



ABOUT TOWN ▪ MAY 24, 2013 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



TOWN OPEN HOUSE AND CHAMBER MIXER A GRAND SUCCESS

On May 21, in partnership with the Moraga Chamber of Commerce, Town staff hosted an open house for residents, business owners and operators, Council and visitors to unveil the Town Office remodel. Since 1995 the community has discussed options for relocating Town staff from the Hacienda into one facility. The project was initially funded with a bond measure totaling \$1.5 million, but the Town Council reduced the scope of the project and staff redesigned the Town Offices to create a new Planning Counter, additional conference rooms, and aesthetically upgraded the entire building through several small construction projects, totaling just over \$156,000. The Open House was very well attended with an abundance of fanfare, good food and great company!



TOWN COUNCIL REVIEWS BUDGET AND FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

At its meeting on May 22, the Town Council began deliberations on the proposed budget for FY 2013/14, capital improvement projects, and the updated Five Year Financial Plan. Discussions continued late into the night and while the proposed budget is structurally balanced and reflects the Town's "minimal government" philosophy, there are identified needs especially within the area of parks and Town facilities. An adopted budget provides staff the legal authority to spend public funds. Formal adoption of the budget is expected before June 30 to continue services into the new fiscal year.



SUMMER CAMPS, CLASSES, AND SUMMER ADULT SOFTBALL

Summer is right around the corner and Moraga Parks and Recreation is offering a variety of camps and classes for all ages and interests. Choose from classes in carpentry, music, sports, writing, education, drama, filmmaking, cooking and many more! We are also offering a Men's 35+ Summer Softball League starting June 23. Put a team together and join in on the FUN! For more information, visit the Town [website](#) or call Kim Burrowes, 925-888-7036.



SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT – MAY 24 TO 26

The annual Saint Mary's College commencement weekend began on Friday afternoon, May 24, with a baccalaureate mass in the McKeon Pavilion. The undergraduate commencement will be held on Saturday, May 25, at 9:30 am at the Saint Mary's stadium. The Graduate and Professionals programs will hold their commencement activities on Sunday, May 26 at 4:00 pm at the Saint Mary's stadium. For more information regarding the commencement activities please [click here](#). On the day of the events, please contact Saint Mary's Public Safety, 925-631-4282.



IS YOUR STREET BEING REPAIRED THIS SUMMER?

Starting mid-July, Moraga's 2013 Pavement Repair Project will be underway addressing nearly half of all neighborhood streets with a rubberized cape seal or micro-seal treatment. To see if your street is being repaired, click [2013 Pavement Repair Project](#).



COUNCIL DISCUSSES HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE

On May 22, the Town Council had another discussion about ways to preserve the Rheem Theatre. The Council considered creating a historic preservation ordinance that would allow the Town to designate historic landmarks in Moraga and heard a range of comments from property owners, the Moraga Historical Society, and members of the public about their concerns or support for landmarking buildings. One of the central points of discussion centered on whether the Town should require property owner consent when designating landmarks. The Council asked staff to bring back a draft ordinance for further discussion.



HACIENDA ART AND WINE SOCIAL – THURSDAY, MAY 30

This year the Hacienda Foundation is sponsoring art from the recreation classes of Marianne Brown, published artist and instructor. The art presented ranges from the novice to an award-winning artist with decades of experience in water color, acrylics, and oils. All sale proceeds go to the artists. Sal Captain of Captain Vineyards will be pouring his Moraga estate-grown vintages. The first glass will be \$10.00 then \$6.00 each. Proceeds go to support the Hacienda renovation program. This free event will be at the Hacienda de las Flores, on Thursday, May 30, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.



LOCAL FIRM AWARDED TOWN'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) CONTRACT

The Town's IT needs cover a broad range of services such as network development and maintenance, PC support, hardware and software upgrades and maintenance, security, backup, strategic planning, and emergency preparedness. After a six-month process, the Town Council awarded a multi-year contract to Silicon Connections, LLC (based in Moraga) who has been the Town's IT provider since 1995. The process reaffirmed that Silicon Connections has developed and maintained a solid IT infrastructure for the Town, is applying sound IT practices and systems, appropriate redundancy and security, and all at a very competitive rate.



HACIENDA HOME/MADE – CAFÉ AND BAKERY



Moragans are enjoying breakfast and lunch at Hacienda home/made, the newest café and bakery in Town. The freshest, locally-sourced ingredients provide a delicious farm-to-table experience in the tranquil Hacienda de las Flores setting. For those who have yet to visit, please stop by Monday through Thursday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and Fridays, 8:00 am to 11:30 am. For parties larger than five, please call 925-286-9529 to make a reservation.



FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT COMING SOON

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 15, to join the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee, (MYIC) at the Moraga Commons Park for a free showing of *How to Train Your Dragon!* Bring friends, enter the raffle, and enjoy refreshments sold by the MYIC. All proceeds help fund future projects and events benefiting the youth of Moraga. Movie begins at approximately 8:40 pm.



MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

The Town offices, located at 329 Rheem Boulevard and the Hacienda de las Flores, will be closed Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Day holiday, reopening on Tuesday, May 28, 2013. Please remember to thank a veteran.



TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES EMPLOYEE AGREEMENTS

Town Council members present at the May 22 meeting unanimously approved five employee agreements that create a long-term sustainable and balanced budget. Council expressed their appreciation of staff and the agreements that reflect a number of key components included (but not required) in the State's new Pension Reform Act. All employees will pay the full employee share of their pension costs, pay approximately 20% of the medical premium costs on two of three health plan options and agreed to cover future plan increases in excess of 12%. In exchange, the Council approved a 2% pay increase to all employees as of July 1, 2013 and a 1% salary increase in July 2014. Staff ranked the new 9/80 work schedule (working 80 hours in 9 days instead 10) as the most important (but least expensive) new benefit. Increased Public Counter hours will be from 9:00 am to 12 noon and 1:00 to 5:00 pm daily, except on alternate Fridays when the offices will be closed.



MORAGA POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE NEWS

The Moraga Police Department (MPD) has been spotlighted favorably in two recent new items; first on May 10 in a front page CC Times article about soaring property crime rates, and on May 18 in a KPIX Channel 5 television report. The CC Times article listed 39 Bay Area cities with their 2011-2012 crime rates in Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft. Only three cities had a decrease in each of the categories and of those three, Moraga had the greatest overall percentage decrease. In the KPIX story, Moraga was reported as issuing the most speeding citations per capita in the Bay Area with video showing MPD officers working radar enforcement and making traffic stops. Both items illustrate that MPD and Moragans are working together to make our community safe.



COUNCIL RECOGNIZES FRANK SPERLING

At the May 22 Town Council meeting, Frank Sperling was recognized by the Council for his generous volunteerism and service to the Town. Frank first served on the Moraga Planning Commission from 1990 to 1994, and later served on the Town Council from 1994 to 1998, including a year as Mayor in 1998. He also volunteered for the Town in many other capacities, including service on the board of the Moraga Education Foundation and the Moraga Historical Society. Frank was instrumental in the creation of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) in 1997 and has served on its board since 2006. As Frank prepares to leave Moraga, the Town Council wanted to show their profound gratitude for Frank's many years of dedicated service to the public interests of the Town.



PAVILION RENOVATION PASSES FINAL INSPECTION

The Hacienda Foundation of Moraga and the Town have partnered once again to complete the most recent capital improvement project at the Hacienda de las Flores. The Pavilion was renovated with two new restrooms (one ADA compliant); new interior paint; refurbished ballroom chandelier; and new period wall sconces and improved lighting. Thank you to the Hacienda Foundation and the Town's Engineering Department for this accomplishment, improving the Pavilion's marketability and enhancing the beauty of the entire facility.



TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTS UPDATED FEE SCHEDULE

On May 22, the Town Council held a Public Hearing to update the Town's Master Fee Schedule. Fees are reviewed annually to ensure that they are appropriate and reflect the estimated reasonable cost of providing a service or use of a facility for which a fee is charged. Fees only apply to services provided for specific individuals or parties, as opposed to general services provided for the general public. The Town Council adopted a resolution establishing an updated Master Fee Schedule which becomes effective on July 22, 2013.



COUNCIL HONORS CAMPOLINDO DECATHLON TEAM

On May 22, the Town Council honored members of the Campolindo High School Academic Decathlon Team. Excellence in academics was highlighted as the auditorium was filled with students, parents, and school administrators. The Academic Decathlon team won 1st place at the Contra Costa County competition, the California State Championship and the Nationals in the medium-sized school division, collecting 31 individual medals in all ten of the subjects. The team was congratulated for their dedication and outstanding academic achievements.



LOCAL SALES TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

The new Local Sales Tax Oversight Committee will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, May 29, 2013 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at the Hacienda de las Flores, Mosaic Room (2100 Donald Drive). The agenda will include a staff presentation of Measure K's background, review of the Town Council adopted charter of the committee, and a progress report on the Town's street pavement management program. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.



PLANNING COMMISSION – MONDAY, JUNE 3

At its regular meeting on Monday, June 3, the Planning Commission will consider a proposed variance for an addition that encroaches into the setback at 271 Donald Drive. They will also discuss the draft amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, the Historic Preservation Ordinance and Capital Improvement Projects and their conformance to the General Plan. The meeting will be held at the Moraga Library at 7:00 pm and the public is invited to attend.



DESIGN REVIEW BOARD – MONDAY, JUNE 10

At its regular meeting on Monday, June 10, the Design Review Board will consider a proposed second-story addition to a home at 4 Peralta Court. The meeting will be held at the Moraga Library at 7:00 pm and the public is invited to attend.



HELP SPREAD THE TOWN KNOWLEDGE

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