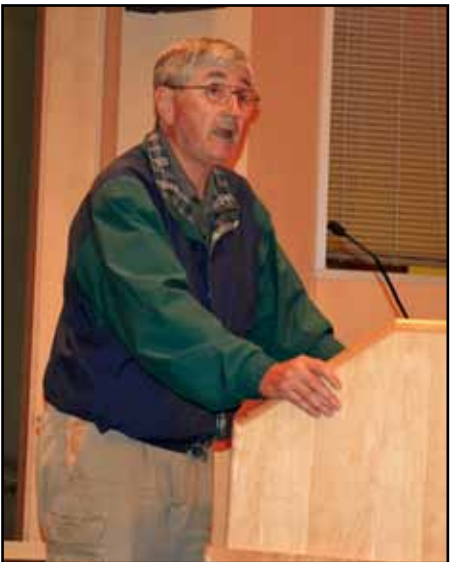


THE ORINDA NEWS

City Listens to Residents and Asks for Extension from ABAG

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

The Orinda Library Auditorium overflowed with residents of Orinda and nearby communities as approximately 200 people attended the City Council's special meeting on May 13. The meeting was called to receive public comment on



SALLY HOGARTY
Herb Brown spoke at both the May 7 and May 13 meeting. He's concerned that Plan Bay Area will change Orinda adversely.

the controversial Plan Bay Area. The meeting resulted from the regular City Council meeting on May 7, in which many residents spoke during the public forum requesting that the item be put on the agenda before the plan's comment deadline on May 16.

Background

Released by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) after a three-year process, the plan attempts

to outline how Bay Area communities can accommodate increased population over the next 25 years. While ABAG has been working on regional housing need allocation since the 1980s, Plan Bay Area resulted from California Senate Bill 375, "The California Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection act of 2008." The bill seeks to reduce green house gas emissions from cars and light trucks by locating new housing near transit hubs.

A major component of the plan involves each community providing housing for its various economic segments. Orinda's housing allocation for 2014-2022 is 70 units (very low income); 48 units (low income); 55 (moderate income) and 45 (above moderate). The Eden Senior Housing project on Orinda Way, currently in construction, will provide 66 of the low-income units with the Orinda Grove project on Altarinda Rd. providing eight units in the moderate-income range and 65 in the above moderate range. Additional housing projects for Orinda are in various stages of approval. The City Council also approved mother-in-law units under 750 sq. ft. or up to 1250 sq. ft. for multi-parcels that could be included in Orinda's housing units.

Plan Bay Area also designates Primary Development Areas (PDAs). These higher density-housing designations encourage growth near existing or planned transit, such as BART or comparable bus service.

The detailed Plan Bay Area was released on March 22 with a lengthy Draft Environmental Impact Review (DEIR) released on April 2. ABAG and MTC held a number of public meetings during April and early May to obtain public comment, which was

[SEE PLAN page 18]

Orinda's New Top Cop



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Lt. Scott Haggard took over duties as Orinda's Chief of Police on May 16. Haggard began with the Contra Costa Sheriff's Department in 1996 and has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. He replaces former Chief Jeff Jennings who recently retired after 21 years of service.

City Council Recognizes Miramonte Student for Heroism



SALLY HOGARTY
On May 7, the Orinda City Council recognized **Will Gittings** for receiving the Boy Scouts of America Act of Heroism Award. Gittings received the award for his quick thinking and first aid when a young girl accidentally put her hand through a glass door resulting in a very deep six-inch gash in her arm. Thanks to Gittings quick thinking, pressure was applied to the wound, the girl was kept calm and did not go into shock, and the paramedics were summoned.

Lights Go Out in Park But the Show Goes On



SALLY HOGARTY
Director **Geottry Chapple** (far left) leads a rehearsal of Starlight Village Players before the sun goes down. (L-R) **Mark Holobetz, Claire Stevenson, Laura Martin-Chapin** and **Marian Simpson**.

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Partners coming to the Orinda Community Center park for their weekly tennis game, young families hoping to catch their offspring in cute poses on the play structures, and the Orinda Starlight Village Players assembling at the amphitheater to begin rehearsals – these slightly disparate groups all have something very much in common – no lights!

As construction got underway at the location of the new senior housing at the old library site, the city and contractor dis-

covered that the original electrical service, which provided power to light the tennis courts, pathways and amphitheater, was connected from Irwin Way through the property at 2 Irwin Way (old library). When construction started, the electricity to the park was disconnected.

"We received PG&E's approval of the plans for the new connection at the end of February," says Parks and Recreation director Michelle Lacy. "We put the project out to bid, and the City Council approved Columbia Electric of San Leandro at its May 7 meeting. I hope to have a construc-

[SEE LIGHTS page 18]

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Art Ambassadors Award Ceremony



HILLERY PATERSON
Charlie and Matthew had their art work in the Art Ambassadors show at the Orinda Library.

The seventh annual Art Ambassador Awards Ceremony and Reception was held at the Orinda Library Gallery on April 19 from 4 to 6 p.m. Light refreshments and entertainment were provided including a scene performed by Bulldog Theater students, jazz performed by Mr. Maz’s music students and instrumental music courtesy of David Uyeno’s fourth and fifth graders. Student artwork comprised of at least one piece from every OUSD art studio in grades 1-8 was showcased. The Orinda Arts Council supports the program by providing funding to display the artwork, as well as participant certificates and ribbons for each of the 200 student artists.

– Elana O’Loskey



RITA SKLAR
Rita Sklar's *Winged Migration in Black and White* won the Award of Distinction from National Museum of Women in the Arts.

Rita Sklar Wins National Award

By ELANA O’LOSKEY
Staff Writer

National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) founder Wilhelmina Holladay and NMWA director Susan Fisher Sterling selected the 15” x 22” watercolor *Winged Migration in Black and White* by

Rita Sklar as their Award of Distinction winner. The selection was made from the six winners of the national American Association of University Women’s (AAUW) Annual Art Contest chosen from over 140 entries around the country. All six winning artworks will be made into note cards which [SEE SKLAR page 8]

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East Bay Women Artists Are Mixing It Up

By ELANA O’LOSKEY
Staff Writer

The June Gallery beckons us to immerse ourselves in the colors and vistas of summertime courtesy of East Bay Women Artists (EBWA) from June 2-31. Eight members of the group will be showing over 50 artworks including acrylic and oil paintings, watercolors, mixed media, photography, basketry, etchings and pastels. Their theme, *Mixing It Up*, refers to the diversity of their styles, media and subjects.

EBWA began as an offshoot of San Francisco Women Artists, which dates from the 1880s (www.sfwomenartists.org). East Bay women who attended the San Francisco group wanted a venue closer to home to show their artwork, although many show nationally and internationally. Founders of the group include Gwen Halpin, Lynda Robinson and the late Virginia Dorn of Orinda. Dorn was a respected artist and



NANCY POLLOCK
Nancy Pollock's oil painting *Dialogue* is part of the East Bay Women Artists' show in June.

lifetime supporter of women artists; one of her paintings will be on display to commemorate her life’s work.

Norma Anderson Fox of Oakland is showing basketry and etchings (www.nordic5arts.com); Lorraine M. Bruce of Alameda is showing acrylic and oil paintings (<http://lmbuce.com>) ; Gwen Halpin

[SEE GALLERY page 8]

Saint Mary's College Museum of Art

Points of View: Mary Lou Correia and Paul Kratter
June 1 - Sept. 22



Reception With Artists:
Sunday, June 2, 2 - 4 pm,
Art Patio, Free admission

Two of the East Bay's most vibrant landscape painters, Mary Lou Correia and Lamorinda's Paul Kratter, began their academic training and successful careers in design and illustration. From a controlled indoor work environment, they now are subject to the whims of nature, hauling painting equipment on foot and horseback, searching for a dramatic vista and racing against fading light.



Also on view
through July 7

Marc Chagall: Stories from the Bible
etchings from the 1930s
through July 14

Highlights and New Acquisitions from the College Art Collection
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(Museum Closed July 4)



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ORINDA ASSOCIATION

A Message From the OA President Volunteers Make it Happen!

Bill Waterman



The Orinda Association's board, generously supported by numerous volunteers, is now organizing our "30th Lamorinda July 4th Parade and Celebration," an example of the power of collaborative effort. If the word "volunteer" signifies people who offer to perform voluntary services for others, then this celebration is a prime example of the powerful impact the efforts of many volunteers can have.

This year's event is only possible because of the efforts of many committed volunteers. It begins with the OA's Board, which takes responsibility for organizing all aspects of the event. Financial support is generously provided by the Orinda Community Foundation and Parks & Recreation Foundation, aided by the support of the title sponsors, Orinda Motors and Mechanics Bank. But our events are run by many volunteers:

Our fun run (starting at 8 a.m.) is organized by The Roadrunners. Suzanne Tom organizes Haley's Run for a Reason.

Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club will put on the Pancake Breakfast (7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.).

Our flag raising (at 7:55 a.m.) is supervised by our veterans and assisted by Scouts.

The parade (starting at 10 a.m.) has a cross-section of our many volunteer community groups, including the five area Rotary Clubs, the Orinda and Lafayette Chambers of Commerce, local Boy Scout troops, the very active swim clubs and sports teams, students from our pre-schools through Miramonte, music supplied by the Pick-up Marching Band as well as Lamorinda Idol and EFO Band, and participation from the Orinda Classic Car Show.

Our park celebration (starting at 11:30 a.m.) consists of some 20-plus community non-profit groups' tables, kids' activities sponsored by Orinda Juniors and parents' clubs, food booths sponsored by local restaurants and non-profits, plus music!

This year, the OA is asking for more volunteer assistance:

Larger group entrants in the parade are being asked to have one person assist for a few hours during the parade – helping with crowd control and safety.

Families can sponsor a U.S. flag (for only \$50), or sponsor a kids' activity (for only \$250); details are on the OA's website under "sponsorship."

So on behalf of the OA, I'd like to thank all of our community groups and volunteers for helping out – your passionate support makes all the difference!

Orinda Association Announces Youth Contests for July 4

By BILL WATERMAN
OA President

This year, the Orinda Association (OA) will host three different contests for youth surrounding the July 4 events:

Youth July 4 Parade Announcer

Two contest winners will be selected at random and will assist parade announcer with pre-parade announcements, from approximately 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. just before the start of the July 4th parade in Orinda.

This contest is for any youth ages 8 to 18.

Submit your name via email to the OA office by June 25th (to oa@orindaassociation.org). Include your full name, address and phone number and meet with parade announcer one to four days before event.

Coverage will be in August issue of *The Orinda News*.

Youth July 4 Photographer/Videogra-

pher

Contest winners from each of two age groups will be selected based on content of submission following the event.

This contest is for any youth in two age groups (8 to 12 and 13 to 18).

Submit up to 10 photos or 30 second video to OA office (oa@orindaassociation.org) by July 7.

Winner's submission will be included in August issue of *The Orinda News*.

Youth July 4 Reporter:

Contest winners from each of two age groups will be selected based on content of written submission following event.

This contest is for any youth in two age groups (8 to 12 and 13 to 18).

Submit a written report on the July 4 parade and park celebration, up to 250 words, by July 7 to the OA office (oa@orindaassociation.org).

Winner's submission will be included in August issue of *The Orinda News*.

The 4th of July Volunteer Team

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

Andrew Radlow
Bill Cosden
Bobbie Landers
Bruce Burrows
Cindy Powell
Isela Barels
Jan Cushman
Jay Lifson
Jim Arth
Jim Lautz
Jim Luini
Joe Haughin
John Fazel
Lisa Burlini

Marie Waterman
Mark Roberts
Matthew Rana
Michelle Lacey
Paul Dew
Richard Westin
Ron Melvin
Sally Hogarty
Steve Harwood
Steve Meagher
Steve Stahle
Suzanne Tom
Timi Rana

The July 4th committee would also like to thank Title Sponsors **Orinda Motors** and **Mechanics Bank**, plus the **Orinda Community Foundation** for their repeated financial support as well as the City of Orinda, especially Orinda Parks & Recreation Foundation, Public Works and the Orinda Police Department.

