other local issues. Become informed of the facts. www.orindawatch.org, www.saveorinda.com.

—Sandra Wooten

Orindans Need Advisory Vote

The Orinda City Council hired a consulting firm named PMC to develop Orinda's next housing element. On June 26th, PMC held a meeting advertised as a public dialogue meeting where attendees could be involved in the development of our next housing element. This so-called dialogue meeting consisted of attendees voting by placing colored dots on bulletin boards that listed housing preferences, programs and services.

The choices listed on these bulletin boards included abstract generalities, such as "Fair Housing." Many attendees stated their preference was "None of the Above." However, "None of the Above" was not listed as one of the choice columns.

Voting by putting dots on a bulletin board is a flawed process. Can an attendee vote more than once by putting more than one dot on his choice? Who has control of the boards and dots after hours? Do citizens whose work and family schedules prevent attendance at PMC's scheduled Workshops get no vote because they have no opportunity to put a dot on a bulletin board?

PMC will eventually present their housing proposal to the Orinda City Council. Before the City Council accepts the Housing Element proposal, the City Council should let citizens have an "Advisory Vote" at the Ballot Box. That is the only way every citizen has authentic input.

— Janet Maiorana

Why Don't They Say What They Mean And Mean What They Say?

A City of Orinda community workshop regarding the 2015-2023 zoning plan for high-density housing developments occurred on Thursday, June 26. That workshop was highly publicized by the city, and Christina Ratcliffe, a senior city planner, who told the press in an interview "We want to encourage people to participate in any way that's comfortable for them to do so." Unfortunately for the citizens of Orinda, the council and staff routinely over promise and under deliver.

The speaker for this event was Ms. Jennifer Gastelum, with PMC, the city's hired consultants for preparation of the



Seasoned Shopper

Color Purple Makes Summer Debut

BARBARA KOBSAR



Purple packs a punch at the farmers' market this month. Mounds of eggplants, bunches of grapes and plenty of plums are arriving as the market slowly begins its transition into the selection of fresh fall crops.

Appearances are deceiving when judging an eggplant's handling and storage qualities. Large, pear or oval-shaped globe varieties bruise just as easily as the small Asian and Japanese types, and they all are very perishable.

Salting is still my method of choice to rid the larger eggplant of its excess moisture. Salting helps produce a more substantial base for dishes such as Ratatouille and Moussaka, while reducing the amount of oil absorbed during cooking. Cut large eggplants into cubes or half-inch slices, sprinkle cut sides with salt and drain in a colander for 20 to 30 minutes. Pat dry with paper towels before using.

Smaller varieties of eggplant are quick and easy on the grill. Prick with a fork or slice in half lengthwise, rub with a little olive oil and grill over medium heat for 8 to 12 minutes.

The green Thompson Seedless grape remains the best known of the fresh grapes but as fall arrives so do several varieties of other table grapes. Look for Fantasy Seedless, Red Globe, Muscat and California Niabell (a Concord-type grape with thick purple-black skin and rich flavor).

You'll have plenty of choices when it comes to Japanese variety plums — Sat-



BARBARA KOBSAR

Purple cabbages are plentiful in the markets.

suma, Kelsey, Black Beauty, El Dorado and Santa Rosa are favorites for eating out-of-hand. European plums are identified as fresh prunes or prune plums. Italian is the main commercial variety, sporting its deep blue-purple skin, natural white bloom and green tinged flesh. These contain an extra degree of natural sugar, allowing them to dry before fermentation sets in around the pit. Damson plums are similar in appearance to the Italian, but their tart flavor and firm texture make them ideal candidates for jam making.

More purple picks in August include figs, cabbage, purple okra and peppers, and maybe even a few purple-tinged heirloom tomatoes. Enjoy and see you at the market!

Barbara Kobsar, The Seasoned Shopper, can be reached at cotkitchen@aol.com. For market information visit the website at cccfc.org.

Environmental Impact Report for as yet undetermined parcels for high-density zoning. However, as Ms. Gastelum launched into her presentation, an attendee questioned what law forces the city to zone for high-density housing. Ms. Gastelum refused to answer the question and stated that attendees were to address all questions at six segregated tables where staff would listen one-on-one to citizen concerns after her presentation. This did not sit well with many attendees since not everyone would thereby have the opportunity to hear one another's questions or answers to those questions. An outcry of objections to Ms. Gastelum's refusal and the workshop process ensued. The objections were ignored. Another attendee questioned how Orinda would accommodate the influx of increased student population with Orinda's huge housing unit allocations. Ms. Gastelum again refused to respond and again referenced the format that PMC desired to use.

One must question why the city and PMC so adamantly refuses to engage Orinda citizens in a give and take public discussion. Is it because demand for answers to questions re high-density housing might raise issues that the City prefers to keep from public awareness? Is it because citizen questions asked and never answered at council meetings would reveal what lies beneath council's acquiescence to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), which Councilmember Amy Worth chairs? Assurance that "expressed concerns" would be placed on the city website has long ago been discredited due to the city's editing and summarizing of citizen input at council meetings.

So here's a question I pose: If the City Council represents MTC and ABAG, and the PMC represents the City Council, who represents Orinda's taxpaying citizens?

— Charlie Brown



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FIRE / POLICE / DISASTER

Dry Season Leads to High Fire Danger

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Current rainfall for the East Bay is about half of what it is in a normal year. The result is very dry vegetation and high fire danger that Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) personnel are very concerned about during this dry season. "We are in a more severe drought than during the Oakland hills fire," said Fire Marshal Kathy Leonard. The Oakland hills fire of 1991 destroyed 1,520 acres, including 3,354 homes and 437 apartment and condominium units. "It resulted in one of the largest losses from fire in the history of the Bay Area," said Leonard.

There have been several dangerous fires in the area over the last few weeks, including a house fire in Sleepy Hollow on June 23 and a fire behind the Rheem Theater on June 11. In addition, the remains of a bonfire were discovered on the fire road between Edgewood Court and Wilder Road on June 23. The bonfire on the fire road and the fire at the Rheem were both cases of students burning textbooks at the end of the school year. Some student names were recovered from the books

and the fires are being investigated by MOFD.

On June 23, the occupants of a hillside house on Tarry Lane were awakened to the smell of smoke. Flames were seen coming through exterior decking in the backyard. MOFD sent five engines and one truck to the scene. Contra Costa County Fire also responded by sending an engine from Lafayette. When the first MOFD engine arrived, the house was engulfed in fire. Because of the steep, wooded terrain around the building, firefighters were forced to take a defensive approach to prevent the fire from spreading to surrounding homes and further into the nearby canyon.

MOFD recommends that homeowners remove vegetation that is less than 3 feet from the edge of a roadway and 15 feet in height. Remove combustible weeds, brush, debris or growth that present a fire hazard. Maximum grass height is 3 inches. Prune trees of all dead wood and remove any limbs below 6 feet. Additionally, remove any portion of a tree that extends within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe. Buildings should have 15 feet of clearance from combustible materials and rooftops should be kept clear of leaves, needles



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The fire on Tarry Lane in Sleepy Hollow reminded residents how dangerous living by open spaces can be.

or other dead vegetative growth. Single specimens of trees, ornamental shrubbery or similar plants that are used as ground cover may be exempt if they do not form

a means of rapidly transmitting fire to any dwelling or structure.

For more information, visit www.mofd.org.

Emergency Response Training Starts 9/11

By REBECCA KUNZMAN
Contributing Writer

Remember 9/11 by signing up for free Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes beginning Thursday, Sept. 11. Learn how to prepare yourself, your family and your community for any emergency.

More than 600 people have already taken CERT training and know how to respond in a disaster, put out small fires, search and rescue trapped victims, save lives using basic triage and use Family Radio Service and Ham radios. Those already CERT-trained who would like to refresh their skills may attend any class of their choice.

The series of seven Thursday evening classes (and a drill) will be held in the Garden Room of the Orinda Library from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. Register at lamorindacert.org.

Rebecca Kunzman is a Lamorinda CERT Instructor.



POLICE BLOTTER

June Through July 5, 2014

Burglary, Auto: 2 incidents – Theatre Square and Wagner Ranch Elementary.

Burglary, Residential: 5 incidents – Knickerbocker Ln., Oakwood Rd., Altarinda Cir., Charles Hill Rd. and Muth Dr.

Burglary, Residential Attempt: 1 incident – Crestview Dr.

Forgery: 1 incident – Tahos Rd.

Identity Theft: 1 incident – Camino Don Miguel.

Occupied Stalled Vehicle: 1 incident – Camino Pablo/Brookwood Rd.

Petty Theft: 4 incidents – Moraga Way, St. Stephens Cir./Brookwood Rd. and Camino Pablo (2).

Shoplifting: 1 incident – Orinda Way.

Stolen Vehicle: 1 incident – California Ave.

Vandalism: 5 incidents – Fiesta Cir., Orinda Way, Risa Ct., Lost Valley Dr. and Camino Sobrante.

Arrests

DUI Misdemeanor Arrest: 1 arrest – Altarinda/Village Gate.

Drunk in Public: 1 arrest – Glorietta Blvd.

Embezzlement Arrest: 1 arrest – Beverages & More.

Reckless Driving Arrest: 1 incident – Camino Pablo/Orinda Way.

Suspicious Subject Arrest: 6 arrests – Orinda Way, Donald Dr., Hidden Valley Rd./Juniper Dr., Grizzly Peak Blvd./Claremont, Bigleaf Rd./Rabble Rd. and Theatre Square.

Threats Arrest: 2 arrests – Oak Rd. and Altarinda Rd./Village Gate.

Traffic Accident Arrest: 1 arrest – Overhill Rd./Moraga Way.

Traffic Stop Arrest: 2 arrests – Camino Pablo/Brookwood Rd. and Hwy 24/Camino Pablo.

Unwanted Guest Arrest: 1 arrest – Moraga Way.

Warrant Arrest: 1 arrest – Charles Hill Rd.

Welfare Check Arrest: 1 arrest – San Pablo Dam Rd./Bear Creek Rd.

Orinda BART Station

No reports.

– Compiled by Jeanette Irving,
Orinda Police Department

Orinda Night Out

Aug. 5, 5 - 8 pm

Neighbors get-togethers for crime prevention and emergency preparedness. Contact pattiyoun1@comcast.net for information.

Orinda Starlight Village Players

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by Van Zant & Milmore

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26 Orinda Way (Across from Rite Aid). Two blocks from BART.

Regular admission \$16, Discount admission \$8

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

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Put a Cork In It at Piccolo Napoli

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

There are 2,790 corks on the walls of Piccolo Napoli restaurant, but 12,000 more are needed for their Put a Cork In It project. Peter Eberle figures it takes about 90 corks to cover one square foot. They've covered 31 square feet so far and have 130 square feet more to go. Their purpose is to dampen the echo in the restaurant.

Eberle and his team looked at samples of common sound-absorbing materials and found them to be expensive and made of plastic and foam. The idea for cork as a sound absorber grew out of the desire for an affordable green alternative. He uses wood glue to affix the corks to a thin wood sheet then attaches the sheets to the walls with wood screws. "We were surprised that so many of our customers had col-

lected lots of corks but didn't know what to do with them," says Eberle. When they started bringing them in, the Put a Cork In It project was born.

Cork is a precious resource and many wine producers are now using other tops. Author and biologist Janine Benyus would call what Eberle and his peeps are doing at Piccolo Napoli "bio-utilization," meaning they are using a natural product to improve the sound quality in their restaurant and are repurposing cork as insulation to reduce the unpleasant echo.

