



ABOUT TOWN ▪ OCTOBER 10, 2013 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



SECOND OF THREE LEADERSHIP SERIES - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

Tonight's October 10 event follows an inspirational Leadership Seminar on September 26. The seminar, hosted by the Saint Mary's College Leadership Center, Town of Moraga, and Moraga Citizens Network, helped attendees discover what 'compels' them to do what they do and how they can better engage others to further their vision. Tonight's seminar will continue assisting attendees in cultivating a vision and connecting the dots with synergistic partners. To learn and be inspired, join community members at the Serbian Cultural Center, 1700 School Street, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.



SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE INAUGURAL CELEBRATION - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

The Board of Trustees and the De La Salle Christian Brothers of Saint Mary's College are hosting an inaugural celebration and installation ceremony for its 29th President, James Donahue. The full day of activities will begin at 10:30 am with an Inaugural Mass followed by lunch on the De La Salle Quad. The Presidential Inauguration Ceremony will begin at 3:00 pm on the Chapel Lawn. The events are free and the community is invited to attend. Visit stmarys-ca.edu for more information.



OKTOBERFEST – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

Join the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga at the Hacienda de las Flores on Sunday, October 13, from 2:00 to 6:00 pm for the 5th Annual Oktoberfest. Featuring a Bavarian Oompah-style band, freshly grilled brats, Beck's Oktoberfest and Spaten lager on tap, root beer floats, pumpkin patch and painting for the kids, hot apple strudel a la mode, pretzels and all kinds of fun! New this year is the German Car Show featuring Porsches from the Diablo Regional Porsche Club. Free shuttle throughout the event from 5A Rent-A-Space, across from the Rheem Valley Shopping Center. Admission \$5, children 12 and under free. Visit haciendafoundation.org for more information.



LAGUNA CREEK REPAIR NEARING COMPLETION

After a delay in July due to the discovery and relocation of the California red-legged frog within the work area, construction to repair flood damage along Laguna Creek at the Hacienda de las Flores is nearly complete. In the next few weeks, the contractor will complete the finish grading, install erosion protection, re-plant the creek banks downstream of the 96-inch culvert, and restore the staging areas and site access to pre-project conditions. Construction completion is anticipated in mid-October.



CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL (CAIFF) SNEAK PEEK

The CAIFF is offering two sneak peeks to preview a few of the 49 films that will be shown during the November 7 to 10 festival. For the full schedule, film descriptions, trailers and to purchase tickets, visit caiff.org. Sneak peeks will be previewed on Tuesday, October 15, at 7:00 pm, at The New Rheem Theatre, or Wednesday, October 23, at 2:00 pm, at the Moraga Library. Admission is free.



TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSES MORAGA ROAD MARQUEE REPLACEMENT

After discussing options and hearing public support to replace the existing Moraga Road marquee with a new electronic, remote-controlled version, the Town Council directed staff to refine the design. A new electronic marquee will help to further educate residents about important local government matters, enhance the Town's ability to quickly respond with local emergency notifications, and continue to benefit many local organizations. Town Council further encouraged staff to seek financial partners to assist in funding this improvement. Additional marquees throughout Town were also discussed for a future phase.



YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT

At its next meeting, the Town Council will review and discuss the past fiscal year's unaudited financials. To date, sales tax revenue from the 1% Measure K Local Sales Tax totaled \$333,008 between April 1 and June 30th, or 33% more than budgeted. All of these new revenues have been set aside in Fund 711 – *Street Pavement Management Program* for pavement repair. In addition to increasing revenue, Town departments continue to limit expenses as much as possible, further improving the year-end financials. At the close of the fiscal year, a budget surplus of \$386,475 is estimated, which represents over 58% reserve of the Town's operating expenses for the year. Current Council policies will divert half of these funds into other accounts, by Council direction.



PG&E WORK ON CYPRESS POINT WAY

PG&E is replacing the main and service gas lines along Cypress Point Way. This work was originally coordinated with the 2013 pavement repair project; however, PG&E notified the Town of a delay that resulted in the Town omitting microsurfacing on St. Andrews Drive from Cypress Point Way to Moraga Way to prevent PG&E from trenching into what would have been the Town's newly resurfaced street. Instead PG&E will resurface the remaining portion of St. Andrews Drive at their own expense. The tentative work schedule is from October 7 to November 15.



LIVABLE MORAGA ROAD: WALKING TOUR REPORT AND SURVEY INVITATION



Last Saturday, October 5, about 30 Moraga citizens joined the Livable Moraga Road project team on a walking tour of Moraga Road. Over the four stops along the 1.5 mile route from Rheem Boulevard to St. Mary's Road, participants shared their observations, ideas and thoughts about Moraga Road today and how it can be improved for tomorrow. Thank you for a great turnout and some valuable input, which will be used and reported at the next public meeting. There are still a number of ways to participate, with links available on the project webpage at moraga.ca.us/livablemoragaroad. Please take a few minutes to fill out a ten-question [online survey](#), or use the Town's [interactive mapping tool](#) to "pin" your comments or photos about Moraga Road. And save the date for the next public workshop, on Tuesday, October 29. At the meeting, participants will discuss the vision for Moraga Road, and share ideas about the corridor's unique opportunities and challenges. Questions or comments: please contact Ellen Clark, Senior Planner at (925) 888-7041 or eclark@moraga.ca.us.



COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY

The Town offices, 329 Rheem Boulevard, and the Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive, will be closed Monday, October 14 for the Columbus Day holiday, reopening on Tuesday, October 15, 2013.



DESIGN REVIEW BOARD – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

On Tuesday, October 15, the DRB will hold a Special Meeting to consider signage and outdoor seating for the home/made kitchen (337 Rheem Boulevard); a new single-family home at 5 Paseo Linares; and signage for Iron Kitchen (581 Moraga Road). The meeting will be held in the Moraga Library and will start at 7:00 pm.



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN – MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

On Monday, October 21, the Climate Action Plan Task Force will hold its final meeting in the Moraga Library at 4:30 pm. The Task Force has been identifying options for the Town of Moraga to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. The public is invited to attend.



PLANNING COMMISSION – MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

On Monday, October 21, the Planning Commission will hold a regular meeting and consider the Saint Mary's College Parking Management Plan. The public is invited to attend the meeting at the Moraga Library at 7:00 pm.



TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TSAC) – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

On Tuesday, October 22, TSAC will meet to review the Saint Mary's College Special Event Traffic and Parking Plan and receive an update on the Livable Moraga Road Project and appoint a member to the Town Advisory Committee (TAC) for the project. The public is invited to attend the meeting in La Sala at the Hacienda de las Flores from 5:00 to 6:30 pm.



JOINT TOWN COUNCIL & MORAGA SCHOOL DISTRICT (MSD) - OCTOBER 22

The Town Council and MSD have agendaized two items for their upcoming joint meeting planned for Tuesday, October 22. The first is to discuss the financial and mutually beneficial partnership between the Town and MSD and how the district's financial situation may impact the community indirectly. The second item is to consider forming an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss potential short and long-term improvements to the sports fields in partnership between the schools and Town. The public is invited to attend the meeting at the Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Library at 7:00 pm.



TOWN COUNCIL – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 23. The final agenda will be available [online](#) on Friday, October 18. The public is invited to attend the meeting at the Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium at 7:00 pm.



OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

On Wednesday, October 30, the Local Sales Tax Oversight Committee will meet to review the Revenue and Expense Report for Measure K Local Sales Tax and the 2013 Pavement Repair Project Improvements. The public is invited to attend the meeting in the Mosaic Room at the Hacienda de las Flores from 4:30 to 6:00 pm.



LAMORINDA DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING - A RIM FIRE EXPERIENCE



On Thursday, October 17, all three Lamorinda municipalities and Saint Mary's College will conduct an Emergency Response exercise as part of the 2013 Great ShakeOut program. The exercise will be facilitated by the Moraga-Orinda Fire Department (MOFD) and will challenge each agency's ability to respond to a simulated disaster utilizing the Incident Command System (ICS), a nation-wide system. In early September, Dennis Rein, MOFD's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, invited Chief Priebe to join him at the Rim Fire Incident Command (IC), near Groveland, CA, for a personal view of how a major disaster response is managed. Dennis is assigned to a Disaster Response Team and was summoned to the Rim Fire to serve as a Liaison Officer for this major fire that, at one point, required 5,000 firefighters, including personnel from MOFD and many other Bay Area agencies. The Rim Fire, currently winding down, has burned approximately 402 square miles of forest at a cost of over \$125 million.

Chief Priebe arrived at the IC and was amazed to see smoldering and burning trees right up to the edge of the roadway into the IC, with thick smoke enveloping the entire area. The smoke and warm weather made it difficult to breathe, with red eyes and coughing the norm for most at the IC. The scale and magnitude of the equipment and personnel assigned to the fire and the speed with which everything needs to be accomplished creates significant management challenges. The photo shows the Chief atop a fire lookout tower at a heliport base inside Yosemite National Park and illustrates one portion of the fire and its rapid movement.

The Chief met IC personnel from all over the United States, all trained to perform tasks critical to the management of disasters and saw the ICS work efficiently, and returned to Moraga with new perspective. The most impressive thing observed was the importance and benefit of building relationships. The Chief viewed Dennis work on several major issues dealing with important stakeholders, and saw first-hand how the relationships he had built and the respect he had earned facilitated quick and fair resolutions.

The ShakeOut exercises next week provide an opportunity to reinforce ICS training, and all area residents should know and take comfort in the fact that all of the agencies have great collaborative work histories, great respect for each other, and personal relationships that will only enhance the ability to serve our communities when disaster strikes. Visit shakeout.org for more information on personal disaster preparedness.



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