



THE ORINDA NEWS

Gratis
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Get Ready - It's Almost Time for the 4th Of July!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Members of the **Blue Devils Color Guard** will be spinning their flags again at this year's parade, backed by the Blue Devils C Corp Band. **St. Gabriel's Celestial Brass Band** will also return, bringing some jazzy New Orleans flavor to Orinda. Complete 4th of July parade and celebration information begins on page 9.

Revised Community Center Park Design Approved by Council

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Tennis players, Orinda Starlight Village Players (OrSVP) and users of Orinda Community Center Park all have reason to celebrate as their concerns regarding proposed changes at the community park were heard and acted upon.

A draft master plan, approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission and presented to the City Council at its March 6 meeting, called for removing the existing restroom near the amphitheater, building a larger restroom facility on the other side of the park, removing the building used by OrSVP for box office/concessions and

replacing the practice wall/backboard adjacent to the tennis courts with bocce ball courts.

At the March 6 meeting, however, a large contingency spoke against the removal of the practice wall as well as removing the restrooms and box office/concession area near the amphitheater. After receiving public testimony, the council directed staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission to work with the concerned groups and return to the council with a revised plan.

That revised plan was presented and approved by the Orinda City Council at its June 12 meeting. Director of Parks and Recreation Todd Trimble presented a slide [SEE PARK page 4]

Four Teams Compete in World Finals



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Before competing in the 2018 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals, students from Orinda Intermediate School placed second in their division at the California State Tournament. L-R: **Sam Laudy, Diego Aguilar, Paul Stephan, Sammy Ishikawa, Isaac Reader-Taates,** and **Dr. Sam Micklus,** founder of Odyssey of the Mind. See article page 5.

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City Council Awards Streetscape Master Plan Contract

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

At its June 19 meeting, the Orinda City Council approved the Downtown Streetscape Master Plan Professional Services Contract go to Eisen | Letunic (EL) by a vote of four to one, with City Councilmember Eve Phillips voting no. The contract is in the amount of \$250,000.

The contract tasks EL with formulating a community process that allows all Orinda citizens to express their concerns and desires regarding the Downtown Streetscape Master Plan and that supports the project's main objectives which include: connect two sides of downtown for all users; support future pedestrian access along San Pablo Creek; preserve Orinda's unique sense of place; produce grant-eligible projects that can be funded; beautify downtown

Orinda; and build consensus for the final plan through robust community engagement.

The proposal had been presented to the City Council at its June 12 meeting, but due to only three City Councilmembers (Eve Phillips, Vice Mayor Inga Miller and Mayor Amy Worth) being present, the contract became an informational item with presentations by EL and public comment. Action on the item was carried over to the June 19 meeting.

At both meetings, Director of Planning

Drummond Buckley presented a Power Point of the streetscape plan and the seven companies that vied for the contract, noting that EL scored the highest. Drummond went on to say that one key reason for its selection was EL's community engagement approach. Victoria Eisen from EL, Ryan McClain from Fehr Peers Urban Design and John Gibbs from BKF Green Infrastructure also did presentations and answered questions.

[SEE STREETScape page 4]

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Batik Inspired Paintings, Artwork Inspired from London to the Redwoods

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The Lamorinda Arts Council is proud to present batik inspired paintings by Kabir Adejare, the paintings and photographs by mother and daughter June and Susan Felter, Fred Lee's digital art, and the late Rebecca (Bessie) Samuels' paintings during the month of July at the Art Gallery in the Orinda Library. Join them on Sunday, July 8, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm for their artist reception where light refreshments will be served.

Kabir Adejare of Concord is from Nigeria. He met some successful artists at the Nike Centre for Arts and Culture in Lagos. They inspired him to assist a Nigerian sculptor, Professor Olabiran Osunsoko, on a project. Through Osunsoko he learned about Auguste Rodin, Pablo Picasso and Michelangelo. He also learned batik at the Nike Centre for Arts and Culture in

Osogbo and Lagos. The traditional batik patterns in his paintings were inspired by the ancient art of cloth design and dyeing technique known as "adire eleko." Adire eleko patterns originated from ideogram systems of communication through the use of signs and symbols without the use of words or alphabets. Practitioners can look at a designed fabric and interpret the messages. *Melody Makers*, a 24" x 36" acrylic on canvas, batik process, is one of a dozen works on display which demonstrates Adejare's symbolic lexicon.

Adejare's book, *Batik Like a Pro, the Making of an Artist* (2016), goes into methods and history of batik and is available on Amazon. Adire eleko is an ancient art form practiced in the Yoruba tribe in Nigeria and uses cassava starch, among other ingredients, instead of beeswax. Adejare's website, www.jareking.com, has more information about his artwork.

June Felter of Oakland is 98 and paints

every day. She also hosts a weekly still life painting group in her studio. She loves the art world and considers herself lucky to have known some very popular painters. Her contemporaries were Richard Diebenkorn, Elmer Bischoff and David Park, all instrumental in the San Francisco figurative movement. She became hooked on art as a young girl when her father drew a Crazy Cat: She thought he was a genius. He told her, "Try drawing something yourself," and she did. She got a lot of attention and encouragement from the adults surrounding her.

Off she went to the Oakland Art Institute from 1937-40, California School of Arts and Crafts from 1954-48 and S.F. Art Institute from 1960-61. A figurative painter, June has exhibited throughout the Bay Area. Her works are in the National Museum of Art, the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco and the Oakland and San Jose Museums. She is showing about ten paintings, both watercolors and acrylics. Look for *Coastal Town*, a 36" x 48" acrylic painting which recalls an overcast day at the beach. Learn more about June's art at www.junfelterart.com.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Portrait of Bessie Samuels, 24" x 30" oil painting by renowned artist **Clara Klinghoffer**, will hang in the Orinda Library Gallery alongside Bessie Samuels' own work.

June and her daughter Susan are exhibiting together in this show.

Susan Felter lives in and grew up in Oakland. She has enjoyed a life immersed in a diversity of arts: BA in Psychology and Art from UC Berkeley; MFA in Motion Pictures from UCLA; a 1980 Guggenheim Fellowship for her *Rodeo Work* photo project; eventual fascination with digital art plus being an associate professor of photography at Santa Clara University for almost 30 years. Her mother June's influence as an artist and her scientist father Dick's encouragement, plus his introduction of her to 8 mm movie making, made a deep impression. The emotional storytelling aspects she brings to documentary filmmaking and photography are deeply satisfying to her as an artist.

She is showing about 10 photographic works, most of which are 18" x 24". Her 17" x 24" pigment print photograph, *The Lotus Eaters* (with a nod to Homer), fascinates with its precise rendering of Amphibia and Insecta feasting on the legendary fruit. Susan says of her viewers, "I hope it can extend their admiration and contemplation of nature and the different ways it can be described and understood." See Susan's artwork at www.susanfelterart.com.

Fred Lee, a retired scientist, is a digital artist who lives in Orinda. He says, "Art is endless creation. As long as one is truly interested, one will continue to create."

[SEE GALLERY page 16]



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kabir Adejare's *Melody Makers*, a 24" x 36" acrylic on canvas, batik process, is on display this month.

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THE ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President
Get Ready for the 4th!



Anil Comelo

As July 4th approaches, the Parade Guy (a.k.a. Andrew Radlow) and his team are making the final arrangements for the Best Hometown Parade. The parade, which has been organized by The Orinda Association for the past 34 years, is a local celebration which brings the community together like no other.

After the parade, you can buy a meal at the Orinda Community Center Park or let the young ones play to their hearts content in the jump houses. Don't forget to boogie to the music of 3-Day-Weekend who will be playing at the bandstand in the park.

The parade, which takes many months of planning, is led by a very small but dedicated team of local volunteers and

executed with the help of a large group of volunteers (see page 12) who augment the City's small but hardworking staff to make things happen smoothly. We are always in need of adult volunteers for the day of the parade, however. Please contact the Parade Guy at Andrew.radlow@gmail.com or The Orinda Association office at 925-254-0800.

I'd also like to say a special thank you to Bridget Meagher, who has taken up some of her dad's duties at the parade staging area. Steve Meagher had been one of our most dedicated volunteers and organizers for many years until his untimely death earlier this year.

See you at the parade.



Parade Guy
Ode to A Rare Community Giver –
Steve Meagher

Andrew Radlow

Being the Parade Guy is pretty great. I get to meet hundreds of fun people who also ask me lots of questions. The most common is: How do you put on such a fabulous parade each year? ...Parade Fans, the answer is always the same; It's the people.

Breaking News: According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), volunteerism is at a 15-year low. Looking at the BLS numbers for the last 40 years, a pattern emerges of rising and falling volunteerism. In fact, participation in volunteer activities in the U.S. peaks around national crises. For example, the last peak in U.S. volunteerism was 2002/2003 directly after the 9/11 attacks. Yup, that was 15 years ago (already).

Contrary to national trends, the Orinda Parade enjoys a robust group of trusted Community Givers. The Parade Guy has thought long and hard about each and every one of the Parade Committee volunteers, who they are and why are they giving their valuable time (and often money) to this celebratory event. Here's what I observed:

Volunteering Is in Them; It's Part of

Their Daily Lives: It's probably a result of a spark set early in their lives. The drivers span a variety of sources whether they be religious, liberal guilt, do-gooder'itis, or a simple desire to help your fellows. No matter the source, a desire to "make things better" is in them and it's going to manifest in some form.

They Are Busy People: The Parade Guy can say with complete conviction that every Parade Committee volunteer is overflowing with professional, family and avocational responsibilities. These are generous people who frequently have a problem with saying "no."

Accolades Not Expected: Approbation is not what volunteerism is about for the Community Givers. Humility and often a simple notion of gratitude for the fact that one is in a position to give back are the prevailing attitudes. Trust the Parade Guy when he says there is plenty of complaining and stress about how to get things done as well. But, the overriding attitude is gratitude.

[SEE MEAGHER page 4]

What's On Deck With Parks & Rec!

- July 4 – Independence Day Holiday – City Offices Closed**
- July 10 – Free Concert in the Park, Crawdad Republic, 6:30-8:30 pm**
- July 12 – Free Movie in the Park, *Mary Poppins*, begins at dusk.**
- July 17 - Free Concert in the Park, Lamorinda Idol, 6:30-8:30 pm**
- July 22 – Free Concert in the Park, Opera in the Park, 5:00-7:00 pm**
- July 24 – Free Concert in the Park, The Swampers, 6:30-8:30 pm**
- July 26 – Free Movie in the Park, *CoCo*, begins at dusk.**
- July 31 – Free Concert in the Park, Bay Bridge Beat, 6:30-8:30 pm**

Still Time to Register for Youth Summer Camps – Sign Up Now!

Orinda Parks and Recreation Department
925-254-2445
www.OrindaParksandRec.org
OrindaParksandRec@CityofOrinda.org
28 Orinda Way – Orinda Community Center
Administrative Office Hours – Monday – Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

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Letters to the Editor...

Spinning the Downtown Parking Plan to 'stack and pack'

Having just read the June 4th Orinda Outlook; I am amazed by the City Council's talent for SPIN.

The term "improve multi-modal access in the downtown area" sounds great until you understand that means the planners are planning to reduce parking. There is very limited space there. They want us to walk or ride bikes. The religion of political correctness ignores the existence of hills in Orinda.

When I shop, I drive one of my cars. If parking is hard to find, I will go to Moraga or Rheem. If there are parking meters, I will go to Moraga or Rheem. Moraga and Rheem have lots of parking.

Apparently there are 20 different consulting firms, forming seven teams to work on stack and pack.

Who is paying them? Where is the money coming from? How do they expect to profit?

—Henry R. Pinney

Thank You Orinda!

The Measure J committee is delighted

◆ MEAGHER from page 3

This column is about understanding our extraordinary Community Givers and a tremendous example among them: Steve Meagher. The Parade Guy met Steve six years ago and sadly joined his family and friends to say goodbye after his unexpected passing in February. From the moment I met Steve, I knew I was in for a treat by having him in my life. Steve was exceptional not only for all his contributions to the Parade (and many other community and school programs), but how he did them as a father, colleague and Community Giver.

Steve Meagher had an infectious sense of humor, persistent curiosity and boundless compassion in him that always made you feel good when you were with him. The Parade Guy misses Steve as does his family and the entire Lamorinda community. It's in his memory the Parade Guy is tipping his parade hat and personally dedicating this year's Best Hometown Parade to an extraordinary Community Giver and friend, Steve Meagher.