Join the Put a Cork In It project by dropping off corks at Piccolo Napoli, 2 Theatre Square, No. 144, Orinda, 925-253-1225. Lunch hours are 11:30 am to 5 pm Wednesday-Sunday; dinner hours are 5 pm to 9 pm daily; open Saturday and Sunday until 10 pm. Visit www.piccolo-napoli.com.



SALLY HOGARTY

Ariel Adair shows off one of several walls decorated with cork for a green alternative to noise.

Repurposing with Cork

Janine Benyus' TED bio describes her as: "A self-proclaimed nature nerd, [her] concept of biomimicry has galvanized scientists, architects, designers and engineers into exploring new ways in which nature's successes can inspire humanity." To listen to her TED talk on biomimicry and learn the difference between bio-processing, bio-assisted technology and biomimicry, go to www.ted.com/talks/janine_benyus_shares_nature_s_designs.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) identifies cork oak (*Quercus suber*) as a priority species. The WWF works to ensure such species can live and thrive in their natural habitats. Cork oak forests are found in landscapes in nearly 2.7 million hectares of Portugal, Spain, Algeria, Morocco, Italy, Tunisia and France. For more information, see http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/endangered_species/cork_oak.



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FINE ARTS GALLERY FEATURES LOCAL ARTISTS



JILL GELSTER

Allison McCrady's (R) Fine Arts Gallery featured the contemporary photography of Anne Rabe (L) through July 6 at her Theatre Square space. McCrady will continue showing works and hosting receptions where the public can meet the artists throughout the summer. Go to allisonmccrady.com for more information.

Local Artist Explores New Language of Photography

By CHARLES JARRETT
Staff Writer

Do great products, cameras and software equal great photographs? The famous Austrian-born photojournalist, nature photographer and pioneering color photographer Ernst Haas said, "With photography a new language has been created. Now for first time it is possible to express reality by reality."

Like Haas, artist and photographer Yoni Mayeri is a passionate photographer dedicated to the evolution of photographic art and education, especially as it pertains to the new language being born in the rapidly changing hallways of Smartphone and Google Glass imagery.

What started as a fascination with cell phone photo applications led her to photographic exploration in a field that is now known as iPhoneography. The new photography medium motivated Mayeri to investigate yet another groundbreaking photo technology that is totally different, a communication and imaging product that was imagined as a wearable omnipresent computer interface device, with an optical head-mountable display unit and miniature computer known as Google Glass.

Mayeri said that she was "one of the first to purchase an iPhone in 2007" and that its attraction was primarily as a phone and Internet device for email. In 2008, Apple apps store opened and independent application developers began to make other programs that would run on the iPhone and enhance its built-in camera. "Suddenly, there were all these apps to create art and to enhance photos, and over time the iPhone got better and better," said Mayeri.

When her professional-level camera failed on a trip to Africa, Mayeri started using her backup camera – a Canon G9 with



CHARLIE JARRETT

Yoni Mayeri has discovered the creative adventure of working with Google Glass.

a small zoom lens – and her iPhone. She took photographs of elephants and lions with the equipment she had available. The iPhone became her backup camera. When she returned home and looked at her iPhone photos on her computer, she discovered that they were remarkably good. She enlarged and printed some at 16 x 20 inches, which at the time she thought was very big. When she showed one of them to a client, he said, "I want one of those for my office wall, only I want it much bigger, I mean really big." She resized the image to about 4 x 6 feet. When it was printed on canvas, Mayeri exclaimed, "It was spectacular!"

She continued to upgrade her iPhones and started using it as an art form. Eventually, with improvements and a broader range

[SEE YONI page 20]



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CAR TIME / CAR SHOW

CAR TIME

Lack of Maintenance is a Killer!



by JOHN VANEK

I always preach about the importance of vehicle maintenance. It appears that not everyone is listening! This week I witnessed three different vehicles with engine oil that looked like tar. One vehicle had logged 25,000 miles since the last oil change! That is about 20,000 miles overdue. The car was brought in for a clatter noise from the engine and we found no oil on the dipstick. The problem is that over time the heat from the friction of the engine wears the oil and its detergents down, leaving little protection for vital engine components. Some vehicles have high-tech computer-controlled engine components that are operated by engine oil. When the engine oil is low or dirty it affects the reliability of these components. It has

◆ PARKS from page 5

Parks says, "It gave me an even greater appreciation for what I had experienced as a student." Parks looks forward to building on the successes achieved by former principal Adam Clark. "I have some big shoes to fill," she adds.

"We are extremely confident that Julie will bring a passion and strong leadership to all aspects of her work at Miramonte," says AUHSD superintendent John Nickerson. "She will support and maintain the excellence and high quality programs, support staff in their efforts to innovate, create and reach more students, and be very perceptive of school and community needs."

Parks lives in Pleasant Hill with her husband Sean, who also attended Acalanes High School, and their two children – five-year-old Liam and two-year-old Lucas.

been known to cause a check engine light to appear and subsequently costs additional money to resolve.

Another customer has a 2008 Toyota Camry V6 with just over 100,000 miles. The car was loaned to a relative who apparently did not know the phone number for Express Oil Change & Tire Center because the oil also looked like tar. The car now smokes from the exhaust and burns an excessive amount of oil. The valve seals are failing due to the grime content in the oil. The engine will need to be pulled and repaired for a price tag of over \$6,000. Toyotas are famous for getting 200,000 to 300,000 miles from the original engine with proper maintenance.

Proper maintenance is the key. Consult your owner's manual for the suggested intervals for maintenance. Some vehicles even have a maintenance reminder system built into the dash. I caution that some of the intervals listed may need to be adjusted for high-mileage vehicles. Due to internal wear, high-mileage engines burn more oil and need to be checked more often. The oil will break down and tend to burn more once there is more than 8,000 miles on the odometer. Some European cars such as BMW and Mercedes may have an interval of 15,000 miles between oil changes. If your Mercedes has 70,000 on the odometer, you may want to lower the interval for proactive care.

As usual, I encourage motorists to be part of the solution when it comes to the longevity of their vehicles. I am always available for automotive consultation.



DAVID DIERKS

Attendees enjoy last year's Dancing with the Cars preshow party. (L-R) Rick Kattenburg, Candy Kattenburg, Patti Camras and Paul Koenig.

Rebels with a Cause Roars into Orinda

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Rotary Club of Orinda will again be organizing the Dancing with the Cars Friday night preview party of the Orinda Classic Car Show on September 12. This year's theme is the '50s and will feature a special retrospective of hotrods, ragtops and glass packs. Barbara Bontemps, who is organizing the event for Orinda Rotary, said, "Rebels with a Cause is going to be a lot of fun, and, with the help of Orinda Motors, we are going to have some fabulous classic 50's autos on display for the party – think American Graffiti!"

Chef Arno from Shelby's of Orinda will be catering the event. "We've recruited Shelby's to do the food and will transform our big tent over the Library Plaza into 'Shelby's Diner' for the evening where the Orinda Starlight Village Players will be waiting tables in vintage 50's garb. We're really gonna Shake, Rattle and Roll," said Bontemps. The party starts at 6:30 pm and features silent and live auctions, a deluxe dinner menu, liberal libations and dancing.

Tickets are available at www.OrindaCarShow.com/enjoy-dancing-with-the-cars.

General seating tickets are \$100. Reserved seating tickets are \$125. Proceeds from the dinner benefit local charities, including the Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO), Rotary Club of Orinda, Orinda Arts Council, Orinda Starlight Village Players, Orinda Chamber of Commerce and other non-profit community partners.

Bontemps said, "We are excited to be partnering with so many of our community organizations because we all bring something unique to the table for the benefit of the community. I guess you could say that Dancing with the Cars and the car show are your one-stop shopping way to support the entire community."

The preshow party is sponsored by Mechanics Bank, Clark Thompson of Village Realty, Land Home Financial, Park Place Wealth Advisors and Breedlove Insurance. In addition, Drake's Brewing and Recuerdo Wines are providing drinks. "We are really pleased to have local sponsors step up to support our event, and we are delighted to receive in-kind donations from Drake's Brewing and Recuerdo Wines to help with the libations for the party," said Bontemps.

For more information, visit www.OrindaCarShow.com.

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The 10th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show Weekend

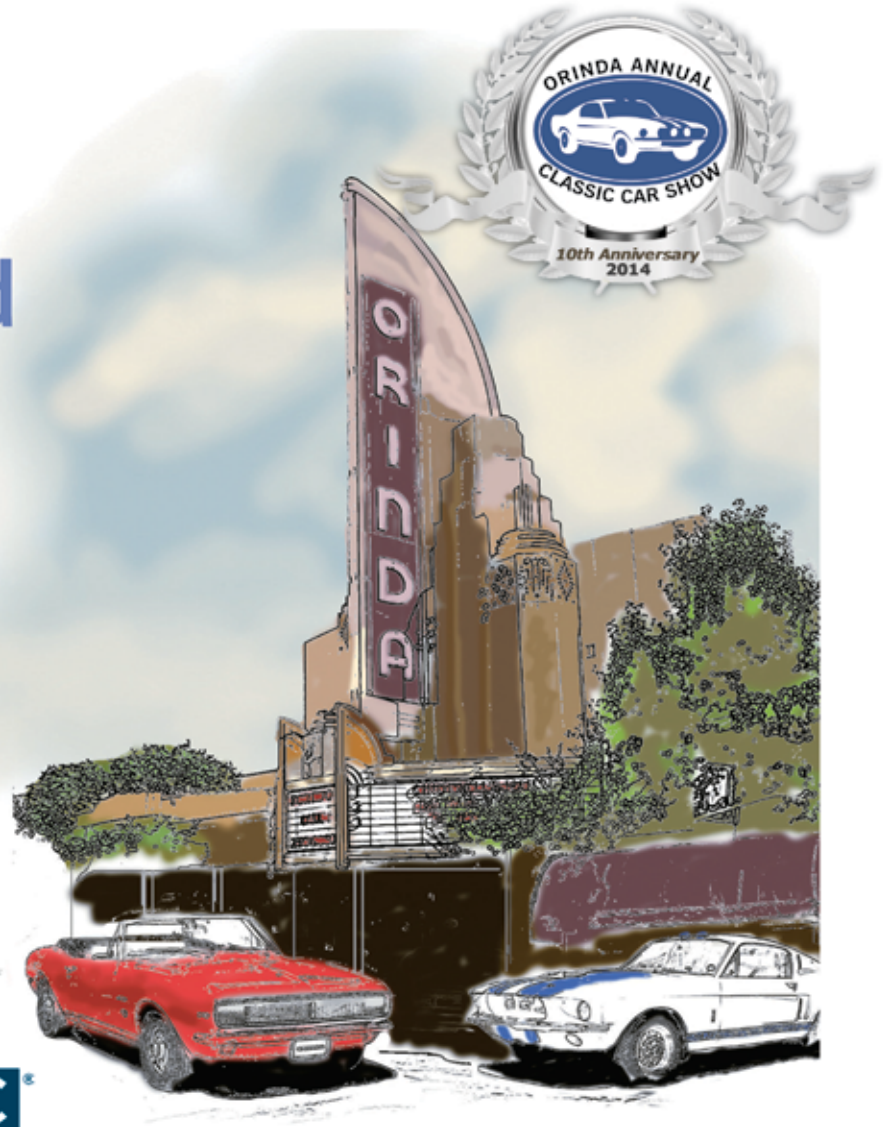
Friday Night Pre-Party,
September 12th, 6:30pm
“DANCING WITH THE CARS”

Saturday,
September 13th, 10am–3pm
ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Sunday,
September 14th, 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

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 Museum, Orinda Country Club, Orinda Chamber of Commerce, Educational Foundation of Orinda, Orinda Arts Council, and Seniors Around Town.