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The Orinda Association

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

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

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Show Your Spirit by Sponsoring a Flag!



Forty-five, 6 foot tall American flags are available for sponsorship.

For a \$50 donation, you can help beautify Orinda and help support a variety of community events. The flags will be displayed

throughout downtown Orinda from Memorial Day through July 4th.

To sponsor a flag, go to www.orindaassociation.org and click on the July 4th link or mail a check to the Orinda Association, P.O. Box 97, Orinda, CA 94563.

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Letters to the Editor

Withdraw from ABAG and Plan Bay Area

As a native of the Bay Area and resident of Orinda for the last 12 years, I cherish the individual characteristics of each city and town that make up the San Francisco Bay Area. My husband and I decided to live in Orinda for the semi-rural community and the excellent schools. We were both born in San Francisco and know what it is like to live in congested stack and pack housing. We did not want to raise a family under those conditions. We have worked and saved long and hard in order to buy a home in Orinda. Plan Bay Area would destroy the character and nature of our town and all other towns in the Bay Area. It would destroy the very reasons we moved to Orinda.

It is outrageous that a non-elected board can dictate to our community what types of housing should exist and where. I am outraged that the democratic process of transparency and voting has not even been discussed as an option by our elected City Council. By agreeing to participate in ABAG, the council has not represented the interests of the constituents. In fact, major conflicts of interest are present when Amy Worth is also serving on the MTC.

As a physician, I am accustomed to making decisions based on risks and benefits. While many ideas sound beneficial such as sustainable green living, affordable housing, reducing carbon emissions, clean energy, there are the risks of unintended consequences -- such as increased crowding in our schools, increased crime, pollution, crowded living spaces, increased pressures on fire, police and social services. The costs of these risks will be paid for by homeowners not by the developers or the low-income residents of subsidized housing.

It appears the City Council is making unilateral decisions that will be paid for by Orinda taxpayers without the input and vote of Orinda citizens. This is taxation without representation and is not democratic. I am also stunned that the council would give up local control to a non-elected regional quasi-government board. While Plan Bay Area and ABAG claim that cities will still hold control and participation is voluntary, their proposals for action and the penalties for noncompliance run counter-intuitive to this claim. Orinda incorporated specifically so that the citizens of Orinda can make and implement decisions at the local level. I insist that Orinda withdraw from participation in ABAG and Plan Bay Area.

– Donna Ting, MD

Tell The Bureaucrats To Keep Their Hands Off Orinda

It was with great trepidation that I read the front-page article in the May edition of *The Orinda News* regarding Plan Bay Area. Regardless of one’s opinion about the

merits of the plan, it seems inconceivable to me that the elected officials of Orinda would allow a regional authority to mandate land-use within our local community.

While I understand the plan has many shortcomings (population growth’s impact on schools, parking, traffic) to name a few, I have no problem with a discussion, amongst the citizens of Orinda, of both its merits and shortcomings. The job of our elected officials is to represent the best interests of Orinda, not to embrace the whims of a regional board or state agency.

As a 20+-year citizen of Orinda, I have faithfully supported a litany of parcel taxes whose proceeds help make Orinda such a special place. Today, I am calling upon our elected officials to mount the appropriate legal challenge to this bunch of out-of-town bureaucrats who want to impose their social engineering scheme upon our town. I realize this might prove to be an expensive endeavor, but is surely worthwhile and, hey, what’s another parcel tax amongst friends.

– John Dem

Population Growth a Challenging Problem

Your article entitled “Draft Plan for Bay Area Housing Causes Concerns” prompted me to reply. First, I wish to thank all citizens working to protect our quality of life. However, their efforts will bear little fruits unless they are willing to work actively to address the following dire facts facing us.

Based on how fast China’s population and ours have grown, and considering half of our residents are 35 or under, our population of 315 million will continue to swell even if our fertility rate were to drop drastically to China’s and immigration reduced to near zero. The U.S. population has more than doubled since 1950. Another doubling of 315 million equals half of India’s current population: Is this what we want to leave to today’s children?

Despite China’s draconian one-child policy adopted in 1979 and the negative international migration it has experienced, some 350 million people have since been added to its population. Conversely, according to CIA gov, estimated total fertility rate for the U.S. in 2013 is 2.06. Additionally, since Congress adopted “Immigration Reform and Control Act” (IRCA) in 1986, our illegal immigrant population has quadrupled. Furthermore, one million legal immigrants on average add to our population yearly, without counting hundreds of thousands of “guest-workers” or illegal migrants, or U.S.-born children of these newcomers. Our teen births total some 400,000 a year!

California’s population has grown from nearly 20 million in 1970 to over 38 million in 2012. Our roads and other infrastructure will continue to be overburdened as our



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population continues to swell. I can be reached at (925) 377-0376 or visit www.aSustainableUSA.org.

–Yeh Ling-Ling

More Houses Should Use Solar Panels

Why do not many people in the city of Orinda use solar panels on the roof of their house? What are the issues with purchasing solar panels? Is it to expensive? Do people

not care about the environment? Is it to much work or do people just never think about it? I ask these questions every day of my life. I believe that more people should use solar panels in the city of Orinda, California, because they prevent global warming on earth and are pollution free.

The first reason why I believe we should use solar panels is because they can prevent global warming. Imagine never seeing

[SEE LETTERS page 20]

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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. Letters to the Editor for the July issue are due June 5, 2013.

For display advertising rates, call Jill Gelster at 925-528-9225 or email to jill@aspenconsult.net. The deadline for the August issue is July 1, 2013.

POLICE / FIREMEN



POLICE BLOTTER

April 2013

False Residential Alarms: Officers responded to 150 false alarm calls throughout the city.

Burglary – Auto: 3 incidents on Camino Sobrante (x2) and Brookwood Rd.

Burglary – Commercial: 1 incident on Camino Sobrante.

Burglary – Residential: 6 incidents on Tahos Rd., Orinda View Rd., Miner Rd., Valley Dr., Vianne Ct., Muth Dr.

Domestic Violence, Injury of Spouse: 1 incident, location confidential.

Petty Theft – From Vehicle: 2 incidents on Country Club Plaza and Oreind Fields Ln.

Stolen Vehicle: 1 incident on Camino Don Miguel.

Vandalism – Felony: 2 incidents on Via Floreado and Charles Hill Rd.

Arrests

Battery on an Officer – Misdemeanor: 1 arrest on Orinda Way.

Burglary - Commercial: 1 arrest on Camino Sobrante.

Domestic Violence, Injury of Spouse: 1 arrest, location confidential.

Driving Under the Influence – MISD < .08: 3 arrests at El Nido Ranch Rd./St. Stephens Dr., Lloyd Ln./Moraga Way, and Orinda Way.

Drunk in Public: 4 arrests on Ivy Dr. (x2), Bryant Way, and Moraga Way.

Receiving Stolen Property: 1 arrest on Country Club Plaza/Orinda Way.

Warrant Arrest: 5 arrests at Camino Encinas/Moraga Way, Moraga Way/Northwood Dr., Ardor Dr., and Camino Sobrante (x2).

Orinda BART Station

Property Theft: 1 incident reported.
– Compiled by Jeanette Irving,
Orinda Police Department

Additional Police Activity During April/May

- Detective Dennison attended a 2 day search warrant class. The class teaches the attendees the skills needed to write an effective search and arrest warrant.
- On April 23, 2013 at approximately 2103 hours, an Orinda citizen reported that an unknown person was attempting to gain entry to his home by kicking the front door. The homeowner yelled at the person, and they fled the scene. The suspect assumed that no one was home due to the fact that the lights were not on. Thieves are targeting homes that appear to be empty.
- The Investigations Unit is currently investigating an ID theft/burglary ring. The investigation has led them to Oakland, Antioch, and Walnut Creek. They are also doing follow up on property recovered during an arrest.
- Patrol officers continue to patrol neighborhoods and look for suspicious vehicles. There was a residential burglary of an unoccupied home that is currently on the market.
- Officers Mooney and Cook were dispatched to a disturbance call at the Chevron gas station. They arrived on scene and observed a male and a female arguing. The officers attempted to separate the parties and the male became combative. The officers were able to subdue the subject by using the taser. The officers sustained minor injuries. The subject was taken to jail for assault and resisting arrest.
- Officer Mooney and the Central County Forensic Multi-Disciplinary Team (FMDT) made a presentation at Saint Mary's College. The FMDT is a partnership between law enforcement and Mental Health professionals to assist those with chronic mental issues, and those who are at risk of being chronically arrested for activities related to their disabilities.
- Orinda PD hosted the CALEMA Hostile Intruder seminar. Approximately 20 school officials and local police agencies attended the seminar. Police chiefs from Lafayette, Moraga, and Orinda were on the panel to provide their expertise on this important subject.
- The Investigations Unit is working with the Walnut Creek Police Department regarding a child molestation case. They are also working with Nordstrom department store regarding a burglary ring using stolen identities to procure merchandise.
- Orinda P.D. responded to a residential burglary where an unknown suspect entered the home and stole property. The suspect gained entry to the home through an unlocked rear door. The homeowner failed to set the alarm prior to leaving.
- Moraga Way between Brookside and Orchard was closed for approximately 40 minutes on May 1st due to a downed PG&E power line. A large truck struck a low hanging wire. There were no injuries, PG&E responded quickly and the repair was underway and completed relatively quickly.

Everyday Heroes Golf Tournament Honors MOFD Firefighters



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Michael Rattary



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Stephen Rogness



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kelly Morris

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

The Orinda Everyday Heroes Golf Tournament will be held on July 22 at the Orinda Country Club. Festivities start at 10:30 a.m. with registration for the event and a complimentary buffet lunch. At noon, a shotgun start (two best balls of foursome

shamble) begins the tournament. Contests, food and treats await participants along the course. Following the tournament, there will be awards, appetizers and entertainment. The heroes this year are Moraga Orinda Fire District firefighters Kelly Morris, Michael Rattary and Stephen Rogness. Sponsorships are still available and start

[SEE HEROES page 20]

Carl Weber Honored for Over 50 Years of Service



SALLY HOGARTY

Referred to by City Councilmember Sue Severson as "Mr. Wikipedia for Orinda," **Carl Weber** (L, shown with **Mayor Amy Worth**) was honored at the May 7 City Council meeting for his extensive volunteer work on the Historical Landmarks Committee, Public Works Aesthetic Review Committee, Planning Commission, the Orinda Association's Trees Committee, Friends of the Orinda Theatre and many more. "He is truly one of the fathers of Orinda," added former Mayor Laura Abrams.

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BOOKS

Between the Lines
A Father's Day Checklist

Marian Nielsen, Orinda Books



Are there “girl” books and “boy” books? At the Orinda Bookstore, we have asked ourselves this question with no very conclusive answers. We do know for a fact that few men purchased *Fifty Shades of Grey* BUT our very first sale of that book was to a man who had read the *Wall Street Journal* article suggesting it as a book men should give to their wives. Many of our female customers, however, do ask for book suggestions on appropriate gifts for male friends, husbands, sons or fathers-in-law. Here are some of our best ideas for Father's Day on June 16, always a banner book-gifting time in our community.

