

Not to be missed

“Richard III”
May 30-June 24
California Shakespeare Theater’s 2007 Season at the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda begins May 30th with Shakespeare’s Richard III directed by Mark Rucker.

“Let’s Go to Casablanca”
May 24-June 23
By Kevin T. Morales
Town Hall Theatre Company brings Let’s Go to Casablanca to the stage. This is the much anticipated sequel to Let’s Go to the Movies - the smash hit musical written just for Town Hall that was sold out and critically acclaimed. Contact the Town Hall Theatre Company box office for dates, times, and ticket prices: 925-283-1557, or visit www.townhalltheatre.com

Agatha Christie’s An Unexpected Guest
Sponsored by Orinda Starlight Village Player’s. June 1st through June 23rd. Fridays & Saturdays, at 8:30PM; Sunday, June 10th at 4PM; and Thursday, June 21st at 8PM
26 Orinda Way, at the Orinda Community Center Outside Amphitheater. The Orinda Community Center Amphitheater is located across the street from Rite Aid and the Orinda Post Office. Tickets are always available at the box office adjacent to the theater which opens an half hour before show time.
Adult \$15, senior/student \$7.50, group rates available. No Reservations needed. (925)253-1191

Lafayette Gallery’s new show ARTE:
Abstractions, Reflections, Transitions and Explorations will run through June 2. When visiting the Gallery, please be sure to wander through the Lafayette Sculpture Garden located behind the Gallery. The current show features East Bay sculptors in a variety of media. Lafayette Gallery, 50 Lafayette Circle, is open Tuesday to Saturday from 11am to 5pm. (925) 284-2788, www.lafayette-gallery.net

I Want it Now! Navigating Childhood in a Materialistic World
Discussion with author, Dr. Donna Bee-Gates. Saturday, June 2nd at 2:00 p.m. Orinda, Library. Dr. Bee-Gates discusses how using material goods as rewards or as emotional compensation affects young people’s social and psychological development and the ways in which parents can counter materialism by fostering a strong self-concept, concern for others, and a sense of life’s purpose in their children.

Performing Live at The Orinda House
June 1st -Ron Mathews Smooth Jazz and R&B. June 2nd. -Milt Leonard SMG featuring Shirley Howard. June 3rd. -Raul Ramirez Latin Jazz Trio. June 8th. -Marshall Otwell. June 17th.-Holly Penfield and husband Ian Richie from Pink Floyd. June 21st.-Jonathan Poretz. Call 258-4445 for more information

“Capturing the Light”
Photography Show, June 5-August 11, 2007. Wenda Pymman, the featured artist in this group show, specializes in landscape, scenic and travel photography, with special emphasis on local East Bay

and Diablo scenes. Her vast body of work reflects her all-consuming passion to capture nature’s diverse patterns and imagery through the use of natural light. Opening reception is Saturday, June 9 from 3-5 pm. Wine and refreshments will be served. Moraga Art Gallery (Rheem Valley Shopping Center) 570 Center St. Moraga, CA 94556 Free

New Solutions to Eliminate Pain Tuesday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m.
Moraga Library. There are various causes of pain, inflammation being one of them. This workshop will explore factors related to pain and ways that you can reduce or eliminate your pain with natural solutions.

Mother - Daughter Book Group
June 6th at the Lafayette Library
First Wednesdays of the month at 6:00 p.m. For High School Girls and their Mothers. Please Note: Readers may encounter mature subject matter in selected titles Call the Library to register for this program: 925-283-4592

Gold Coast Chamber Players - Sunday, June 3. The Gold Coast Chamber Players will conclude their 8th Season with the Big Brass and Talented Students from their Musical Mentoring Program. The concert, titled “Visions of America” on Sunday, June 3, 2007 at 3pm takes place at the performing arts theater at the Bentley School, 1000 Upper Happy Valley Road in Lafayette. General tickets are \$30, Seniors \$25, Students \$10. Order tickets by phone through the Willows Box Office (925) 798-1300 or online www.gcplayers.org. For more information call (925) 283-3728.

Campo Grad Night Preview!
June 7th, 6:00-9:00pm
Welcome to the Wonderful World of Disney! Your whole family will enjoy the magic. Admission is free; donations will be accepted at the door to offset Grad Night costs.

Town Hall Kids Theatre Open House - Saturday, June 9, 2:00pm

The Glover Groups to Exhibit Paintings at Orinda Library. Some 30 painters, who have studied under Pam and Ann-Marie Glover, will exhibit and sell their works at the Orinda Community Library from June 14 to July 12, 2007. A reception with the artists is planned at the exhibit on June 22 from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Aegis of Moraga Antique Car Show, Saturday, June 9th. 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Bring the whole family for music and fun!

