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Winter break in-person camps available in Orinda

By Sora O'Doherty

With full safety protocols in place against the spread of COVID-19, winter camps offered through Orinda Parks and Recreation Department will be available in person this year.

For winter break, Parks and Rec will be offering multiple half-day morning camps this year, as well as one full-day option. Kids can learn to cook a French dinner, act in a musical drama, practice skateboarding, or explore the wonders of science. With just a few weeks away, there are a handful of camps with spots available. The half-day (9 a.m. to noon) options and one full-day (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) camp option will run during the holiday break, taking place on three days, Dec. 20-22.

Rob's Skateboarding 101 Camp is a "super fun, skateboard program designed for kids of all ages." They work with beginner, intermediate and advanced skaters as instructors are "the best in the industry!" Participants provide their own skateboard, helmet and pads. This camp will run from 9 a.m. to noon. The link to register for this is: <https://secure.rec1.com/CA/orinda-ca/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTE4NDIwNjc=>

In the Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, My Shot-Musical Theater Camp, youngsters of all abilities are "proud to be a part of polished mini-productions of musicals: Fun, challenging, and engaging, self-esteem skyrockets as members learn to develop character, vocal technique, presentation and dance skills." The intermediate cast is given a play lasting about one hour and 15 minutes with about 10 songs. Participants are expected to independently study their lines, songs, and blocking, as scheduled, and to attend all rehearsals. Participants should prepare a song for the first day of class. The camp will culminate with a show at 1 p.m. Dec. 22. To register, visit: <https://secure.rec1.com/CA/orinda-ca/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTE4MjAxNDM=>

The 3-day French Dinner Cooking Camps camp will teach participants to make a French dinner, such as Brioche A Tete (dinner rolls) French onion soup, Coq Au vin (chicken in sauce), Asparagus with Dressing, and Chocolate pots of Crème & Coeur (hearts) A La Cream for deserts. This is a tasty way to learn a valuable life skill, while offering a way for kids to eat what they cook and make new friends in the process. Camps will run from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. To register, visit: <https://secure.rec1.com/CA/orinda-ca/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTE3ODM3NjE=>

And the Wonders of Science Camp explores the science of our world and allows kids to learn about the foundational blocks of physics, chemistry, biology, engineering, and more. Participants will experiment with inertia, gravity, and potential and kinetic energy. Learn the forces of flight, swoop into the world of insects, and explore states of matter using dry ice, and more! Using inquiry-based

discovery methods, instructor demonstrations, hands-on activities, and amazing take-home projects, children will be exposed to a variety of scientific areas and feel empowered that they are already fantastic scientists who are exploring and discovering more about our world. Camp will run from 9 a.m. to noon. To register, visit: <https://secure.rec1.com/CA/orinda-ca/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTE3ODc4NjA=>

Any programs offered through the Orinda Parks and Recreation Department will still adhere to and follow all healthy and safety guidelines specified by Contra Costa Health Services, and the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Orinda Parks and Recreation Department's Health and Safety Programming Procedures can be found online on the city's website.

To register for any of these camps, please visit: <https://secure.rec1.com/CA/orinda-ca/catalog>

If you have any questions, contact staff at OrindaPark-sandRec@CityofOrinda.org or call (925) 254-2445.

Orinda Garden Club continues wreath-hanging tradition



Photo Caroline Gilman La Voie

Front row, from left: Lisa Jorgens, Monica Burnick, Shelley Gilligan, Ruth Fortune, Barbara Weikert, Kaija Gibbs, Linda Thompson, Lorene Quist, Jennifer Lyons, Juanita Kizor; back row: Jane Wiser, Laura Sawczuk, Janet Riley, Anne Southwick, Bonnie Cassriel, Cathleen Sodos, Tina Locke, Margene Stahle and Lynn Garrett

Volunteers of the Orinda Garden Club, including Orinda mayor and Garden Club member Amy Worth, assembled 55 holiday wreaths outside the Orinda Community Center Dec. 4 and hung them in numerous locations around Orinda to brighten up the town. The wreaths can be found at the Library Plaza, the Com-

munity Center, on the Orinda sign at the intersection of Camino Pablo and Camino So-brante, on the historic bridge at the end of Orinda Way. This year Club members will also place lighted Christmas trees along the Highway 24 Orinda off-ramp.
- J. Wake

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