In Nathaniel Philbrick's very readable and extremely popular histories, *Mayflower* and *In the Heart of the Sea*, he has taught us a great deal about the Plymouth Colony and the Whaleship Essex. Philbrick came ashore recently to bring readers a brilliant reappraisal of the Little Big Horn in *The*

Last Stand: Custer, Sitting Bull, and the Battle of the Little Big Horn. Now Philbrick remains on dry land in his new and impressive narrative, *Bunker Hill: A City, A Siege, A Revolution*. An authoritative historian of the New England colonies, Philbrick sets the stage for what was the bloodiest battle in the Revolutionary War. He adds new dimension to some of the familiar faces in the story and offers a welcome appreciation of Dr. Joseph Warren, the 33-year-old physician who became a leader of the Patriot cause and died in the battle. This fat new book is a must for any lover of American history.

And while not a “boy” or “girl” book — definitely unisex — Michael Pollan's *Cooked: A Natural History of Transformation* will be a happy addition to anyone's culinary library. This is a very personal book for Pollan as he chronicles his own adventures studying four basic cooking

Girl Scout Troop 32761 Donates Profits



A percentage of cookie sales from **Walnut Creek Troop 32761** went to Orinda's **Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center**. The funds will be used to assist in the care of their horses. The center's Annual Horse Show takes place June 1, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at 60 Don Gabriel Way. The day includes riding demonstrations by the children, a bar-b-que and a raffle. For more information, go to www.xenophontrc.org.

techniques: baking, braising, grilling and fermenting. Pollan injects into his narrative some science and a great deal of anecdotal humor along with underpinnings of his own food philosophy. To his mantra “Eat Food — Not Too Much — Mostly Plants,” he has added his concern that today we spend more time reading and talking about food than we do cooking it. He urges a return to the kitchen, and the connection it can nourish within our family and friends.

Finely crafted thrillers are always welcome Father's Day gifts and John Le Carré has obliged with *A Delicate Truth*. In this, his 23rd novel, Le Carré has not lost his touch. Reviewers have pointed out, when commenting on Le Carré's view of the world today, that the moral ambiguity of *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* and its ilk has been replaced with an even bleaker landscape where evil wears no mitigating shade of grey. Le Carré brilliantly captures a dark contemporary world where tycoons and politicians co-habit and breed corruption. As a writer, Le Carré, like fine wines, ages well and this new bottling will please his readers.

Jim Harrison is often categorized as a man's novelist and for lovers of fine fiction he offers a new collection, *The River Swimmer*. Like Le Carré, Harrison is an acute observer and the protagonists in each of these two novellas book-end the ages of man. The title story is about a 17-year-old farm boy in Michigan confronting sexual initiation, while in the second story, *The Land of Unlikeness*, Harrison introduces the reader to a 60-year-old artist-turned-academic who returns to Michigan to care for his ailing mother and finds himself reconnecting with life as well.

But, happily, intimations of mortality are not all that can be found in current fiction. Dave Barry returned to our shelves with his first adult novel in years. *Insane City* guarantees a laugh a page as Barry's hero, a Twitter marketer, travels to his destination wedding in Florida. Readers will know they are in Dave Barry's zany state, when they find that their travelling companions include a stripper, a Haitian refugee, an orangutan, and an albino python. Hilarious!

And borrowing a phrase from the *New York Times*, here is “Paperback Row” for Pops, Papa, Daddy, or Gramps. Each of these titles is new in paperback and each one was on many of the 2012 “Best of the Year” lists!

The Passage of Power: The Years of Lyndon Johnson: Robert Caro turns the study of one man's life into a searching look at political power in the 20th century.

Double Cross: The True Story of the D-Day Spies by Ben Macintyre: The author takes us behind the scenes at MI5 and into the web of deceit that fooled the Nazis about the when and where of the Normandy landings.

Mission to Paris by Alan Furst: Another superb Furst period piece is set in 1939 Paris when an American film star becomes involved in a web of intrigue as both German and American intelligence seek to use him as an agent.

Hologram for a King by Dave Eggers: In a 20th century fable, Eggers brings us the story of a failing American entrepreneur who is sent to Saudi Arabia to promote an infra-structure for a Saudi city that exists only as a sandy spot on a map.

Happy Father's Day and Happy Reading!

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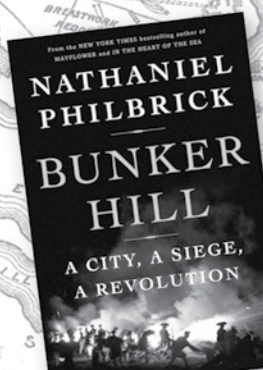
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CAR TIME

How To Get the Best Gas Mileage out of Your Car

by JOHN VANEK



If you haven't noticed, the price of gasoline is not really going down much and probably won't any time soon. There is a new wave of fuel efficient vehicles out there if you feel like spending the money on new wheels. However, if your current vehicle is still working out, it does not make sense to spend large sums just to save money on gas. It may be a better idea to make your current vehicle as efficient as possible and use driving techniques that will save precious fuel.

Basic maintenance is the first place to start. Replacing a dirty air filter can increase gas mileage up to 10 percent. Modern vehicles have longer intervals on things like spark plugs and fuel filters but will make a difference if neglected. The driver/operator's role is to know when these maintenance items are required and take care of it as needed. Tire pressure is crucial to rolling resistance that translates to fuel mileage. The federal government has mandated that the automotive manufacturers have on board warning systems that will alert you when tire pressures are low. Of course, these systems can be a bit of a pain, but we need to keep on top of it for the sake of fuel mileage. We never want to ignore a tire pressure light just because we don't think the tire pressure should be low. Overall, there should be a regular maintenance program that will take care of all of these concerns.

Driving habits play a big role in regards to gas mileage. It is important to let your car run a bit first thing in the morning before putting it into service but there is no reason to let the car run for several minutes. When

you are idling, you get zero miles per gallon. The faster you go, the more gas you use. Driving the speed limit at steady speed will help. Watching your acceleration and decreasing your launch time will increase mileage. Use the cruise control on the open road as much as possible. Picking a route with less stops will help. Having your sunroof or windows open causes an increase in wind resistance that decreases efficiency. Remove any other wind resistance items such as bike racks and ski rack when not being used. Remove any excess weight from the car like snow chains being stored in the trunk if not needed.

Last but not least, use the proper grade of fuel in your vehicle. Using regular gas in a vehicle that requires super unleaded will eventually lead to carbon build up (gunk) which is a silent threat and will decrease performance as well as mileage. The combination of proper maintenance and driving style will definitely help save gas.

Fourteen Outstanding Small Businesses Honored

Contra Costa Council honored 14 businesses from Contra Costa County at its May 10 luncheon at the Hilton Concord.

Orinda Motors' Flying A Gasoline was among those honored. Owner Allen Pennabaker received the award for turning an abandoned station into a first-class service station as well as for the company's support of community events.

OBA and Orinda Auto Detail Charity Car Wash a Huge Success



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From hybrids to SUVs, Mini's to monster trucks, **Orinda Baseball Association** players scrubbed and "squeegeed" while raising money at their annual charity car wash. Along with its event sponsor, **Orinda Auto Detail**, OBA raised over \$1,800 on behalf of **Aaron Hern**, the 12-year old Martinez boy (and Little League player) hurt in the Boston Marathon bombing. Soaps and suds have subsided, but the gift of giving to others is a lesson not soon forgotten.

Rotary Takes Over Dancing with the Cars

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

This year, Orinda Rotary will run the Dancing with the Cars Friday night preview event taking place on September 20 with the Orinda Classic Car Show on September 21.

Chip and Carolyn Herman have managed the Orinda Classic Car Show for the past eight years. Last year, Orinda Rotary helped with the live auction during the Dancing with the Cars event and provided volunteers for both the dinner and the car show.

Jack Bontemps, president of Orinda Rotary, and Barbara Bontemps were asked to help again this year. "Jack was approached

by Chip last year to determine if Rotary had an interest in becoming a partner," said Barbara. "We did and so we participated in getting auction items and providing some volunteers to help with the car show and with the dinner. This year, Chip and Carolyn were really interested in getting Rotary more involved with the dinner."

Dancing with the Cars: A Bootlegger's Bash will be held at Club 21 Orinda on Friday, September 20, starting at 7 p.m. Club 21 Orinda is Orinda's new speakeasy (the exact whereabouts and password for entrance will be disclosed at a later date so the coppers won't find out). "We're going to bring in some of the beautiful classic cars

[SEE CAR SHOW page 8]



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BEAUTY

◆ GALLERY from page 2



LORRAINE BRUCE
Mountains and Fog, a 40"x30" oil painting by **Lorraine Bruce**, will be shown at the Orinda Library Gallery during June.

of Walnut Creek is showing photographs; Sally Kiehn of Oakland is showing pastels and mixed media (www.mesart.com); Lyn-da Robinson of Orinda is showing acrylic paintings; Nancy Pollock of Berkeley is showing acrylic and oil paintings (www.nancypollockart.com); Paula Powers of Oakland is showing acrylic and oil paintings (www.creativespiritarts.com) and Rita Sklar of Oakland is showing watercolors and mixed media (www.ritasklar.com).

The artists keep their work fresh by traveling, taking classes and belonging to other groups such as the Oakland Art

Association, Pro Arts of Oakland and San Francisco Women Artists. They enter art competitions and win awards. The National Museum of Women in the Arts granted their Award of Distinction to Rita Sklar this year; see article on page 2. Sklar has attended workshops led by nationally known authors and trained with a watercolor master in Madrid. Bruce belongs to a drawing group, Holy Names University Friends of Art, which meets weekly in Oakland. Halpin is involved with a camera group in Walnut Creek, and Fox belongs to Bay Area Basket Makers.

The artists want their artwork to inspire, to uplift, to enrich and soothe viewer's souls. They hope to bring out a sense of wonder about the world we live in; maybe even pleasantly surprise people. Their diverse talents will surely provide something for everyone. "Art gives communities a stronger sense of place and identity," says Bruce. Other members believe art can unify a community and bring people together from all walks of life and different back-grounds. Art can be motivational; it can en-gage and inspire its citizens. "Art connects the artist to the world and by definition their community," says Fox.

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 p.m. to 5 p.m. Call 254-2814 for more information.

A feeling of movement and immediacy. Many of her landscape paintings capture the subtle moods and mysteries of nature. She is a member of the California Water-color Association, East Bay Women Artists and San Francisco Women Artists. Visit her website at www.ritasklar.com or view her work in the Orinda Library Gallery as part of the East Bay Women Artists show during the month of June.

◆ SKLAR from page 2

will be mailed to all AAUW members. See www.aauw.org/contests for more informa-tion. NMWA is the only major museum in the world solely dedicated to recognizing women's creative contributions; visit their website at www.nmwa.org.

Sklar, who lives in Oakland, mixes ab-straction with realism giving her paintings

Everyday Changes
Spring 2013 Trends 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 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 alterna-tive 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 dar-ing. Enjoy the neo-pastel polishes from the likes of OPI in shades of luscious lavender and stellar sky blue. Juxtapose the color-ful with the glitteringly metallic varnishes and matte greys. Mix it up with colorful two-tone manicures that added the perfect pop and sizzle.

Natural Makeup Needn't be an Oxy-moron

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 cosmet-ics, cleansers, moisturizers 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 it's zenith, remember to stock up on sunscreen to prepare for the inevitable temptation to bask in the sun.

◆ CAR SHOW from page 7

through Chip and his car show partners and put those on display so people can literally Dance with the Cars. Our theme is going to be sort of a roaring '20s, Great Gatsby, speakeasy, flapper vibe. We're hoping to get upwards of 250 people. We're hoping to repeat the success of last year's dinner and maybe do a little better in terms of the fundraising," said Bontemps.

Rotary will take care of all the logistics of putting on the preview dinner and auc-tion event.

"We're very excited about it. Rotary has been around in the community for a long time. This really gives us an opportunity to be front and center in one of the main community events of the year. It's kind of a win-win for everybody," added Bontemps.