The Art of Pruning Japanese Maple
Workshop by world renown pruning instructor Yuki Nara Moraga Garden Center. Free for fathers... and mothers too! June 17th 2007, 10 AM to 12 Noon, Seating is limited, register in advance by phone (925) 376-1810 Moraga Garden Center

How Well Are You Aging?
Occupational therapist Martha Norton and certified dietician and chef June Tanton will help you to assess how well you

have done with yourselves over the years, both physically, mentally, and spiritually. Their presentation also covers what new life practices affecting safety, quality, and end of life issues you can adopt to make your next life chapters even better. Each healthcare professional brings to us over 30 years of expertise in their work with older adults and their families. Friday 6/1, 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Protecting Our Community from Financial Predators
Join a panel of experts from the JFKU Elder Law Clinic, Contra Costa County Adult Protective Services, our local Police Department, and Barbara Schuh, senior advocate and Lafayette Senior Services Commissioner, to discuss identity theft crimes and learn how to protect yourself, your family, and your community. Thurs 6/28, 10:30-12, Lafayette Community Center. No charge. Donations at the door most appreciated. Call to let us know you are coming, 284-5050

Tea Dancing
Enjoy afternoon Tea Dancing and light refreshments every Wednesday in the spacious Live Oak room. Every Wednesday 12:30 – 3:00 PM. LCC: Live Oak Room, \$2 fee covers refreshments

Campus Happenings

Art Exhibitions:
“Town and Country: Jessica Dunne and Louis LaBrie” The 2007 biennial contemporary landscape exhibition From June 2 to August 12 Hearst Art Gallery. Audience discussion with Dunne and LaBrie moderated by Julie Armistead Sunday, June 3 at 2 p.m.

A reception will follow featuring Bay Area jazz trio Beep! Soda Activity Center Free

New Exhibition “William Keith: The 1880s Paintings” Works from the 1880s, which marked a decade of great changes in William Keith’s life. Opens Saturday, June 2 Opening reception on Sunday, June 3 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Hearst Art Gallery Free

Lectures:
“A Catholic Faith Journey”
A Lecture by Theologian Rosemary Luling Haughton. The Cummins Institute for Catholic Thought hosts a public lecture by internationally renowned Roman Catholic theologian Rosemary Luling Haughton. Haughton has written 35 books including “The Transformation of Man,” “The Passionate God” and “The Catholic Thing.” A native of England, Haughton was one of the founders in 1980 of Wellspring House in Massachusetts, which provides educational programs for low-income women as well as a shelter program for homeless families and housing projects for low- and moderate-income families. Monday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m. Chapel Free

Dear Editor:
Measure E has some good provisions in it to make sure the money is spent right. The whole process of picking streets to repair and spending the money will be overseen by an independent citizens’ commission, and audited by independent CPAs. The citizens’ Oversight Commission will have all its meetings in public, and will make its recommendations to the city council. The final word rests with the city council because this is required by state law. If we don’t think the council is doing a good job, we’re free to vote them out of office as we’ve done in the last two elections. I think the citizens’ commission is a good approach that will make sure our money is being spent properly. I’ve seen the list of people on the commission, and they have excellent experience in finance, engineering, public works and transportation. We REALLY need to fix our roads. Let’s not be penny wise, pound foolish. Let’s avoid third world status! Pass Measure E!
Paula Goodwin, Orinda

Dear Editor
The League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley recommends a “Yes” vote on Orinda’s Measure E, which will authorize the City to sell, over time, up to \$58,600,000 in general obligation bonds to finance improvements to roads, storm drains and water supply infrastructure.
Two-thirds of Orinda’s roads are in very poor condition. One half of Orinda’s storm drains are in danger of failing. Twenty eight percent of Orinda’s fire hydrants produce insufficient water to put out a fire in a 1,000 square foot structure. The League supports measures that ensure revenues are both sufficient and flexible enough to meet changing needs for local government services. The City has instituted multiple safeguards by establishing a 7 member Citizens’ Infrastructure Commission. The League strongly supports the involvement of non-elected citizens that provide oversight and implementation of the infrastructure improvements. In addition, there will be annual independent audits of the bond expenditures and the bond proceeds will be deposited in a special bonds proceeds account. “The City Council has encouraged all citizens to be engaged and knowledgeable about this important bond measure”. The League strongly agrees with that sentiment. Please vote yes on Measure E on June 5.
Karrie Connors, President, League of Women Voters Diablo Valley

Dear Editor
As you know, 1978’s Prop 13 stripped the tax base out of California coffers which had an enormously negative impact on the monies returned to local communities for critical initiatives like education. The upside of Prop 13 is that lifelong and newer residents to the state can still afford the taxes we pay on our homes to live here. But without those state tax dollars, each community has to pay for everything locally-especially things we really value like education. Pay as you go or pay for performance became the new standard when Prop 13 passed 29 years ago.
Fortunately in Orinda, the community has made a significant and sustained commitment to “excellence in our schools” and supported that vision financially through E.F.O. and by passing measures that enable that excellence.