◆ PARK from page 1

show of the new design. The plan now calls for: a smaller restroom/concession structure near the location of the existing building; a larger gazebo/band shell; a restroom between the older children's play area and the tennis courts; and keeping the practice wall/backboard. The Parks and Rec Commission will look at other spaces, possibly Orinda Oaks Park, for the bocce ball courts. Handicapped accessibility issues were deferred until further design work can be done.

Jill Gelster of OrSVP thanked the

that Orinda voters once again supported our wonderful library by passing Measure J with a 72 percent YES vote! This will ensure that the library is open seven days a week and will continue to offer numerous popular programs, well into the future.

Thanks go to all the yes voters, as well as to our great campaign volunteers who put out signs, wrote thank-you notes and helped with all the other campaign work. Michelle Bea designed our beautiful logo. Special thanks to Linda Landau, volunteer extraordinaire, who served as our campaign treasurer, but was crucial to every aspect of this effort. Kudos also to local newspapers who helped spread the word and educate voters. More thanks go to all those who donated and helped pay for the campaign flyers, signs and website.

Special thanks go to major donors Jane and Mark Zuercher, Finola Fellner, Betty Lou Cutter, Lynn and Ira Dubinsky, Senator Steve Glazer, Sue Severson, Sharon Simpson, Republic Services, PG&E Corporation and Village Associates.

We love our Orinda Library!
—Susie Epstein and Liz Daoust, Co-chairs

commission for listening and making the changes. "We didn't want to shut down after 35 years in the park, but the first proposed changes would have made it impossible to continue," she says.

The Parks and Recreation Foundation hopes to have the new plans in time for The Orinda Association's 4th of July parade. "We do the fundraising for the park and we'd love to have the renderings to display at our booth during the July 4th festivities," says Foundation President Carolyn Mills.

To see the revised plans, go to: http://orindaca.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_Meeting.aspx?ID=1402.

◆ STREETSCAPE from page 1

At the June 19 meeting, Eisen, McClain and Gibbs responded to concerns expressed at the earlier meeting which included Orinda resident Chris Kniel expressing apprehension with the emphasis on walking, especially given the hilly landscape of Orinda, and Councilmember Phillips' objections to some of the language used in the proposal that seemed bias to particular age groups and segments of the Orinda population. Eisen responded that she heard what Phillips was saying and that she would be making additional changes to the language. "We will be sure and engage as many Orinda residents as possible to find out what they want to see in the downtown area," said Eisen. "We'll go to them, whether that's a Farmers' Market, park concert whatever, rather than have them come to us."

Buckley said he was impressed with EL's emphasis on community outreach rather than specific proposals. "Many of

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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the other candidates had lots of suggestions as to what to do in the downtown area but EL emphasized listening to residents and then facilitating what the residents want. They have a clear understanding of what our downtown is and what the challenges are," he said.

Another objection raised by several Orinda residents attending the June 19 meeting involved EL's focus on grant funding available from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority and BART Access Program which they felt drove the company's priorities for the streetscape design. Resident Greg Haet expressed a different opinion expressing his excitement

about the plan and wanted to see a vibrant downtown with a variety of businesses. "We know what we don't want but the real challenge is figuring out what we do want."

Mayor Amy Worth said she felt the revised plan took into account objections voiced by the City Council and members of the public at the June 12 meeting. Councilmember Gee had no serious concerns about the proposal and noted this contract was a good first step with Councilmember Orr saying the proposal "gives me a sense of optimism and, ultimately, EL are our consultants and we approve what they do."

To see EL's proposal and to view staff reports, go to www.cityoforinda.org.

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Contributing Writers.....Ken Jew, Julie Rossiter, Richard Schwab, Rich Shearer
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POLICE / ELECTIONS



POLICE BLOTTER

April 29 through June 9, 2018

Calls for Service

911 Hangup: 11 incidents.
 Abandoned Vehicle: 1 incident.
 Accident Property: 3 incidents.
 Alarm, False: 179 incidents.
 Barking Dog: 2 incidents.
 Battery: 3 incidents.
 Burglary, Auto: 7 incidents.
 Burglary, Residential: 2 incidents.
 Civil Matter: 15 incidents.
 CVC Moving Violation: 156 incidents.
 CVC Non-Moving Violation: 130 incidents.
 Death Non Criminal: 4 incidents.
 Dependent Child: 1 incident.
 Disturbing the Peace: 8 incidents.
 Domestic Dispute: 1 incident.
 Failure to Obey: 1 incident.
 Fire/EMS Response Info: 2 incidents.
 Fireworks: 1 incident.
 Forgery: 2 incidents.
 Found Property: 2 incidents.
 Grand Theft from Building: 1 incident.
 Hailed by Citizen: 1 incident.
 Hit & Run Misdemeanor: 4 incidents.
 Identity Theft: 2 incidents.
 Juvenile Disturbance: 6 incidents.
 Litter: 1 incident.
 Lost Property: 3 incidents.
 Loud Music: 10 incidents.
 Loud Noise: 3 incidents.
 Loud Party: 5 incidents.
 Medical Hospital: 8 incidents.
 Missing Adult: 1 incident.
 Motorist Assist: 2 incidents.
 Occupied Stalled Vehicle: 3 incidents.
 Ordinance Violation: 12 incidents.
 Outside Assist: 35 incidents.
 Panhandling: 2 incidents.
 Parking Detail: 146 incidents.
 Patrol Request: 31 incidents.
 Petty Theft: 2 incidents.
 Phone Harass: 1 incident.
 Prowler Heard: 1 incident.
 Public Assembly Check: 17 incidents.

Public Nuisance: 5 incidents.
 Reckless Driving: 32 incidents.
 School Check: 15 incidents.
 Security Check: 28 incidents.
 Service to Citizen: 142 incidents.
 Shoplift: 1 incident.
 Shots Heard: 4 incidents.
 Suspicious Circumstances: 23 incidents.
 Suspicious Person Stop: 24 incidents.
 Suspicious Subject: 19 incidents.
 Suspicious Vehicle: 17 incidents.
 Suspicious Vehicle Stop: 25 incidents.
 Tow: 13 incidents.
 Traffic Collision/Property Damage: 5 incidents.
 Traffic Control: 1 incident.
 Traffic Hazard: 16 incidents.
 Trespass: 2 incidents.
 Unwanted Guest: 3 incidents.
 Vacation House Check: 65 incidents.
 Vandalism: 4 incidents.
 Vehicle Blocking Driveway: 1 incident.
 Vehicle Theft: 2 incidents.
 Verbal Dispute: 3 incidents.
 Welfare Check: 22 incidents.

Arrests

Battery: 1 arrest.
 Burglary, Commercial: 3 arrests.
 Drunk in Public: 2 arrests.
 DUI Misdemeanor: 4 arrests.
 Forgery: 1 arrest.
 Panhandling: 1 arrest.
 Pimping: 1 arrest.
 Possession of Controlled Substance: 1 arrest.
 Shoplifting: 2 arrests.
 Vehicle Theft: 1 arrest.
 Warrant Arrest: 6 arrests.

BART Statistics

Stolen Car: 1 arrest.

– Compiled by David Dierks
 Assistant Editor

For more incidents details, visit www.crimereports.com

Local Elections Coming Up Soon

By SALLY HOGARTY
 Editor

Three City Council and three Orinda Union School District (OUSD) seats are up for election this November. Filing period for candidates is July 16 – August 15.

On the City Council, the three seats up for reelection are: Mayor Amy Worth, who has served five, four-year terms on the council beginning in 1998; Dean Orr, who has served two, four-year terms beginning in 2010; and Eve Phillips, who has served one, four-year term beginning in 2014.

The OUSD Board of Trustees also has three seats slated for reelection in November. Current members up for reelection are: Julie Rossiter, who has served two, four-year terms beginning in 2010; Jason Kaune, who has served one, four-year term

beginning in 2014; and Carol Brown, who has served one, four-year term beginning in 2014.

Candidates for the Orinda City Council can take out papers on Monday, July 16. The nomination papers are due Aug. 10, unless an incumbent does not file. In that case, the deadline becomes Aug. 15 at 5 p.m. An appointment with the City Clerk, Sheri Smith, is recommended to go over the paperwork required to run for office. To schedule an appointment, call 925-253-4221 or email ssmith@cityoforinda.org.

For those running for the OUSD Board of Trustees, the candidate filing period is July 16 – Aug. 10 with the last day to withdraw an application being Aug. 13. You can reach the OUSD at 925-254-4901.

For more information on running for public office, go to www.cocovote.us/wp-content/uploads/2018_CandidateGuide.pdf.

Tally Home Supports Breast Cancer Care With Pink Ribbon Event

On July 12, Tally Home, a newly opened home décor and antiques store in Orinda, will host a Pink Ribbon Event in support of Sutter Health's Carol Ann Read Breast Health Program. An Orinda mother of three, Read died of breast cancer at the age of 53.

One-of-a-kind 18th century antiques from Europe, including dozens of pieces from the Read family, will be available for sale, with 50 percent of the proceeds going to expand breast health services across the East Bay. Tally Home co-founders Kerry Armistead, Anne Branagh, Megan Lindberg and Elizabeth Peterson, all touched by

breast cancer in different ways, have been inspired to use their store as a way to help improve healthcare in the community. Contributions from the Pink Ribbon Event will help to upgrade mammogram technology and build a formal breast health navigation program for patients in Lafayette, Orinda and Moraga.

Tally Home is located at 85 Orinda Way and the Pink Ribbon Event kicks off with a special community mixer beginning at 5 p.m.

For more information, call 925-254-1421.

– Kathy Engle, Contributing Writer

Four Orinda Teams Compete in Annual Odyssey World Finals

Congratulations to teams from Glorietta Elementary School, Orinda Intermediate School (OIS) and Miramonte High School which competed in the "Odyssey of the Mind World Finals" tournament in Ames, Iowa, in late May. The competition features teams from around the world using creative problem-solving techniques.

The team from Glorietta Elementary

came in seventh in their "Balsa Wood" division, with OIS coming in 23rd in the "Technical Problem." Miramonte High School had two teams; one came in ninth in the "Technical Problem" and the other came in 18th in "Balsa Wood." The teams were sponsored by Orinda Rotary.

"Emoji, Speak for Yourself" this year's [SEE ODYSSEY page 14]

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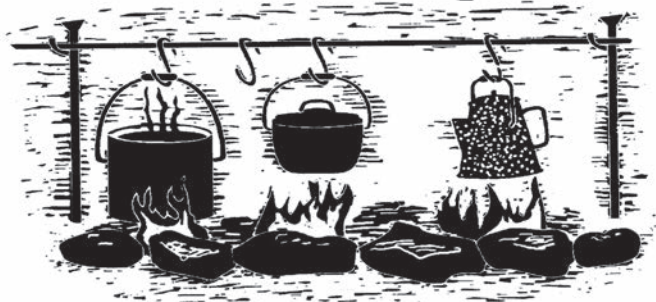


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 HONORARY DINNER

Saturday, September 29, 2018
 ORINDA COMMUNITY CENTER

Join us for a dinner celebrating Toris Jaeger's 40 years of service to our community as a teacher and volunteer at The Wagner Ranch Nature Area. More than 10,000 Orinda children have experienced the hands-on environmental education and social studies programs led by Toris since 1978.

Purchase Tickets: www.fwrna.org/tickets
Sponsorship Opportunities/Questions: info@fwrna.org

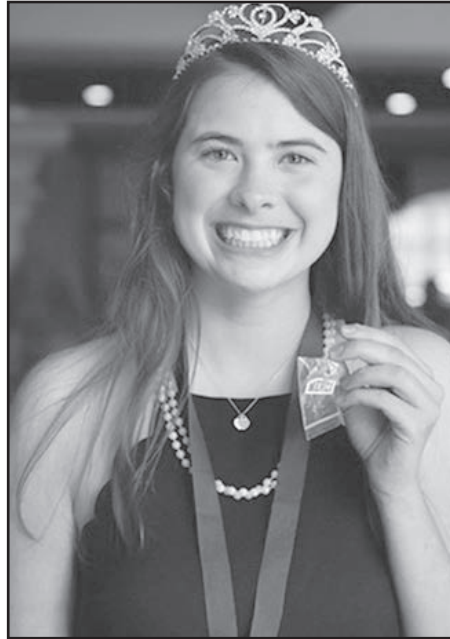
All funds raised benefit The Friends of the Wagner Ranch Nature Area, a 501c3 non-profit that provides stewardship of the Nature Area and its educational programs.

