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Dog Days are Back

Petition stops suspension of off-leash hours at Rancho Laguna Park

By Sophie Braccini

freely, during scheduled end was immediately removed. hours, at Rancho Laguna Park. A ing that the park's off-leash hours signatures," said McInturf. not be suspended was delivered to the Town of Moraga June 6.

Council passed an ordinance suspending off-leash hours at Rancho took us less than two weeks to Laguna Park, until and unless a fenced dog area is constructed. The ordinance was set to take effect June 9.

Under the California Election Code section 9235-9247 (www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html), if a petition signed by a minimum of 10 percent of registered voters is filed against an ordinance within 30 days of its approval the ordinance is automatically suspended and the Council must decide whether to repeal the leaving off-leash hours in place; or ordinance or put it to a popular vote.

Town Clerk Marty McInturf said that once the signatures were to be included on the November counted by the Town, the applicaballot is in July, so it is unlikely tion of the ordinance was suspended and signage at the park Moraga voters before 2013.

ogs will continue to romp indicating off-leash hours would

The petition was sent to the petition bearing 1,800 signa- County for signature verification tures— roughly 18 percent of June 8. "The County can take up Moraga's registered voters—ask- to 30 business days to verify the

A group of about 100 volunteers went door-to-door to gather On May 9 the Moraga Town enough signatures to stop the implementation of the ordinance. "It gather enough signatures," said Tina Briar.

> The suspension of the ordinance is another chapter in the multi-year saga of the Town's attempts to implement the physical separation of dogs from other park users at Rancho Laguna Park. After the signatures have been verified by the County, the Council must reconsider the ordinance. There are only two actions it can take: repeal its own ordinance, go to the ballot and ask voters to decide the issue.

> The deadline for a referendum that the question could be posed to

A Community-Built Playground

By Sophie Braccini

cently purchased playground equipment to replace the aging play structure that was removed last year from Rancho Laguna Park. Volunteers began the Park District Measure WW funds. assembly and installation of the new structure on Monday. Construction will continue throughout the week and the Town is hoping forward to help.

This Saturday, June 23, after a light morning of work, the Town will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a community picnic to thank the volunteers - and the

he Town of Moraga re- new playground can be put to use and more. by young guests.

> The bulk of the \$97,000 bill for the playground was paid from the Town's East Bay Regional The Moraga Junior Women's Club also made a donation towards the new equipment.

"This will be the best playthat more volunteers will come ground in the area for kids age 5-Director Jay Ingram. The structure has multiple slides, a climbing wall, a Burma bridge, a gram at jingram@moraga.ca.us, climbing pole, a vine and a or call (925) 888-7034. braided climber, a fenced tower

Volunteers from the Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley, Moraga Rotary, and Boy Scout Troop 254 are already hard at work at the park. "We need more volunteers on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday," says Ingram. "People of all ages and abilities are encouraged to sign up for one, or more, halfday shift." Residents who want 12," says Parks and Recreation to help are also asked to bring their own tools, such as shovels. To register for a shift, email In-

An Open Letter from the Moraga Town Council

he members of the Moraga Town Council will undoubtedly serve to support other victims and publicly express our admiration for Kristen Cunnane and our gratitude for her demonstrated courage. As a survivor of childhood sexual abuse, her bravery has not gone unnoticed. Sadly, many victims never report incidents of abuse. Kristen's courage in reporting will help to provide encouragement for others to do the same. Her public story

to give them hope for a more positive future. Kristen may never know just how many adults and children have been helped by the telling of her story, but for bravely sharing her experiences with others, we commend and thank her.

Moraga Town Council

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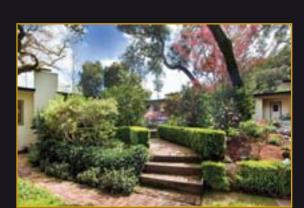


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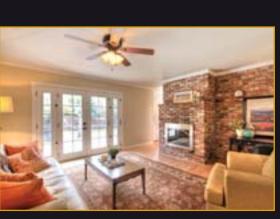
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Source: 2011 REAL Trends Top 500 survey,

of a variety of different sources. Such information has not been verified by Alain Pinel Realtors. If important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation

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