

# THE ORINDA NEWS

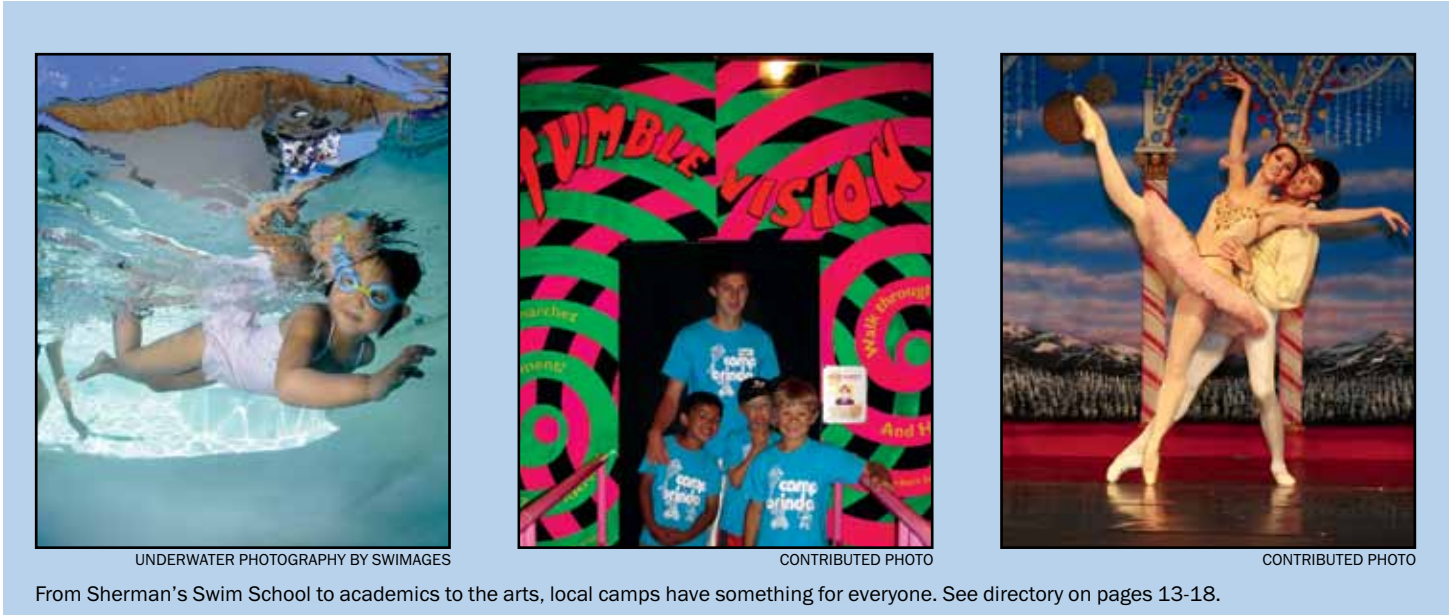
## Orinda Schools Begin Transitioning to New Curriculum Standards

By BILL O'BRIEN  
Staff Writer

In 1983, a United States government commission released its study of the American educational system called “A Nation at Risk,” and stated that if a foreign enemy wanted to destroy our country, they could do no better than to put in place the then current American K-12 educational structure. That report got people’s attention, and states and schools have been working ever since to improve the learning of American students. California is one of 46 states that has adopted the latest iteration of educational standards called the K-12 Common Core Standards approved by the California State Board of Education in August 2010.

Over the next two years the Orinda Union School District will be working to transition its curriculum and instructional practices to meet the new standards. The K-12 standards have been developed to establish consistent and clear education standards for English language arts and mathematics. Next year will be the last year for the STAR test, which tests the present instructional guidelines. The State plans to have a new annual assessment aligned with the new Common Core Standards by the spring of 2015.

Dr. Joe Jaconette explained that the language arts curriculum will involve  
[SEE CURRICULUM page 10]



From Sherman’s Swim School to academics to the arts, local camps have something for everyone. See directory on pages 13-18.

## Tri-City Discusses Proposed Joint Fire Station

By CHARLIE JARRET  
Staff Writer

Assistant Editor David Dierks contributed to this story.

Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) Chief Randy Bradley and Contra Costa Fire District Chief Daryl Louder joined the city councilmembers of Lafayette, Orinda and Moraga to examine a consolidation proposal, its implementation, and its ramifications at the Tri-City meeting held in February. While the meeting addressed a number of issues, the hot topic concerned the fire districts’ possible collaboration.

**Consolidation Proposal**  
Lafayette City Councilman Brandt Andersson declared the meeting the



Lafayette Mayor **Mike Anderson**, Orinda Mayor **Amy Worth** and Moraga Mayor **Dave Trotter** at the Tri-City meeting.

## Pat Rudebusch Celebrated as Orinda’s Citizen of the Year



**Pat Rudebusch** (C), long-time school board member and volunteer with a number of organizations, was honored March 15 as Orinda’s Citizen of the Year. She is shown here with her husband **Glenn** and daughter **Katherine**. Not pictured is her other daughter Jane, who attends college in Eugene, Oregon.

“perfect storm” referring to the combined communities coming together to examine collectively the proposed fire station consolidation plan. This plan has the potential of saving each fire district approximately \$1 million annually.

Serving both the needs of the Contra Costa Fire District (ConFire) and the MOFD, the plan would consolidate forces and jointly purchase land on the Lafayette-Orinda border to build and staff a new station. The feasibility study estimates that over a projected time frame of 30 years savings could amount to \$60 million.

The impetus for the consolidation proposal came about when ConFire closed stations in Lafayette, Walnut Creek and Martinez due to budget cuts. Lack of funds to address a rodent infestation and plumbing problems at Lafayette Fire Station 16 on Los Arabis Drive forced that station to close. Firefighters from Station 16 were

[SEE TRI-CITY page 24]

IN THIS ISSUE	
News	
CERT	5
Police	5
Around Town	
Local Businesses	6,7, 26
Local Organizations	10, 11, 25
Local Residents	11, 19
Orinda Action Day	4
Performing/Visual Arts	2, 23
Schools/Students	9, 19 - 21
Summer Camp Directory	13-18
Between the Lines	8
Business Buzz	28
Calendar	25
Car Time	7
Classified	24
Editorial	4
Everyday Changes	10
Orinda Association	3
Reel Less Traveled	22
Something to Howl About	12

ECRWS  
Permit No. 4  
Orinda, CA  
**PAID**  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PRSRT STD

Postal Customer

PLUMBING

HEAT & A/C

State License #629538

1-800-908-3888

DiscoverCabrillo.com

STUDENT ART EXHIBITS

Winners of 2013 Visual Arts Competition

By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

At the Orinda Arts Council's 10th Annual Visual Arts Competition, over 200 entries were received from students of the following visual arts teachers: Susan McCauley and Robert Porter of Acalanes High School; Sallie Bryan, Aram Muksian and Meredith Steele of Bentley School; Molly Kars and Colette Sweeney of Campolindo High School; Deborah Hovey-Lacour and Gavin Kermode of Miramonte High School; and Noel Williams of the Orinda Academy. Their talent as educators is highly valued; the encouragement and guidance they offer our area youth is inestimable.

The OAC wishes to thank the VAC judges whose thoughtful deliberation contributes to the ongoing success of this regional high school program. Judges of 2-D art: Hilary Mills Lambert of Orinda (millsgallery.com); Teresa Onoda of Moraga (onodaart.com) and Maria Santo-Stefano of Orinda. Judges of 3-D art: Doug Heine of Berkeley (www.artgallery13.net), Jack da Silva of Evergreen Valley College and Ann Testa of Orinda (www.anntesta.com). Photography judges: Elisa Cicinelli (cicinellistock.com), Tiffany Fong (tiffanyfongphotography.com) and Tony Vecchio (etsy.com/shop/WabiSabiDaddi).

Those who attended the artists' reception and awards ceremony on Wednesday, March 6, from 4 to 6 p.m. enjoyed light

refreshments while perusing the art of local teenagers and enjoying musical entertainment by Acalanes musicians.

OAC members who worked for months before, during and after the VAC include: Natalie Wheeler, VAC Chair; Susan Garell, School/Media Publicity; Susan Mautner, Judges Coordination; Maggie Boscoe, Myrna Witt, Susan Mautner and Natalie Wheeler, Artwork and Gallery Coordination; Gwen McNeilus and Steve Harwood, sound. Joan Kiekhaefer and Yosh Neugebauer of the Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO) assisted with the reception as well as Juleen Lapporte of Lafayette Partners in Education (LPIE), and Kim Matranga of the Moraga Education Foundation (MEF). The OAC has a long and proud history of supporting the arts in Lamorinda. Go to [www.orindaartscouncil.org](http://www.orindaartscouncil.org) for more information, or to become involved.

Winners and Honorable Mentions

2-D Art

1st Place \$300, Olivia Barnum, 12th grade, Bentley School, *Girl on Fire*;  
2nd Place \$200, Caitlyn Sit, 12th grade, Campolindo High School, *Violin with Candles and Sunflowers*;  
3rd Place \$100, Colette Walker, 12th grade, Campolindo High School, *Boots, Boots, Boots*;  
Honorable Mention \$25, Bryce Bixler, 10th grade, Acalanes High School, *Intriguing*;  
Honorable Mention \$25, Sita Lujintanon, 10th grade, Bentley School, *Untitled*;



On the left, (L-R) Miramonte's **Albert Maio** won 2nd place in 3-D art for *Sharkring*, Miramonte's **Cari Carter** won 1st place for her 3D artwork *Tangled*, and Campolindo's **Caitlyn Sit** took 2nd place for her 2-D piece entitled *Violin with Candles and Sunflowers*. Acalanes' **Maddie Wheeler** received Honorable Mention for her 3D work, *Octelephant*.

Honorable Mention \$25, Izzy Parkinson-Morgan, 11th grade, Acalanes High School, *The Morrighan*;  
Honorable Mention \$25, Amy Hollishwandner, 12th grade, Acalanes High School, *Giraffe*.

3-D Art

1st Place \$300, Cari Carter, 11th grade, Miramonte High School, *Tangled*;  
2nd Place \$200, Albert Maio, 12th grade, Miramonte High School, *Sharkring*;  
3rd Place \$100, Katrina Salinas, 11th grade,



Acalanes High School, *Nidhi*;  
Honorable Mention \$25, Marie-Claire Schillinger, 10th grade, Miramonte High School, *Voyage*;  
Honorable Mention \$25, Maddie Wheeler, 10th grade, Acalanes High School, *Octelephant*;  
Honorable Mention \$25, Lauren Gray, 10th grade, Bentley School, *Evolution of Music*.

Photography

1st Place \$300 Gavin Thatcher, 10th grade, [SEE WINNERS page 20]

Young Artists Honored as Art Ambassadors

By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

The Orinda Library Gallery is proud to present a collection of student artwork comprised of at least one piece from every art studio (grades 1-8) in the Orinda Unified School District (OUSD) from March 29 to April 30. This year the annual exhibit also includes artwork from Orinda Intermediate School's (OIS) advanced woodworking classes and computer graphics class.

The Orinda Arts Council (OAC) and the Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO) invite the public to join the teachers and students, their families and friends at the artist reception and award ceremony on April 17, from 4 to 6 p.m., where light refreshments will be served. As people make their way to the Gallery, they will be ushered in by the melodic tones of OIS jazz musicians under the guidance of Mr. Maz (also known as Greg Mazmanian). Once inside, instrumental music under the leadership of David Uyeno, who teaches music to the fourth and fifth grade students at the four elementary schools, will add to the appreciation of the over 200 artworks that dance with color and movement throughout the gallery. To crown the afternoon entertainment, music



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Students at *Sleepy Hollow* work on art projects that may be part of the Orinda Library Gallery's April exhibit.

and theater teacher Christina Martin will feature students performing a scene from her Bulldog Theater production of *Once on This Island*.

The OAC gives a special thanks to OIS Visual Art Teacher Susan Weiss, and Linda Kam from Wagner Ranch School, Susan Zib from Glorietta School and Sleepy Hollow, Hillery Paterson from Del Rey and Sleepy Hollow School, Ted Harwood, woodworking instructor at OIS, and Leslie Millstone, computer graphics instructor at OIS, for all their work. The unjuried exhibit is now in its 7th year and is intended to provide the public with an overview of the OUSD Visual Arts program and to promote [SEE AMBASSADOR page 22]

# Orinda Florist

Local Boutique Flower Shop

99 Brookwood Rd #2  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-255-5353  
[www.OrindaFloristCa.com](http://www.OrindaFloristCa.com)

**Sustainable Florist is Open in Orinda**

Shining through tears, like April  
suns in showers, diamonds bring  
brilliance to those they adorn.

# Morrison's

JEWELERS

An East Bay Tradition for Four Generations

35 MORAGA WAY, ORINDA • ACROSS FROM THEATRE SQUARE • (925) 253-9227

OPEN 10:00-5:30 TUE-FRI, 10:00-5:00 SAT

garden**nest**  
RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE DESIGN

925-922-0322  
[www.gardennest.com](http://www.gardennest.com)

APLD member, Certified Designer

ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President

Orinda Action Day – A Fun & Easy Way To Give

Back

Bill Waterman



In line with the Orinda Association's mission to promote volunteerism and enhance the beauty of Orinda, I am asking any interested Orindans to please come out on Saturday, April 20, to **Orinda Action Day**, which is sponsored by the Orinda Community Foundation. The event starts at 9 a.m. and runs to noon centered at the Orinda Library Plaza. There are some 10 projects that either individuals or families can sign up for – ranging from sprucing up the grounds around the Community Center to cleaning up the streets in both the Village and the Theater side of town. You don't have to sign up in advance if you aren't sure what project to work on – simply come to the event at the Library Plaza at 9 a.m. for free coffee and bagels. To sign up in advance for one of these projects, go to the Orinda Association's website

([www.orindaassociation.org](http://www.orindaassociation.org)), and see our "Volunteering" page, or go to the Orinda Community Foundation's page for more details ([www.orindaassociation.org](http://www.orindaassociation.org)). By just donating a few hours of your precious weekend time, you can really make a difference in the appearance of Orinda and get the extra benefit of knowing you "made a difference" too. This is a nice way for all of us to enjoy building up our community spirit as well. If you haven't participated before, then now is your chance.

Also, in the spirit of developing closer ties with our friends in Lafayette and Moraga, mark down on your calendar Saturday, May 11, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., which is the **Moraga Community Faire**, sponsored and organized by the Moraga Chamber of Commerce. There will be food booths, wine tasting from local vineyards, a car show and kids' activities. The event takes place in the Rheem Valley Shopping Center. For more information, check out the Moraga Chamber's web page ([www.moragachamber.org](http://www.moragachamber.org)). I know you may ask, why should Orindans support events in either Moraga or Lafayette? The reason is simple: Orindans' support of Moraga businesses such as the Rheem Theater gives dividends to Orinda too, as our Orinda Theater is jointly managed with the Rheem Theater, doubling the viewing options for us. And Moraga has some interesting restaurants and businesses that deserve our patronage as well. While we here in Orinda should "Shop Orinda First," we can and should also consider patronizing deserving businesses in Lamorinda as well! By doing so, we will encourage our friends to come to Orinda.

Please enjoy these two spring events here in Lamorinda!



**Young volunteers** at last year's Orinda Action Day plant new shrubs in the garden in front of the Orinda Community Center.

Volunteer Driver Helps Orinda Association Seniors Around Town

By DAVID DIERKS  
Assistant Editor

Mary DeLuna has been a volunteer with Seniors Around Town (SAT) for the past few months. An Orinda Association (OA) sponsored program begun in 2005, SAT offers alternative transportation to Orinda seniors who cannot drive themselves. DeLuna said, "I walked by the OA office one day and saw their sign asking for volunteers and thought that's something I can do." SAT is the only program of its kind in Contra Costa County that offers no cost, door-to-door service to all Orinda seniors. "If they have an appointment, we take them and bring them back. It's really simple," added DeLuna.

The senior ride service runs Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registered seniors can make reservations with SAT 48 hours in advance. SAT will then contact a driver and put them in direct contact with the rider. DeLuna said, "They're always really appreciative that someone has taken the time. You meet really fun people and hear all kinds of interesting life stories. I enjoy getting to know and talking to people and finding out what their lives have been like."

Volunteer drivers set their own hours and how far they are willing to drive. "Some weeks I don't take any, and some weeks I take one or two people. Some of them live in their own homes and some are from the Senior Village. It's usually really quick," DeLuna said.

DeLuna added, "My step-dad has macular degeneration. He lives in another state. There's a gentleman who drives him where he needs to go, so I thought this is a way to pay back something. We're all going to be there. We're all going to be needing each other."

For more information, visit [www.orindaassociation.org/serniorsaroundtown.htm](http://www.orindaassociation.org/serniorsaroundtown.htm).



**Mary DeLuna** volunteers as a driver for the Orinda Association's Seniors Around Town program.



presenting

- Regular & Chicago style pizza
- Fresh, high quality ingredients
- Gourmet specialties
- Pizza by the slice at lunch
- Salads
- Fast, free, on time delivery for lunch, dinner, parties and special events

1 Camino Sobrante, Suite 4

254-2800

Open 7 days 11-10 p.m. Monday - Saturday  
11-9 p.m. Sunday

The Orinda Association

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

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

P.O. Box 97  
26 Orinda Way (Lower Level Library)  
Orinda, California 94563  
Phone: 254-0800 Fax: 254-8312  
[www.orindaassociation.org](http://www.orindaassociation.org)

**OFFICERS**  
President  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Membership

Bill Waterman  
Stephen Stahle  
Alison Dew  
Jim Luini

**BOARD MEMBERS**  
Joe Haughin  
Chris Laszcz-Davis  
Cindy Powell  
Isabella Barbels



Excellent Care  
AT HOME

Heartfelt & Supportive  
Care  
At All Times...

3645 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite D Lafayette  
(beside Trader Joe's)  
[www.excellentcareathome.com](http://www.excellentcareathome.com)



Our mission is to provide personalized care, help maintain independence and enhance our client's quality of life on a daily basis.

- Fully bonded and insured
- Geriatric care management
- Hourly care
- Live-in care
- Transportation to and from medical appointments
- Medication reminders

Call to schedule a free assessment and plan care review. 925-284-1213

Pay It Forward

Seniors Around Town (SAT), is now actively seeking volunteer drivers, using your own vehicle, to take Orinda seniors to doctor's appointments or errands. You determine which days, times, locations and how often you drive.

Last year our Orinda volunteers provided over 570 rides to Orinda seniors, providing the kind of extra support our seniors need to remain independent in their home. This program provides an invaluable service to our senior residents.

To volunteer, you must be an Orinda resident and 25 years of age or older. Stop by our office today, at the Orinda library plaza, across from the elevator, or call us at 925-402-4506 to learn more about how you can volunteer, and pay it forward!



Laura Abrams  
Residential Real Estate

We are currently experiencing the resurgence of the sellers market for residential real estate in Lamorinda.

Buyers are energized by low interest rates and a dwindling inventory of available properties.

This is an excellent time to sell.

253-4611

[www.lauraabrams.com](http://www.lauraabrams.com) [laura@lauraabrams.com](mailto:laura@lauraabrams.com)



Laura Abrams, M.B.A.  
Residential Sales Associate  
DRE#01272382



EDITORIAL

MOFD Looking to Join Forces with Con-Fire on New Station

The Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) is once again looking into purchasing land. But this time, it would be for a joint fire station with ConFire on the Orinda/Lafayette border rather than a large office building in Moraga. When the MOFD attempted to purchase the office building, the public outrage forced the board to reconsider and withdraw its bid on the property, losing the \$25,000 deposit in the process. Now, MOFD is negotiating with the Lafayette property owner where

the proposed new station will be built. They have until March 28 (after our press deadline) to submit a nonrefundable \$15,000 deposit. While there are many pluses for Orinda residents and MOFD, there is also much to be considered. Hopefully, the various public meetings scheduled will give both MOFD and ConFire a sense of what the public wants before another chunk of money goes down the drain.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor

Sunday Morning Excitement

One Sunday morning in January, I walked out our front door headed for the car in our driveway. Glancing down our driveway, I spied a big black SUV idling with its driver’s side window right in front of our mailbox. The mailbox was open, and as I watched, the driver scooped out our mail, I barked a sharp, “Hey.” The driver looked up at me and punched the gas pedal. I ran down the driveway to try to catch a glimpse of the license plate but came up short. Undeterred, I ran into the house to dial 911 and relay to the dispatcher my observations.

The vehicle was a late model SUV and the driver was a Caucasian male with black hair and a dark jacket. The vehicle turned east on Glorietta Blvd. I gave the dispatcher my name and contact information. Three minutes later, the Orinda Police called and asked me if I would be available to make a visual identification of the driver. The SUV was pulled over at the foot of Acalanes on the onramp to Hwy 24 East. To my chagrin, the driver was female, but she had black hair and a dark jacket. She

also had a truck full of mail including mine and my neighbors.

Just about all the mail taken was junk mail except for one piece, a small personal form from the Franchise Tax Board that noted our state refund for 2011 with my full name and social security number printed on it. The shock of this got me wondering if the thief might have known when FTB tax forms were being mailed. It also made me realize that Sunday mornings are great times to steal mail because residents often leave town for the weekend with the mail delivered on Saturday uncollected in mailboxes. I don’t know if there is any truth to the rumor that a valid name with social security number can fetch \$1000 on the black market for stolen IDs. What I do know is that the cost of losing my own ID would have been far higher in so many ways.

If you see a stranger digging into one of your neighbor’s mailboxes, and they are not wearing a postal worker uniform, take detailed notes and call 911. You might be pleasantly surprised at how fast and effective our local law enforcement can be.

– Tim O’Brien

Orinda Action Community Service Day Is April 20



SALLY HOGARTY

Volunteers get busy cleaning up along Moraga Way at last year’s Orinda Action Day.

By DAVID DIERKS  
Assistant Editor

On April 20, the Orinda Community Foundation, in partnership with the City of Orinda, will hold the fifth annual Orinda Action Community Service Day. The event runs from 9 a.m. to noon. This event strives to bring the community together in a family friendly environment to help clean up and beautify the City of Orinda. Middle school and high school students can earn community service credits by volunteering.