TAX ID 30 0472974

National Charity League Hosts Annual Mother-Daughter Tea

Members from the National Charity League, Acalanes Area Chapter (NCL), gathered at the Orinda Country Club for the annual Mother-Daughter Tea to acknowledge members who volunteered a large number of hours at various philanthropies around the Bay Area. The mother and daughter members collectively contributed 7057.75 hours in one year. This year's recipient for the most philanthropic hours is Alexandra "Kiki" Rosson, who volunteered a total of 188 hours during the year. Rosson and her mother Denise also received the

Mother Daughter Pair Award for volunteering 77 hours together. For more information about the National Charity League, go to acalanesarea.nationalcharityleague.org.



Alexandra "Kiki" Rosson volunteered 188 hours in 2017.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On May 19, Orinda residents **Nick** and **Laura Pavlovich** (past CHG president) with **Louise** and **Mick Hegarty** joined several hundred Children's Health Guild supporters at Diablo Country Club for their annual spring gala fundraising auction, "Come Sail Away, An Evening Inspiring Hope." The event supports UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland and George Mark Children's House in San Leandro.

Children's Health Guild Hosts "Come Sail Away, an Evening Inspiring Hope"

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

On May 19, several hundred Children's Health Guild (CHG) supporters filled Diablo Country Club to raise funds for two beneficiaries: UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital (CH) and George Mark Children's House in San Leandro (GMCH). Spring gala event chairs Kristin Preston and Mayra Tama announced the auction generated \$390,000 for their beneficiaries. Among the guests contributing to the event from Orinda were Steve and Hannah Goetz, Liz and Mike Colhoun, Nick and Laura Pavlovich (also past CHG president) and Louise and Mick Hegarty.

After cocktails and appetizers, guests listened to Dr. Karim Mansour, Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship Director at CH, speak about the five California and 44 U.S. Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Centers serving 65,000 children each year. The fellowship program he directs began when Dr. Mansour treated a little girl for

a radial head subluxation, also known as a pulled elbow. Her grateful parents funded the fellowship so other children could receive the same level of care their daughter received.

When Joe and Kathy Cleberg brought their adopted son Charlie to GMCH in 2004, they had never before left him. Born with congenital defects including a curved spinal cord, impaired muscle movement in his face, body and arms, Charlie, also has epilepsy and cerebral palsy. It was predicted he would only live six months. He is now 19 and a high school graduate. Charlie spoke about the time he spends at GMCH and how much he likes it there because he always feels safe. In closing he said, "I love life and I hope you do too!" At no cost to them, parents can receive several types of care for their children at GMCH: respite from illness, end of life and bereavement care, and transitional care from hospital to home.

For more information about Children's Health Guild go to www.ChildrensHealthGuild.org.

Jean Ellen Mitchell, a Long-Time Resident of Orinda, Passed Away

Jean Ellen Mitchell passed away peacefully June 9 at the age of 93, surrounded by her family.

Jean graduated from UC Berkeley Haas School of Business in 1946 and remained an active alum. She is survived by her daughter Georgia Ann Langsam, sons Mark Lewis Mitchell and Robert William Mitchell and grandsons Stephen Edward Mitchell and Christopher Lewis Mitchell.

Jean played contract bridge and attained the life master ranking with the American Contract Bridge League. She played nationally and represented the United States Internationally. She loved sports and was an avid tennis player, a huge fan of the Giants, Warriors and, of course, Cal Bears.

She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

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CAR TIME

Ready for a Road Trip?



By JOHN VANEK

With summer here, it's time for vacation plans. If we plan on taking the trusty family hauler, we need to make sure it is ready for the road. We also need to make sure we are ready for a trip, and that means preparing for all situations.

Our goal is to properly maintain the vehicle and avoid unwanted problems. Unfortunately, cars are machines and despite, our best efforts, they can break down. I would like to give you some tips to prepare you and your vehicle for a possible breakdown.

The first step is take your vehicle into your local trusty shop for a pre-trip inspection, especially if you know there may be some issues already. Please, please, I mean please do not wait until the day before your trip to do this. Your vehicle may need attention you were not aware of. A short time frame will only add unwanted stress to you and your car care provider. I recommend scheduling this pre-trip ritual about one week before leaving town.

When traveling, you will most likely be faced with higher altitudes and higher temperatures which can accelerate battery failure. For instance, a battery may operate fine in Orinda but fail in consistent temps over 100 degrees while in Tahoe. A simple battery load test will confirm the battery's condition.

The next tip is to make sure you are ready for a breakdown. Have a game plan before hitting the road. Do you have a road service plan such as AAA? Do you know who to

call in case you get stuck on the road? These are answers to know before you drive the car anywhere.

The first thing to keep in mind is safety. You want to protect yourself and your car. As soon as you feel that there is a problem, you should immediately look for a safe place to pull over. Now is the time to put the "breakdown plan" into motion.

A common failure is a flat tire. Do you know where the spare tire and jack are located? This information is in the owner's manual located in the glove box. Do you know the condition of the spare tire? Does the spare tire have air in it? These are questions that must be addressed before you hit the road. I purchased a Ford Explorer and found out that the jack and tools were completely missing!

What if you think you have a flat tire? You should safely pull over. Your car's handling will drastically change if you have a tire going flat. Do not apply heavy brakes or make quick steering movements. Carefully steer your car off the roadway and apply the brakes smoothly. It is important not to drive a car too long on a flat tire because it could cause damage to the wheel. But, if you do not have a safe place to pull over, it is better to drive to a safe place and risk damage.

What to do if the car overheats? If you notice your temperature gauge is reading high or overheating, immediately pull over. Some cars have a light instead of a gauge.

[SEE CAR TIME page 14]

Orinda Seniors Feted For The 19th Year In A Row

By RICH SHEARER
Contributing Writer

Orinda seniors (75 years or older) were welcomed and treated to a lunch in their honor May 16. Just as he has for the past 19 years, John Fazel organized and emceed the Annual Three-Quarter Century Club Luncheon. With the support of Better Homes & Gardens Realty and Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary, more than 80 Orinda seniors enjoyed lunch at the Orinda Community Church (OCC), catching up with old friends and making some new ones.

After an inspirational invocation from Rev. Ray Welles, the former long-time OCC Pastor, Orinda Mayor Amy Worth presented the official Proclamation from the City Council honoring the attendees and the event.

Continuing an annual tradition, the Royal Court was presented, with the honors going to King George Jedenoff (the oldest man at 100 years), Queen Elva Rust (the oldest woman, also 100 years), June and Joe Haughin (the longest married couple at 66 years), and the "Baby" Brad Davis (the person who most recently turned 75).

The featured speaker was Dr. Walter



SALLY HOGARTY

At 100-years-young, **Elva Rust** was crowned the Oldest Member of this year's Three-Quarter Century Club luncheon.

Bortz, an internationally renowned Stanford gerontologist. Himself 88, Bortz has both professional and personal knowledge to offer, noting that it takes "guts and smarts" to age well. For happy elder years, Bortz noted the importance of two factors: to be needed and to be as active as one can. In his opinion the most important part of the body is the legs; getting up and moving is critical to a happy, satisfying old age. Bortz made one of his books, "Dare to be 100" available to anyone interested in taking up the challenge. There were many takers.



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It All Started with a Porsche 911



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

David Alvarado shown here driving a 1976 March 76B at Barber Motorsports Park in Birmingham, Alabama. Bobby Rahal raced the car in the 1976 Formula Atlantic season.

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

It all started when David Alvarado was 23 years old. He fell in love with a 1968 Porsche Targa 911 with a softback window. Having all of \$2,000 in the bank, Alvarado couldn't afford to buy the car by himself, so he worked a deal with his dad, also a car enthusiast, and began what would be a lifetime affection for classic cars.

"A lot of cars have come and gone since then," says Alvarado, who is now busy putting together an exhibit of Vintage and Historically Significant Race Cars for the 14th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show Sept. 8.

Alvarado, who races his own vintage cars, has been pulling together an impressive line-up of beauties for the exhibition. From pre-war racers to 1960s-1990s, including the March Formula car Bobbie Rahal raced in the 1976 Formula Atlantic season. Alvarado, who owns Rahal's 1976 March 76B, will also exhibit his 1973 Chevron B21 Formula racer and his 1963 Lotus 23B. Other cars confirmed for the Vintage Race Car exhibit are: a 1979 March 79B; 1977 Chevron B 16 or 1977 Chevron

B 39; Lola or McLaren Can Am car and a Ferrari 308 or Lola 294; 1965 Shelby GT 350 and a 1963 Shelby Cobra LeMans 289.

The long-time Orinda resident became involved with the Classic Car Show when he met Chip Herman, who started the event 14 years ago. "We got to talking about cars and before I knew it I had registered my cars for the show, then got on the car show committee and this year I'm organizing this special vintage racing car exhibit," Alvarado explains.

Not only did Alvarado become involved, but his company, Alliant Insurance, is also a major sponsor of the event. "My company is primarily involved with construction and real estate insurance but when I was at a race a number of years ago, one of the guys putting on the race mentioned that he wished he could get somebody to put together insurance for the cars," says Alvarado. "Those wonderful vintage cars are at high risk when being transported back and forth to races so I put together a classic car insurance policy. It seemed only natural to sponsor a classic car show as well."

Alvarado has been racing for more 10 years with most of his races on the the

[SEE ALVARADO page 14]

Fitness Tip of the Month

Throw Your Scale Away

Weight is just a number on the scale that measures all the contents of your body. Small fluctuations in weight are not an indication of fat loss, but could be indicative of water loss. Accurate body fat measurements are the best measure of whether your fitness program is working or not. You could get frustrated if your scale isn't moving and you might stop trying, but in fact you could be losing fat with no way to accurately measure.



For more information, contact Sheena with Living Lean personal training and eating for elite fitness, at 925-360-7051 or www.livingleanprogram.com.

Seasoned Shopper

Red, White and Blue Month

BARBARA KOB SAR



It's red, white and blue month at Orinda's Farmers' Market. Festive food ideas for 4th of July celebrations and summer outings await you at every stand. Think strawberry or blueberry pies, raspberry trifle, angel food cake topped with berries and a drizzle of strawberry jam, Caprese salad made with heirloom tomatoes, grilled red potatoes, eggplant and cauliflower, grilled peaches, fresh fruit kebabs for the kids made with strawberries, blueberries and mini marshmallows – the list seems endless!

Stone fruits are in the spotlight. Look for a wide selection of peaches, nectarines, plums and pluots.

Peaches and nectarines are related but are two distinct types of stone fruit with similarities in color, size and shape. Both come with yellow or white flesh and most are freestone, meaning the flesh separates easily from the pit. Some "cling" peaches (varieties with a firmer flesh which clings to the pit) may also be available at the market, but most are sold to commercial canners for processing.

A ripe peach or nectarine is very fragrant. Background color ranges from creamy to yellow, with a red or pinkish blush on the skin. A golden yellow color around the stem area indicates ripeness as well. Any signs of green means the fruit was probably picked too early. Most come to market a little on the firm side to prevent bruising. Leave at room temperature for a few days until fruit yields to gentle palm pressure. If necessary, refrigerate in a plastic bag for two to three days when ripe.

There are two distinct groups of plums coming to market. First to arrive is a large group of Japanese type plums ranging from

round to heart shaped, and green to yellow to red to burgundy in color. Looks are important but you'll need to try a few different varieties to confirm your best choice.

Watch for the European type plums to arrive next. Italian plums are easy to identify by appearance – the navy blue skin is "dusted" with a natural white bloom sun protector. These contain an extra degree of natural sugar which allows them to dry before fermentation sets in around the pit.

Pluots are another diverse group that may need sampling to find the ones you like best. They are a hybrid fruit – 75 percent plum and 25 percent apricot. Flavors are quite robust and that's a good thing! Look for varieties such as Dapple Dandy, Dino-saur Egg and Flavor Delight.

Enjoy and see you at the market!

