

Rodent Proofing

Learn about Honest Rodent Proofing's industry-leading 4-step process to get rid of rats, mice and other rodents.

GUARANTEED

FREE In-Home Inspection,
Mention Lamorinda Weekly for a 10% discount

Call 925-433-3988

www.honestrodentproofing.com

Servicing the Bay Area to Sacramento



Is the Real Estate Market Slowing?

Some homes are taking longer to sell as buyers are getting more selective. The savvy sellers are making cost-effective fixups and utilizing top notch advice & marketing to quickly sell their homes.

Call me today for a complimentary property evaluation.

Utilize my 20+ years of local real estate success to

Integrity ♦ *Knowledge* ♦ *Results*



Frank Woodward

Realtor®, Luxury Property Specialist

T. 925.788.4963

E.Frank@FrankWoodward.com



COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY

©2022 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

Orinda Theatre finds surprise solution to serious problem

By Sora O'Doherty

Just when Orinda Theatre owner Derek Zemrak thought things were going great, with the theatre showing "Top Gun: Maverick," he was suddenly forced to close the theatre June 11, when the 80-year-old circuit breaker panel died. The circuit breaker, a Westinghouse BJ3200, is no longer manufactured, and Zemrak put out a plea on GoFundMe. After the struggle to keep going through the pandemic, Zemrak seemed

despondent. But, amazingly, the very next day, he was able to locate a refurbished circuit breaker panel in San Jose.

As it happened, after trying three circuit breaker panels, one from Burlingame worked. "Believe it or not," Zemrak reported, "it was a brand new one that had been sitting on a shelf for over 30 years. It has found its forever home at the Orinda Theatre." The theatre was able to reopen on June 14.

Zemrak thanked theatre supporters for their assistance in researching online and

reaching out to the broader community. "The outpouring of support is truly amazing and to all of you who donated without being asked directly, your generosity is beyond belief. You have all been there and continue to be there for the theatre. What a community. Thank you," he wrote.

In other theatre news, Zemrak updated the status of a new sound system (heavily discounted to see the theater continue) from the world renowned Meyers Sound. The speakers are still being manu-

factured in Berkeley but the speaker wires have been delivered. The wires will be run through the attics soon. "We are very excited about the new sound system which will greatly improve the audio quality plus extend the life of the historic Orinda Theatre. We listened to the constant concerns and comments on the sound and beat the pavement until Meyers Sound stepped up to help support our beautiful space," he noted.

With all the craziness of that weekend, Zemrak added

that he had forgotten to mention that new carpet has been installed in the ladies' parlor area and the men's restroom entry. "It looks amazing!" he enthused. "The carpet has not been replaced since 1986. We decided to replace it, it was way overdue and we were tired of waiting for the landlord to make any improvements. We hope you like it."

Program details and show-times can be found on the theatre's website, www.orindamovies.com

Orinda agrees to expand red-flag day parking bans

By Sora O'Doherty

Following the successful and well received red-flag day parking ban in the El Toyonal/Loma Vista area in North Orinda, residents of other parts of the city have been asking that their neighborhoods also get a parking ban to allow easier transit on red-flag days. The purpose of the red-flag day parking ban is to ensure that residents will be able to evacuate in the event of a wildfire, and that fire trucks will be able to access and fight fires.

On June 7, the city council acted to move forward on adopting additional red-flag day parking restrictions on evacuation routes in the very high fire severity zone. All of the additional areas targeted for parking restrictions are located in North Orinda and include portions of Lomas Cantadas, Claremont Avenue, Monte Vista Road, Manzanita Drive, Miner Road, Vista Del Mar, Sleepy Hollow Lane, Dalewood Drive, Sundown Terrace, Tappan Lane, and Honey Hill Road.

