

# Moraga

# Lamorinda Community

Calendar	
Town Council	7:30pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School 1010 Camino Pablo	
Wednesday, June 10	
Planning Comm.	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Monday, June 1	
Design Review	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Monday, June 8	
Park & Rec	7:30pm
Hacienda, Mosaic Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Tuesday, June 16	
Liaison	8:00am
Fire Station 1280 Moraga Way	
Friday, June 12	
Town of Moraga online: <a href="http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us">http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us</a>	
Chamber of Commerce: <a href="http://www.moragachamber.org">http://www.moragachamber.org</a>	



**Projector stolen, 5/18/09** At 4:30 in the afternoon two officers were dispatched to the Rheem Theater on a report of a theft of a digital multimedia projector that had gone missing from projection room number one. The room was kept unlocked and there were no signs of forced entry. Officers attempted to locate fingerprints, but were unsuccessful. Maybe it walked out of a bad movie?

**Commercial burglary, 5/17/09** Fifteen Apple iMac laptop computers were stolen from the Saklan Valley School library. The estimated value of the laptops is \$12,000.

**Car burglary, 5/17/09** Police were dispatched to the back of Loards Ice Cream on a report of a car burglary that had just occurred. Victim had parked her car fifteen minutes earlier and went into the shop. She had returned to her car shortly after 9:00 and found her front passenger window broken and her purse removed. Estimated total value of loss \$850. No witnesses or cash involved.

**Found drugs, 5/15/09** Officers responded to a report of found drugs and paraphernalia on Corte La Rado. The reporting person turned over the suspected illegal drugs. They were later placed into evidence for destruction. If the drugs are yours, feel free to contact police for pick up.

## Moraga Improves Accessibility for Disabled Residents, but Challenges Persist

By Sophie Braccini

Moraga's newly-formed Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Committee (ADAAC) met on April 27 for its second quarterly meeting. The three-member group took up two issues, addressing a question about a sidewalk on a portion of Moraga Road, and recommending the adjustment of the curb cuts at the corner of Moraga Way and Moraga Road. Even when that

## Moraga Center Specific Plan Moving Toward Consensus

By Sophie Braccini

*(Editor's note: On May 27th the Moraga Town Council is scheduled to review the Planning Commission's recommendations as outlined in this article. Please check our website, <http://www.lamorindaweekly.com> for an update.)*

"I think we've made a little progress and I am encouraged," said Moraga Town Manager Mike Segrest, commenting on the May 18 Planning Commission meeting at which the Moraga Center Specific Plan (MCSP) was discussed. For the first time, and after years of discussions, it seemed that the Town and principle property owners -- the Bruzzone family -- had achieved a framework for the future development of the MCSP. If approved by the Town Council, the May 18 consensus will establish a critical milestone for realizing the future of downtown Moraga.

A few days earlier, on May 13th, the Town Council meeting saw the usual level of confrontation between the Town of Moraga and

the Bruzzones, as the number and types of housing were discussed. The Council was reviewing the Planning Commission's previous recommendation to limit the number of dwelling units in the MCSP to 560, Option 4 of the different alternatives that had been studied.

Council Member Ken Chew clearly stated that his job was not to make sure that property owners make money, but that our citizens are heard, and he favored the construction of no more than 400 dwelling units. Council Member Karen Mendonca supported Chew's position. Mayor Dave Trotter and Council Member Mike Metcalf supported zoning that would allow 560 units, noting that, "it seemed reasonable."

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## Moraga Specific Plan Triggers Traffic Concerns from Neighboring Cities

By Sophie Braccini

Traffic issues surrounding the Moraga Center Specific Plan (MCSP) took center stage at the May 13 meeting of the Town Council as the two neighboring cities of Lafayette and Orinda sent strong signals about their concerns regarding the impacts of the plan on their own travel times. The method used by the Consultant, Fehr and Peers (F&P), to calculate traffic takes into account the type of housing planned and assumes that residents will shop more locally if provided with an adequate mix of retail stores. The cities of Orinda and Lafayette have challenged these assumptions.

The MCSP addresses the 183 acre area located northwest of the Moraga Road/Moraga Way intersection and covers the existing shopping center plus about 90 acres of undeveloped land. Under current zoning, the undeveloped area could accommodate 366 single-family homes. The MCSP, which is in effect a large re-zoning effort, would comprise between 400 and 720 dwelling units, 90,000 square feet of new retail, and 50,000 sf of new

office space.

Lafayette and Orinda sent letters, supported by traffic reports developed by transportation consultant TJKM, to the Town of Moraga that seriously challenged the finding of Moraga's traffic expert. During the Council meeting, F&P was asked to respond to Lafayette's concerns (Orinda's letter was received after the 13th). "They are comparing apples and oranges," said Rob Rees of F&P as he went down the list of Lafayette's findings, refuting one after another.