Event Schedule

Friday, September 12th, 6:30pm
“DANCING WITH THE CARS” FRIDAY NIGHT PRE-PARTY

The presenting sponsor for this event is Mechanics Bank.

Rebels with a Cause

This fantastic 50's party at Orinda Library Plaza includes a special retrospective car display of hotrods, ragtops and glass packs – plus liberal libations, a deluxe dinner menu from Shelby's, silent and live auctions and, of course, dancing! Reserve your tickets now!

Proceeds of this event benefit EFO, Orinda Rotary, Orinda Arts Council, Orinda Chamber of Commerce and other non-profit community partners.

Buy your tickets at:
www.OrindaCarShow.com
 Space is limited so don't wait.
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See a Special Exhibit of outstanding Porsches from the 1940's to today!



“DANCING WITH THE CARS” PARTY SPONSORS



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

Saturday Free Admission

September 13th, 10am - 3pm
10TH ANNUAL ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW


The presenting sponsor for this 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 outstanding Porsches from 1940 to today as well as a 50th Anniversary Corral of Mustangs
- Shaded seating for over 100 to enjoy lunch and refreshments from the Car Show BBQ Booth and Orinda County Club Taco Bar
- Loard's Ice Cream and Candy
- Ride in the Parade of Classic Cars at 3pm
- Buy a 2014 Car Show T-Shirt

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

ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW SPONSORS



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Sunday
September 14th, 5:30 and 7:45pm
“SPEED ON THE SCREEN”

The presenting sponsor for this event is Flying A Gasoline. Two great movies are currently being chosen. Check at www.OrindaCarShow.com to see movie selections. Tickets available online, at the Car Show and at the door.



Pre Purchase Your Tickets at Flying A Gasoline

VISUAL ARTS

Luminous Landscapes, Life Around the Water and Clay Arts Guild

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The Orinda Library Gallery presents a month-long exhibition of the photographs of Wenda Pyman, paintings of Leslie Swartz and ceramic works by members of the Clay Arts Guild of Walnut Creek. Join them on Sunday, Aug. 2 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm for an artist reception when light refreshments will be served.

Wenda Pyman of San Francisco has chosen the theme *Luminous Landscapes, Intercepting Light* for her 15-plus photographs. Pyman has a long love affair with photography; her works are in both national and international collections. Her portfolio includes images from India, Europe, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam and the Bay Area. Pyman hopes the beauty, harmony and balance in nature that inspires her photographs broaden the viewer's awareness of the outdoors. Early on, she attended workshops with some of the greats, including Ansel Adams. She continued her education at UC Berkeley, Future Light Workshops and other venues. "When I take a picture, I'm not just satisfied with taking the picture. I go home, study it, find out what it is lacking, and ask, 'Why isn't this knocking my socks off?'" Then I make notes and go back and do it again and again."

Being with other photographers who know the medium helps her pick up tips.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
This untitled ceramic piece by Jackie Gerry will be part of the August exhibit.

She attends meet-ups all over the Bay Area, including those sponsored by Adobe, to listen and learn from the presenters. She also looks at other photographers' work to challenge herself. Larry Ulrich and David Meunch are two nature photographers whose work she admires. Look for *Bowling Ball Beach*, a 26" x 36" archival pigment photographic print. See www.wendapyman.com for more information.

The 12 paintings Leslie Swartz of Martinez is exhibiting amplify her theme, *Life Around the Water*. She has been painting regularly for 10 years. Prior to that she taught art and noticed that students brought an entirely different energy to the art classroom. To keep her work fresh, she is part of an art group where people comment on each other's work. While some of her favorite inspirators are Van Gogh and O'Keefe, she also enjoys various media about art - pictorial, written and digital. Look for *Birds of Morro Bay*, a 21" x 18" watercolor on paper; *Float Your Boats*, a 25" x 32" pen-and-ink on black paper and *Jellies*, a 25" x 36" oil painting. "I hope my paintings convey a sense of peace and possibly humor, but really, I hope people connect with them and have their own experience, whatever that is," says Swartz. "Right now, with our California water supplies so low, we've all got to be mindful of treasuring and conserving the water we have." See www.leslieswartzart.com for more information.

Jackie Gerry, curator of the Clay Arts Guild (CAG) exhibit, celebrates its 50th birthday by showing over 80 works contributed by 20 members of the 125-member group. The group began in 1964 at a meeting of ceramic enthusiasts chaired by Ron Caya, the first Art Director of the nascent Civic Arts Center of Walnut Creek; they named it the Clay Arts Association. The name changed to the Clay Arts Guild in 1979 when they installed a new studio in the old Walnut Festival Building in Civic Park, the present-day Studio E. Gerry is proud of the diversity and level of craftsmanship evident in their work. "You will see raku, pit fired pieces, salt, high fired and low fired pieces as well as sculptures, hand built and thrown pieces. We all have our own touches



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Leslie Swartz's 25"x 32" oil painting entitled *Jellies* will be on display.

and our work reflects that," she says. Look for *Wedding Bowl*, a 6" x 9" x 10" slab built stoneware piece by Ellen Sachtschale with intricate floral etchings and two *Untitled*


vessels, one by Jackie Gerry and the other by Kimbal Auguey.

CAG members exhibiting include: Kate [SEE GALLERY page 20]



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HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

Hot August Nights Return to Orinda

Orinda offers a myriad of entertainment pleasures during August. For music lovers, there are weekly concerts in the Orinda Community Center Park as well as in Theatre Square and the annual jazz festival on Aug. 17. Theater lovers can partake of plays by California Shakespeare Theater at the Bruns Amphitheater or by the Orinda Starlight Village Players at the Community Center Park.

While younger residents always love the concerts, they should especially enjoy the Moonlight Movies in the park as well.

Concerts-in-the-Park**6:30 pm - Orinda Community Center Park**

Aug. 5 - littledog 2 - classic rock

Aug. 12 - Marc Levine and TLC Trio - jazz

Sponsored by the Orinda Community Center Auxiliary along with the Orinda Community Foundation, Orinda Parks and Recreation Foundation and Rotary Club of Orinda.

Moonlight Movies**at dark - Orinda Community Center Park**

Aug. 14 - Despicable Me 2

Aug. 21 - Lego Movie

Sponsored by the Orinda Parks and Recreation Foundation. Bring a picnic or bags of popcorn and enjoy!

Orinda Jazz Festival Draws Award-Winning Artists

By KATHRYN G. McCARTY
Staff Writer

Award-winning jazz vocalist Amikaeyla, two-time Grammy winner Mads Tolling, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center flutist Carol Alban, bassist Marc Levine and pianist Ben Flint are among the celebrated artists headlining this year's Fourth Annual Orinda Jazz Festival. The festival will be held on Sunday, Aug. 17, from 2 to 8 pm at the Orinda Library Auditorium. In addition to two concerts, the event features free community workshops for aspiring musicians of all ages from 2 to 3 pm. Amikaeyla, described by NPR as one of the "purest contemporary voices," will offer a pre-concert vocal/expression workshop called "Express Your SELF!"

The renowned singer said that when students are encouraged to freely express and make noise, they become emboldened and empowered to see the importance of their own presence. "It's in that moment when they are truly unencumbered and filled with joy that it feels like we are all breathing as one together, which is the actual definition of inspiration. It reminds me of how truly fortunate we all are to be alive," she said.

The vocalist explained that, "through the work that I do as a cultural ambassador, I get to travel the world working in a way that extends beyond politics. Communicating through music allows me to share heart to heart with people, creating a deep opening between us. This is particularly true and exciting for the young girls that I work with in war-torn and developing countries who don't speak my language or experience the world as I do on a daily basis."

Founded in 2011 by Carol Alban and Beau Behan, the jazz festival benefits the Orinda Arts Council, a 63-year-old organization that supports performing arts in the community. According to Behan, the festival has received rave reviews throughout the U.S. and abroad for its eclectic range



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Amikaeyla Gaston will headline at the jazz festival as well as give free workshops to aspiring musicians.

of jazz offerings and its commitment to furthering jazz education in the Bay Area. For Behan, who also serves as the festival's executive director, it's about "bringing back something to the community. It is my mission in life." He and Alban envision the festival to be "a world-class event" that brings jazz artists from around the globe to Orinda. "We believe this event is enhancing the quality of community life in Orinda."

Single tickets to the Mads Tolling, Carol Alban & Friends Concert (3:30 pm) and to the Amikaeyla Gaston concert (5 pm) range from \$13-20. A Back Stage Pass package is available which includes both concerts and an "Apres Jazz Party" with the artists. Concerts are expected to sell out, so advance tickets are recommended. For complete information, visit www.OrindaJazzFestival.org or call 925-255-5164.



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Concerts at Theatre Square

Friday and Saturday nights are hopping at Orinda Theatre square. A wide variety of musical groups will be playing at the various restaurants throughout the month.

Aug. 1 at 7 pm - Eric Eckstein at Piccolo Napoli
Aug. 2 at 7 pm - Chris Ahlman at Piccolo Napoli
Aug. 3 at 11:30 am - Jim Freeman at Table 24/Shelbys
Aug. 8 at 5 pm - Eric Eckstine at Barbacoa
Aug. 9 at 7 pm - Chris Ahlman at Piccolo Napoli
Aug. 15 at 7 pm - Kanya Baker Trio at Barbacoa
Aug. 16 at 7 pm - Chris Ahlman at Piccolo Napoli
Aug. 22 at 5 pm - Eric Eckstein at Barbacoa
Aug. 23 at 5 pm - Chris Ahlman at Piccolo Napoli
Aug. 29 at 7 pm - Chris Ahlman at Barbacoa

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HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

Orinda Women Tread the Boards at Starlight

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

The Orinda Starlight Village Players (OrSVP) will present Billy Van Zant and Jane Milmore's *Wrong Window!* at the Community Center Park Amphitheater, 28 Orinda Way, beginning Aug. 1. The comedy is a hilarious spoof of Alfred Hitchcock movies in general and especially *Rear Window*. Joining the cast are Orinda residents Susan Chapple and Betsy White.

Chapple is a longtime Starlight actress and daughter-in-law of company founder Charlotte Meyer. Chapple will play the part of Marnie, a Gothic romance writer who believes her cross-courtyard neighbor, Thor Larswald, has done away with his wife. Chapple was last seen in OrSVP's 2010 production of *A Murder is Announced*. Chapple is a familiar sight at Orinda Intermediate School where she works as a teacher's assistant.

White is returning for her third season

at OrSVP. She plays Detective Thomas, who is called in to investigate the disappearance of Mrs. Larswald. "Every time we rehearse I'm laughing my head off," she said. White, who appeared in the radio plays last season, says she keeps returning because of, "the dedicated people involved. Everyone is working together to pull off a great show. We're doing live theater for the love of it to a professional standard." White has been coming to OrSVP shows for almost 20 years and got involved with the outdoor theatre company when she moved to Orinda. "We've performed in high winds, fog, cold and searing heat just in the three years I've been involved," said White.

The show is co-directed by *The Orinda News'* own Jill Gelster and OrSVP member Mya Ewing. Gelster and Ewing both have years of experience in theater and are excited about the fantastic cast they are working with. Gelster's philosophy with comedy is to "play it straight. These writers are brilliant and they put the characters in



DAVID DIERKS

Betsy White (L) and Susan Chapple rehearse a scene from *Wrong Window!*

funny situations. I don't want my actors acting funny and playing over the top. Forcing comedy never works."