The Orinda market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Orinda Way in front of the Community Park and Rite Aid. For more information, visit the website at www.cccfm.org where you can also sign up to have notices of market specials sent right to your phone – Market Hotline: 925-431-8361.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Reach for a peach and other stone fruit at the Farmers' Market every Saturday.

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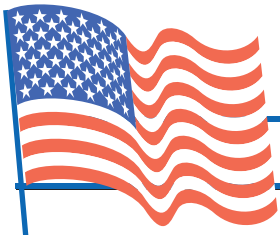
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America's Best Hometown Parade Celebration Since 1984

By MIMI BOMMARITO
Staff Writer

Five out of five local citizens emphatically agree: save the vacation rental for another day. Downtown Orinda is the undisputed destination of choice this Fourth of July.

Full disclosure: these five harmonious citizens all happened to be hardworking volunteer members of The Orinda Association's Best Hometown Parade Committee, but that's beside the point. Call it Fake News or whatever you want, but savvy Orindans are skipping the pleasure-crushing traffic battles of holiday highway travel and enjoying some good old flag-waving festivities and celebratory entertainment with their local friends and neighbors.

Whether you're a newcomer or an old-timer, there is something to delight you in the numerous events of Wednesday, July 4, 2018: A patriotic flag-raising ceremony, a delicious pancake breakfast, a family-friendly "Color Run," an actual parade

with exciting floats, marching bands, great music, horses, classic cars, stilt walkers and jugglers. And, there's even an Instagram contest!

If you're not completely satisfied with our hometown parade, we would offer to refund your money, except that our amazing parade costs you nothing to begin with! Just show up with your smile and a folding chair and you're good. Oh, and maybe some sunscreen and water.

Here are some key points of interest regarding the 2018 July 4th festivities:

This year will mark the last year for the Tom Family to present Haley's Run for A Reason, 2-or 5-miles-of-smiles benefitting SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood). Please see the related article on page 11 for additional information.

Haley's Run for a Reason follows the Flag Raising Ceremony and, conveniently, the generously portioned Pancake Breakfast. Runners and walkers embark on either a 2-mile dog-and-stroller-friendly Family Walk or a 5-mile "Color Run" outside the Orinda Community Center at 8 a.m. Participants get doused with non-toxic tempura paint powder at various points throughout the longer "Color Run" route, making for some Insta-worthy photographs as the runners cross the finish line!

Orindan Mel Silva will serve as the Honorable Parade Marshall this year. Silva has been an integral part of the parade for more than 25 years, driving his crowd-pleasing horse-drawn rig, faithfully powered by his beautiful team of cross-bred Belgian and stock horses.

And on the subject of integral parts of the parade, Orindan Steve Harwood will once again be up and about at dawn on July 4th,

[SEE PARADE page 10]



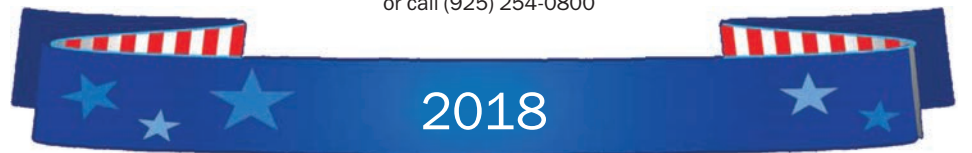
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

After the parade, head to the **Orinda Community Center Park** for fun kid-friendly activities, live music and plenty of food and beverage options.



- 7:30 – 10 a.m. **Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Pancake Breakfast**
Library Plaza at 26 Orinda Way
- 7:55 a.m. **Flag-raising Ceremony**
Orinda Veterans raise the colors of our flag in front of the Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way
- 8 a.m. **Haley's Color Run for a Reason**
A 2-mile run/walk or a 5-mile run thru scenic parts of Orinda and EBMUD watershed. Participants meet in front of the Community Center. Haley's Run for a Reason benefits research for SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood), small donation requested. Visit www.angelhaley.org.
- 8:45 a.m. **Parade Participants Arrive for Assembly**
Meet in BART parking lot on East Side of Camino Pablo
- 9 a.m. **Friends of the Orinda Library Book Sale**
in the Library Breezeway, 26 Orinda Way, Plaza Level
EFO Big Band & EFO Summer Band
Volunteer big bands will entertain crowds in front of the Orinda Theatre
- 9:30 a.m. **Parade Line-Up Begins**
Parade participants travel from East BART parking lot to Wells Fargo at 80 Moraga Way
- 10:00 a.m. **Parade Begins**
In front of Wells Fargo at 80 Moraga Way. Bill Cosdon announces parade entries Theater-side. Parade continues under freeway to the Community Center reviewing stand emceed by Steve Harwood and Wayne Hill.
- 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. **Music & Activities**
Community Park Activities with **3 Day Weekend** playing at the Orinda Park Gazebo starting at 11:30 a.m.

For more information, please visit www.OrindaParade.com or call (925) 254-0800



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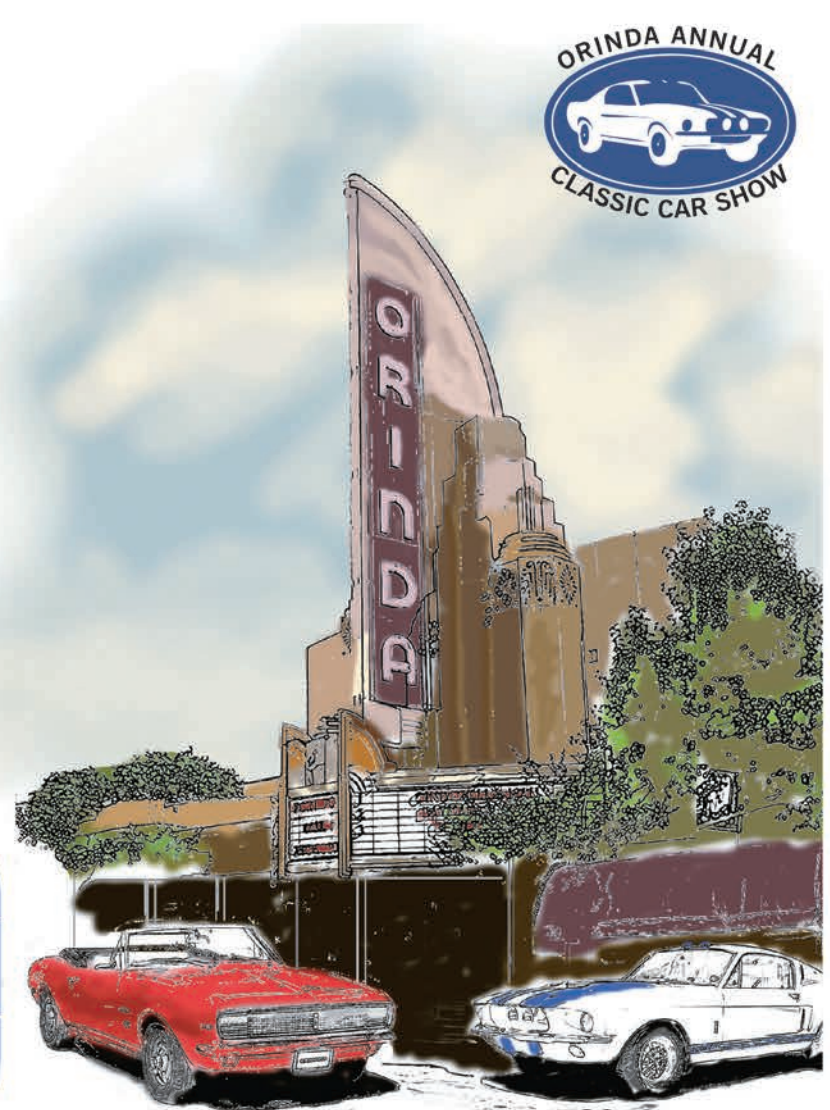
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These events benefit the Seniors Around Town transportation program, Educational Foundation of Orinda and other local charities. We would like to thank our partners for helping make these events happen: Orinda Association, Rotary Club of Orinda, Orinda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

4TH OF JULY

★ Know Before You Go ★

- ★ Street parking will not be available on the parade route along Moraga Way or Orinda Way. All other street parking is available, as well as Orinda BART's west parking lot. For handicapped parking, drivers may drop passengers in front of the Community Center on Orinda Way until 9 a.m.
- ★ Residents are advised of street closures from 9:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. including: The Westbound Highway 24 on-ramp (East side of Camino Pablo); Moraga Way from Wells Fargo Bank to the Davis Road intersection; a portion of Santa Maria and all of Orinda Way. Highway 24 access for both on- and off-ramps will remain available at St. Stephens Drive.
- ★ Volunteers from Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church will serve as Parade Route Monitors, helping to keep the parade moving and to ensure safety.
- ★ Porta potties, provided by Republic Services, are located on the North side of town in the Community Center parking lot and the East BART parking lot.
- ★ Are you a senior who needs seating at the parade? Village Associates Realtors will be sponsoring a special place for you. To reserve your space, call The Orinda Association at 925-254-0800.
- ★ Need more info? Visit www.OrindaParade.com for updated information.

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◆ PARADE from page 9

painstakingly setting up all of his personal audio equipment so the Orinda parade can rank right up there with the Macy's or Rose Bowl Parades, with announcer coverage and commentary to enlighten the crowd and keep spirits high.

The community will also enjoy tunes from the talented EFO (Educational Foundation Orinda) Jazz Band. Also on the musical front, the 7-to-14-year-olds of Blue Devils C Corp Marching Band and the jazzy, New Orleans-style Brass Boppers are back by popular demand. The beloved Peter Pan Foundation, which, on this day, consists of a float brimming with talented

side of town, where the parade begins, and the Orinda Community Center side, where it ends.

Radlow was also pleased to announce the addition of Chevron Corporation as a new sponsor this year. Chevron joins 14 generous local sponsors, without whose support the event would not be possible.

Once the parade concludes near Orinda Motors around 11:30 a.m., and the kids ask, "What's next? I'm hungry," never worry about where to grab some lunch or how to keep the momentum going. The Independence Day festivities are only ramping up. The Orinda Community Park is the "scene to be seen" in your red, white and blue. The



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Live musical performances were a highlight of last year's parade, including this band of bagpipers and drummers.

local high school students in Disney costumes, will also return to delight young and young-ish with their impressive renditions of cherished Disney melodies.

Crowd favorites such as the Stilt Ladies and the St. Gabriel's Celestial Brass Band will also return. Multiple floats from area swim clubs, churches and other organizations will engage the senses and exhaust the arms from all of the waving.

The Orinda Association's Parade Chairman Andrew Radlow (a/k/a "The Parade Guy") unveiled an updated, must-have design for 2018 which adorns promotional material and T-shirts available for purchase the day of the event. Radlow gave a special shout-out to the Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church (MVPC) which is generously providing more than 30 much-needed adult volunteers to help orchestrate the day's events. Orinda Country Club is graciously providing golf cart shuttles to parade participants when they reach the quarter-mile point of the parade route, which runs under the freeway, between the Theatre Square

band 3-Day-Weekend will headline at the park's center stage.

Following the parade, in addition to the live music, the park will host a plethora of free children's activities including a Bouncy House, face painters, balloon artists, carnival games and more. Numerous food, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverage stations, and additional booths from local businesses and charities, will provide sustenance in the spirit of the day.

So, grab your family, your friends, or your dog – or all of the above – and get your patriotic spirit on this July 4th in Orinda. And while you're there enjoying the best July 4th ever, be sure to give a tip of the hat to The Orinda Association, a devoted local organization which exists solely on donations and fundraising, and tirelessly puts this ENTIRE event together for us every year.

For a complete schedule, maps and more detailed parade and event information, including how to volunteer, please visit OrindaParade.com.

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4TH OF JULY

Haley's Run For a Reason Marks Final Season for Tom Family

By MIMI BOMMARITO
Staff Writer

Many Orindans consider Suzanne Tom's popular fun run, Haley's Run for A Reason, as much a part of the local July Fourth landscape as flags, festivities and fireworks. Tom and her family created the first event 13 years ago, in 2005 on the fifth anniversary of the passing of her beloved toddler daughter Haley, from what is now known as SUDC, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood.

"I found I was saying Haley's name less and less," Tom explains, "and it broke my heart." Tom decided to create something to keep Haley's memory alive as well as help other families in the same situation.

