



Orinda Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Finance Advisory

Committee

Wednesday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
22 Orinda Way

School Board Meeting

Orinda Union School District

Monday, Oct. 13, 6 p.m.
OUSD Office, Vintage Building
25 Orinda Way, Suite 200
www.orindaschools.org
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

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 Police Department Incident Summary Report, Aug. 17-30

Alarms	78
Assault/Deadly Weapon	
Hwy 24/Wilder	
911 Calls	18
Battery	
10 block Crescent Dr	
Auto Burglary	
Bevmo	
70 block La Cresta Rd	
50 block Bobolink Rd	
60 block Overhill Rd	
Residential Burglary	
10 block Patricia Rd	
80 block El Gavilan	
Disturbance	
Orinda Theatre (juvenile)	
DUI	
Rheem Bl/Carolyn Ct	
Hit & Run	
Safeway	
Bear Creek Rd/Camino Pablo	
Moraga Wy/Brookwood Rd	
500 block Tahos Rd	
Indecent Exposure	
Camino Pablo/Moraga Wy	
Petty Theft	
100 block Overhill Rd	
60 block Bates Bl	
Tara Rd/Overhill Rd	
Sanborn Rd/Moraga Wy	
200 block Courtney Ln	
Safeway	
10 block Camino Sobrante	
60 block Brookwood Rd	
Grand Theft	
100 block Spring Rd	
Reckless Driving	
10 block Orinda Wy	
San Pablo Dam Rd/Bear Creek	
Moraga Wy/Glorietta Bl	
Shoplifting	
20 block Orinda Way	
Bevmo	
Safeway (2)	
Suspicious	
Person	6
Circumstances	9
Vehicle	28
Traffic Stops	190
Vandalism	
70 block Loma Vista Dr	
20 block Tarabrook Dr	
Vehicle Theft	
60 block La Cresta Rd	

Please submit Letters and Opinions:
letters@lamorindaweekly.com



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Visit www.281montevistaridgerd.com for a video, photos, virtual tour & details.

Four Candidates Compete for Three School Board Seats

By Laurie Snyder

Three seats are opening on the Orinda Union School District board of trustees. Four accomplished, passionate professionals are running in November, 2014. Each has direct experience volunteering for and sending at least one child through Orinda's schools.

Carol A. Brown

A native of Concord, Carol Brown is a 22-year Orinda resident who advanced through the publishing industry from book editing to marketing before leaving to work at a non-profit agency engaged in finding homes for hard to place foster kids. A former board member for Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children, she continues to volunteer as a child advocate for CASA while leading a team of eight other volunteers who support abused and neglected children. "We have such a nice comfortable life where we are that it often doesn't occur to us that a child down the street could be in danger. These kids have had everything go against them, and have been violated in so many ways. I advocate in court for one particular child at a time, working with his or her therapist and school teachers, often getting to know the child I represent much more deeply than can a social worker who's overburdened. It's the best thing I've ever done outside of having my own kids."

Jason Kaune

The son of a naval officer, Jason Kaune experienced firsthand Amer-

ica's uneven public school landscape while being transferred with his family from one military base to another. Ultimately a product of Orinda's schools, he served as a student member of the Acalanes School Board before heading for Yale and earning graduate degrees from the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government and University of California, Hastings College of the Law. He has worked for Nielsen Merksamer since 1996, and was admitted to the California State Bar in 1999. Currently a partner specializing in political law and ethics, he has advised clients regarding land use, tax and other ballot measures. While chairing the board at St. Stephen's, he helped the church create a legacy fund and retire a capital deficit. In 2014, he also volunteered with Fix Orinda Roads, the committee which helped secure passage of the Measure J roads improvement bond in June. "You have to look at the long term and project."