This year’s categories include Crossroads clean up, South BART to Theatre Square, North BART to Theatre Square, Orinda Way Shell Station to Library, Orinda Way Firehouse to bridge, Village Grove Park, Camino Pablo clean up, St. Stephen’s Trail,



List of *The Orinda News* Advertisers

	Page		Page
<b>Automotive</b>		NorCalKids	16
Orinda Motors	7	STAND! For Families Free of Violence	5
Orinda Shell	16	<b>Pet Service</b>	
<b>Beauty and Fitness</b>		Animal House Pet Sitting	12
Changes Salon & Day Spa	28	I Talk Dog	22
Full Life Fitness	8	Theatre View Veterinary Clinic	12
Living Lean Exercise & Eating Program	17	<b>Professional Services</b>	
Yoga with Jeanne Dowell	20	BET Limousine Service	10
<b>Cleaning Services</b>		Cruise Adventures Unlimited	15
Total Clean	5, 18	<b>Real Estate</b>	
<b>Construction and Trades</b>		Better Homes & Gardens	
Cabrillo Plumbing, Heat and A/C	1	Lisa Shaffer	6
David Collins Painting	15	Caldecott Properties	
Ironwood Engineering	19	Mario Feusier	14
T&T Painting	5, 14	Coldwell Banker	
Tom Romanek Painting	28	Laura Abrams	3
<b>Dental</b>		Shellie Kirby	8
Bailey Orthodontics	27	Maureen Wilbur	27
Dr. Mary Smith DDS	14	Frank Woodward	12
<b>Educational/Camp</b>		Pacific Union	
Holden High School	18	Virginia and Paul Ratto	22
Moraga Valley Swim & Tennis Club	13	Leila Schlein	20
Oakland Strokes	14	Village Associates	
Oak Springs Pool	19	April Matthews	23
Orinda Ballet Academy & Company	10, 15	Ann Sharf	18
Orinda Academy	15	Clark Thompson	11
Roughing It Day Camp	11	<b>Restaurants/Catering</b>	
Saklan School	17	Baan Thai	6
Sherman Swim School	13	Barbacoa	26
St. Stephens Preschool		Casa Orinda	6
<b>Financial and Insurance Services</b>		La Mediteranee	20
Breedlove Insurance Services	15	Lava Pit	5
RPM Mortgage	23	Loard’s Ice Cream and Candy	21
StoneCastle Land and Home Financial	12	Siam Orchid	8
<b>Garden/Landscaping</b>		Szechwan Restaurant	19
Blue Ridge Landscaping	13	Theatre Square	28
Expert Tree Service	9	Village Inn Cafe	13
Garden Lights	17	Zamboni’s Pizza	3
Garden Nest Residential Landscape Design	2	<b>Retail Stores</b>	
K.B. Kolman Landscaping	5	Farmer’s Market	12
McDonnell Nursery	21	Morrison’s Jewelers	2
<b>Medical</b>		Orinda Books	8
Dr. Brian Clark	16	Orinda Florist	2
Dr. Kristin Walker	26	Theatre Square	28
Elizabeth Rae Walker, MA, MBA, MFT	26	<b>Senior Services</b>	
Medicine Shoppe	23	Care Indeed	27
<b>Nonprofit Organizations</b>		Excellent Care at Home	3
Orinda Association	3		

and Creek Restoration projects. Tasks will include picking up litter, weeding and raking, painting, covering up graffiti, bagging trash, and bringing it back to the library. Disposable gloves will be provided for everyone who volunteers to help.

Check in starts at 9 a.m. at the Orinda

Library Plaza the day of the event. The first 300 people who arrive will get a free T-shirt. Return to the library plaza after your project completion (between 11:30 and noon) for pizza and celebration.

For more information and to volunteer, visit [www.orindafoundation.org](http://www.orindafoundation.org).

*The Orinda News* prints 9,000 copies and is published 12 times a year by The Orinda Association. The office is located at 26 Orinda Way (lower level of the Library). All rights reserved. The publication is sent out by direct mail (Permit #4, Orinda Post Office) and distributed to key locations throughout the city.

Editor..... Sally Hogarty  
Assistant Editor..... David Dierks  
Advertising Representatives..... Jill Gelster, Elana O’Loskey  
Editorial Committee..... Mark Roberts, Jill Gelster, Sally Hogarty, Jim Luini, Elana O’Loskey, Kate Wiley  
Staff Writers ..... Jennifer Conroy, Bobbie Dodson, Valerie Hotz, Jeanette Irving, Charlie Jarrett, Kathryn McCarty, Marian Nielsen, Bill O’Brien, Elana O’Loskey, Maggie Sharpe, John Vanek, Bill Waterman, Bonnie Waters, Tom Westlake  
Contributing Writer..... Winnie Abenoja, Christianne Bua-Giles, Mary Friese, Bill Hudson, Julie McCormack, Leslie O’Brien, Pat Rudebusch  
Graphics ..... Aspen Consulting: Jill Gelster & David Dierks  
Printing..... Folger Graphics

The Orinda News

A Publication of  
The Orinda Association  
Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 97  
Orinda, California 94563  
Telephone: 925 254-0800  
Fax: 925 254-8312

[www.orindanews.org](http://www.orindanews.org)



The OA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Opinions of *The Orinda News* are expressed on the editorial page. Views of writers and letters to the editor are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Orinda Association or of *The Orinda News*. Advertisements appearing in *The Orinda News* are not to be construed as endorsements by The Orinda Association or *The Orinda News*.

Letters to the Editor are printed on a space-available basis and should be no longer than 400 words. They must include the writer’s first and last name, signature and telephone number.

Send letters to: Editor, *The Orinda News*, P.O. Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563, fax them to 254-8312, or email to [news@orindaassociation.org](mailto:news@orindaassociation.org). Letters to the Editor for the May issue are due April 5, 2013.

For display advertising rates, call Jill Gelster at 925-528-9225 or email to [jill@aspenconsult.net](mailto:jill@aspenconsult.net). The deadline for the June issue is May 1, 2013.

CERT / POLICE

CERT Holds Monthly Continuing Education Classes

By CHARLIE JARRETT  
Staff Writer

The Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) under the direction of program manager Duncan Seibert holds monthly continuing education classes to provide for more depth of understanding in handling emergency events. On the evening of March 11, Lamorinda CERT invited guest speaker, Lafayette Police Chief Eric Christensen, to anchor the informative and educational meeting in the Garden Room of the Orinda Library. The meeting focused on formulating well-defined and managed Incident Command procedures in case of



CHARLIE JARRETT  
Lafayette Police Chief Eric Christensen gives his personal insight into managing a crisis.

national and/or local disasters. Police Chief Christensen explained that police and fire responders respect and work well with each other, even though at times, the purpose of these emergency responders may seem at cross purposes. As an example, the Chief drew from his personal knowledge of incidents that have actually happened right in our nearby communities, such as the Walnut Creek gas explosion on November 9 that killed five men and injured four others. He used this to demonstrate the importance of a well-coordinated and well managed emergency response. More specifically, he pointed to extreme situations in which the lack of communication between the police and fire fighters had caused unnecessary loss of life, such as the tragic World Trade Center disaster on September 11, 2001. Case in point, during the rush to

search and rescue and contain the event, the fire department and police contingents did not communicate their plans to each other. At one point, as firemen were told to abandon their rescue activities in one building and to evacuate based on information they had received, the police department was at the same time sending men up into that very same building, passing the evacuating firemen who did not warn the policemen that they had been told to evacuate, resulting in many policemen rushing into the structure to their death. The lack of a primary command organization resulted in a much greater loss of life. Christensen pointed out that in studying the mistakes made in that terrible disaster, new laws have since been passed requiring that an Incident Command Structure be set up by the local police. The incident control commander in charge then:

1. Sizes up the incident and identifies the contingencies, determining the type of emergency, the location, the type of structure and/or the number of vehicles involved;
2. Determines response objectives including how many officers need to be called initially, where the field command post will be located and the access points for emergency vehicles;
3. Identifies needed resources, what types of emergency vehicles or equipment will be required, the number and type of responders that will be needed and makes an initial determination as to the number of casualties;
4. Builds a plan and organizational structure to accomplish these ends; and
5. Takes action, and the responsibility and total accountability for the actions taken.

Chief Christensen emphasized the importance of CERT trained volunteers in this process and how much better our local communities are prepared today than ever before. He encouraged more residents to get involved in this program. Carol Yates, community liaison for former Contra Costa Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema, commented that Chief Christensen was one of the most powerful and exciting speakers she has ever encountered at a meeting of this kind. For more information, go to [www.lam-orindacert.org](http://www.lam-orindacert.org).



POLICE BLOTTER

February 2013

**False Residential Alarms:** Officers responded to 103 false alarm calls throughout the city.  
**Burglary – Commercial:** 2 incidents on Camino Sobrante and Orinda Way.  
**Burglary – Residential:** 10 incidents on Zander Dr., Moraga Way, St. Stephens Dr., Altamont Dr., Crest View Dr., Overhill Rd., Las Vegas Rd., Moraga Way, E. Altarinda Dr., and Fiesta Dr.  
**Vandalism–Felony:** 1 incident on Bryant Way.

**Arrests**  
**Burglary - Commercial:** 1 incident at Camino Sobrante.

**Driving Under the Influence:** 1 incident on Hwy 24 WB/St. Stephens Dr.  
**Drunk in Public:** 2 incidents at Brookwood Rd. and Moraga Way.  
**Fraud:** 1 arrest at Monte Vista Rd.  
**Warrant Arrest:** 2 arrests on Martha Rd. and Sunnyside Ln./Sunnyside Ct.

**Orinda BART Station**  
**Grand Theft:** 1 incident.  
**Theft from Motor Vehicle:** 2 incidents.

– Compiled by Jeanette Irving,  
Orinda Police Department

Fix-it Tickets in the Lamorinda Area Have a Few Hidden Costs

By DAVID DIERKS  
Assistant Editor

“I got a ticket the other day for my back brake light not working,” said Orinda resident Ksenija Soster Olmer. “I got my light fixed the next day and went to the Orinda Police Department where I was surprised to find they wanted me to pay \$10 for the signature.” A Fix-it ticket is a citation issued by a police officer that references a mechanical problem with your vehicle. Once the problem is fixed, the citation and vehicle must be taken to a police station so that a police officer can confirm that the correction has been made. The police officer will sign the Certificate of Correction on the ticket and then the citation must be returned to the court with any fees noted on the citation before the deadline. The court will then dismiss the citation, and your driver’s record will not be affected. The Orinda Police Department charges \$10 to sign off on a fix-it ticket. Orinda Police Chief Jeffrey Jennings said, “We started charging last year because we were one of the few agencies that did not charge, and we were getting people from all around requesting sign-offs.” Moraga Police Chief Robert Priebe said, “Moraga citizens are no charge. All others are \$26.” Lafayette Police Chief Eric Christensen said, “We do not charge a fee for clearing a fix-it (correctable) citation. But, we generally only

sign those citations issued by our agency.” Olmer added, “The Lafayette chief was very helpful and signed my ticket even though it was not issued by his department. The clerk at the Walnut Creek court told me that the signature can be obtained for free and that their court officer was happy to step out, check the light, and sign the ticket for proof of correction.” For more information, visit <http://cc-courthelp.org/index.cfm?nodeid=45> and click on “Having broken equipment that you need to fix.”

Danny Scheie MC for Fundraiser



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
On April 20, Berkeley Repertory hosts “Ovation,” the company’s annual fundraising gala at the Four Seasons in San Francisco. This year, well-known actor **Danny Scheie** is master of ceremonies. Call 510-647-2909 or go to [www.berkeleyrep.org/ovation](http://www.berkeleyrep.org/ovation) for more information.

**LAVAPIT**  
DINE-IN / TAKE-OUT / CATERING  
Bring in this coupon for 15% Off Any Entree!  
Sunday-Thursday: 12pm to 8pm; Friday-Saturday: 12pm to 8:30pm  
2 Theater Sq. Ste. 142 Orinda CA 94563 (925) 253-1338 www.LAVAPIT.com  
“Like us” on facebook.com/lavapit “Follow us” on twitter.com/lavapit

**Coupon Clippers**  
✂  
**Shop Locally and Save!**

**k.b.kolman landscape design**  
925.787.3261  
kbkolman@comcast.net  
www.kbkolmanlandscape.com  
sustainable design . installation  
**spring special:**  
**15% off**

**Help STAND! For Families Free of Violence kick off Child Abuse Prevention Month with a week of “Dine & Donate” at various local restaurants.**  
April 1 – Patxi’s, Lafayette (mention STAND!), 10% all day  
April 2 – Barbacoa and Table 24, Orinda (mention STAND!), 10% during dinner  
April 3 – Tomatina, Walnut Creek (present flier), 15% all day  
April 4 – Rocco’s Pizzeria, Walnut Creek, 25% all day  
April 6 – Mountain Mike’s, 5358 Clayton Rd. Clayton (mention STAND!), 30% all day  
April 9 – Zachary’s Pizza, San Ramon (present flier), 15% all day

**T & T PAINTING**  
LICENSED CONTRACTORS  
**Steven Thaw**  
**FREE ESTIMATE AND 25% OFF KELLY MOORE PAINT**  
30 WOODSIDE DR. - MORAGA, CA 94556  
STEVEN\_THAW@YAHOO.COM  
**(925) 376-3380**  
CA. Lic. 616357

**Get 10% Off Initial Clean.**  
**Total Clean 376-1004**  
For your home.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION / TEAM EDUCATION



LARKIN SMALL

World Tai Chi Day  
April 27  
Orinda Library Plaza

In honor of World Tai Chi Day, local instructor **Marilyn Cooper** will offer a free class on April 27 at 10 a.m. in the Orinda Library Plaza.  
Go to [www.littleriverkf.com/workshops](http://www.littleriverkf.com/workshops) for more information.

Progressive Approach to Teen Sexuality

By **LESLIE DARWIN O'BRIEN**  
Contributing Writer

Imagine a program in which teens learn about sexual health, self-worth, sexual responsibility, justice and inclusivity. These four values are the foundation of the “Our Whole Lives Sexuality” education that trained facilitators from Orinda Community Church will be offering to teens this spring. Our Whole Lives (OWL for short) is a progressive approach to sexuality education that deals with the totality of sexuality in an age-appropriate manner. Classes will be offered April 9, April 16, April 23 and April 30.

After his child participated last year, a Lamorinda dad shared, “Thank you so much for making it easier to start the con-

versation with our daughter.”  
OWL helps youth who participate make informed and responsible decisions about their relationships, health and behavior. It provides facts and helps participants clarify their values, build interpersonal skills and understand the social, emotional, and spiritual aspects of sexuality.  
Orinda Community Church encourages participation from all faiths. Last year, the group included youth from Catholic, Muslim, and Congregationalist faiths as well as those embracing atheism and agnosticism.  
If you are interested in finding out more information about the spring program, email Leslie Darwin O’Brien, Director of Community Life, Orinda Community Church at [ldarwinobrien@yahoo.com](mailto:ldarwinobrien@yahoo.com) and reference OWL in the memo section.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month: Support STAND! By Dining Out

By **ELANA O'LOSKEY**  
Staff Writer

Everyone can play a part in promoting the social, emotional and physical well being of children and families in our community. STAND! For Families Free of Violence invites the Contra Costa community and beyond to come together to support Child Abuse Prevention Month by participating in their “Dine and Donate Fundraising Program.”  
Participating restaurants include: Table 24 and Barbacoa in Orinda (April 2); Tomatina (April 3) and Rocco’s Ristorante & Pizzeria (April 4) in Walnut Creek; Patxi’s Chicago Pizza in Lafayette (April 1); Zachery’s Pizza in San Ramon (April 9); and Mountain Mike’s Pizza in Concord (April 6). Each restaurant has pledged to donate a portion of their proceeds on the dates specified towards STAND!’s work with children and families. See their coupon on page 5. Other crowd sourced funding activities include benefit concerts, wine tastings, bike-a-thons and many more.  
Gloria J. Sandoval has been the CEO at STAND! for 16 years and is a recognized leader in the domestic violence movement. She was recently awarded the prestigious Congressional Victim’s Rights Caucus Lois Haight Award of Excellence and Innovation. STAND! is the only comprehensive family violence reduction agency in Contra Costa County and assists more than 12,000 clients annually. They provide a wide array of services to end the cycle of violence and child abuse and are committed to promoting

safe and strong families. Their approach is well-rounded and community-wide because it provides a complete spectrum of prevention, intervention and treatment programs. They also enlist the efforts of local residents, partners and institutions, all striving for the same goal: to stop domestic violence and child abuse.  
According to kidsdata.org, a program of the Lucille Packard Foundation for Children’s Health, 2011 statistics for Contra Costa County are:  
1,370 confirmed cases of child abuse or neglect; 47 percent were 5 years old or younger;  
978 children in foster care;  
61,794 children, or 37.7 percent were eligible for free or reduced-price school meals;  
743 births to teenage mothers.  
**Statistics supplied by STAND! include:**  
Women and children sheltered 243;  
Crisis line calls answered 15,495;  
In-person services provided 16,899;  
Clinical counseling for adults and children 252;  
27 percent increase in temporary restraining order (TRO) assistance;  
25 percent increase in clients seeking services through community based liaisons;  
95 percent increase in clients receiving vocational services.  
To get involved with STAND! or host your own fundraising event, visit [www.standffov.org](http://www.standffov.org) or contact Katie Owensby at 925-603-0120, email [katieo@standffov.org](mailto:katieo@standffov.org).



**Today's Real Estate Market has Many Buyers and Few Sellers.**

If you are thinking of selling your home, give Lisa a call today to find out what it takes to get your home sold for the best price, in the shortest amount of time.

**Lisa Shaffer**  
Realtor®

(925) 528-9278  
[Lisa@LisaShaffer.com](mailto:Lisa@LisaShaffer.com)  
[www.LisaShaffer.com](http://www.LisaShaffer.com)

**51 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA**



**LUXURY**  
REAL ESTATE

WHO'S WHO IN

**DISTINCTIVE COLLECTION**

**Better Homes**  
REAL ESTATE

MASON-MCDUFFIE

Care Indeed Announces New Care Manager for its Orinda Office

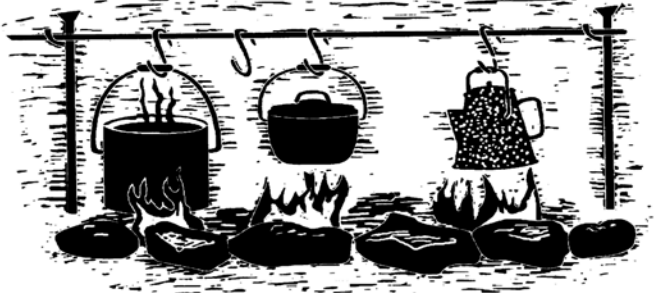
By **WINNIE ABENOJA**  
Contributing Writer

Matthew Sprague will head up Care Indeed’s new Orinda office at 61 Moraga Way, Suite 9, Orinda. Sprague is a Licensed Vocational Nurse with a Master’s Degree in Business Administration. He has worked at the Pacifica Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and volunteers at the VITAS Innovative Hospice Care and San Francisco General Hospital. A recipient of the Clinical Excellence Award for Patient Care, he brings with him an experience of working with resources in the community.  
“Matthew has a valuable network of contacts and has proven his ability to lead companies in achieving unprecedented growth,” said Care Indeed CEO Dee Bustos. “He is highly trained and experienced



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**Matthew Sprague** is the new manager of Care Indeed, now with offices in Orinda.



**CASA ORINDA**  
RESTAURANT

Dinner served nightly from 4 p.m.

925.254.2981 ■ 20 Bryant Way ■ Orinda, CA 94563



**Baan Thai RESTAURANT**  
Eat Healthy, Live Healthy

ORGANIC SALADS MADE FRESH DAILY.  
MANY VEGETARIAN OPTIONS.  
WE COOK FROM FAMILY RECIPES.

FOOD TO GO, CATERING & GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE

Open for Lunch:  
Mon. - Sun. 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Dinner: Sun. - Thurs. 4:30 - 9:30 p.m.  
Fri.-Sat.: 4:30 - 10:00 p.m.  
99 Orinda Way, Orinda  
(925) 253-0989



CAR TIME / CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# CAR TIME

Understanding The Cost of Auto Repair

by JOHN VANEK



Just like everything else, it seems like the cost of auto repair is higher than it used to be. Of course, today's vehicles are more complex than they used to be, requiring additional training and more sophisticated equipment.

It is very frustrating when your vehicle develops a problem that you are not ready for. What is first thing that comes to mind? How much is this going to cost now? Well, that is a good question. Usually, the answer can only be found after it is properly checked out. Many motorists are surprised that there is a fee to check out a problem on a vehicle. In some cases, it may be obvious what your car needs. What if it isn't obvious? How does that work?

When a vehicle has some kind of problem there are two steps to fixing it. First, it must be properly diagnosed to determine the required repair to solve the problem. In most cases, there is a component that needs to be replaced. The second step is to make the repair based on the results of the diagnosis. The diagnosis takes time. It also requires a trained technician and specialized equipment. A quality tech that has the skills and credentials is the highest paid in the auto service industry. These top techs need to be paid for their time. The proper equipment is also expensive. Specific diagnostic scan tool equipment will range from \$5,000 to \$30,000. The software will need to be updated every few years for the sum of hundreds of dollars. The cost of this equipment also has to be paid for somehow. The diagnosis is crucial to a proper repair.

If incorrectly diagnosed, you stand a chance at replacing a perfectly good part.

Motorists will often call around to different repair facilities to try to find out what the cause and cost of the ailment is before actually having it checked out desperate to know how much it will cost. The problem is that some shops will throw out ideas and prices, putting a price in the head of the consumer. Tow truck drivers will also throw out ideas that will put ideas in your head. Once again, they are only guessing. By the way, tow truck drivers are not trained to diagnose, they are trained to tow cars. This is dangerous because anyone that has not actually checked out the vehicle is only guessing. They may happen to guess correctly, but this is not the way to solve a problem. You need an answer that fixes the problem so it will stay fixed, not always an easy task.

