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Yarn Art Hits the Plaza



lating metal bike rack in Orinda's Library Plaza is a perfect fit. The City's art makes a logical progression. But

he colorful wool sock that now filled the outdoor space with vibrant serves as a sheath for the undu-sculpture by several Bay Area artists, and the incorporation of some textile Art in Public Places program has the City had nothing to do with the

addition of this artistic knitwear in its suburban landscape. The yarn installation is the work of the street artist "Streetcolor" - she's a yarn bomber; a member of a growing community of knitting graffiti artists.

Berkeley-based Streetcolor doesn't venture east through the tunnel often, so why did she choose Orinda? Because, hey, it's pretty cool to have a library with a café, and when she chanced upon the art-filled plaza and the naked rack, she thought, "This has gotta be the most perfect spot." There is no way to knit and dash, so Streetcolor returned the next day and settled in with four, nine-foot long knitted sections that took her and a friend two and half hours to sew on. Yes, Orinda, you've been tagged. [Streetcolor's yarn installation has weathered the week's rains and remained in place as of press time.] A. Firth

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Norcal Kids Tri Moves to August



he NorCal Kids Triathlon community events that happen on will be held on August 27th the weekends in September and this year to accommodate the October," said organizer Sue Sevmany young people who want to erson. "We hope that the last Satcompete in the popular three- urday in August will be the future event race. "The date has been permanent date-after swim seamoved to late August to minimize son ends and school starts, and conflicts with other sporting and before Labor Day weekend and ends June 15th. A. Firth

the soccer and MOL football games." Participants also indicated they preferred a morning event, according to Severson, so this year the triathlon will be conducted between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Participants, girls and boys through high school age, swim, bike and run the triathlon course as individual competitors or as part of a relay team. The course lengths are adjusted by age group. "We had over 300 participants the first two years, and there is room to grow," said Severson. For more information go to www.norcalkidstri.org, early registration



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Miramonte Students Create Digital Model of Downtown

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Though Gell's students, like professional designers, continue to build paste-and-paper models as well, the advantage of the digital model is its limitless, effortless mutability. The students can erect new buildings, destroy old ones, and make other modifications with a few keystrokes.

Many of Gell's students are graduating seniors like John Krakowski, who says Architectural Design was his favorite class; he plans to attend the University of Oregon at Eugene and major in architecture. Krakowski worked with classmates to create the model's Wells Fargo building. Asked about changes he would like to see in Orinda's downtown in ten years, Krakowski said he would appreciate more businesses, noting that downtown currently "seems really underdeveloped."

Gell's course is the capstone in a multi-year sequence of design instruction. Next year, new students will join veterans of the current Architectural Design program. They will all work together to complete the digital downtown model, and time and resources permitting, to assemble a physical replica.



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