

# Orinda

## Farmers Market Grand Opening

By Cathy Tyson

The Orinda Farmers Market will be celebrating its 10th anniversary, when it opens for the season on Saturday, May 12th from 9 until 1. Lots of balloons and special guests will mark the occasion, but the biggest change will be its location, just down the street from last year's spot. Orinda Way will be blocked off directly across from the Community Center Park. "We're excited about the new central location. It'll bring a new vitality and more vendors to the Market," states Kathy Polkinghorn, Assistant to the City Manager. The City looked at, and considered a number of locations, but chose this spot because it allows for parking and easier access. Driveways into the Rite Aid parking lot will be open north and south of the Market road closure.

There will be 27 vendors selling strawberries, cherries, greens, asparagus and more, plus a number of special added features to celebrate not only Orinda's Market's anniversary, but 25 years since the first Certified Farmers Market came to the county. The jazz band "Growiser" will be performing from 9 until 12:30. Linda Carucci, celebrity cookbook author, will be there demonstrating and signing copies of *Cooking School Secrets for the Real World*.

In addition, Chef Arno from Shelby's will be preparing and giving out samples of crab cakes with caper aioli. Barbara Kobsar will be demonstrating recipes from her book, *Traditional Healthy Home Cooking*, and have her legendary jams available for sale. The magician "Rudy" will be there for the kids, and Madame Ovary, Recycling Goddess, will be there for the adults.

Perhaps the most local vendor of all will be Holding Ranch Angus Beef. This organic, grass-fed beef has no antibiotics or hormones and comes from Ann and Hunter Holding's ranch on Deer Hill Road in Lafayette. Grass-fed beef is unique because it contains less than half the fat of grain-fed beef and up to six times as much "omega-3" fat, the good fat found in salmon.



Orinda Way, the Market's new home Photo by Tod Fierner, Graftic A. Scheck

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