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Orinda Police Department Presents Annual Report for 2011

By Laurie Snyder



Vice Mayor Amy Worth welcomes the City's newest police officers, from left: Reserve Officer Daryl England, Reserve Officer Bill Howard and Officer Travis Dennison.
Photo Cathy Dausman

Attendees at Orinda City Council's April 10 meeting were introduced to the newest members of the Orinda Police Department (OPD) by Chief Jeffrey Jennings. Travis Dennison and Maynard Patacsil of the Contra Costa Sheriff's Department have begun as new police officers. Darly England and Bill Howard will be serving in reserve.

Jennings also presented his department's annual report. Advising Council members that OPD had

stepped up traffic enforcement in 2011 because his staff had been required to conduct 87 collision investigations related to nearly 200 traffic accidents, Jennings observed that the increased focus on safety appeared to be working. "Reported traffic accidents dropped by eight percent over the last three-year average," he noted.

Reached later for comment, Jennings explained that although "the amount of citations we write doesn't even pay for a full-time officer," there

are genuine savings to the City via reduced property damage and officer response costs.

Thefts, once on the rise, also began declining in July 2011 as OPD personnel turned their attention to criminals attempting residential and commercial property crimes. The word is out, Jennings said, that criminals will lose their cars if they get caught. So crooks now go elsewhere.

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Council Members Talk Wilder

By Laurie Snyder

At a nearly packed meeting April 10, the Orinda City Council conducted its annual review of the Wilder Project to determine whether or not OG Property Owners, LLC (OGLLC) is in compliance with its development agreement with the City. Council members learned from City staff that OGLLC has been late making its required payments to the City and in getting paperwork to staff, but still plans to open two Wilder sports fields by June 1, 2012.

According to the staff report, the developer has always paid its fees in the past and there is no reason to believe that OGLLC will not follow through this time. That report and the audio for this meeting are available on the City's web site.

Additional problem areas included OGLLC's failure to obtain required approvals for its bioswale redesign in connection with stormwater management and a delay in making the playfield

picnic area accessible as promised.

Council Member Victoria Smith described OGLLC's actions as troubling, but also noted that the February 1 hiring of construction consultant John Tuttle "has been a great way to speed the process."

Tuttle was brought on by the developer and the City to provide construction oversight of the Phase I [playfield] improvements for the City and to facilitate communica-

tions between the developer and City staff. His services have been, and will continue to be paid for by OGLLC.

Following deliberation, the Council found OGLLC in compliance, voting 4-0 (with Mayor Steve Glazer recused due to a potential conflict of interest). However, when the developer asked that the City Council authorize the City Manager to accept the improvements and the property for Phase I without requir-

ing any further discretionary action the Council declined, saying that OGLLC needed to get the project done.

Because the project won't be as complicated in its next phases, according to City Manager Janet Keeter, the Council did establish a two-member subcommittee to provide more streamlined oversight moving forward, and named Council Members Amy Worth and Dean Orr as its first appointees.

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ORINDA \$1,650,000
5/5.5. Stunning craftsmen jewel remodeled in 2004. Complete with custom finishes throughout.
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LAFAYETTE \$1,675,000
5/3. Lovely Upper Happy Valley Contemporary with gorgeous views.
Great floor plan.
Karen Richardson 925-253-4600



LAFAYETTE \$1,750,000
4/3.5. Elegant 2 story trad. Grand size rooms, chef's kit., fabulous family room. Lvl lawn, patio, garden & stunning views!
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ORINDA \$5,000,000
4/4. Secluded Sleepy Hollow Estate. Gracefully remodeled Mediterranean. Pano views. Lap & infinity pools.
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LAFAYETTE \$849,000
3/3. Sophisticated remodel in Happy Valley!
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5/6.5. Stunning Gated French Country Estate in the Glorietta Neighborhood Completed in 2010.
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4/2. Sophisticated and stylish, limestone accents, hardwood floors, skylights, high ceilings, large decks, amazing views.
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LAFAYETTE \$1,850,000
5/3.5. Beautifully updated, yard w/pool, lawns, slate patio & much more!
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MORAGA \$869,000
4/2.5. High ceilings. Light, modern, neutral décor throughout. Immaculate and move in condition.
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LAFAYETTE \$3,000,000
5/3.5. California Estate situated on 2.50 acre lot. Grand LR w/soaring redwood beamed ceilings. Views, Views!
Kathy McCann 925-253-4600



LAFAYETTE \$3,100,000
5/5. Beautiful custom estate situated on approx. 2.4 private acres. Gated entrance, shared tennis ct, 2 pool sites.
The Beaubelle Group 925-253-4600



LAFAYETTE \$1,049,000
4/3.5. 1/2 acre lot in a court location close to town and schools.
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ORINDA \$5,000,000
2/1. Grizzly Peak Stables in Orinda. Top of the world views including Mt. Diablo. Orinda Schools
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