Another scenario is when consumers price shop for the lowest diagnosis fee. This is also a risky proposition. What do you know about this shop? What are their credentials? The best way to deal with car problems is to have one car care facility that you can trust for your emergency failures and maintenance. A trustworthy shop will charge fairly for diagnosis. The other way to attempt to avoid this whole issue is by making an effort to prevent problems in the first place. You do this by maintaining the vehicle properly and being a smart operator. You do this by paying attention to what is going on and taking it in at the first sign of problems. Don't keep driving it when

## Chamber of Commerce Welcomes New Members



DAVID DIERKS

Celebrating over 40 years of innovative education, **Holden High School**, located at 10 Irwin Way in Orinda, officially joined the Orinda Chamber of Commerce in March. First row (L-R) **Kate Knox**, Holden Co-Director, **Casey McCarroll**, Holden Transition Counselor, Chamber President **Sylvia Jorgensen**, **Kristin Lamoureux**, Holden Co-Director and **Abby Tuttle**, Holden Co-Director. Second row (L-R) **Jennifer Polse Payne**, Holden Clinical Co-Director, **Re-nee Beck**, Holden Clinical Co-Director and Chamber Executive Director **Candy Kattenburg**.



DAVID DIERKS

**The Fountainhead Montessori Preschool**, located at 30 Santa Maria Way in Orinda had its ribbon cutting in March as well. (L-R) Chamber members **Candy Kattenburg** (Executive Director) and **David Cronin**, Montessori's **Dr. Santos**, Chamber members **Sylvia Jorgensen** (president) and **Rick Kattenburg**, Montessori's **Shandy Cole**, Chamber member **Susan Martin** and Montessori's **Jatlinder Kaur**.

there is a problem and especially don't keep driving it when there is a warning light – such as the dreaded check engine light. These warning lights are on-board diagnostics alerting you of future failures. These warning lights are not to be ignored. The age of the vehicle, condition and

level of neglect will come into play regarding failures. The bottom line is that it can be costly to check out and repair your vehicle when it breaks. When this happens, make one phone call and put your trust in the one facility that you know will take care of you.



## Do you feel like you are throwing your money away at the dealership service department?

*Tired of paying dealer prices while you are under warranty?  
It is not required to return to the dealer for servicing.  
Tired of leaving messages at the dealer service department?  
We always answer our phone in person during business hours.  
Service contracts always eliminate choice and convenience.  
No dealership offers support to our community like we do.*

**Use a local company that supports our community  
and offers easy, fast service you can trust!**

# Orinda Motors

Is The Ultimate Dealership Alternative!

Make an appointment on-line! [www.orindamotors.com](http://www.orindamotors.com) (925) 254-2012

# Poul Anderson Writing Contest Now Accepting Entries

■ Apply by April 18

By SALLY HOGARTY  
Editor

Open to all students who reside in Orinda or attend school in Orinda, the Poul Anderson Writing Contest is accept-

ing entries through April 18 at noon. The contest is named in honor of the late Poul Anderson, a popular science-fiction writer and Orinda resident.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Orinda Library, the contest categories include: science fiction, essay/memoir, poetry and short story. Students may submit one entry in any of the four categories for a total of not more than three entries.

A panel of Orinda writers and residents will judge entries. This year's judges include authors Ginger Wadsworth and Sally Small as well as Janet Boreta and Marian Nielsen of Orinda Books.

Thanks to the Friends of the Orinda Library, up to four winners will be awarded \$250 each. Entries should be submitted to the following school representatives: Bentley School: Susan Bogas at sbogas@bentleyschool.net; Campolindo: Gwenly Carrel at gcarrel@acalanes.k12.ca.us; College Prep: Kate Kordich at Kate\_Kordich@college-prep.org; Head Royce: Barry Barankin at bbarankin@headroyce.org; Holden High School: Kristin Lamoureux at kristinl@holdenhhigh.org; Miramonte: Eloise Schneider at eschneider@acalanes.k12.ca.us; and Orinda Academy: Katherine Saxby at katherine@orindaacademy.org.

For additional information, go to www.friendsoftheorindalibrary.org or email Julie Rossiter at jjrossiter@me.com.



**SIAM ORCHID**  
Esquisite Thai Cuisine

**Authentic Cuisine  
of Thailand**

- Family Owned
- 3 Generations of Thai cooking experience
- All sauces made fresh
- Full Bar

Lunch: Mon.-Fri. 11-2  
Dinner: Mon.-Sun. 4:30-9:00

23 F Orinda Way, Orinda  
(925) 253-1975

**Shellie Abbes Kirby**  
A Realtor for Lamorinda


Spring brings new life to the area  
and the real estate market.  
Call Shellie!  
Specializing in Lamorinda Real Estate

Office: 925-253-6321  
Cell: 925-872-4257  
email: shellie@shelliekirby.com

**COLDWELL BANKER**



## Full Life Fitness



Personal Trainer: Carol Abernathy  
Contact Info: 925-253-7753  
Email: missabby7@comcast.net

Certifications: American Council on Exercise  
National Academy of Sports Medicine

Full Life Fitness is a one-on-one training studio specializing in functional training for everyday life.


Programs include assistance with improving muscle strength and endurance, posture, core stability, balance, coordination, rehabilitation of joint replacements, reaction time, flexibility and assistance with physical therapy exercises.

The studio is surrounded by gardens and is a quiet and pleasant setting to work on improving your quality of life.

## Between the Lines

### A Very Generous April for the World of Readers!

Marian Nielsen, Orinda Books



Forget about April being the “cruellest month.” At Orinda Books, staffers are jubilant! This spring seems so rich in superb reading choices. Not only are there fine new novels from some of our favorite authors but also a multitude of paperback editions that we can’t wait to recommend to our friends and to book groups.

Among the fine fiction that we’ve had a chance to preview at the bookstore, one of our favorites has been *A Thousand Pardons* by Jonathan Dee, a master at putting contemporary family life on the page. Helen, Ben, and their teen-age daughter Sara, live in the New York suburbs. As the plot develops, a lust-driven and disastrous misstep on Ben’s part destroys their already bedraggled marital relationship. The absorbing story of “what happens next” to all three protagonists is told with riveting intensity by Dee. This novel so far exceeds most of the other “the way we live now” titles in its emotional credibility that it will surely find a wide audience.

Elizabeth Strout, whose books have been praised far and wide (*Olive Kitteridge*, *Amy & Isabelle*), has written a new novel, *The Burgess Boys*. A small town in Maine – familiar Strout territory – is impacted by the return of the Burgess brothers, both now attorneys in New York. They have come back to help their nephew, accused of a hate crime by the local Somali community. Complex family relationships and siblings-at-war make this a resoundingly good read.

These two engrossing novels are among those we have had a chance to read in advance but the biggest spring publishing event (May 21) may be the long-awaited new novel by Khaled Hosseini with the release of *And the Mountains Echoed*. The author of the bestselling *The Kite Runner* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns* says: “My new novel is a multi-generational family story as well, this time revolving around brothers and sisters, and the ways in which they love, wound, betray, honour and sacrifice for each other.” We, as well as all of his admirers, can’t wait!

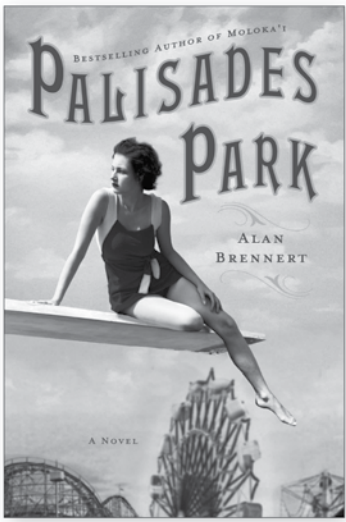
And before we leave the new hardcover department — in a detour from fiction to science — can any reader resist Mary Roach (*Stiff*, *Spook*, *Bonk*, *Packing for Mars*) and her latest exploration of an

aspect of the human condition, *Gulp: Adventures on the Alimentary Canal*. Roach writes: “...while readers may start *Gulp* thinking “yuck,” I hope they end it thinking our guts are somewhat miraculous. For that is what they are.”

While reviewers anxiously await publication of the hardcover editions of new books, many readers, and certainly book groups, are anxious for paperbacks. This spring offers a multitude of choices. Already on our shelves is *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce. This totally different first novel introduces us to Harold, walking the length of England in his yachting shoes to say a last farewell to an old friend. Harold’s journey is one you won’t forget. As blisters were Harold’s unfortunate lot so were they Cheryl Strayed’s, who set out on her own journey, chronicled in *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*, now in paperback. Like Harold, her true-life adventure was one of transformation. She is a generous writer and readers who share her journey are richer for it.

Three of our favorite works of fiction in the past year are making April debuts in paperback. *Beautiful Ruins* by Jess Walter is literary legerdemain as he creates a story that begins in a small Italian seaside town, moves to Rome during the filming of *Cleopatra*, includes an unfinished novel by an alcoholic veteran, adds a brilliant spin on contemporary Hollywood — as well as a cameo appearance by Richard Burton — and leaves the reader gasping with pleasure as Walter weaves together these literary threads. A second favorite now in paperback is Maria Semple’s *Where’d You Go Bernadette?* Contemporary Seattle is skillfully skewered here. A Microsoft project director husband, his MacArthur genius-award-winning architect wife and 8th-grade daughter make up the cast of characters in a tale told in blogs, emails and police reports — a contemporary version of an epistolary novel that is a pleasure to read.


A third favorite — just voted best of the year by one local book group — is *Light Between Oceans* by M. L. Stedman. This beautiful novel (a first from the attorney turned author) will make its paperback [SEE BOOKS page 22]



**PALISADES PARK**  
ALAN BRENNERT  
A NOVEL

*A literate, thoughtful saga. . .  
A pleasure to read.*


—KIRKUS REVIEWS



**ALAN BRENNERT  
WILL BE AT  
ORINDA BOOKS  
THURSDAY,  
APRIL 25 AT 2 PM.**

From the author of the book club phenomenon and national bestseller, *Moloka'i*, comes an irresistible novel about an unforgettable time and place...

**Palisades Park** A Novel by Alan Brennert  
ST. MARTIN'S PRESS \$25.99



## ORINDA BOOKS

276 VILLAGE SQUARE • 925-254-7606

MONDAY-FRIDAY 10-5, SATURDAY 10-4, SUNDAY 11-3 • WWW.ORINDABOOKS.COM

OAK TREES / KITCHEN & GARDEN TOUR

Citizens Needed to Help with Sudden Oak Death Survey

By BILL HUDSON  
Contributing Writer

Sudden Oak Death (SOD) is in Lamorinda. The SOD Blitz is an important annual monitoring campaign conducted by U.C. Berkeley and funded by the U.S. Forest Service. Conditions these last two springs were conducive for spread of the disease after several less favorable years, so this year's tracking is vital.

Volunteers are needed for a few hours on April 27- 28 to learn about Sudden Oak Death and to assist in the survey for infected trees in areas of the volunteer's choice.

Training takes place on Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m.-noon, in the Garden Room of the Orinda Community Library. Learn about SOD, including preventative measures, and how to identify possibly infected trees, from U.C. expert and research scientist Dr. Matteo Garbelotto.

During the rest of the weekend, participants will take leaf specimens from suspect trees during times and in areas of their choice. Dr. Garbelotto's lab will analyze the leaves over the summer and post the results in October on his website.

For more information on SOD and results of previous surveys at Dr. Garbelotto's website, go to <http://nature.berkeley.edu/garbelotto/english/sodblitz.php>.

To reserve your space in the training session, email [wllhh@gmail.com](mailto:wllhh@gmail.com).

Miramonte High School Parents' Club Presents "Heart of the Home" Kitchen and Garden Tour of Orinda

By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

Because of concerns about cuts for public school programs, the Miramonte High School Parents' Club has designed a kitchen and garden tour of six unique Orinda homes on April 18 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. to raise funds to offset cuts. There will also be a kick-off cocktail party in the garden of Marci and Patrick Dunn on Sunday evening, April 14 between 5 and 7 p.m. All the homeowners opening up their kitchens and gardens will be present, as well as local business sponsors of the event. While attendees will nourish Miramonte's future by their presence, they will also be nourished by out of the ordinary hors d'oeuvres in a lovely spring garden as well.

A silent auction and raffle will be held



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

One of several patios and gardens featured on the **Miramonte Kitchen and Garden Tour**.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A sneak preview of one of the kitchens on the upcoming tour.

with all proceeds benefiting Miramonte. A group of accomplished local artists have donated their paintings to the silent auction. Students from Gavin Kermode's 3D art class at Miramonte High School have created vases, which local florists are filling in preparation for the auction. Inspired by Alex Chen, a Miramonte graduate who is now a freshman at Yale, co-chair Jennifer Lavin asked Miramonte students to donate their artwork to the event. Chen began donating his artwork to help his school raise funds when he was in the fifth grade and continued the tradition through high school. Co-chair Kathy Metheny says that, "Spectacular raffle prizes and silent auction items will be on display in many of the homes featured on the tour; everything benefits the students. But, there are some

surprises we're keeping secret until the day of the event."

A large thank you is due to the presenting sponsors who graciously jumped on board to support the tour: Diablo Foods, Dianna Condon Cuisine, Enchanting Planting, Heatherwick Hutcheson Design, McDonnell's Nursery, McKenzie Gray Builders, Tracy Keaton and Chris Swim of Pacific Union, Linda Friedman and Peggy Harmatz of Village Associates and Alan Metheny of Wells Fargo Investment Advisors.

Tickets for the April 18 tour are \$35; tickets for the kick-off cocktail party on April 14 are \$100; raffle tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for a book of five. All can be purchased at McDonnell's Nursery, Orinda Books, Lazy K House at Orchard Nursery or online at [www.miramonteparents.com](http://www.miramonteparents.com).

Will meet or beat any qualified bid!

EXPERT  
TREE SERVICE

"You have seen us and your neighbor knows us!"

Serving the Bay Area since 1924.

- You've seen us around and your neighbors know us.
- Debris box service for green waste. We will match or beat any price. 10, 20 & 30 yard boxes available.
- Licensed, Insured and Bonded

P.O. Box 1256 • Orinda, CA 94563

Fax: (925) 254-5645

[www.experttreeservice.com](http://www.experttreeservice.com)

Why Go Second Rate When You Can  
Enjoy First Class?

Our Specialties:

Estate Tree Maintenance  
Fine Pruning  
Deadwooding  
Removals

Your Benefits:

Attention to Detail  
Solutions  
Responsive  
Economically Priced  
Fully Insured

Call today to schedule

(925) 254-TREE

Contractors License #621402 • Certified Arborist #WC-3527 • Pesticide App. #QL35651



WATER / EVERYDAY CHANGES

◆ CURRICULUM from page 1

“building knowledge through content rich non-fiction reading.” He adds, “reading, writing and speaking will be based on text complexity with evidence of knowledge to be demonstrated on the new assessments.” The basic philosophy of the new standards is that they will be “deeper as opposed to wider.”

Regarding math, the new standards will emphasize that students show an understanding of concepts of why an answer is correct, not just the right answer alone. The goal is for students to demonstrate a deeper understanding of the entire mathematical process. One pundit about two decades ago described the mathematics taught in American schools as “a mile wide and an inch deep.” These new standards intend to remedy that situation.

The big impact on all K-12 schools will be the time and money needed to train their administrators and teachers. Since the new standards will be the basis of the new state level assessment test, all schools will need to have their staff fully trained to teach the core standards content material.

In recent years, the OUSD has been implementing training for its teachers and administrators with two methods. The first involves some of the staff attending Colum-

bia University Teachers College in New York City for one week of training in the summer. For the second method, the college sends trainers to the school during the school year and leads training sessions for the staff. This training involves teachers in specific classroom activities and strategies that take students to a deeper understanding in their learning.

The summer training modules at Columbia University are funded by the parents’ clubs. Dr. Jaconette says, “We are really indebted to our parents’ clubs for their funding of this training.” The results are “our writing scores have increased steadily over the years, and the diagonal graph has a straight upward line.” Additionally, one grade level scored 100 percent on its writing scores on the State test.

Typically, California has a seven year cycle for its subject matter curriculum before it’s examined and adjusted. With the new Common Core Standards, the State may decide to change that cycle. With continuously improved instructional and assessment standards, charter schools, parent “trigger laws” (where parents of children in schools failing to improve have the power to change schools), and the push for improved teacher evaluation systems, the “Nation at Risk” report not only got people’s attention, but it served to motivate citizens to improve their schools.

offers a wide range of quality home care services and support which include assistance with activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing and grooming. Caregivers lend a hand with household tasks like light housekeeping, laundry, ironing, cooking, and grocery shopping. They also drive and escort clients to appointments and social activities.

For more information, go to [www.careindeed.com](http://www.careindeed.com) or call 925-317-3080.

◆ CARE from page 6

in fields related to care management, including nursing, gerontology, social work, and psychology. He has what it takes to lend expert assistance to the elderly and their families. We are very excited to have him on our team.”

Care Indeed is a home care agency that provides discreet personal care and companionship for older adults and seniors who wish to remain in their homes. The agency

Everyday Changes

Spring 2013 trends are a Study of Contrast and Opposites

Bonnie Waters



This year began with a “Bang” and launched the trend heard round the world as the Duchess of Cambridge and First Lady Michelle Obama cut bangs. The contrast of short and long brings freshness to any style. Contrast continues to explode on the streets with “dual-textured” hair. Witness the opposites of sophisticated and casual, structured and unstructured, up and down and smooth and curly in the same style. These looks employ twists, knots and looped ponytails and provide a chic alternative for those searching for a new spring do.

How to Nail It for Spring

Nail trends this season range from light and innocent to dark and dangerously daring. Enjoy the neo-pastel polishes from the likes of OPI in shades of luscious lavender and stellar sky blue. Juxtapose the colorful with glittering metallic varnishes and matte greys. Mix it up with colorful two-tone manicures which add the perfect pop and sizzle.

Natural Makeup Needn’t be an Oxymoron

Contrast shows up in this season’s makeup with a mix of strong versus subtle. Try playing up the feature you want to

draw attention to and leaving the rest to it’s natural glow. Need to turn up your wattage? See below for skin care tips.

For the eyes, contrast might also mean a soft natural base with a pop of color in the corner of the eye. Pair strong matte lips in a poppy red with a shimmery neutral eye and soft highlighter on the cheekbones.

Spring Cleaning for Your Skin

If winter has left you feeling a little dull and dusty, you are no doubt in need of a head to toe spring cleaning. What better way than to schedule an appointment with your favorite skin and body care professional. Visit us at Changes Salon and Day Spa for our new Honey Walnut body treatment that will leave you feeling brand new.

Before your spa visit, spring clean your beauty pantry of outdated cosmetics, cleansers and moisturizer and body care remnants. It may even be time to replace mascara. After your “buff and polish,” ask for a simple skin and/or body care regime to maintain the “glow.” And, while you are at it, check out the seasonal makeup colors and application tips!

P.S. Although it will be a while before the summer sun will be at its zenith, remember to stock up on sunscreen to prepare for the inevitable temptation to bask in the sun.

Where Does Our Water Come From?

How does Sierra mountain water enter the Orinda Treatment Plant? How does the plant treat and distribute this water? Is San Pablo Creek water used for drinking? How does the Treatment Plant interact with San Pablo Creek and San Pablo Reservoir? What sensitive species live on the EBMUD watershed and what does EBMUD do to enhance these populations?

Join us as EBMUD experts answer these questions and more.

**Jim Smith, Superintendent of Water Treatment:** Smith oversees operations of the district’s water treatment plants so that public health and environmental regulations are met; water quality and reliability are continually optimized; and effective and efficient treatment practices and techniques are employed.

**Susan Suzuki, Sr. Environmental Specialist:** Suzuki oversees environmental compliance for the district’s water treatment plants so that we comply with applicable federal and state air quality, water quality, hazardous materials, and hazardous waste regulations.

**Bert Mulchaey, Fisheries and Wildlife Biologist II:** Mulchaey oversees studies and projects in the East Bay to assess and protect fish and wildlife species.

Wednesday April 17, 2013 at 7 p.m.

Orinda Community Center, Room 7, 28 Orinda Way

For more information about this event, email [info@orindacreeks.org](mailto:info@orindacreeks.org)

Sponsored by Friends of Orinda Creeks

Orinda Ballet Academy & Company  
Artistic Director, Patricia Tomlinson  
Presents  
"SWAN LAKE"  
AT THE  
ORINDA LIBRARY THEATER  
May 17 at 6:30pm  
May 18 at 11:30am & 4pm  
May 19 at 11:30am & 3:30pm  
Children & Adults \$18  
General Seating  
[www.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://www.BrownPaperTickets.com)  
Ticket and Show Information  
(925) 254-2445

City of Orinda • Parks & Recreation • Recreation Programs • 28 Orinda Way  
Orinda, CA 94563 • [www.cityoforinda.org](http://www.cityoforinda.org) • (925) 254-2445 • Fax (925) 253-7716

BET Limousine Service  
You’ve tried the REST! Now drive with the BEST!  
New Sedans and Stretch Limousines  
925-757-5732  
OAK - \$70 SFO - \$80  
  
[Betlimo.com](http://Betlimo.com)  
415 748 1812 -- 877 238 5460

AWARDS / LOCAL RESIDENT

Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation  
Receives Champion Award



ELANA O'LOSKEY

In an award's ceremony at the San Jose Fairmont Hotel, the Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation received an award for its decade-long support. (L to R): **Glen Wurster**, Award Sponsor with Little Tikes Commercial, **Janet Keeter**, Orinda City Manager, **Tom Lavin**, Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation Board Member, **Inga Miller**, Orinda Parks and Recreation Commissioner, **Michelle Lacy**, Director of Parks and Recreation and California Park & Recreation Society President, and **John Courtney**, Award Sponsor with RJM Design Group.

