

Lamorinda Community, Calendar, Agendas, Notes, News

Orinda

Calendar	
Special City Council 5:30pm	
Auditorium, Orinda Library	
24 Orinda Way	
Wednesday, June 6	
City Council 7pm	
Auditorium, Orinda Library	
24 Orinda Way	
Wednesday, June 6	
Planning Comm. 7pm	
Auditorium, Orinda Library	
24 Orinda Way	
Tuesday, June 12	
Public Safety 7pm	
Library May Room	
26 Orinda Way	
Thursday, June 14	
Park & Recreation 7pm	
Community Center Room 2	
28 Orinda Way	
Wednesday, June 13	
Historic Landmarks 3pm	
Garden Room, Orinda Library	
26 Orinda Way	
Tuesday, June 26	
Liaison 8:30am	
Room 7, Community Center	
26 Orinda Way	
Monday, June 4	
check online:	
Town of Orinda:	
http://www.ci.orinda.ca.us/	
for:	
• all meeting notes	
• calendar updates	

Orinda Sees Increase in Credit Card, Identity Theft

By Chris Lavin

Orinda has seen such an increase in identity and credit card thefts that officials have had to remove the paper recycling bins from the post office.

"You wouldn't believe what people throw away," said Lily Cleope, officer in charge of the Orinda Post Office. "They throw away credit card renewals, everything. Anyone can take them."

Such easily available material for would-be thieves has led to a "definite increase" in criminal activity, Cleope said. And while identity theft – when a person's personal information such as Social Security number, home phone number and address are used to gain credit in order to buy things under another's name – and credit card theft are different crimes, one can lead to another.

"You just don't want your personal information in a recycling bin," Cleope said. "If the customers would just take their mail home it would save a whole lot of problems."

Orinda police have noticed

such an increase that the office recently published a pamphlet informing consumers what to do if their credit or identity is compromised, and advises Orinda residents on how to prevent it. It is available free at the station at 14 Altarinda Road.

"One of the biggest cases we had was a lady who got a resident's Social Security number, opened up an account at a different bank and the resident didn't even know about it until she got a statement in the mail," said Paul Rives, assistant to the chief. Orinda residents who find they have been burgled by credit card or identity theft are asked to come and file a report at the station. Officers then ask a volunteer to work on the case to find out how a card was used, and when.

"Credit card theft is one of the most common thefts we see," Rives said. Ice cream parlors are a popular destination for credit card thieves, for some reason, he said, "but then they might go buy a plasma screen TV 20 minutes later."

According to Rives, the department is working with area merchants to use surveillance cameras to track down suspects who used a stolen card at a particular time and place.

"It takes a lot of time," he said. Cleope said she has seen an increase in the number of thefts from home mail boxes, as well. Rives agreed. "There is lots of expendable income here," he said. "There are people out there trying to take advantage of the people we have."

Cleope is working with her delivery staff to keep an eye on residential houses. "We know when people are on vacation, so we can call the police if we see something suspicious," she said. Both Cleope and Rives recommend caution.

"You know those credit cards that you must activate from your home phone?" Cleope asked. "I heard of a woman who got a flower delivery – this person had dressed up like a florist delivery person and got some flowers – but when the customer said it must be a mistake, the delivery

person asked to use the phone to call the florist and check the address. The woman let her in, and she went in and activated a stolen card from her home phone number. You just don't know the ideas these people come up with."

Rives recommends making a label for the back of credit cards asking merchants to check a photo ID before completing a purchase.

"And come by and pick up a pamphlet," he said.



Lily Cleope with "left behind mail" Photo by Tod Fierner

Cal Shakes ...continued from page 1



Cal Shakes Artistic Director Jonathan Moscone

As visitors milled around on the warm spring evening listening to a live performance by Bob Athayde and Friends and enjoying beverages and hors d'oeuvres provided by some of the Square's restaurants, many were struck by the suitability of the Square for such events. Chris Quiett, representing GLL Properties, Inc.,

which acquired Theater Square last year, commented, "We're planning a weekly summer performance series, possibly on Thursday nights, that would start in June and run through September or October."