Julie Rossiter

The only incumbent running, Julie Rossiter was first elected to the OUSD board in 2010, and served as president in 2013. A graduate of the State University of New York at Stony Brook and the University of Southern California's School of Law, she was admitted to the California State Bar in 1991. A business litigator and employment lawyer in the 1990s with Ervin, Cohen & Jessup of Bev-

erly Hills and Stanislaw Ashbaugh, LLP in Seattle, she practiced for seven years before her son was born. Currently on the boards of the Miramonte Parents Club and Friends of the Orinda Library, the 10-year Orinda resident has also been the Acalanes Union School District parcel tax representative for Measures A (2010) and B (2014). "It has been a great privilege serving on the school board and working with so many talented and committed people in this community. I look forward to continuing to work collaboratively to accomplish the board's primary goal: providing Orinda students with the highest quality education."

Hillary Weiner

A graduate of Emory University and the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, Hillary Weiner was admitted to the California State Bar in 1999. While working as a senior associate with Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, she practiced pharmaceutical and medical device product liability law until becoming a full-time mother. After moving from San

Francisco to Orinda with her family four years ago, she joined Temple Isaiah's early childhood task force, and helped to start a Tot Shabbat program. As her children grew, she refocused her volunteerism toward Glorietta Elementary, becoming co-president of the Parents' Club in 2013-14. Currently, she also volunteers with the Children's Health Guild to raise funds in support of the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland and the George Mark Children's House, America's first freestanding pediatric palliative care service. "I'm someone who brings people together whether through entertaining or schools, or getting my kids together with other people. I'm a listener. I pride myself on being someone who brings community together."

Asked for one to two words each would use to best describe himself or herself, all modestly required prodding until eventually choosing the following: Brown – compassionate; Kaune – kind and fair; Rossiter – pragmatic; and Weiner – a community builder.

OUSD Board Campaign Websites

Carol A. Brown: carolbrown4schoolboard.org
Jason Kaune: jasonkaune.com
Julie Rossiter: julierossiter.org
Hillary Weiner: hillaryweiner.com

Save the Date! OUSD School Board Candidate Forum:
Oct. 16, sponsored by the Orinda Association.

OUSD Board Candidates Talk Common Core

By Laurie Snyder

The four candidates for the Orinda Union School District board shared their views recently on issues ranging from budgets to school building conditions. Here are their thoughts on one issue likely to shape the victors' tenure.

OUSD board members, teachers, parents and the community must "really understand what Common Core means, figure out how we can implement while retaining local control, and then do so in a way that our kids can have accelerated learning," said Hillary Weiner. The overall idea is good – enabling children "to explain how they're coming up with an answer instead of just rote memorization. One of the bad things, though, is that Common Core doesn't allow for differentiation," and is worrisome in terms of acceleration with students in math. She also wonders whether Common Core could end up taking away too much local control.

Weiner has also been pondering the potential impact of another projected change. "If our testing will be on a tablet format, we need to make sure our kids are educated on and comfortable with the required technology so that they'll be able to succeed when taking the test. If this is what it's going to be, we need to ensure that our teachers have the resources they need to implement the appropriate technology."

"One of the things I like about Common Core is that it's more interested in teaching children how to think than what to think," said Carol Brown. "We need students to learn how to read a newspaper article and ask questions about it." In addition to learning to drill down, she said, "We can't move forward unless we're all learning English and math, and are required to learn about our country's history and our responsibilities as citizens. She agrees that the math standards may be problematic, and said

the board will need to respond. "We're a community that sends al-

most all of our kids to college, but the best colleges require much more math

than what the Common Core calls for." ... continued on page A13

HILLARY WEINER

Community Leadership Strong Schools

For Orinda School Board

HillaryWeiner.com

Paid for by Hillary Weiner for Orinda School Board 2014. FPPC Committee #1368663

elect JASON KAUNE FOR ORINDA SCHOOL BOARD

Jason is a product and parent of our Orinda schools, running as an **experienced consensus builder** who will bring independent thinking and fiscal prudence to the school board.

He has been **endorsed by city leaders, parents, teachers and others.** See more at JasonKaune.com!