

Lamorinda Community Calendar, Notes, News

Orinda

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way Tuesday, July 1	
Planning Comm.	7:00pm
Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way Tuesday, July 8	
Planning Process Review	8:30am
Community Room at City Hall 22 Orinda Way Monday, June 30	
Parks & Recreation Comm.	7pm
Orinda Community Center Room 7 28 Orinda Way Wednesday, July 9	
Mayor's Com. Liaison	9am
Community Room at City Hall 22 Orinda Way Monday, July 7	
check online: Town of Orinda: http://www.ci.orinda.ca.us/ • all meeting notes • calendar updates	
Chamber of Commerce: http://www.orindachamber.org/ • local businesses • upcoming events	

Ivy Drive Moves to Slow the Speed

By Andrea A. Firth



The site of potential speed cushions to be placed on Ivy Drive

As many in Lamorinda are looking for ways to move faster amidst the road closures and construction this summer, the residents of Ivy Drive in Orinda are trying to figure out how best to slow down the traffic on their street.

Ivy Drive, which exits at both ends onto Moraga Way, serves as a primary conduit for students driving to Miramonte

High School and parents and buses delivering students to Orinda Intermediate and Del Rey Elementary Schools. Speeding by reckless teens and middle-aged moms through this Bermuda Triangle of school routes has driven many Ivy Drive residents to distraction. But like their Camino Pablo-based neighbors in Moraga, they have come to learn that the process to implement traffic

calming measures on their street takes time, patience and a lot of work. And even then, the threshold to be met for the installation of speed cushions may not be satisfied.

Speed cushions require approval by 70% of the street residents affected and by 100% of homeowners whose properties directly about the cushions.

Photo Andrea A. Firth
... continued on page 10



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Orinda Beefs Up Solicitor Ordinance

By Andrea A. Firth

The Orinda City Council recently revised the City's ordinance for regulations related to peddlers and solicitors. "Essentially we made it stronger," states Police Chief Bill French. "This ordinance is a tool which helps the police to know who is in the City and who is going door to door." The ordinance requires individuals to register with the police department before selling or taking orders and allows the police to enforce trespass laws against solicitors who ignore "No Soliciting" signs posted by residents.

"It's very common for a van load of nine or ten young adults to be dropped off in a neighborhood with the objective to solicit residents to purchase magazines or other products," explains Chief French. "They can be very aggressive and often misrepresent who they are," he adds. Solicitors might state that they are selling magazines as a fundraiser for a local group when they are actually working for a for-profit organization based out of state. "They can't misrepresent themselves. That doesn't work for us," says French. "They are taking advantage of residents whose hearts are in the right place but who then feel they have been fooled and tricked," he adds.

Due to the often aggressive nature of this type of solicitor, the police department will receive several calls from

residents when groups are canvassing the city. "It's not uncommon to receive these calls. This happens throughout the area. It's not unique to Orinda. These groups hit a different city each day," states French.

Each solicitor must register at City Hall, provide valid identification and a photograph, and pay a registration fee. A warrant check is conducted to ensure the solicitor has no criminal history, and if approved, the solicitor is given a photo registration card that must be displayed at all times. Although not all solicitors are participating in fraudulent schemes, Chief French points out that paying a solicitor with a check then provides that individual with your name, address, signature, and bank account information. "They are collecting all that data, so it is important to be cautious," he adds.

Solicitors are not welcome at homes that display "No Solicitors" signage. "Under the ordinance, they can't even knock on the door, and we have the ability make an arrest or issue a citation for trespassing," explains French. He strongly recommends that residents who do not want to deal with solicitors put out a sign. "And, if you don't know the person at the door, don't open it until they identify themselves and you are comfortable," he warns.

