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Host family sought for 2017 visiting Czech student

By Sora O'Doherty



Marek Vybiral Photo provided

Marek Vybiral has won the competition to be the 16th Czech visiting student to attend Miramonte High School. Now he just needs to find a home-away-from-home.

▢ Vybiral will arrive in Orinda in mid-August, with a little time to get acclimated before starting school. He will return to the Czech Republic at the beginning of February 2018.

▢ Former mayor Bobbie Landers, one of the founders of the Orinda/Tabor Sister City Foundation, says that Vybiral is very happy that he will be in Orinda for the Year of the Czechs and plans to prepare a panel on past and present famous Czechs. He also plans to do a "task sheet" for children and a short video recording telling the story of St. Wenceslaus.

▢ The visiting student still needs a host family, ideally, one with a Miramonte student at home who could introduce Vybiral to the school community.

▢ Vybiral loves swimming, skiing, cycling and hiking. He has played basketball but is currently on a badminton

team in Tabor, Orinda's sister city in the Czech Republic. He has been a member of a scout troop and loves geography and history. Vybiral speaks English, French and Spanish, in addition to his native Czech. If you are interested and have a spare room for this 17-year-old, please contact Bobbie Landers at 925-254-8260 or bobbielanders@yahoo.com.

▢ There are over 15 Orinda families who have hosted students from Tabor who would be happy to help with support, suggestions and recommendations. The Orinda/Tabor Sister City Foundation Board members also support the visiting students with excursions and events.

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