



Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, May 3, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, April 26, 7 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
Orinda Library

Historical Landmarks Committee

Tuesday, April 26, 2016, 3:00pm
Orinda Community Center, Room 7
28 Orinda Way, Orinda

School Board Meetings

Orinda Unified School District
Monday, May 9, 6 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda
www.orindaschools.org
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

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Curb Your Enthusiasm: Painting Not Authorized By City

By Victor Ryerson

You may be confused if you recently found a very official looking notice taped to your door or mailbox advising that – for the sum of \$30 – you can have your home address painted on your curb.

Titled, “ORINDA NOTICE” in large black letters, it offers to paint your address in black numerals on a reflective white background, using “approved city traffic paint,” as “highly recommended by First Responders.” At the bottom is a number to call or text to order the service, and you only pay after the job is completed.

The little, 5- by-7 inch flyer does not identify who is making the offer, but it does leave the impression that the City of Orinda is somehow involved.

It is not.

It turns out the notices were distributed by Curb Appeal Addressing, a private company that has been in the business since 2001. (At one time in Orinda, this service was apparently provided by local Boy Scouts as a fundraiser, but that era seems to have passed into history.) Aaron Israel of the company emphasizes that you will not have to pay until you are completely satisfied

with the result.

The bad news is that the curb painting in Orinda is not being done under any City of Orinda authority, and nobody in the city government seems to have heard of Curb Appeal or what it is doing. Consequently, Israel admits that there is no coordination of its work with the city’s street re-paving program, as surprised Ivy Drive residents recently discovered.

The company has a business license, but is not licensed to solicit in Orinda, according to an Orinda Police Department spokesperson. In order for the

company to run afoul of the licensing law, the police would have to catch the culprits in the act of distributing the flyers, and there are no resources for that unless a resident calls to report the activity in progress.

Contracting for the service is not illegal, so if you have done so, you can rest easy. You will not have to paint over your bright new address number, nor will you receive a visit from the authorities.

Melee Sparks Discussion of Short-term Rentals

By Victor Ryerson

A weekend party that turned violent, leaving one party-goer with life-threatening injuries, prompted Orinda Mayor Victoria Smith to request that the city council a review short-term rental properties in Orinda.

The home where the incident happened was a short-term rental, and although the event was unprecedented, it raised concerns about the financial responsibility of owners who rent their properties to be used for parties or any other reason.

In this instance, homicide investigators from the Contra Costa Sheriff’s Office were called, because Orinda does not have its own staff for such duty. Orinda has to reimburse the \$9,000 unbudgeted personnel cost, and the city council is concerned that there is no mechanism in place to seek reimbursement from the property owner.

A broad-ranging discussion took place before the council last week, and a variety of public speakers presented their views on the general topic of short-term rentals, a relatively new phenomenon in Orinda caused by the advent of Airbnb and similar online rental services. While San Francisco has struggled to regulate these rentals because of the impact they have had upon housing, city revenues, and other aspects of community life there, the practice has not yet become a significant factor in Orinda.

One speaker, a mother who was widowed and then reluctantly persuaded by her adolescent children to try Airbnb, spoke glowingly about the experience and the importance the income has become to her life here. Oth-

ers spoke about less pleasant experiences they have had with neighbors’ short-term renters, including parking problems and use of their garbage cans. None, however, indicated that they had any problems with renters’ parties.

Although Orinda has a transient occupancy tax (TOT) on “hotels,” which are broadly defined, it has not imposed that tax on short-term rentals – thought to number about 64 – up to

this point. Smith attributed the absence of efforts to enforce this tax, as well as regulate other aspects of the business, to the “live and let live” nature of the community.

At the end of the evening’s discussion, all of the council members came down in favor of some kind of registration of short-term rentals. Council member Amy Worth suggested that Orinda’s home business permitting ordinance might be used

as a model.

“Whatever we do needs to be modest,” Council member Darlene Gee emphasized, and must respect those who engage in the short-term rental business.

The council directed staff to return with the suggested language of an ordinance at a later date. The matter will then be sent to the Orinda Planning Commission for comments.



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report March 20 to April 2

Alarms	63
Noise complaints	2
911 Calls (incl. hang-ups)	3
Traffic stops	43
Suspicious Circumstances	14
Suspicious Subjects	14
Suspicious Vehicles	20
Abandoned Vehicle	
Kite Hill Rd./Orindawoods Dr.	
Animal cruelty	
20 block Orinda Way	
Library	
Civil	
10 block La Espiral	
80 block Davis Rd	
Death, non-criminal	
10 block Charles Hill Rd.	
10 block Ardor Dr.	
Disturbance	
100 block Wilder Rd.	
10 block Theatre Square	
Glorietta Elementary School	
DUI	
Hwy 24 at Camino Pablo	
500 block San Pablo Dam Rd.	
Starbucks	
Safeway	
Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd.	
Forgery	
Mechanic’s Bank	
Fraud	
10 block Charles Hill Ln.	
Harassment	
70 block Orchard Rd. (phone)	
30 block Moraga Way (phone)	
Hit & Run	
Hwy 24 at Camino Pablo	
Camino Pablo/BART track	
ID Theft	
20 block Orinda Way	
Reported to police	
Indecent Exposure	
Camino Pablo/BART track	
Litter	
Miramonte High School	
Loitering	
Orinda Theater	
Mentally ill/violent	
100 block Amber Valley Dr.	
Panhandling	
Camino Pablo/BART track	
Police/Fire/ EMS	
500 block Moraga Way	
Miner Rd./Camino Pablo	
30 block Ivy Dr	
30 block Overhill Rd.	
Possession	
Church behind City Hall	
Safeway	
60 block Sunnyside Ln.	
Public Nuisance	
20 block Spring Rd.	
20 block Orinda Way	
Revoke Probation	
500 block Moraga Way	
Reckless Driving	
Camino Pablo/Miner Rd.	
Shoplift	
Rite Aid	
Theft, Petty	
80 block Estates Dr. (from vehicle)	
500 block The Glade (from vehicle)	
300 block Overhill Rd.	
80 block Davis Rd.	

20 block Hilldale Ct.
100 block Meadow Ln.
Vandalism
30 block Sleepy Hollow Ln.
500 block Bear Creek Rd.
400 block Tahos Rd.
Vehicle Recovery
Sandhill Rd/Melody Ln.
10 block Wanflete Ct.
Verbal Dispute
40 block Underhill Rd.
El Toyonal/Camino Pablo
Warrant
10 block St James Ct (3)
10 block Lavenida Dr.
Shell Station
Camino Pablo/Hwy 24
Welfare Check
Miner Rd./Bien Venida
100 block Meadow Ln.
Camino Pablo/Hwy 24
10 block Theatre Square
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.

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