By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

The Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation received the California Park and Recreation Society's (CPRS) Champion of the Community award for its support of parks and recreation since its inception in 1975. It was presented by award sponsors Glen Wurster and John Courtney to Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation (OPRF)

board member Tom Lavin on March 8 at the CPRS Annual Awards Banquet at the San Jose Fairmont Hotel. Also present were Inga Miller, Orinda Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Janet Keeter, Orinda City Manager, and Michelle Lacy, Director of Parks and Recreation and CPRS president. The OPRF was formed in 1975 to provide a tax-exempt vehicle for citizens who wished to contribute to the creation of a public park and community center and,

Description of Grant Category	2013 Allocation of Funds
1. Small one-time grant applications.	Movie night and Friday night out events for teens; a series of field trips for seniors, all sponsored by the Orinda Parks & Recreation Department.
2. Annual recurring grant applications.	OA 4th of July activities; Opera in the Park; Add one concert to summer concert series and Orinda Jazz Festival; Art in Public Places contribution (towards purchase of an additional piece of public art); Support one month of Lamorinda Alzheimer's Respite Center's music program.
3. Major project applications.	To be a significant donor to a new scoreboard at one of the Wilder Fields – partnering with City of Orinda and Orinda Rotary to accomplish this.

subsequently, became an umbrella 501 (c) (3) for a number of nonprofit organizations providing recreational services in Orinda including the Art in Public Places Committee, Orinda Youth Association, Orinda Community Center Auxiliary, and Orinda Trails Council. OPRF projects include: Community Center building and surrounding acreage purchased from the school district, 1975-76 for \$500,000; Implemented Park Master Plan with the construction of the Community Center Park; Raised money to make improvements to the Community Center including the park and a new kitchen, as well as paying off the loan for the land purchase; Helped fund and develop the Orinda Oaks Park on Moraga way near Ivy Drive; Raised \$600,000 to purchase the 111 acre Orinda Oaks Open Space Preserve which runs along Donald Drive down to Descano and the Orinda Oaks Park in south

Orinda; and Helped fund the Lamorinda Skateboard Park in Moraga Commons. Bill Wadsworth, current president, says, "Those who previously served our foundation built a legacy we strive to honor." OPRF members who have played an important role in supporting their mission since 1975 include: Harriet Ainsworth, Steve Armon, Marianne Aude, John Cutter, Ed Daly, John Fazel, Gina Field, Fred Flowers, Elizabeth and Bill Gross, Dick Heggie, Gayl Hirschfeld, Bruce Howard, Bill & Joey Judge, Frank Kastner, Jim Landau, Bobbie Landers, Del Loper, Janet Pease, William Penn Mott, Ron Plomgren, Caroline Read, Bill Simpson, Jill Sweitzer, Mary Alice Townsend, Ted Urban, Jerry Wendt, Clarence Woodard and Midge Zischke. The OPRF works closely with Sue Severson and the Orinda Community Foundation [SEE AWARD page 22]

Spontaneous Smile Joins Operation  
Smile to Help Children

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY  
Staff Writer


Ruth Kaiser is a woman on a mission: She'd like to help the world to smile. And, she's well on her way to reaching her goal. Kaiser recently returned from a 12-day medical mission with Operation Smile in Paraguay. Sales are going well for her children's book of optimism called *A Smiley Book Of Colors* (Random House), which she said uses rhyme to "explain about how we choose our outlook and in so doing, create the life we lead." And her "goofy hobby," The Spontaneous Smiley Project, has had 17 million clicks on its web page in three years. During a magazine interview for her SpontaneousSmiley.com website, a reporter commented to Kaiser that with all the website's traffic it was "too bad it wasn't a charity." The remark made Kaiser think that although the website was not a charity, it could "certainly bring attention to a charity



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ruth Kaiser (C) playing with patients and siblings while they await their turn during screening day. The two young girls hiding their lower faces are the patients. by teaching about it to all the enthusiastic followers of Spontaneous Smiley." According to Kaiser, a cold call to the international service organization Operation Smile "completely transformed my project. What had been just smiles and laughs became something which drew [SEE SMILE page 22]

41st

ROUGHING IT  
DAY CAMP


Year


Lamorinda's Hometown Camp

Lafayette Reservoir Site • Ages 4-16

Free Home Transportation & Extended Care

Win a Week of Camp! Sign Up @  
www.roughingit.com/orindanews





www.roughingit.com



Village

ASSOCIATES

REAL ESTATE

925 254-8585

View All Area Listings Online...

CLARK THOMPSON

REAL ESTATE BROKER

www.clarkthompson.com

ANIMALS

Contra Costa Certified

# Farmers' Markets!

Sweet 16 Years of Service

Saturdays 9am to 1pm  
May 4th - November 23  
Orinda Way, Orinda Village

925-431-8361 • www.cccfm.org  
Serving local Contra Costa communities since 1982

## Something to Howl About...

### Animal Tales

So You Want to Work with Animals

Jennifer Conroy





## animal house

PET & HOME CARE

### Spring Break Vacation Plans?

Let me take the worry out of what to do with your home and pets while you are away.

- Pet Sitting
- Dog Walking
- Pet Taxi
- Home Watch/Security
- Collect Mail and Newspapers
- Water Plants
- Insured and Bonded

925-254-3677 Office  
925-368-8978 Cell  
animal-house@comcast.net

Integrity ♦ Knowledge ♦ Results

### Specializing in the Sale of Fine Homes and Property

View MLS Listings online at **LamorindaValues.com**





## Frank Woodward


Realtor®, Previews Property Specialist  
T. 925.788.4963  
E. Frank@FrankWoodward.com





## Kyle Davis

Mortgage Consultant/Owner/Partner  
Lamorinda Resident Since 1995  
DRE License #01111347/NMLS #274107  
Direct: 925-314-5299  
Kyle@Stonecastle-LHF.com



319 Diablo Road, Suite 103 • Danville, CA 94526 • CA DRE #01322738 • NMLS #280803

## RATES HAVE NEVER BEEN LOWER!

### 30 YEAR FIXED RATE TO \$1,000,000!

## 3.875%/3.875%APR

### GREAT CONFORMING RATES!

	Fixed Rates to \$417,000		Fixed Rates to \$625,500	
	RATE	APR	RATE	APR
30 Year Fixed	3.375%	3.375%	3.625%	3.625%
15 Year Fixed	2.750%	2.750%	2.875%	2.875%

PROVIDING PREMIER LOAN PRODUCTS AND SERVICE FROM THE MOST EXPERIENCED AND SOLUTION-ORIENTED PROFESSIONALS IN YOUR COMMUNITY.  
FOR TODAY'S QUOTE PLEASE CALL 925-314-5299



## DEXTER HONENS II

REAL ESTATE BROKER  
Office: (925) 253-2148  
Cell: (510) 918-8911  
Email: honens@pacbell.net



Serving clients, friends and family in your neighborhood since 1989.

This is not a loan commitment, nor is it a guarantee of any kind. This comparison is based solely on estimated figures and information available at the time of production. Interest rate is subject to borrower and property qualifying. Stonecastle Land and Home Financial, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Lender.

If you have kids, grandkids, or nieces and nephews who say they love animals and want to work with them, here are ideas for ways they can make those dreams come true.

The toughest path to take is to become a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. It has been said that it is easier to get into medical school than veterinary school. Fortunately, we have a stellar School of Veterinary Medicine right in our “neighborhood” at the University of California, Davis. If becoming a veterinarian is the plan, then academic excellence in the S.T.E.M. (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) curriculum in high school and college is essential.

Another way to use medical skills in service to animals is through a certification as a Registered Animal Health Technician. There are private programs as well as state college programs available in this field and a certification is necessary in order to perform basic medical procedures.

But how do you find out if the field of animal work is the right one for you or a loved one? It is not an easy field and is not always a “feel good” field and one way to discover if it is a good match is to volunteer at local animal shelters and with other animal-related businesses. Perhaps your veterinarian would welcome a volunteer to help with the care and feeding of patients.

There are many other occupations in the animal world worthy of consideration. Kennel workers at animal shelters and at service dog programs work hard and help animals in their care receive the highest quality of life. Animal control officers are the best friends to lost pets, saving them

from perilous situations and helping them get safely sheltered until their owner can retrieve them. The training for an animal control officer is similar to that of police work, which is yet another avenue to consider. The police canine handler has as a partner, the most loyal creature on the face of the earth – a dedicated dog fiercely committed to its work and its partner’s safety.

The Bay Area is also home to search and rescue teams that are called upon to seek lost children and adults and includes subsets such as avalanche dogs that have saved skiers’ lives on our own California snowy slopes. Check with the local sheriff’s department to get the names of search and rescue groups in your area.

There are also many animals and their human partners who work as therapy teams, going into facilities for elders and those needing extended care, working with hospice organizations, and other locations where the unconditional love of an animal can help relieve pain and sadness.

Perhaps the greatest example of this occurred when the Lutheran Church Charities of Addison, Illinois, sent a team of Comfort Dogs to Newtown, Connecticut, to be present with families and neighbors following the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings. These incredible and beautiful Golden Retrievers and their handlers stood as testaments to the goodness in life that can be found through touch and warmth and absorbing tears.

Working with animals is not for everyone, but for those with patience, competence, commitment, and heart, the animal world is one opportunity that can make every work day special and meaningful.





Theater View Veterinary Clinic is a brand new facility owned by “Dr. Laurie” Langford who has been caring for animals in Orinda for 15 years.

### Have a Hard Time Giving Your Pet Pills?

10% off all Greenies Pill Pockets (multiple flavors for dogs and cats)  
Please present coupon at time of sale. Valid 4/1/13 - 4/30/13

P: (925) 317-3187  
F: (925) 334-7017  
E: tvvc@theaterviewvetclinic.com  
W: www.theaterviewvetclinic.com

1 Bates Blvd., Suite 200  
Orinda  
CA 94563

SUMMER CAMPS

Summer Camp Guide From Annie to Zoo

By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

Whether you already know what camp is right for your child/children or haven't any idea where to start, we hope the guide we've prepared will assist you in narrowing down the list of possibilities of local camps. Now's the time to choose a summer camp for children in grades K-12. Whether your child's focus is nature, animals, academics, sports, fun, music/the arts or anything in between, you're bound to find it here. Review what's offered online and sign up early, as many sessions are small in number and spots fill up fast. Give your kids, and you, a break this summer!

**GENERAL CAMPS**  
**Orinda Parks & Recreation**  
**28 Orinda Way**  
**Orinda, CA 94563**  
**925-254-2445**  
**www.cityoforinda.org**

The Orinda Parks & Rec sponsored camps were voted "Best of Lamorinda Camps for Kids" in 2011 by the Lamorinda Mom's Club. Questions? Call or go online for more information. Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Camp Orinda** (Ages 6-10.5) Camp includes games, arts and crafts, hiking, skits, sports, presentations, special fun days, and field trips to places such as Waterworld, Exploratorium and more! One week, two week, full and extended-day camps are offered. June 17 - August 9.

**Orinda OK (Orinda Kids) Camp** (Ages 3.5-5.5) Crafts, music, sports, art, traffic town, fire department visit and exploring are all part of the fun. Each camp has a different, fun, theme. Week-long, half-day and extended day camps are offered. June 17 - August 16. Cost \$122-\$140.

**Orinda Summer Enrichment Program Wild West Round Up!** Yee Haw! This year, our enrichment program features 'Wild West Roundup!' - our exciting curriculum designed to allow your child to explore the fascinating Pioneer and American West periods of our history. Program includes skill and appreciation development in the visual and performing

arts, geography, music, dance, and study of animals, prairie and farm life, geology, woodworking, and much more. Taught by some of the finest OUSD teachers for K, 1, 2-3, and 4-5 grade programs. June 17 - July 12, 9 a.m.-noon at Glorietta Elementary School. Cost \$485-\$530.

**Baby Sitting Camp** (Ages 10-15) Learn skills needed to be a trusted and responsible babysitter. Camp covers child development, safety, bedtime strategies and ways to make babysitting fun. M-Th, June 24-27 10 a.m.-noon. Cost \$115-\$132.

**Carpentry Camps** (Grades K-8) Camps meet M-Th June 10 - August 15. 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. or 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Cost \$124-\$134.

**Chess Camps** (Ages 6-12) Beginning-Advanced level camps. June 17-21, July 1-5, July 15-19. M-F, half-day camps. Cost \$152-\$219.

**Chinese Summer Immersion-Mandarin** (Ages 4-7, 7-9) Inspires students to learn Chinese and to introduce Chinese culture in a fun and encouraging environment. Week-long, 1.75 hr. program. June 10-14, July 29 - August 2, August 5-9. Cost \$140-\$161.

**Computer & Multi-Media Camps** (age 7+) offered throughout the summer. Filmmaking, Video Game Design offered.

**Cooking Camps** (Ages 4-7, 7-14) Asian Wok & Roll Cooking Camp, M-Th, June 17-20 or June 24-27. Cost \$120-138. Italian Cooking, M-Tu, August 19-20. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. or 1-5 p.m. Cost \$172-\$198.

**Engineering, Erector, Lego, and Science Camps** (Ages 3.5-15) Some of the exciting camps include: AWESome Engineering, Crazy Chemistry, Engineer-



Young campers enjoyed last year's **Camp OK at the Orinda Community Center.**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ing and Construction with Erector Sets, Engineering FUNDamentals (Lego), Jedi Engineering (Lego) Future Geniuses,

Green Engineering with Lego, Jedi Engineering with Lego, Let's Get Growing, [SEE CAMPS page 14]

**BLUE RIDGE**  
**LANDSCAPE Co. INC.**  
LIC# 818633  
**Blue Jay Feldman**  
OWNER/OPERATOR  
WWW.BLUERIDGELC.COM

**DESIGN  
INSTALLATION  
IRRIGATION  
DRAINAGE  
STONEWORK  
CONCRETE WORK  
DECKS  
FENCES  
PATIOS  
LAWNS  
PONDS  
& CLEANUP  
HAULING  
COMMERCIAL  
MAINTENANCE  
LICENSED  
INSURED**

**ORINDA  
RESIDENT 925-258-9233**

**Open Year-round - Sign up now!**

**Skills  
for  
Life**  
Since 1961

- Private Swim Lessons - Year Round
- Protective Shade Structure
- Classes in 90' - 92' Water
- Diving Lessons • Parties too!

**Sherman SWIM SCHOOL**  
925-283-2100 • www.ShermanSwim.com

**BEST  
2013**

**MORAGA VALLEY SWIM & TENNIS CLUB**

**Discover All That  
We Have To Offer**

- 6 Lane pool for lap swimming, with diving and play areas, as well as a baby pool
- NEW Learn-to-Swim program
- MVP Marlin Swim Team
- Year-round adult and junior tennis with USPTA certified coaches
- 4 Tennis courts, 2 with night play
- Summer swim and tennis camps

**Memberships Now Available  
at Attractive Prices**

moragavalleypool.org

**Kurt & Kathy Bellows**  
**Your Hosts Since 1986**

**Still Crazy After All These Years!**

**204 Village Square**  
**Orinda**  
**254-6080**

**On Orinda Way Near**  
**McCaulou's**

**No television, No  
canned music,  
enjoy a meal without  
the boob-tube for a  
change.**

**VILLAGE  
INN CAFE**

**orindacoffeeshop.com**  
Menu, Directions, & More

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

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

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

SUMMER CAMPS

◆ CAMPS from page 13

My First Lab, NASA, Ninjaneering with Lego, Pre-Engineering with Lego, Secret Agent, Superhero Engineering with Lego, and World Scientists. Week-long, half-day camps offered throughout the summer.

**Fashion Design Camps** (Ages 6-10) Passport to Paris-Fashion Inspired (June 24-28), Passport to Italy-Art Inspired (July 22-26), Fashion Design Camp (July 8-12), and Fashion Accessory Camp (July 15-19). Week long camps, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Cost \$175-\$201.

**T & T PAINTING**  
LICENSED CONTRACTORS



*Steven Thaw*  
30 WOODSIDE DR. - MORAGA, CA 94556  
STEVEN\_THAW@YAHOO.COM  
**(925) 376-3380**  
CA. Lic. 616357

**Orinda Nature Camp** (Ages 5-8) Participants experience the environment and outdoor habitats through exploring nature, art and educational projects, short hikes, and guest presentations. Explore various local nature areas. Week-long half-day camps, July 15-19 or August 12-16. Cost \$150-\$173.

**Spanish Camp** (Ages 3-12) Week-long, half day camps. June 24-28, July 15-19, August 5-9. Cost \$165-\$190.

**Summer OUTeens** (Ages 11-14) Each week is filled with three amazing trips, a day of team building, outdoor games and fun projects; the other days include camp games, an outdoor BBQ, and water play. Trips such as Sky High Sports, Great America, Waterworld, City Beach Rock Climbing, Six Flags and Boomers are included. M-F, July 8-12 or July 29 - August 2. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost \$375-\$431.

**Teen Leadership & Community Service Camp** (Ages 11-17) This camp helps prepare, train and educate teens in what it takes to become a strong leader, teacher and supporter of the community. Fun activities, projects, trips and special presentations by

civic, business, and educational leaders from the community. Week-long, half-day camps. July 15-19, July 22-26 and August 12-16. Cost \$150-\$173.

**Writing Camp** (Ages 7-10) Learn to write poetry, short stories, and non-fiction. June 17-21, 9 a.m.-noon, July 15-19, 1 - 4 p.m. and August 12-16, 9 a.m.-noon Cost \$200-\$230.

**Creative Writing Camp** (Ages 10-16) M-Th, July 29 - August 8, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost \$200-\$230.

**Camp Galileo and Galileo Summer Quest**

38 Bay Area locations

10 East Bay camps

1-800-854-3684

[www.galileo-camps.com](http://www.galileo-camps.com)

**Camp Galileo** (pre-K-5th grades) Voted “Best Camp for Kids” in *Bay Area Parent* and the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*. Campers are encouraged to brainstorm, create and think like innovators. Campers choose one of four themes for the week-long sessions: **Medieval Adventure** (Art and Inventions of Camelot); **African Safari** (Art and Animals of the Serengeti); **Galileo Amusement Park** (Art and Sciences of Circuses, Rides and Carnivals); and **Space Odyssey** (Cosmic Art and Rocket Science). Ten East Bay locations, dates vary so check online or call.

**Galileo Summer Quest** (entering grades 5-8) Campers dive into one amazing subject during the week long sessions. Choices include: Arts Academy (digital photography and filmmaking, comic book workshop, painter’s studio and fashion design); **Builders and Makers** (Inventor’s Workshop, Go-Kart Builders; Go-Karts Extreme); **Culinary Arts** (Chefology: Simply Savory or Decadent Desserts); and **High Technology** (Intro to Video Game Design, Video Game Design Advanced, Website Design, Lego Robotics). Three East Bay locations, dates vary so check online or call.

**Partner Camps: Powered by Galileo – Chabot Space & Science Camp** Fun engineering, technology, earth and space science classes at the Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland for rising 3rd to 7th graders.

**VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CAMPS**

**Academy of Language & Music Arts (ALMA)**

**Dr. James Fiatarone, Director**

99 Brookwood Road

Orinda, CA 94563

925-254-5056 or 925-254-5053

[www.alma-leap.com](http://www.alma-leap.com)

This camp offers a create-your-own program featuring private lessons in music, including guitar, piano, voice, strings, wind instruments, and percussion; also, private and small group lessons in foreign languages (Italian, French, Spanish, Greek, Portuguese, Russian, Japanese and Chinese, etc.) and English as a second language. Special summer group classes include Guitar Ensemble, Rock Guitar Combo, Band Ensemble, Jazz Combo, Theory and Musicianship (all instruments), Strings Ensemble, Percussion/Drum Clinic (two levels), and Vocal Ensemble/ALMA Glee Club. New classes include: “Acting up at ALMA” (Theater, Acting and Presentation skills), and Music Technology Class (Basic Studio Recording Techniques, creating/recording songs).

**California Shakespeare Theater**

701 Heinz Street

Berkeley, CA 94710

510-809-3293, [learn@calshakes.org](mailto:learn@calshakes.org)

[www.summershakespearecamp.org](http://www.summershakespearecamp.org)

California Shakespeare Theater’s Summer Shakespeare Conservatory offers five-, three-, and two-week sessions for drama students in grades 3–12 (ages 8-18). Students take classes in various skills

[SEE CAMPS 1 page 15]

**MARY H. SMITH, D.D.S. • CECELIA THOMAS, D.D.S.**  
A Professional Corporation  
96 Davis Road, #5 - Orinda, CA 94563  
**925.254.0824**



Taking care of all your dental needs for you and your family. Emphasizing cosmetic dentistry with implants, and Invisalign. Nitrous oxide is available. Consultations are complementary. Dentistry with Excellence.

**Oakland Strokes Summer Rowing Camps**  
Rowing Camps for Boys and Girls Ages 12 – 17

**Learn to Row Crew!**  
Our summer program is designed to provide an enjoyable but very real introduction to the great sport of rowing. We use these introductory camps as a recruiting program for all of our rowing teams. They provide excellent training for beginning rowers in rowing technique, teamwork, physical fitness and endurance. Within a week rowers will gain enough skill to row their first race on the Oakland Estuary, which is guaranteed to be an exciting experience one way or another!

**One Week Introductory Sessions** (8:30 - 11:30am)

- June 10 - 14 (Advanced\* 10am - 1pm)
- June 17 - 21 (Advanced\* 10am - 1pm)
- June 24 - 28 (Advanced\* 10am - 1pm)
- July 29 - Aug 2 (Advanced\* 10am - 1pm)
- Aug 5 - 9 (Advanced\* 10am - 1pm)

\* Advanced sessions available to athletes who have completed a prior one week introductory session or our middle school program

Ideal for students entering 9th or 10th grade!

**Learn More & Sign Up!**  
[www.oaklandstrokes.org](http://www.oaklandstrokes.org)





CALDECOTT.COM

**LA ORINDA**



**Mario Feusier**  
Residential Real Estate Broker  
**(925) 212-4514**  
[Mario@Caldecott.com](mailto:Mario@Caldecott.com)  
[TeamFeusier.com](http://TeamFeusier.com)

THINKING OF HOPPING OUT OF YOUR HOME OR HOPPING INTO A NEW HOME? GIVE ME A CALL!

**HAPPY EASTER**

CURRENT LISTING  
**5199 Parkridge, Oakland**  
**5BR / 4BA / 5,079 sq ft / \$1,225,000**  
PENDING Athena, San Ramon \$969,000  
SOLD 5504 Proctor Upper Rockridge \$1,220,000 (\$170k over asking)

Working, Negotiating & Networking For Buyers & Sellers

SUMMER CAMPS

◆ CAMPS 1 from page 14

(movement, improv, stage combat, etc.) and rehearse an abridged Shakespeare play for a culminating performance on the last day. Campers receive free tickets to Cal Shakes Main Stage season. Payment plans available; scholarships available if you apply by April 19 – see website or call for info.

