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**Lamorinda
Film Contest**

How much do you love YOUR city?

Create a 3 minute maximum video, power-point, slide show or film that conveys how much you love living, working or playing in YOUR city.

Submissions **MUST** be on a DVD and **WILL NOT** be accepted without a signed release form!

Each city's winning submission will be shown during the Tri-Chamber mixer on the **BIG SCREEN** at **THE NEW RHEEM THEATRE** and will receive \$100.

DEADLINE for Submissions:

April 15 at 12 Noon!!



Don't miss out!

This is your BIG CHANCE to be on the BIG SCREEN!!!

Orinda Submissions:

Send to
Candy Kattenburg
P.O. Box 26,
Orinda Way,
Orinda, CA. 94563
Candis333@aol.com
(925) 254-3909

Moraga Submissions:

Send to
Moraga Chamber/
UPS Store, 1480 Moraga
Rd. Suite I #254,
Moraga, CA. 94556
coemary@aol.com
(925) 216-8904

Lafayette Submissions:

Send to
Karen Rose
100 Lafayette Circle # 103
Lafayette, CA. 94549
karen@lafayettechamber.org
925) 284-7404

Read and sign the release form for contest rules before you create your masterpiece. Release forms are available online at www.lafayettechamber.org. Acceptable formats: Playable DVD, DVD with menu, .mov burned onto a DVD.

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Jewish Film Festival Comes to Orinda

By Cathy Tyson

SEE A FILM. SEE THE WORLD.



Graphic provided

First there was the California Independent Film Festival at the New Rheem Theatre in Moraga – then just recently the Orinda International Film Festival, and starting next weekend the East Bay International Jewish Film Festival makes its debut at the Orinda Theatre. Film buffs may be wondering if Lamorinda is the new cultural hub of the East Bay.

This film festival has grown from humble beginnings in 1995, “We started with one weekend at one venue,” said Riva Gambert, Director of Community Programs for the Jewish Community Foundation, “Now we’re up to four venues and more than fifty screenings.” Organizers are calling it the largest Jewish cultural event in the Contra Cost/Tri-Valley area - seeking to educate, engage,

encourage dialogue and promote pluralism. Venues include CineArts in Pleasant Hill, the Jewish Community Center in Walnut Creek, the Vine Cinema in Livermore – and for the first time ever – the Orinda Theatre. With films from across the globe including Argentina, Belgium, France and beyond it’s easy to see why their motto is “See a film, see the world.”

Gambert explains that Orinda was chosen due to the level of interest, and as a way to host screenings closer to home. “Audiences want entertainment, but are also very sophisticated, we looked for a balance,” she said of the shorts, documentaries and features that were chosen.

Kicking off the festivities in Orinda on March 12 at 7:00 p.m. is

The Matchmaker from Israel, in Hebrew with subtitles. It’s a mixture of comedy and drama set in the summer of 1968 when a teenager from Haifa falls in love with an American girl who is full of talk about women’s rights, free love and rock and roll. Following “*The Matchmaker*” is “*Naomi*,” a suspenseful, psychological mystery with some adult content at 9:30 p.m.

On Sunday, March 13, films run all day long starting at 9:30 a.m. with the family-friendly “*Little Traitor*.” Other films being screened that day include “*Lebanon*,” winner of the prestigious Golden Lion Venice Film Festival award, also nominated for an Oscar and winner of the Discovery Award at the 2010 European Film Awards; and the Israeli award-winning “*The Human Resources Manager*” – a tragic-comedic story that unfolds along a journey from Jerusalem to the snowy mountains of Romania.

Closing the show on Sunday is “*Gay Days*,” also from Israel, which documents a revolution in the fight for equality for the LGBT community from 1985 – 1998. Personal stories and archival material chronicle an extraordinary change in cultural attitudes.

Check the festival’s website for show times for all films that will be screened in Orinda and at other venues. The first screening of the festival is a Dutch film, *Bride Flight*, on March 5 at CineArts in Pleasant Hill. Go to www.eastbay-jewishfilm.org for a complete schedule, or call (510) 318-6456.

One Man Flower Crew Makes Mark in Happy Valley

By Cathy Tyson

Those large, dramatic swaths of yellow King Alfred daffodils that welcome residents to the Happy Valley neighborhood and along Deer Hill Road are the



Photo provided

work of Greg Moeller, a self-described “balding retired bean counter” and gardening nut. “There’s no nut like a garden nut,” Moeller adds.

Calling it “therapeutic” and a labor of love, Lafayette resident Moeller just wants to beautify the neighborhood for all to enjoy. Each fall the Happy Valley Improvement Association gives away thousands of bulbs with no strings attached, paid for by the nominal yearly dues it collects from homeowners.

Moeller estimates he planted 11,000 daffodils this past fall – that are in full bloom at the moment. Some are paid for with Im-

provement Association funds, but a chunk of the cost comes from his own pocket. He’s also responsible for bird houses and has been spreading poppy seeds in the area. A special thanks goes to Orchard Nursery for being so generous, said Moeller, they have been very supportive of the project.

Drivers just can’t help but wave and give a shout out when he’s weeding or planting the little triangular flower bed at the corner of El Nido Road and Upper Happy Valley or tending to his cheery flower crops throughout the neighborhood. He wants to thank residents for, “Not hitting the guy who looks homeless.”

Worm Composting Bin Building Workshop

Saturday, April 9th, 10-12pm
Civic Park Community Center, Walnut Creek

Come build your worm bin, learn about vermicomposting and start immediately! It’s easy – anyone can do it!
All supplies covered, including worms!

Worms donated by Mama’s Worm Composting in Emeryville – www.mamaswormcomposting.com

Only \$10 per household to attend.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Limit of 20 households so register today!

Kids are encouraged to attend with parents.

One bin per household.

Last day to register: April 4th

Sponsored by the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority.
Call **925-906-1801** for questions or to register.

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