The council considered a number of options, but elected to move forward on this option because it could be most quickly and effectively implemented and owing to the significance of evacuation in the event of wildfires. Council Member Darlene Gee, who is a transportation engineer and a member of the 2 x 2 committee with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, spoke first on the proposal. "I do think this is a really important issue, and I personally am very supportive of tackling the evacuation routes," she said. "We can only do so much at a time and the evacuation routes are important enough for us to act on." Gee agreed with Mayor Dennis Fay that further red-flag day parking restrictions constitute a very legitimate use of Measure R dollars. As she has before, Gee raised the specter of the 25 people who lost their lives in the Oakland Hills fire because they couldn't get out. "This is the right application of our precious tax dollars," she concluded.

The matter was before the council so that Orinda staff could get directions on how to proceed. Following the unanimous approval of the first option presented to the council, it will be necessary for staff to conduct a study and prepare a traffic order for council approval. The council urged staff to act as quickly as possible, as fire season has started. Staff estimates that the cost of setting up signs in the expanded area will be between \$50,000 to \$70,000.

The program includes two types of signs. The first signs alert drivers and residents that the area is subject to parking restrictions on red-flag days. The second signs can be flipped down to indicate that a red-flag day is currently in place and that parking restrictions apply. These signs must be manually opened, and staff time to perform this task has been an issue. At times, Assistant Engineer Kevin McCourt personally came and flipped the signs open.

Another issue considered

was parking enforcement. Orinda only has two part-time parking officers, and one just left to go to the Marines. While seeking to hire another, City Manager David Biggs noted that the city may require more staff for parking enforcement. Although the Orinda Police Department is willing to help, how much time they can dedicate to parking enforcement depends on the other demands upon them. He noted that other cities that have red-flag day restrictions have enforcement staff 24/7, and that large juris-

dictions like Los Angeles have hundreds of enforcement staff.

Public Works Director Scott Christie discussed the process of placing the signs, and reviewed what it was like dealing with homeowner concerns regarding the placement of signs, the potential loss of on-street parking and the use of staff time to determine which existing parking areas would continue to be available on red-flag days.

In public comments Melanie Light speaking as current chair of the Firewise

Council and member of Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Committee, thanked the council for considering the expansion of red-flag day parking restrictions, which she categorized as "an important program for the safety of our citizens." Gene Gottfried commented that the El Toyonal program has worked well, and expressed his support for expansion.

The city council noted that time is of the essence and urged staff to come back to the council with whatever is required as soon as possible.

2022 Year to Date | Laura Abrams

1 Agent Coldwell Banker, Orinda
12 Agent Coldwell Banker All East Bay and North Bay Offices!



1 Madera Lane, Orinda
Offered at \$1,795,000 • 1MaderaLn.com



25 Rustic Way, Orinda
Offered at \$5,750,000 • 25RusticWay.com



9 La Noria, Orinda
Sold at \$1,910,000 • 9LaNoria.com



5 La Noria, Orinda
Sold at \$3,200,000 • 5LaNoria.com



2 Bien Venida, Orinda
Sold at \$2,940,000 • 2BeinVenida.com



407 El Toyonal, Orinda
Sold at \$1,305,000 • 407ElToyonal.com



37 Vallecito Lane, Orinda
Sold at \$1,800,000 • 37VallecitoLane.com



75 Stanton, Orinda
Sold at \$1,650,000 • 75Stanton.com



5 Brookbank Road, Orinda
Sold at \$3,300,000 • Represented Buyer



Laura Abrams

laura@lauraabrams.com

510.697.3225

DRE # 01272382

Top 25 Coldwell Banker Bay Area International Presidents Premier
5 Moraga Way, Orinda CA.
www.lauraabrams.com



COLDWELL BANKER

Celebrating 22 Years With Coldwell Banker Orinda
A Trusted Partnership Local Expertise with Global Connections

Recognized as one of America's 2021 Best Real Estate Professionals by Real Trends and Tom Ferry.
Ranked among the top 1% of 1.4 million real estate professionals in the United States!