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## Sharing in the Warmth of the Holidays

By Laurie Snyder



Photo(s) provided by the Orinda Parks and Recreation Department



Orindans were bitten by the holiday bug Nov. 2 when Orinda's beloved 37th Annual Holiday Bazaar opened its doors at the Orinda Community Center.

Sponsored each year by the Orinda Community Center Auxiliary (OCCA), the popular marketplace not only gives bargain hunters an early jump on their holiday shopping, but helps generate funding to purchase equipment for Orinda's community center, its neighboring park, Concerts in the Park series, and Halloween Parade for Tots. And, it benefits Orinda's economy and cultural vitality by attracting visitors from around the East Bay who come to shop, and stay to dine and explore.

The day's events featured an arts and games corner for kids, sponsored by the Orinda Teen Advisory Council, a Polynesian dance performance, magic tricks and balloon making with Scooter the clown, more than 40 vendors for parents' browsing pleasure, a Hawaiian serenade by the community center's enthusiastic ukulele class, music by Steve Harwood, a Zumba demonstration and, of course, a flag-raising by local Cub Scouts.

Funds raised by OCCA: \$5,000. Estimated worth in goodwill and spirits lifted: Priceless.

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