



Moraga

Public Meetings

City Council

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m.

Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m.

Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m.

Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Moraga School District

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m.

Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Library

1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga

www.moraga.k12.ca.us

See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

Town of Moraga:

www.moraga.ca.us

Phone: (925) 888-7022

Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org

Moraga Police Report



Jan. 17 to Jan. 31

Alarms:

- 1/18 Rheem Blvd
- 1/19 Moraga Way
- 1/19 Paseo Bernal
- 1/24 location not listed
- 1/24 Center Street
- 1/25 location not listed
- 1/27 Del Monte Way
- 1/27 location not listed
- 1/28 Kent Court

1/17 Larceny

A female fitness buff lost the contents of her ladies' room locker at a local gym. Exercising an ounce of prevention, she provided police a description of a likely subject seen lurking earlier. Concord police had already recovered some stolen items.

1/19 Traffic Accident

Reports say a 97-year-old female driver was involved in a "solo vehicle collision with a tree with unknown injuries" at Moraga Road near Rheem Boulevard. The report says the woman had just left a gas station. MOFD treated the driver at the scene for a cut finger. City workers may have been called later to treat the tree for... a broken limb?

1/21 City Ordinance

A young Moraga resident was enjoying a loud and unruly party with 25 to 30 others while celebrating her 21st birthday. What a surprise. After police advised her of the town's Loud Party Ordinance she send everyone home (bummer). And they all slept happily ever after...

1/22 DUI

Suspicious vehicle on Fernwood Drive: check. Police involvement: check. Driver attempting to flee the scene after collision with an innocently parked vehicle: check. Sobriety test performed: check. DUI: of course. The driver was processed, cited and released.

1/23 Domestic dispute

Police responded to reports of an out-of-town husband and wife fighting in their car near Moraga Liquors. No battery charges were filed, and both parties agreed to separate for the night.

1/24 Larceny

Police who stopped two females for speeding learned they had also stolen \$500 worth of infant formula from Safeway. The milk filchers were arrested, cited and released. A passenger was not so lucky — he/

Moraga to consider Gun Violence Prevention ordinances

By Sophie Braccini

During its 2017 goal setting session, the Moraga Town Council decided to consider ordinances aimed at protecting the population from gun violence.

A group of Moraga residents have asked that two local laws be considered: One to enforce safe storage of firearms, and one to prohibit firearm home dealers to be located near schools or in residential neighborhoods.

It took community organizing and political lobbying for Allison Anderman to get this topic on the agenda of the town council for discussion, and initial skepticism was not going to stop her. A mother of two young children living in Moraga, Anderman is a lawyer working with the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, a nonprofit that was formed in the wake of the 1993 101 California St. shooting in San Francisco. Anderman explains that she and her followers are not trying to stop people from owning guns, a right protected by the Second Amendment to the U.S. constitu-

tion, but to propose local ordinances that enforce responsible ownership of guns in order to prevent tragedy. She said that 100 jurisdictions have implemented such local ordinances, including Tiburon, Palm Springs, San Francisco and Oakland. Lafayette that was one of the pioneers of such an ordinance over 20 years ago.

Moraga Police Chief Jon King indicated that in his opinion state laws were sufficient and that his concern was that a local ordinance would not be enforceable. He confirmed that there was a registered gun dealer in a Moraga home, but that to his knowledge that person was repairing and not selling weapons. Anderman later commented that she had been surprised to see that someone near a school operated such a business. To King's comment that more education would be more efficient than new ordinances, she cited mandatory seat belts had to become law in order to make a difference for people's safety.

Anderman had talked to can-

didates for the council at the end of 2016 and had been advised to garner as much community support as possible and propose the topic at the goal setting session on Jan. 26. She presented her case, now backed up by 110 Moraga supporters, explaining that she and the Law Center would advise the town for free. Several people also talked in favor of the passage of ordinances, including Doris Chen, who was raised in Moraga and recalled the 1991 tragedy when one of her younger classmates, a 13-year-old boy, was accidentally killed by one of his friends who wanted to show him a gun his father owned, and that had not been safely stored.

Anderman also produced statistics showing that the passage of such local laws prevents teen suicides and accidental deaths by firearms.

Anne Grodin was Lafayette's mayor in 1993-94 when gun sale regulation was approved. She remembers the emotional context at the time. The discussion took place in the months that followed the 101

California St. shooting. A gun shop had opened where Trader Joe's is now located, with a huge stuffed bear in the windows, attracting kids that were coming to the nearby Baskin Robbins. Grodin remembers a young Lafayette mother who was among the victims of the 101 California shooting.

"Her husband came to meetings with their infant in a backpack," remembers Grodin, "It was a tumultuous time and our residents wanted protection."

Lafayette now requires a land-use permit reviewed by the planning commission to be authorized to sell firearms. The city also created zoning areas where gun sales are permitted and not permitted.

Council members did not agree to put the passage of the two ordinances as a goal in 2017, but to make its consideration one of the priorities, looking at what Lafayette passed in order to save staff time.

The goals and priorities will be discussed at the Feb. 8 council meeting.

Moraga Town Council meets to determine '17 goals

By Sophie Braccini

Moraga Town Council's annual goal setting exercise was more creative this year than ever, opening new conversations about both topics and methodology, but did not lead to the gelling of a list. The process is resuming at an upcoming council meeting and may take more than one sitting.

Mayor Teresa Onoda opened the discussion on Jan. 26 with her goals for the year. She presented a list of four objectives:

- 1) Complete the sinkhole repairs at the crossing near Moraga Road and Rheem Boulevard, restoring retail activity and traffic flow back to normal.
- 2) Have development in Moraga reflect the sentiment of the town's residents, including improvements to the three-step planned development process; seeking town council approval and implementation rules governing development on hillsides and ridgelines; and ensuring disciplined application of the town's design guidelines.
- 3) Stimulate and attract retail activity in Moraga by improving the permitting process for Moraga businesses and work with the chamber of commerce to make shopping in Moraga a pleasurable activity.
- 4) Complete successful negotiation of labor agreements with all employee bargaining units.

Prior to the mayor's presentation, town manager Bob Priebe listed last year's goals, indicating

which ones had been achieved and which ones were still in process. The installation of security cameras, for example, has been delayed because the sinkhole has brought strain to the town's finances. Other goals such as the zoning of the Moraga Center Specific Plan are still in process.

Vice mayor Roger Wykle and council member Dave Trotter both asked that last year's unfinished business make it to the official list, in addition to the mayor's four goals. Trotter insisted that securing federal reimbursement for the sinkhole repair should be on the list. Wykle said he would want to see an ongoing work list with all the previously approved goals.

Councilmember Kymberleigh Korpus said that she had a list of some 20 objectives of her own, but that she was aware and respectful of staff's workload. One of them would be the establishment of a long-term vision and financial plan, including all infrastructure maintenance needs.

Several residents added their own requests, including protection



Mayor Teresa Onoda holds one of many speaker cards and listened to a resident during the public comment session. Photo Andy Scheck

against gun violence (see article above), the town support of the Community Conversation process that was started recently in Moraga and is endorsed by Saint Mary's College, the review of the Moraga climate action plan, and the town's support of Moraga Community Foundation's plans to make sure the Rheem Theater stays open.

The council members also debated the methodology used to es-

tablish a goal list. Council member Jeanette Fritzky proposed to work on the prioritization, while Korpus asked what metrics be used to measure the level of success in reaching goals.

Each council member was asked to send their list to town manager Priebe and his staff is compiling a list for discussion. A final decision will be made at a subsequent town council meeting.

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