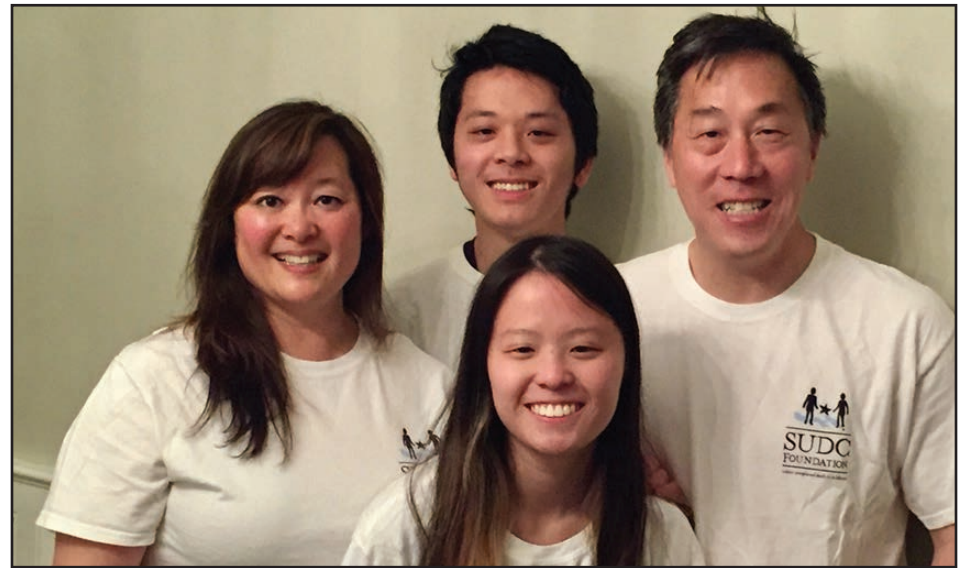
The Tom family had recently moved to Orinda from Lafayette in 2000, and little Haley spent a delightful day attending the Orinda July Fourth parade and park activities. This endearing memory provided the creative impetus for conceiving the "Run for a Reason" and connecting it to the existing run previously established by the Orinda Roadrunners. This determined

mother, courageously channeling her grief, handed out countless flyers, gave presentations to "anyone who would listen" and somehow managed to forge a joyful, spirited and celebratory local tradition out of every parent's absolute worst nightmare.

"I had no idea how many participants would show up that first year," Tom recalls. "The day I received my first registration in the mail, I almost cried at the mailbox!"

The Tom family's decision to declare 2018 Haley's Final Run was not an easy one, and, like everything associated with this endeavor, carries with it a broad spectrum of powerful emotions.

Since its introduction, the event has been enthusiastically embraced by the Lamorinda community. The number of participants continues to grow, beginning with about 150 runners the first year to an estimated 400 in 2017. Financially, Tom estimates Haley's Runs have generated around \$300,000 for the SUDC foundation, which did not even exist in 2005 when the event was launched. In 2014, the family capitalized on the popularity of "color runs," where non-toxic tempura



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As they approach the final Haley's Run For A Reason this 4th of July, organizers **Suzanne, Ashton, Megan** and **Donavan Tom** are grateful for the community's enthusiastic support of their annual race.

paint powder "decorates" runners at various points along the route.

That this is the final curtain call for the Tom family is surely not due to lack of interest, creativity or productivity; it is more aptly due to a distinct lack of time. Tom, a first-grade teacher at Los Perales Elementary in Moraga, sports such an upbeat and energetic personality that few realize how much organizational and promotional work goes on behind the scenes all year. Tom credits her husband Donovan, daughter Megan and son Ashton, as well as the Acalanes Chapter of the National Charity League, who adopted the event, with providing the elbow grease and much-needed heavy lifting for the past 13 years.

The Tom family is experiencing some

exciting "next stages," with daughter Megan attending the University of California Riverside in the fall and son Ashton embarking on the grueling prep work needed for college admission. "We loved every minute of producing Haley's Run," Tom says, "but truthfully, it prevented us from doing anything else with our summers."

She continues, "We are so lucky to live in this community, where Haley's Run was embraced by so many. It is very hard to let that go." But perhaps, as the saying goes, every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end. Tom has fielded some interest from other SUDC families and related charities which might want to take over the reins and continue to run the

[SEE HALEY'S page 12]

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And The Band Played On!

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

It wouldn't be the 4th of July without the Orinda All Volunteer Pick Up Marching Band. The dedicated group plays at the beginning and the end of The Orinda Association's 4th of July Parade. Made up of musicians, some with no marching experience, the band plays a variety of Sousa and patriotic songs as well as the official songs for the United States Armed Forces.

Colleen and John McCormick, owners of Lamorinda Music in Lafayette, have organized the marching band for the past several years and have been playing in the band since 1995. This year, the couple along with their two children will be playing in the band. The couple also provides the music and lyrics to hold the music while marching as well as the drums and cymbals.

Previously, Bobbie Landers, a long-time band supporter, had borrowed drums from Miramonte High School but this year, Colleen McCormick decided the music store should buy their own. "I've been watching Bobbie drag around these heavy drums every year, and it just seemed like too much," says Colleen. "So, we've purchased a set of triplet toms and two snares from Yamaha. We already own a bass drum and the cymbals so we're all set."

The All Volunteer Marching Band welcomes all ages of new members with at least two years' experience with their band instruments. The music can be picked up in advance at Lamorinda Music, 81 Lafayette

Circle, in Lafayette.

"We actually have two marching opportunities this summer: Orinda's 4th of July parade and Lafayette's 50th Anniversary on July 29," Colleen says. "We'll be playing the same music in both parades."

For the July 4th parade, percussionists meet at 8 a.m. behind the Casa Orinda Restaurant, 20 Bryant Way, in Orinda. All other instruments join them at 9 a.m., and at 10 a.m. the parade begins.

On July 29, percussionists meet at Stanley Middle School, 3455 School Street, in Lafayette with other instruments joining them at 4 p.m. The parade begins at 4:45 p.m.

Musicians should wear blue pants/shorts and a white shirt. Lamorinda Music can loan a drum to those who need one. For questions on either gig, call Colleen at 925-385-0963.

◆ HALEY'S from page 11

event in future years.

"I will always be involved with SUDC," enthuses Tom. "I'm simply shifting my focus from a local event to national involvement."

SUDC, which differs from SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, "Infant" defined as younger than 12 months) held its first national conference last fall. Physicians and specialists from all over the United States convened to discuss and share findings. Parents were welcomed observers. Funds raised at Haley's Run



2017 Lamorinda Music Group: L-R Drum Major **Gary Peare**, **Colleen McCormick**, **John McCormick**, **Sam Haese**, **Dylan Sleeper**, **Tracy Wirta**, **Lisa Holmes** and **Jane McKee** (kneeling with bass drum). Although McKee has moved to Portland, she plans to return to march in this year's parade.

contribute to the research and establishment of this somewhat new, yet vital, organization headquartered in New Jersey. "It's definitely an organization no parent wishes they belonged to," Tom admits, "But we have a network of over 600 families now."

The funds raised from Haley's Run also promote awareness and visibility of this support network. "The loss of a child is incredibly difficult to talk about," Tom continues. "No one knows what to say. It's crucial to have this network of families to connect with and receive support."

Haley's Final Run for a Reason will take place at 8 a.m. on the morning of July

4 starting outside the Orinda Community Center. Participants have their choice of a 2-mile, dog and stroller-friendly Family Walk or a 5-mile Color Run along beautiful EBMUD trails which normally requires a permit to access. Registration fee includes a T-shirt and goodie bag. Learn more about the SUDC Foundation, donate or register for the upcoming run at www.angelhaley.org.

"I would like to thank this community for all the love and support over the years," Tom concludes. "Thank you for giving me the chance to say Haley's name, again and again."



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PERFORMING ARTS

Crazy Comedy at Orinda Starlight



JILL GELSTER

Steven Blatt (L) and Ken Sollazzo rehearse for *Kindly Keep it Covered*.

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

The Orinda Starlight Village Players (OrSVP) open their second production of the summer July 20 with Dave Freeman's frantic farce *Kindly Keep It Covered*, directed by longtime OrSVP actor and director Malcolm Cowler. The show centers around a health farm run by Roland Dickerby and his wife Julia, bought with the proceeds of a hefty insurance payout on the demise of Julia's first husband, Sidney. Life isn't easy for Roland, and fate has something extra special in store for him: Sidney has decided to resurrect himself and turns up at the farm, just as Vanessa, the wife of Roland's ex-boss from Kindly Mutual Insurance, checks in for a health-giving visit.

Cowler has directed at OrSVP for a number of years, performing on the stage

[SEE ORSVP page 16]

Cal Shakes Presents Work Based on 15th Century Morality Play

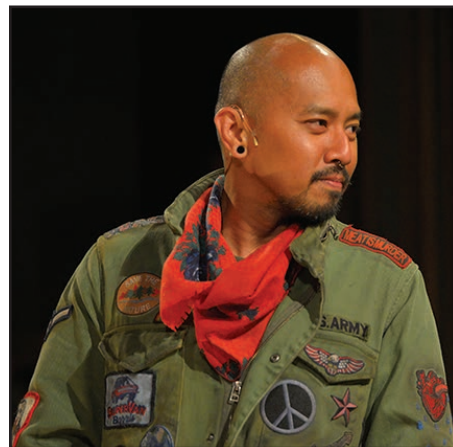
By RICHARD SCHWAB
Contributing Writer

California Shakespeare Theater continues its 44th Season with the West Coast Premiere of *Everybody* by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, directed by Natakai Garrett. The play, based on one of the oldest plays in the English language, *The Summoning of Everyman*, runs July 18 – August 5 at the Bruns Amphitheater.

The *New York Times* called Jacobs-Jenkins, a finalist for the 2018 Pulitzer Prize in Drama, "one of this country's most original and illuminating writers." Cal Shakes Artistic Director Eric Ting echoes this: "He is one of the most exciting playwrights working today." According to Ting, *Everybody*, based on a 15th century morality play, is the company's second official work under the New Classics Initiative (NCI) which allows a living playwright to explore classical theater's place in the 21st century.

The play examines a universal truth: everyone dies. When *Everybody* faces imminent death, which companion – Beauty, Friendship, Earthly Belongings, or Love – will make it to the final destination? Jacobs-Jenkins' allegorical play explores the depths of the human condition with humor, heart, grace and dancing skeletons. Ultimately, it poses important questions summed up by Ting: "All the things, all this stuff we have, our phones and our clothes, what are we? Can we take any of that with us? How do we be good to each other, all of us? Not just to the people that think like us, but all."

Everybody features a core company of actors – whose roles are randomly deter-



KEVIN BERNE

Jomar Tagatac, pictured here in Cal Shakes' 2017 production of *As You Like It*, will appear in Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' *Everybody*.

mined at every performance. Ting is excited the actors don't know what role they will play. "It's an exquisite metaphor for how we live, and the randomness of it, the not knowing of it and the vulnerability that comes of that; but also the delight, the surprise."

Ting notes, "It's not a play about death; it's ultimately a play about life. One of the basic questions is how do we choose to live our life?" Ting concludes, "*Everyman* is essentially about faith; this is what you have to carry forth."

Cal Shakes will host a variety of events associated with its performances of *Everybody* including: Pay What You Can (Wednesday, July 18), Opening Night Post Show Party (July 21), First Look (Saturday, July 14, 7 p.m.), Saturday Matinee (2 p.m., August 3), Open-captioned Performance (7:30 p.m., July 25), Meet the

[SEE CAL SHAKES page 16]



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

More than 120 guests attended the Lamorinda Arts Council's first annual "Arts Affair" June 6 in the Garden Room at the Orinda Library. Pictured above are: top row (L-R): Ibis Schlesinger, Michelle Hoffmann, Maggie Boscoe, Jenny Staelin, Denise Nomura, Lawrence Kohl, Susan Garell, Sue Farmer and Jen Wallace. bottom row (L-R): Elana O'Loskey, Meredith Friedman, Justin Cole, Susan Mautner, Josephine Sabolboro and Neela Paykel, Esq.

