



## MORAGA

See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements  
**Town of Moraga:**  
[www.moraga.ca.us](http://www.moraga.ca.us)  
 Phone: (925) 888-7022  
**Chamber of Commerce:**  
[www.moragachamber.org](http://www.moragachamber.org)  
**Moraga Citizens' Network:**  
[www.moragacitizensnetwork.org](http://www.moragacitizensnetwork.org)



**TERRI BATES WALKER**

**Top 1%**  
 of Contra Costa  
 County Agents in 2021\*

**SELLING HOMES BY PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST**

C. 510.282.4420  
[TerriBatesWalker@gmail.com](mailto:TerriBatesWalker@gmail.com) | [TerriBatesWalker.com](http://TerriBatesWalker.com)  
 CalRE #01330081

**COLDWELL BANKER REALTY**

\*Based on information taken from the MLS as of January 1, 2022. Source data is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. Owned by a subsidiary of Realty Brokerage Group LLC. ©



**Town Council:** Wednesday, April 13, 7 p.m.  
**Planning Commission:** Tuesday, April 5, 7 p.m.,  
**Park and Recreation Commission:**  
 Monday, April 18, 7 p.m.,  
**Moraga School District Board Meetings:**  
 Tuesday, April 12, 6 p.m. [www.moraga.k12.ca.us](http://www.moraga.k12.ca.us).

## Moraga Commons Park to receive updated irrigation system



Photo provided

### Moraga Commons Park to undergo major irrigation project

By Vera Kochan

Another dry winter has created a lot of yellowing lawns within Moraga, and trying to keep Commons Park from suffering the same fate could be a challenge for the town.

In June 2021, council members approved the Commons Park Irrigation Project within the Capital Improvements Program Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22. According to a March 23 staff report by Parks and Recreation Director Breyana Brandt, Public Works Director/Town Engineer Shawn Knapp, and Senior Civil Engineer Bret Swain the project's scope will include "re-designing and installing an improved irrigation system with modern controls to increase efficiency, conserve water,

and decrease maintenance and utility costs. The project was prioritized due to the increasing number of breaks in the existing system and the escalating utility costs associated with the breaks." The approved project was budgeted for \$215,000.

The town hired Gates + Associates, a Walnut Creek-based landscape architecture firm that specializes in urban design and master planning, to provide plans, construction documents, construction cost estimates, and construction landscape architectural support in preparation for the irrigation project. Gates' suggestions included the replacement and relocation of sprinkler heads to maximize irrigation distribution efficiency; the replacement of old and leaking irrigation lateral pipelines; the removal of a

cross-connection between the irrigation system and potable water system; and the extension of stub-out (greywater collection plumbing which dead ends at a cap) for future expansion. Additional suggestions included the possibility of installing a weather station, including cables and conduits, to improve evapotranspiration (a smart controller device that accounts for rainfall based irrigation control).

With a game plan from Gates, the town attracted four viable bids and awarded the contract to Bruno Landscape Management & Construction, Inc. (Atascadero, Calif.) whose base bid was \$172,238 with an additional \$3,795 for the weather station installation. Bruno has recently completed projects for the county of Santa Barbara, the city of Mountain View, and the San Luis Obispo Animal Shelter.

The total construction cost comes to \$176,032 with an added contingency of 10% (\$17,603) equaling approximately \$193,636. The Commons Park Irrigation Project will see funding of \$150,000 from the FY 2021-22 CIP Adopted Budget. The balance of \$43,636 will come from Fund 750 -- Asset Replacement (Municipal Painting savings \$27,800; Commons Park Swings savings \$8,000; and Recreation Donation \$7,836).

Construction on the project is expected to begin in April and completed by Memorial Day Weekend.

## 2022 Moraga Citizen(s) of the Year Nominations Requested

Do you have a person or couple in mind for the Town of Moraga to honor as 2022 Citizen(s) of the Year?

Selection criteria are as follows:

- Cannot be a current elected member or paid staff of the Town Council, the Town or any other local public agency (e.g., School District or Fire District);
- Must have a Moraga mailing address;
- Nominees should be persons who:
  - (1) have given their time, talent and treasure to help make Moraga a vibrant community, one where people want to live, work and shop; and
  - (2) bring the community together and make us proud to be residents of Moraga.

Please email your nomination to [nominations@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:nominations@lamorindaweekly.com) or mail it to Moraga Citizen of the Year Nominations, Lamorinda Weekly, 1480 Moraga Road Suite C # 202, Moraga CA 94556.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is Wednesday, April 6.

A celebration dinner will be held on Friday, May 6 in the Soda Center at Saint Mary's College to honor the winner. The 2022 Moraga Citizen of the Year Award is co-sponsored by the Moraga Chamber of Commerce, Saint Mary's College, the Lamorinda Weekly and the Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley.



35 years of experience in architectural design

**KAPLAN ARCHITECTS**

[www.kaplanarchitects.com](http://www.kaplanarchitects.com)  
 (510) 361-0223

## Rheem Theatre hopes a COVID-free summer will boost attendance

By Vera Kochan

So many venues where large crowds are expected to sit within inches of each other have suffered through nearly two years of closures or limited seating in order to provide a safe, COVID-free environment to patrons. The Rheem Theatre (built in 1957)



Photo Vera Kochan

### Moraga Council Member Teresa Onoda buys a movie ticket.

is one such local example. The Rheem's Assistant Manager Tiffanie Cone proudly touted the fact that once the recently remodeled theatre was able to open its doors to audiences again, first-run blockbuster movies were and continue to be offered. "We were really busy during Christmas break, but then it dropped off," she said, noting that weekends are starting to see an improvement in attendance.

"I love going to the movies with my friends," said recent patron, Moraga Council Member Teresa Onoda. "It's wonderful to have a first class theatre just minutes away."

With spring break and summer on the horizon, the theatre will extend its schedule to seven days a week. During the off-season the Rheem

is only open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

"We always do a lot of business when a Marvel movie is playing, usually with a two-thirds capacity," stated Cone. "With 'Spiderman' we stayed busy the entire time we had it. During those kinds of movies the audience is mostly teenagers."

The Rheem also offers a Cinema West Rewards Club Card where patrons can earn points toward free concession stand items or a free movie ticket.

Cone expects that the coming summer months will help to bring patrons back to the movies, both as a place to get away for a few hours and to beat the heat. She hopes that people will remember how much fun it is to go to the movies.

## ROCKRIDGE FURNITURE & DESIGN

[rockridgefurniture.com](http://rockridgefurniture.com)



**MEDIA CONSOLE SALE**

**510-652-5753 3048 CLAREMONT AVENUE BERKELEY**