The cast of *Wrong Window!* also includes veteran OrSVP actors Bill Chessman, Margaret Gorrell, Al Guaraglia, Ken Sollazzo and Ryan Terry. The show runs Aug. 1 through Aug. 23 with performances Friday and Saturday nights at 8:30 pm, one Sunday matinee Aug. 17 at 4 pm and one Thursday

performance on Aug. 21 at 8 pm.

For more information, visit www.orsvp.org or call 925-528-9225. The theatre always needs volunteers. As well as actors, anyone interested in helping with box office, lights, sound, set construction or stage management can contact the theatre by email at info@orsvp.org or call the number above.

Cal Shakes Wraps Up 40th Season With Classic Comedy

By KATHRYN G. McCARTY
Staff Writer

California Shakespeare Theatre closes out its 40th season with a perennial favorite, William Shakespeare's comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Directed by Shana Cooper, with movement by Erika Chong Shuch, the play runs Sept. 3 through 28 at the Bruns Memorial Amphitheatre in Orinda.

Shuch, who will also play dual roles as Hippolyta and Titania, is excited about pairing with Cooper for their third Cal Shakes production. The duo previously teamed up for the company's acclaimed production of *Taming of the Shrew* (2011) and *Romeo and Juliet* (2013). "As a choreographer, I'm always looking for directors who are imagining ways to use movement – not just in a dance number but movement which broadens the landscape of the full production," said Shuch, who began working with the company in 2009. "We do a lot of work



PAK HAN

Erika Chong Shuch not only does the movement for Shakespeare's comedy but she also plays dual roles.

figuring out how to incorporate movement into the entire piece." Shuch said Cooper looks at ways to deepen the story and the

[SEE CAL SHAKES page 20]

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Lizard Lady Brings Reptiles and More to Orinda Theatre Square

Teressa and Patrick Killeen brought part of their fascinating reptile collection to Theatre Square in July to share with a large number of interested children. Completely engaging the youngsters, Teressa passed around a an Australia blue-tongued lizard, a rescue reptile from Africa, a green lizard that could wave and a 73-year-old tortoise.

Other presentations at Theatre Square include a puppet show on Aug. 7 at 11 am and Republic of Cake Kid's Club on Aug. 22 at 11 am. The Kid's Club includes a 1/2 hour of music followed by 1/2 hour of story reading. Go to www.orindatheatresquare.org for information.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor



Lizard Lady **Teressa Killeen** shows Bob, a 73-year-old tortoise, and Carlos, a King Snake, to some very curious young children in Theatre Square.



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Ah, here we are in the “dog days” of summer, a time of warmth that leaves many of us and our companion animals panting for relief. Panting in cats and dogs is a way for them to cool down their systems, although excessive and continuing panting can be a sign of a health issue that requires a veterinarian’s attention. But the dog days of summer actually have less to do with the heat’s effect on our animals than it does with the stars above and how ancient civilizations viewed them.

Before the days of big cities and bright lights, the sky was a truly wondrous arena of clearly visible stars, constellations, and planets. Humans could look up at the night sky and discover dark fields filled with symbols relevant to their daily lives and beliefs.

The brightest star is Sirius, the dog star, part of the Canis Major constellation. The Romans believed that Sirius helped warm the earth, especially since it appears near

the sun in late summer. Dogs are not the only animal named in constellations. Cat lovers have the constellation Leo and its brightest star is aptly named Alpha Leonis. The annual Leonid meteor showers are associated with this magnificent constellation.

Both dogs and cats have minor constellations named after them as do many other animals such as the bear, Ursa Major and Minor; fish, Pisces; and lizards, Lacerta. Birds may have the most number of constellations as namesakes, with the constellations of Aquila, the eagle; Columba, the dove; Corvus, the crow; Grus, the crane; and Pavo, the peacock. There may be a few other birds up there as there are 88 officially recognized constellations that include images relating to wide range of animals from scorpions to dolphins.

A book that will enchant young and old readers about animal constellations is “Zoo [SEE HOWL page 20]

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STUDENTS

Two Young Orinda Girls Prefer to Sail Through Life

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

While their friends spend the summer enjoying free time away from the pressures of school, Sally and Lucy Wilmot thrive on the pressures inherent in the highly competitive world of international sailing.

The sisters, Sally a freshman at Miramonte this fall and Lucy a junior, recently won U.S. sailing's first youth championship

sor boat to college sailing. He asked me to crew for him. I could have continued racing at the Optimist level, but this was such a wonderful opportunity that I jumped a head to the 420s. I trained really hard and took private lessons so that I would be a really good crew for Chris," explains Lucy. "He helped me learn both the C420 and I420 boats. The I420 goes really fast and is much more complex than the C420, but Chris was so patient with me. He started sailing on UC Santa Barbara's team last year."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Miramonte students **Sally** and **Lucy Wilmot** sail to victory aboard a C420 off of Rye, New York.

of 2014. The dynamic duo pulled away from a competitive field of 41 teams to capture the win and the Ida Lewis Trophy. The three-day regatta of racing in the Club 420 (C420) sailing boat took place in Rye, New York and marked the Wilmots' first regatta together.

"Lucy has been sailing the 420 for the past two summers, but I just moved up to that class in May after sailing the Optimist for almost seven years," says Sally. "It usually takes someone new to the 420s several years to understand the tuning but with Lucy explaining everything to me, I picked things up really quickly. She started sailing the C420s and even the more complicated International 420s (I420) years before most sailors her age, and she's helping me now."

The Optimist, a small, single-handed sailing dinghy, accommodates youngsters learning to sail up to age 15. With its one sail, the Optimist only requires one person while the C420s have three sails and need a two-person crew.

"I've been fortunate to sail with kids better than me who pushed me to learn," says Lucy, now nationally ranked as one of the top female high school sailors. "When I was 14, my good friend Christopher Swanson began racing 420s, which are the precur-

Now, it's Lucy's turn to share her invaluable experience with her sister. "We get along pretty well, but we're also really different in lots of ways," says Lucy. She explains how at a recent race, she was very nervous in the morning but Sally was re-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lucy (L) and **Sally Wilmot** proudly display the trophies they won at the U.S. Junior Women's Doublehanded Championship.

laxed. "I kept thinking what a commitment this was for our family. It costs them a lot of money and time, and I wanted us to do well," Lucy says. "My main goal when the race started, however, was not about winning, but rather not to get frustrated with

Sally. I also told Sally her goal was to not yell at me ever," she laughs. "We did so much better than I expected."

Sally admits the two had communication problems at first but says they have worked everything out. "When she tells me to do something, instead of not saying anything, which then makes her repeat her command

[SEE WILMOTS page 16]




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◆ WILMOTS from page 15

very loudly, I just say 'copy.' Then she knows I heard her." Sally notes that she has other qualities that can help her sister. "Lucy has a tendency to get anxious at the beginning of a start of a race and sometimes pushes off too soon, which gets you disqualified. I hold her back," says Sally, who at 13 is the youngest sailor on a 420 crew.

The girls started sailing at six (Sally) and eight (Lucy) thanks to their father Scott Wilmot. Growing up on the east coast, Scott wanted his girls to experience the world of sailing. "I learned to sail in Chatham on Cape Cod," he says. "I was always so impressed with the girls who sailed. They were real decision makers, very respectful yet confident. When you're sailing, you often have to make split second decisions and follow through. I wanted those things for my girls," he adds.

"When we first started sailing, I didn't really like it," says Sally. "It was really hard and cold and windy." Their coach Chris Pine, however, had a secret weapon – ice cream. "If we could make it up the Oakland Estuary from Encinal Yacht Club to Jack London Square, we'd get ice cream," Lucy adds. "He really knew how to motivate us. Looking back, I see we wouldn't be at our current level if he hadn't pushed us so hard at a young age."

The girls also acknowledge the coaches that followed Pine like Parker Mitchell, Elizabeth Kratzig and Joseph Morris, both on the U.S. Olympic Development team, and Pablo Weber. "We've learned so much from all our coaches," says Lucy. "Pablo is a wonderful international coach. He put together a team of kids from all over the world. We got to meet such wonderful people."

While most sailors, especially on the East Coast, sail for a yacht club, the Wilmots are

independent. "We take care of everything ourselves. Luckily, our dad loves road tripping to the regattas and setting up the boats," says Sally. The girls' mom, Agnew Pak, general counsel for a software company, supports her daughters' sailing and often attends the regattas but prefers to hold down the fort in Orinda.

During the school year, Sally and Lucy usually get in one practice during the week and two on weekends. But on vacations and during the summer, things get pretty hectic for the Wilmots. "We're usually in Florida over Christmas and during winter breaks training and competing in regattas," Lucy explains. "But we also travel to Bermuda, Argentina, the Virgin Islands and St. Thomas to compete."

According to Sally, one of the perks of sailing is meeting people from all over the world. "You really get out of the bubble of Orinda," she says. "I've met so many interesting, quirky people – many of whom are now my best friends – and I've had such interesting things happen to me. I love sleeping on an air mattress in a room with a bunch of girls I don't know from other states and countries. You end up being good friends with them and their families."

Lucy concurs. "The sailing community is really a tight-knit group. When we're traveling, we stay in other sailors' homes, and when they're in the Bay Area, they stay with us. One girl even lived with us for a year and worked for my mom."

Neither of the Wilmot girls have U.S. gold in their sights. "We're not really looking ahead to the Olympics," Sally says. "Right now, I want to enjoy everything about sailing. We were at an international competition recently and the girls from Singapore, who get money from their government, were so stressed and tense. Their total focus was on performing well. While I also want to do well, there are other things in life. It's all about balance," says the rather wise 13 year old.

At 16, Lucy is looking ahead to college. The 4.0 student hopes to attend either Yale, Stanford or Dartmouth and sail at the collegiate level. "We still have lots of time to figure out what to do with our sailing," she adds.

After winning the Junior Woman's Championship in June, the girls spent July competing for the C420 National Championship in San Diego followed by four weeks on the east coast competing in the C420 North American Championship in New Jersey and the U.S. Youth Sailing Championship in Detroit. They'll be back in time for Miramonte High School's Mats Day on Aug. 19. "It's always fun to talk about what we did over our summer vacation," quips Sally.

Arts in Bloom and Lamorinda Idol Sneak Preview Livens Up Community Park



Kaitlyn Roach (L) and Amelia Chen, both 4th graders at Wagner Ranch, sang "For Good" from *Wicked* at the Orinda Community Center Park as part of Arts in Bloom. The girls are finalists in the Lamorinda Idol competition.

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

On July 15 beginning at 5:30 pm, Orinda Community Park was filled with young and old who enjoyed Arts in Bloom. Bill Cosden, MC for the event, ushered kids into their craft area where they learned how to make a variety of art projects. Kids sported colorful bugs, flowers and other artwork created by two face painters and two Unreal Airbrush Tattoo Artists. Students from Acalanes, Campolindo, Las Lomas and Miramonte High Schools displayed their original artwork while local artists showed off original paintings done in various media. Artisan vendors included handbags from Ecogirl, hair and jewelry accessories from Hello Tiara, unique handmade gifts and home décor from Echo Grove, and delicate and modern jewelry from Kimberly-Jo Vogel.

Net proceeds from Arts in Bloom, sponsored by the Orinda Arts Council (OAC), benefit their 63 year mission of igniting and sustaining artistic expression and appreciation for all ages throughout Lamorinda. Local support for the event comes from

over 25 businesses and organizations; see <http://orindaarts.org> for more information.

