

etters to the Editor Share your thoughts with our community! Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will

include the writer's name and city/town of residence -- we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only). Letters should be 350 words or less; letters of up to 500 words will be accepted on a space-available basis. email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com; Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

Editor:

The Orinda City Council should way to eliminate something that proceed with the process of amending Orinda's General Plan. It has been three years since the citizen's task force submitted its final report. Only the downtown Rancho Laguna. adopted.

It is time for the Council to finish difficult because the majority hearing the recommendations and vote on the two remaining issues: the addition of housing downtown on June 6, and the next day the and the enabling of more flexible Town Clerk verified that there zoning standards, including an increase of the height limit to 55 feet. The Council has heard sufficient public testimony. It has surveyed the community. No citizen vote is necessary.

detail the recommendations before the Council are satisfied that modest height limit increase proposed would not deny views of the hills in any material way.

We elected our City Council to be many ways. It got people talking our representative body. We applaud the Councilmembers for their openness, dedication and patience. It is time for their vote.

Tom Trowbridge Orinda

Editor:

We are two of the over 100 Mor- Editor: aga voters who participated in 1800 signatures of registered Moraga voters to tell the Council

inspiring. - and ban the adults and children Lafayette, NJ, and others. in our community who love to meet in the evening (and morning) complained about the referendum, the people who gathered signatures all said the vast majority were eager to sign the referendum. Voting is our cherished democratic process. Many expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to voice their feelings and many offered to circulate petitions to number of people who circulated They were just baffled by the Down Saloon in Lafayette, NJ. to acknowledge what many peo- about death: Everyone knows ple in the community treasure – a there is no free lunch . . . but no short time each day to get together one believes it. and talk (with or without dogs). The messages we heard most Edward C. Hartman often were that people are happy Moraga

with Rancho Laguna the way it is, the 3-2 Council vote was not the so many people enjoy, and the Town has better things to do with its time and money than to continue trying to cut off users from

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portion of the report remains to be Collecting over 1800 signatures in less than two weeks time was not wants Rancho Laguna to remain "as is." We turned in the petitions were more than enough signatures to temporarily suspend the ordinance. Now the County Elections office will examine the signatures and inform the Town within 30 business days of its review. If, as Those of us who have studied in we expect, the final number of verified signatures is more than 10% of registered Moraga voters, the addition of a modest number the Town Council will have to deof housing units would add to the cide whether to rescind the ordivitality of downtown and that the nance that ended off leash hours or put it on a ballot for all of us to vote on.

This effort was so positive in so and gave people a chance to be heard. It allowed all of us to participate in keeping Moraga a great place to live. There are a lot of happy faces at Rancho Laguna now. Thank you, Moraga!

Trish Bare, Moraga Tina Brier, Moraga

asking neighbors to sign petitions What delicious irony: The June 6 to stop the implementation of an edition of Lamorinda Weekly that ordinance that would have effec- gave us an article titled, "Spirit tively banned all off-leash dog Van Program Seeks Friends with walking at any time at Rancho La- Funds in Moraga" about the Morguna Park with no concrete alteraga Town Council declining to native in sight. In less than two add \$3,500 to van service funding weeks, our group of similarly for disabled seniors and seniors minded people collected over without drivers licenses also told us in another article about "Sidewalk Beautification" in Lafayette, it had made a mistake. The out- CA funded by federal taxpayers in pouring from the community was Lafavette, AL, Lafavette, CO, Lafayette, IN, Lafayette, LA, Although a few people who Lafayette, MN, Lafayette, MO, wanted to end a 30 year tradition Lafayette, OH, Lafayette, OR,

Since these fellow Lafayetters have shared in the tens-of-thouwith their dogs at the park – have sands of dollars cost of putting "decorative brick" in front of the Round Up (sic) Saloon, Lamorindans should not complain when Representative John "Free Lunch" Garamendi asks us to contribute to a \$100 thousand park bench in Lafayette, AL honoring the memory of former Rep. Willie "Boll Weevil" Wilson or \$200 thousand their friends and neighbors. A for a bronze statue of a praying prawn for Lafayette, LA, or \$300 petitions do not own dogs and thousand for...a decorative brick rarely go to Rancho Laguna. sidewalk in front of the Square Council's decision and its failure To borrow from that old quote

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If you have significant knowledge about an issue facing Lamorinda or one of its cities that requires more than the 350 words to which we must limit Letters to the Editor, don't despair! You can submit your letter to our Public Forum section. Just send your letter to letters@lamorindaweekly.com and let us know you'd like to be considered for the Public Forum.

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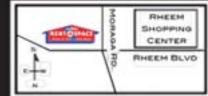


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