The Classic Car Show takes place the fol-lowing day on September 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Orinda Motors with over 200 American and European cars, ranging from the 1920s to the classics of the 50s and 60s and to modern exotics. Avenida de Orinda will be closed to accommodate all the cars and exhibits will also be located adjacent to the 16th fairway of the Orinda Country Club.

Back by popular demand is "Speed on the Screen." Finish off a great weekend with both versions of the greatest car chase/ theft movie classic at the Orinda Theatre. At 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, the original 1974 "Gone in 60 Seconds" will show followed by the 2000 version starring Nicolas Cage at 7:45 p.m.

For more information and to register your car, visit www.orindacarshow.com.

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Team Orinda Takes the Gold



Battling the fierce competition from the City of Lafayette, **Team Orinda** scored the gold in the annual city triathlon. (L-R) Orinda City Councilmember **Dean Orr** (bike), City Clerk **Michele Olsen** (swim) and City Engineer **Emmanuel Ursu** (run). According to Olsen, "half of winning is just showing up. The other half is filling your team with stronger athletes than yourself."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pilot Parking Plan Drives Chamber of Commerce

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Orinda City Councilmembers directed city staff at the May 7 City Council meeting to put together a draft parking program that incorporates employee permit parking on Bates Blvd., a steep incline east of Casa Orinda in downtown Orinda.

The draft plan is a result of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce's study of parking in the Crossroad District (Theatre Square). "Our members who have businesses in the area as well as their employees have a terrible time finding parking," says Chamber member Rick Kattenburg. "Often, any available street parking is used by people using BART."

In November 2012, the Chamber did a survey of available street parking and presented it at the February 19 City Council meeting. The City Council found it consistent with the survey conducted by the Orinda Planning Department in 2011 and instructed staff to do additional research and to hold public meetings for neighborhood input. While some neighbors suggested employee shuttles, parking structures and incentives for employees to use BART or to rideshare, others were open to an employee parking permit program as long as resident parking permits were also available.

At the May 7 meeting, the Council heard from Chamber members and from residents living in the potentially affected areas. Discussions included the possibility of obtaining additional employee parking at Theatre Square, the safety of restaurant employees traveling by BART to remote stations late at night, and the safety of pedestrians parking along busy Bates Blvd.

"This pilot plan isn't perfect. But we've got to start somewhere," says Chamber president Sylvia Jorgensen. Kattenburg noted that approximately 40-45 parking permits allowing employees to park beyond the currently posted time limits would be needed. Donna Sullivan, who lives in the area, was concerned not only with pedestrian safety but with having strangers walking to cars parked in her neighborhood after dark. "How do I know if the person walking past my house is a worker returning to his or her car or someone else?"

The City Council agreed to try the pilot program on Bates Blvd. beginning east of the medical/dental office and continuing past Muth Dr. City staff is currently working on the details such as how the permits will be distributed, the number and cost of permits, and what staff would be needed to enforce the program, making sure that cars in the designated areas had permits.

Staff reports and correspondence regarding the pilot parking plan can be found at www.cityoforinda.org.

EBMUD Set to Raise Water Rates

By CHARLIE JARRETT
Staff Writer

East Bay Municipal Utility District general manager, Alexander R. Coate, announced that he will propose significant rate increases in overall water rates (water service charge, water flow charge, water elevation surcharge and the seismic improvement program surcharge) to the EBMUD board of directors at their June 11 meeting. If the board approves the recommended increases, overall water charges will increase by 9.75 percent for the 2014 Fiscal Year (FY) and an additional 9.5 percent increase will occur in the 2015 FY. For the typical EBMUD customer who averages 246 gallons daily, the increase would be \$3.96 more each month in FY 2014 and \$4.19 more monthly the following year.

In a prepared statement, Coate declared that "through the budget and rate increases, EBMUD seeks to significantly increase spending on infrastructure replacement and maintenance following seven years

during which such investments were greatly restricted by the impacts of drought and financial instability that necessitated major cuts in staff and programs. Adjustments are being made to protect the public's \$14 billion investment in EBMUD's massive system of dams, pipes, pumps and water treatment facilities that provide customers the high quality water they expect at water rates that rank among the lowest in the Bay Area."

EBMUD's proposed budget for water and wastewater for FY 2014 is \$713.5 million (\$585.1 million for the water system and \$128.4 million for wastewater), and for FY 2015, the district has a proposed budget of \$739.6 million (\$595.1 million for water and \$144.4 million for wastewater).

The EBMUD board is seeking public input during the public hearing portion, which begins at 1:15 p.m. on June 11. The meeting takes place in the boardroom on the 2nd floor of the EBMUD Administration Building located at 375 Eleventh

[SEE RATES page 16]

Chamber Awards Rick Kattenburg for Years of Service



DAVID DIERKS

Rick Kattenburg (2nd from right) was recently honored by the Orinda Chamber of Commerce for his 14 years of service to the local community. (L-R) **Patti Camras**, **Keith Miller**, **Sue Breedlove**, **Kattenburg**, and president **Sylvia Jorgensen**.

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WomenSing Celebrates Nature, Family and Community in June Concert



Members of WomenSing present "Southern Exposure" on June 5 at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church.

By LINDA INFELISE
Contributing Writer

WomenSing’s final concert of the 2012-13 season surveys the globe and finds fresh sounds to delight local audiences – sounds that also celebrate nature, family and community. “In some ways,” points out artistic director Martín Benvenuto, “this concert, which we call ‘Southern Exposure,’ is our belated Mother’s Day gift to the East Bay.”

“Southern Exposure” will be performed June 2 at 4 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Berkeley and June 5 at 8 p.m. at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church.

For many, the highpoint will be the

world premiere of a composition by Julia Seeholzer, the winner of WomenSing’s 2012 Youth Inspiring Youth competition (run in collaboration with River of Words, a project of the Center for Environmental Literacy at St. Mary’s College in Moraga). The young Southern California composer recently graduated summa cum laude from the Berklee College of Music in Boston. Her composition uses a poem in Spanish by two 9-year-old poets from Watsonville. *Hay un Rio Oscuro* (There is a dark river) describes the children’s fascination with a water puddle that is filthy with gasoline and a red candy wrapper. “But although it’s sad and filthy/It carries the shadow of my face/ The tattered clouds/And in white and black/

[SEE WOMENSING page 18]

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PERFORMING ARTS

Cal Shakes Offers Special Ticketing and Open Captioning This Season

By KATHRYN G. MCCARTY
Staff Writer

California Shakespeare Theater raises the curtain on two new programs to benefit patrons during the 2013 season. The company announced a ticket program “designed to make it easier for more people to enjoy theater,” and the introduction of open captioning for the deaf and hard-of-hearing at select Main Stage performances.

The “20 for \$20 ticket program” will allow patrons an opportunity to purchase tickets at a reduced price. Twenty tickets will be available, by phone only, beginning

cessibility by providing services that allow patrons who are deaf or hard-of-hearing to fully participate in the live theater experience.”

The National Open Captioning Initiative is a program of the Theatre Development Fund (TDF). Cal Shakes performances with Open Captioning will be at 7:30 p.m. for performances held June 5, July 10, August 21, and October 2.

Cal Shakes opened its 2013 season with *American Night: The Ballad of Juan Jose* by Richard Montoya, developed by Culture Clash and Jo Bonney, and directed by Jonathan Moscone, currently performing through June 23. Other Cal Shakes of-



L-R: Sharon Lockwood, Richard Ruiz, Sean San Jose, Dan Hiatt, and Margo Hall are five of the nine actors playing 80 characters in *American Night*.

at noon the day of the show, at a cost of \$20 each (with a limit of 4 per person).

The company also announced that it was selected to participate in the first year of a two-year regional theater partnership to provide open captioning for the deaf and hard-of-hearing, and will do so during one performance of each of the season’s productions.

“Cal Shakes has always been committed to making Shakespeare and the classics relevant to everyone,” said managing director Susie Falk. “Our newly re-designed campus is fully accessible to patrons with mobility restrictions; now, thanks to this partnership with Theatre Development Fund and its National Open Captioning Initiative, we are able to increase our commitment to ac-

ferings include Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet* directed by Amanda Dehnert, from July 3–28; followed by Oscar Wilde’s *Lady Windermere’s Fan* directed by Christopher Liam Moore playing August 14 through September 8. Closing out the season is Shakespeare’s *A Winter’s Tale* directed by Patricia MacGregor, with choreography by Paloma MacGregor, from September 25 through October 20.

All performances take place at the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda. For information or to charge tickets by phone with VISA, MasterCard, or American Express, call the Cal Shakes Box Office at 510-548-9666 or email at boxoffice@calshakes.org. Additional information and online ticketing is available at calshakes.org.



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Local Singer Continues Hitting the Right Notes



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Orinda resident **Isabelle Johannessen** (center) sings a solo with Vocal Rush, a performing ensemble at The Oakland School for the Arts under the direction of Lisa Forkish. The group recently won first place for the second consecutive year in the International Championship of High School a Cappella Singing held in mid-April in New York City.

A contestant in *Lamorinda Idol* (formerly *Orinda Idol*) since its inception, Johannessen attended Glorietta Elementary School and Orinda Intermediate School. She was a member of Urban Flare, which won the *Lamorinda Idol* high school group category in 2012. Another member of Urban Flare, **Sabrina Chaco**, went on to The Oakland School for the Arts but left this year when hired by Disney. “*Orinda Idol* really gave Isabelle the preparation and confidence to be able to do what she’s doing today,” says her mother Lisa. “It made her a brave singer.”

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Orinda Students Prepare to Graduate from Middle and High Schools



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Graduating seniors at Holden High School (L-R) **Joelle Hayward, Rachel Dennis, Jobim Morris-Gavrieli, Josh Connor, and Jacob Halsebo.**



NIKKI KURTZ
Orinda Academy graduating seniors (L-R) **Greg Churlik** and **Adam Hartley** performed in the Spring Arts Show at the Orinda Library Theatre.

Proud parents, relatives and friends will gather in support of the many graduates at Orinda commencement exercises this month.

Graduation ceremonies for Orinda’s four schools are:

Orinda Intermediate School Promotions Ceremony, Thursday, June 6, 6 p.m. OIS Multi-Purpose Room.

Miramonte High School, Friday, June 7 at 5:30 p.m. on the Miramonte High School football field.

Orinda Academy, Friday, June 7. Senior High School graduation at 3 p.m., and 8th Grade Graduation at 11:30 a.m. both events at the Parish Hall located at the Church of Santa Maria, 20 Santa Maria Way.

Holden High School, Saturday, June 8, 11 a.m. at the Fellowship hall located at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way.

– Kathy McCarty, Staff Writer



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CLIMATE EXPERT / FILM FESTIVAL

Leading Expert Discusses Climate Change and Energy Forecast at First Friday Forum

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

“A New Currency for the 21st Century” is the title chosen by Daniel Kammen for his presentation at First Friday Forum (FFF), June 7, in the Sanctuary of Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, at 1:30 p.m.

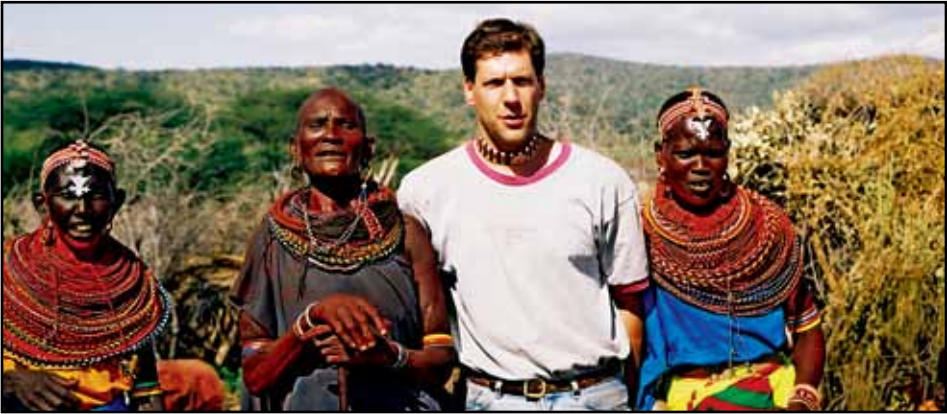
He says, “In the 21st century, we will need to evolve and introduce a new currency to reflect the changes in the human relationship to the planet from a historical situation where climate is impacting us, to one where we are changing the climate.”

