Moraga's one-man band

By Cathy Dausman



DJ Ryan O

life," DJ Ryan O says.

While the "O" stands for Oetstand for out and about, as the plying his second career.

himself to a booth. And unlike a the shelf," he says. live band that might take breaks, he takes none. He relies on tech- presence go hand in hand. Oetnology but always has a backup tinger listened to FM rock music his playlist. plan, explaining, "There is no growing up in Southern Califorsecond chance (to get it right)."

Photo Cathy Dausman 've loved music my whole all the time," he confesses, including the time Led Zeppelin's "Stairway to Heaven" abruptly tinger (his last name) it could also cut off during a holiday party because he had selected an incom-40-something Moraga resident plete version of the song. Oetconnects with community while tinger's challenge is to bridge his audience's diverse demographics. Oettinger explains his goal He clusters songs, but his playlis to read his crowd, then de- ist includes hip-hop, country, liver "a celebration" by bringing hit songs, rock music and alt/ his audience along on a musical grunge. He discovered Latin and journey. DJ is an acronym de- Caribbean music during the five veloped when on-the-air radio years he spent in Miami. Then he hosts jockeyed vinyl record discs embellishes the music, re-mix-("American Graffiti," anyone?), ing it, adding percussive beats, but Oettinger insists, "If you just clean version hip-hop lyrics and push 'play' you're not a DJ." For streaming it together electronistarters, Oettinger doesn't confine cally. "That stuff doesn't exist off

DJ work and a strong vocal nia. When he had the chance to he says. And yes - he does take Mistakes? "I make mistakes speak on the air with then-DJ requests.

Ryan Seacrest the die was cast. In college at Cornell University Oettinger worked at WVBR, first pulling graveyard shifts and later hosting Friday "drive time" afternoons, developing a patter styled after his LA radio favorites.

Oettinger worked nights at a college bar in Ithaca to earn extra money, played bars in San Francisco, played for gas station openings (his day job is with Chevron) and even performed as a DJ in Miami department store windows. When he arrived in Moraga in 2009, Oettinger offered to play at the Pear Festival. "Since then it's been word of mouth," Oettinger says.

Moraga's Recreation and Facilities coordinator Kimberly Nelson says Oettinger has also performed and emceed at the Moraga Treeline Triathlon and the town's new Leisure Sport Triathlon. "He brings such a good energy and does a good job reading the crowd," Nelson says. "We don't need to give him a playlist."

Between full-time work and parenting (he and his wife have two preschoolers), Oettinger manages to squeeze in 20 DJ events per year. "I'd rather DJ than golf, go to bars or take guy trips," he says.

Although an extrovert, Oettinger says each event necessitates hours of music preparation and a two-hour setup ahead of a four-hour performance. DJ work leaves him "physically exhausted, mentally awake ... and starving!" But DJ Ryan O figures he still has another 10 years left on

"We're a big musical family,"

1 p.m. except for the motorcycle

competition, which is scheduled through 5 p.m. Parking is available

in all open lots during the fair, and

no permit is required. Helicopter parking, however, may be limited.



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There's a new venue for Lamorinda Safety Fair

By Cathy Dausman



Kids will get a chance to sit in a helicopter. n absolute alphabet soup of cent site.

Afirst responder organizations for the fifth Lamorinda Safety Fair.

East Bay locals can meet police, fire, sheriff's department, park district and emergency preparedness representatives, learn CPR and fire suppression, emergency communications skills, and bike safety. Visitors can watch police motorcycle competitions, look skyward for helicopters from East Bay Regional Parks District, Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office and REACH air medical services.

And if that's not enough, a classic car show and accompanying cruising music will share an adja**Photos Carol Yates**

The safety fairs, hosted every — and their acronyms — will gath- second year by the Lafavette Emerer Aug. 5 at Saint Mary's College gency Preparedness Commission and Lamorinda CERT began in 2009 and were held on the grounds of Lafayette's Stanley Middle School. This year's relocation to Saint Mary's College allows more room for exhibits and the police motorcycle competition course and facilitates landing space for helicopters.

> "Saint Mary's College was approached by Lafayette Police Department and we were excited to be able to contribute (the venue)," said SMC Chief of Public Safety Adán Tejada.

The event runs from 9 a.m. to







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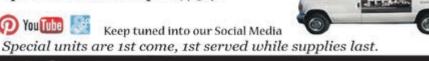
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