Lamorinda Arts Council's Arts Affair Welcomes New Officers

By ELANA O'LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The arts ruled on June 6 for the first Lamorinda Arts Council (LAC) Arts Affair. Music provided by the Rob Evans Quartet greeted guests on the patio outside the art gallery. Exotic florals created by Sanvitalia in Theatre Square welcomed guests as they arrived to celebrate the many

programs sponsored by the group. Attendees enjoyed cocktails and small bites from Genuine Goodness in the Garden Room where Mixologist of the Year Portia Battistini of the Cooperage poured signature cocktails. Battistini won her title at the LAC's 2017 Art of Mixology competition. ShortDocs Film Festival videos were shown nonstop as old and young sipped lemonade

[SEE LAC page 16]

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BOOKS

◆ CAR TIME from page 7

If you see your temp gauge is heading towards the right or your temp light is on, then safely pull over immediately. Driving with an overheating car may cause damage to the engine. There is no good reason to open the hood at this point. You should not touch anything under the hood for at least an hour.

Clearly, there is no good time to have a breakdown with a car. You should, however, have an idea in your mind about how to handle emergency situations. Of course, it is best to avoid these situations by preparing the vehicle and yourself for hitting the road. I am always available for automotive consultation.

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

◆ ALVARADO from page 8

West Coast, but he usually plans one big trip each year to race elsewhere. "It's hard to explain what a thrill it is to be traveling down a race track at high speeds in one of these incredible cars," he adds.

Alvarado and his wife Robin raised three children in Orinda with the youngest going into his senior year at Miramonte. So far, two of the three have expressed an interest in following in their dad's tire tracks!

The Orinda Classic Car Show is Sept. 8 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and is free to attend. The Orinda Rotary produces a pre-show party and fundraiser, Dancing with the Cars, Sept. 7 at Orinda Country Club beginning at 5:30 p.m. Proceeds from the pre-show party, donations and registration fees benefit Seniors Around Town – the Orinda Association's transportation service for seniors, the Educational Foundation of Orinda and several other local nonprofits.

For more information on the upcoming Classic Car Show, go to www.orindacarshow.com.

Between the Lines
Best Beach Reads of 2018

Janine de Boisblanc, Orinda Books



During summer, we often hear the same request from readers: "I want something light." As a bookseller, I think "light" still means a well written, engaging story – a page turner paperback that you'll throw into a bag after a day at the beach, and a book you'll reach for the next day as you head back into the sun.

Hello Sunshine by Laura Dave is a lively story about Sunshine Mackenzie, a famous culinary star, whose life is turned upside down after she's hacked and her secrets are publicly revealed. Although Sunshine must rebuild her life after great loss, she is resilient and the book is brimming with hope, making it both a worthwhile social commentary and an enthralling read.

Katherin Heiny's *Standard Deviation* won many awards as Heiny's debut novel. When Graham Cavanaugh leaves his wife for Audra, a woman who lives life to the fullest, often leaving Graham tired out by her extravagance, he's left to wonder about the other paths he could have taken. Heiny's novel examines marriage, the joy and challenge of parenting, as well as our fascination with, "What if...?"

What does "empty nest" really mean to a single mom once her son's left for college? Who will Eve Fletcher be? In Tom Perrotta's *New York Times* bestselling *Mrs. Fletcher* when Eve receives a seducing text message from an anonymous number, she finds herself heading in a direction that forces her to reconsider her ideas about gender and identity, love, lust and a life reimagined in middle age.

Famous for her role as Lorelai on *Gilmore Girls*, Lauren Graham's life has been shaped by the characters she's played, the pressure of Hollywood, and her self-consciousness about her personal life. In *Talking as Fast as I Can*, Graham does what great essayists do best – she looks back on her life, discovers a new perspective and helps others look inward, too.

What if returning home at age 30 to live with one's parents is the best solution to a life headed in an unhappy direction? In Rachel Khong's *Goodbye, Vitamin*, Ruth moves home and discovers her father's health is in decline and her mother's behavior is increasingly unpredictable. In this coming of age tale for a late bloomer, Ruth finds the humor in her ever-changing

family, and Khong infuses plenty of light into the dark.

How about a great thriller? Best-selling author Shari Lapena's *A Stranger in the House* is unsettling from the get go. When we learn that Karen, Tom's wife, can't account for her whereabouts after a suspicious accident. Soon secrets and shames run deep within this family drama. As more questions arise about both Karen and Tom, you'll read towards a shocker of an ending.

For the guys this summer, Phil Knight's *Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike*, is a perfect poolside pick. Who's the brainchild behind the "swoosh"? What was a startup like decades ago? Knight's story of how he transformed Nike into a historically iconic, risk-taking, innovative brand is at times rather perilous. You have to admire a CEO so forthcoming about his company's genesis and future.

Brand new beach reads (hardcover): *Rosie Colored Glasses* by Brianna Wolfson. So much heart in this story. Loveable characters. *What You Don't Know About Charlie Outlaw* by Leah Stewart. Celebrities navigating dangerous terrain. Full of fun. *When life gives you lululemons* by Lauren Weisberger. What a title! *Calypso* by David Sedaris. Newest Sedaris: need I say more?

Visit us at Orinda Books and we'll help curate your summer reading.

◆ ODYSSEY from page 5

"technical problem," required, in addition to costumes and props, engineering to solve it. The OIS team wrote and performed a skit with its theme of independent thought being eclipsed by technology. The team used four different emojis to represent the action. "In their story, the once-famous pencil has been forgotten because people are depending on the Siri app on their phones to answer all their questions," Coach Nicole Reader explains before concluding, "Along the way, brains turn to noodles, the pencil grows angry and Siri quits, tired of the stupid questions people ask. At the end, once again the pencil becomes the preferred method of reasoning."

For more information on the competition, go to www.odysseyofthemind.com.

–Sally Hogarty, Editor

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CALENDAR

ON THE CALENDAR

JULY

- 4 **Orinda Association**, 7:55 a.m., 4th of July Celebration and Parade. See detailed schedule and article page 9.
Haley's Run for A Reason, 8 a.m. Orinda Community Center, Learn more about the SUDC Foundation, donate or register at www.angelhaley.org. See article page 11.
Friends of the Orinda Library, 9 a.m. Book Sale. Orinda Library Plaza.
- 5 **Orinda Books**, 10 a.m. Story Time with Cathy G. A lively hour of books and fun for 2-4 year-olds and their grown-ups. Also, July 12, 19 and 26.*
Taste of the World Market, 5 p.m. Food truck event features a different mix of trucks and entertainment. For more information, visit www.tasteoftheworldmarket.com/calendar-agenda-style. Also, July 12, 19 and 26.
- 6 **Rechic**, 11 a.m - 5 p.m. Special shopping event and floral pop-up with locally owned MMC Floral Studio. Food and refreshments will be served. 101 Orinda Way, Orinda.
- 7 **Orinda Farmers Market**, 9 a.m., Orinda Way, Orinda. Also, July 14, 21 and 28. See article page 8.
- 8 **Orinda Library Gallery**, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Batik Inspired Paintings, Artwork from London to the Redwoods. Meet the artists at their reception and enjoy light refreshments. Art Gallery at the Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way, 925-254-2184. See article on page 2.
- 10 **Orinda Books**, 11:30 a.m. Literary Luncheon with Chloe Benjamin, author of *The Immortalists*. \$12 includes a light luncheon and author presentation. For reservations, call 925-254-7606.
Concerts-in-the-Park, 6:30 p.m., featuring Crawdad Republic; Orinda Community Center Park. See article page 18.
- 11 **Orinda Books**, 3 p.m. The Second Wednesday Book Group will read and discuss *Transit* by Rachel Cusk.*
- 12 **Orinda Books**, 11:30 a.m. Luncheon with C.W. Gortner introducing *The Romanov Empress: A Novel of Maria Feodorovna*. \$12 includes a light luncheon and talk about this newest novel. Call 925-254-7606 to make your reservation.*
Orinda Books, 3 p.m. Celebrate Bastille Day at Orinda Books when Cara Black and Susan Shea who introduce their new mysteries – *Murder on the Left Bank* (Black) and *Dressed for Death in Burgundy* (Shea). Enjoy brie, baguettes, and burgundy.*
Orinda Theatre Free Movie Night, 6:30 showing *GoodFellas*. For more information go to lamorindatheatres.com. See article page 17.
Tally Home, 5 p.m. New Orinda Business Supports Breast Cancer Care With Pink Ribbon Event. 50 percent of the proceeds will go to Carol Ann Read Breast Health Program. 85 Orinda Way, Orinda. Call 925-254-1421 for more information. See article page 5.
Movie-in-the-Park, begins at dusk, *Mary Poppins*, Orinda Community Center Park. See article page 17.
- 14 **McDonnell Nursery**, 10 a.m., Summer Rose Care Workshop. 196 Moraga Way, Orinda. For reservations call 925-254-3713.
Orinda Theatre, 11 a.m. showing *The Lego Batman Movie*. For more information go to lamorindatheatres.com. See article page 17.
- 17 **Orinda Books**, 11:30 a.m. Lunch with Gabriel Tallent author of *My Absolute Darling* out in paperback on June 26th. \$12 includes a light luncheon. Call 925-254-7606 for reservation.*
Orinda Books, 3 p.m. The World Affairs Book Group with Jim Sibbring will read and discuss *PRISONERS OF GEOGRAPHY: Ten Maps That Tell You Everything You Need To Know About The World*.*
Arts in Bloom Festival, 5:30 p.m. Orinda Community Park, 28 Orinda Way. Kids arts and crafts; face painting, sponsored by Lamorinda Arts Council. See www.lamorindaarts.org.
Concerts-in-the-Park, 6:30 p.m., featuring Lamorinda Idol singers, also a Lamorinda Arts Council program Orinda Community Center Park. See article page 18.
- 18 **Cal Shakes**, 7:30 p.m. Presents west coast premiere of Branden Jacobs-Jenkins *Everybody* through August 5. For tickets call 510-548-9666 or go to www.calshakes.org. See article page 13.
- 20 **Orinda Starlight Village Players**, 8:30 p.m. present Dave Freeman's *Kindly Keep It Covered*, Orinda Community Center Park Amphitheater, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda. For tickets, visit info@orsvp.org or call 925-528-9225. Also, Fridays and Saturdays through August 11, Thursday August 2 at 8 p.m., and Sunday July 29 at 4 p.m. See article page 13.
- 21 **Orinda Theatre**, 11 a.m. *Storks*. For more information go to lamorindatheatres.com. See article page 17.
- 22 **Orinda Rotary Club**, 6:30 p.m., featuring Opera; Orinda Community Center Park. See article page 18.
- 24 **Concerts-in-the-Park**, 6:30 p.m., featuring The Swampers; Orinda Community Center Park. See article page 18.
- 26 **Orinda Books**, 5:30 p.m. Pet Sleepover Night: local author Dave Manousos will read his book, *Land of Reverse*. Kids are invited to bring a favorite stuffed animal to spend the night at Orinda Books. We're also happy to email photos to the child at bedtime, so they can rest assured their loved one is safe and having fun. Kids can pick up the animals the next day, and hear about their crazy antics.*
Orinda Books, 6:30 p.m. Regina Louise will discuss and sign copies of her new memoir, *Someone Has Led This Child to Believe*. In addition to being an awarded author and playwright, she advocates on behalf of foster youth and for emotional permanency.*
Movie-in-the-Park, begins at dusk, *CoCo*, Orinda Community Center Park. See article page 17.
- 25 **Mindful Littles and My Sustainable Table**, 1 - 2:30 p.m. Workshop: Loving Kindness During this inspirational workshop, kids will get to experience interactive group discussions and storytelling, practice playful yoga and mindfulness, and do creative projects to explore loving kindness for all beings. Open to kids: age K-5th grade Register at Atma Yoga Studio: www.atma.studio.
- 28 **Orinda Theatre**, 11 a.m. *Happy Feet*. For more information go to lamorindatheatres.com. See article page 17.
- 31 **Concerts-in-the-Park**, 6:30 p.m., featuring Bay Bridge Beat; Orinda Community Center Park. See article page 18.

* **Orinda Books** is located at 276 Village Square, Orinda, info@orindabooks.com, 925-254-7606.

Artist Exhibit Helps Veterans

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 433 Moraga Way, in Orinda will host an exhibition of art work from a variety of local artists on June 30 from 4 – 7:30 p.m. Dubbed "Art for Vets," the exhibition will benefit the building of the Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity's Dixon Veteran's home. When completed, the house will become the permanent home for six veterans.