As a professor at UC Berkeley in several departments including the Energy and Resources group; Public Policy in the Goldman School of Public Policy; and the

Department of Nuclear Engineering, he is well equipped to discuss climate change and its various aspects. He is also the founding Director of the Renewable and Appropriate Energy Laboratory (RAEL).

Kammen’s research interests include: the science, engineering management and dissemination of renewable energy systems; climate change; and energy forecasting. He is the author of over 90 journal publications and a book on environmental, technological and health risks — *Should We Risk It?* He advises the World Bank, The American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the President’s Committee on Science and Technology, and he is a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

He received his undergraduate degree



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Daniel Kammen, shown here in Samburu, Kenya, will speak on climate change at the June 7 First Friday Forum.

in physics from Cornell University and his master and doctorate in physics from Harvard. He taught first at Caltech and then as a lecturer in physics and in the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Kammen has developed a number of projects focused on renewable energy technologies and environment resource management. He joined the interdisciplinary Energy and Resources Group at UC Berkeley in 1998.

“The public seems to have many dif-

ferent attitudes and positions concerning climate change. Dr. Kammen’s lecture will provide up-to-date information on the topic. There will also be an opportunity to submit written questions,” says Judy Nielsen, chair of the FFF committee. “We are pleased to present this free event to the Lamorinda community. Please come for refreshments at 1 p.m. followed by the lecture at 1:30 p.m.”

For further information, call 925-283-8722 or go to www.lopc.org.

Classic Film Festival and Hall of Fame



JILL GELSTER

Cloris Leachman was among the celebrities at the first ever Classic Film Festival held at the Orinda and Rheem Theatres in early May.

By DAVID DIERKS
and TOM WESTLAKE

Over the weekend of May 10-12, the Orinda and Rheem Theatres were host to the inaugural Classic Film Festival and Hall of Fame. The Classic Film Festival showed *The Sound of Music*, the double feature *Frankenstein* and *The Raven*, *Citizen Kane*, *National Velvet*, *The Jerk*, *Bud Abbott and Lou Costello Meet Frankenstein*, and *Young Frankenstein*. Inductees into the Hall of Fame included actors Mickey Rooney, Cloris Leachman, Boris Karloff, Abbott and Costello, director Carl Reiner, films *The Sound of Music* and *Citizen Kane*, the song “Somewhere” from *West Side Story* and local biographer and Moraga Movers host Larry Swindell. Proceeds from the Classic Film Festival go towards the preservation

[SEE FILM page 16]

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April 2013 Coldwell Banker Orinda Office Leader in Listings!

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Move of the Month

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1. Sit on the bosu.
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5. Push back up without locking the elbows and repeat for 10-16 reps.

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Something to Howl About... Animal Tales Keeping Cool



Jennifer Conroy

It's here. Hot weather and no one feels it more than those creatures you live with who wear fur coats all year long. Extra care needs to be exercised during warm weather to protect the pets you love.

It continues to amaze me that every summer we hear of animals – and children – who have been left in closed parked cars. Even if you have a dog who loves, loves, loves riding in the car, do your dog the lifesaving favor of leaving it at home during summer months. When the outdoor temperature is 85 degrees, it can reach over 100 in just a few moments inside a closed car. By the way, law enforcement officers, including animal control officers, have the legal right to break into your car if they see an animal (or child) locked inside during warm weather. And pedestrians who see an animal or child inside a hot car have a moral obligation to report it immediately.

Cats and dogs have limited ways to cool down. They have sweat glands in their paws, which is why you may see quickly evaporating paw prints when your pet walks across the sidewalk in the summer. Dogs also show heat symptoms by panting; whereas a hot cat may go into a cleaning frenzy. To help your animals beat the heat, you may want to invest in a pet cooling collar. There are many brands available in sizes to fit large and small dogs – cats, too. Check with your local pet store or go online to find them. Be sure to inquire as to what they are made of as you do not want to save your pet from heat hazards only to have it ingest something toxic.

Keeping your pets groomed is especially important during the warm weather. A summer “trim” can help some breeds but all pets will benefit from daily brushing and combing to remove dead skin and check for fleas, burrs, and foxtails.

Of course, you know to keep plenty of water available for all of your pets. That includes your “pocket pets” as well. Do not let the water tubes run dry in your hamster or bird cage. Birds may appreciate a small dish of water in which they can actually take a mini bird bath. Another alternative is to very gently spray pet birds with room temperature water when the temperature gets high.

As for summer exercise, go out with your dog in the early morning or in the evening when it has cooled down. Do not run your dog on hot pavement or asphalt as that can cause burns to the paw pads. As for having your dog run along next to you while you are riding your bicycle, well, your dog may do it because of that incredible canine fidelity to its person, but it is truly a rotten idea. You have no line of vision over the surface on which your dog is running. You may not be aware of a car coming up fast behind you. And your dog, because it wants to please you so badly, won't plead for you to stop.

With just a few precautions, you can ensure a safe summer for your pets that will keep them cool and healthy. Enjoy!

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SCHOOLS / STUDENTS

OIS Students Raise Money for Breast Health



SALLY HOGARTY

Reagan Tierney (L) and **Zoe Zabetian** organized a Mother's Day walk for breast cancer. They are shown above announcing the event at the May 7 Orinda City Council meeting. The two-mile trek on the St. Stephen's Trail took place between 7:30 and 9 a.m. on May 12. The 7th-grade students at Orinda Intermediate School (OIS) organized the fundraiser as part of their "Take Action" project at OIS. Proceeds benefited the Carol Ann Reed Breast Health Center at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center.

OIS Joins Other OUSD Schools in Receiving California Distinguished School Status

By KATHY FRENKLACH
Contributing Writer

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced on April 11 that Orinda Intermediate School (OIS) has been named as a 2013 California Distinguished School. The school was then honored in May at a ceremony at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Sacramento. Del Rey and Sleepy Hollow Elementary Schools received the recognition in 2010; Glorietta and Wagner Ranch Elementary Schools received the recognition in 2008.

Now in its 27th year, the California School Recognition Program honors the state's most exemplary and inspiring public schools with the California Distinguished School Award. Schools earning the Distinguished School title agree to share their signature practices with other schools and to serve as a mentor to other educators.

Schools were identified for eligibility on the basis of their Academic Performance Index and Adequate Yearly Progress results, which are the state and federal accountability models, respectively. The applicants were also identified by their success in narrowing the achievement gap that exists between higher-performing and lower-performing students. All applicants underwent a stringent selection process conducted by the California Department of Education with the help of many educators from across the state. Each applicant was required to describe two signature practices that have led to an increase in student achievement. Selected applicants then underwent a thorough site visit to validate their signature practices.

Orinda Union School District superintendent Dr. Joe Jaconette said, "We are pleased that the state has recognized all five of our schools as California Distinguished Schools."



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CONTINUATIONS

◆ FILM from page 13

and digital projector upgrades of the New Rheem Theatre.

Opening night on May 10 started with a Q&A with Charmian Carr, the actress that played Liesl von Trapp, followed by a showing of *The Sound of Music* at the Rheem Theatre. The next morning kicked off in Orinda with a double bill of Boris Karloff films, *Frankenstein* and *The Raven*. Boris Karloff's daughter Sara, a San Francisco native, was on hand to introduce the films, "He worked his way up to bit parts and spent 10 years in Hollywood as a starving actor. He was offered a part in *Frankenstein* after Bela Lugosi had turned it down. He was on the right corner at the right time. When he made *Frankenstein*, it was his 81st film and no one had seen his



Sara Karloff, the daughter of Boris Karloff, brought home movies of her father to the festival.

first 80. He was an overnight star after 20 years in the business."

Sara Karloff brought along some home movies of her father. Karloff said, "One of the points of showing these home movies is to prove the point that home movies of movie stars are just as boring as everyone else's. They are blessedly brief. The value of showing them to film buffs is that they contain the only known color footage of my father in the *Frankenstein* makeup from *Son of Frankenstein*, clowning around on the set with Jack Pierce, the makeup genius that did all the *Frankenstein* makeups with my father. They also contain very boring shots of me as a baby, my christening, things like that, feel perfectly free to ooh & ah when the baby is on screen." Karloff also explained why the *Frankenstein* makeup was green. "Jack Pierce tinted the makeup green so that when it was shot in black and white, it would show up a deathly gray," added Karloff.

Of the over 170 films that Boris Karloff appeared in, only three were *Frankenstein* movies, *Frankenstein*, *Bride of Frankenstein*, and *Son of Frankenstein*. "He got to the point in his career where he could turn

his own image around on itself and spoof his own boogeyman image, as on the *Carol Burnett Show* and in some of the later films he did, like the remake of *The Raven* and *A Comedy of Terrors*," said Karloff.

The evening festivities started with a Q&A with Mickey Rooney hosted by Wayne Coy of KKIQ and KKDV radio before the screening of *National Velvet*. Rooney at 92 has been in 368 movies and started his career at the age of 18 months. Rooney, commenting on *National Velvet* said, "We had a great director, Clarence Brown, who would say 'don't worry about the lines in the script, just say what you mean and feel.' He'd sit down and say 'are you ready?' I'd say 'anytime Mr. Brown,' he'd say 'Go.' So that's the way it worked." Also shown on Saturday were *Citizen Kane*, introduced by film historian Larry Swindell, and *The Jerk*, with a special video introduction from director Carl Reiner.

Sunday began with Lou Costello's daughter, Chris Costello, talking about her father, followed by a screening of *Bud Abbott & Lou Costello Meet Frankenstein*. Costello said, "Dad never had designs on becoming a comic. He wanted to be a dramatic actor. His idol was Charlie Chaplin. He went to New Jersey and worked as a dancing juvenile, which is the warm up for the top bananas in burlesque. It was then that he met Bud Abbott, the most sought after straight man in the industry.



Chris Costello, the daughter of Lou Costello, talked about her father at the festival.

Everyone wanted this man. When he filled in for my dad's straight man, it was magic. Both men knew the chemistry was there, and they wanted to continue working with each other."

When Costello was asked about the origins of *Who's on First*, she said, "*Who's on First* was a concept that my dad had because he and my mother were very good friends with Joe DiMaggio and his wife Dorothy Arnold. That is the signature skit. It was voted the best routine of the 20th century. They never performed it the same way twice. Dad always believed in tweaking it enough to keep it interesting. My father also had a habit of ad-libbing. So even in films, you had to be pretty good to keep up with him because you never knew when he was going to take off in another direction."

Cloris Leachman was the last celebrity to be showcased at the Classic Film Festival. Primarily there to accept the award and reminisce about her extensive career – answering questions along the way – she was further distinguished by being the only celebrity who is still active, being on the highly successful FOX show *Raising Hope*.

Interviewed by Jan Wahl of KRON TV about her experiences with *Young Frankenstein*, Leachman delighted the audience. The showing of *Young Frankenstein*, a film that many know her solely for, followed her interview.

Leachman revealed that there was even a connection to be made between herself and Rooney – claiming that the diminutive star proposed collaboration between himself and Leachman, which, unfortunately, never came to pass.

