



ABOUT TOWN ▪ AUGUST 28, 2014 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



THANK YOU FOR A GREAT SUMMER!



Photo Credit: Andy Scheck

Thank you to all who participated in the Town's camps, activities, and events this summer. We had a great time and hope you did too! New this summer, Camp Hacienda enjoyed a visit from the Oakland Zoo Mobile, field trips to the Moraga Library's Terrific Tuesdays program, and new weekly themes. Other camp highlights were Bricks 4 Kidz Lego camps, Kindercool, Attack Algebra, Moraga Sports Camp, and various Skyhawks sports camps. The inaugural Family Camp Out was a huge hit with over 120 people camping out with their families at Rancho Laguna Park. The Moraga Park Foundation orchestrated another successful free summer concert series at the Commons Park and thanks to all those who donated and helped the Town achieve the July 4th fireworks fundraising goal. We could not have had the success and fun we did this summer without the community's support, thank you!



CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL – SEPTEMBER 11 TO 14

Come to *Opening Night* of the 17th Annual California Independent Film Festival (CAIFF) on Thursday, September 11, at The New Rheim Theatre or *Closing Night Reception* on Sunday, September 14, at the Orinda Theatre, or any event in between, including events at San Francisco's Castro Theatre. The CAIFF highlights emerging filmmakers, featuring films and shorts throughout the Festival, and is becoming one of the most successful and fastest growing festivals in California. This star-studded event provides residents and visitors an opportunity to see world-class films and meet and hear from filmmakers from around the world. Stay current on the events by visiting caiff.org.



SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE WELCOMES BACK STUDENTS

Saint Mary's College will kick off the 2014-15 academic year with its annual Weekend of Welcome (WoW) for new students. Students will begin moving in on Thursday, August 28, followed by a weekend of activities including: a Welcome Mass, resource fair, carnival, convocation, farewell barbecue for families, a day of volunteer community service, and the annual messy, but fun and photogenic, tradition where freshmen paint the large SMC letters on the hill overlooking the campus. Please join the Town in welcoming the new students to the community.



MORAGA CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY SEPTEMBER 27 AND OCTOBER 18

TOAST TO MORAGA

Join the community Saturday, September 27, for a picnic-style dinner to celebrate the Town of Moraga's 40th anniversary! Celebrate by sharing a meal with friends, family and neighbors. Tables will be placed in the Moraga Commons Park under a canopy of lights, with a toast to the wonderful community of Moraga at 6:30 pm! Bring a potluck from home or pre-order food from a local restaurant. Each table seats six and comes with a bottle of sparkling juice for \$35. [Pre-registration](#) required. Enter the [Toast Contest](#) and participate in the Table Decorating Contest!

REMEMBERING 40 YEARS

On Saturday, October 18, the Moraga Historical Society, the Town of Moraga and Saint Mary's College will be "Remembering 40 Years." The celebration is in honor of 40 years since Moraga's incorporation and will take place at Saint Mary's College Soda Center. Cocktails and social hour will begin at 6:00 pm, followed by dinner at 7:00 pm. Featured speakers will represent each decade of incorporation. For more information contact Susan Sperry at 925-376-3053.



PLANNING COMMISSION AND DESIGN REVIEW BOARD VACANCIES

If you want to make a difference in how the Town of Moraga grows and looks, then now is the time to volunteer to serve on the Planning Commission or Design Review Board (DRB). The Planning Commission and DRB each have a vacant seat in need of a willing, committed volunteer. The Commission and DRB each meet one to two times per month and require additional time to prepare for meetings. This is an excellent way to give back to the community, and to make sure the community develops in a way that meets the Town's overall vision. Submit an application, questionnaire, a letter of interest and resumé to the Town Clerk's Office, 329 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga. Visit the [Town's](#) website for more information.



BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

With Moraga schools back in session, the Moraga Police Department (MPD) asks all drivers to respect the 25 MPH speed limit in school zones, remember to stop for school buses when their red lights and stop signs are activated, and pay close attention to vehicular traffic and pedestrians in the areas around schools. Parents and children walking to school should be extra cautious. Please remember you are required to walk facing oncoming traffic if you must walk in the roadway, and never step into the roadway from between parked cars until it is absolutely clear. If you have to walk with a child in the roadway, please make sure the child is walking closest to the curb and is firmly in your grasp. If everyone pays attention and is aware of their responsibilities, the overall safety in our Town will be greatly enhanced.



2014 PAVEMENT REPAIR PROJECT UPDATE

The pavement project is continuing with base repairs, grinding, and concrete demolition and replacement in preparation for pavement overlays. For more information, the Town offers the following: 1) the [Town website](#) for a broad three-week look ahead; 2) the [Facebook](#) page for a daily update of scheduled work; and 3) the [Twitter](#) account for real time information and access to the construction manager. The Project Construction Manager, Mary Erchul, is also available for any construction related questions at merchul@ghirardelliassoc.com or (949) 528-5731.



PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATES

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE APPEAL AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE HEARINGS POSTPONED

The Town Council's scheduled August 27 hearing to consider Saint Mary's College appeal regarding their intramural field lights has been postponed at the request of the project applicant. Additionally, the Historic Preservation Ordinance was postponed until 2015.

VIA MORAGA APPEAL

At its September 10 meeting, the Town Council will consider an appeal of the Planning Commission's July 21 approval of a Conceptual Development Plan for the Via Moraga project, an 18-lot single family residential subdivision at 489 Moraga Road, the former bowling alley site. Two appeals were filed, one from the project applicant, Signature Homes, regarding the Planning Commission's direction for a single driveway, and the other from a Councilmember regarding the design on the project's frontage on Moraga Road. The Town Council will consider the appeal and the approval of the entire project.

HOUSING ELEMENT STUDY SESSION

The Town of Moraga is updating its Housing Element as required by State Law. The Draft 2015-2023 Moraga Housing Element Update identifies and analyzes existing and projected housing needs within Moraga. The Town Council will review and comment on the Draft Housing Element at its September 10 meeting and consider authorizing Staff to submit the plan to the State for its review. At their August 27 meeting, the Town Council approved zoning text amendments for transitional housing, supportive housing, emergency shelters, reasonable accommodations, and density bonuses which will qualify the Town for streamlined review of the Draft Housing Element by the State.



TOWN OFFICE CLOSURE SCHEDULE

The Town offices will be closed Friday, August 29, due to the 9/80 work schedule and Monday, September 1, in observance of Labor Day, reopening on Tuesday, September 2, 2014.



MEET WITH SENATOR DESAULNIER – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Senator Mark DeSaulnier will be available on Saturday, September 6, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Orinda Library. Local residents may speak with him about any suggestions or concerns they may have with a State agency or State legislation. For more information, call 925-942-6082.



MORAGA LIBRARY BOOK SALE – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

The Friends of the Moraga Library will have a sale of donated books on Saturday, September 13, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The prices are unbeatable, from \$1.00 to \$5.00 in all categories. All books have been donated by local residents and all funds go to support the Moraga Library.



COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM

The three residents running for two open Town Council seats are: Ken Chew, Dave Trotter and Teresa Onoda. All Moragans are encouraged to meet the candidates and learn about Town issues by attending the Moraga Citizens Network ([MCN](#)) "Candidates' Night" on Wednesday, October 1, at 7:30 pm at the Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School Street, Moraga.



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Monday, September 1 – [Planning Commission](#), CANCELLED
Monday, September 8, 6:00 pm – [Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee](#), Hacienda, Mosaic Room
Monday, September 8, – [Design Review Board](#), CANCELLED
Wednesday, September 10, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), JM Auditorium
Tuesday, September 16, 7:00 pm – [Park and Recreation Commission](#), Hacienda, Mosaic Room
Wednesday, September 17, 7:00 pm – [Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee](#), Focus Group,
Hacienda, Mosaic Room
Thursday, September 18, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), Moraga Library
All meetings are open to the public. Visit the [Town's](#) website for updated agendas and packets.



HELP SHARE THE TOWN NEWS

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