



Orinda Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Wednesday, June 4, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Planning Commission

Tuesday, May 27, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Finance Advisory Committee

Wednesday, May 28, 6 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
22 Orinda Way

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org
Phone (925) 253-4200

Chamber of Commerce:

www.orindachamber.org

The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org

School Board Meeting

Orinda Union School District

Monday, June 9, 6 p.m.
OUSD Office, Vintage Building
25 Orinda Way, Suite 200
www.orindaschools.org
See also AUHSD meeting page A2



Orinda Police Department Incident summary report, April 27-May 3

- Alarms 56
- 911 Calls 7
- Animal Cruelty**
70 block Moraga Wy
- Auto Burglary**
80 block La Cuesta Rd
50 block La Cuesta Rd
100 block La Cuesta Rd
Casa Orinda Restaurant (2)
50 block Via Floreado
60 block Brookwood Rd (3)
- Brandishing a Weapon**
Brookwood Rd/Moraga Wy
- Residential Burglary**
Stein Way/Moraga Way
10 block Bates Bl
- Commercial Burglary**
Rite Aid
- DUI Misdemeanor**
Camino Pablo/Camino Sobrante
Moraga Way/Camino Encinas
Moraga Wy/Leslee Ln
- Disturbance**
30 block Overhill Rd (domestic)
100 block Moraga Wy (domestic)
- Forgery**
Location n/a
100 block Ardith Ct
- Hit & Run**
Well Fargo, Moraga
Camino Sobrante/Orinda Wy (2)
10 block Las Piedras
Orinda Safeway
70 block Claremont Av
- Health & Safety**
Miramonte High School
- Missing Juvenile**
10 block Altarinda Rd
- Reckless Driving**
10 block Valley View Ln
Moraga Wy/Brookside Rd
Moraga Wy/Camino Encinas
- Panhandling**
Safeway (2)
- Petty Theft**
600 block Crossridge Pl
90 block La Cuesta Rd
- Suspicious:**
 - Person 10
 - Circumstances 11
 - Vehicle 12
 - Traffic Stops 71
- Vandalism**
300 block Camino Sobrante
10 block Camino del Cielo
10 block St Hill Rd
- Vehicle Theft**
Bates Bl/Davis Rd
500 block Tahos Rd



Peter & Darlene Hattersley

Exceptional Orinda Estate

Gated and private, this sophisticated, one-of-a-kind, view estate provides a peaceful sanctuary for those who seek an indoor/outdoor lifestyle. Also located close to award winning schools, Bart and many amenities.



Shown By Appointment

925.360.9588 925.708.9515 www.TheHattersleys.com

CalBRE# r00445794, CalBRE# 01181995

©2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. CalBRE License # 01908304



Gateway Valley Shakes off Troubled Past

By Laurie Snyder

"They say that the gateway of the morning is guarded by the twin lions Sef and Duau: Yesterday and Tomorrow. If the sun were to linger near the one, mourning what is past, or hesitate before the other, fearing what is to come, the earth would grow cold and die. I learned long ago to mourn what is gone and then continue living." – Diana Wilder

The pace of change in Orinda has long been described by Orindans as "glacial." One only need recall the history of the Gateway Valley off Highway 24 to appreciate just how often Orinda plans heat up only to grow cold and die.

Back in 1994, the Orinda City Council attempted to thaw things out a bit when they authorized the city to enter into an agreement with Pacific New Wave Corporation, but the manner in which the developer hoped to transform the Gateway Valley troubled many. An opposition group, Save Our Open Space-Gateway Valley, formed and, with input from the Sierra Club and Golden Gate Audubon, froze the initial proposal and further revisions. Along the way, a smaller effort – Montanera – was also considered, but faced strong opposition because its golf course would have harmed local wetlands and

wildlife.

Exhausted by the jousting, Pacific New Wave sold out to Orinda Gateway LLC in 1996, which assumed responsibility for the Development Agreement with the city. Eventually that group's name would become OG Property Owners, LLC. A further decade of dueling ensued until both sides finally compromised in 2004. Two hundred and forty-five single-family residences would still be built, but only on 215 acres. The remaining two square miles would be golf course-free, preserved as open space – significant chunks of which would be owned by the East Bay Regional Park District and East Bay Municipal Utility District.

Unfortunately for OG Property Owners, America's Great Recession stalled the project once again. Since 2005, the city ended up amending the original development agreement four times, adjusting timelines for the construction of playfields, installation of irrigation systems, planting of trees and other site improvements. It wasn't until just a few short weeks ago – at a recent Orinda City Council meeting – that council members and residents received word that OG Property Owners and Wilder had finally turned the corner.

Seven homes now dot Wilder's hills. Five are officially being called home sweet home by new Orindans, one continues to be utilized as a sales office, and the owners of the seventh are expected to move in shortly. Five more are under construction as another 20 make their way through design and permitting. Toll Brothers has also acquired interest in 25 other lots, Taylor Morrison has inked a Purchase and Sale Agreement with OG Property Owners for another 25, and Shapell Homes, Inc. has secured building permits for five more.

Scott Goldie, of OG Property Owners, presented those statistics May 6 as part of his company's annual status report to the City Council as mandated by state law. The public hearing assessed whether or not the firm remains in good faith compliance with the terms of the development agreement. As in previous years, staff found that OG Property Owners had fallen short on several conditions while doing well with others.

Of particular concern, the developer failed to pay the Moraga-Orinda Fire District \$2,000 per dwelling unit prior to the issuance of building permits as required by the development agreement. However, the company

did pony up \$180,000 to purchase an equipped ambulance and recently also established a \$20,000 fund to cover developer-related requests to expedite MOFD site inspections at Wilder.

Council members were also asked to consider several potential amendments to the development agreement, including defining completion dates for the Edgewood Emergency Vehicle Access and parking by mid-October, converting rear slope landscaping to a phased plan, and the possible relocation of Wilder's Art and Garden Center from its initial planned location at the southern end of the Wilder site to an area between the fourth and fifth playfields.

In general, city leaders were pleased but declined to take action regarding the art center, instead directing staff to bring the item back for future discussion. The City Council then found that OG Property Owners was in substantial compliance with the development agreement. The company will return at a later date with defined details regarding the timing of trail openings and will work with staff to schedule a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Wilder playfields.

Orinda Farmers' Market, Season 17



The Orinda Farmers' Market opened its 17th season on May 3 with a new theme – Harvest Young! The market will sprout up every Saturday through Nov. 22 on Orinda Way in front of the Orinda Community Park. Market hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fun activities for kids will be offered the second Saturday of each month.

Photo Ohlen Alexander

Up to \$1,825 in Installation Rebates

ENDS May 31, 2014 - CALL FOR DETAILS



Turn to ACS & "Carrier" to find everything from standard to ultra quiet, high efficiency heating & cooling systems.

\$45* Furnace Maintenance

*After Union Local 104 \$50 mail-in rebate. Ends May 30, 2014 Call for Details.

ACS Air Conditioning Systems

5151-C Port Chicago Highway ~ Concord, CA 94520

www.ACSystemsInc.com • info@ACSystemsInc.com

Serving the Bay Area Since 1969

License # 632329

925.676.2103

Distinctive design from the big idea ... to the smallest detail

- Full services at every step
- Orinda offices
- Orinda resident
- 45 years experience
- New homes remodels additions
- California license NCARB Certificate
- References available



Bartlett Architects AIA

One Bates Boulevard Suite 201 Orinda, CA 94563 925 253 2880
www.bartlettaia.com *Labonare est Orare*