**Five-Week Conservatory** The most intensive of the Conservatory offerings, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., June 18 - July 20, Bentley Upper School, Lafayette. Cost \$1,425.

**Three-Week Conservatory** Offered at Holy Names High School in Oakland from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., July 8-26. Cost \$850.

**Two-Week Conservatory** Offered at Bentley Upper School in Lafayette from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., July 22 - August 2. Also offered at Holy Names High School in Oakland from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., June 24 - July 6. Cost \$600.

**New This Year! After Care** is being offered until 6 p.m.

**Orinda Parks & Recreation**

**28 Orinda Way  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-254-2445**

[www.cityoforinda.org](http://www.cityoforinda.org)

**Art Camps** (Ages 5-7 and 7-10) Enjoy drawing, painting, and creating art projects. Weekly half-day art camps offered with different mediums and themes. Morning and afternoon programs. Camps offered throughout the summer. Cost \$125-\$144.

**Ballet Camps** (Ages 3-16) Orinda Ballet Academy & Company presents Ballet Circus Parade Camp. Concludes with a performance. July 8-16.

**Dance Camps.** (Ages 4-16) Both traditional dance camps (jazz, hip hop, ballet, and tap) and fantasy dance camps (ballerina, princesses, fairies, tutu, unicorns, etc.) offered throughout the summer. Weekly half-day camps.

**Stand-Up Comedy Camp** (Ages 12-17) Learn to write and perform your own stand-up comedy routine. M-Th, July 29 - August 8, 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Cost \$200-\$230.

**Filmmaking Camps** (Ages 7-13) Students learn to scout, act, film, strategize, create characters, backgrounds and do voice-overs. Camps include Green Screen Animation, Superhero Filmmaking, Lego Flix, and Animation. Morning and afternoon programs. June 24-28 or July 22-26. Cost \$183-\$210.

**Musical Theater – Orinda Little Theater** (Ages 4-8) M-F productions offered throughout the summer and include *Aladdin*, *Annie*, *Aristocats*, *Cinderella*, *Frog Princess*, *Little Mermaid*, *Mary Poppins*, *Snow-White*, *Sound of Music*, and *Tangled*. Call for specific dates. Cost \$225-259.



JAY YAMADA  
**Tosca Maltzman** as Ariel and **Sam Gouldethorpe** as Ferdinand in *The Tempest*, 2012 Conservatory.

**Musical Theater** (Ages 6-14) M-F productions offered throughout the summer include: *Aladdin*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Mary Poppins*, *Music Man*, *West Side Story* and *Willy Wonka*. Call for specific dates and times. Cost \$225-\$402.

**Music – Club Jam Music Camp: Guitar, Percussion & Singing** (Ages 5-8) Includes all instruments. 1 -3:30 p.m. M-F, June 10-14, June 24-28, or August 12-15. Cost \$200-\$230.

**Music – Rock ‘n’ Roll Band Camps** (Ages 8-12) 9 a.m.-noon and 1 - 4 p.m. M-F, July 15-19, July 22-26, July 29 - August 2. Cost \$267-\$307.

**Kids on Camera TV/Film Acting School and Day Camp**

**415-440-4400,  
info@kids-on-camera.com  
www.kids-on-camera.com**

Lights, camera, action and fun for ages 6-9 and 10-13. Students build social skills, expand their creativity and improve listening and speech. Video feedback makes

learning fun. 32nd year.

**TV Scripts, Physical Comedy, Audition Skills and Improv.** (Ages 6-9 and 10-13) July 1, 2, 3, and 5, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Extended Care available 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Camps conclude with a review and live improvisation. Piedmont Veteran’s Memorial Building. Enroll online at [www.ci.piedmont.ca.us](http://www.ci.piedmont.ca.us) or call 510-420-3070. Cost \$370-\$400.

**Town Hall Education**

**3535 School Street  
Lafayette, CA 94549  
925-283-6673,  
joel.roster@townhalltheatre.com  
www.townhalltheatre.com**

A comprehensive theater program with a full array of classes that include: preschool/ kindergarten “Mad about the Mouse,” the magical music of Walt Disney (6/17-21) or 6/24-28 for kindergarten/1st grade); 2nd/3rd grade, Summer Camp (6/17-21) Disney’s *Aladdin Kids* (7/8-7/26); 4th/5th grade Summer Camp (6/24-28) *The Music Man, Jr.* (7/8-8/2); middle/high school, *Much Ado About Nothing* (6/17-7/12). In

addition, a production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Junior Glee Club*, character building classes, and improvisation for teens will be offered.

**Youth Theater Company’s Summer Theatre**

**Shadelands Art Center  
111 N. Wiget Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA  
925-943-5846**

[www.YouthTheatreCompany.org](http://www.YouthTheatreCompany.org)

**Summer Theatre** (ages 5-14) Allows  
[SEE CAMPS 2 page 16]

**Breedlove**  
Health, Life, Long Term Care  
Business, Families, Individuals  
925-254-6262  
[www.breedloveinsurance.com](http://www.breedloveinsurance.com)  
**Insurance Services**



**Residential and  
Restoration  
Painting Services**  
Meticulous attention to detail  
40 years of satisfied customers  
**David Collins, Orinda**  
**925-254-6882**  
lic. 583003

Orinda Ballet Academy & Company  
Artistic Director, Patricia Tomlinson

**"Circus Parade"**

**Summer Ballet Camp & Intensive  
July 8 - August 16, 2013**

Pre-Ballet - Ballet 6 Class Division's  
Ages 3-18 years  
Girls & Boys Classes,  
Intermediate - Advance Level Intensive  
End of Summer Ballet Demonstration Performance,  
Friday, August 16, 2013 at 1pm

Classes Offered:  
Ballet Technique, Pointe, Pre-Pointe,  
Contemporary, Jazz, Pilates (reformer & mat),  
Stretch, Creative Dance,  
Ballet History and Private Lessons

For more information contact:  
Orinda Community Center- (925)-254-2445  
or  
[www.OrindaBalletAcademy.com](http://www.OrindaBalletAcademy.com)

City of Orinda " Parks & Recreation " Recreation Programs " 28 Orinda Way  
Orinda, CA 94563 " [www.cityoforinda.org](http://www.cityoforinda.org) " (925) 254-2448 " Fax (925) 353-7712

**ORINDA ACADEMY**  
PARENTS, STUDENTS & TEACHERS WORKING TOGETHER

**SUMMER SCHOOL**

**Session 1: June 17 - July 9**  
**Session 2: July 11 - August 2**  
**Earn High School Credit**

- Algebra 1 & 2, Geometry
- U.S. History • Spanish
- English for all grades
- Sign Language • ESL

**Middle School & High School Prep**

- Reading • Math • English
- Study Skills

All classes meet college prep requirements  
Personalized Instruction  
1:1 Tutoring • Small Class Sizes

**OPEN HOUSE** for families interested in Fall 2013  
April 24th from 7-9 p.m.

**Introducing your dedicated travel consultants!**

**5 REASONS TO CONTACT US TODAY!**

**KNOWLEDGE & DESTINATION EXPERTISE**  
We've traveled the world. Benefit from our first-hand experience and insider connections.

**EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGES**  
Enjoy a wide range of exclusive benefits when you reserve your cruise, hotel or resort vacation with us.

**GLOBAL NETWORK**  
Worldwide partnerships enable us to create unique, tailor-made travel experiences that will exceed your expectations.

**BEST VALUE FOR YOUR TRAVEL DOLLAR**  
Visit our website to easily search and compare multiple options. Plus, sign up to receive our latest offers and travel tips. Our pricing is highly competitive.

**PEACE OF MIND**  
Leave the planning to a professional who will be there for you before, during & after your trip.

**CRUISE ADVENTURES UNLIMITED**  
1610 Locust Street, Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
925-935-7447 • 800-788-0193  
M-F 9 - 5:30, Saturday 10:00 - 2:00  
[www.cruiseadventuresunlimited.com](http://www.cruiseadventuresunlimited.com)

*Family Owned & Operated*

Valerie O'Connell and Colleen O'Connell

SUMMER CAMPS

◆ CAMPS 2 from page 15

kids to work together to produce the musical *Annie, Jr.* The program runs for three weeks, June 17 - July 2, and students rehearse the musical while they learn to sing, dance and act. Part of the Stepping Stone Program of the Youth Theatre Company, Summer Theatre is perfect for the budding actor. **Mini Kids** (ages 5-6) rehearse from 2:30-4 p.m., while the **Kids Theatre** and **Theatre Jr.** (ages 7-14) students rehearse from 1 - 4 p.m. M-F. Performances take place on July 2 at 4:30 and 7 p.m. Tuition includes cast T-shirt. Cost \$319 (ages 5-6) and \$503 (ages 7-14).

SCHOOL-RELATED CAMPS

**Fountainhead Montessori School**  
30 Santa Maria Way  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-820-1343  
www.fms.org

A Montessori-based summer school, 9 a.m.-noon with aftercare available from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Age range 2 years to kindergarten.

**Holy Shepherd Preschool**  
433 Moraga Way  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-254-3429  
www.holyshepherd.org

Fun in the Sun for ages 2.5 to entering first grade; enjoy summertime activities in a small class environment; songs, games, cooking, arts and crafts, and water play; various dates throughout summer, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., option for extended care to 2 p.m.

**Orinda Academy**  
19 Altarinda Road  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-254-7553  
www.orindaacademy.org

**Open House** for interested families on April 24, 7-9 p.m. The Orinda Academy offers fully accredited (W.A.S.C.) academic classes for high school students. Classes meet state requirements and are U.C. approved. Two, three-week Summer School sessions are offered: June 17 - July 9 and July 11 - August 3, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. with a student/teacher ratio of 9:1. Books are



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
A young camper enjoys sinking his shot in the **Orinda Community Centers Skyhawks** summer camp.

included in tuition.

Academic courses offered include math, English, U.S. History, Spanish, middle and high school prep, American Sign Language (ASL) and English as a Second Language (ESL).

**Middle School Prep:** Reading, math, English, study skills (Grades 6 - 8).

**High School Prep:** Reading, math, English, study skills (Grade 9).

**The Saklan School**  
1678 School Street  
Moraga, CA 94556  
925-376-7900  
www.saklan.org

Summer @ Saklan is your passport to the world! Mornings are spent on The Saklan School campus with culture and language enrichment programs in German, Mandarin, French, Japanese, Spanish and Italian. Afternoons are filled with summer fun, including field trips, recreational swimming, swim lessons, sports, cooperative games and craft projects. Three-week sessions from June 10 - August 9, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., with extended care from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Ages 3-11. Van transportation is available. Visit website to register.

**SPORTS-RELATED CAMPS**  
**Orinda Parks & Recreation**  
28 Orinda Way  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-254-2445  
www.cityoforinda.org

A variety of half and full-day camps offered for beginning to advanced levels (ages 4-15 unless otherwise stated). Call or go online for more information, many more sports camps are available online.

**Basketball Camp** (Ages 6-12) M-F, July 8-12 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost \$229-\$263

**Basketball Camp - Triple Threat** (Ages 6-12) M-F, June 10-13, June 24-27, August 5-8. Cost \$209-\$240.

**Flag Football Camp** (Ages 6-12) M-F, June 17-21, 9 a.m.-noon. Cost \$169-\$186.

**Golf Camp** (Ages 5-9) M-F, July 22-25, 9 a.m.-noon. Cost \$170-\$196.

**Gymnastics & More Camp** (Ages 5-8) M-F, June 24-28 or August 5-9, 1 - 4 p.m. Cost \$185-\$213.

**Lacrosse Camp** (Ages 6-12) M-F, June 24-28, 9 a.m.-noon. Cost \$194-\$219.

**Multi-Sport Camps** (Ages 4-7, 6-12) M-F, half- and full-day camps offered. Mini-Hawks (Ages 4-7) June 10-14, August 12-16, August 19-23, 9 a.m.-noon. Cost \$169-\$194. Sports Camp (Ages 6-12), August 12-16, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost \$229-\$263.

**Soccer Camp - Challenger British** July 8-12; July 29- August 2. Mini-Soccer (ages 4-6), cost \$131-\$151. Half Day (ages 6-16), cost \$183-\$210. Full Day (ages 6-16), cost \$253-\$291.

**Soccer Camp - Skyhawks** (Ages 6-11) 9 a.m.-noon, August 5-9. Cost \$169-\$194.

**Tennis Camps** (Ages 7-12) Week-long tennis clinics offered throughout the summer. M-Th, 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Cost \$219-\$309.

**Volleyball Camp** (Ages 7-12) M-F, July 15-19, 9 a.m.-noon. Cost \$169-\$194.

**Oakland Strokes**  
4675 Tidewater Avenue (at High Street)  
Oakland, CA 94601  
510-434-1755  
www.oaklandstrokes.org

**Summer Rowing Camps** are one week sessions designed to provide an enjoyable but very real introduction to the great sport of rowing. The camps provide training in rowing techniques, fitness, teamwork and endurance. Within a week, participants will gain enough skill to row their first race. Camps now being held on San Pablo Reservoir as well as the Oakland Estuary. **Beginner Sessions 1-5** run from June to August; participants must be 12-17 years old. Check their website for more details. All sessions run Monday through Friday in three hour camps. Register online; limited scholarships available.

**Saint Mary's Athletic Camps**  
**Saint Mary's College**  
1928 Saint Mary's Road  
Moraga, CA 94575  
925-631-4386

Click on "summer camps" at [www.smcgals.com](http://www.smcgals.com).

This marks the 45th year that Saint Mary's College will be offering 30+ outstanding Athletic Summer Camps to children and teens between the ages of 6-18. Overnight, Day, Half-Day, Team and Specialty Camps include All Sports, Baseball, Basketball, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball. Athletes can expect to participate in daily competi-

[SEE CAMPS 3 page 17]

WILDER Proudly Sponsors  
*Orinda, California*

NorCal KIDS Triathlon TRI4HEALTH

Saturday morning, August 31  
Wilder in Orinda, CA

Register online today: [www.norcalkidstri.org](http://www.norcalkidstri.org)

 **Orinda Shell Auto Care**

- Complete Auto Care -  
Scheduled Maintenance - Air  
Conditioning - Brakes and Suspension  
- Electrical Repairs - Warranty Repair  
Wheel Alignments - Senior Discount -  
Free Shuttle Service -  
Walking distance from BART

Welcome to Marty's Customers!



925 254-1486 • fax 925 254-8375  
9 Orinda Way  
e-mail [orindashell@aol.com](mailto:orindashell@aol.com)



**Brian Clark, Psy.D.**  
*licensed clinical psychologist*  
PSY 25198

ADOLESCENTS · ADULTS · FAMILIES

specializing in:  
Achievement Pressure  
AD/HD  
Parenting Support  
Anxiety  
School Stress  
Depression

954 Risa Road · Lafayette  
(925) 385-8050  
[www.brianclarkpsyd.com](http://www.brianclarkpsyd.com)

SUMMER CAMPS

◆ CAMPS 3 from page 16

tions, conditioning, skill development and other activities. Resident campers wake up at 7:30 a.m., lights out at 10:30 p.m.; day campers (ages 8-14) drop-off is 8:45 a.m., departing at 4 p.m.; half-day campers drop-off time 8:45 a.m., departing at 12 p.m. (also afternoon drop-off at 12:45 p.m., departing at 4 p.m.) The camps run from June 17 through August 2. Cost \$120 to \$498.

This year they expect to register over 2,500 campers. They will continue to have their traditional camps starting on Sundays and ending Thursdays but have added several clinics and specialty camps with different schedules to better accommodate your needs. Many options available as far as extended care, meals, etc. See website for more details.

**Sherman Swim School**  
1075 Carol Lane (off Mt. Diablo Blvd.)  
Lafayette, CA 94549  
925-283-2100  
www.shermanswim.com

Celebrating 52 years, Sherman Swim School offers year-round swimming and diving lessons in a warm, protected environment. Our instructors love children and have received extensive in-water training. Private lessons coupled with patient, encouraging teachers and extremely comfortable water (90°-94°) creates an ideal learning environment for swimmers of all ages. Our goal is to build a strong foundation for a safe and happy swimmer. The school is open year-round with **Summer Sessions** (each running three weeks long) from June 17 - Sept. 6, between 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Fri., for ages 9 months to adult. Private swim lessons range from 15 minutes

to 30 minutes; small group dive lessons are 30 minutes long. Summer Sessions are usually set up for two or three days per week. Check online for entire schedule and registration forms.

**Sleepy Hollow Swim & Tennis Club**  
1 Sunnyside Lane  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-254-1126  
email: shstc@comcast.net  
www.SleepyHollowLegends.net

Sleepy Hollow Swim & Tennis Club is dedicated to providing excellent recreational opportunities in an environment that fosters legendary pride and spirit. The **Swim Team** is for kids ages 4-18; the **Mini Legends** swim program is designed for kids ages 4-6; and the **Learn to Swim** program is for kids ages 3.5 and up. Our tennis clinics, private lessons and tennis team are available to kids of all ages. Younger members also enjoy spending fun in the sun at **Legendland**, a supervised drop-off day camp.

**OUTDOOR RECREATION AND NATURE CAMPS**  
**Aspergers Team Camp**  
15 Vallecito Lane  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-262-3135  
info@aspergersteam.com  
www.aspergersteam.com

Enjoy a mountain summer retreat in the Lake Tahoe area! A two week opportunity (July 7-20) to try a light back packing experience, river rafting, campfires, including many educational opportunities to improve social skills while having fun. Pick-up/drop-off at Tahoe Airport available for extra fee. Ages 15-25 welcome.

[SEE CAMPS 4 page 18]



**Roughing It** campers try their canoeing skills at the Lafayette Reservoir.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

creatively

think

compassionately

act

courageously™

live

Summer @ Saklan  
Your passport to the world!

Culture, language and summer fun for students ages 3-11  
June 10 - August 9, Monday to Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Van transportation available

The Saklan School | www.saklan.org | 925.376.7900

Move of the Month

One Legged Side Crunches on the Bosu



Lay with your hip and side on the Bosu, top leg outstretched and lifted, bottom leg slightly bent and resting on the ground. Place your hands behind your head. Simultaneously lift your upper leg and upper body, in a side crunch. Be sure to keep your upper body facing forward rather than twisting it. Do 5-15 of these and switch sides.

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

Get Out & Stay Out!  
In Your New Outdoor Room  
Let Garden Lights Landscape Development give you good reason  
to "Get Out and Stay Out" this summer.

Enlarge your living area with an outdoor kitchen or entertainment space complete with a built in barbecue and the warm glow of a stone or masonry fireplace.

Garden Lights Landscape Development, Inc.  
is a full service landscape & pool design build firm.  
We design & install with just one call 925-254-4797  
www.gardenlightslandscape.com

Celebrating 20 years of service in Lamorinda. Bonded - Licensed & Insured License# 702845 C27 & C53

VAL'S  
SUCCESS STORY

living lean.  
by Sheena

Valerie Gong of Orinda tells her Living Lean story in her own words,

It all started with a phone call to Sheena about spin class. This was the life changing call. Sheena and her staff have worked diligently with me to help me lose over 20 pounds of FAT. My body has changed tremendously. I now have a new healthy attitude about exercise and eating.

With the upbeat attitude and support Living Lean provides, it makes it easier to maintain the discipline it takes to continue practicing the new healthy habits I have learned.

Is your story next?

925.360.7051 | www.livingleanprogram.com  
Studios in Orinda | Montclair | Danville

SUMMER CAMPS

◆ CAMPS 4 from page 17

**Lindsay Wildlife Museum**  
**1931 First Avenue**  
**Walnut Creek, CA 94597**  
**925-627-2926**  
**www.wildlife-museum.org (kids classes & camps)**

**Wild Times Summer Science Camp** offers new adventures with live animals, indoor and outdoor games and songs, science experiments, and more. Camper to counselor ratio is 3:1 in the camps for ages 4-9. The camp uses Lindsay Wildlife Museum's large community room, two private classrooms, and adjacent Larkey Park. Camp shirt, snacks and drinks are included for all camps, but not for Only Owls 1 Day Workshop. Register online.

**Counselor positions** for 12- to 17-year-olds for all camps. Mandatory training sessions for counselors on dates/times listed. Full details available at website. Cost \$45 for members, \$55 for non-members.

**CC-190: Only Owls 1 Day Workshop** (ages 6-8) June 20, 10 a.m. – noon. Owls are our silent neighbors, coming out at night to work and play. Discover what they eat by dissecting an owl pellet and making an owl craft to take home. Meet a live owl and explore what makes them so special. Cost \$10 for members \$20 for non-members. **CC-191: Only Owls 1 Day Workshop Teachers Helpers** (ages 10-14) June 20. 10 a.m. – noon. Meet a live owl and explore what makes them so special. Cost for members \$10, non-members \$20.

**Camp-200: Dino-Mania** (ages 4-6) June 24 - June 28, 1 -3:30 p.m. Meet some of the closest living relatives to dinosaurs which roamed the earth. How do scientists find out about the past? You'll learn all about the dinosaurs through games and exciting investigations. Cost \$115 for members, \$135 for non-members. **Camp-201: Dino-Mania-Camp Counselors** (ages 12-17) June 24-28, 12:30 – 4 p.m. Work with campers ages 4-6. Cost \$45 for members, \$55 for non-members. Mandatory training dates June 21 or July 14, 2-5 p.m.

**Camp-202: Animal Habitats** (ages 6-9) July 8 -12, 1 - 4:30 p.m. Animals live in all types of homes in very special places called habitats. Discover what habitats are in your own backyard to the depths of the ocean. Cost \$135 for members, \$160 for non-members. **Camp-203: Animal Habitats-Camp Counselors** (ages 12-17) July 8-12, 12:30 – 5 p.m. Work with campers ages 6-9. Cost \$45 for members, \$55 for non-members. Mandatory training dates June 21 or July 14, 2-5 p.m.

**Camp-204: Body Shop** (ages 9-12) July 22 - 26, 1 - 4:30 p.m. The bodies of different species of animals have many similarities, but also some interesting differences. When an animal is sick or injured, it is important to know about these differences. This camp investigates some ways animals are rehabilitated and released. Learn basic first aid for yourself and your pets, enjoy games and other activities. Cost \$135 for members, \$160 non-members. **Camp-205: Body Shop-Camp Counselors** (ages 12-17) July 22-26, 12:30 – 5 p.m. Work with campers ages 9-12. Cost \$45 for members, \$55 for non-members. Mandatory training dates June 21 or July 14, 2-5 p.m.