While clearly not as emotionally engaging as education, the same parallel exists for California infrastructure and roads...communities have to “pay locally for results.” The money will not come from the state, there is no “special budget” to draw from and the City of Orinda’s annual budget of \$10M only allows for \$900K per year for roads unless we want to forgo police and fire protection and a city management staff. For those of you who attended the City meetings in January, you know there is no other viable nor rationale solution to improving Orinda’s 92 miles of roads, drains and water flow to fire hydrants. In the post Prop 13 era in California, the only way to make these substantive improvements is to pay for it locally-there is no other solution.
So if you want to get this done, you have to vote YES on Measure E on June 5th.
Russ Belden, Orinda

Letter to the Editor
After Measure Q lost last November, proponents began asserting that Q lost by 200 votes. We assumed this circulated misinformation was due to an honest mistake. So we informed the Orinda City Council of the Contra Costa County Recorder’s math calculation, which determined Measure Q lost by 645 votes. In other words, an additional 645 new YES votes were needed to pass Measure Q. These are the County Recorder’s official facts not the fiction of the Proponents. We assumed that once the Orinda City Council, the lead proponents of Measure E, understood the Recorder’s math calculation, this misinformation would cease. However some 7 months later the voters are still being misled. In the May 18 Sun Letters, we again read, “Measure Q lost by only about 200 votes”. I assume this is a calculated effort to mislead the voters since the County Recorder’s method of calculation has been fully explained on more than one occasion. Unfortunately, voters cannot make educated decisions when given inaccurate information by Measure E Proponents. Let us start using our existing taxes on roads as Orindans intended.
Please vote NO on E.
Janet Maiorana, Orinda

Letters to the Editor,
Fact: Proponents do not state specific criteria for which roads will be repaired. Is this because they do not want voters to know how few roads will be fixed? The Infrastructure Report stated 91% of roads would NOT be eligible for Measure Q Bond money. Everyone is eligible for the lottery but few win. Which roads will win? Fact: The City Audit states the City spent only \$107,532 in 2003/04 and \$38,060 in 2004/05 for road pavement. Fact: The Bond cost goes up in future years. Your tax may be higher than estimated average. In 2014, with assessed valuation of \$1 million the bond tax is \$550, \$2 million assessment pays \$1100 and \$3 million pays \$1650. Fact: We can fix infrastructure without new taxes. We must get the City Council to think outside the Bond wagon. Fact: Common sense reveals that Orinda will save money forming an Orinda Fire District since Orinda pays 2/3 of the MOFD revenue to Moraga paying 1/3. An Orinda Fire District will reduce costs. Example, high salaried Administrative Staff can be reduced. The Fire Chief could also be the Fire Marshal, thereby, eliminating our

Letters to the Editor
We’re a community newspaper, and we welcome your input. Please share your thoughts, news, ideas, suggestions, and photos here in the pages of the Lamorinda Weekly. Max. 200 word for a letters. email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com
Regular mail:
Letters to the Editor
Lamorinda Weekly
P.O.Box 6133
Moraga, CA 94556

full time Fire Marshal.
Bruce Nicolai, Orinda

Letter to Editor
Reporter, Lisa Vorderbrueggen’s, article in the 5/20 Contra Costa Times titled, “Bad blood seeps into panel choice,” highlights the political intrigue concerning the Orinda City Council Measure E Bond, and Bond Oversight Commission. The reporter highlights that an aspiring appointee to the Oversight Commission must be very careful in contributing financially to the politicians’ agenda. Any financial slips up can mean disaster for the aspiring Commission appointee.
I learned the Council received a letter that it was illegal to spend taxpayer money forming this Oversight Commission prior to the June 5. Using smoke and mirrors, the Council then deemed this Commission a permanent commission not solely related to the Measure E Bond. The Council action to appoint a Bond Oversight Commission prior to June 5 eliminates Bond opponents from applying for the Commission. By not contributing financially to Measure E, Bond opponents get a second scarlet letter. Without specific criteria for which roads will receive bond money, repairs will be made by political decisions. Will your road be repaired if you are not financially and politically connected?
Please vote NO on Smoke and Mirrors Measure E.
Vince Maiorana, Orinda

