

Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m. Library Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m. Sarge Littlehale Comminuty Room, Orinda Libraray

Citizens' Infrastructure **Oversight Commission**

Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2016, 6:30 p.m. Sarge Littlehale Community Room, City Hall, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda

School Board Meetings

Orinda Unified School District

Monday, Aug. 15, 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 Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org Phone (925) 253-4200

Chamber of Commerce:

www.orindachamber.org The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org



Orinda Police **Department Incident Summary Report**

July 10-23 Alarms

Noise complaints 911 Calls (incl. hang-ups) Traffic stops Suspicious Circumstances 17 **Suspicious Subjects**

53

Abandoned Vehicle Tamalpais View Rd./Diablo View Armed robbery

20 block Moraga Way **Barking Dog**

Suspicious Vehicles

300 Block Dalewood Dr. 40 block Muth Dr.

Burglary, Auto

Theatre Square Civil

> 10 Block Altarinda Rd. 50 Block Monte Vista Rd. Muth Dr./Bates Blvd. 30 block Barbara Rd.

Corporal Injury

Hwy 24/Wilder Disturbance Camino Pablo/El Toyonal Donald /Hall Drives (3) 100 block Silver Oak Terrace Glorietta Elementary Orindawoods Dr/Kite Hill Rd.

Dispute

El Toyonal/Alta Vista 100 block Orchard Rd.

Drunk in Public

Moraga Way/Woodland Rd. 20 Block Ardilla Rd

DUI misdemeanor

Pleasant Hill Rd./Old Tunnel Rd. 500 block Moraga Way

Fraud

700 Block Miner Rd. Hit & Run

20 block Spring Rd. ID Theft

20 Block Crescent D.r 100 block Meadow View Rd. Illegal entry

50 block Oak Dr. **Ordinance Violation**

North Ln./Camino Pablo Moraga Via/Glorietta Blvd.

Police/Fire/ EMS Santa Maria Way/Orinda Way

Promiscuous Shooting 10 Block El Sueno Orinda Senior Village

Miner Rd./Camino Lenada **Reckless Driving**

Camino Pablo/Miner Rd. Wilder Rd./Rabble Rd. Moraga Way/Valley View Dr. Glorietta Blvd./Moraga Way 500 Block Moraga Way

Runaway Juvenile Safeway

Theft, Grand

Wells Fargo Theft, Petty

200 block El Toyonal 10 block Estates Ct

Theft, Vehicle Brookwood Rd./Spring Rd.

Trespass

Orindawoods Dr./Altarinda Vandalism

500 Block Bear Creek Rd. Warrant Service/Arrest 1000 Block Oak Hill Rd. Wilder/ Hwy 24 (2) 10 block Lavenida (2)



Peter & Darlene Hattersley





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At 175 Years Old, Moraga Adobe is Slated for Restoration

By Sora O'Doherty



The once neglected Moraga Adobe will be restored.

he Moraga Adobe is celebratthe oldest residential building in Contra Costa County and one of the oldest in Northern California.

Although it is located in Orinda, the Moraga Adobe borders Moraga, the town named for Joaquin Moraga. Both Orinda and Moraga have been interested in the fate of the building, which has regional significance.

Plans to restore the Adobe are progressing, although it is not yet possible to see that progress. Built in 1841, the Moraga Adobe was the home of Joaquin Moraga, who, together with his cousin, had received a 13,000-acre land grant from the Mexican government in 1835. The Adobe sits high on a hill above Miramonte High School and Del Rey Elementary School. The extensive views from the Adobe extend out over much of Orinda, Moraga, Rheem and farther.

The Adobe had never been open to the public and has always been in private ownership, most recently owned by the developers of J&J Ranch. In 2009, when J&J acquired the property, they opened the Adobe for a walk-through, and, inspired by the historical building, the Friends of the Moraga Adobe was formed, with Kent Long as president. In 2012 the FMA appealed the approval of J&J's development plan by the Orinda Planning Commission, under which the Adobe would have become a private clubhouse for the development. The Moraga Town Council took an interest in the building, and wrote a friend of the council letter to Orinda to try to explore options regarding access to the building for public benefit.

After years of talks, J&J and the FMA reached an agreement which has been recorded in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). In late 2015 J&J obtained approval for 13 homes on 20 acres adjacent to the Adobe, with 2.3 acres and the Adobe building to be deeded to the Friends of the Adobe.

According to Long, the FMA needs to raise \$450,000 plus a reserve of \$50,000. J&J will pay the balance to restore the Adobe and to build a support structure with bathrooms. Thus far, the FMA has raised over \$100,000 and are hosting another fundraiser: the Fandango Fantastico on Aug.27 to celebrate the Adobe's 175th year. (See

There is a three-year timeline for the Adobe restoration project, but the time has not yet begun to run. Long says, however, that in

the next few months planning will Adobe had the unusual feature of

ing its 175th year, making it begin in earnest. The Adobe originally was three rooms. Owing to the fact that the land grant included the redwood forest of Canyon, the

Photo Sora O'Doherty redwood plank floors. Many parties and dances were hosted at the Adobe, and the redwood floors were very popular. Cooking was

done outside the building.

The adobe walls of those original three rooms are still sound, although they are not visible, having been covered by later additions to the structure. The Adobe was expanded to include three bedrooms in 1848. Those added rooms will probably be removed, although there may be an indication of where they were. There was also a hay barn on the property, but it was removed years ago. The property had been substantially renovated in the 1960s.

The Moragas incurred substantial legal bills during the transfer of California from Mexico to the United States and during the tumultuous years of the Gold Rush. By 1886, they lost the Adobe to a reputedly unscrupulous attorney. But the property remained in private hands and was been used as a residence until it was vacated. The building shows signs of neglect and some vandalism, but is now fenced off to prevent further harm until the work begins on restoration. ... continued on page A14

Fandango Fantastico!

The Friends of Joaquin Moraga Adobe are hosting their third annual Fandango to raise money for the restoration of the Moraga Adobe.

Fandango party celebrations were the core of the social calendar for early Mexican settlers, and the Moraga family was well known for those held at the Adobe in the 1840s. This year's Fandango will be held on Saturday, Aug. 27. The MC for the evening will be radio personality John Hamilton, host of On the Go with KGO. Entertainment will feature traditional music from Los Arribeños de San Francisco, a band that includes a direct descendant of the Moraga family.

Tickets are \$100 per person. Visit www.MoragaAdobe.org for more information or to buy tickets online. Tickets may also be purchased by sending a check payabe to "FJMA" to "Fandango Tickets" at PO Box 872 Orinda, CA 94563.

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Please direct all serious inquires to: Art Lopez at LopezBizOp@aol.com Broker / Mason McDuffie, Commercial Real Estate 925.933.2500 DRE#01180266

Please refrain from coming to the bakery and asking our employees questions they will be unable to answer.