



## ABOUT TOWN ▪ JULY 15, 2011

### BI-WEEKLY UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



#### PRODUCE MARKET COMING TO MORAGA



Yes, it is finally true a Produce Market is coming to the Rheem Center in Moraga! Although the opening date is not yet set because the business is planning to fully remodel, we expect it will open the end of the year or early in 2012. The 4,900 sf store will be located next to the Moraga Art Gallery in the Rheem Shopping Center. The business owners are experienced operators with established locations in Concord and Walnut Creek. They are extremely excited to be coming to Moraga and plan to carry a broad range of produce and specialty grocery items specifically for Moraga shoppers.



#### COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM DESIGN APPROVED BY COUNCIL

On Wednesday, July 12 the Town Council voted 4-1 to go forward with the design and construction documents for carving a new community meeting room out of the second floor office space at 329 Rheem. This change in the remodeling plans will be completed next summer/fall along with two other projects previously approved for the building. One project is the second phase of a seismic retrofit of the building that will complete the work to make the Police Station operational in the event of an emergency and create an Emergency Facilities Center as a dual use of the meeting room. The second project will add solar panels on the roof of the building that can be completed with an incentive loan and rebate program. The new community meeting room the Council selected will seat 105 attendees and extend the east wall of second floor out six feet, adding less than \$200,000 to the project. The Council will consider bids on the project in the Spring.



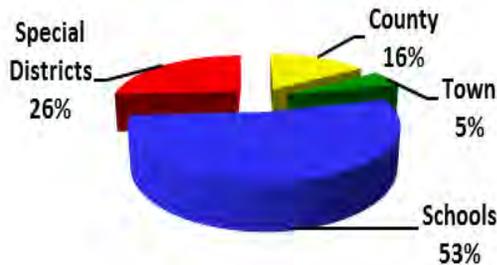
#### ANOTHER WONDERFUL 4<sup>TH</sup>

As the morning sun peaked over the hills in our small town, Moraga Youth Involvement Committee members had already been at the park for an hour preparing to feed 500+ pancake breakfasts. Athletes were stretching for the annual fun run. Thousands of other residents enjoyed the car show, dog parade, community booths, jumpies, bicycle parade, old fashion kids games, professional magic show, hot dogs, hamburgers, a free concert and, of course, FIREWORKS! Our goal was to raise \$23,000 this year and we did it! Thank you to everyone that donated, allowing this tradition to continue. A special thank you to the Moraga Park Foundation for providing the funds to bring Dave Martin's House Party to the Commons Park for the free concert. Those of you fortunate enough to hear this band enjoyed one of the best. Fourteen hours later as the sun began to set behind our rolling hills, and skies became darker, tired residents started to buzz again with energy and excitement in anticipation of the closing chapter on yet another wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July in Moraga. Many have commented on how this show was the "best ever." Thank you, Moraga, for creating a wonderful sense of community, making the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and fireworks show a great tradition and creating special memories for so many kids and families. Parks Make Life Better!



## WHERE DO YOUR PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS GO?

Do you know how much of your property tax comes back to the Town? Would you be shocked to learn that for every \$1,000 of property taxes you pay, only \$53 comes to the Town? This money is what pays for the Town services – police, recreational activities and events, streets and parks maintenance! Of that \$53, only \$0.60 is available to patch local streets and roads. Where does the rest of your money go? The chart below shows the distribution of property taxes collected.



The County money funds the libraries, flood control, mosquito abatement, and general services. The School money is shared among an array of schools in the area, as well as the Community College. The Special Districts include fire, water, sewer, and the park district, as well as several smaller apportionments.



## PARTY (SOCIAL HOSTING) ORDINANCE

At the July 8 Town Liaison meeting, the Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coordinator shared recent survey results. Lamorinda survey respondents indicated adults are still hosting parties for juveniles with alcoholic beverages. There are two enforceable laws prohibiting this activity in Moraga; the California Penal Code section 272, Contributing to Delinquency of Persons Under 18 Years, and Moraga Municipal Code 9.06, Hosting Parties Where Alcohol Is Consumed By Persons Under the Age of Twenty-One on Private Property. Both laws are intended to discourage underage drinking and the associated problems caused by intoxicated juveniles.