In the ceremony, hosted by KGO personality Brian Copeland, each recipient was honored not just with an award but with a short retrospective of their work. Even those who could not be there in person sent along a videoed thank you. Apart from some minor technical glitches, this was an auspicious beginning to what is hoped to be an ever-growing annual event that will further establish the Moraga/Orinda area as a vital arts center.



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◆ RATES from page 9

Street (between Harrison and Webster) in downtown Oakland.

EBMUD's Media spokesman, Charles Hardy, said the board has continuously sought public input but the public participation at these meetings has been far less than they anticipated. Their general conclusion was that the previous rate increases have not stirred much interest or controversy. The previous increases implemented in 2012 and 2103 were 6 percent across the board. Hardy acknowledged that these proposed rates are the highest rates sought in the past 19 years and that they want the public to fully understand and appreciate the im-

portance and necessity of these unusually high increases.

He further elaborated with the fact that EMBUD is responsible for 4200 miles of pipe in the ground, a system that is 90 years old, with infrastructure that is even older than that. Preventative maintenance to extend the life of that system has not been possible due to the economic environment for the past five to seven years. "We do not want to find ourselves caught in a catastrophic failure that could adversely affect our delivery system and the community we serve," he added.

For more information on the rate increases or the meeting, go to www.ebmud.com.



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SENIORS

Honoring Those 75 Years of Age and Older at Festive Luncheon

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

On June 19, the Three-Quarter Century Luncheon will honor Orindans who are 75 years of age and older. “These are the people who have done so much for our community in the past – and many are still involved. We want them to know they are

appreciated,” says John Fazel, chair of the event.

Sponsored by the Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary, Orinda Mason-McDuffie/BHG Real Estate and the Orinda Community church, the free event begins in the church fellowship hall at 11:30 a.m. with wine and cheese preceding a gourmet meal of chicken with all the trimmings. Orindans

who have attended in the past will receive an invitation. Fazel advises, “If you haven’t received one by June 1, please contact me at 925-254-2017 or email runmtns@prodigy.net. We hope to have many first timers on June 19.”

The featured speaker will be Candy Pierce, past district governor of Rotary 5160, which includes Rotary Clubs from the East Bay to the Oregon border. Her topic is “Changing Lives One Project at a Time.” She will be talking about the multitude of local, national and international Rotary projects such as Polio Plus and the LN-4 Prosthetic Hand program. In 1984, Rotary International partnered with the World Health Organization to eradicate polio worldwide. Their efforts have resulted in polio now existing in only three countries – Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria.

Fazel explains, “I think the enormous amount of good which Rotary accomplishes is one of the world’s best kept secrets. After Candy’s talk, I think our guests will be amazed and impressed with the wide variety of activities in which Rotary has engaged to make the world a better place.”

Along with musical entertainment, the yearly crowning of king and queen as the oldest man and woman attendees, plus recognition of the longest married couple will take place.

“Come. Send me the names of your friends to invite. We want a full house of our 75+ citizens at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, on Wednesday, June 19,” Fazel says.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Rotarian Candy Pierce will speak at the Three-Quarter Century luncheon

Local Nonagenarian Still Takes to the Slopes

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

A legend in his own time, Orinda’s George Jedenoff was chosen as a poster personality for Ski Utah. Yes, although he’ll turn 96 on July 5, he still takes to those mountains, skiing with a grace that makes others on the hill take notice.

This spring, Jedenoff was treated to an all expense paid trip to Utah where he was filmed and interviewed by Ski Utah in a promo encouraging seniors to continue skiing. “One fellow followed me down the runs with three cameras,” he says. “I’m told the YouTube video early on had 11,000 hits.” Featured by the Alta Ski Resort, Jedenoff also appeared on local television.

This nonagenarian keeps in shape by exercising each morning before breakfast. “I’m very disciplined in doing this on the five machines I have in my basement. I have to keep fit if I want to continue skiing. My equipment was mostly given to me by others who didn’t use it. Nothing is fancy; the important thing is to use it,” Jedenoff explains.

He started skiing in 1960 while living in Utah and learned from the best, Alf Engen, Junior Bonous and Earl Miller, who is the granddaddy of release bindings. “Miller demonstrated how his bindings released by showing photos of himself making some sensational falls,” Jedenoff says. “One day he paid me quite a compliment by remarking, ‘George, you have made some falls that I have never seen before.’ Now, I can ski for three weeks without having a fall. It’s too hard to get up,” he adds.

“With or without falls, I grew to love Alta’s powder skiing, and if there is some between two trees, I’ll go there,” says Jedenoff. “Again, I don’t need high tech equipment. I’ve had my boots for 20 years.” When Jedenoff was transferred to Indiana in 1967, he was honored for his community service in Utah, and to lure him back, he was presented with a Lifetime Season Pass to Alta. It worked. These days he says it’s



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
At 95-years-young, George Jedenoff still enjoys skiing and lots of other activities.

easier for him to catch a plane to ski in Utah than to drive to the Lake Tahoe region – and the powder is better. His family owns a condo at Snowbird, Utah.

During the off season, Jedenoff plays golf and walks almost daily with his wife of 70 years, Barbara, in their Glorietta neighborhood. The couple moved to Orinda in 1974, but he traces his roots to Petrozavodsk, Russia where he was born in 1917. His parents were of Russian nobility. The revolution forced them to leave their homeland, first to Harbin, China, and then to the United States in 1923 where they began life anew after losing most all their material possessions. The five members of his family were granted U.S. citizenship in 1928. Jedenoff became an Eagle Scout, worked his way through Stanford University and served in the Navy in Hawaii and Guam before beginning his professional career in the steel industry. He rose to the office of president of U.S. Steel. It was after his retirement from there that Kaiser Steel tapped him to serve as president in their Oakland office in ’74.

When asked to advise others aspiring to
[SEE JEDENOFF page 18]

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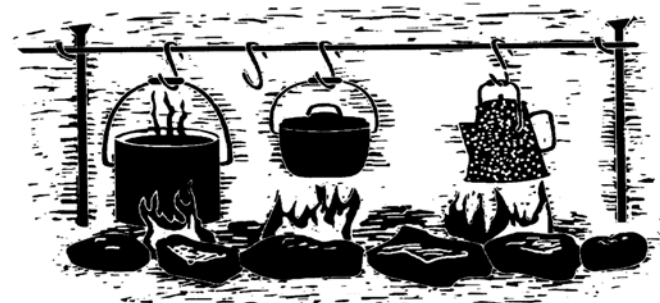


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KIDS TRIATHLON

◆ LIGHTS from page 1

tion schedule soon so I can let people know when the lights will be back on.” Lacey hopes the project will be completed in early to mid-July.

The City Council allocated \$100,000 in its 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Program for anticipated costs associated with relocating the electrical service, resurfacing the tennis courts, and upgrading the tennis court lighting. Park Dedication Fees will fund the project.

“This has certainly been a problem for our summer season,” says Starlight artistic director Geotty Chapple. “We had planned a four-play season that begins in late May, but with no electricity, we had no idea when we’d be starting, and so we haven’t been able to put together our season brochure or do any of the marketing necessary.”

Subsequent meetings with Lacey have resulted in a plan that involves pulling power from the park bathrooms, ticket booth and possibly the KinderGym, all of which connect from PG&E at a different

connection than the park lights.

“Michelle has been very nice and said she’d do whatever it took to make this work for us,” Chapple explains. “She offered to rent generators, but no one wants to attend a play where the actors are shouting above a generator’s noise. If she can get me five to seven plugs on different circuits, I should be able to adequately light the set and amphitheater.”

In order to figure out the electricity available from the Community Center, Chapple has postponed the opening of Starlight’s first show by a week. Frank Vosper’s *Love from a Stranger*, an adaptation of Agatha Christie’s *Philomel Cottage* will run June 7 – June 30. For more information, call 925-528-9225 or email info@orsvp.org.

◆ JEDENOFF from page 17

stay fit in their 90s, George says “Eat sensibly, don’t smoke, exercise - watch yourself. I believe in moderation in all things. And try to find ways to truly enjoy life, such as skiing the slopes at Alta.”


◆ WOMENSING from page 10

The whole sky.” For the performance, the Contra Costa Children’s Chorus Honors Ensemble will join WomenSing.

Seeholzer’s composition is just one example of the vibrant and diverse musical colors that Benvenuto has programmed. The concert also includes fresh takes on folk music with lullabies from Spain and beloved English and Appalachian folk-songs. For example, *Aires de Quisqueya* revels in the rhythmic music of the Caribbean and the island of Santo Domingo while *Msilale Wanawake* (*Women Wake Up*) is inspired by a Swahili proverb that calls on women to rid themselves of societal barriers and gender bias.

WomenSing celebrates the centenary of noted composer Benjamin Britten’s birth with *Missa Brevis in D*. This exquisite “small mass,” is characterized by the composer’s brilliant technical invention and imaginative insight both in his writing for voice and the equally magnificent organ part.

Seeholzer will give a pre-concert talk one-hour before each concert. Tickets are \$30 for premium seats, \$25 for general admission, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for students/youth 18 and under. Advance tickets are available up to 24 hours prior to each concert at www.womensing.org, or by phone at 925-974-9169. Tickets will also be available at the door.




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NorCal Kid’s Triathlon Needs Volunteers on August 31

The annual Nor Cal Kid’s Triathlon, scheduled on August 31 at Miramonte High School, offers a fun way for children from under 6 years of age through high school to compete in a relatively relaxed atmosphere. The purpose of the 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. event is to promote a healthy lifestyle through physical activity.

The citywide event also offers an opportunity for local residents to help make the day run smoothly by volunteering in a wide variety of activities. Volunteers are needed at the registration/information table, checking in athletes, monitoring the various races, and operating the food and concession booths and much more.

To find out how you can help or to register children for the event, go to www.norcalkidstri.org.

– Sally Hogarty, Editor

◆ PLAN from page 1

due by May 16.

May 13 City Council Meeting

In attendance were Mayor Amy Worth and Councilmembers Dean Orr and Steve Glazer. Councilmember Victoria Smith was not in attendance due to prior business commitments and Councilmember Sue Severson attended via teleconference from Redmond, WA.

Orinda resident Rusty Snow was among a majority of audience members who felt the May 16 deadline was not enough time to thoroughly review the plan and DEIR. “I encourage the City Council to vote no on the project if they can’t get an extension,” he said. “The assumptions made in the report are profoundly dishonest. Orinda must carefully review the plan.”

Many of the often-passionate responses asked the City of Orinda to withdraw from ABAG. “I am opposed to changing our semi-rural Orinda,” Patty Moore said. “The public meetings that ABAG held were a sham. This plan tells people where they can live, the type of housing they will live in, and how they will travel. We should quit ABAG.”

Former Mayor Bill Judge said “pulling out of ABAG would be tragic for the community. ABAG is just asking us to show that we are planning for growth. We’re not required to conform.”

Kay Jenkins added her concern about the impact of the additional multi-level housing on property values. “I’m convinced that if we follow the growth outlined in the plan that we will have increased noise, traffic and a lack of safety. And, how do we pay for all the additional services?” she asked.

Orinda Senior Village resident Eartha Newsong responded to several members of the audience who expressed concern about low-income people moving to Orinda and a possible increase in crime. “I’m a retired nurse and have lived in Orinda Senior Village for many years. I also volunteer in the community. I’m the face of the low-income people you can expect.”

When asked why the City of Orinda

hadn’t responded to ABAG in the past, Planning Director Emmanuel Ursu said that the City of Orinda sent comment letters on previous versions of the draft-housing plan in June 2011, in January 2012 and in September 2012. “The city’s letters noted, among other issues, that the Transit Town Center PDA designation was not appropriate for Orinda, which includes regional open space permanently dedicated and unavailable for construction. We also stated that the city’s land use policies allow a maximum of 580 units in downtown, not the 1,498 envisioned in the initial housing scenario put forth by ABAG and MTC,” he explained.

