

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director – Moraga’s ambassador

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Nelson said that she often gets emails or phone calls involving strange requests, but a recent one was very touching. A Moraga mom, whose Marine Corp son was home on leave and was scheduled to deploy that day (a Sunday), called the chamber office for help. His uniform was still at the Rheem Valley Cleaners, which was closed on Sundays. The cleaners had just changed owners and Nelson did not yet have the new owner’s information. She

called the previous owner who in turn called the new owner who drove to Moraga and opened the shop for the marine to pick up his uniform.

“I love to help people. It’s rewarding,” replied Nelson. “It’s about community, and promoting, and doing anything I can do to get people to stay here and contribute.”

For more information on the Moraga Chamber of Commerce visit: www.moragachamber.org. To email Kathe Nelson: kathe@moragachamber.org. Or phone (925) 323-6524.

Orinda urges residents to plan for longer blackouts

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PG&E plans to notify residents of a PSPS 48 hours, 24 hours, and just before a PSPS is going to occur, however, for residents to receive the alerts, they must ensure their PG&E account information is updated. PG&E states it will update residents with the status of the PSPS while it is occurring and notify residents when the power will be turned back on, but the city of Orinda also advises residents to sign up for Nixle alerts and updates from the Orinda Police Department.

If you are at home during an outage, PG&E suggests that you use perishable food supplies first, but after the power has been off for more

than a few hours foods in your refrigerator may not be safe and should be avoided. During a power outage, take quick showers and limit use of sinks to conserve water in case Republic Services or EBMUD are impacted by the outage.

Persons with disabilities requiring power for medical equipment should go to nursing centers or a hospital. The Orinda Community Center, located at 26 Orinda Way, will serve as a Community Resource Center in the event of a PSPS. You can visit the Community Center to charge your devices and speak to city or PG&E staff. The Community Center will be open in the event of an emergency, but Orinda City Hall will be closed to the public during a PSPS.

Planning ahead for potential outages

Here are simple ways to prepare for a planned power outage:

- Ensure your car has at least a half tank of gas at all times. In the event of a PSPS, gas stations will likely be closed.
- Purchase or update a home generator or another uninterrupted power supply to keep essential functions running and to keep WiFi connectivity and to charge your cell phones.
- Assemble emergency supplies, such as:
 - A battery-powered radio
 - A large portable power supply
 - One gallon of water per person, per day
 - Nonperishable food (a one week’s supply)
 - Flashlights
 - Method for cooking food without electricity
 - Surge protectors for appliances/electronics
 - Cash (in case ATM/bank is closed)

Links:

To learn more about a potential shutoff from PG&E, visit www.pge.com/en_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/public-safety-power-shutoff-faq.page. For more information, visit www.pge.com and pge.com/news. Update your PG&E account information at: www.pge.com/mywildfirealerts or by calling the PG&E contact center at 1-866-743-6589. Sign up for Nixle at <https://local.nixle.com/>. Sign up for notifications from the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff’s Community Warning System at <https://cwsalerts.com/registration/>. Visit www.cityoforinda.org for updated information. Potential caption for map: Source: City of Orinda Planning Department. Above is the Orinda-specific fire-threat map. The area coded red is Very High Fire Severity Zone (Tier 3) and orange is High Fire Severity Zone (Tier 2).

Orinda Classic Car Show

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This year’s party is themed “Wheels That Won the West.” Tickets can be purchased online.

Chip Herman, the other founder of the car show, has stepped away from this year’s event, which a committee now oversees. The Orinda Association is taking over the car show’s organization, which Vaneck points out is the second largest event in Orinda after the Fourth of July parade. Vaneck continues to take care of signing up the cars to be on display. Waterman and OA board member Diane Lautz chair the committee, which also includes Kate Wiley, OA Board member and director of the Seniors Around Town ride program, Vaneck and Allen Pennebaker of Orinda Motors, Bill Criswell, Mike Robinson and David Alvarado, all of Orinda.


Vaneck is the definition of a classic car enthusiast, and he will be exhibiting his classic 1997 Ford Mustang. He

founded the car show in 2004 with Herman after assembling a lot of classic cars on the lot of Orinda Motors to film an advertisement for the shop. Looking at the assembled cars, they were struck with the thought, “Hey, let’s start a classic car show,” and so they did.

There are no prizes awarded, and car enthusiasts just take advantage of the opportunity to exhibit their cars or to view the cars on exhibit. Some owners stay with their vehicles, in order to interact with the public; others avoid the crowds. Owners pay a fee of \$60 to exhibit their cars, and, although the public is free to view the cars without a contribution, donations are sought to assist the many worthy organizations that benefit from the show. The public is encouraged to donate \$10 per person, and, upon registration, each person is given a wrist band that entitles them to a free soda. Food will be offered by Taverna Pelligrini.

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