At 6:15 pm, the Lamorinda Idol Sneak Preview began when the finalists performed both solo and group selections. All singers were between kindergarten and 12th grade and their choices included standards, musicals, pop hits and more. All are busy gearing up for the September 7 finals held at the Orinda Theatre. The Orinda Community Center Auxiliary (OCCA) sponsors the Lamorinda Idol Sneak Preview as part of its ongoing Concerts-in-the-Park series. They also fund and administer the Halloween Tot Parade, Holiday Bazaar and more. See www.ci.orinda.ca.us for more information.

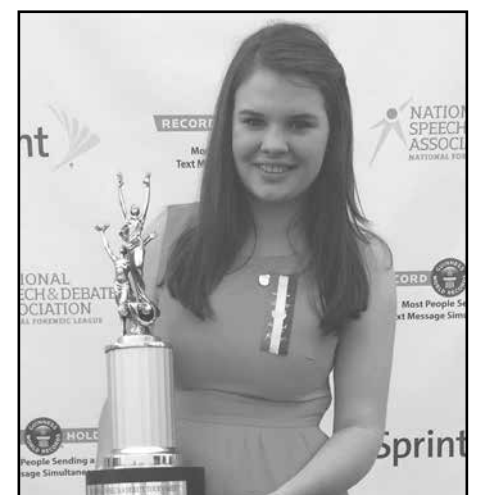
Many volunteer hours contributed to Arts in Bloom's success including: OAC volunteers Anny Monteilh, event chair; Susan Garell and Lawrence Kohl, co-presidents; Bill Cosden, Steve Harwood, Kal Deutsch, Susan Mautner, Natalie Wheeler, Meredith Friedman, Sue Farmer, Myrna Witt, and Dawn Kurisu. Additional volunteers assisted from The Acalanes Chapter of the National Charity League. Special thanks to Michelle Lacy from Orinda Parks and Recreation, who worked with everyone to ensure a smooth event.

Orindan Takes Honors at Debate Championship

Orinda resident Mollie Fiero finished fifth out of 404 competitors at the National Speech and Debate Association's National Championship Tournament in Kansas City in June. Fiero, who began debating in seventh grade under the tutelage of Orinda Intermediate School teacher Terry Eubanks, debated for The College Preparatory School in Oakland, which fields a team focused on policy debate.

As a freshman at Emory University this fall, Fiero looks forward to continuing her debate career. Emory's debate team has won several national championships in the past.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor



Mollie Fiero.

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AUTHOR / TRIATHLON

Local Kids' Book Author Wins Writer's Award

By Charlie Jarrett
Staff Writer

Orinda children's book author Ginger Wadsworth was awarded the Western Writers of America (WWA) "Spur Award" at the 61st Annual WWA Convention in Sacramento in June. She won the storyteller award for her new book, *Yosemite's Songster: One Coyote's Story*, to be published by the Yosemite Conservancy this month and sold in Yosemite Park bookstores. This is her second award from WWA.

Wadsworth was raised in Southern California and has lived in Orinda with her husband Bill for most of their married life. They also have a house in Southern California in the Anza-Borrego Desert, in a little canyon with lots of coyotes. On one occasion, a coyote came right up to their

living room window, allowing Wadsworth to watch him up close. On another occasion, while on a nature walk in a meadow in Yosemite, Wadsworth saw a coyote jumping around in the grass, "moussing" for its next meal. Such coyote sightings, combined with a lifetime love of camping and the outdoors, inspired Wadsworth to write her new book.

When news about the book spread, "People asked me to come and speak to them or their group about the coyote problem in their area, and there are reasons why I cannot do that," said Wadsworth. "First, *Yosemite's Songster - One Coyote's Story* is about coyotes, but not the kind of coyote you find in Alamo or Orinda disturbing us or poaching on our animals and chickens. It's about the kind of coyote you find within the perimeter of the Yosemite National Park or similar protected areas. Second, this book is being published by the Yosemite Conservancy and has been vetted by their park rangers for accuracy, pertaining only to a coyote that is trying to survive within that park's protection."

The book is described on the Yosemite Conservancy website: "Coyote is separated from her mate by a rock fall and searches the park to find him. Sometimes silent, occasionally observed, always watchful, Coyote makes her way from one memorable site to another, singing a lonely song of yips and yowls. Gorgeous watercolor paintings of Yosemite illuminate this ultimately satisfying story, while the text closely observes one of the park's most familiar kind of wild resident. Young readers will



GINGER WADSWORTH

While looking through her kitchen window at her second home in the Anza-Borrego desert, **Ginger Wadsworth** spotted this beautiful coyote with her trusty binoculars.

discover much about coyotes, and will also delight in spotting the places they too have visited—Half Dome, Sentinel Bridge, Stoneman Meadow, the Ahwahnee, and more."

Daniel San Souce, whose career in book illustration spans 30 years, illustrated *Yosemite's Songster* and also received the "Spur Award." He has published more than 80 books and created many covers, including *The Chronicles of Narnia* series.

Wadsworth says the WWA award is like history repeating itself, as her father and her grandfather (Hal G. Evarts) were writers and WWA award winners. Her grandfather served in World War I and then moved to Cody, Wyoming to become a skunk farmer. Apparently skunk skin coats were not in such high demand as he thought and the business failed. He turned to writing and eventually wrote for *Colliers*, *The Saturday Evening Post* and other publications known as the big "slicks" of the day. Evarts began writing novels about the west, many of which became popular in the genre. Her father, Hal G. Evarts, went to Stanford and was a writer all his life.

Wadsworth started writing 35 years ago while pursuing a teaching credential when her son was in kindergarten. She took a class in writing at the Orinda Community Church to improve her knowledge about writing books for children. She has written 27 books, some of which have not yet been published - mostly fictional stories with children as the central characters.

Research becomes a major aspect of writing stories that are non-fiction, said Wadsworth. "I wrote a book entitled *Words West, Voices for Young Pioneers* (Clarion Books) about the western migration as told from the viewpoint of young persons who came west. It is based on actual journals, diaries and letters written by these young people and the reminiscences of older people like us, re-telling their stories for their children. I talk about multiple trails

[SEE WADSWORTH page 20]



CHARLIE JARRETT

Ginger Wadsworth won the Western Writers of America "Spur Award" recently.

NorCal Kids Triathlon on Aug. 30 at Miramonte

Youngsters ranging in age from five years old through high school have been busy preparing for the annual NorCal Kids Triathlon (NCKT). This year's event takes place at Miramonte High School on Saturday, Aug. 30, beginning at 9 am.

The NCKT is a Super Sprint (meaning short) race dedicated to encouraging young people to try a new activity, remain active and remain healthy. Participants compete as an individual or as part of a three-person relay team in swimming, biking and running. Distances vary according to age. Team competitors compete against other teams and not against those competing as individuals.

Presenting sponsors are Village Associates Real Estate and Mechanics Bank. Additional sponsors include Living Lean, Orinda Aquatics, Orinda Optometry Group, Orinda Theatre Square, Holden High



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Runners in last year's triathlon near the finish line. Competitors can take part in the three-activity race as either individuals or as part of a relay team.

School and CCAP Enterprises.

For more information on NCKT and to register, go to www.norcalkidstri.org.

— Sally Hogarty, Editor



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FILM



THE REEL LESS TRAVELED

AN AUGUST MONTH FOR LOCAL CINEMA



Tom Westlake

Anyone who loves a thesaurus knows that August – aside from being the month you are reading this column – can also mean important, reverent or majestic and those responsible for this month’s cinematic offerings seem to have taken that to heart. Not only do we welcome the return of the International Film Showcase, we will also have the opportunity to see two other films that have stood the test of time, making them templates for many movies that came after. This is one for the ages, folks, and I urge you to mark the following dates on your calendar.

Leading with the best first, the Orinda Theatre presents *Lawrence of Arabia* on Aug. 14 at 7 pm (free admission). I could wax poetic on the many virtues of this film but chances are you’ve already heard about the performances of Peter O’Toole and Alec Guinness, the epic scope of the story, the unparalleled cinematography and sweeping score. However, there’s something else to consider. Despite technological advancements in home entertainment, viewing this

film at home can’t compare with seeing it on the big screen. Lindsay Pirkle, general manager of the Lamorinda Theatres, says the movie will be projected digitally though she is unsure about an intermission for this epic. These concerns are secondary when weighed against the prospect of just showing up and letting this film overwhelm you.

Turning from Arabia to the American West, the Moraga Movers present *Shane* at the Rheem Theatre on Aug. 20 at 1 pm. Though *High Noon* may get all the glory, *Shane* is even more definitive of its genre. It established several tropes that are still used whenever a studio has the courage to make a serious Western. The concept of the “fastest gun in the west” along with the mysterious “man with no name” are explored as well as the concept of good, represented by Alan Ladd, and evil, played by a black-clad Jack Palance. There is a mythic quality to *Shane*, lying just below the surface. Anyone who thinks solely of the famous “Shane, come back!” line shortchanges the value of this film.

Finally, with bugles blaring, the return of The International Film Showcase, and it’s not just any film that JoAlice Canterbury and Efi Lubliner have chosen for August. *Two Lives*, a 2012 Norwegian film, deals primarily with the past, its dire consequences and how that affects the present. It’s a film heavy with important themes, an Oscar nomination and an acting legend. The film takes place in 1990, shortly after the Berlin wall crumbles and the specter of World War II continues to haunt. The sins of youth return to threaten a family in both a legal and moral way. Special note should be made of Liv Ullmann’s participation in this film. Her movie appearances are rare

of late and any opportunity to see her on the screen should not be missed. *Two Lives* will show at the Orinda Theatre for one week starting Aug. 29.

For information, including any last minute cinematic surprises, call 925-254-9060 or visit <http://lamorindatheatres.com> or <http://internationalshowcase.org>.

Months like this are one reason I started writing this column in the first place. (My love of film and the encouragement and patience of the editor, Sally Hogarty, being two others.) Barring some natural disaster, I will be among those who have heeded my own advice by staying in the dark, for that’s where the reel magic lies.

◆ HOMES from page 1

(OUSD) for \$19.5 million in 2012. From 1956 to 1975, the property was home to OUSD’s Pine Grove Intermediate School, which was closed due to declining district enrollment. It subsequently became home to John F. Kennedy University before it moved to Pleasant Hill. Prices for the new homes range from \$964,990 to \$1.35 million plus the eight below market rate units.

Wilder

The 1,600-acre subdivision on Wilder Road, located on the south side of Highway 24 between downtown Orinda and the Caldecott Tunnel, has space for 245 homes with prices in the \$1.5 to \$3 million bracket.

So far, seven homes are occupied, according to Scott Goldie, development manager for Wilder and six are under construction. “We have also sold 35 lots to individuals and small builders, 23 lots to Taylor Morrison builders and 25 more are in the planning stages,” said Goldie. “We’ve had both builder and individual interest, so it’s a good mix.” Goldie said it took a long time to get approval for the project, which was just starting to get off the ground when the last recession hit. “We stayed with it – we invested a lot of time and money – and now the market is responding well.” He added that three of the five public parks that were required as part of the deal with the city are complete and well used by the community.

Orinda Oaks

Located on Stein Way between Oak Road and Knickerbocker Lane, this 23-acre subdivision is being developed by Signature Development Group. The 12 homes range in size from 3,500 to 4,000 square feet, with a one-acre minimum, and are priced at more than \$2 million. “Seven of the homes are sold, with five left to build, two of which are already under construction,” said Glenn Beaubelle, a local broker who handles sales

for Signature. “The neighborhood is filling up with families – it’s a great location and a nice project all the way around.”

Emmanuel Ursu, the city’s director of planning, says the influx of nearly 400 new residences won’t have any negative effects on traffic, whether pedestrian or vehicular, or on schools.

