



See public meetings schedule on these pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
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Orinda kicks off the festive season with crafts, lights, music and gingerbread winners

By Sora O'Doherty



Photos Sora O'Doherty

Ben Zarrin welcomes visitors to the Orinda Village Holiday Market.

It was a packed day in Orinda Village on Dec. 2. The usual farmers' market filled Orinda Way, and starting at 11 a.m. in the old Bank of America building – now under development as a venue for three restaurants downstairs and offices above – Ben Zarrin of Paymun Real Estate Design & Development hosted a holiday market, with music provided by DJ Erik Rumors.

In the parking lot, there was a giant slide and a large bouncy house to entertain the children. In addition, there were a couple of food trucks on hand, as well as food service at the nearby farmers' market. Just outside the building, there was a colorful balloon arch for photographs, and volunteers made balloon animals or painted the children's faces.

Inside, the building, which is currently one large undivided hall, featured dozens of vendors of crafts and gifts. Most of the vendors were local, or were local representatives of larger companies. Offerings ranged from cosmetics and jewelry, home décor, rugs, woodwork, clothing and accessories to photography and house plants. The

went smoothly.

At 4:30 p.m., in the parking lot, the annual Hospice Tree of Lights was lit in remembrance of friends and loved ones who have died. For 37 years, Hospice of the East Bay has held Tree of Lights ceremonies. There are trees in Orinda, Lafayette and Moraga, locally. Donations to Hospice directly support end-of-life patient care.

At 6 p.m. the community gathered for Winterfest, presented by the city of Orinda Parks and Rec Department and sponsored by the Orinda Community Foundation and the Orinda Parks and Recreation Foundation. The event included the second annual lighting of the Orinda tree in Community Park. Inside the Community Center, the winners of the second annual Gingerbread House contest, hosted by the Orinda Tabor Sister City Foundation were announced.

... continued on next Page

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event attracted a large crowd of attendees, but everything



The second annual lighting of the tree in Orinda Community Park on Dec. 2.

ORINDA

City Council Regular Meeting:
 Tues., Dec. 19, 7 p.m. Orinda Library Auditorium, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda

Planning Comm.:
 Tues., Dec. 12, 7 p.m. Orinda Library Auditorium, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda

Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission
 Wed. Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m. Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way



Suzanne D'Arcy

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Saturday, Dec. 9 & Sunday, Dec. 10, 11am to 5pm

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