



## **ABOUT TOWN - DECEMBER 3, 2010**

### **BI-WEEKLY UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF**

---



#### **HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING**

Join Santa and his Moraga Youth Involvement Committee helpers this Saturday, December 4, as they visit children and light the Commons Park Holiday Tree. Enjoy freshly baked cookies, hot cocoa and holiday songs by the Jingle Belles and Beaus. Event starts at 6:30 pm and ends at 7:30 pm. Don't be late!



#### **STATE OF THE TOWN**

Mayor Ken Chew hosted his State of the Town event at the Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church on Wednesday evening, November 17. Mayor Chew discussed the status of his 14 goals, all of which have been completed or are very near completion. Highlights on the short list of accomplishments include; approving the Moraga Center Specific Plan, receiving state approval on the updated housing element, balancing the Town's budget with a projected surplus, initiating the community outreach program (RECON) to address aging infrastructure and different ways to increase the Town's general fund resources, approving the use of grant funding to renovate the Camino Pablo sports field, relocating the Corporation Yard to 331 Rheem Blvd., and installing a new elevator at the Town offices at 329 Rheem Blvd. Visit the Town's website for the entire Power Point presentation if you missed it. Mayor Chew also thanked the many service clubs and organizations in town including the Hacienda Foundation, Park Foundation, and Kiwanis.



#### **APPLICANTS NEEDED FOR TOWN BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

Check the current Activity Guide/Town Crier for opportunities to volunteer to serve on one of the Town boards and commissions. There are vacancies for the ADA Advisory Committee, the Design Review Board, the Park and Recreation Commission, the Planning Commission, the Audit & Finance Committee and Town Treasurer. Information on the purpose of each group, when it meets, the terms of office, as well as contact information, is included in the Town Crier.



#### **BUY-A-BULB FUNDRAISER**

Help the Town light the Holiday Tree in the Commons Park. Each year the Town requests community donations to pay for the installation and maintenance of the tree. We have a long way to go before we reach our \$6,000 goal. Suggested donation amount is \$20, but a maximum is up to you. Send donations to Town of Moraga, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556, attn: Buy-A-Bulb. The Community reached our goal for the 2010 fireworks; let's do the same for the Holiday Tree. Thank you Moraga for your generosity.



## TOWN FINANCES – SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

A Special Revenue Fund receives revenues that have restrictions upon how they may be spent.

- The Gas Tax Fund is the fund where gas tax revenues are collected and these monies can only be used for street purposes.
- The Measure C/J Return to Source Fund is collected by the County then a portion is sent back to cities to be used on transportation.
- The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Fund, which receives revenues from Contra Costa County, can only be used for maintenance of the Town's storm drain systems.

The Town uses these special revenues on the basic maintenance needs of the Town's streets, roads, and storm drains. Any excess is accumulated so that the Town can undertake a major capital improvement project, which has historically only happened every other year. The problem is that these savings and alternate year projects are not sufficient to adequately improve or even maintain the Town's streets and storm drains.



## STUFFED ANIMAL COLLECTION DRIVE

This holiday season, for the third consecutive year, the Moraga Police Officers Association (MPOA) is collecting new or gently used stuffed animals to help children through traumatic experiences. Partnered with Stuffed Animals For Emergencies (S.A.F.E.), the donated stuffed animals are distributed to children in areas of need. Some of the donated stuffed animals have been distributed by our troops overseas to children affected by war and poverty, and others have been sent to the Dominican Republic for displaced Haitian children. Your stuffed animals can be dropped off in the lobby of the Moraga Police Department at 329 Rheem Blvd., and more information on this worthy cause can be found at [www.MoragaPOA.com](http://www.MoragaPOA.com) and [www.stuffedanimalsforemergencies.org](http://www.stuffedanimalsforemergencies.org).



## TOWN OFFICES CLOSED

Town offices will be closed Friday, December 24 to Friday, December 31 for the winter holidays. We will reopen Monday, January 3, 2011. Limited staff will be available by appointment. In case of emergency, please call Moraga Police Dispatch at 925-284-5010. We wish you and yours a happy holiday season!