



## ABOUT TOWN ▪ MAY 15, 2015 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



### NEW TRACTOR IN TOWN



After 33 years of use from an old blue Model 1700 Ford Tractor, the Town recently purchased a new 2015 Kubota tractor (pictured with the Parks/Public Works staff – Kyle Salvin, Steve Reichhold, Ruben Ochoa and Jose Limon). Unlike the old tractor, the Kubota has a front bucket allowing easier removal of debris piles. It is also street legal, so wave hello if you see it driving on local roads.



### COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE – SATURDAY, MAY 16

Come out this Saturday, May 16, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm\* for the Moraga Community Garage Sale. There are 30 registered garage sales taking place throughout Town. Maps with garage sale listings are available [online](#). \*Individual hours may vary.



### TOWN STAFF BUSY PREPARING BUDGET FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR

It's that time of year when Town staff turns its attention to developing the budget for the next fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. The budget includes the Operating Budget, Capital Improvement Program and Five-Year Financial Plan. The FY 2015/16 Proposed Budget will be discussed at the Town Council meeting on May 27.



### COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM UPDATE

Hurry up and wait? Yes, sometimes, due to unusually lengthy manufacturing lead times and busy contractors, public bidding requirements for all project components, and even slight plan revisions needing County permit review. The process to bid project components separately has been a cost-effective, but time-consuming, strategy thus far. Upcoming exterior work will include: completion of the brick pavers; placement of the bronze Town seal in the center of the plaza; installation of a stucco fence to match the building exterior; concrete pouring; and installation of lighting fixtures and landscaping, after necessary electrical work is done. While the exterior work has appeared to come in spurts, the interior framing is now complete and ready for installation of electrical and data. The project should start looking more complete toward the end of summer.



### MULHOLLAND OPEN SPACE ERADICATES INVASIVE SPECIES

Through an eight-year partnership with the Town of Moraga and the Contra Costa County Agriculture Department, County Agricultural staff treated the star thistle on Mulholland Ridge this week. Spraying the thistle was done in a localized fashion by treating each thistle plant individually at its root. This type of localized treatment is recommended by local agencies such as EBMUD, EPRBD, respected environmental experts and follows the Town's Integrated Pest Management Policy.



## WELCOME OFFICER ANTHONY CRAIG



Anthony Craig is Moraga's newest Police Officer. He was hired on February 23, recently completed field training and is currently on patrol. Anthony was raised in Pinole and began his law enforcement career as a Police Explorer for the Hercules Police Department while still a student at Pinole Valley High School. Anthony was a Police Officer with both Hercules and Clearlake Police Departments before coming to Moraga. The public is invited to welcome Anthony to Moraga at a reception and swearing-in ceremony on Thursday, May 21, at 4:30 pm at the Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga.



## TOWN CLERK MARTY MCINTURF RECEIVES RECOGNITION

Many thanks to the Moraga Rotary and the Moraga Chamber of Commerce for recognizing Marty McInturf as the April Employee of the Month. Marty has worked tirelessly as the Town Clerk for the past six years, serves as the liaison between Town government and the public, records all activities and decisions of the Town Council, has produced over 120 About Town newsletters, and keeps the citizens of Moraga well informed on the latest Town information. Marty's dedication and commitment to her duties are greatly appreciated by residents and all Town employees.



## RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON MAY 13

### ***MORAGA TOWN CENTER HOMES PROJECT (CITY VENTURES APPEAL)***

At a continued public hearing, the Town Council denied an appeal of the Planning Commission decision, and approved, by a 4-1 vote, the Conceptual Development Plan (CDP) for the 36-unit project on Moraga Way. The approved CDP incorporates a number of adjustments to the site plan and addresses concerns about impacts to the scenic corridor and neighborhood compatibility, including further changes to building separations as directed by Council. The CDP is the first step of the development process, which will include more detailed project design review. For more information contact project planner [Ella Samonsky](#).

### ***MOSO ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT (ZTA) TO ALLOW "FOR PROFIT" RECREATIONAL USES***

Town Council gave direction to staff to prepare a focused ZTA to allow very limited categories of for-profit recreational uses to be approved with a Conditional Use Permit in Moraga Open Space Ordinance areas. The request was made in conjunction with a proposal for re-use of the former Moraga Tennis and Swim Club on Larch Avenue by Adventure Day Camp. Staff will bring the item forward for Planning Commission consideration at a future public hearing. For more information, contact project planner [Brian Horn](#).

### ***COUNCIL RECEIVES FY 2014/15 THIRD QUARTER BUDGET-TO-ACTUALS REPORT***

Both revenues and expenditures for FY 2014/15 are on target with budgeted expectations through three quarters of the year. Property tax receipts are projected at about 6% above last year's receipts, an indication that Moraga has recovered from the economic recession. Expenditures are lower than expected mostly due to Police Officer vacancies. A year-end surplus is expected.