Musician Michael Chiaravelotti will entertain on his unique hand-built instrument that recreates the sounds of many other instruments as well as sounds heard in nature.

For more information, call Bob Schwab at 925-254-6869 or email dyorgan@comcast.net.



CRAIG HUFFMAN

Musician Michael Chiaravelotti.

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. The Orinda Library will be closed on Wednesday, July 4.

- 2 **Computer Docent Help**, 11 a.m. - noon. Free Computer help for beginners from a knowledgeable volunteer. Please sign up online for a one-hour session or call 925-254-2184. Also July 9, 16, 23, 30.
Maker Monday, noon - 2 p.m. Whether it's Legos, Minecraft, crafts or coding, creative fun happens every Monday afternoon at your library. July 9, 16, 23, 30.
- 3 **Toddler Lapsit**, 10 and 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and early literacy learning for new walkers (approx. 18 to 36 months) and their caregivers. No registration required; please attend only one toddler storytime each week. Also July 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31.
Peek-a-Boo Storytime, 11:30 a.m. Lapsit storytime for newborns/pre-walkers (0 to roughly 18 months) and their caregivers. Early literacy advice. Families with older siblings please attend toddler storytime. No registration required. Also July 10, 17, 24, 31.
- 5 **Computer Docent Help**, 1 - 3 p.m. Free Computer help for beginners from a knowledgeable volunteer. Please sign up online for a one-hour session or call 925-254-2184. Also July 12, 19, 26, 30.
ESL Conversation Circle, 1 to 3 p.m. For adults, practice and improve English conversation skills in a small, informal group. Registration not required. July 12, 19, 26, 30.
Paws to Read, 3:30 p.m. Early readers practice with the perfect audience: therapy dogs! Call or stop by to reserve a 20-minute spot for a child. Also July 12, 19.
- 10 **Orinda Library Writers Group**, 6:30 p.m. Meet with a friendly group of beginning writers in a supportive environment to motivate, critique and inspire one another. Share two pages of your writing (any genre) and get feedback from the group. Also July 24.
- 12 **Try It Truck**, 5 - 7 p.m. Kids can get hands on experience with tools and technology. At the Garden Room patio.
- 20 **Mystery Book Club**, 3 - 4:30 p.m. Join us as we uncover and discuss the new mystery book of the month. This month's selection is *The Historian* by Elizabeth Kostova. Meetings every third Friday of the month.
- 26 **Contra Costa Tale Spinners**, 7 p.m. Join this lively group to tell or listen. This is storytelling for adults with a featured teller every month. Garden Room.
- 30 **A Bird's Rainbow**, 10:30 a.m. Well-known local birder and photographer Bob Lewis, explains why birds are often brightly colored. This program is geared for adults.

CLUB MEETINGS

- American Association of University Women (AAUW)** General meetings third Tues., <http://oml-ca.aauw.net> or email Marty Schimbor at mgschimbor@comcast.net.
- Diablo Star Chapter #214**, Order of the Eastern Star. Second Monday, 7:30 p.m. Orinda Masonic Center, Karen Seaborn, 925-689-0995.
- Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe**. Third Monday, 7:30 p.m., Garden Room, Orinda Library, www.moragaadobe.org.
- Friends of the Orinda Creeks**. Fourth Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., May Room, Orinda Library, 925-253-1997.
- Guided Meditation**. Wednesdays, 9 a.m. St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 451 Moraga Way, Orinda, focuses on health, harmony and wholeness, 925-254-5965.
- Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition**. Third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room, 925-687-8844, ext. 227.
- Lamorinda Nature Walk and Bird Watching** for seniors. Wednesdays, 9 to 11 a.m., free. Call 925-254-2445 for weekly meeting place.
- Lamorinda Sirs** for retired men. Second Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga, Pete Giers, 925-254-4667.
- Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary**. Breakfast, Fridays, 7 a.m. at The Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa, 328 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, www.lamorindasunrise.com or lamorindasunrise@gmail.com. July 4, 7:30-10 a.m. Pancake Breakfast, Orinda Library Plaza; July 6 - Patrick Coyle presents Engineers Without Borders USA (EWB-USA) and the San Francisco Professional (SFP) chapter; July 13 - Dr. Susan Jenkins, Managing Director, Innovative Genomics Institute at UC Berkeley discusses their unbelievable technology curing conditions deemed incurable just 5 years ago! July 20 - Highlights of Camp Royal and Camp Venture from the campers themselves! July 27 - Quiet and mild, few even know the soft, tender voice of Rich Shearer. Today, we'll learn all about him!
- Lamorinda Toastmasters**. Every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Temple Isaiah, 945 Risa Road, Lafayette, <http://lamorinda.toastmastersclubs.org>.
- Orinda Association**. Second Monday, 7 p.m., Orinda Library, May Room, 925-254-0800.
- Orinda Garden Club**, 315 Camino Sobrante, Orinda 925-257-0668, www.orindagc.org.
- Orinda Hiking Club**. Every weekend and first Wednesday, www.orindahiking.org or Ian at 925-254-1465.
- Orinda Historical Society**. Call 925-254-1353 for times and location of meetings.

FILM



THE REEL LESS TRAVELED

OH, FRABJOUS DAY! CALLOOH CALAY!

Tom Westlake



Though this may be old news for many, I feel I must lead with the fantastic news that the Rheem Theatre has opened its doors once again! Kudos to Dereck Zembrak and crew, the theatre's owner, Mahesh Puri, and many locals, including Moraga Vice Mayor, Teresa Onoda, who came together to make sure this august edifice will once again welcome patrons into its halls, lobby and auditorium. Though only one of the screen venues will be operational, there still remains a great deal of hope the Rheem will stay open for the foreseeable future. I am sending out all my positive energy that, at the very least, the Moraga Movers will once again have this venue available. I also encourage everyone to keep checking in at LamorindaTheatres.com so we can all support this local treasure, a wonderful bookend to our own gem, the Orinda Theatre.

As summer continues, there's plenty of other special screenings to talk about, most of them for the younger members of our community. Many will be shown at the Orinda Theatre and others at the Orinda Park as part of the Summer Movies in the Park program. Make sure to check with the park calendar for any unscheduled changes.

Starting on July 7, we have *Paddington 2* (2018), the wildly successful sequel that, in some ways outshines the previous one. This has often been the case with films like this, most notably with *Babe*, and its sequel *Babe: Pig in the City*. The primary difference here though is that *Paddington* has more of a history behind it. The first *Paddington* story premiered in 1958 and since then, it has enchanted nearly everyone who has read it, so much so that there have been over 20 books featuring the abandoned bear. Now, thanks in part to movie magic, he's finally making a name for himself up on the big screen. It also helps that the very best in British talent lends their voices. Two such voices, Michael Gambon and Imelda Staunton, are fresh off another fantasy staple, the Harry Potter films. *Paddington* will show at the Orinda Theatre at 11 a.m., July 7.

A week later (July 12), both the Orinda Theatre and the Orinda Park will be showing movies on the same day, but that's the only thing they have in common. At the park, you'll be sitting out in the open and, as dusk falls, you'll be transported to Edwardian London and the tale of the Banks Family and their very unusual nanny, a woman that goes by the name of *Mary Poppins*. Personally speaking, I can't

recommend this movie enough, and I envy you if you are seeing this for the very first time. Realizing that some younger viewers might think of it as dated, (No explosions or space ship chases and computers, as we know them, weren't even invented yet, so no computer-generated imagery) the wonder lies in the writing, visuals and a seamless interaction between live action and animation. And this doesn't even take into account the music and stellar performances of Julie Andrews and Dick van Dyke. Walt Disney once said that "It's kind of fun to do the impossible." And if you let it, this film will show you just how possible (and fun) the impossible is. It will show on July 12 as dusk settles into night.

On that very same night, the Orinda Theatre will be hosting its usual Free Movie Night and showing the only film in this column that's most definitely not meant for kids (though, like *Mary Poppins*, it is considered a classic). *GoodFellas*, a 1990 Martin Scorsese film takes us to the modern age and offers a no holds barred account of the rise, inner workings and downfall of a 20th century gangster. Ray Liotta, Robert De Niro and a chilling Joe Pesci lead the cast in a Faustian story involving every sort of vice you can think of and, whereas there's an initial sheen to that sort of lifestyle, real world consequences soon become all too apparent and deadly. Lauded for its stark realism, this is a film that seduces, abandons you and ultimately leaves you empty but, being as it's directed by Martin Scorsese, you're riveted the whole way. It will show at the Orinda Theatre on July 12 at 6:30 p.m. Admission free.

The question of where movies come from has always been a subject ripe for discussion. As long as I've been a movie buff, I've seen movies adapted from books, plays, television, comic books, games (board and video) and most lately, Disneyland rides. And now, toys. With *Transformers* being the most obvious example, I must admit that when the first *Lego Movie* came out, I was completely taken aback. When it turned out to be a massive success, I was floored! And now, there's at least half a dozen, and counting, out there and nearly every one of them have been incredibly popular, so it stands to reason, of course, that at least one of them should be shown here in Orinda. *The Lego Batman Movie* is the movie *du jour* this time, and it has all the elements of a classic Batman movie. Dark brooding characters, kinetic action set pieces and no Batman tale would be complete without the Joker. Irreverent, self-aware humor is also

part of the mix so there's something for the grown-ups, too. It will screen at the Orinda Theatre on July 14 at 11 a.m.

Next, we have *Storks*. In reading the synopsis of this movie, I was struck by the distinct possibility that it will inspire more than a few "talks." After all, this movie comes at the whole "birds and bees" thing from a sideways angle so when your son or daughter wants to know about the title in the first place, some awkwardness may occur. That said, it looks like a diverting enough movie with the voice talents of such celebrities as Kelsey Grammer and Jennifer Aniston. It will be at the Orinda Theatre on July 21 at 11 a.m.

Going back to the park again, you will be treated to Pixar's latest, *Coco*. Considering that this movie's focus is on death and the afterlife, there is something definitely positive to say about how bright and colorful it is (nor is it the first to explore Mexico's Day of the Dead tradition - *Book of Life* (2004) covers much the same ground). That said, however, there is an exuberance and

poignancy here that is a hallmark of nearly everything Pixar releases. It wouldn't surprise me if there were members of the audience that suddenly wanted to take up the guitar, for music, and its importance, is also a theme here. Gather at the park as night falls on July 26 and prepare to be amazed.

And lastly, we have *Happy Feet*. During the summer months, there is something to be said about watching a film that takes place in Antarctica. It also carries forward a theme started in *Coco* as music (or more specifically, the inability to make music) plays a very large part here. Voiced by such talents as Elijah Wood and the late Robin Williams, the overlying message here is that, though tradition has a place, sometimes one has to find new ways to achieve ones goals. Like all the films mentioned above (excepting *Mary Poppins* and *GoodFellas*) this film relies on computer generated imagery, but here it's practically photo-real, even going so far as to inject real elements among the pixels, giving you an

[SEE REEL page 18]

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From Bluegrass to Opera at Orinda Community Center Park

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Locals have lots of musical entertainment options for the entire family this July as the Parks and Recreation Department continues its popular summer concert series in the Orinda Community Center Park, 28 Orinda Way. Concerts run from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., except for July 22. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic, blanket and lawn chairs to enjoy a night of music and fun.

On July 10, Crawdad Republic brings its harmonious tones to the park with a selection of folk and bluegrass tunes. The five-member group has been playing around the Bay Area for the past five years.

Audiences are in for a special treat on July 17 when talented young singers from Lamorinda Idol will perform a wide variety


of music from traditional ballads to Broadway sensations.

On July 22, from 5 – 7 p.m., the Orinda Rotary once again presents its annual Opera in the Park, featuring eight of Solo Opera's professional singers. Artistic Director Sylvia Amorino will provide commentary to help even novice opera goers understand and enjoy the various pieces.

For a complete change of pace, July 24 features the Fog City Swampers, a four-piece, rock cover band. With Cat on lead vocals, Jamie on guitar, Tom on bass and Paul on drums, the group delivers classic rock dance music.

The park concert series finishes off the month with the soulful sounds of Bay Bridge Beat on July 31. The popular group lays down its own retro vibe of jazz, soul, funk and R&B with a tribute to the past and commitment to new discoveries.

For more information, call 925-254-2445 or go to www.CityOfOrinda.org.