**Camp 206: Animal Senses** (ages 6-9) July 29 - August 2, 1 - 4:30 p.m. Explore a new sense each day: sight, sound, touch, smell and taste through games, experiments and animal introductions. Discover how human and animal senses are different and how they are the same. Cost \$135 for members, \$160 for non-members. **Camp-207: Animal Senses-Camp Counselors** (ages 12-17) July 29 - August 2, 12:30 – 5 p.m. Work with campers ages 6-9. Cost \$45 for members, \$55 for non-members. Mandatory training dates June 21 or July 14, 2 - 5 p.m.

**Roughing It Day Camp**  
**P.O. Box 1266**  
**Orinda, CA 94563**  
**925-283-3795**  
**www.roughingit.com**

Celebrating our 41st summer as Lamorinda's Home Town Camp! An all-outdoor

day camp located at the Lafayette Reservoir for ages 4 to 16. Skill based instruction for all ages and abilities in horseback riding, swimming, fishing, canoeing, boating, sports, nature, outdoor living skills, crafts, teen programs and more! Longer sessions are designed for social growth, skill development, friendship and fun for every camper. Programs include: Day Camp (4 and 8 week sessions), Specialty English and Western Horse Camps for beginning to advanced riders; Little Raccoons, an introductory program for pre-K to 1st grade campers; and Outdoor Explorers, 1 week outdoor adventures for 1st to 6th graders. New activities and expanded programs provide something different every year. Free transportation from home and central pick-up locations. Free extended care. Sessions run June 24 – August 23; post Session programs run August 19-23. Register online.

**Zoo Camp**  
**Oakland Zoo**  
**9777 Golf Links Rd.**  
**Oakland, CA 94605 (off Highway 580)**  
**510-632-9525 x280 (Zoo Camp hotline)**  
**www.oaklandzoo.org**

The Oakland Zoo offers week-long camps, with second-week camps available. Campers from age 4 through grade 12 learn about nature and animals through hands-on experiential learning. Campers in grades 1-5 can add a third week of Zoo Camp by attending their Nature Play program. The Zoo is home to more than 660 native and exotic animals. Full summer camp schedule, online registration, and need-based scholarship applications on the website. Extended before and after care also available. Open daily 10 a.m.-4 p.m. No sessions on July 4th.\*

**First-Fifth Grades Together: Nature Play Camp** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. How many tadpoles can you find? Kids will build forts, look for bugs and come nose to nose with nature. Grade 1-5 campers play together. Sessions: June 17-21, June 24-28, July 1-5\*, July 8-12, July 15-19, July 22-26, July 29 - August 2, August 5-9, August 12-16. Cost \$291 for members, \$311 for non-members.

**Wild and Green Family Camp** 9 a.m. – 12: 30 p.m. The entire family can enjoy a week of nature walks, zoo tours, animal close-ups, stories, crafts, special projects and more. Children must be kindergarten or older; adults are any family member over 18 years – one adult can accompany multiple children. Session: July 29 - August 2. Cost \$196 for members, \$216 for non-members.

**Pre-K: Mini Mammals** 9 a.m. – noon. Children need to be 4 on the first day of camp. Class A: Explore the idea of same and different in the animal kingdom. Sessions 9 a.m.-noon, June 17-21, July 1-5,\* July 15-19, July 29- August 2, August 12-16. Class B: Animals move in weird

and wonderful ways! Slither, slide, creep, crawl and waddle around the zoo. Sessions: June 24-28, July 8-12, July 22-26, August 5-9. Cost \$196 for members, \$216 for non-members.

**Kindergarten: Busy Beasts** 9 a.m.-noon. Class A: If you were an animal, would the world seem the same? Sessions: June 17-21, July 1-5,\* July 15-19, July 29-August 2, August 12-16. Class B: Animals build and protect homes for their families, just like people. Sessions: June 24-28, July 8-12, July 22-26, August 5-9. Cost \$196 for members, \$216 for non-members.

**First Grade: Furry Friends:** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Class A: What makes a bird a bird? Or an ant an ant? Sessions June 17-21, July 1-5,\* July 15-19, July 29 - August 2, August 12-16. Class B: Who keeps you safe? Animals help care for their families in all kinds of ways. Sessions: June 24-28, July 8-12, July 22-26, August 5-9. Cost \$291 for members, \$311 for non-members.

**Second and Third Grade: Animal Adventures:** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Class A: Would you rather eat or be eaten? Learn about wily prey and good predators. Sessions: June 17-21, July 1-5,\* July 15-19, July 29 - August 2, August 12-16. Class B: What habitat houses over half the world's animals and plants? The tropical rainforest! Uncover its secrets. Sessions: June 24-18, July 8-12, July 22-26, August 5-9. Cost \$291 for members, \$311 for non-members.

**Fourth and Fifth Grades: Eco-Explorers** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Class A: What would it be like to spend a day in the life of an animal, zookeeper or scientist? Explore different perspectives at the zoo. Sessions: June 17-21, July 1-5\*, July 15-19, July 29 - August 2, August 12-16. Class B: Want to save the world? Conservationists are real life superheroes – you can help! Sessions: June 24-28, July 8-12, July 22-26, August 5-9. Cost \$291 for members, \$311 for non-members.

**Grades 6-8 Wild Survivor or Curious Cachers** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. **Wild Survivor:** Learn important survival skills in the woods (receive your own emergency survival kit). Sessions June 17-21, July 1-5\*, July 15-19, July 29 - August 2, August 5-9, August 12-16. Cost \$316 for members, \$336 for non-members. **Curious Cachers:** Learn about animals' extraordinary navigation skills; learn to use a GPS device as an intro to 'geocaching.' Sessions: June 24-28, July 8-12, July 22-26. Cost \$291 for members, \$316 for non-members.

**High School: Grades 9-12 Teen Assistants (T.A.)** 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Love animals and kids? Spend two weeks playing with kids and earn community service hours. Sessions: June 17-21, June 24-28, July 1-5,\* July 8-12, July 15-19, July 22-26, July 29 - August 2, August 5-9, August 12-16. Turn in application by May 1 (download on website). Cost: \$60 for members, \$80 for non-members.

Learn, Grow, Create  
HOLDEN HIGH SCHOOL

10 Irwin Way, Orinda (near BART) • 254-0199 • www.holdenhigh.org



• **Meet the Writer Night**, featuring Alison Luterman, April 4th 7-9.  
• **The Drama Production** is *A Human Interest Story, Or The Gory Details And All* by Carlos Murillo.

April 19 - 28, 2013 Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.  
\$12 General; \$8 Students and Seniors; \$5 Holden Students and Staff  
Call (925) 254-0199 for reservations; seating limited for all performances.

Thank-you for 25 years of clean.

www.totalclean.biz

**Total Clean** 376-1004  
For your home.



Ann Sharf



*I can help you navigate through this ever changing real estate market. Be certain your largest asset is in the hands of a professional who represents both buyers and sellers daily.*

ANN SHARF

When you need:

- a strong negotiator
- proven results for both buyers & sellers
- professionalism & service
- a top producer

Call ANN at (925) 253-2525;

she comes highly recommended...

Website: www.annsharf.com

Email: ann@annsharf.com

93 Moraga Way, Orinda

## STUDENTS / SPECIAL CAMP

# High School Junioresettes Serve Orinda Community and Beyond

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY  
Staff Writer

The Orinda Junior Women's club (OJWC) celebrated its 30th anniversary in February with an optimistic attitude towards the future of the organization, thanks to the founding of a local Junioresettes organization three years ago. At 110 years of age, the General Federation of Women's Club, to which Orinda Woman's Club, OJWC and Orinda Junioresettes belong, is one of the oldest women's organizations in the country.

According to Barbara Sullivan, an OJWC member who serves as advisor to the Junioresettes, the club is for female high school students. Committed to community involvement through volunteerism, the club now numbers 16 members.

"The girls do everything themselves," Sullivan explained. "They wrote their own by-laws, run their own bank account, and have obtained their own insurance – which is a lot of responsibility for girls that age."

According to Margot Mai, the Junior-

ette's current president and one of its seven founders, many of the young women who began the group had participated in the Orinda Juniors' writing contest, YouthInk, when they were students at Orinda Intermediate School. The young writers became interested in the OJWC and discovered there were no local Junioresette clubs for them to join. Their sophomore year at Miramonte, they asked the OJWC if they could start a club.

"I'm touched that we ended up inspiring a group of high school girls to find a place and a way to serve our community and to be strengthening to them during their high school years," said Sullivan. "Most of their service projects are a reflection of what their membership is interested in – everything from the environment to Children's Hospital to the elderly."

According to Sullivan, "There is a huge statistical relationship between when young people begin to serve and the volunteer work they do as they get older," she said. When people start in service young they tend to stay in service throughout their



SALLY HOGARTY

**Members of the Junioresettes** hand out Valentine Day cards to residents of the Orinda Convalescent Home. (L-R) **Amber Nikaolson**, Convalescent Home Activities Director **Cynthia Sohrenszen**, **Colleen McCullough**, **Nikki Kyllowen**, **Sondra Abruzzo** **Hanna Abruzzo**, **Andie Tuemmler**, and **Margot Mai**.

lives."

Founded in 2011, the Junioresettes have been involved in a diverse number of activities for local organizations as well as some abroad. They have participated in activities such as working at Orinda Convalescent Home, collecting book donations for Oakland's Children's Hospital, making hats and blankets for babies in Afghanistan, and providing face painting for Orinda's 4th of July celebration.

The Junioresettes have completed several service projects with San Francisco's St. Anthony's and Glide Memorial Churches, organizations that aid people living in poverty, many of whom are homeless. According to Sullivan, besides preparing and serving food at church dining rooms, the girls have completed other projects including collecting "one of the biggest donations" of feminine hygiene products ever received by St. Anthony's. "Being outside of the Orinda community gives them a different perspective," she says.

Junioresettes recently volunteered at a McCaulou's store, and the store donated the salary they would have made to a project the Junioresettes' "We Care Solar" project. The nonprofit provides solar powered electricity generators to hospitals across Africa.

"We are raising money to send suitcases full of solar lighting equipment to third-world countries for use in medical situations – usually births late at night," said Sullivan, "It has significantly improved the number of live births."

The club, Mai asserts, has "offered me a lot of leadership experience. I've learned a lot about how to effectively organize a club and to keep members interested and enthusiastic. All of the members are really nice

girls, and it's fun to spend time with them."

Sullivan added, "We have been inspired more than once by the service the Junioresettes have done. We are mentors to the Junioresettes. It's a stewardship thing."

As for the next 30 years, Sullivan hopes to see some of the Junioresettes back in the Orinda community taking on leadership roles in either the Orinda Woman's Club or the Orinda Juniors. "In the future, these girls are going to mentor other girls in the community," Sullivan predicts.

Mai agrees, "I like the feel of community I find in a woman's club, and I also enjoy community service. I definitely plan to participate in a woman's club in the future – it is really rewarding."

# Summer Camp is a Family Affair for the Fields Family

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY  
Staff Writer

Michael and Meg Fields, long-time Orinda residents, and their three children will spend two-weeks in the beautiful Sierra Nevada mountains at a camp for youth with social cognitive differences that the couple founded. Their son Darin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, served as the inspiration.

Armed with a doctorate degree in clinical psychology and more than 20 years nursing experience, Megan and her husband Michael began the camp four years ago. Michael, also a registered nurse, works in the medical field and has been on staff at California Pacific Medical Center for over a decade. Staff members Kathy Allen, MA, coach and mentor, and activity director Mark Keim, join them, along with the Fields' daughters Amy and Anna (a student at Orinda Intermediate School) and son Darin.

Darin, now a junior majoring in English at Sonoma State, is enthusiastic about the experience he's received at the camp, saying that besides "patience," the camp has taught him leadership skills. "It's a great opportunity for people with disabilities like myself to learn life skills that they wouldn't get in a more casual setting. It puts them in position where they have to interact with other people." According to Darin, the camp provides group activities that teach life and social skills, like backpacking, camping, and hiking, which also

teach outdoor survival skills.

Amy, a student at Diablo Valley College, has been a part of the venture from the beginning. "My parents thought of the idea," said Amy, who is a youth counselor at the camp. She noted that she and her siblings were "involved in helping plan the camp and activities." The Miramonte High School graduate said her favorite part of the camp "is seeing the campers at the beginning – how they are so nervous and shy – and then, by the end of the two weeks everyone is so close. It's a wonderful feeling."

The brother and sister have learned quite a bit from the experience. Amy said that working with the campers has taught her skills she employs outside of the camp, "I've learned to have patience with all people. When something bothers me, I try to think of it from their perspective; I try to look the reason why they are doing it as opposed to jumping to conclusions."

After graduation, Darin hopes to teach English. "We all have traits that may be considered different and more difficult to deal with, but we also have benefits. We all have something that makes us unique."

Asperger's Team Camp is hosted at Clair Tappaan Lodge north of Lake Tahoe. The camp is a two-week summer residential program, July 7 – 20, designed for those 13-25 years old who have Asperger's Syndrome, Nonverbal Learning Disorder, and other social cognitive differences. For more information, go to [www.aspergersteam.com](http://www.aspergersteam.com) or call 925-262-3135.

## 2013 Memberships Available at the Oak Springs Pool

Tranquil, Wooded Setting  
Open June thru September  
Clubhouse rentals  
Swim Lessons Available

Membership Application online at  
[www.oakspringspool.com](http://www.oakspringspool.com)



**Ironwood**  
ENGINEERING COMPANY

**Civil & Structural Engineering**

Earthquake Strengthening  
Foundation Repairs  
Retaining Walls  
Drainage  
Remodels  
Additions  
New Construction  
Licensed Engineers  
Leak Investigations  
Expert Witness  
Property Purchase Inspections  
[www.ironwoodengineering.com](http://www.ironwoodengineering.com)  
**510 / 524-8058**

**SZECHWAN**  
RESTAURANT

CHINESE CUISINE

SZECHWAN - MANDARIN

LUNCH / DINNER / ORDERS TO GO

**10% DISCOUNT ON**  
**TAKE-OUT ORDERS**  
(Lunch Special Excluded)

**Quality Food and Service**  
**Serving Orinda Since 1980**

Tues.-Thurs. 11:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Fri.-Sat. 11:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Sun. 4:00 - 9:30 p.m.  
Closed Mondays

Tel 925 254-2020 • Fax 925 254-4098  
79 Orinda Way • Orinda

STUDENTS

# Orinda Moraga Girl Scouts Travel to the Land of Oz!

By CHRISTIANNE BUA-GILES and  
MARY FRIESE  
Orinda Moraga Service Unit Event  
Coordinators

The Orinda-Moraga Service Unit of the Girl Scouts hosted a special showing of *The Wizard of Oz* at the Rheem Theater on January 11. A sellout crowd of over 300 Girl Scouts attended, ranging from the Daisy level (age 5) to Cadette (age 14). The Orinda-Moraga Girl Scouts serves more than 800 girls in 70 troops from the towns of Orinda, Moraga and Canyon.

Orinda Intermediate School Cadette Troop #32300 helped host this service unit event. They designed movie and popcorn tickets, passed out snacks, seated attendees, and dressed up as *Wizard of Oz* characters for the night.

The Girl Scout Program is girl-driven, reflecting the ever-changing needs and interests of today's girls. Girls discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together. Girls learn the importance of personal responsibility, the value of goal setting, the spirit of teamwork, and the thrill of accomplishment.

# Miramonte Grad Works to Help Others Stay in School



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Miramonte grad Katherine Brentano is now volunteers with City Year in Orlando, Florida, where she works helping students.

By PAT RUDEBUSCH  
Contributing Writer

Some 2,800 miles lie between Orinda, SCA and Orlando, FL. For many, it's much more than geography that separates the two cities, it's access to opportunity. Orlando, perhaps best known for its family-focused vacation attractions, also grapples with an overall poverty rate of 9.1 percent. For families with children, the odds are even worse, with 13.6 percent living below the Federal poverty line.

Understanding that the most effective way to bridge the opportunity gap is through education, Kat Brentano, a Miramonte Class of 2008 grad and UC Riverside alumna, has spent the past eight months in Orlando volunteering with City Year. There, her 10-hour days are spent tutoring, encouraging, and serving as a role model for students who are most at risk for dropping out of high school.

Founded in 1988, City Year is a national organization solely focused on improving the dropout rate in America's neediest schools. Over one million students drop out of high school each year. The dropout crisis is most acute in urban areas – over half of those failing to complete high school come from just 12 percent of our nation's schools.

Brentano has seen the depth of this challenge firsthand as she has worked with a group of ninth-grade students in her assigned city of Orlando. "We were told we would be working with students who couldn't read or who struggled with basic math," she says. "I thought there was some exaggeration in this claim, that it was a way of preparing us for working in these



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Members of OIA Cadette Troop #32300 dressed as characters from *The Wizard of Oz* while helping out at the special showing of the film for over 300 Girl Scouts.

Girl Scouting is for every girl, everywhere – where today's girls can become tomorrow's leaders. Membership in Girl Scouts is open to girls ages 5-17; women and men over 17 can join as adult

members.

If you are interested in Girl Scouts, but have not found a troop to join, please check out the website at [www.orindamoraga-girlscouts.org](http://www.orindamoraga-girlscouts.org).

# OIS Student a Semifinalist in Geographic Bee

By SALLY HOGARTY  
Editor

Sam SooHoo, a seventh grade student at Orinda Intermediate School, is a semifinalist in the 2013 California National Geographic Bee.

Sponsored by Google and Plus Creek, Bees were held in schools throughout the state to determine each school's winner. Each winner then took a qualifying test. The National Geographic Society (NGS) invited students with the top 100 scores to compete at the state level from each of the 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Dependents Schools, and the U.S. territories.

The state contest takes place in Sacramento on April 5 with the winner receiving \$100 and a trip to Washington, D.C. to represent California in the national finals, moderated by Alex Trebek, on May 20-22. The first-place national winner receives a \$25,000 college scholarship and lifetime membership in the NGS.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Sam SooHoo, a seventh grader at OIS, will compete in the state Geographic Bee in Sacramento on April 5.

For more information on the National Geographic Bee, go to [www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee).

## ◆ WINNERS from page 2

schools."

She quickly realized that there was no need to exaggerate the severity of the problem. "I work with mostly 16 year olds who are in ninth grade, yet they read at only the first-grade level," Brentano says. The gaps in our education system and the opportunities afforded to students are truly astonishing."

Failure in core academic classes such as reading, writing and math, is one of the key risk factors associated with dropping out. Classroom behavior and attendance are two other identifiable early risk factors. City Year aims to address each of these with the help of over 6,000 committed and eager young adults who give a year of their service to improving the chances for success in others.

The model may seem simple: employ a [SEE BRENTANO page 24]

Acalanes High School, *Senseless Emotion*; 2nd Place \$200, Lindsay Wong, 11th grade, Campolindo High School, *Untitled*; 3rd Place \$50 (TIE), Hanna Schoenberger, 11th grade, Campolindo High School, *Taxi Cab in New York City*; 3rd Place \$50 (TIE), Sachi Granich, 10th grade, Bentley School, *The Landlord*; Honorable Mention \$25, Emily LaRoche, 10th grade, Bentley School, *Stuck in a Daze*; Honorable Mention \$25, Magda Herrera, 12th grade, Bentley School, *Self-Portrait*; Honorable Mention \$25, Minghan Zhong, 11th grade, Bentley School, *Self-Portrait*.

And, finally, the \$300 Best in Show Viewer's Choice Award goes to Amy Holidswandner, 12th grade, Acalanes High School, for her work *Giraffe*.



YOGA  
IYENGAR METHOD

• Strength • Stamina • Stress Reduction

JEANNE DOWELL

Former instructor under  
U.S. Olympic Committee  
Orinda, and Moraga  
private instruction available.  
Classes for all levels.  
Take home instructions available.  
**Ask about unique SPA DAYS!**  
925.254.0193  
[www.yogawithjeanne.com](http://www.yogawithjeanne.com)  
**FIRST CLASS FREE**



la Méditerranée  
CAFE . RESTAURANT . CATERING

"For your next special occasion  
try our Party Platters and  
our Chicken Pomegranate!"

Free Delivery to Lamorinda  
( within 10 miles, with \$250 min. order )  
(510) 540-7773  
[www.cafelamed.com](http://www.cafelamed.com)  
2936 College Ave. at Ashby . Berkeley . CA 94705



Are you considering buying?  
Do you want to know what your home is worth in the current market?  
Are you wondering what is happening to home prices in the area?

For current information, give me a call about your real estate needs.



LEILA SCHLEIN  
925.899.7927   Leila@LeilaSchlein.com   [www.LeilaSchlein.com](http://www.LeilaSchlein.com)



PACIFIC UNION  
INTERNATIONAL  
CHRISTIE'S  
GREAT ESTATES  
A Member Of Real Living

SCHOOLS / STUDENTS

## OIS Hosts International Fair



SALLY HOGARTY

On March 13, OIS hosted an International Fair where 32 countries were represented. Parents and community volunteers shared their various cultures with the students and other community members by displaying artifacts and pictures, playing music and giving out samples of food specific to their countries. In addition, the OIS choir highlighted a number of countries in song, including singing in French and Swahili. The event also included a Jujitsu exhibition. "We've had more participation in the International Fair than we expected," said coordinator Aline Aghababian. "It's a nice problem to have."

## California Magic Soccer Team Ranked in Top Ten in State for U13 Girls



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to the California Magic Soccer Club, which is now ranked in the top 10 in the State according to got-soccer.com. After winning the prestigious Mustang Winter Turf Classic, the Magic team jumped into the top 10 state rankings for U13 girls. "We are extremely excited about the future," said head coach and technical director Haris Obic. "It means we are recognized as a premier club with

the ability to produce competitive players and teams, but we are not done yet."

California Magic is a competitive soccer club in Orinda with a mission to educate, inspire, and empower youth in a positive way through the beautiful game of soccer. Gotsoccer.com, based in Neptune Beach, Florida, is the only integrated software soccer ranking database with an affiliation of more than 7,000 clubs nationwide.