Dear Editor
I am homeowner, business owner and parent of two elementary school age children living in the Burton Valley neighborhood of Lafayette. I am writing to you regarding the dire straits of the roadways in Lafayette and urging all Lafayette residents to vote “Yes” to Measure C and Advisory Measure D on June 5, 2007 which will provide \$24M to fix our roads. Nearly thirty percent of our roads in Lafayette are failed! The failed roads not only lower our homes’ property values, but are extremely dangerous to our children who walk and bike on these roads. It costs ten times more to fix a failed road than maintain a good road. Therefore, Lafayette tax dollars currently earmarked for fixing our roads are being used to maintain roads in good condition. A “Yes” vote to Measure C and Advisory Measure D will result in a \$150 per year parcel tax for each Lafayette residential property as well as an assessment to all Lafayette commercial properties. If Measure C does not pass in June, our roads will continue to deteriorate, become even more expensive to fix and potentially affect crucial infrastructure located beneath our roads.
For more information go to www.lafayetteroads.org.
Paul Lefcourt, Lafayette

FREE free Free free FREE
Vision Screening for Kids



Saturday, June 9 • 9am to 5pm • 11 yrs and under

Space is filling quickly, please register by phone or email: (provide parent’s name, address, phone # and time you plan to visit)

Email: Checkmyvision@orindaoptometric.com
PH: 925.254.5914

ORINDA OPTOMETRIC VISION CENTER
Better Vision Today...Healthier Eyes Tomorrow!
www.orindaoptometric.com • 81 MORAGA WAY, ORINDA

Please submit events to:
calendar@lamorindaweekly.com

Read online at:
<http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/html/read.html>

(a pdf reader is required to view the pages.)

Kids Take Over Town Hall Theater!

By Lee Borrowman
On Saturday, June 9th at 2:00PM, the Town Hall Theatre will open its doors to kids and families for the Town Hall Kids’ Open House & Ice Cream Social. If you’ve never enjoyed an ice cream sundae in a nearly 100-year old building or stood center stage before, this is your chance. Win door prizes, enter a raffle for a brand new bike from Hank & Frank, tour the theater and listen to stories from its long and colorful history; don’t forget to ask about the monkey!
This event is free for all kids and families, including past and current actors in the Town Hall Kids program, as well as families who are interested in

finding out more about their theatre arts classes. Visitors will have a chance to meet the teachers, most of who are professional actors themselves, and hear about the Summer 2007 classes and shows. This year at summer camp, kids 7-12 can perform for friends and family in Snow White or Pinocchio (directed by Jessica Magers-Rankin) or The Wizard of Oz (directed by Emily Garcia). There are also summer programs for younger children and a special Teen Cabaret class for students 12 and up.

Town Hall Theatre’s Education Director Janice Peacock has enlarged and enhanced the kids’ program since taking the



Cast of Once Upon a Mattress, Spring 2007

reins last year. “It’s a big change for us to have an emphasis on programs for older kids (in middle school and high school), but it’s working and the kids love it,” she says. “In all of our classes, we focus on the process and not just the performance, so the kids learn a lot about themselves, about overcoming obstacles and fears, and about working as a team towards a common goal.”

“Every child in the program gets their moment in the spotlight, their chance to shine,” continues Peacock. “We really

concentrate on building their self-esteem. It’s so wonderful to see the kids come off stage saying, ‘We were awesome! They loved us!’”

The Town Hall Theatre is a non-profit organization and is located at 3535 School Street (corner of Moraga Rd) in Lafayette. Town Hall Kids Summer registration is open, and there is still space available especially in the morning sessions. For more information go to www.townhallkids.com, call 925-262-1159 or e-mail townhallkids@yahoo.com.



Now in Walnut Creek

Jumpstart Your Weight Loss

Jumpstart Medicine offers a medically-supervised weight loss program individually designed for men and women looking to lose weight safely and quickly. On average, our patients lose 2 to 5 pounds per week over the course of 12 weeks. Most patients feel great, have no cravings, and stay highly motivated due to quick results which they can see and feel.

How much do you want to lose?

jumpstart

MEDICINE


Walnut Creek • San Ramon
925-277-1123 • www.jumpstartmedicine.com

GET CLEAN.

TOTAL CLEAN 376-1004

Law Office of Radcliffe & Radcliffe

455 Moraga Road, Suite A
Moraga, California 94556
925.376.2325 – 925.376.2328 (fax)



Serving Lamorinda for over 30 years.

Martha C. Radcliffe – Estate planning
Lisa J. Radcliffe – Family Law, custody, support and visitation