



See public meetings schedule on this pages and 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



**Orinda's Lowest Gas Prices**



**22 Bryant Way - Next to Casa Orinda**  
**Visit our Snack Shop & play Lotto & Lottery**  
 Mon - Sat 5 am - 12 am; Sun 6 am - 11 pm

**DECK DOCTORS & SIDING**

Wood Structure Restoration and Preservation Specialist  
**Decks, Balconies, Pergolas, Siding**

Repairs | Pressure Washing  
 Stripping | Sanding | Staining  
 Painting | Coatings | Inspections

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**Richard R. Alvarado**  
**925-351-DECK (3325)**  
**www.deckdoctors.net**  
 richard@deckdoctors.net

CA Lic# 786427

- Hardwoods
- Carpets
- Rugs
- LVP
- Vinyl
- Laminate

**FAMILY OWNED**  
**30+ YEARS!**

**925-284-4440**

3344 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
 Lafayette  
 lamorindafloors.com

**LAMORINDA FLOORS**

## Czech teen gymnast loving time in Orinda



Sofie Flaskova Photo provided

**By Sora O'Doherty**

Sofie Flaskova, a 16-year-old visiting student from the Czech Republic, is thoroughly enjoying her time in California. "I'm not homesick," she proclaimed in an interview with the Lamorinda Weekly, saying that she got used to her new situation within a few days. She communicates with her family at home in Tabor via Facetime.

Flaskova is attending classes at Miramonte High School, under the sponsorship of the Orinda-Tabor Sister City Foundation. Unusually, the son of her host family is at-

tending Campolindo High School, which leads to some good-natured competition. Her host mom is an attorney and her host dad, retired from banking, plays golf almost every day.

Curious about American culture, Flaskova, who is studying German and Italian in addition to her native Czech and excellent English skills, applied to be the 21st student to come to Miramonte High School from Orinda's sister city, Tabor. She has been surprised and delighted by what she has experienced. Flaskova loves the lunchtime activities offered to the students, such as flower arranging, or listening to a piano concert. "The teachers are very nice to you," she proclaimed, "very friendly." She said that, despite her extremely busy schedule, she isn't feeling stressed.

At home, Flaskova lives about 5 miles outside of Tabor with her mother, who sells home water filters. Her dad lives about 4 miles away and he has a 3-year-old son. He is the manager of a solar panel company. Flaskova alternates between her mom and dad's home every fortnight. She loves Christmas, when the whole family comes together on Christmas day for presents and Christmas dinner.

Flaskova clearly enjoys cooking and baking, and has made some traditional dishes for her host family, including koprova omacka, which is a dill sauce served with dumplings and hard-boiled eggs. She is looking forward to cooking with some of the tomatoes growing in her host-

family's garden. And she is very excited about pumpkin spice everything this fall. At home, she says, Czech people plant a lot of vegetables. She loves kale and eats a lot of cabbage, for example in the Czech national dish of pork, dumplings, and cabbage. She enjoys baking with her grandmother.

Back in the Czech Republic Flaskova plays tennis, but has been unable to fit it into her schedule here. Instead, she joined the cheerleading squad at Miramonte, performing at all of the games. She described how she realized how much she enjoys working with younger students while explaining that the Miramonte cheerleaders undertook training of a group of elementary school girls who performed with them at a Friday-night game. Flaskova doesn't date, but is enjoying her friendships in Orinda. She is very fond of the friends she has made on the cheer team. In addition to cheerleading, Flaskova enjoys horseback riding and yoga, which she didn't expect to like but found that she does.

"When I found out that they chose me," she says, she bought a camera, and she is documenting her journey on her own YouTube channel.

Flaskova will be here until January 2023. She had to decide where she wanted to spend Christmas. She is extremely fond of Christmas at home, with all of her family getting together and enjoying traditional dishes, but in the end she opted for a California Christmas.



- **Passionate** about placemaking and how the built environment can change the way people relate to their town and to each other.
- **Proven**, with a JD/MBA and 20+ years experience in real estate development, oversight, entitlement, finance, and investment.
- **Prepared** to continue the great work the City Council has already started. As a 3rd term Planning Commissioner (Chair '18-'20), I have the experience and context to keep up all of that momentum on downtown planning, fire safety, and housing policy.

**Orinda City Council Candidate**

**BRANDYN IVERSON**

endorsed by all five members of the Orinda City Council

**Dennis Fay, Inga Miller,**  
 Mayor Vice Mayor

**Darlene K. Gee, Amy R. Worth, Nick Kosla,**  
 Councilmember Councilmember Councilmember

www.voteiverson.com

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Brandyn Iverson for City Council 2022, FPPC #1451433

## Lease on Orinda Theatre extended for another five years

By Sora O'Doherty

Derek Zemrak and Leonard Pirkle, who have operated the Orinda Theatre for the last 12 years, recently renegotiated a five-year extension of their lease on the building, which was scheduled to expire in November.

According to Steve Harwood of the Lamorinda Arts Council, Zemrak and Pirkle have "operated the theatre with a passion for film and other forms of entertainment, bringing the community a wide variety of films, the world-class Live at the Orinda! cabaret program, comedy nights, and other entertainments." Harwood stressed that Orinda is lucky to have Zemrak and Pirkle continuing to run the Orinda Theatre.

In the past, Zemrak and Pirkle have maintained the theatre, often, Harwood noted, with their own labor along

with that of family and friends. Under their commercial lease, the tenants are responsible for the cost of maintenance and improvements. One recent improvement of note is the Meyer sound systems installed in the large and intermediate-sized theatres.

During the pandemic, Zemrak and Pirkle strove to raise funds to maintain the theatre, including a GoFundMe campaign that raised \$275,000. "Because they are directly responsible for maintenance and improvements," Harwood noted, "they may reach out to the community for financial support in the future. If they do, I urge the community to be supportive."

In addition to showing movies and hosting live performances, the Theatre is the home of the Lamorinda Idol finals. The Lamorinda Arts Council pays market rates to rent the theatre for those performances.

## Tamplen Plastic Surgery now in Orinda

**Cosmetic Surgery**

- Facelift
- Facial Implants
- Neck Lift
- Nose Surgery
- Brow Lift
- Eyelid Surgery
- Ear Surgery


**Laser & Non-Surgical Services**

- BOTOX® Cosmetic and Dysport®
- Cosmetic Removal of Moles & Skin Tags
- Fillers (JUVÉDERM®, JUVÉDERM VOLUMA®, Restylane®)
- Fraxel Re:Store Laser Treatment

**Skin Care Services**

- Chemical Peels
- Obagi® Consultation

**Before After**



Dr. Matthew Tamplen, who grew up in Lafayette and is a well-known Facial Plastic Surgeon with Kaiser Permanente, just opened a private practice in Downtown Orinda to better serve Lamorinda patients.

**Matthew Tamplen, MD**  
 Orinda Office:  
 77 Moraga way Suite G, Orinda  
 925-444-0824  
 TamplenPlasticSurgery.com

**TAMPLEN PLASTIC SURGERY**

Double Board-Certified Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon.

**City Council Regular Meeting:**  
 Tuesday, Sept. 27, 7 p.m. By Teleconference Only

**Planning Commission**  
 Tuesday, Sept. 27, 7 p.m. By Teleconference Only

**Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission**  
 Wednesday, Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m.  
 By Teleconference Only