“Orinda has about 6,500 residences, so 400 is just a small fraction of the overall number,” said Ursu. He said that the largest development, Wilder, has direct access to Highway 24, while Orinda Senior Apartments and Orinda Grove have quick access to the freeway and also BART. He doesn’t foresee any problems for schools either. “There has never been a problem with too many students in the past, in fact the opposite since the district closed Pine Grove due to under-enrollment,” said Ursu. “The district, which collects a \$3 per square foot new development fee, anticipates these projects and regularly updates its demographic projections.”

Ursu also emphasized that Orinda is up to speed on the 2013-2021 housing requirements stipulated by the state’s Regional Housing Needs Plan, which requires cities to supply a specified number of new housing units to meet population growth. He says the city has more than met its 227 new-unit requirement for the time period – just in the Wilder development alone.

◆ NOMINATIONS from page 1

Clerk. If one or more incumbents do not file nomination papers by that date, the filing period will be extended to Aug. 13 at 5 pm. Candidates may submit a candidate statement not exceeding 250 words in length. A \$225 deposit is required to cover the estimated costs of printing and distributing candidate statements.

To set up an appointment with the City Clerk, email Olsen at molsen@cityoforinda.org. As of press deadline, seven persons had pulled nomination petitions.

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Fran Miller



Since its opening in 2008, Cavallo Point Lodge has been our go-to spot for 24 hours of rest and relaxation. Nestled at the foot of the Golden Gate Bridge in Sausalito on what was once the Fort Baker military base, Cavallo Point blends its National Park setting with relaxed sophistication and an award-winning environmental ethos. Offering cozy, wonderfully appointed rooms, great food and endless activities, a stay at Cavallo Point makes even the briefest getaway feel like a full-blown vacation.

Having grown up just on the other side of the Golden Gate, my husband finds instant comfort in the sounds, sights and smells of Cavallo – early morning fog horns (for which earplugs are provided at each bedside), a Golden Gate Bridge view and the scent of eucalyptus instantly transport him to a less complicated time. The rocking chairs lining the two main buildings' verandas complete our idyllic atmosphere. Cavallo is always prepared for unpredictable weather patterns and, for those braving the veranda chill in favor of the view, lofty blankets and outdoor heaters are always at the ready. Though the property and restaurants are elegant, we love that it is a casual elegance where fleece is welcome.

Cavallo honors its Fort Baker roots by fully utilizing its 24 Colonial Revival buildings, built between 1901 and 1915. The developers knew the value of a great vista and positioned all construction to take advantage of the scenery. These buildings now house the lodge's restaurants, administrative offices and meeting rooms. The former officers' quarters are now historic rooms and suites featuring expansive foyers, fireplaces, panoramic windows and front porches. The newly constructed contemporary rooms and suites, on the hillside, offer views of the bridge and feature sustainable design and construction as well as organic bedding and linens. (Cavallo is LEED gold certified - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.) Instead of mini-bar treats, each room is stocked with a basket of natural goodies, yours for the taking. Mini-fridges stock Brita water pitchers instead of plastic water bottles.

On any given day, Cavallo Point is host to couples of all ages, families, wedding parties, corporate retreaters ... and well-behaved dogs. Cavallo is extremely dog friendly, offering beds, food, water bowls and a bag of treats, all for a nominal charge. Dogs are welcome on the main building verandas and can be seen under foot and table as their owners dine and take in the view. General Manager Euan Taylor often



Dan Miller and his Golden Retriever Reggie enjoy a relaxing break on the beautiful grounds of Cavallo Point.

has his own border collie at his heels.

While I usually beeline to the outdoor meditation pool at the Healing Arts Center and Spa, activity seekers can find hiking, morning yoga or kite flying on the parade ground. Kayak and bike rentals are nearby. We like to walk the bunkers along the bay – a great area for watching sailboats and the Blue Angels. The lodge boasts the Gayot.com #1 rated hotel culinary school and guest lecturers are featured throughout the year. The hands-on Bay Area Discovery Museum for children is around the corner and the Marine Mammal Center is also nearby.

The lodge offers shuttle service into Sausalito where one can find an array of dining options, including Poggio – one of the San Francisco Chronicle's Top 100 Bay Area restaurants. However, with two great restaurants on site – Farley Bar and Murray Circle – it makes sense to stay put. Farley Bar offers creative cocktails, a small plate menu and live music on Monday evenings. Murray Circle offers a more refined menu utilizing local ingredients.

One of the great aspects of Cavallo Point is one need not stay overnight in order to enjoy much of what it offers. The restaurants, fire pits, veranda rocking chairs and Adirondacks are all open to day visitors. Friends, who at my urging have dropped in for just a few hours, comment on the instantaneous feeling of retreat. "Our friendly, engaging service reflects the people and values of the Bay Area," says Taylor. "We take good care of our guests and have an energy and passion for our work. We want guests to feel immediately relaxed at Cavallo Point."

We do, and that is why we return again and again. Rates vary depending on week-day or weekend and room style but are generally in the \$350-\$700 range. (Deals are available mid-week.) Visit www.cavallopointlodge.com.

OCC Visits Palestine to Research Surging Breast Cancer Rates

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

After hearing a presentation by Christy Reiners, founder of "In His Steps: Pathways of Peace," about the high breast cancer rate in Palestine, members of Orinda Community Church (OCC) decided to act.

"We began to gather data and research possibilities of acquiring medical supplies such as mammography equipment and ultrasound that is needed in clinics near the villages where women could be diagnosed by female doctors," said parishioner Joy Elkinton-Walker, adding that girls as young as 15 are being diagnosed with breast cancer.

The parishioners formed a medical mission team – including Reiners; Rev. Elizabeth Armstrong, pastor of United Church of Christ in Angels Camp and a nurse; Kaiser pediatrician Dr. Lubna Hasanain; Robin Holmes, OCC member and an environmental scientist; and Elkinton-Walker and her husband Carl. Over a two-week period, the team visited Jordan and Israel before moving on to Palestine's West Bank. There, they found the lack of equipment, especially access to mammography screening and medicines, alarming. They learned of women who started cancer treatment but had to stop because the medicine ran out. Another problem is the cultural hesitation women feel going to a male doctor. Women on the OCC team provided breast cancer awareness sessions as well as self-detection training for groups of Palestinian women.

The church group also discovered problems with the use of pesticides. Usually the

farmers don't wear protective equipment when spraying, according to Dr. Ramzi Sansur, an environmental scientist who toured the Jordan Valley with the OCC group. He said he hopes to find less harmful products to control the white mites in their fields.

"Reflecting on the rich life I have lived past the age of 15, I was upset to realize that teenage girls dying of breast cancer would not live to see the richness of adulthood and motherhood," said Holmes. "As an environmental scientist, it is my opinion that this early onset of cancer was likely environmentally induced. My fervent hope is that Dr. Sansur will find success in working on this problem."

The group was also troubled by the poor conditions under which Palestinians live. The Elkinton-Walkers were saddened by the destruction of Palestinian homes by the Israeli Defense Force but found a resolute spirit in the struggle of the Palestinians to find a better way to solve the problems endured under occupation.

"The cancer crisis we witnessed in Palestine has energized us to seek help from doctors, hospitals, cancer research centers, pharmaceutical producers and medical equipment manufacturers to partner with the groups we met in Palestine which are struggling to identify and treat breast cancer victims," said Elkinton-Walker. "We hope to send out another team."

For more information, contact Christy Reiners at "In His Steps: Pathways of Peace," www.ihsholyland.org or Carl and Joy Elkinton-Walker, elkwalk@comcast.net.

◆ HOUSING from page 1

In order to meet the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)'s housing mandate for the next eight year period, Orinda needs to allocate 227 units of housing in the following income levels: 84 very low; 47 low; 54 moderate; and 42 market rate.

Several projects currently under construction would satisfy some of the housing requirements as well as second units in existing homes. In addition, the report listed three possible alternative housing sites: Santa Maria Church; Country Club Village (mixed-use residential/commercial); and a combination of Orinda Community Church, Holy Shepard Church and St. John's Church.

"I'm concerned about Orinda's future,"

said Elizabeth Kerston. "I'd like to stay here and have young people move here, but we need more affordable housing for that to happen." Janet Maiorana was concerned about the effect of green house gases. "We were told that the housing element would decrease greenhouse gases," she said. "But the three alternatives make no sense. They will increase traffic on Moraga Way as well as pollution."

City staff will now incorporate the additional public comment and City Council suggestions into a draft Housing Element and draft EIR that will be published in mid-August for public review. Public meetings will be held in September and October with the final document presented to the City Council for final approval in January 2015.

The housing element staff report and supporting documents is available at www.cityoforinda.org.

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CLASSIFIED

◆ GALLERY from page 11

Chenok of Orinda, functional porcelain and stoneware; Jackie Gerry of Danville, raku and pit fire ceramics; David Goodman of Walnut Creek, garden vessels; Susan Heckley of Danville, ceramic plant and animal sculptures; Kathleen Jensen of Antioch, whimsical hand built sculptures with texture; Leslie Jensen of Benicia, pit fire, raku and decorative design ceramics; Rita Kuo of Pleasant Hill, functional and decorative ceramics; Alice Lasky of Walnut Creek, high fire porcelain and stoneware ceramics; Ann Merideth of Walnut Creek, ceramic sculptures of natural forms and raku firing; Mary Leigh Miller of Moraga, raku and pit fire ceramics; Bridget Moar of Alamo, leaf motifs on ceramic pottery; Ellen Sachtschale of Walnut Creek, ceramic garden vessels; Rob Savre of Concord, functional ceramics and raku; Tamara Selvig of Lafayette, figurative ceramic sculptures; and Karen Baden Thapa of Lafayette, organic textures on ceramic bowls, vases and planters. Kimbal Aureguy, Zoe Carpenter, Pablo Haz, Ann Kalinowski and Betty Wang are also exhibiting.

See www.clayartsguild.com for more information or to visit the studio in Walnut Creek, considered one of the oldest and best equipped ceramic studios in the Bay Area. CAG is part of Civic Arts Education of Walnut Creek.

Pyman says the arts raise self-esteem in our communities for a variety of reasons. "I've observed that students involved in art tend to get more involved in the life of their school, whether it be performing, holding class office or volunteering. I also believe art encourages complexity of thinking and broadens tolerance." Swartz believes that, "It's been pretty well documented that through creative expression people of all ages can get in touch with a totally new side of themselves and acquire a different perspective on life. Art is a vital part of everyday life, from the visual to music, drama and dancing." Gerry reminds us that, "The fabric of any community is woven with many types of thread, and art is one of those threads. CAG is a vital part of our artistic community because it welcomes

people from all walks of life to join us in our love of ceramics."

The gallery at 26 Orinda Way is open during library hours, Mon. through Thurs., 10 am to 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am to 6 pm; and Sun., 1 pm to 5 pm. Closed Aug. 31. Call 925-254-2184 for more information.

◆ HOWL from page 14

In *The Sky*," by Christina Balit. Perhaps the best way to learn about the animals in the sky is to visit the two Bay Area planetariums – the Morrison Planetarium at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco and the Ask Jeeves Planetarium at the Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland. Such a visit may encourage you to invest in your own telescope to become acquainted with constellations that have intrigued and inspired humans since the beginning of time.

The next time you are taking an evening walk with your dog or enjoying a relaxing evening on the patio with your cat, look up at the night sky. What will you see?

Lupus, the wolf? Hydra, the water serpent? Lepus, the hare? How about a star named after your own companion animal? You can do that through the international star registry and years and years from now, someone may be staring at the night sky and find the star named after your best friend!

