



## ABOUT TOWN ▪ DECEMBER 12, 2014

### UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF

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#### NEW MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR ELECTED

At the Town Council reorganization meeting on December 10, re-elected Councilmember Dave Trotter and newly-elected Councilmember Teresa Onoda were sworn in by the Town Clerk following the certification of the election votes. Outgoing Mayor Ken Chew was recognized and thanked by fellow Councilmembers past and present, the Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD), Saint Mary's College, and State and County officials. The first item of business of the newly-seated Council was to elect the Mayor and Vice Mayor positions for 2015. The Council voted in Roger Wykle as Mayor and Mike Metcalf as Vice Mayor for the year.



#### MORAGA STORM UPDATE

The Town was fortunate the storm passed through with minor impact on residents and Town operations. Most required responses were wind-related resulting in trees and branches falling on roadways. There were a few water-related responses caused by drainage issues. Most were resolved immediately with others to be dealt with in the future. The Town was able to provide sandbags for residents' use during the storm. Many took advantage of this opportunity and the Town has a sufficient supply left to address future storm needs. The Town thanks MOFD and volunteers for providing the location behind Station 41 for sandbag supplies.



#### SHOP MORAGA FIRST FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Local holiday shopping directly helps Moraga residents in two very important ways. First, local businesses thrive as did those that took advantage of national advertising by the Moraga Chamber's "Small Business Saturday" after Thanksgiving. Secondly, dollars spent in Moraga, or online, benefit Moraga directly by generating critical sales tax revenue to repair local roads. So, avoid driving and crowds, and visit Moraga's diverse array of shops, restaurants and businesses this holiday season, or if you cannot find what you need in Moraga, stay home and shop online. Tax dollars spent in Moraga stay in Moraga!



#### HOLIDAY SAFETY

This holiday season, the Moraga Police Department (MPD) is reminding everyone to be vigilant in protecting themselves and their property. Thefts commonly occur during this time of year as thieves prey on easy targets, and with the recent passage of Proposition 47, the crimes carry lesser punishment, making the risk/reward more attractive for thieves. MPD has already received reports of mail and identity theft, so please try to arrange for mail and packages to be brought in as soon as possible. Track expected deliveries and try to personally accept them when delivered. If away, ask a neighbor to take delivery for you. Keep all doors and windows closed and locked; keep exterior lights on; use an alarm system if available; drive with extra caution; be aware of your surroundings at all times; park in well-lit areas; shop with a partner if possible; if carrying bags or purses, secure them tightly; and do not walk or drive while looking at your smart phone. MPD wants everyone to be safe and enjoy this special time of the year.



## REGISTER FOR WINTER/SPRING RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Looking to try something new in 2015? Having fun and learning locally is a great New Year's resolution. The Moraga Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of classes and activities for everyone! Browse the Activity Guide or sign up at [moragarec.com](http://moragarec.com). Winter/Spring 2015 offers Polkadots Dance, Tot Sports, Cooking with Kids, Mac-Senior Basics, Fit An'trim-Balanced & Strong, and more!



## RECRUITMENT FOR TOWN BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

Moraga depends on volunteers to serve on all of its Boards, Committees, and Commissions. Specifics on anticipated openings are available on the Town's [website](http://www.moraga.org). Please submit your application, a letter of interest and resumé to the Town Clerk's Office, 329 Rheem Boulevard, by 5:00 pm on Friday, January 23, 2015. There will be openings on the Audit and Finance Committee, Design Review Board, Local Sales Tax Oversight Committee, Park and Recreation Commission and Planning Commission.



## LAMORINDA "CERT" CLASS

Registration is now open for the next series of Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes to be held at the Lafayette Community Center, 500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette. Classes begin January 13, 2015, from 6:30 until 9:30 pm every Tuesday night, through February 24. The six-week course teaches basic emergency preparedness and first-aid skills. Should a major disaster occur, graduates will be ready to help in their neighborhoods until first responders arrive. For more information and registration, visit [Lamorinda CERT](http://www.lamorinda.org).



## BUY-A-BULB FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who attended the December 4 lighting of the Holiday Tree! The Buy-a-Bulb fundraiser continues through the holiday season and contributions in any amount are appreciated. The Town's goal is to raise \$5,000 to cover the cost of lighting the holiday tree. To-date only \$75 has been received. To continue this holiday tradition, please [donate online](http://www.moraga.org) or send checks to the Town of Moraga, Attn: Buy-a-Bulb, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556. Thanks to all!



## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

### **PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE**

The Planning Commission meeting of December 15 has been cancelled. At the next meeting on January 5, 2015, the Planning Commission will consider a recommendation to the Town Council for adoption of the 2014-2023 Housing Element Update, and review and comment on the Hillside and Ridgeline Steering Committee recommendation on the scope of the next phase of the Hillside project, in anticipation of the Town Council's consideration of this item later in January.

### **RANCHO LAGUNA II PROJECT APPEAL**

On January 14, the Town Council, at the request of Mayor Wykle, will consider the Design Review Board approval of the Rancho Laguna II project, located on property northeast of the Rheem Boulevard and Moraga Road intersection. The design review addresses project architecture and landscaping, single-family home designs, and a proposed trailhead on Fay Hill Road. A General Development Plan and Tentative Map were approved by the Planning Commission on April 21, 2014, and continue to allow for a maximum of 26 single-family homes within the 178-acre property.

### **MORAGA TOWN CENTER HOMES PROJECT APPEAL**

An appeal of the Planning Commission approval of the Conceptual Development Plan (CDP) for the Moraga Town Center Homes project was filed on December 10. The CDP approved a 36 unit project including townhome and two-story "cottage" units on a vacant property adjacent to MOFD Station

41 on Moraga Way. The appeal addresses issues including General Plan and Zoning consistency, traffic, parking and scenic corridor impacts. The Council will consider the appeal at a hearing in January. For more information, contact Project Planner, Ella Samonsky at [esamonsky@moraga.ca.us](mailto:esamonsky@moraga.ca.us).



## HACIENDA HOLIDAY GIFT FAIR – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

Join the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga for a [Holiday Gift Fair](#) at the Hacienda de las Flores, Saturday, December 13, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. From featured works of Lamorinda artisans, find the perfect gift for everyone on your holiday list: handmade jewelry, gourmet olive oils and herbs, local honey, floral arrangements, seasonal holiday décor, organic beauty products, children’s gifts, and more. A percentage of all proceeds will be donated to the [Hacienda Foundation](#).



## MORAGA LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEETING – TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Conceptual Plans have been developed to renovate the Moraga Library public restrooms. The restrooms have not been updated since original construction and have become a maintenance challenge. Community groups and/or interested individuals are encouraged to attend a meeting on Tuesday, January 13, at 7:00 pm in the Library Community Room. Town staff and the project architect will provide a short presentation and be available for discussion. Like many other projects completed in Town, a mix of public funds and private donations can help make this project a reality. Please attend this meeting and consider helping to improve this community asset.



## COUNCIL GOAL SETTING WORKSHOP – THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

SAVE THE DATE - The Moraga Town Council will develop the community’s goals and priorities for 2015 under the leadership of Mayor Roger Wykle on Thursday, January 22, at 6:00 pm, at the Hacienda de las Flores. The Goal Setting Workshop is an opportunity to discuss the Town’s vision and set priorities for 2015. Attend, share, and help the Council determine an action plan for 2015.



## HOLIDAY CLOSURE OF TOWN OFFICES

The Town offices will be closed Friday, December 19, through Friday, January 2, for the winter holidays, reopening on Monday, January 5, 2015. Happy Holidays to all!



## UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

~~Monday, December 15, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), CANCELLED~~  
Tuesday, December 16, 6:30 pm – [Park and Recreation Commission](#), Hacienda de las Flores  
~~Monday, December 22, 7:00 pm – [Design Review Board](#), CANCELLED~~  
~~Wednesday, December 24, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#) – CANCELLED~~  
Monday, January 5, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), Moraga Library  
Thursday, January 8, 7:00 pm – [Moraga Youth Involvement Committee](#), Hacienda de las Flores  
Monday, January 12, 7:00 pm – [Design Review Board](#), Moraga Library  
Tuesday, January 13, 5:30 pm – [Audit and Finance Committee](#), Hacienda de las Flores  
Tuesday, January 13, 7:00 pm – [Moraga Library Community Meeting](#), Moraga Library (see article above)  
Wednesday, January 14, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), JM Auditorium  
Thursday, January 22, 6:00 pm - [Town Council Goal Setting Workshop](#), Hacienda de las Flores

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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