

Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, Oct. 30, 7 p.m. Library Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m. Library Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Citizens' Infrastructure **Oversight Commission**

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m. Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

School Board Meetings Orinda Union School District

Monday, Nov. 12, 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

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community. Send a letter to the editor: letters@lamorindaweekly.com



www.lamorindaweekly.com

Discover & Go offers free BART rides to select venues through year's end

By Sora O'Doherty

he Contra Costa County Lifree BART access for use with Discover & Go reservations through December. County residents 18 or older can submit requests for BART tickets, which will be mailed to cardholders' homes within five business days of the request. The cover & Go has met Contra Costa offer is limited to one request per County Library's goal of providing household (for a \$15 BART ticket)

between 511 Contra Costa and the ums, and has made over a million library, is intended to encourage the cultural visits possible for library use of public transportation to visit cardholders; 511-Contra Costa's museums.

"The Bay Area is full of amazbrary is once again offering ing venues that include cultural learning experiences and fun," said County Librarian Melinda Cervantes. "This partnership with 511 Contra Costa is making travel easier and helping our environment."

Since its inception in 2011, Disaccess to culture inside and outand is available while supplies last. side the library by partnering with The promotion, a partnership over 90 northern California muse-

plan Discover & Go trips.

The following venues are valid destinations for the BART ticket promotion: Asian Art Museum, California Academy of Sciences, California Historical Society, Children's Creativity Museum, Chinese Historical Society of America Museum, Contemporary Jewish Museum, de Young Museum, Exploratorium, Habitot Children's Museum, International Art Museum, Lawrence Hall of Science, McConaghy House (Hayward Area Historical County Library at ASK@ccclib. Society), Museum of Art and Digital Entertainment, Museum of the Trip Planner feature can be used to African Diaspora, Oakland Mu-

seum of California, UC Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive, and the Yerba Buena Center for the

To sign up for BART tickets, view your October, November or December reservation on your Discover & Go account, click "Retrieve Pass" then click on the 511 banner on your Discover & Go pass to request your BART ticket.

For more information about the program, contact the Contra Costa org or (800) 984-4636.

Visiting Czech student preparing for Orinda Czech celebration

By Sora O'Doherty



Tabor Meetings 2018. From left: 2017-18 Visiting Student Marek Vybiral, Former Visiting Student and Tabor President of the Orinda-Tabor Sister City Committee, Michal Vašek, Orinda Vice-Chair of the Orinda-Tabor Sister City Committee, Slavka Ruzicka, Orinda Union School District Board Trustee Cara Hoxie, Orinda Vice Mayor Inga Miller, 2016 Host Mother Eileen Fitz-Faulkner, Orinda Mayor Amy Worth, and 2016-17 Visiting Student Adam Kraus. Photo provided

arie Ružicková is enjoy- Sister City Committee. In addition IVI ing her time at Miramonte to Czech dancing, there will be

High School as a visiting student Czech food, beer and wine. Doors from Orinda sister city Tabor, even though she is homesick. Actually, Ružicková isn't exactly from Ta- in English of the documentary film, "Accidental Army." bor, but a really small village about 20 kilometers from Tabor, where she goes to school. Her mother, that she is one of the few students an assistant at a school for autistic who is free to enjoy many elecboys, brings her to Tabor each day by car and train where she attends U.S. History, English, French, Art, a French high school. Her father Drama, Photography, and Public makes puppets, and, as a hobby with a friend, performs puppet theater.

In addition to attending school, Czech dancing for the local cel- ment classes." ebration of the 100th anniversary of the Czech Republic, which will Scouts for 11 years, and now be hosted on Oct. 21 in the Found- leads a small group of Scouts who ers Auditorium of the Orinda Com- meet every week for 2-3 hours. munity Center by the Orinda-Tabor

will open at 10:45 a.m., and from 3 to 4 p.m. there will be a screening

At Miramonte, Ružicková says tives, so her course work includes Speaking. "High school in the Czech Republic is not so competitive as here," Ružicková said. "I really see how people want to have she is also helping children learn all A's and take advanced place-

Ružicková has been in Girl Ružicková finds Girl Scouts to be a little bit old fashioned and says her group prefers to do things a bit differently, pursuing some programs about current affairs and global is-

Ružicková arrived in Orinda on Aug. 10, and will return to the Czech Republic in January. She is staying with a host family who has a sophomore student at Miramonte and another student at Orinda Intermediate School. When she returns home, Ružicková would like to change her school. She'd rather go to a high school in Prague. She is thinking of pursuing a career in teaching, or perhaps journalism, and may seek to study politithe Czech Republic and here is that in the Czech Republic, where there are many universities, third level education is completely free. Students usually enter university knowing what they want to major in. The level of difficulty in getting in to university depends on a student's preferred major. Acceptance is not based on high school grades,



Marie Ružicková, 2018-19 Visiting Czech Student

Photo Sora O'Doherty

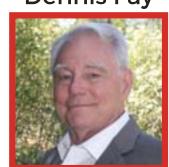
but upon an exam plus a personal cal science in college. The main interview. The biggest university is difference between education in in Prague, and most of Ružicková's siblings have gone there.

Ružicková has taken BART into San Francisco several times, and found the city to be diverse, with varied neighborhoods. The ocean appeals to her, but she misses her close friends at home, with whom she can talk about personal

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Authored by Monica Fitzsimmons on Change.org

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