◆ CAL SHAKES from page 13

audience's understanding of the character with the choreography. The result is "a more abstract and stylized world where the movement can help paint the picture of the dream by making magical things happen."

Performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* are Tuesdays through Thursdays at 7:30 pm, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, and Sundays at 4 pm with a Saturday matinee on Sept. 13 at 2 pm. The Bruns Amphitheater is located at 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda. The grounds open two hours before curtain and the theater offers free shuttle service from the Orinda BART station (beginning 90 minutes prior to curtain) as well as free on-site parking. For information or to purchase tickets (\$35 to \$66), call the box office at 510-548-9666 or visit www.calshakes.org.

◆ WADSWORTH from page 17

in the westward migration starting about 1840. But one of the things I had nothing in my head about was the Mormon migration, so that facet of history required a large amount of research."

She says you open a Pandora's box when you start a non-fiction project. "In tackling subject matter that you personally may not know a great deal about, you have to think about many things such as the age group of the reader and whether that reader will have any knowledge of the Mormon migration or the covered wagon migration, when did they study it in school and how this is going to affect the intended audience. All writers today have to do a great deal of research to make sure they're not putting anyone down or being condescending or inaccurate, because your reader may be more knowledgeable about the subject matter than you are and you will be called to task if you are incorrect, inaccurate or insensitive."

Yosemite's Songster: One Coyote's Story will be available at local bookstores and through Amazon. For more information, visit the Yosemite Conservancy website at <http://www.yosemiteconservancy.com/prod-235-1-554/yosemites-songster-one-coyotes-story.htm>.

◆ YONI from page 8

of camera apps for iPhone users, she began editing photos right on her camera. "This is what iPhoneography is," said Mayeri. "It is the ability to do Photoshop and light room type work right on your iPhone, including layering, correcting leaning buildings, taking panoramic composite photos, adding filters and organizing."

Mayeri now teaches classes in iPhoneography. She will present a class at UC Berkeley's Conference Center in the Botanical Garden beginning on Oct. 21. For the more adventuresome, you can join her in Rancho La Puerta in Mexico from Sept. 20-26. More information on these classes can be found at <http://yonimayeri.org>.

Finding herself immersed in the iPhone camera as an art form and always looking for new innovations in electronic computerized equipment, Mayeri learned of a new device, a wearable technology called Google Glass that included a projection screen and a camera. When an invitation

appeared on Google Plus social media seeking Beta testers for the new device, she submitted her information and soon joined the ranks of the 8,000 Google Glass Explorers.

Suddenly, Mayeri began to take pictures "hands free" with simple voice commands or slight touch commands or even by winking. "It's the next stage in technology," she said. "It is super easy to use, has built-in storage and sound so I can listen to music, and it translates instructions to me by voice. When I'm in a Wi-Fi zone, the five-megapixel camera automatically uploads it to my photos on Google pictures. If I am not in a Wi-Fi zone, I can tether my Google Glass to my cellphone by using my cellphone as a 'hot spot.' This way, I can save my picture, forward it or share it on my Google Plus profile. It is also a video camera. Generally the quality is quite amazing, and it will automatically enhance it through a program called Auto Awesome. Right now, this camera is totally automatic; you have no control over exposure."

Mayeri says there are many applications made for iPhones that have not been developed yet for Google Glass. "Knowing how to use the camera will allow the experienced user to get better results, but right now this camera is primarily designed as wearable technology and is still in the development stage. It not only takes photographs, it connects me with the Internet, it geo-locates me, provides me with directions and Google searches for anything I ask. Even though a number of the headsets were sold to the general public a few months ago at \$1,500 each, Google was highly selective about the people they sold to. Software developers, doctors, medical schools, educators and real estate agents who are streaming images to customers in other parts of the nation are seeking the device out. Google will give users of Google Glass access to a private online forum of Google Explorers so that you can ask questions, share information and learn what other things are coming out."

"Not only is this an exciting introduction to a new technology, it is a great way to meet people," Mayeri said. "Whether you are in New York or Rome, people everywhere are vaguely familiar with this device, and everyone wants to stop and ask you questions about it."

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Write your ad in the boxes below with one letter, space or punctuation mark in each box. Cost is \$5 per line: \$10 minimum.
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CALENDAR

ON THE CALENDAR

August

- 1 **Theatre Square Music Series** presents musicians every Friday and Saturday plus Sunday, Aug. 3, at various locations. Go to www.orindatheatresquare.com for information. See article on p. 12.
- Orinda Starlight Village Players** present Van Zandt & Milmore's *Wrong Window!* through Aug. 23 at the Orinda Community Center Park Amphitheater, 28 Orinda Way. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 pm, Sunday, Aug. 17 at 4 pm and Thursday, Aug. 21 at 8 p.m. General tickets are \$16 and \$8 for seniors. For tickets, visit www.orsvp.org, call 925-528-9225 or email info@orsvp.org.
- California Shakespeare Theater** presents *Pygmalion* through Aug. 24 at Bruns Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda. Call 510-548-9666 or go to www.calshakes.org.
- 2 **Orinda Farmers' Market**, Orinda Way, Saturdays, 9 am to 1 pm.
- 5 **Summer Concerts in the Park** presents littledog2, featuring pop and rock, Orinda Community Park, 28 Orinda Way, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. See article on p. 12.
- 6 **Senior Trip to Muir Woods**, sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department, for seniors 50 and up, 8:30 am to 2 pm. \$39 for residents, \$44 for non-residents. Call 925-254-2445.
- 7 **Republic of Cake Mommy & Me** features Puppet Show, 11 am. The free event is held in front of the bakery in Theatre Square.
- Story Hour** with Cathy Goshorn for 2- to 4-year-olds and caregivers, Thursdays, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 10 to 11 am. Call 925-254-7606.
- 8 **Orinda Ballet Academy & Company**, a function of the Parks and Recreation Department, presents *Sleeping Beauty* in the Library Auditorium, 3 pm. Call 925-254-2445.
- 12 **Summer Concerts in the Park** presents Marc Levine and TLC, featuring Motown and standards, Orinda Community Park, 28 Orinda Way, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. See p. 12.
- 13 **The Second Wednesday Book Club** will discuss *Cleft Heart* by Karl Schonborn, 3 pm. The group meets monthly at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, and welcomes new members.
- 17 **Fourth Annual Orinda Jazz Festival** features award-winning jazz performers in concert at 3:30 and 5 pm as well as free workshops for aspiring musicians from 2 to 3 pm, Library Auditorium. For information or to purchase concert tickets, visit www.OrindaJazzFestival.org or call 925-255-5164. The event is a fundraiser for the Orinda Arts Council.
- 19 **Orinda Chamber of Commerce Mixer**, Casa Orinda Restaurant, 20 Bryant Way, 5:30 to 7 pm. Visit <http://orindachamber.org/events.htm>.
- 20 **WomenSing** holds auditions for its East Bay ensemble Aug. 20, Sept. 4 and by appointment for experienced female singers. The 2014-15 repertoire features a collaboration with the San Francisco-based woodwind quintet Quinteto Latino. Email audition@womensing.org or visit www.womensing.org.
- 21 **Republic of Cake Kids Club** features children's music with Melita from Octopretzel and story time with Lin Look from the Orinda Library, 11 am to noon. The free event is held in front of the bakery at Theater Square.
- 30 **NorCal Kids Triathlon**, presented by the Orinda Community Foundation, Miramonte High School, 750 Moraga Way, 9 am. For information and registration, visit www.norcalkidstri.org.

AT THE LIBRARY

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

- 5 **Free Computer Help** for adults is offered every Tuesday and Wednesday through August, 10 am to noon. Register at the Information Desk.
- Toddler Lapsit** features story time for 1- to 3-year-olds and their caregivers. No registration required, but attendance limited to once per week, Gallery Room, 10 and 10:30 am. Also Aug. 6.
- Peek-A-Boo Time**, songs, stories, rhythms and rhymes for infants to 16 months and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 11:30 am. Families with older siblings are welcome at Toddler Lapsit.
- 7 **English as a Second Language Conversation Circle**, practice English conversation skills in an informal, small-group setting, Tutoring Room, 1 to 2:30 pm. Preregistration is not required. Also Aug. 14, 21 and 28.
- 9 **Weekend Paws to Read**. Children in grades 1-5 earn Summer Reading minutes while practicing their reading skills with a friendly dog, 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Call to register.
- Saturday Morning Live** features family story time for 3- to 5-year-olds, Picture Book Area, 11 to 11:30 am.
- 12 **Toddler Dance Party** is geared for toddlers and preschoolers, but all ages welcome, Gallery Room, 10 to 11 am.
- 15 **Mystery Book Club**, every third Friday members meet to discuss a new mystery tale, Tutoring Room, 3 to 4 pm. Adult program, new members welcome.
- 28 **Talespinners of Contra Costa** features adult storytelling and a guest speaker, Gallery Room, 7 to 9 pm.
- 30 **Pilates: Introduction and Demonstration** for adults presented by the Orinda Pilates Holistic Center, 2 pm.

CLUB MEETINGS

- Diablo Star Chapter #214**, Order of the Eastern Star. Second Monday, 7:30 pm. Orinda Masonic Center. Call Karen Seaborn, 925-689-0995.
- Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe**. Third Monday, 7:30 pm, Gallery Room, Orinda Library, www.moragaadobe.org.
- Friends of the Orinda Creeks**. Fourth Wednesday, 8:30 am, May Room, Orinda Library, 925-253-1997.
- Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition**. Third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 am, Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room. Call 925-687-8844, ext. 227.
- Lamorinda Nature Walk and Birdwatching** for seniors. Wednesdays, 9 to 11 am, free. Call 925-254-2445 for weekly meeting place.

Sleeping Beauty from Orinda Ballet



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Artistic director **Patricia Tomlinson** (L) played the evil fairy with **Lauren Bond** as her assistant in last year's production.

The Orinda Ballet Camp and Intensive presents excerpts from *Sleeping Beauty* on Aug. 8 at 3 pm at the Orinda Library Auditorium. The performance includes

dancers ages 3 - 18 years of age from the pre-ballet through advanced divisions. For more information, call 925-943-5846.

- Lamorinda Sirs** for retired men. Second Wednesday, 11 am to 1:30 pm, Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Call Pete Giers, 925-254-4667.
- Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary**. Every Friday, 7 am, Lafayette Park Hotel, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-283-8288.
- Lamorinda Toastmasters**. Every Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Temple Isaiah, 3800 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, www.lamorinda.freetoasthost.net.
- Montelindo Garden Club**. Third Friday, 9 am, September through May, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephen's Drive. Visit www.montelindogarden.com.
- Orinda Garden Club**. Fourth Thursday, 10 am to noon, September through May, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante.
- Orinda Juniors Women's Club** community service group. First Tuesday, September through June, 7 pm. Contact www.orindajuniors.org.
- Orinda Rotary**. Every Wednesday, noon, Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante, 925-254-2222.
- Orinda Association**. Second Monday, 7:15 pm, Orinda Library, May Room, 925-254-0800.
- Orinda Hiking Club**. Every weekend and first Wednesday. Visit www.orindahiking.org or call Ian at 925-254-1465.
- Orinda Historical Society Museum**. Third Wednesday, 3 pm, 26 Orinda Way, 925-254-1353.
- Orinda Job's Daughters**. First and third Monday, 7 pm, 9 Altarinda Road, 925-283-7176.
- Orinda/Tábor (Czech Republic) Sister City Foundation**. Fourth Thursday, 7 pm, social, 7:30 pm, meeting, call 925-254-8260 for location.
- Orinda Teen Advisory Council**. Second Wednesday, 4 pm, Community Center, 28 Orinda Way. Email orindateenadvisorycouncil@gmail.com.
- Orinda Woman's Club**. Second Tuesday, 9:30 am to noon, call Jean Barnhart, 925-254-3881. Visit <https://sites.google.com/site/orindawomansclub/>.
- Walnut Creek Garden Club**. Second Monday, 9:30 am, Camellia Room, Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Road, Walnut Creek. Visit <http://californiagardenclubs.com/content/walnut-creek-garden-club> or contact mslittle44@gmail.com.