According to Rees, Lafayette's main difference is a failure to take into account the real usage of the units. Lafayette argues that a worst-case scenario approach should be used when planning for traffic impact.

"There is significant difference between the (Moraga) EIR (Environmental Impact Report) and the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) standards in term of trip generation," wrote Joy Bhattacharya from TJKM.

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## Former Mayor Mike Majchrzak Memorial Fund

By Sophie Braccini



Mike Majchrzak Photo LW archive

When Michael Majchrzak passed away on May 5, one of his last wishes was to create a fund to sponsor student interns with the Town of Moraga. Majchrzak's wish was not a surprise to those who worked alongside him as he served consecutively on the Design Review Board, Planning Commission and the Moraga Town Council for twenty years. He served three terms as Mayor and was voted Citizen of the Year in 2007.

"He loved the people, the town, the fireworks and he loved being Mayor," said his wife Beth at the May 13 Town Council meeting at which a resolution recognizing

curb improvement is completed some challenges will remain for residents with disabilities as they travel through the town.

The ADAAC was formed to review and report to the Town staff on issues affecting accessibility within the public pedestrian rights of way throughout Moraga and on the prioritization of funds available for accessibility improvements. The

committee's creation was part of the settlement of a law suit brought against Moraga (and other communities) regarding lack of access for individuals with disabilities.

Moraga residents Anne Reed and Tim McInerney volunteered to serve on the committee with Jill Mercurio, Town Public Works Director and Engineer.

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Majchrzak's role was approved, "and it was hard for him the leave the Council." She added that Mike had struggled with illness for years but never wanted to give up.

Council Member Mike Metcalf, who served with Majchrzak on both the Planning Commission and the Council, remembered how Majchrzak understood planning like no one and he praised the man's fairness and patience. Mayor Dave Trotter, who had also served with him on the Planning Commission, added his voice to Metcalf's continuing, "He was a friend, a leader, a colleague and I will miss him."

At a service held in Majchrzak's memory on May 8 at St.

Monica's Catholic Church, Trotter spoke of the Mike Majchrzak Memorial Fund to Sarah Cory, the wife of Moraga's first Mayor, Mike Cory. She immediately wrote a check for \$300 to the Fund.

"It is so very appropriate -- really a case of passing the torch -- that the first contribution to this fund, honoring our former mayor Mike Majchrzak, would be from the wife of our first Town mayor," said Trotter, "the Town Council and I are hopeful that folks will commemorate Mike Majchrzak's service to the Town by giving generously to the fund being established in his memory."

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-Noah Weingarten, Regular Attender

## Willow Spring Church

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May 24: "Unleashing the Kingdom of God, Part 2"  
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June 7: "The Way of Reconciliation"

"After visiting Willow Spring the first time, I was brought back because of how comforted my soul felt. I feel as if I have started my life, because being involved with this church has led me to begin my walk with God. New beginnings, new life!"



-Jessica Herron and Dylan, Regular Attenders

"The same man who denied Jesus three times... ultimately became one of His greatest spokesmen."  
-Pastor Brad, GodThoughts, Vol. 2\*

**Willow Spring Church**  
1675-1689 School Street  
Moraga, CA 94556  
[www.willowspringchurch.org](http://www.willowspringchurch.org)  
(925) 376-3550  
Sunday Service Times:  
Prayer.....8:00am  
Traditional.....9:00am  
Contemporary.....10:30am  
Children's Church...10:30am  
Youth Service.....10:30am  
Young Adult Service..7:30pm  
Weekly Activities Include:  
**Wednesday:**  
Community Bible Study....10am  
REVERB (youth).....7pm  
**Friday Night:**  
BLAST! Kids Club.....6pm

**VACATION BIBLE ADVENTURE**  
June 22nd-July 10th (M-F, 9am-Noon)  
Our theme this year is "SECRET SERVICE": we've got games, crafts, songs, and serving others for God!  
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(925) 631-1894 or [zdstiel@yahoo.com](mailto:zdstiel@yahoo.com)

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(925) 285-1295 OR [SAMEBERHART@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:SAMEBERHART@HOTMAIL.COM)

Willow Spring Church is an evangelical, non-denominational, Bible-Driven church with a vision to:

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"Willow Spring Church is the home of the Internationally recognized "GodThoughts" Ministry serving more than 10,000 people daily in over 100 countries around the world.

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-Camp Hacienda Camp Counselors are waiting for you. Spots are still available for children ages 5-12 for this wonderful day camp right here in Moraga - Day Camp Moraga First!  
-DONATE TO FIREWORKS! Help the community raise \$17,000 for our 2009 Fireworks show. Send checks to P.O. Box 188, Moraga CA, 94556. Please make checks payable to Town of Moraga.