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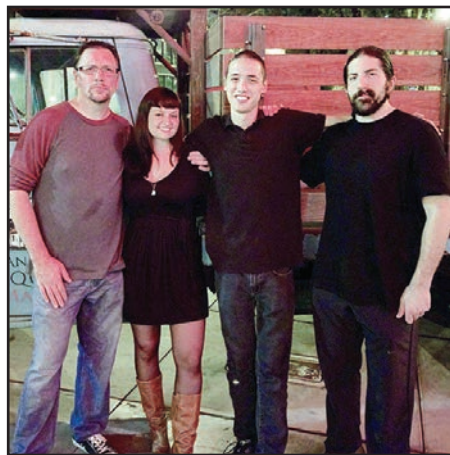
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
On July 24, the **Fog City Swampers** will have people dancing in the park to their classic rock covers.

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Students Put Others First



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Twelve students were recognized for their contributions to the local community as part of Orinda Intermediate School's Others First Community Service Program. Each of the students completed at least 25 hours of community service. (L-R) **Ella Rose Miller, Audrey Hu, Jarret Zundel, Josh DeFeo** (Dean of Students) and **Camryn Hirst**. Not pictured: Ellis Berquist, Kaylin Ishizu, Ronnie Hollis, Malayna Chang, Jada Hembrador, Nicole Hui, Tamar Davidovich and Elizabeth Hua.

Rotary Club's Opera in the Park

By KEN JEW
Contributing Writer

Solo Opera teams up again this year with the Orinda Rotary Club to present the group's 10th annual Opera in the Park. Sponsored by the Orinda Rotary, the free performance, which usually attracts up to 1,000 people, will be presented from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, July 22, at the Orinda Community Park. Organizers say it is an opportunity to hear professional opera singers perform favorite arias, duets and ensembles that will thrill even non-opera lovers.

"We have assembled a truly spectacular line-up of talent," says Sylvia Amorino, Solo Opera's artistic director/producer and master of ceremonies for the concert. According to Amorino, the program includes eight singers who have performed at San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera San Jose, West Bay Opera, Lamplighters, Carnegie Hall among many others.

Founded in 2000, Solo Opera has produced many operas and concerts throughout the Bay Area and received the 2016 Arts Recognition Award from the AC-5 Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County.

The performers include: sopranos Liisa Dávila and Diane Squires, mezzo-sopranos Deborah Rosengaus and Leandra Ramm, tenors Michael Orlinsky and Stephen Cannon, baritones Ben Brady and Bradley Kynard; and pianist Chun Mei Wilson. The singers will perform greatest hits from operas such as *Turandot*, *Don Pasquale*, *Carmen*, *Don Giovanni*, *Barber of Seville*, *Marriage of Figaro*, *La Bohème*, *Die Fledermaus*, and many more.

Opera in the Park allows families to hear live opera in a relaxed setting without the usual high ticket price. The free concert includes likeable music and short explana-

tions from Amorino to help even novice opera goers understand the plots.

For further information on the concert, contact Ken Jew at jewfam@gmail.com or Richard Marchick at rmarchick@comcast.net. For more information on Solo Opera, visit www.SoloOpera.org or email solo@mail@pacbell.net.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mezzo-Soprano **Deborah Rosengaus** will perform as part of the Orinda Rotary Club's Opera in the Park on July 22.

◆ REEL from page 17

even more "You are there" feeling. It's also a toe tapping (more a foot stomping) good time. Show up at the Orinda Theatre on July 28 at 11 a.m. and bring your warmest coat if you need shelter from the Antarctic environment.

Wow! That's a lot of movies and, for the most part, they are all worth your while. And don't think these are strictly for the younger set. I can tell you from firsthand experience, even the most saccharine films often have enough depth when produced by real masters to keep adults amused. So, until next we meet, remember to stay in the dark (or wait for the sun to go down) for that's where the reel magic lies.

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STUDENTS / MOTHERS

Creative Writing Contest Winners

By JULIE ROSSITER
Contributing Writer

The Friends of the Orinda Library is excited to announce the winners of the 2018 Poul Anderson Creative Writing Contest. The writing contest is named in memory of Orinda resident Poul Anderson, a popular science fiction writer of over 80 books.

Open to all Orinda high school students, winning entries are selected by a panel of judges who are involved professionally in reading, writing or publishing. The writing contest features four genres: Short Story, Science Fiction/Fantasy, Poetry and Essay/Memoir/Biography. Selected from a record

number of entries, this year's winners each received prizes of \$500, along with certificates of recognition from the Friends of the Orinda Library.

The 2018 winners are: Sara Aoki (winner - Poetry, honorable mention - Essay/Memoir/Biography), Isabella Bianchi (winner - Science Fiction/Fantasy), Molly Clemmons (honorable mention - Short Story, honorable mention - Science Fiction/Fantasy), Alison Gan (honorable mention - Poetry), Zahra Hasanain (winner - Poetry), Dara Kazmierowski (winner - Short Story, honorable mention - Poetry), Madison Lehman (honorable mention - Short Story) and Ella Nelson (honorable mention - Poetry).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Isabella Bianchi (left) and Zahra Hasanain were among the winners of this year's Poul Anderson Creative Writing Contest.

◆ BUZZ from page 20

or occasion, you'll find it.

To get to Tina Nails, enter the parking lot at Orinda Safeway, 2 Camino Sobrante and, facing the front door, turn right, then a quick left down a wide lane will bring you to the back side of the Village Square building. There are large planters with cheerful impatiens in front of the salon. The Weyland family children – Trishtina, William and baby Michelle – along with Lynn

Weyland, Clinton's mom, are all delighted Tina finally has her own salon.

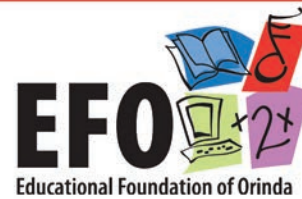
To celebrate its opening, Tina Nails offers a 20 percent discount on all services until July 31 to anyone who brings a copy of this column to the salon. Visit Tina Nails at 144 Village Square, Monday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sundays by appointment only, online at <https://tinanailssalon.com> or call 925-292-1292 for an appointment; drop-ins are welcome.

Support for New Mothers



SALLY HOGARTY

Serena Meyer, RN, (center) recently held an open house for her new business, Bay Area Breastfeeding Support. With offices at 15 Altarinda Rd., #203, the business provides personalized breastfeeding and lactation care. Also shown are (L-R) Lia Bristol, client Betsy Ream and her baby Charlie.



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Summer Health Screening for all MHS Athletes

All athletes participating in Miramonte sports must submit a completed AUHSD Athletic Clearance Form, signed by a physician after July 1, 2018. As a convenient alternative to visiting a physician over the summer for this clearance, MHS Boosters Club will offer the following Summer Health Screening options:

- Thursday, July 26, 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the MHS Music Room
- Friday, August 17 (MATS Day), 2:30-6:00 p.m. in the MHS Music Room

The sessions will be conducted by Dr. Melvin Huie and John Grigsby, our outstanding athletic trainer, along with other doctors who generously volunteer their time for our student-athletes.

The cost for the health screening is \$40 per athlete and will include a Physical Therapy Station to test flexibility and address injury prevention run by Lafayette Physical Therapy with assistance from John's MHS Sports Medicine Students. There will also be a station for an assessment by Sparta Science, a newly funded service paid for by MHS Boosters Club for all Miramonte student-athletes.

To participate in a summer health screening, students must have seen their own physician within the past year and not had a concussion during the past 12 months. Students will need to bring the Athletic Clearance form (available in mid-June at www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/Page/1142) and a \$40 check made payable to Miramonte Boosters Club to the screening. All proceeds benefit the Miramonte Boosters Club, which supports Miramonte Athletics.

Go Mats!

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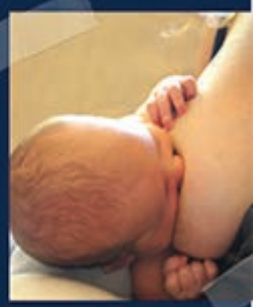
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Dr. Amin Samadian Family and Advanced Dentistry

This is not your mother’s dentist! When Dr. Samadian opened his dental office at 23 Orinda Way, he wanted to do more than offer good dentistry. And he has: his integrated medical-dental-cosmetic practice is based on a preventative model that looks at 10 years into the future. His practice is linked to a decentralized healthcare model so that whatever care he discovers a patient needs, he has a vetted referral in place. The colleagues he works with are compassionate, trustworthy, caring and expert professionals. He calls this the Dion Health Philosophy. They believe in discovering and treating the cause, not just the symptoms.

The technology he works with includes 3D imaging from Germany. He can do a



SALLY HOGARTY
Dr. Amin Samadian’s practice uses cutting-edge technology to perform medical, dental and cosmetic procedures.

CT scan with 1000 times less radiation than the typical medical grade CT scanner. Other 3D scans can show visuals of a patient’s airways, how to correct TMJ, [the temporomandibular (tem-puh-roe-mun-DIB-u-lur) joint, acts like a sliding hinge, connecting your jawbone to your skull], their periodontal condition, their sinuses and whether or not they have a deviated septum. In the cosmetic realm, the scans he takes are integrated into a system allowing him to make custom, food-quality porcelain crowns in-house in a process similar to 3D printing.

Smile reconstruction can often be done in one day to restore a patient’s bite. Cosmetic dentistry patients receive a free consultation for all cosmetic treatments. This covers Zoom teeth whitening, Invisalign, same day crown restorations, veneers and facial rejuvenation, implants, pinhole gum lifting and laser gum shaping.

Patient-centered care is so important that Samadian hired a specially trained associate whose only goal is maximizing patients’ insurance benefits. During each patient’s first visit, he spends 30 minutes explaining in depth all the options available for treatment and how they will be accomplished.

Part of building a network of continuity of care for his patients involves two additional goals he is pursuing. One is creating software that allows his patients to take their records – including scans and test results – with them wherever they go. The other is creating his own dental insurance. To this end, he is an MBA candidate at UC



ELANA O’LOSKEY
Clinton and Tina Weyland, the owners of newly-opened Tina’s Nails, along with their children Michelle, Trishtina and William, and Clinton’s mother Lynn Weyland.

Berkeley.

Philanthropy is also part of the Dion Health Philosophy. In May, his practice sponsored a well-attended talk on cyber-bullying with prominent retired psychiatrist Dr. Gary Nye. The annual grant they established is for students who pursue an active role against cyber-bullying. “We wanted to build a healthy support system to prevent emotional abuse, particularly through social media,” says Dr. Samadian, who has experienced cyber-bullying himself.

Originally from Iran, Dr. Samadian received his DDS from the Tehran Azad University School of Dentistry, a second DDS from University of the Pacific and a fellowship from UC Berkeley Bolt School of Law. Visit Dr. Amin Samadian Family and Advanced Dentistry at 23 Orinda Way, across from the Orinda Library. Go down the side driveway to the rear of the building, then either go up the stairs or take the elevator to Suite 301. Hours are M-F 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.; phone: 925-254-2350, email: office@aminsamadiandds.com or visit www.dionhealth.com.

Tina Nails

Tina and Clinton Weyland recently opened their nail salon at 144 Village

Square in Orinda. “We chose Orinda because Tina has worked at salons in Lafayette, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek and San Ramon. She really enjoyed working with the clients she met. As the whole family got to know the area, we fell in love with its natural beauty,” says Clinton. When you enter the salon, you are greeted on the left by a row of comfy looking, modern pedicure chairs that invite you to sit down and relax; on the right are manicure stations. A restful décor completes the scene.

After ten years working at other salons, Tina Weyland, who learned from every salon she’s worked at, is now able to apply her hard-won knowledge to her own salon. For example, her signature Spa Experience Pedicure includes a sea salt scrub and 15 minute hot stone massage on feet and legs – at no extra charge. Most salons charge extra for this service. The sea salt scrub replenishes dry, tired skin and the hot stone foot and leg massage has a sedative effect that promotes deep relaxation.

The salon’s list of services includes: artificial nails; pink and white nails; gel nails; manicures, pedicures and combos; polish change; nail repair, design; paraffin treatment for hands or feet; waxing (extensive list); and a special “kids under 10 years old” price list. After seeing the huge array of nail polish colors from OPI, Essie, Dare to Wear and Perfect Match, I can say that no matter how particular you want to be as far as matching a color for an outfit

[SEE BUZZ page 19]

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