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Orinda to Hold Moraga Way Traffic Workshop - April 26th

By Andrea A. Firth

Traffic moved smoothly along Moraga Way between Miramonte High School and the Crossroads during the morning rush hour over the past week. What happened to the congestion and snail's pace pattern that typically characterizes both the northbound and southbound morning journeys on Moraga Way? Spring Break happened, which kept carloads of Orinda's students in bed or on vacation and off the city's main thoroughfare.

Traffic on Moraga Way from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. on weekdays

throughout the school year is the bane of carpoolers and commuters as hundreds of students make their way to Del Rey Elementary, Orinda Intermediate, and Miramonte High. No-left-turn signs have been installed at Ivy Drive and most recently Southwaite Court to stem the flow of traffic down Ivy Drive by limiting the use of the street as a bypass and forcing drivers to stay on Moraga Way. When the City's Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) recommended the additional no-left turn signage on Moraga Way, they ac-

knowledgeled that it was a band-aid fix to a much bigger traffic issue; TSAC now plans to take a look at that larger issue.

On Tuesday, April 26th TSAC will host a community workshop to discuss concerns about the traffic along the entire length of Moraga Way. According to City Engineer Janice Carey the workshop will include an overview of the traffic studies that have been conducted for Moraga Way and the traffic consultant, who works with the City, will be on hand to answer questions. Atten-

dees will be invited to participate in breakout groups to identify the issues and possible solutions to the Moraga Way traffic quagmire. The meeting is open to all residents, and representatives from the Orinda Union School District and Miramonte High School have been invited to attend.

Community Workshop - Traffic Concerns on Moraga Way
April 26th from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Founders Auditorium, Orinda Community Center

State of the City Luncheon on April 20th

By Andrea A. Firth



Victoria Smith
Photo Ohlen Alexander

Residents of Orinda will have the opportunity to hear how things are going in their fine city at the upcoming State of the City Address to be given by Mayor Victoria Smith on Wednesday, April 20th. Hosted by the Rotary Club of Orinda and the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, the lunch and presentation will be held at the Orinda Community Center. The event will also include special recognitions for members of Orinda's business community: Julian Juricevic, owner of Orinda Taxi; and Orinda News' editor Sally Hogarty and business columnist Valerie Hotz. Tickets are \$20 and available through the Chamber website, www.orindachamber.org, rsvp by April 15th.



Orinda Rotary member Dick Birkhalter, Council member Amy Worth, and Richard Nelson, Chair of the Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission, manned the City's table on opening day of the Orinda Farmers' Market.
Photo Ohlen Alexander

too perfect Premiere at The Orinda

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When asked about the upcoming premiere of *too perfect* to be held at the Orinda Theater later in April, there is a palpable feeling of nervous anticipation among the local cast. They have yet to view the full-length version of the film, and it will be the first time for most to see themselves on a theater's big screen. All of the cast members recall the two weeks of filming last summer as a good time and enjoyed hanging out, making a new set of friends, and getting to know the film crew. "I thought being in the film was an amazing experience," says Jake Linares, who plays one of Elijah's good friends in the film, "The acting wasn't that hard, but it was definitely work and harder than it looks."

The movie was filmed at locations throughout Lamorinda including Theater Square, Republic of Cake, Loard's Ice Cream, 24 Hour Fitness, and Miramonte High School. (Miramonte Principal Adam Clark plays a small part in the film.) "You even see the crosses in Lafayette in the background of one scene," says Rubio, "You can't deny it's a part of our landscape, but it's not there to make sort of political statement."

Rubio says she set much of the film in Orinda because she wants to contribute to the changing vibe of the downtown. "I want people who come to Orinda to find it to be a cool, little city," says Rubio, and she believes movies might be a way to foster that image. She mentions other Bay Area cities that have served as film locations, such as San Rafael which served as a film site for the movie *American Graffiti*. "They may have only done a day filming there, but people still go to visit San Rafael to see that set location."

"Film is the strongest medium we have," says

Rubio. "We have this gorgeous theater in a downtown surrounded by beautiful hills. We need to support what we have here."

Front page photo: The Orinda-based cast of *too perfect* on the steps outside Table 24 at Theater

Square: Back row (L to R) Aaron Valled, Mia Harnett, Antonio Salmeron, Tyler Maramonte, Jake Linares; front row (L to R) Maddie Geary, Madison Gibson, Lindsey Watters, Tessa Hanson, Elijah Stavena, Haley Stanton. Photo A. Firth

too perfect will screen at the Orinda Theater on Friday, April 29th at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 1st at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. There will a Q and A with the cast following the screenings. Tickets are \$10. *too perfect* will also be shown at Miramonte High School on Friday, May 6th at 7:00 p.m. This screening is open to the public and 25% of the ticket proceeds will be donated to Miramonte.



Orinda Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council Special Meeting
Budget Workshop
Thursday, April 21, 4:00 pm
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Planning Commission

A Special City Council / Planning Commission Joint Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 26, at 7:00 p.m. in the Garden Room, Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org

Chamber of Commerce:

www.orindachamber.org

The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org



Police Report

Not lucky on Las Vegas, 3/25/11 Las Vegas Road, that is. The rear slider of a home was pried open for burglar(s) to gain access and the electricity to the rear of the home was shut off at the main fuse box. Perhaps in case the door was hooked up to an alarm system? The elderly female victim was unable to take an inventory of missing items due to a medical condition.

Tools taken, 3/25/11 Directly across the street, at a home also on Las Vegas Road, approximately \$1,000 worth of tools were taken. Police happened to be at the neighbor's home noted above and came to check to see if anyone had seen or heard anything unusual when they found the door open. The home was ransacked and there was damage to the sliding door.

Plate problems, 3/25/11 A car was pulled over on southbound Camino Pablo at Highway 24 for not having a front license plate and having the rear plate of a different car. The driver admitted to placing the plate on the vehicle, saying he recently bought it, but surprisingly he didn't have a bill of sale with him and he was driving on a suspended license.



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