The Penal Code violation is a misdemeanor, providing for a fine not to exceed \$2,500, or by imprisonment in county jail for not more than 1 year, or by both fine and imprisonment, or by probation not to exceed 5 years. The Town Ordinance is an infraction providing only for fines, with base fines of \$100 for a first conviction, \$200 for a second conviction, and \$300 for the third and any subsequent convictions. The base fines, however, are only a fraction of what the court will impose. A \$100 base fine, with the added state penalties and assessments is closer to \$500.

The Town Ordinance states, “No person may allow or host a party at any property under his or her control where five or more persons under the age of twenty-one (21) are present and alcoholic beverages are in the possession of, or are consumed by, any person under twenty-one (21) years of age.” This ordinance applies to adults and juveniles alike and may be enforced in addition to other applicable laws, but does not apply if all present are members of the same immediate family or if the party is part of a religious service. With the heavy penalties associated with providing alcohol to minors, and the documented deaths in our area associated with juvenile drinking, nobody should engage in the activity of allowing juveniles to drink. The Moraga Police Department urges everyone to act responsibly and not allow any consumption of alcohol by minors.



## MORAGA'S FIRST JAZZ FESTIVAL

On Sunday, August 7 The New Rheem Theatre will be hosting the first Moraga Jazz Festival. The Festival will highlight several well-known jazz musicians, including Alex de Grassi, Roger Glenn, Mary Jenson, Carol Alban, and Frank Martin. Tickets are \$20 General Admission/\$15 Students to benefit Joplin, Missouri to help it recover from the deadly tornado that struck May 22, 2011.



## PLANNING COMMISSION TO CONSIDER PLANS FOR FORMER BOWLING ALLEY SITE

On Monday, July 18, at 7:30 pm at the Moraga Library (1500 St. Mary's Road), the Planning Commission will host a study session on a possible 21-unit single-family residential development on the former bowling alley site next to AAAAA Rent-A-Space and across from the Rheem Valley Shopping Center. The approximately 2-acre project proposes 21 two-story residences on small lots. Each housing unit would be about 1,900 sf with 3 or 4 bedrooms. The lots would be about 3,000 square feet. The study session is intended to provide the prospective applicant with feedback prior to a formal application to the town. Please come and share your comments and opinions with the applicant and Planning Commission. No decision will be made at this meeting.



## "ASK THE MAYOR" AT TERZETTO CUISINE

The Mayor and Manager continue to host an "Ask the Mayor" coffee at Terzetto's the third Friday of the month, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. This week several good questions were raised by ten different individuals who all came prepared with questions and suggestions. The topics ranged from discussing the Town's RV ordinance, clarifying Town data, revitalizing the Rheem Center to questions about development plans around Rancho Laguna II.



## RHEEM BOULEVARD COMPLETION

There is one part of Rheem Boulevard that remains to be resurfaced; a small section between Moraga Road and Chalda Way. This section can be brought into good condition without digging it out and replacing several inches of asphalt, which is extremely costly. Instead, by the end of July, this area will be slurry sealed, which is a resurfacing treatment that costs less than 15% of repaving costs, so the Town saved almost \$75,000 by performing this cost effective surface treatment. These savings are already needed to repair a collapsing storm drain discovered on the south end of Rheem Boulevard near St. Mary's Road. Although not an immediate danger, the situation will worsen as rainy season hits. Staff is working on a cost effective repair with minimal public impact.



## NOVEL DESTINATIONS - SUMMER READING FESTIVAL FOR ADULTS

Come on, adults! Show the kids how it's done! Now through August 20 at the Moraga Library sign up for the Summer Reading Festival! Use the reading log to track time spent reading and earn prizes upon completion. Pre-readers may share a book with a parent, sibling, or friend. Readers ages 18 and up can take a literary journey for a chance to win a book lover's bag full of goodies or enticing county-wide prizes. Enter your short book reviews and become eligible to win: San Francisco Giants tickets, Berkeley Repertory Theatre tickets, complimentary overnight stay at Renaissance Clubsport Hotel and Spa or a book-bag full of fun things (books, mug, surprises!)

Questions? Ask at the Information or Circulation Desks at the Moraga Library or online at [ccclib.org](http://ccclib.org)



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