



ABOUT TOWN ▪ JANUARY 13, 2012

BI-WEEKLY UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL – FEBRUARY 10 TO 16, 2012

The 14th Annual California Independent Film Festival (CAIFF) will be held February 10 to 16, 2012 at the Lamorinda Theatres (Rheem and Orinda Theatres). According to CAIFF, this year's lineup of films is the strongest in the 14-year history with eleven feature films, seven documentaries, and twenty-three short films as well as educational seminars. On Friday, February 10, the opening night ceremony, hosted by NBC Bay Area News' Diane Dwyer, will feature the award-winning film "Monsieur Lazhar" (Best Canadian Film award winner at the 2011 Toronto International Film Festival). Tickets will be available to the general public for purchase beginning January 16, 2012 at the Lamorinda Theatres' Box Offices or at the festival's website www.caiff.org. More information and a complete festival schedule are also available on the website.



FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR JILL MERCURIO

Jill Mercurio has recently been selected to be the Assistant Public Works Director for the City of Vallejo. This is a great opportunity for her, but she will be greatly missed by all of Moraga. Please join us on Thursday, January 19, from 4 to 6 pm, at the Hacienda Fireside Room, for a farewell reception as the Town says its good byes to Jill and wishes her the best the future has to offer.



MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There will be five vacancies for the Planning Commission, four vacancies for the Park and Recreation Commission, three vacancies each for the Design Review Board and the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, and two each for the ADA Advisory Committee and the Audit and Finance Committee for 2012. For more information on how to apply, visit the Town's website www.moraga.ca.us.

The application deadline has been extended to Friday, January 20, 2012 at 4:00 pm.



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY

The Town offices will be closed on Monday, January 16, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The offices will re-open Tuesday, January 17.



AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

The Audit and Finance Committee (AFC) will meet to review a number of items critical to the Town's financial welfare. They will be discussing the audited financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2011; request for proposal for future year financial auditing services; current year revenue and expenditure reports and mid-year budget adjustments; options for financing the \$450,000 note due on 331 Rheem Boulevard; and the Infrastructure Preservation and Improvement Fund policy. Based on the AFC's discussion and recommendations, most of these issues will appear on the Town Council agenda in the near future. The public is welcome to attend this meeting scheduled for January 17, 2012, at 5:30 pm in the Garden Conference Room at the Hacienda.



PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

The January meeting will be held in the Hacienda Mosaic Room on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 7:00 pm. Topics include project ideas for the remaining East Bay Regional Park District Measure WW grant funds and design concepts and costs for the new off-leash and playground areas in Rancho Laguna Park.



UPCOMING PLANNING COMMISSION AND DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MEETINGS

The Moraga Planning Commission will hold its next meeting Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at the Hacienda Fireside Room at 7:30 pm. The Commission will consider two projects: (1) A Conditional Use Permit for 425 Moraga Road (northeast corner of Moraga Road and Rheem Boulevard) to allow a larger convenience store and automatic carwash; and (2) A Variance for 107 La Quinta (in Moraga Country Club) to allow an addition and remodel. Both projects will also be subject to Design Review.

The Moraga Design Review Board will hold its next meeting Monday, January 23, 2012 at the Hacienda La Sala at 7:00 pm. The Board will consider three projects: (1) A request from Sonsara Homeowners Association to amend its landscaping plan and allow removal and replacement of redwood trees along Moraga Way; (2) A proposal to construct a two-family residence at 1800 Donald Drive; and (3) A proposal to construct a fence within one foot of the property line along a scenic corridor on Rheem Boulevard. The public is invited to attend both meetings. The public may also submit email correspondence in advance of the meetings to planning@moraga.ca.us.



TOWN COUNCIL GOAL SETTING SESSION – JANUARY 28, 2012

The Moraga Town Council will consider the community's goals and priorities for 2012 under the leadership of Mayor Mike Metcalf on Saturday, January 28, 2012, 9:00 am, Hacienda La Sala, at its annual Goal Setting Session. This is an opportunity for the public to weigh in and provide their input on Town priorities for the coming year.



ASK THE MAYOR CONTINUES AT TERZETTO'S

Newly-elected Mayor Mike Metcalf will continue the practice established by Mayor Mendonca to meet with community members to hear their concerns, ideas, and suggestions. Please feel free to join Mayor Mike Metcalf and Town Manager Jill Keimach for coffee at Terzetto's on the third Friday of the month. The next "Ask the Mayor" coffee will be held on Friday, January 20, at 9:30 am.



TOWN APPROVES LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (LHMP)

At the January 11 Town Council meeting, a resolution was approved allowing the Town to continue using the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Town's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). An approved LHMP is required for the Town's eligibility for funding opportunities and disaster recovery savings. The Town has submitted its "Moraga Specific" Annex to ABAG and has received pre-approval. ABAG has forwarded the Town's Annex to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for final approval. To view the Town's adopted LHMP, please visit the Town's website and click on "Town Council Agendas." The LHMP information is in the January 11 agenda packet.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The Town is continuing to update and prioritize its Emergency Preparedness capabilities. The Emergency Operations Plan is being rewritten and staff is receiving basic training required by FEMA, with additional Emergency Operations training planned for staff in March. Recently, a road closure on Moraga Way reminded Town staff of the need for a public notification system that can reach residents quickly with emergency information. Town staff will present a proposal for a public notification system at the January 25 Town Council meeting at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School at 7:00 pm. Please attend the meeting and share your comments on the proposal.



CASINO NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Join the Moraga Movers for Casino Night to help raise funds for the Rancho Laguna Park replacement play structures. The event will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at the Hacienda from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. Games will include craps, blackjack, roulette, poker and more! Pre-sale ticket prices are \$40/pp or \$75/per couple and are available for purchase at the Moraga Recreation office beginning Friday, January 20. All players are eligible to win raffle prizes! For more information, visit the website at www.moraga.ca.us.



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