## OIS Presents *Once On This Island* – a Caribbean Treat



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

OIS students rehearse *Once On This Island*. (L-R) **Caroline Rickson, Angela Piccioni, Will Shain, Abigail Miller, Brigitte Finger, and Jackie Patton**. In back row: **Aiden Wemkin**.

By JULIE McCORMACK  
Contributing Writer

Departing from the often performed, more well-known Broadway musicals, Orinda Intermediate School's (OIS) Bulldog Theater will be staging the contemporary and unique *Once On This Island, Jr.* April 24-27, 2013 at OIS. *Once On This Island, Jr.* is an exciting musical featuring a foot-tapping, spirited Caribbean score by Tony Award-winning songwriters, Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, a team also known for their collaboration on the musicals *Ragtime* and *Seussical*.

The original Broadway production of *Once On This Island* ran from 1990 to 1991 and earned eight Tony nominations for its Broadway run, including Best Musical, Book and Score. The West End production, which opened in 1994, won the 1995 Olivier Award for Best New Musical.

As the show begins, the audience is transported to a tropical island where, on a rainy, stormy night, a small girl cries out in fear. To comfort her, the villagers tell her the story of a peasant girl, Ti Moune, who falls in love with Daniel, a rich young man from the other side of the island, and the charismatic island gods who try to influence the outcome between the two.

It turns out that the gods have dictated Ti Moune's fate: to fall in love with Daniel. The gods continue to intervene in the villagers' lives as the story unfolds and in no one's life more than Ti Moune's.

This joyous, yet tragic, story of life, love, faith, and hope features non-stop music and dancing. The colorful sets and costumes are basic and intentionally minimal, allowing the audience to expand the scenes in their

imagination. Creative movement is also important to the show's style – performers themselves are used to portray trees, wild animals and even a fierce rainstorm.

Justin Pyne, who served as musical director on *Guys & Dolls* last spring, directs, assisted by Jack Henry, a 2003 alumnus of OIS. "The story we're telling is really about all of us living together on this 'island' we've inherited," says Pyne. "It's about how we can be a force to build it up and help love win, just like Ti Moune tries to do." The show is produced and choreographed by Christina Martin, who directed OIS' fall play.

The two casts of OIS students will spend over 40 hours rehearsing and preparing for the show, which will run April 24-27 at the OIS "Bulldog Theater." It is funded through the OIS Parents Club, Orinda Arts Council and parent contributions. The 90-minute production will have one intermission. For more information on the show and casts, go to <http://ois-orinda-ca.schoolloop.com/Theater>. Tickets will be available for purchase starting April 10 at [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com).

### Lamorinda Idol Auditions

Registration for auditions is now open through April 30. Auditions will be held May 16 - 18 with finalists performing on September 8. Soloists will compete in four categories by grade and groups will compete in three categories by grade. Go to [www.orindaartscouncil.org](http://www.orindaartscouncil.org) for information.



**Loard's Ice Cream and Candy**  
Your Hometown Ice Cream and Candy Store  
**They will all scream for ice cream at your party catered by Loard's!**



**Easter Baskets with handmade chocolates make a special treat from the Easter Bunny!**



230 Brookwood Road  
Orinda  
254-3434

1480 H Moraga Road  
Rheem Shopping Center, Moraga  
(925) 388-0695

# McDonnell Nursery

shop now to receive McDonnell bucks


family owned since 1933

Trees • Shrubs • Vines • Annuals • Perennials  
Vegetables • Containers • Statuary & Fountains  
Indoor Plants • Decorative Items

[www.mcdonnellnursery.com](http://www.mcdonnellnursery.com)

196 Moraga Way • Orinda • (925) 254-3713 • Open Daily


FILM



# THE REEL LESS TRAVELED

## OF FOOLS, CLOSE-UPS AND LAUGHTER

Tom Westlake



Ah, April. This is the month that confirms, once and for all (at least for this year), that winter is officially over. Oh, sure, there may be the occasional cold snap and passing rainstorm, but April, unlike the month before with its bracketed meteorological (and animalistic) reputation, segues right on over to May...but I get ahead of myself.

April also is known as the first real “foolish” month of the year. Aside from the 1st, the overall mood of April is one of higher spirits. This may be essential as there is still much to contend with. For most of us, April 15 looms like the Ides of March but for the cinephile, at least here in the Orinda/Moraga area, we find ourselves with a dearth of choices. This is mostly due to the continued issue of the elevator at the Rheem.

As of this writing there is hope on the horizon thanks to the tireless efforts of local students who have raised sufficient monies to where the second story can be, at least in part, reopened. No word yet if Vanessa will be able to regain her throne for her monthly assault on our I.Q. but we live in hope.

And speaking of Queens, we have the latest offering from JoAlice and Efi: *A Royal Affair*. Touted as being cut from the same cloth as *Amadeus* and *The Madness of King George III*, it tells the story of Princess Caroline who, in 1767, is betrothed to the mad King Christian VII of Denmark. This does not go as planned and soon, thanks to political posturing, and a torrid affair, things go terribly awry. These sumptuous costume dramas are few and far between. Indeed, the last time the International Film Showcase featured one was *Goethe in Love* last year. This one, distinguished by its Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations, should be a clear indicator that it is not one to miss. That it also features Mads Mikkelsen (*La Chiffre* from 2006’s *Casino Royale*) is just further enticement to definitely pen this one in on your calendar. It will screen during the week of April 5 at the Orinda. Go to [www.lamorindatheatres.com](http://www.lamorindatheatres.com) for times.

Next, we have *Sunset Blvd.* The premise might seem far-fetched but when taken in the context of its overall location (Hol-

lywood), it immediately becomes relevant and, quite frankly, downright weird. Watching this film is like watching an unsettling dream, and although Billy Wilder made the film, it would not take too much to convince me that David Lynch somehow managed to travel back in time and act as the power behind the throne. There is not one character or plot point that deserves your pity or compassion but that does not make this movie any less watchable, and, in fact, helps transport it to the realm of a classic. This film is an American original, and if you’ve never seen it on the big screen, I envy you. You’re in for a singular evening at the theatre. It will screen at the Orinda Theatre on April 11 at 7 p.m.

And, lastly, we have *Ninotchka*. An early example of the “fish out of water” theme, this comedy, written in part by the same man that gave us *Sunset Blvd.*, is as close to comedic perfection as you can get. Billed as the film where “Garbo laughs,” it also deals with the clashing of cultures, romance and odd fashion choices. And, did I mention Garbo? That alone should be enough to convince you to see this movie. She was never lovelier than in this film, but don’t take my word for it. Be at the Rheem Theatre on April 17 at 4 p.m. and see for yourself.

I urge you to check the Lamorinda website ([www.lamorindatheatres.com](http://www.lamorindatheatres.com)) for surprises. Last month, I saw Rita Moreno here introducing *West Side Story* and *Singin’ in the Rain* as well as signing copies of her book *Rita Moreno: A Memoir*. Unfortunately, I didn’t know about it in time to include her appearance in last month’s column.

Please keep good thoughts (and any dollars you can spare) for the continuing effort to reopen the second story of the Rheem and, as ever, stay in the dark. That’s where true magic lies.

Orinda/Tabor Sister City Foundation presents the film  
*Nicky’s Family*  
Sunday, April 28, 2013.  
Orinda Library Theatre  
5:00 p.m. Admission \$5.  
925-254-8260.

◆ **AWARD** from page 11

because they have the mechanisms in place to solicit grants. They also hope to collaborate with the Orinda Rotary which can provide valuable people-power for certain activities. The board is looking to partner with organizations whose activities support their mission statement.

Current board members include Bill Wadsworth (president), Carolyn Mills (vice president/secretary), Frank Woodard (treasurer), Jack Bontemps (past president),

Booker Holton, Tom Lavin, and Lee Bressette. Michelle Lacy, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, and Charlie Vollmar, liaison from the Orinda Parks and Recreation Commission usually attend OPRF Board meetings.

Anyone interested in volunteering with the OPRF, should contact Bill Wadsworth at 925-963-0442 or email [wadsyl@aol.com](mailto:wadsyl@aol.com). Assistance is needed to expand the board, plan annual fundraising events, and other projects.

◆ **SMILE** from page 11

people to Spontaneous Smiley for a deeper reason. What had been a hobby morphed into a calling.”

Kaiser said she was aware of the work done by Operation Smile, as her orthodontist had gone on medical missions to help repair children’s cleft lips and palates. “The group resonated with me because I’d been in a bad accident, taking a blow to the face that required several surgeries to reconstruct my mouth,” Kaiser explained.

Kaiser cold called Operation Smile, and pledged to donate \$1 every time a Smiley was uploaded to her website. After the first surgery was earned, she reached out to “Smiley fans” to “help keep the pledge alive. I was thrilled when that is exactly what happened.”

She received donations from individuals, from her orthodontist, and through a contest from a pediatric website. Schools got involved too. Rheem Elementary School fundraised to pay for five surgeries, hosting a Smiley Hunt for a Smile-a-Thon, much like a Walk-a-Thon, but raising money through smiles instead of miles walked.

The students raised enough to pay for five surgeries.

Since the Fall of 2009, the Spontaneous Smile community has sponsored 25 surgeries, said Kaiser, adding, “We’re still going strong. Operation Smile has surely given the Spontaneous Smiley community more than we can ever give back. Through working to help kids all over the planet get surgery to fix their smiles, we have been lucky to feel the sense of doing valuable work.”

For Kaiser’s recent trip, students at a Pleasanton elementary school supplied 300 art kits for her to share with children in Paraguay. Kaiser’s job on the trip was to work in the hospital helping move children from the Recovery Room to their waiting parents. “Imagine my good fortune to share with them that moment when they first see their child’s smile (and life) transformed,” she said.

Although Kaiser has returned from Paraguay, people can continue to help fund Operation Smile by directly donating to the group when visiting [www.SpontaneousSmiley.com](http://www.SpontaneousSmiley.com).

◆ **BOOKS** from page 8

appearance April 20. A lighthouse keeper and his young wife are childless. When a dinghy founders on their little island, with a baby girl and her dead father aboard, the wife begs to keep the child — a decision which haunts the rest of this moving story.

And in May, readers can look forward to the paperback releases of *Bring Up the Bodies*, the second installment in Hilary Mantel’s award winning trilogy about Thomas Cromwell; *Seating Arrangements* by Maggie Shipstead, a WASP wedding in

New England with entertaining skullduggery; *The Art Forger* by Barbara Shapiro, an enlightening exploration into the world of art dealers and art forgeries; as well as *Capital*, John Lanchester’s outstanding novel of contemporary London—from hedge-fund managers and Hungarian nannies to Muslim shopkeepers and Senegalese soccer stars. All acclaimed novels and wonderful reading!

So there’s no excuse for April grumblings about nothing new to read. More appropriate is the old adage, “So Many Books, So Little Time!”

◆ **AMBASSADOR** from page 2

the value of including art education as part of the general curriculum.

Paterson hopes the community will come to appreciate the exhibit and understand how the projects are integrative, a component of a full curriculum, and that artwork really shows context in education.

OAC supports the program by providing funding to display the artwork, as well as participant certificates and ribbons for each of the student artists (see [www.orindaartscouncil.org](http://www.orindaartscouncil.org)). Cara Hoxie, event vice president, along with other volunteers from EFO, helped with activities such as distributing publicity banners and flyers, and preparing labels for artwork (see <http://orindaefo.org>).

Hillery Paterson, OUSD arts coordinator, sings the praises of the OAC/OUSD art liaison volunteers. “They are wonderful advocates for the teachers at each school because they can rally up volunteers needed for arts programs, which include both music and the visual arts.” Paterson encourages anyone interested in becoming an art liaison to contact the individual OUSD school. Art liaison volunteers enjoy the opportunity for hands-on projects and interaction with the students.

Visit the gallery during normal library hours – Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Call 254-2814 for more information.



~ Expertise  
~ Service  
~ Insight  
~ Integrity

**Experience Extraordinary**

Call us today for a complimentary  
Market Evaluation &  
Home Enhancement Plan

**Virginia Varni-Ratto**      **Paul Ratto**  
(925) 253-6215      (925) 253-6227  
[vvarni@pacunion.com](mailto:vvarni@pacunion.com)    [pratto@pacunion.com](mailto:pratto@pacunion.com)  
[www.varni-ratto.com](http://www.varni-ratto.com)    • [www.fixup2sell.com](http://www.fixup2sell.com)

2 THEATRE SQUARE, SUITE 117    ORINDA, CA 94563    925-258-0090

see our open homes and many more listings with virtual & multi-media tours on [pacunion.com](http://pacunion.com)





**Do you need help with your best friend?**  
**Your dog is a good dog, BUT,**  
**some behaviors need to change!**  
**In-home dog and puppy training.**

*I Talk*  
**DOG**

**Denise Collins**  
Dog & People Trainer

**I Talk Dog**  
925-285-9194 • [www.italkdog.com](http://www.italkdog.com)

## PERFORMING ARTS

## Cal Shakes Looking for House Manager

By SALLY HOGARTY  
Editor

Orinda's award-winning regional theater company needs a house manager for the 2013 summer season at the Bruns Amphitheater. The part-time, seasonal position requires approximately 20-35 hours per week from May – October.

The house manager is responsible for the efficient operation of all front-of-house activities (including the theater store) and the comfort and safety of audiences at the 545-seat outdoor venue during the main stage season and student matinee performances. This position assigns and directs the work of the assistant house manager, house associates, volunteer ushers and raffle sellers.

Working with the box office, on-site catering staff, Cal Shakes staff, stage management and event vendors, this position

is responsible for seating the house and dealing with any problems that may arise regarding ticketing and patron amenities. The house manager also opens and closes the site on performance days, securing buildings and setting alarms as required.

The position reports to the director of Marketing and Communications and the successful applicant may be required to attend pre-season meetings and training. Applicants should note that this position works outdoors with extensive periods of standing and walking on uneven ground and requires night and weekend work. The position pays \$14 per hour.

For a detailed job description, go to [www.calshakes.org](http://www.calshakes.org). To apply, send a cover letter and resume to: House manager Search, California Shakespeare Theater, 701 Heinz Ave., Berkeley, CA 94710 or email [jobs@calshakes.org](mailto:jobs@calshakes.org) and put "House Manager Search" in the subject line.

## Orinda Starlight Village Players Hold Open Auditions For 30th Season



JILL GELSTER

Jesse Mackinnon as Sherlock Holmes (L) rehearses a fight with Tom Badillo (Jack the Ripper) in last year's Orinda Starlight Village Players production of *The Speckled Band*.

By DAVID DIERKS  
Assistant Editor

On April 1 and 2, Orinda Starlight Village Players will be holding open auditions for its upcoming 30th anniversary season. Auditions will be held at the Orinda Community Center in the Carpentry Room at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome and monologues are not required.

The shows selected for the season will start with Frank Vosper's *Love from a Stranger*, an adaptation of Agatha Christie's *Philomel Cottage*, followed by James Thurber's *A Thurber Carnival*, and finishing with Malcolm Cowler's *Escape to Bedlam*, an adaptation of three Edgar Allan Poe stories.

*Love from a Stranger* will open on March 31 and run Friday and Saturday nights in

June, with one Sunday matinee on June 9 and one Thursday evening on June 20. *A Thurber Carnival* will open on July 19 and run Friday and Saturday nights until August 10 with one Sunday matinee on August 4 and one Thursday evening on August 8. *Escape to Bedlam* will open on September 6 and run Friday and Saturday nights until September 28 with one Sunday matinee on September 22 and one Thursday performance on September 26.

In addition to auditioning actors for performances, the theatre is always on the look out for volunteers. Anyone who is interested in helping with box office, lights, sound, set construction, or stage managing is encouraged to come to auditions and meet the Starlight Players. For more information, email [info@orsvp.org](mailto:info@orsvp.org) or call 925-528-9225.

### Chamber's "Live at the Orinda"



SALLY HOGARTY

Headliner and political pundit **Will Durst** keeps the audience laughing.



SALLY HOGARTY

**David Van Avermaete** was a big hit with his jokes about aging.

The Orinda Chamber of Commerce's comedy night at the Orinda Theatre kept the large crowd entertained with a variety of comedians including: Arthur Gaus, Kabir "Kabeezy" Singh, David Van Avermaete, and headliner Will Durst. KKDV DJ Wayne Coy was master of ceremonies for the March 8 event, which included a full bar.

### Silver Wings Wants You!

If you enjoy singing, dancing, storytelling or comedy, Silver Wings Repertory invites you to join. An outgrowth of a senior acting class, the group puts on a variety show twice a month. Call 925-935-0861 for more information.

### The Medicine Shoppe

100% Pure Pharmacy<sup>SM</sup>

Hop on into The Medicine Shoppe<sup>®</sup> for all your health needs!



Happy Easter

Alan Wong, R.Ph.  
Next to Hollyhock and McCaulou's  
282 Orinda Village Sq. • 254-1211  
[www.medicineshoppe.com](http://www.medicineshoppe.com)

## RPM | MORTGAGE

Is pleased to announce the appointment of  
**Dianne Crosby**  
as Senior Vice President  
and congratulates her as its  
Top Purchase Agent in 2012



**Dianne Crosby**  
Senior Vice President  
925.743.3501  
[www.dianneecrosby.com](http://www.dianneecrosby.com)  
[dcrosby@rpm-mtg.com](mailto:dcrosby@rpm-mtg.com)  
51 Moraga Way  
Suite# 2  
Orinda, CA 94563  
DRE# 01348308  
NMLS# 304682

CA Dept. of Real Estate - Real Estate Broker License # 01818035  
NMLS # 9472. Equal Housing Opportunity.

## IT'S APRIL IN LAMORINDA

FOR REAL ESTATE

### APRIL MATTHEWS

CONSISTENTLY REPRESENTING BUYERS AND  
SELLERS IN SUCCESSFUL TRANSACTIONS

[dreamhomelamorinda.com](http://dreamhomelamorinda.com)

[www.villageassociates.com](http://www.villageassociates.com)

925.253.2147

[aprilmat@comcast.net](mailto:aprilmat@comcast.net)





CALENDAR

ON THE CALENDAR

April

- 1 **Orinda Unified School District (OUSD) Arts Ambassadors** through April 30, exhibit of art from elementary schools and Orinda Intermediate School, Orinda Library Gallery. April 17 Artists Reception, Orinda Library Art Gallery, 4 to 6 p.m., with refreshments and student choral and instrumental music performances. Call 254-2814.
- Orinda Starlight Village Players** season auditions. 6:30 p.m. Orinda Community Center Carpentry Room. Also April 2. For more information email info@orsvp.org. Article pg. 23.
- 5 **First Friday Forum**, Bay Bridge Retrofit with speaker Victor Gauthier, Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive., Lafayette, 1:30 p.m. Call 935-283-8722 or go to www.lopc.org. See article this page.
- International Film Festival** presents *A Royal Affair*. Go to www.lamorindatheatres.com for show times.
- 9 **Our Whole Lives**, teen workshop on sexuality, self-worth and more. Also April 16, 23 and 30, Orinda Community Church. Email idarwinobrien@yahoo.com. See article page 6.
- 17 **Friends of Orinda Creeks** hosts EBMUD experts talking on Where Does Our Water Come From, Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way, 7 p.m. Email info@orindacreeks.org.
- 18 **Orinda Historical Society** Walking Tour, 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Orinda Community Center. Call 254-1353.
- Orinda Books** hosts author Jess Walters discussing and signing *Beautiful Ruins* and his new short-story collection, *We Live in Water*, 276 Village Square, 2 p.m. Call 254-7606.
- 2013 Poul Anderson Creative Writing Contest** submission deadline at noon. Up to four winners will receive \$250. Visit www.friendsoftheorindalibrary.org or email Julie at jjros-siter@me.com. See article page 8 for more details.
- Heart of the Home Kitchen and Garden Tour** benefitting Miramonte High School. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See article page 9 for more details.
- 19 **7th Annual Lamorinda Acalanes Unified Film Festival**, Campolinda High School Performing Arts Center, 300 Moraga Road, Moraga, 7 to 9 p.m., with screenings of short films by local students and an awards ceremony. Visit www.orindaartscouncil.org/schools.
- 20 **Orinda Action Community Service Day**, sponsored by Orinda Community Foundation and City of Orinda. 9 a.m. to noon. See article page 4. Visit www.orindafoundation.org.
- 21 **12th Annual Earth Day/Wildlife Festival at Wagner Ranch Nature Area** (next to Wagner Ranch Elementary, 350 Camino Pablo Road). See article this page. Visit www.fwrna.org.
- 10th Annual Family Fun 5k/1K Run**, sponsored by JF Kapnek Trust, a nonprofit that helps reduce pediatric AIDS in Zimbabwe and educate orphans and children in Africa, Miramonte High School, 750 Moraga Way, 9 a.m. Free T-shirts for all entrants plus crafts for children, music, prizes and brunch. Visit www.jfkapnektrust.org/events.html.
- 24 **Orinda Intermediate School (OIS) Bulldog Theater**, 80 Ivy Drive, presents *Once On this Island, Jr.* through April 27, with shows April 24 & 25 at 4:30 p.m., April 26 at 4:30 & 8 p.m., April 26 at 8 p.m. and April 27 at 3 & 7 p.m. Visit www.orindaschools.org/ois.
- 25 **Orinda Books** hosts author Alan Brennert, taking us back in time to his native New Jersey in his new novel *Palisades Park*, 276 Village Square, 2 p.m. Call 254-7606.

