

Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts with our community!

Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and city/town of residence -- we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only).

Letters should be 350 words or less; letters of up to 500 words will be accepted on a space-available basis. **email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com;** Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

Editor:

I am sorry to hear about Maura and Ellen's experience on the trails. Before everyone panics, I have to say, there are leash laws on these trails. We are lucky to live in an area with so much free space and wild life. We are fortunate to have trails open for us and our pets to enjoy. The leash laws are put in place for our protection as well as the protection of the environment. I run these trails with my dog, on leash, on a regular basis. I frequently cross paths with coyotes, deer, wild boar, cows, horses you name it....I have never had an aggressive experience with any of them. I can only assume they don't see my dog as natural prey because she is attached to me on leash, please follow the rules. I would hate for the trails to become a "no dog" space because people aren't following the guidelines.

Quinn Silberman
Moraga

Editor:

Horrible traffic and parking problems in Orinda may be the consequences of the city's officials ignoring the law.

On January 25 in Orinda, groundbreaking took place for a 67-unit senior citizens' apartment complex to be built in the heart of downtown. (Lamorinda Weekly, Jan. 30). The Orinda facility, to be completed in two years, will have room for about 30 residential parking spaces.

The project, which is located at 2

Irwin Way (across the street from the Orinda Safeway), is likely to add to Orinda's parking and traffic woes.

The Orinda project is to be constructed by Eden Housing of Hayward, California.

Orinda's officials may not be aware of the contents a ballot measure -- Measure J of 2004 -- that imposed controls over the management of housing growth.

In a June 8, 2007, document sent to the planning directors of Contra Costa County, Martin Engelmann, at the time the Deputy Executive Director of Planning of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority, noted that Measure J "... provides a process for managing growth."

The document added that "the [Contra Costa Transportation] Authority shall, to the extent possible, attempt to harmonize the Growth Management and Congestion Management Programs. To the extent they [growth management and congestion management programs] conflict, Congestion Management Program activities shall take precedence over Growth Management Program activities."

Orinda residents have to wonder if their city's officials ignored -- and perhaps violated -- Measure J's rule that congestion management has a higher priority than growth management.

Ignoring the provisions of a ballot measure that is law can be a serious offense.

Richard S. Colman
Orinda

Join our Public Forum

If you have significant knowledge about an issue facing Lamorinda or one of its cities that requires more than the 350 words to which we must limit Letters to the Editor, don't despair! You can submit your letter to our Public Forum section. Just send your letter to letters@lamorindaweekly.com and let us know you'd like to be considered for the Public Forum.

Civic News Lafayette

Plans for Protecting Community Park this Summer

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"We have a response roll," explained Ciotola. He's in charge of eight engine companies who respond aggressively to incidents. The fire personnel under his command do hazard assessments, and check areas throughout the season to ensure vegetation is not overgrown, especially on trails, so their equipment can get through. He characterized the two incidents last year as "not much" and shared that this kind of thing hap-

pens on a daily basis in other communities.

Bottom line: the cops will be on the lookout for teens looking to party after dark in the Community Park. Residents should call the dispatch line at (925) 284-5010 or email a note to the tip line 94549Tip@gmail.com or call 911 to report suspicious activity. Advice from the battalion chief: if you smell smoke, call 911, and they will send a unit to check it out.

Civic News Orinda

Contra Costa Library 100th Anniversary



Photo Ohlen Alexander

What else does one need but birthday cake and a great read? Barbara Flynn, head librarian for Contra Costa County, announced an exciting slate of events Feb. 19 in honor of the 100th anniversary of the

county's library system, which was born July 21, 1913. During her presentation before the Orinda City Council, Flynn also informed Orindans that their own adult and teen services librarian, Ruth Boyer, has been instrumental in planning activities for the celebration. Mayor Amy Worth then reminded residents that another big day for bibliophiles is not far off. The Orinda Library, which began circulating its first tomes in 1915, will celebrate its centennial in just two short years. Standing outside of the Orinda Library, from left: Ruth Boyer, Barbara Flynn, and Friends of the Orinda Library treasurer Linda Landau. *L.Snyder*

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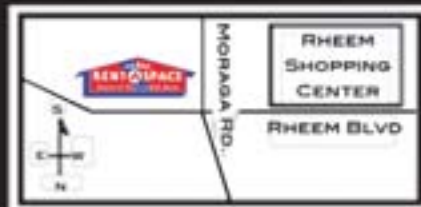


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