The Cal Shakes season starts this week with Richard III. Opening night is Saturday, June 2, following preview performances on Wed/Thur/Fri. To view this summer's calendar of Cal Shakes performances at the Bruns Amphitheater, including special events such as "Meet the Artists," "Behind the Scenes," and "Tasting Night," go to http://www.calshakes.org/v4/tickets/calendar_r3.html. Tickets can be purchased on-line or at the new Theater Square outlet.

Cal Shakes wants you to know that kids can enjoy Shakespeare, too! Cal Shakes summer camp moves from its former home at the Bentley School to the Orinda Community Center this year. Cal Shakes Artistic Learning Coordinator Emily Morrison described the camp; "The kids spend the morning in acting classes, which include fun things like physical comedy and stage fighting, and get to participate in Masters Classes taught by our actors. In the afternoon, they rehearse and later perform a shortened version of a Shakespeare play." Campers will also receive a free ticket for each of the four Cal Shakes main stage productions this summer. Moscone thinks the camp is a great opportunity for kids because, "They acquire so much confidence when they find out that they can do it – they can understand Shakespeare!" For Cal Shakes summer camp information go to <http://www.calshakes.org/v4/educ/camps.html>.

'Fireside Chat' to Tackle Allergy Solutions

By Chris Lavin

Empty shelves where the allergy medicines used to be in local drug stores are testament to this season's unusually harsh allergies. Sporadic rain followed by hot days caused blooms to pollinate in abundance, leading to watery eyes and stuffed sinuses.

But one holistic doctor in the East Bay recommends not immediately rushing to the drug store for relief. There are many other options, says Dr. Jay Sordean, of the Redwood Clinic in Berkeley.

Sordean will be the featured speaker at the Orinda Library's "Fireside Chat" series from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 26

when he speaks about "Natural Solutions to Allergy Problems: A Holistic Approach."

"We'll be talking about the prevalence of allergies and their symptoms," said Sordean – including food allergies. "Stress can exacerbate or be the underlying cause of allergies." He will speak of ways to alleviate both, including herbal remedies, vitamin therapy, exercise and acupuncture. The Orinda Library's "Fireside Chat" series is held on the last Tuesday of each month at the library on Orinda Way. Call 925-254-2184 for more information.



Arson, 5/22/07 Dos Encinas. Victim set out trashcans Monday night. In the morning, victim found cans burned to the ground, "puddles of plastic." Neighbors didn't see or hear anything.

Arson, 5/21/07 Edgewood Road. Unknown suspect set homeowners garbage can on fire by unknown means. An area check was done for the suspects with negative results.

Other Felony, 5/20/07 Kitiwake Road. Suspect, an ex-boyfriend in his 50's, entered his 52-year-old ex-girlfriend's house, and threatened to kill her new boyfriend.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO WIN A \$250 MARRIOTT TRAVELCARD OR A 7 DAY STAY IN A LUXURY PENTHOUSE IN WAIKIKI? ENTER TO WIN AT 5A!

A Gift for you
 \$250

MARRIOTT

BRING THIS COUPON IN AND ENTER TO WIN A **FREE \$250 MARRIOTT TravelCard***

1,000'S OF HOTELS TO CHOOSE FROM. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO WIN. FOR ALL DETAILS CHECK 5Aspace.com Or call 631-7000

*No purchase necessary, need not be present to win. Campaign expires 5/31/07, check our web site at www.5Aspace.com for Marriott TravelCard details.

Imagine yourself healthy, fit & energetic

- Personalized Nutrition Programs
- Lasting weight loss
- Lower Cholesterol

Call today to schedule your Fitness & Body Composition Analysis

254-1080

www.lamorindanutrition.com

89 Davis Rd. #180, Orinda

Kensington Place... Luxury. Quality. Value. Service.

1 BR'S NOW Available!

Amenities for the lifestyle you deserve:

- Affordable Monthly Rentals
- Newly Remodeled
- Private Patio/Balcony
- Gracious Restaurant Style Dining
- Weekly Housekeeping
- Scheduled Transportation
- Enrichment Programs
- Computer Center
- Library with Cozy Fireplace
- Outdoor Sitting Areas
- Covered Parking Available
- Pet Friendly Community

Ask us how we can assist you with a stress free move!

1580 Geary Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
(925) 943-1121