CITY/FIRE/SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

- Acalanes Union High School District**. First and third Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, district office, 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette.
- City Council**. First and third Tuesdays, 7 pm, Library Auditorium, www.cityoforinda.org.
- Historic Landmarks Committee**. Fourth Tuesday, 3 to 5 pm, Library Garden Room. Call 925-788-7323.
- Moraga-Orinda Fire District**. First and third Wednesday of the month, 7 pm. Visit www.mofd.org/board/meetings meeting location will be posted on the agenda.
- Orinda Union School District Board of Trustees**. Second Monday, 6 pm, OUSD Conference Room, 25 Orinda Way, Suite 200, Orinda, CA 94563. For the latest listing of dates, please check the website at www.orindaschools.org.
- Planning Commission**. Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7 pm, Library Auditorium, www.cityoforinda.org.

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

<p>The 4th Annual Orinda Jazz Festival Get Jazzed Up! Sunday, August 17, 2pm-8pm Orinda Library Auditorium 26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563</p>		<p>Featuring  Amikaeyla</p>
<p> Grammy Winner Mads Tolling (Violin)</p>	<p> Carnegie Hall Performer Carol Alban (Flute/Vocals)</p>	<p>Ben Flint, Marc Levine, Frank Martin, Ila Cantor, Alverson, Members of Ojala, and The Asian Orchestra, & Others</p>
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<p>        www.OrindaJazzFestival.org Phone: 925.255.5164 e-mail: OrindaJazz@gmail.com</p>		

HEALTH & BEAUTY

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Everyday Changes

Be a Cool Cat on Hot August Nights
(and Days Too)!

Bonnie Waters



“The first week of August hangs at the very top of summer ... like the highest seat of a Ferris wheel when it pauses in its turning.” – Natalie Babbitt, *Tuck Everlasting*

August has arrived, the very top of summer and our hottest time of year. Everything is dry and drooping. When it is sweltering out, you can still be a cool cat. The “purrfect” solution is a makeup technique that pays homage to our favorite feline part – the cat eye. Once considered a nocturnal trend, the cat eye has since come into the light of day. This simple yet dramatic look can be a part of your daily makeup regimen, working equally well for brunch with friends as for a day in the office.

A cat eye is an exotic eyeliner option that elongates and lifts the eye, adding intrigue to your face. If you have yet to master this über-popular technique, the following tip will help you eliminate the wobbles and dips that prove discouraging when first attempting to create a “purrfect” cat eye.

To create a sleek line, use a pencil first. Trace the upper lash line from the inner corner, extending it slightly past the outer corner and flicking up. Layer a shiny liquid formula over the pencil for extra intensity. We recommend Blinc Liquid Liner as a smudge-proof option. If you work with both of your eyes open while looking straight into the mirror, you’ll easily be able to make the cat eye even on both sides. Rest your elbow on a solid surface to steady your application hand. Go light as it’s always easier to add more liner than take it off. If you make a mistake, use a pointy cotton swab

dipped in makeup remover to get rid of any stray marks or feathering. When your liner is set, it is time to address your lashes. First curl your lashes, and then add a few coats of black mascara to complete the look.

From Day to Night ... The Fat Cat

Now that you have mastered the basics of a daytime cat eye, let’s look at how to transform your look into a sexy, night makeup look. It is as simple as extending the line out and making it thicker. It goes from day to night just by plumping it up. You might also add liner underneath, especially in the waterline. For an even more dramatic eye, use a full strip of false lashes to enhance the lift.

Apply the strip along your lash line from the inside corner out, but separate them from your real lashes at the outer corner. This lifts the eyes even more. The separation will be invisible because it is filled with liner. When you apply mascara to your own lashes, the strips and your lashes will blend together creating a beautifully elegant and stunning eye.

Add glitz and glitter by layering shimmering shadow in any of a myriad of colors on top of everything. Dust it with smoky greys for a sultry, smoky look. Forego the classic black or brown liner for silver, gold, white or the color of your choice. Do a dual feline flick with extended lining on both the top and bottom lashes. The options are endless.

So enjoy “purrfect” hot August days and nights while you stay a cool cat with these fun and fresh fashion tips.



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Chamber's Mix It Up at Cal Shakes



CHARLIE JARRETT

On July 9, seven Chambers of Commerce got together for a mega mixer at Cal Shakes in Orinda. Lots of networking took place as well as the opportunity to stay and see Cal Shakes' hilarious version of *Comedy of Errors*.

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BUSINESS BUZZ / CHAMBER

Orinda Chamber of Commerce Welcomes Two New Businesses



SALLY HOGARTY

Taxi Bleu recently joined the Orinda Chamber with a ribbon cutting ceremony in front of Bank of America in Orinda Village.



DAVID DIERKS

The Orinda Arts Council joined the Chamber in style last month. (L-R) Jean Gannett, Joe Squeri, Sylvia Jorgensen, Michael Walker, Maggi Boscoe, Claudia Tata, Dan Gannett, Sue F. Hurrell, Anny Marteilh, Henry Gannett, Martha Stewart, Victoria Smith, Paul Koenig, Susan Garrell and Steve Harwood.

◆ BUZZ from page 24

<http://keconline.wix.com/glazedoverceramics>. Chenok can be reached at info@glazedoverceramics.com.

Geppetto's: A Friendly Place with Gourmet Appeal

Geppetto's Café has been a social gathering spot for Orindans for 22 years. The quaint café originally opened in Lafayette in 1984 and moved to 87 Orinda Way, across from the Orinda Country Club, in 1992. Owner Sue Fitzsimons consistently offers delicious fare for breakfast and lunch



VALERIE HOTZ

(L-R) Geppetto's manager Callie Driskell, Maya Marshall and Hayley Alexander.

six days a week.

Stepping inside Geppetto's is like stepping back in time to old California, with beautiful slate floors, ceiling fans whirling and a wall mural depicting an early California village. Antique coffee grinders, along with vintage coffee bags from days gone by adorn the front counter where orders are taken by the friendly staff. Enjoy the serene setting of the golf course across the street while sipping a cappuccino topped with chocolate and cinnamon.

Breakfast offerings include a burrito with eggs, potatoes, ancho chiles and cheese wrapped in a flour tortilla, pastries, fruit and bagels. Lunch fare includes gourmet sandwiches, soups and salads. The famous sunflower wheat bread is an all-time favorite. Don't miss the freshly squeezed orange juice, made daily by manager Callie Driskell, and the delicious gelato is perfect on a warm summer's day. Italian sodas and smoothies are also on the menu. Of course, it would not be a café without coffee and the variety of exquisite espresso drinks made to taste.

"We have lots of regulars every day," said Driskell. "Some like to hold their meetings here. We have exercise groups that come by, such as a yoga group that meets after class, the cyclists and the men's class that meets on Wednesdays. Sometimes, they even invite speakers. Our customers are great, and they are the reason we are here. We know most everyone by name." Geppetto's even caters to the local canine crowd by sharing dog treats and a bowl of water.

Geppetto's is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 am to 5 pm and Saturday from 7 am to 3 pm and also features free WiFi. To order ahead, call 925-253-9894.

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BUSINESS BUZZ

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Renovation Leads to Garden Nest Residential Landscape

After working closely with her landscape contractor on the renovation of her backyard, Orindan Jeannie Fitch began down the path that led to her own garden design business, Garden Nest Residential Landscape. Originally a project manager for Williams-Sonoma Creative Services, Fitch oversaw the production of the mail-order catalog. She subsequently worked as a consultant for the company after starting a family.

"I realized I was ready for a change so after completing our landscape project, my contractor asked me to work for him. It was a great way to learn more about the business," said Fitch. "One of the best horticulture departments in this area is at Merritt College, where I earned an Advanced Land-

scape Design Certificate and also served as a teaching assistant." After working for several years as a designer for an Oakland firm, Fitch established Garden Nest out of her Orinda home five years ago. She has over 25 years of design and project management experience, which easily transferred to the residential landscape arena.

Fitch does all conceptual drawings by hand and, sometimes, incorporates auto-cad. "My background is in art and I really love doing my drawings by hand," said Fitch. "Developing planting plans with clients is one of my favorite parts." Fitch often incorporates drought tolerant Mediterranean, native and African plants, which do well in the Bay Area and provide water-efficient alternatives to lawns. At the concept phase, Fitch provides rough numbers for installation so clients can make educated decisions when choosing materials and adding design elements. She is passionate about both the design aspect

and the construction phase of projects. "I can help clients navigate the construction phase and ensure a smooth installation by using design elements that fit their needs and their budget. Specifying all the materials on the final plan reduces cost overruns in the field."

Garden Nest, which includes Fitch's partner Alfredo Lobatos, also provides garden maintenance, aesthetic pruning, staging and garden consultation. She will



Jeannie Fitch of Garden Nest.

VALERIE HOTZ

specific color schemes requested by clients. "It is fun for me to imagine people using them and to pass along the joy I experience in making the pot."

Chenok began making pots 20 years ago and has become an expert through continually taking classes to perfect her craft. "The Clay Arts Guild in Walnut Creek is a wonderful resource for potters," she said. Three years ago Chenok set up a home studio with a kiln and wheel and began developing her own glazes.

"The nice thing about handmade pottery is that it's ovenproof. It is glazed in a kiln at 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, so you can place it in an oven, bring the heat up slowly and the pot will not break." Chenok provides instructions on how to cook with ceramic ware with every purchase.

With a 30-year career as a business consultant in the health industry, Chenok also tackles the issue of increasing efficiency and quality in healthcare. "There has been a lot of talk about cutting cost and increasing care," she said. "I am working with hospitals, doctors and health plans, essentially all the different players in health care, to develop a solution."

Chenok and her husband Dave moved to Orinda in 2002 with their two daughters. Eldest daughter Melissa is a 2011 graduate of Miramonte High School and attends



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Katie Chenok makes creative and highly functional works of art.

soon complete the requirements for a C 27 contractor's license specific to landscaping and building.

Fitch, a California native, is married to John Fitch, a retired fire marshal who is currently working for Bayer in Emeryville. The couple has two daughters. Regan is a 2014 graduate of Miramonte High School and began San Francisco State University this fall; Ali begins her junior year at Miramonte this month. Fitch enjoys long walks and time with family and friends. She can often be found hiking the Briones Regional Park and other scenic areas close to home.

For more information about Garden Nest Residential Landscape, visit www.GardenNest.com or email Fitch at jfitch@gardennest.com.

Glazed Over Ceramics Offers Unique Handmade Pottery

Kate Chenok recently morphed a lifelong hobby in ceramics into a going business concern, Glazed Over Ceramics. Her functional works of art have been in several group exhibits at the Orinda library.

"I like to make things by hand that people will use in their daily lives including salad bowls, dinnerware and large serving bowls that are oven-proof and flower vases," said Chenok, who has created a full set of dinnerware for friends, as well as pots with

Smith College. Elizabeth, a 2014 graduate of Miramonte, will attend Whitman College in Washington this fall. Chenok is an avid gardener and likes working with native drought-tolerant plants. She is also an enthusiastic hiker.

For more information about Glazed Over Ceramics, visit [SEE BUZZ page 23]

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