After receiving the city’s comment letters, ABAG and MTC changed Orinda’s status to “Potential PDA” and reduced housing requirements to conform to Orinda’s General Plan.

Walter Roth, a former Oakland Police Department homicide inspector, wasn’t convinced that conforming to Orinda’s General Plan was the best scenario. “I know that happens when you bring in high density housing. The housing in Moraga will also affect our traffic in Orinda. Parking is difficult now, and this plan doesn’t make it any better. If the ABAG plan conforms to our city plan, then we need to re-look at our General Plan.”

Following the final speaker, the City Council asked staff to draft a letter to ABAG requesting a 60-day extension for comments on the plan and the EIR. Mayor Worth asked that in addition to previous council objections to the plan that the letter includes reference to EBMUD’s filtration plant, which takes up a large portion of the downtown area. She also asked that the letter request ABAG take into account the topography and geography of Orinda. Councilmembers Orr and Glazer concurred with Glazer requesting that the response to ABAG include correspondence and comments from citizens.

For more information on Plan Bay Area, go to www.onebayarea.org/plan_bay_area. For more information on Plan Bay Area’s EIR, go to www.onebayarea.org/EIR, and for opposing views on the proposed plan, go to www.orindawatch.org.



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Play for the Cure at Orindawoods’ ‘Ace It!’ Tennis Tournament

By BOBBIE DODSON
Staff Writer

Saturday, June 22, is the day to “Play for the Cure.” Orindawoods Tennis Club will host the 11th annual Ace It! tennis tournament. Proceeds from the event go to the Carol Ann Reed Breast Health Center at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center in Oakland.

Pros from area clubs will be putting on clinics in the morning and the round robin “Tennis Tournament of Champions” will be played in the afternoon. “A gourmet lunch will be served at noon. We then have a drawing for a long list of raffle prizes,” says committee member Lynda Lawrence. “Participants may sign up for either the morning or afternoon sessions, \$75, or \$125 for the entire day, with lunch and a raffle ticket included with either type entry.” Categories for play are mixed doubles, and men’s and women’s doubles in several rat-

ing levels. Registration forms are available online at orindawoodstennis.com/events/Ace It!

Committee members note that most people know someone with breast cancer. The ripple effect impacts not only the women dealing with the disease but spouses, children, other family members and friends as well. In fact, the Carol Ann Reed Breast Health Center is named for an Orinda resident who lost her battle with the disease. While waiting for the eventual cure for breast cancer, Ace It! at Orindawoods has joined forces with local tennis pros and neighboring clubs to “Play for the Cure.”

“Our focus is to expand and enhance services for breast cancer patients and their families receiving services at the Carol Ann Read Breast Health Center. All entrance fees are donated directly to the Alta Bates Summit Foundation and are fully tax deductible,” says Lynda Lawrence.

Will Additional Tax Revenues Help Local Schools?

By BILL O'BRIAN
Staff Writer

Tax revenues for the State of California were reported in May to be \$4.6 billion more than Governor Brown predicted in January. The big question, of course, is how the state will deal with the extra money. According to the Legal Analyst’s Office, the money will probably be a one-time surge and is possibly the result of individuals cashing out capital gains and dividends before Congress raised tax rates for those in the upper brackets.

A question for Orindans with students in local public schools is how this additional tax revenue will affect educational funding.

Since the state cut school funding five years ago and started deferring part of its constitutionally mandated annual funding, it is likely a portion of the increased revenue will be given to schools to help make up for what was deferred by the state. According to Chris Learned, Acalanes Union High School District’s (AHSD) Associate Superintendent for Business, “Any increase would help.”

AHSD has seen losses in three different ways in the last several years since the school year 2007-08: cuts to annual state funding; deferrals of annual state funding; and suspended Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA). Presently, the district has seen a

decline of about \$8 million in state support over the past five years. This year the state deferred about 22 percent of the Acalanes funding until next July’s new fiscal year start.

The Orinda Union School District (OUSD) has seen similar cuts resulting in a loss of about 23 percent due to state funding cuts and loss of COLA. The state pays about 77 percent of what it is obligated to pay schools for ADA for pupils each year, and the schools simply have to do without the additional 23 percent. This funding formula is a statewide issue affecting all school districts. OUSD is presently short around \$3.5 million due to the state actions.

The first loss of state money came at the start of the recent economic crises when the state cut school funding. These cuts began with the 2008-09 school year. Next, the state issued what it called “deferrals,” which allowed the state to pay only part of what it owed to school districts. Due to the passage of Prop 98, the state is required to pay a certain percentage of the state budget to schools, roughly around 42 percent. Since the state was short of money, it paid a certain percentage of what it owed the schools and deferred the remaining percentage of funds to be repaid on July 1, the start of the next fiscal year.

The AHSD and OUSD also lost funds [SEE FUNDING page 20]



(L-R) Anita Siegel presented last year’s check to Dr. Lisa Bailey and Linda Peltz of the Carol Ann Reed Breast Health Center at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center.

Orinda Aquatics’ Coaches Don and Ron Heidary Receive Award

By M. WOODWARD
Contributing Writer

For their positive impact on youth athletes, Don and Ron Heidary were awarded the coveted “Double-Goal” Coach Award at PCA’s (Positive Coaching Alliance) 12th Annual National Youth Sports Awards sponsored by Deloitte. It is presented to coaches who strive to win while pursuing the more important goal of teaching life lessons through sports.

The Heidarys are the co-founders/head coaches of Orinda Aquatics as well as coaches at Campolindo and Miramonte High Schools, respectively. “Character First” forms the central tenet of their program. “We applaud coaches like Don and



(L-R) Ron and Don Heidary received national recognition from Positive Coaching Alliance.

Ron Heidary for effectively using sports to teach valuable life lessons to our youth,” said Julie Brassard, Liberty Mutual Insurance. [SEE COACHES page 20]

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ON THE CALENDAR

JUNE

- 1 **Orinda Books** presents the Sisters-in-Crime Spring Showcase, a special event when all the store’s favorite local mystery writers introduce their latest novels, 276 Village Square, noon to 2 p.m. Call 254-7606.
- California Shakespeare Theatre** presents *American Night: The Ballad of Juan José* through June 23, various times, Bruns Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespeare Theatre Way, Orinda. Call 510-548-9666 or visit www.calshakes.org.
- Theatre Arts for Kids**, a function of Contra Costa Children’s Chorus, is accepting registration for summer sessions for aspiring performers ages 7 through 15. Students will perform *Wizard of Oz* and *Orphans on Broadway* in July. For details visit www.childrenschorus.org or email programs@childrenschorus.org.
- 4 **Orinda Books** Story Hour for 2- to 4-year-olds and their caregivers, every Tuesday, 276 Village Square, 10 to 11 a.m. Call 254-7606.
- 5 **WomenSing**’s final concert of the season featuring a world premiere by a new young composer plus folk music and Benjamin Britten’s *Missa Brevis in D*. Tickets are \$10 – 25. Call 925-974-9169 or go to www.womensing.org. See story page 10.
- 6 **Orinda Recreation Department** Senior Outing (50+) to Tilden Regional Botanical Garden features docent-led tour of the 10-acre gardens. Sturdy, closed toed shoes are recommended. Carpooling will be available from the Orinda Community Center, 8:45 to 11:30 a.m., \$13 residents/\$15 non-residents. Call 254-2445.
- 7 **First Friday Forum** featuring Daniel Kammen discussing “New Currency for the 21st Century,” Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 1:30 p.m. Call 925-283-8722 or go to www.lopc.org. See story page 21.
- Orinda Starlight Village Players** presents Frank Vosper’s *Love from a Stranger*, an adaptation of Agatha Christie’s *Philomel Cottage* through June 30 at Orinda Community Park Amphitheater, Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 p.m., Thursday, June 27, 8 p.m., Sunday, June 30, 4 p.m. For more information, call 528-9225 or email info@orsvp.org.
- 10 **WomenSing**, a premier East Bay women’s singing ensemble, will hold auditions for all voice parts. Scholarships available for qualified singers. Auditions also available by appointment. Email audition@womensing.org or leave a voicemail at 974-9169.
- 12 **The Second Wednesday Book Group** discusses *Team of Rivals* by Doris Kearns Goodwin, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 3 p.m. Call 254-7606.
- 16 **Lamorinda Idol 2013** auditions will be held May 16 through 18. Registration closes April 30 and is open to all students in Lamorinda schools in K through 12th grades. Visit www.orindaartscouncil.org.
- Orinda Books** hosts author Donna Caulkin discussing her new novel, *Brenda Corrigan Went Downtown*, 276 Village Square, 1 p.m. Call 254-7606.
- 19 **Three-Quarter Century** Luncheon featuring Candy Pierce speaking on Rotary Clubs “Changing Lives One Project at a Time,” Orinda Community Church, 11:30 a.m. Must be 75 years of age or older to attend. Call 254-2017 or email runmtns@prodigy.net.
- 21 **The World Affairs Book Group** discusses *A Single Roll of the Dice: Obama’s Diplomacy with Iran* by Trita Parsi, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, 3 p.m. The group meets bimonthly and welcomes new members. Call 254-7606.
- 22 **Ace It! Tennis Tournament**, Orindawoods Tennis Club, 65 Orinda Woods Dr. Proceeds go to the Carol Ann Reed Breast Health Center at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center. Go to www.orindawoodstennis.com/events/AceIt!
- 26 **Orinda Recreation Department** Senior Outing (50+) to see Oakland A’s play Cincinnati at 12:35 p.m. at the Coliseum. Trip includes BART ride and game ticket. \$30 resident/\$35 non-residents, Meet at the Orinda Community Center at 10:45 a.m. (returning 4:30 p.m. approximately). Call 254-2445 for a list of events and resources for seniors.

AT THE LIBRARY

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

- 1 **Saturday Morning Live**, family story time for 3- to 5-year-olds, Picture Book area, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Also June 8, 15, and 22.
- 4 **Peek-A-Book Time**, songs, stories, rhythms and rhymes for infants to 16 months old and their caregivers, Gallery Room, 11:30 a.m. Also June 11 and 18.
- Berkeley Repertory Theatre** docent talks about the theatre’s production of *Dear Elizabeth*. The play follows the bittersweet friendship between Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell as they trade hundreds of witty and passionate letters. Adult program, Fireside Room, 7 p.m.
- 6 **Friends of the Orinda Library** Book Sale, Book Shop and Sorting Area, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- ESL (English as a Second Language) Conversation Circle**, practice your English conversation skills in an informal group setting, Tutoring Room, 1 p.m. No registration required. Also June 13, 20 and 27.
- 8 **Summer Reading** begins with the theme of “Reading is So Delicious,” categories for all ages and lots of prizes. Sign up at the library.
- 12 **Music with Melita**, interactive music and dance for children 0-5 years, Garden Room, 10:30 to 11:10 a.m.
- 15 **Weekend Paws to Read**, earn Summer Reading minutes with a friendly dog. Call or visit the library to sign up for a 20-minute reading session, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Also June 29.
- 16 **World Affairs Book Group** will discuss National Insecurity: *The Cost of American Militarism*, by Melvin A. Goodman Orinda Books, 3 p.m. 254-7606. New members welcome.
- 18 **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 June 19, 25 and 26.
- 19 **Summer Music Series** kicks off with hometown favorites The Real Placebos featuring acoustic roots, blues and swing, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 **Mystery Book Club** members discuss *Up Jumps the Devil* by Margaret Maron, Tutoring Room, 3 to 4:30 p.m. New members welcome.
- 27 **Talespinners of Contra Costa**, tell a story or just come to listen, featuring a special storyteller, 7 to 9 p.m. Adult program.