AT THE LIBRARY

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

- 2 **Toddler Lapsit**, stories, songs and fingerplays for infants to 3-year-olds and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 10 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 to 10:55 a.m. Drop-ins welcome, but attendance limited to once per week. Also April 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24 and 30.
- Peek-A-Boo Time** features songs, stories, rhymes and rhythms for newborns through 1-year-olds and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 11:30 to 11:55 a.m. Also April 9, 16 and 23.
- 3 **Paws to Read**, children in grades 1-5 can practice their reading with a friendly dog, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sessions are 25 minutes. Registration required. Call or visit the library.
- 6 **Book Sale** sponsored by Friends of the Orinda Library, Book Shop and Sorting Area, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Saturday Morning Live**, family story time for 3- to 5-year-olds, Picture Book area, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Also April 13, 20 and 27.
- Weekend Paws to Read**, children of all ages can interact with a friendly dog while improving literacy skills, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Registration required.
- 10 **Second Wednesday Book Group** meets at Orinda Books, 3 p.m. Call 254-7606.
- 16 **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** docent talks about the theatre's production of *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*, Fireside Room, 7 p.m. Obie Award-winning director Mark Wing-Davey puts his own spin on this Shakespeare classic. Adult program.
- 19 **Mystery Book Club** members discuss *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn, Tutoring Room, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Adult program, drop-ins welcome.
- 23 **The Rome of Sculptor and Architect Gian Lorenzo Bernini**, a talk by Humanities West's George Hammond, Fireside Room, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Adult program.
- 25 **ESL (English as a Second Language) Conversation Circle**, practice and improve English conversation skills in an informal, small-group environment. The groups meets every Thursday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Sessions are free and registration is not required.
- Talespinners of Contra Costa**, tell a story or just come to listen, featuring a special storyteller, 7 to 9 p.m. Adult program.
- 30 **Author Talk for teens** 12-17 years features Cynthia Brian, author of *Be the Star You Are!* For Teens and producer of teen radio show Express Yourself! Teen Radio, 7 to 8 p.m.

CLUB MEETINGS

**Diablo Star Chapter #214**, Order of the Eastern Star. Second Monday, 7:30 p.m., Orinda Masonic Center. Contact Karen Seaborn, 689-0995.

**Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe**. Third Monday, 7:30 p.m., Upstairs Better-Homes/Mason Mcduffie Real Estate meeting room, 51 Moraga Way, Orinda, www.moragaadobe.org.

**Friends of the Orinda Creeks**. Fourth Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., May Room, Orinda Library, 253-1997.

**Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coalition**, every third Wednesday, 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Orinda City Hall Sarge Littlehale Room. Call 687-8844, ext. 227.

**Lamorinda Sirs** for retired men. Second Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Luncheon speakers plus golf, tennis, bocce, bridge and astronomy. Call Pete Giers, 254-4667.

**Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary**. Every Friday, 7 a.m., Celia Mexican Restaurant, Lafayette, 254-0440, ext. 463.

12th Annual Earth Day/Wildlife Festival at Wagner Ranch Nature Area



SALLY HOGARTY

Attendees at last year's Earth Day/Wildlife Festival at Wagner Ranch Nature Area enjoyed learning about native birds and meeting a wise old owl.

By SALLY HOGARTY  
Editor

Step into nature and learn about Orinda's history and more at the annual festival at Wagner Ranch Nature Area (WRNA) on Sunday, April 2, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Located next to Wagner Ranch Elementary School at 350 Camino Pablo Road in Orinda, the WRNA consists of 18 acres of meadow, forest, ponds and streams with the San Pablo Creek flowing along one side. This former site of California's first Surveyor General Theodore Wagner's ranch has become an environmental classroom for children for more than 30 years. The Friends of Wagner Ranch Nature Area host

events throughout the year that celebrate and support environmental education and biodiversity programs at WRNA, which is owned by the Orinda Union School District.

The Friends and many other community groups have planned a variety of activities for all ages including: Earth Day Tribute by Chester Miner, Elder of the Cherokee Nation; a raptor show by Jenny Papka of Native Bird Connections; nature arts and crafts; electric car test-drives; creek explorations; music and games; delicious food; and much more. Gary Bogue, columnist for the *Contra Costa Times*, will also be there.

For more information, go to www.fwrna.org.

Bay Bridge Retrofit Topic of First Friday Forum

By BOBBIE DODSON  
Staff Writer

The Bay Area is now home to the world's largest self-anchored suspension bridge - the eastern half of the San Francisco Bay Bridge. On April 5, First Friday Forum's audience will learn all about this unique structure when Victor Gauthier's topic will be "Update on the New Oakland/San Francisco Bay Bridge." It will be held in the sanctuary of the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, La-

fayette, at 1:30 p.m.

As communications associate and tours program manager, Gautier will provide information about the rich history of the Bay Bridge and of the current construction site, which is the largest infrastructure project in California history. He'll cover the fabrication, world class seismic innovations, new design and the opening ceremonies scheduled for Labor Day weekend. "This seismic retrofit of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge is more than an upgrade to one of

[SEE FFF page 26]

**Lamorinda Toastmasters**. Every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Temple Isaiah, 3800 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, www.lamorinda.freetoasthost.net.

**Montelindo Garden Club**. Third Friday, September through May, Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, 9 a.m., www.montelindogarden.com. Guest speaker is Shawna Anderson, Orchard Nursery container plant expert.

**Orinda Juniors Women's Club** community service group. First Tuesday, September to June, 7 p.m. Contact Julie Mercer or Charlene Robinson at info@orindajuniors.org or www.orindajuniors.org.

**Orinda Rotary**. Every Wednesday, noon, Community Center, 28 Orinda Way, 254-2222.

**Orinda Association**. Second Monday, 7:15 p.m., Orinda Library, May Room, 254-0800.

**Orinda Hiking Club**. Hikes every weekend and the first Wednesday of the month. Visit www.orindahiking.org for weekly schedule or call Ian at 254-1465.

**Orinda Historical Society**. Third Wednesday, 3 p.m., Historical Society Museum, 26 Orinda Way, 254-1353.

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

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

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

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

CITY/FIRE/SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

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

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

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

**Moraga-Orinda Fire District**. Third Wednesday, 7 p.m., Administration Building, 1280 Moraga Way, Moraga.

**Orinda Union School District Board of Trustees**. Second Monday, 6 p.m., OUSD Conference Room, 25 Orinda Way, Suite 200, Orinda, CA 94563. www.orindaschools.org.

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

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

BARBACOA

Barbacoa Recreates Itself With New Executive Chef and More

By SALLY HOGARTY  
Editor

Restaurateurs Victor Ivry and Michael Karp know their audience. They revitalized Theatre Square with the opening of Table 24, a low-key, family friendly restaurant that introduced special menus for kids called “Littles” and “Middles.” With portions and prices downsized for young appetites, families flock to the inviting interior and comfortable seating while other patrons found the bar and large TVs or outside fire pit a draw.

But with the opening of Barbacoa on the other side of Theatre Square in June of 2012, Ivry and Karp went for wood-fired, authentic Mexican dishes from Jalisco, Michoacan and Oaxaca. The more sophisticated fare, with a large selection of Tequilas, brought patrons from a wider geographical region than Table 24 but drew

mixed reviews from locals.

“We realized that our menu at Barbacoa wasn’t as approachable for the entire family,” says Victor Ivry. “So, we listened to our customers and took a step back. Our primary market is right here in Lamorinda. Both Michael and I live in Orinda, and people here like to bring the entire family out to dinner.”

To help make Barbacoa more family friendly, Ivry and Karp hired Russell Rummer as executive chef. “Mexican food is a serious passion for me,” says Rummer, whose experience includes restaurants such as Absinthe and Acme Chop House. “I’ve traveled to the Yucatán, where Barbacoa’s style of Mexican food originates.” Rummer, who prefers organic products and sustainable seafood, kept such favorites as *Carne Asada* and *Camarones* on the menu but added Mexican fajitas, tacos, enchiladas, tamales and burritos accompanied by tradi-



Barbacoa’s new executive chef, Russell Rummer, brings a new more family-friendly menu to the Mexican restaurant.

tional rice and beans. He also brought over the “Littles” and “Middles” menus from Table 24 and added some Mexican offerings such as crispy tacos, cheese quesadilla and burritos.

“Russell created a new dessert that should appeal to all our customers as well,” says Ivry. “It’s called Nacho S’mores – bittersweet chocolate ganache topped with brûléed marshmallow and served with cinnamon-sugar tortilla chips.”

Barbacoa began its new menu in early February, and according to Ivry, they’ve

had a good response from patrons. In addition to the menu changes, an attractive new fire pit and a larger, more decorative covering over the outdoor patio have been installed.

To further entice family dining, Ivry and Karp instituted a “kids eat free” on Wednesdays when dining with an adult. “Kids can also choose a toy from our pirate chest as they leave,” Ivry adds.

For more information on Barbacoa’s new menu, go to [www.barbacoaorinda.com](http://www.barbacoaorinda.com) or call 254-1183.



Elizabeth Rae Walker, MA, MBA, MFT  
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist  
MFT# 31203

Offering Therapy to Teens, Adults and Couples

20 Years Experience

Convenient Appointment Times, Including Evenings and Saturdays

23 Altarinda Road, Suite 216 • Orinda  
[www.ewalkertherapy.com](http://www.ewalkertherapy.com)  
510-325-6060

♦ FFF from page 25

the country’s busiest bridges; it is an epic transformation into a global icon, featuring some of the most cutting-edge and innovative engineering, construction and seismic technology. For instance, the weight of the bridge is supported by a single, nearly one-mile long main cable,” Gautier says.

An expert on the existing Bay Bridge as well as the east span of the new Bay Bridge, Gautier manages the project tour program which provides presentations and/or nar-

rated construction site tours to thousands of people in the area. He will be showing a 24-minute video featuring an overview of the Seismic Safety Project and construction of the new span.

April 5 will be a special opportunity to hear about the building of this bridge, which has generated controversy, praise and interest in its cost and completion time. Refreshments will be served at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

For further information, call 925-283-8722 or go to [www.lopc.org](http://www.lopc.org).



MEXICAN COMFORT FOOD



Now serving Littles and Middles menus

**LITTLES**

portions for children 8 years and under

NACHOS with choice of beans	\$3.95
NOODLES WITH BUTTER AND CHEESE	\$5.95
(Both meals include a kids drink)	
SOFT TACO	\$4.95
CRISPY TACO	\$4.95
CHEESE QUESADILLA	\$4.95
BURRITO	\$5.95
ENCHILADA	\$5.95
HOT DOG	\$5.95
CHICKEN NUGGETS	\$5.95

(These meals are all served with rice, choice of beans or fruit and a kids drink)

ONE  
**FREE  
kids  
meal**

from the  
LITTLES menu.  
Need coupon.  
Exp. 6/30/13

**MIDDLES**

portions for children 9 years and over

TWO SOFT TACOS - chicken or beef	\$6.95 each
TWO CRISPY TACOS - chicken or beef	
TWO CHEESE QUESADILLAS - add chicken or beef	
SUPER BURRITO - chicken or ground beef, rice, beans, cheese, salsa, sour cream and guacamole	\$2.00
ENCHILADAS - choice of cheese, chicken or beef	

(These meals are all served with rice, choice of beans or fruit)

Theatre Square in Orinda  
Call 925-254-1183

Kristin Walker M.D., Inc.  
General & Cosmetic Dermatologist  
89 Davis Road, Suite #180  
Orinda  
(925) 254-1080

Dr. Walker, board certified dermatologist, offers care in general adult and pediatric dermatology, laser surgery, skin cancer surgery, and cosmetic dermatology. Her friendly and supportive staff can assist you with diminishing the effects of nature to reveal the real you underneath. Dr. Walker and her caring staff can help return the glow to your skin with the most advanced skin care lasers and technologies. Dr. Walker is proud to announce the addition of a Nutritionist and Aesthetician to her practice.

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE OFFICE:  
IPL-Photo Genesis Rejuvenation Treatment for Rosacea, Sun Damage, Fine Lines  
Laser Hair Removal  
Microdermabrasion  
Waxing

COSMETIC PROCEDURES AVAILABLE:  
Botox Cosmetic    Restylane    Sclerotherapy  
Collagen            Peels

AVAILABLE SKIN RESTORATION SYSTEMS:  
Procyte                    Jan Marini  
MD Forte                Glyquin

BUSINESS BUZZ

◆ BUZZ from page 28

Hello Tiara Opens at the Crossroads

If you have not strolled through Theatre Square lately, you will find the place buzzing with activity throughout. Hello Tiara, located near Living Lean, is a novel and fun shop for mothers and daughters. It seems to be the new trend among the young style setters in Orinda. Owners Sue Kim and Steve Kim – no relation- work together to bring customers a variety of attractive hair accessories suitable for any occasion, from every day wear to black tie and everything in between.

After graduating from Acalanes High School where she won local art competitions, Sue Kim attended the Academy of Art. Her enthusiasm and energy spill over into everything she does at Hello Tiara, most especially her flair for creating beautiful hairstyles incorporating elegant combs and clips with just a flick of the wrist. Sue takes great pleasure in demonstrating the simple ways to incorporate works of art into attractive hairstyles.

“Sue is incredibly creative. She can make five different beautiful hairstyles with just one comb. We pay attention to detail and make sure all items featured are versatile so customers can enjoy our hair accessories in many different ways,” explains Steve, who spent the past year selecting decorative hair combs, head bands, ponytail holders, animal clips for children, extravagant clips for women, handmade broaches and a selection of custom jewelry for Hello Tiara. Prices range from \$5 to \$50. There is something

for everyone here. The custom jewelry selections include earrings, bracelets, necklaces, rings and handmade broaches that incorporate onyx, mother of pearl, crystals or semi precious stones.

“We put a lot of thought into the name, Hello Tiara. In the old days, only queens wore tiaras. Not everyone could have one, but everyone wanted one. We want our customers to feel they are royalty and very special. We hope they feel they are treating themselves when they come to Hello Tiara,” smiles Sue.

Watching Sue in action is an event. Before your eyes, she creates an elegant up do and finishes the style off with an extravagant mother of pearl hair comb in a matter of minutes. A free style consultation accompanies every purchase. “We can answer any fashion question a customer may have,” says Sue. If you are tired of your same old look, Sue deftly incorporates a hair extension. “I really enjoy teaching my customers simple to do hairstyles that are gorgeous.”

Sue adds, “We offer party packages, which are really fun for a young girl’s birthday celebration with friends.”

These business partners complement one another – Steve enjoys staying up to date on fashions and Sue takes great pleasure in teaching various gorgeous styles to customers. She also spends time painting portraits. Hello Tiara is a member of the Better Business Bureau. Store hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, visit the website at [www.hellotiara.com](http://www.hellotiara.com).



Sue Kim (R) demonstrates a variety of hairstyles for customer Hailey Nestal, who attends 5th grade at Del Rey School. Also shown is Sue’s business partner Steve Kim.



**Maureen Wilbur**  
Coldwell Banker Orinda

Top 100 Member of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage 2012  
Top Individual Sales Associate Coldwell Banker Orinda 2012

Maureen’s Clients are Rated #1

Maureen gives outstanding professional representation.

**Maureen Wilbur**  
Previus Property Specialist



**Coldwell Banker**  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925-253-6311 VM  
[www.MaureenWilbur.com](http://www.MaureenWilbur.com)  
DRE# 01268536



Fashion Show and Luncheon Raises Funds for Scholarships

The Saint Mary’s College Guild will hold its annual fashion show and luncheon on Saturday, April 20, at 11 a.m. at the Soda Center on the Saint Mary’s College campus, 1928 Saint Mary’s Road, Moraga.

This year’s theme is Gay Paris and features fashions by CAbi (Carol Anderson By Invitation) and jewelry by Premier Designs. The event includes a gourmet French cuisine lunch, a \$250 Eiffel Tower Money Tree, gift baskets, and jewelry pieces to be raffled off.

Lunch is \$50 per person with \$28 of that amount a tax deduction. For reservations, contact Libby Townsend at 925-825-5853. Checks should be made payable to Saint Mary’s College Guild.

“Home is where the heart is!”

Let us help your loved ones retain their pride, dignity and independence with our full-service home care.

- Assistance with bathing, dressing & grooming
- Meal planning & preparation
- Transportation to & from appointments
- Running errands & shopping
- Exercise & physical activities
- Medication reminders
- Dementia & Alzheimer’s care
- Light housekeeping
- Hospital sitting & companionship



“Caring is probably one of the best gifts that a human being can give to another.”  
Matthew Sprague, LVN, MBA, Care Manager



61 Moraga Way, Suite 9  
Orinda, CA 94563  
Tel: (925) 317-3080  
Fax: (925) 317-3421  
[www.HomeCareOrinda.com](http://www.HomeCareOrinda.com)



\$500 off first month of live-in home care service. Offer good until 04/31/13 for new clients only.



**Spring into a beautiful smile**

Celebrate spring with a brand-new smile for you or your loved one...

If you’ve been putting off straightening your teeth, now is your chance to have the beautiful smile you deserve without anyone knowing you’re making a change. For many people, smile “tune-ups” can be completed in just a few months. Call our office today for a complimentary consultation.

**Bailey Orthodontics**  
Melissa Bailey, DDS, MS  
Orthodontics Specialist  
**(925) 254-4568**  
[www.BaileySmile.com](http://www.BaileySmile.com)  
15 Altarinda Rd, Suite 104A  
Orinda, CA 94568



BUSINESS BUZZ

Business Buzz  
Putting a Personal Face  
on Local Business

Valerie Hotz



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

Mommy Made Goodness Brought  
To Your Door

Inspired by her four-year-old son Jake, Orinda resident Jaime Askew established a home delivery food service featuring organic meals and snacks for babies and toddlers made with natural ingredients. Mommy Made Goodness has been available at East Bay Farmers’ Markets since last December, where Askew received very positive feedback from customers.

“Our online ordering system offers a whole range of options broken down into four categories, Simple Singles, Mixed Mouthfuls, Mighty Meals and Super Snacks. When babies begin eating solid food, Simple Singles contain one single pureed fruit or vegetable that is of very smooth texture and easy to eat. As a baby grows, he graduates to Mixed Mouthfuls, which is a blend of foods. Mighty Meals are a complete meal containing protein, grains, spices and herbs. The Super Snacks are all

whole grain. For example, Oatmeal Flax cookies are a mixture of oats with flax seed and are gluten free,” explains Askew.

The variety of selections may be viewed at [www.mommymadegoodness.com](http://www.mommymadegoodness.com). The menus are seasonal and offerings change weekly in order to provide variety for a baby’s growing body.

Customers are required to call two days ahead for home delivery. “Every item is organic, which means the fruits and vegetables are non-genetically modified and no pesticides were used,” says Askew. The meals are prepared in commercial kitchens approved by the Contra Costa County Health Department.

Meals are prepared from fruits and vegetables purchased from local farmers. Askew obtains meats from Marin Sun Farms. No additives, preservatives or refined sugars are used.

“When my son started eating solids, I began making his meals from scratch, including his snacks. I have always been concerned about eating health foods. I became even more aware of how important nutritious food is to a healthy life when Jake began eating solid food. My goal is to get



(L-R) Founder of Mommy Made Goodness Jaime Askew with her son Jake and husband Trenor Askew.

babies eating more homemade food and not processed foods,” says Askew, whose background is in forensic science. She and her husband Trenor, a real estate investor, moved to Orinda in 2011. In her free time, Askew enjoys working out at the gym and doing Pilates. She also spends time reading as much as possible about nutrition.

For more information, visit the website at [www.mommymadegoodness.com](http://www.mommymadegoodness.com), call 925-386-6204, or email Askew at [info@mommymadegoodness.com](mailto:info@mommymadegoodness.com).

Visit Beneyoga Inside Living Lean

A yoga instructor for the past two years, Brittany Benedetto is known to Orindans as a 4th grade teacher at Sleepy Hollow School, where she taught for eight years. Leading after-school yoga classes for her colleagues at Sleepy Hollow began as a hobby but eventually developed into her business, Beneyoga. You can enroll in her class, which is conducted at Living Lean inside Theatre Square, or Benedetto will come to your home for private instruction.

“I design classes for all body types, and while we do the basics every time, I offer variations on yoga poses for people who need it. My classes are very creative in that you will experience new things at each session,” says Benedetto, whose background also includes fitness competition. “I offer insight into overall well being and fitness. Classes concentrate on core work, calming of the mind and breathing exercises which are very important with our active lifestyles,” she adds. “Husbands and wives enjoy private instruction in their home because it is a nice way to end the day together.”

Basing her business in Orinda was a natural extension for Benedetto because

of her students and colleagues at Sleepy Hollow. She continues her teaching profession, although in a different context as she is teaching yoga. “Sometimes there is a lot of stress placed on children today, and it is a pleasure to teach them how to relax, using breathing to calm down. A main theme I teach is to be happy where you are, to work to the best of your ability, and to be at peace with yourself.”

“Yoga teaches you that you are okay where you are and helps people develop non-judgment towards themselves. No one else is looking at you during a yoga class because they are working on their own poses,” points out Benedetto.

An East Bay native, Benedetto earned her teaching credential at California State



Brittany Benedetto teaches yoga classes at Living Lean in Theatre Square.

University at Chico. She enjoys electronic music and attends music festivals and concerts whenever possible. “Music spills over into yoga, and I really like creating play lists,” she says.

You do not need to be a member of Living Lean to enroll in Beneyoga classes. The one-hour sessions take place Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. and Friday at noon. A new class is currently being scheduled. To arrange private individual, group or teen classes in your home, call Benedetto at 925-285-2526. For more information visit the website at [www.beneyoga.com](http://www.beneyoga.com).

[SEE BUZZ page 27]

CHANGES Salon & Day Spa

HAIR | NAILS | SKIN | MASSAGE | GIFT CARDS | RETAIL



1475 N. BROADWAY | WALNUT CREEK | 925-947-1814 | [WWW.CHANGESSALON.COM](http://WWW.CHANGESSALON.COM)

AMFA ART GALLERY

ANAHID DESIGNS FLOWER

BARBACOA

BONFIRE PIZZERIA

ENTOURAGE SPA & SALON

HELLO TIARA

KASPER'S HOT DOG COMPANY

LAVA PIT

HAWAIIAN GRILL

LIVING LEAN

ORINDA THEATRE

ORINDA TRAVEL

PETRA CAFE

REPUBLIC OF CAKE

SERIKA

SHELBY'S

THINK INSIDE THE SQUARE

AT ORINDA THEATRE SQUARE IT'S ALL GOOD. Casual, yet upscale dining with a menu for every taste. An eclectic blend of boutiques and health & beauty services. And all the latest movie releases. With so many new and exciting restaurants and shops, there are so many reasons to think inside The Square!

CHECK OUT THE SQUARE'S COMMERCIAL!



STARBUCKS

SUBWAY

SWEET DREAMS TOY STORE

TABLE 24

VISUAL ENTRÉE OPTOMETRY



Tom Romaneck Painting

Meticulous preparation & finish work

Excellent References • Owner Operated

Free Estimates

925-323-9908

[TRomaneck@yahoo.com](mailto:TRomaneck@yahoo.com)

Lic. #922081

