



ABOUT TOWN ▪ APRIL 29, 2011 BI-WEEKLY UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



NEW TOWN WEBSITE!!



The Town was very pleased to launch its new website at the Town Council meeting this week. Please go to www.moraga.ca.us to check it out!



MORAGA ROAD SURFACE REPAIRS

On Wednesday, the Town Council approved a budget transfer to cover the Town's share of the costs to repair the Moraga Road rubber cape seal. The contractor will be removing all of the traffic striping and necessary portions of the rubber cape seal installed in 2009, and applying a new surface to Moraga Road between Buckingham and Draeger. The surface process installed originally will not be re-applied, but will be replaced with a Microsurface Treatment. This will provide a smoother and more durable surface. The Town is contributing to the repair because the new surface treatment is an upgrade from the original resurfacing, and is splitting the cost of the application with the contractor, who was willing to replace the sections of the road that do not meet the Town's specifications. This shared cost will provide the residents with a better surface that will last longer.

The repairs will begin on **Monday, May 2**, and should be complete by **Friday, May 6**. Expect lane closures and traffic delays on Moraga Road between Buckingham Drive and Draeger Drive.



5TH ANNUAL TRIATHLON

Just a quick reminder that you will see many bicyclists and runners in and about the streets of Moraga this Saturday, April 30. Please drive carefully and yield to bicyclists and runners as they will be participating until approximately 10:30 am. We will have more athletes this year than any previous year and the weather promises to be beautiful.



CINCO DE MAYO

Enjoy the festivities that the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga and Moraga Parks and Recreation Department will once again bring to the Hacienda de las Flores on May 5 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. Fun for the entire family including jumpies, food and beverages, kids games, live Mariachi band, tortilla making, great company and more. Donate to the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga as they are an essential local non-profit that supports our "crown jewel" in town.



RHEEM BOULEVARD PAVEMENT REPAIRS



The contractor is eager to start the Rheem Boulevard Pavement Project! Two sections of Rheem Boulevard between Moraga Road and St. Mary's Road will be repaved – generally from Moraga Road to the top of the hill, and the residential section near St. Mary's Road, as shown in the adjacent drawing. The message signs went up this week, and they will begin repairing sidewalks next week. The next several weeks will involve grinding, base repairs, and repaving, with the project being completed by the end of May/early June. In order to expedite the work, we are allowing the contractor to close Rheem Boulevard to through traffic between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm. Residents on Rheem Boulevard will have access to their properties at all times, but residents on side streets who have alternate access to their homes should plan to use it to avoid traffic delays.



TOWN OF MORAGA NAMED TOP 10 CITIES TO LIVE AND LEARN

Although every community member already knows that the Town of Moraga is the best town to raise a family, in part because of its exceptional schools, now, the rest of the world knows it too. The Town of Moraga was recognized this week in a Great Schools survey as one of the best places to get a great education. The survey described Moraga as a pastoral suburb where families consistently supported their local schools. The district's API score of 945 placed them in the top 2 percent statewide, with Campolindo High School (CHS) ranking #86 nationally in US News & World Report. Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School also excelled in extracurriculars including golf, badminton, journalism club, writing contests, and spelling and geography bees. The survey stated: *"All this, in a Northern California setting that enables you to hike, bike, or run your dog off leash. Moraga even has a liberal arts ivory tower: St. Mary's College with 3,840 students."*



JAN WAHL AT NEW RHEEM THEATRE MAY 1 FOR FOOD & WINE FILM FESTIVAL

The New Rheem Theatre is hosting four events with movie critic Jan Wahl. The first event, "Reel Delicious: Food and Wine in the Movies" is this Sunday, May 1 at 1:30 at the New Rheem Theatre. The event will highlight movies with food and wine themes while attendees partake in their own tastings. Proceeds will benefit the upgrading of the Theatre's sound systems. Tickets: \$25 each.



GET FREE NEW "DISCOVER AND GO" MUSEUM PASSES THROUGH OUR LIBRARY

Free, from our library, are passes to more than 30 Bay Area museums and educational, recreational, historical, or cultural programs. "Discover and Go" is a new service to community residents who can now use their County library cards to obtain the passes. To view and reserve the passes go to the Library's website, www.ccclib.org.



TRI-CHAMBER MIXER SHOWCASES 3-MINUTE LOCAL FILMS

Moraga hosted guests from Lamorinda's three Chambers of Commerce this week at the New Rheem Theatre. Business owners and Chamber members from all three communities mingled, laughed, and enjoyed viewing three-minute films on "Why I love our Town". Enthusiasm radiated from every filmmaker as they described their community in a lovely light. Look for some of the films on our new website in the coming weeks.



DESIGN REVIEW BOARD APPROVES BANDSHELL IMPROVEMENTS



The Moraga Park Foundation applied for and received approval of a 100 square foot expansion for the Bandshell food service area at the April 25 Design Review Board Meeting. This will allow the Park Foundation to increase the functionality for food preparation and packaging during the free summer concerts and other community-wide events. If all goes as planned the Park Foundation hopes to gift this improvement to the Town next April.



WILD TURKEY STRATEGIES

A report on how to deal with issues related to Moraga's wild turkey population was given to the Town Council at the April 27 meeting. The report and discussion recognized the wild turkey population has increased throughout the region and is not monitored or controlled by the Department of Fish and Game. The number of turkeys in Moraga is likely to continue to grow because there are no natural predators in the area, because Moraga provides a constant food source and desirable terrain, and because some people feed them. When wild turkeys are fed, they tend to lose their fear of humans and become increasingly difficult to deter.

Turkeys can cause damage to gardens, vehicles, outdoor furniture, and building roofs. Turkeys peck at shiny objects, leave droppings, and roost in trees. They also can disturb one's peace with loud gobbling noises and with noise caused by pets that are bothered by the turkeys' presence. Turkeys can also create hazards for motorists when they cross roads, blocking the path of moving vehicles.

To address problems associated with our wild turkey population, the following strategies are offered:

- Remove bird feeders and accessible pet food from your yard.
- Install motion-detector sprinklers.
- Keep a dog in your yard.
- Adjust flood lights to shine into trees in turkeys roost in them.
- Think of others and make every effort to discourage turkeys in your yard and in neighboring yards. Even if you enjoy looking at them, remember the harm they can cause to your neighbors.
- If turkeys are in the path of your vehicle, slow, honk, and proceed. Never get out of your vehicle to confront the turkeys.
- Always allow a safe braking distance between your vehicle and vehicles in front of you in case turkeys cause sudden slowing or stopping.

If you have tried the above methods with little success and turkey problems continue, you may contact Nicole Kozicki, our local Fish and Game Warden to obtain a depredation permit which allows the trapping and/or shooting of turkeys. If a permit is issued, a professional hunter-trapper is available at no cost through the County Department of Agriculture. Fish and Game Warden Kozicki can be reached at:

Office/Fax (925) 376-1274

Dispatch (831) 649-2801

Email NKozicki@dfg.ca.us