CLUB MEETINGS

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

Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe. Third Monday, 7:30 p.m., Better Homes & Gardens

Concerts in the Park Returns to Community Center In June

By SALLY HOGARTY
Editor

Outdoor concerts will once again have residents flocking to the Community Center Park for picnics and music. The Orinda Community Center Auxiliary and the Parks and Recreation Department have put together a season of old favorites and some new surprises.

All concerts are 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.cityoforinda.org.

- June 11 - Brian Moran Jazz Trio
- June 18 - Cal Alumni Big Band
- June 25 - David Correa and Casada (Latin guitar/world music)
- July 2 - Bay Bridge Beat (funk, rhythm and blues)
- July 9 - Stone Soup (classic rock)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Brian Moran and his jazz trio will perform on June 11 in the Community Center Park.

- July 16 - Lamorinda Idol Singers
- July 23 - Pladdohg (Celtic rock)
- July 28 - Opera in the Park (Sunday from 4-6 p.m.)
- August 6 - The Crisis (blues/rock)
- August 13 - Littledog2 (pop/rock)

Mason-McDuffie Realty, 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. 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., Celiás Mexican, Lafayette, 254-0440, ext. 463.

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., this month features Spring Luncheon hosted by Lynne Lloyd, www.montelindogarden.com.

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

Orinda Hiking Club. Every weekend and first Wednesday. Visit www.orindahiking.org 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 Juniors Women’s Club community service group. First Tuesday, September through June, 7 p.m. Contact Julie Mercer or Charlene Robinson at info@orindajuniors.org or www.orindajuniors.org.

Orinda Rotary. Every Wednesday, noon, Orinda Country Club, 254-2222.

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

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

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

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



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BUSINESS

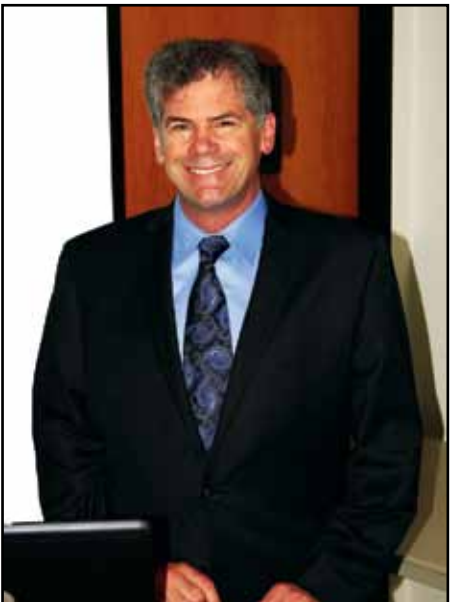
Prudential Names New Manager for Orinda Office

By GINNY CAIN
Contributing Writer

Pete Sabine, a longtime real estate professional, has been named branch manager of the Orinda Prudential California Realty office, and to a newly created position of director of business development company-wide. As branch manager, Sabine will oversee the sales professionals and manage day-to-day operations for the

office located at 8 Camino Encinas, Suite 100, which serves the Lamorinda area. In his business development role, he will be involved in teaching, training and coaching the company’s agents to success. “Pete is the kind of industry professional that we like to associate with. He has a stellar reputation of serving his clients and has consistently throughout his career given back to the industry at large through his agent training and coaching programs. We

look forward to utilizing his combination of skills in his roles with the company,” said Gretchen Pearson, President and CEO of Prudential California Realty, Pearson Properties. Sabine began his real estate career in 1985 in Orinda. He previously worked with Better Homes & Gardens Mason-McDuffie Real Estate in Walnut Creek as both a practicing real estate broker and a business development coach and trainer. He brings to Prudential California Realty an extensive background in sales, marketing, negotiation, relocation and investing along with buying and selling strategies focused on delivering professional real estate services, expertise and innovative solutions for his sales team. Sabine is an expert with real estate contract negotiations, risk management best practices, disclosure laws, agency relationships, creative financing and sophisticated real estate investment resources and strategies, providing real



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pete Sabine is new manager of Prudential's Orinda office.

estate agents with real estate education training courses on these topics. His family heritage goes back three generations in the [SEE SABINE page 23]



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Local Restaurateur Shifts Focus

By DAVID DIERKS
Assistant Editor

Lava Pit Hawaiian Grill owner Sam Lim has shifted his focus from managing

Lava Pit to providing financial advice through Morgan Stanley Wealth Management. Lim said, “I graduated with a degree in Economics so I’ve always been immersed in finance and business. Late last year, it felt like I needed a career change. I recently got married and purchased a new home with my wife. Career wise, I wanted to get back into the financial world and in December 2012, I started at Morgan Stanley.” The day-to-day management of Lava Pit has been handed over to his long trusted manager Maria Rojas. Lim started Lava Pit in 2006 after he graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a BA in Economics and a minor in Business. Lim said, “I grew up in Southern California, and I’ve always been in the restaurant and hospitality industry. As a young kid, I worked as a cashier at our family restaurants and gift shops and learned a lot about hard work and what it takes to succeed. After I graduated from Cal, I thought now is the time to [SEE LIM page 23]



DAVID DIERKS
Sam Lim, owner of Lava Pit Hawaiian Grill in Theatre Square, has joined Morgan Stanley.

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BUSINESS BUZZ

◆ BUZZ from page 24

items for their college dormitory rather than shopping at Target. The jewelry of local artisans is featured at ReChic Boutique. Necklaces, rings, key fobs, belts and cosmetic bags are just a few of the offerings.

In addition to the retail business, interesting classes are offered for people of all ages. “Auto 101 is super popular with adults and kids as well. Everything related to car anatomy is included in the weekend course held at the shop. Changing a tire, checking and changing the oil and using jumper cables are important skills for everyone to have,” says Vigo, who is currently searching for a facilitator to run a Teen Book Club 101 at ReChic Boutique. “We will meet one evening a month through the summer to discuss fun and adventurous readings. Anyone interested in helping should contact me,” says Vigo.

Vigo is married to Mike Vigo, owner of “Bee Rancher Honey,” which is available at her shop throughout the summer and fall. “Bee hives - which make excellent Father’s Day gifts - may be purchased as well,” says Vigo. The couple has three daughters. Natalie is a junior at Miramonte High School. Olivia is a freshman and Morgan attends the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
ReChic offers more than great items to purchase: it also offers classes in car basics.

7th grade at Orinda Intermediate School. “Everyone helps with the bees, and Mike is the foreman of Bee Ranchers,” says Vigo.

Currently, ReChic Boutique 101 is open Tuesday through Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Summer hours begin June 11 and run Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The shop is closed on Monday. For more information, visit ReChic Boutique 101 on FaceBook or call 925-519-8050.

◆ SABINE from page 22

Lamorinda area. Sabine currently resides in Pleasant Hill.

“I’m passionate about my real estate career and equally passionate about helping others succeed in real estate sales. I believe when agents are mentored and coached for success you create a culture where success naturally breeds, which results in business

growth and a competitive edge. Prudential California Realty is on a growth plan that is exciting to me and will allow me to continue my evolution in real estate business development and training” said Sabine. Sabine can be reached at 925-297-5335.

For more information on the Prudential California Realty in Orinda, visit www.pruca.com.

◆ LIM from page 22

open a restaurant. I asked my parents to come out of retirement to help me create the recipes.”

Using the skills he learned from seven years of managing Lava Pit, Lim hopes to help the families he’s met in Orinda. “What I’ve learned from all the years I’ve been here is mostly about people. I’ve always helped people with important events like weddings, birthdays, corporate events, even retirement parties. I wanted to use my experience dealing with clients and customers with more of a long term focus,” said Lim.

He sees his philosophy of wealth management as focused on people. Lim wants to identify the uncertainties in their life in terms of cash flow, liquidity needs, capital expenditures and retirement solutions. “It’s not about buying or selling one stock; it’s about working with individuals, families, and small businesses. I have always spent

the time getting to know my clients and for them to know me and my family. I understand there’s a lot of uncertainties involved in a retirement plan or running a business, so I want to take what I’ve learned while leveraging the vast financial resources at Morgan Stanley to help people in the long-term,” added Lim.

Lim chose Morgan Stanley “because of their reputation for excellence in financial services and execution on a global scale. I still love Lava Pit, but I want to get back to a career close to my educational background and experience. Being a financial advisor is the perfect career for me because of my past achievement at U.C. Berkeley and as a successful entrepreneur. I find great pride and satisfaction talking to people and ultimately making their goals become reality,” said Lim.

For more information on how he can help you, contact Sam Lim at 925-930-3832 or sam.lim@morganstanley.com.

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Sweet Dreams Toy Store in Theatre Square is an Orinda Institution

Established in Orinda nearly 20 years ago by Gary Gendel, this delightful toy store is an adventure for young and old alike. Located on the Moraga Way side of Theatre Square, adjacent to Petra, if you stop by on a Saturday morning, you will be treated to a

flurry of activity as children descend on the shop with parents in tow, searching for the perfect gift for an afternoon birthday party.

Connie King manages Sweet Dreams with care, knowing the name of every child who walks through the door. “Kids come to the store just to visit with Connie. She is an Orinda Original,” says senior buyer Barbara Lillich. “We take a lot of pride in our window displays, involving every employee in order to create something fun

that catches the attention of passersby,” she adds. Currently the Golden Gate Bridge is featured, complete with the Rainbow Tunnel on the Marin side and Golden Gate Fields racetrack. Check out the rubber duck revolt taking place in another window. Even President Obama showed up to support the rights of rubber ducks here.

“We place an emphasis on creativity, reflected in our large stock of arts and crafts supplies, and manipulative toys such as Legos, Playmobil and train sets. We feature a wide selection of puzzles for all ages to enjoy together. A current hot item - Stomp Rocket - shoots 200 feet into the air,” smiles Lillich. “Our infant section increased substantially because a lot of babies are being born in Orinda,” she exclaims. Stop in and choose that baby shower gift and enjoy a variety of possibilities such as rattles, squeaky toys and mobiles. The Stimobile – a very popular black and white mobile conducive to developing an infant’s vision – can be purchased here. “A newborn baby’s vision is in black and white initially, and this particular mobile helps develop eye tracking,” she adds.

“Bruder toy trucks from Germany are selling like crazy. Children watching the ongoing construction of the new bore in the Caldecott Tunnel are enjoying playing with earth movers and dump trucks,” says Lillich. Fine quality dress up clothes made by Great Pretenders encourages imaginative play. Everything from capes to dresses may be had here, as well as the birthday card.

Everyone at Sweet Dreams is committed to providing customers with total satisfaction. They are open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about Sweet Dreams, call 254-6672.

ReChic Boutique 101

Orindan Jennifer Vigo opened this charming boutique featuring consignment items as well as new merchandise last year,



Leslie Hampton (L) and Connie King at Sweet Dreams, where you can find a bounty of fun toys.

and she wants it to be known that ReChic Boutique 101 is a local gathering place for people of all ages. Located at 101 Orinda Way, adjacent to Baan Thai Restaurant, shoppers enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and wide variety of gift items available here. Those of a particular generation will appreciate the painting behind the cash register that is reminiscent of Dennis Hopper in the film, Easy Rider. A comfortable sofa and chairs in the front of the shop invite you to relax and stay awhile.

Clothes and home décor items are accepted for consignment every day. Shoes, shirts, pants, dresses – you name it and you will find stylish trends here at great prices. The smallest size accepted for consignment is 10-12 Junior up to adult size for both boys and girls. No appointment is necessary to speak with Jennifer about consigning items. Individuals travel from San Francisco, Danville, Lafayette and other East Bay cities to do business. “This is a convenient place to get a lot of things done. We have an excellent selection for birthday gifts, humorous gift cards and, often, out of the ordinary gifts. One of the most enjoyable things for me is to hear laughter coming from a shopper browsing in the back of the shop,” says Vigo.

Miramonte graduates heading off to college may want to come by and select some

[SEE BUZZ page 23]

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