

Lamorinda Community, Calendar, Agendas, Notes, News

Orinda

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way	
Wednesday, Aug 21	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Sarge Littlehale Conf. Room City Hall, 22 Orinda Way	
Tuesday, Aug 14	
Public Safety Comm.	7pm
Community Room at City Hall 22 Orinda Way	
Thursday, Aug 9	
Hist. Landmark Comm.	3pm
Gallery Room, Upper Level 26 Orinda Way	
Monday, Aug 28	
Liaison	8:30am
Community Room at City Hall 22 Orinda Way	
No Meeting in August	
check online:	
Town of Orinda:	
http://www.ci.orinda.ca.us/	
for:	
• all meeting notes	
• calendar updates	



Postal worker notes Suspicious Activity 7/9
White male, 23 was seen by a US Postal Service worker acting suspiciously near a residential mailbox. Subject was seen with mail in his possession and when confronted, returned the mail to the mailbox and departed the scene. The physical description of subject and the vehicle he was driving matched the descriptions of the suspect and vehicle seen in the area during previous mail thefts. The subject was later arrested.

Smile for the camera 7/15
Subject entered Orinda Country Club and removed floral arrangements valued at \$1800. The former employee captured on the video surveillance camera was not authorized to remove them.

Unlocked car results in theft 7/15
Sunglasses, shoes, jackets, computer bag, CD's and a Sony DVD player were taken from victim's unlocked car while parked in her driveway on Glorietta Blvd sometime between Sat., 7/14 at 11:00pm and Sun, 7/15 at 6:00am. No one was seen or heard. No leads, No evidence recovered.



This Guy's Out to Get You - In Our Paper!

We neglected to give photographer Tod Fierner due credit for all of the wonderful 4th of July photos from Orinda that appeared in our last issue. Thank you, Tod! ~The LW Team

Orinda Country Club Swim Team

for the Dogs

By Jennifer Wake



From left to right: Katie Woodward with Roxy, Jackie Post with Libby, Cheryl Allen with Ellis, and Brooke Woodward with Tanner stand in front of swimmers at OCC swim-a-thon. Photos by Jennifer Wake

For the past several years, the Orinda Country Club (OCC) Sharks have sponsored an annual swim-a-thon as a way to give back to their community. On Monday, July 16, nearly 250 OCC swimmers took to the pool to raise money for PAWS with a Cause – a non-profit agency that trains assistance dogs to act as helpers for people with disabilities.

OCC members Katie and Brooke Woodward have a special understanding of the organization: For the past year, their family has raised Tanner – a future PAWS assistance dog.

“Tanner has been around the OCC swim team for two summers now and so many of the kids really know him and like him,” Katie said. The swim-a-thon was a way to really show the kids what Tanner will be able to do when he finishes college and to raise money to help the organization. It costs almost \$18,000 and takes over two years to train a dog to be ready to be certified and given to its new owner.”

ceived her dog Ellis six months ago, she couldn't walk up ramps or stairs by herself, needed help standing up from chairs, and would frequently fall down, unable to get up by herself.

“Ramps were out of the question, so my husband would have to wheelchair me around. If I dropped something, and tried to pick it up, I would fall,” Allen said. “Ellis now picks stuff up for me, or he'll get help if I fall. He's opened more than just doors (literally) for me. He's opened the opportunity for me to go out.”

After an extensive review process, dogs like Ellis are given to clients free of charge. Allen said she wouldn't have been able to have a dog, if she had been required to pay for it.

Orinda resident and PAWS Field Representative Jackie Post says events like the swim-a-thon not only raise much needed funds, but help spread the word about this unique organization. “We're always looking for puppy raisers to help the puppies with socialization,” Post said. Since



PAWS Assistance Dog, Libby, shows off some of her skills to swimmers.

Dogs like Tanner are specially trained to meet the unique needs of their partner. Before a dog is placed, PAWS comes to the client's home and video tapes them doing difficult tasks that the dog will be trained to help with, such as pulling open doors, turning light switches on/off, or picking up an object as small as a dime. Dogs can even be trained to act as a brace to help people back to their feet after a fall.

Before Cheryl Allen re-

dogs might need to be on a bus every day, or in a crowded office building, Post said puppies need to get out a lot and to different places.

In addition to the money raised at the OCC swim-a-thon, two families signed up to be puppy raisers. To learn more about puppy raising or for more information about PAWS with a Cause, visit <http://www.pawswithacause.org/>

Dam Boat Fun

By Cathy Tyson

Looking for an entertaining, last minute outing with the kids this summer? The San Pablo Recreation Area has relatively inexpensive boat rentals available, no reservation necessary. For as little as \$12.00 an hour, a rowboat can be yours to paddle around and enjoy the sunshine. Even adding in the user fee of \$6.00, reduced to \$2.00 after 4:00, it's a pretty good deal and so darn close to home for Lamorindans.

Rental rowboats, kayaks, motorboats and pontoon/patio boats are available for hourly, half day and full day use. Renters must be 18 years old, have a driver's license, and provide a deposit via credit card or cash. During the week, it's usually quiet, with plenty of available space for picnics, hikes, and a playground for the younger set. There's even a snack bar, open daily, near the boat rentals that has ice cream, sandwiches, even beer and sodas for pooped paddlers. Because this is an EBMUD drinking water reservoir, no body contact with the water like swimming or wading is allowed. Call (510) 223-1661 for more information.

Dam Retrofit

Some time ago, it was found that the dam was vulnerable to earthquake damage, after all it was constructed in 1920, and it's done well these last 87 years. In the 1960s and again in the 1970s retrofitting was done, but according to new testing the soil has shown some weakness that could cause flooding. So starting in January of 2008, and scheduled to be



Left to right: Adventure Day Camp's Jaime, with Katie, Alison and Eleanor



Front: Alexis Odei, Oakland; Middle: Samantha Jones, Concord; In the back: Katie from England, Adventure Day Camp

completed in 2010, seismic retrofitting will begin on the outer side of the dam. “The EIR is complete and community meetings have been held,” EBMUD spokesperson Charles Hardy says. “It's in better shape than we thought.” Until construction is completed the usual water level of 13 billion gallons has been drawn down to 8 million gallons for the safety reasons and in anticipation of the upcoming repairs.

With the water level down, the fish are more concentrated, a boon to fishermen. In addition, with the economy down, and gas prices up the



Oni Massi (9) of Oakland at camp for her 3rd summer

reservoir is a bit quieter than usual. Just follow Camino Pablo northbound out of Orinda. The road changes names to San Pablo Dam Road, look for the large body of water, you can't miss it.

Are you active in Town? Do you enjoy attending Council or Planning Meetings? Become a Contributing Reporter for the Lamorinda Weekly! Your impartial reporting of issues is more important than your previous writing experience. Email us at info@lamorindaweekly.com or call 925-330-1983



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