## UPCOMING SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – MAY 20

On Wednesday, May 20, the Town Council will hold a special meeting to consider the continued Saint Mary's College appeal (intramural field hours of operation); the contract with Gould Evans to enhance and preserve the Hacienda de las Flores; the agreement with SummerHill Homes for cost sharing and fee waivers in conjunction with the lower Rheem Boulevard Stabilization Project; and the construction contract for the Commons Park Pathway Improvement Project. The meeting will be held at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School auditorium at 7:00 pm.



## SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE (SMC) COMMENCEMENT – MAY 22 TO 24

The annual SMC commencement weekend begins on Friday, May 22, with a Commencement Mass in the McKeon Pavilion. The undergraduate commencement will be held on Saturday, May 23, and the Graduate and Professionals programs will hold their commencement on Sunday, May 24. Visit [SMC Commencement](#) for a full list of times and commencement-related activities. SMC has ample parking and is encouraging all visitors to park on campus to avoid impacting the local neighbors. For assistance on the day of the events, please contact SMC Public Safety, 925-631-4282.



## HACIENDA WINE SOCIAL AND ART EXHIBIT – THURSDAY, MAY 28

The Hacienda Foundation of Moraga presents the 2015 Hacienda Wine Social, Art Exhibit and Sale on Thursday, May 28, 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive. Captain Vineyards will pour their wines, and local artists affiliated with Marianne Brown will exhibit their artworks. Entry is free and wine is \$8 per glass. Visit [haciendafoundation.org](http://haciendafoundation.org) for additional information. Wine proceeds go towards renovation and restoration of the Hacienda de las Flores.



## FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT – FRIDAY, MAY 29



EVERYTHING IS AWESOME with Emmet, Wyldstyle, Batman, and the rest of *The Lego Movie* gang! The Moraga Youth Involvement Committee (MYIC) is hosting a free outdoor screening of *The Lego Movie* at the Moraga Commons Park, Friday, May 29. Bring friends and family, 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, depending on darkness. The Moraga Commons Park is located at the intersection of Moraga Road and St. Mary's Road.



## NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN TOWN

### **PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE MASTER PLAN (PBMP) COMMITTEE**

Four volunteers are needed to serve on the PBMP Citizens Advisory Committee. All four should have an interest in making Moraga a walk- and bike-friendly community. To learn more about the PBMP Update and Wayfinding Plan, visit [Walk Bike Moraga](#) or email [Coleman Frick](#).

### **MORAGA ALTERNATE LIBRARY COMMISSIONER**

The Moraga Alternate Library Commissioner serves as the back-up for the Library Commissioner, the Town's representative on the County Library Commission, developing and recommending proposals to the County Board of Supervisors and County Librarian.

### **CONTRA COSTA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (CCTA) COMMITTEE**

The CCTA Citizens Advisory Committee provides citizen perspective and involvement in the CCTA's \$3 billion voter-approved Transportation Expenditure Plan. The volunteer should have an interest in transportation planning, growth and congestion, mobility and accessibility, and promoting a healthy environment and strong economy.

### **CONTRA COSTA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT (CCMVCD) BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The CCMVCD Board of Trustees volunteer should have an interest in public health, public policy, wetlands, farming, community education, finance, personnel or land development.

For more information on any of these volunteer opportunities, visit the [Town's](#) website or email the Town Clerk at [mmcinturf@moraga.ca.us](mailto:mmcinturf@moraga.ca.us).



## HILLSIDE AND RIDGELINE PROJECT UPDATE

The Town is continuing work on the Hillside and Ridgeline project, which aims to clarify and improve the Town's hillside and ridgeline development regulations. At its March 11 meeting, the Town Council identified key issues for continued study and authorized additional community outreach for the project. Next steps are to consider options for how to address key issues, with the Steering Committee beginning its review of the options at its next meeting on May 28. For more information on the project, visit [Moraga Hillside project](#) or contact Ellen Clark at 925-888-7041.



## UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

~~Monday, May 18, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), Moraga Library CANCELLED~~

~~Tuesday, May 19, 5:30 pm – [Audit and Finance Committee](#), Hacienda de las Flores CANCELLED~~

Tuesday, May 19, 7:00 pm – [Park and Recreation Commission](#), Hacienda de las Flores

Wednesday, May 20, 7:00 pm – Special [Town Council](#), JM Auditorium

Tuesday, May 26, 7:00 pm – [Design Review Board](#), Moraga Library

Wednesday, May 27, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), JM Auditorium

Thursday, May 28, 7:00 pm – Hillside and Ridgeline Steering Committee, Hacienda de las Flores, La Sala

All meetings are open to the public. Visit the [Town's](#) website for updated agendas and packets.



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