Friends of the Orinda Library Present Writing Contest Awards

By Andrea A. Firth



Pat Rudebusch presenting an award to Orinda Academy Junior Matt Loudon
Photo Marianne Payne

Each year the Friends of the Orinda Library sponsor a writing contest for high school students living in Orinda. The Poul Anderson Writing Contest—named for the acclaimed science fiction writer who lived in Orinda until his death in 2001—awards \$250 cash prizes in four categories: short story, essay, poetry,

and science fiction.

Orinda Academy Junior Matt Loudon was this year's winner for essay. Loudon's essay was based on a literary response to word incognito—a fairly complex topic for his first entry in a writing contest. "It's about how human interaction is disguised by common courtesies and the boundaries and shields we use to mask who we really are." Loudon relates with disarming charm. "I was trying to get to the elements of being incognito," he explains.

Loudon, who "kind of started" writing in his freshman year, discovered that he actually enjoyed the writing assignments that he was required to do for English class. "I took the opportunity to put my own spin on things," says Loudon. With the encouragement of his English teacher who noticed his passion for writing, Loudon began to keep a journal and work on drafting a play. "It just sort of pro-

gressed. I just started writing things down."

Loudon has also been chosen to participate in a four-week residential writing program in Valencia this summer. "I'm definitely excited. Initially, I thought it would be a long month and that I would rather just hang out in Orinda with my friends," states Loudon. "But there is no downside to it—writing, new people, new friends."

Winners of the Poul Anderson Writing Contest sponsored by the Friends of the Orinda Library are listed in the sidebar.

Poul Anderson Writing Contest Winners for 2008

Science Fiction Katharine Yu
Short Story Meredith White
Poetry John Scalise
Essay Matt Loudon

Honorable Mentions went to Bryan Oczkus (science fiction) and Elisabeth Berger (poetry).



D.U.I. 6/13/08 A Honey Hill Road resident along with four of his adult male pals were parked in the Wells Fargo lot at 1:23 in the morning. Officers rolled up, smelled alcohol, noticed the fellow's bloodshot eyes and unsteady gait. Surprise, their blood alcohol level was above the legal limit.

Theft from car, 6/12/08 An unknown suspect entered an unlocked car parked on El Toyonal. Two bags were taken, one with cycling clothes and one bag with a digital camera. Total estimated value approximately \$300.

Firewood and folding chairs gone, 6/11/08 Mother and son residents of Camino Sobrante saw an older black Ford pickup truck pull up in front of their home. A few moments later they saw the suspect, a former classmate of the son's, walking to the truck carrying their firewood and two folding chairs.

Theft, 6/10/08 Fifty feet of copper wire from a construction site at Upton Road was stolen. The wire was lying on the ground, minding its own business waiting to be installed when it disappeared.

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Age: 13 - 18

Byzantine Icon Workshop - Katherine Osenga

August 16 & 23, 9 AM - 3 PM
Workshop: \$200, Art Supplies: \$100
Adults & Teens

Outdoor Landscape Painting - Warren Dreher

August 16 & 17, 9 AM - 4 PM
Workshop: \$130, BYO supplies
Adults & Teens

Adult Figure Drawing - Jim Whiteaker

August 23, 9 AM - 4 PM
Workshop fee: \$65, Model & Art Supplies fee: \$45

See website for more details

www.hearstartgallery.org

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MORAGA WAY PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT

Nighttime Pavement Grinding 3.2 miles of Moraga Way in Orinda from Camino Encinas south to Ivy Drive south

WORKING HOURS 9 pm to 6 am
Monday through Thursday Night
Possibility of Friday, June 27th Night Work

EXPECT DELAYS (7-10 MINUTES) THROUGH June 27, 2008

CONTRACTOR:

BAY CITIES PAVING & GRADING
CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:
VALI COOPER & ASSOCIATES

INFORMATION: (925) 828-1723 x28

FEDERAL GRANTS	\$1,140,000
RUBBERIZED ASPHALT GRANT	\$ 175,000
CITY OF ORINDA FUNDS	\$1,490,860