

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

# Moraga Civic News

### **Public Meetings Town Council**

Wednesday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, 7 p.m. Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, 1010 Camino Pablo

### **Planning Commission** Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7 p.m.

Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

### **Design Review**

Monday, Feb. 24, 7 p.m. Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

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

### **School Board Meeting Moraga School District**

Tuesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m. Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga www.moraga.k12.ca.us See also AUHSD meeting page A2

### The Bernie & Ryerson Team



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# A Matter of Transparent Government

Three ad hoc subcommittees will make a big difference By Sophie Braccini

hree subcommittees will to the town; and the hillside and work on topics this year that could heavily impact Moraga's future: the ad hoc facilities planning subcommittee will join elected civic officials with representatives from the Moraga School District, Campolindo High School and Saint Mary's College to discuss cooperative planning of recreation resources; the country club golf course negotiating team will discuss a new rental rate with Moraga Country Club for the "back nine" parcel, which belongs

ridgeline subcommittee will study potential updates to the town's regulations. Since not more than two elected officials participate on each of these subcommittees, the meetings are not governed by the Brown Act and do not have to be open to the public. However, the facilities planning subcommittee and the ridgeline and hillside subcommittee will hold public meetings in the name of transparency. Subcommittees make recommendations, not decisions.

The initial meeting of the Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee was set for Feb. 10 at the Hacienda de las Flores. This subcommittee is tasked with taking an inventory of existing resources and recommending both shortand long-term facilities planning; from joint use agreements to improving and enhancing sports fields/facilities in Moraga. "The public is encouraged to attend," said Jay Ingram, parks and recreation director, who added that the monthly meeting dates will be posted on the town website. Members of the Moraga Sports Alliance and the Park and Recreation Commission will also particdiscussion. ipate the Recommendations from this subcommittee are anticipated in the

The Hillside and Ridgelines Subcommittee will also conduct its meetings in the public arena. Dates have not been determined

Center/DC&E, that staff presented as having extensive experience in planning and zoning for hillside development, technical expertise in geotechnical issues and hazards mapping. The consultant will interact with the subcommittee and will also conduct outreach meetings with residents.

The team that will negotiate with MCC has not started any preliminary work yet. Town staff will first conduct an appraisal of the property. The team will report the advancement of its negotiation to the Town Council during closed sessions; it is therefore unlikely that the meetings will be public. There again, the team will make recommendations, the final deciyet, but the Town Council has sion will be made by the Town hired a consultant, The Planning Council during a public meeting.



### Moraga Police **Department**

Suspicious credit card transactions, 1/27/14 A call from his bank gave a Sanders Ranch resident a heads up that there were two suspicious transactions on his credit card in January. Oddly enough the fellow had recently received a bank credit card that he had not applied for. The bank stopped the mysterious, possibly fraudulent phantom shopping transactions before completed. The surprising credit card was cancelled. Cops gave the victim an identity theft affidavit.

Senior moment? 2/01/14 It was only 7:30 a.m. when officers contacted an elderly driver blocking a lane on Moraga Road near Ascot. The driver possibly became confused and straddled the concrete center media, hitting a "one way" sign in the process. No injuries to the driver, but repairing the busted sign will cost around \$500. The car was towed from the scene.

D.U.I. 2/01/14 A blue Jeep was paced at 50 m.p.h. in a 25 m.p.h. on Ascot Drive in the wee hours of the morning. Upon contact with the 21-year-old driver, cops could smell alcohol. Officers attempted to give the driver a field sobriety test, but it was stopped for the subject's safety. He was taken to the Moraga Police Department for a blood test, arrested for D.U.I. and later released to a friend.

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\*off dry cleaning items during February 2014 🛡

Valentine special

Identity theft, 1/30/14 A Miramonte Drive resident received a phone call from the Macy's fraud department stating that an account was opened in her name and over \$5,000 was charged. The victim also discovered \$1,500 of bogus charges on her bank account. The

case is under investigation.

Unauthorized solicitor, 1/29/14 Cops got a call about a solicitor in the area of Greenfield Drive and Crossbrook Court. Unfortunately the subject was not in possession of a solicitor's permit that is now required by the town Municipal Code. While doing a background check, police discovered the sales person had an arrest warrant for disorderly conduct in Texas, which did not provide for extradition. He got a stern warning and said he would comply with the permit requirement.

Road rage in Moraga? 1/29/14 Reporting that she had been tailgated by a female in an SUV on Moraga Road, a woman reported to police that the tailgater was apparently incensed that she was driving too slow, shook her fists and passed her, and threw a can of soda at her car. The reporting person wisely got the cranky driver's license plate number. Although she requested documentation of the incident, the allegedly slower driver declined to press charges. Cops attempted to contact the registered owner with negative re-

In addition, the following crimes were reported between

### Suspicious circumstances

San Pablo Ct

### Theft of mail

Roberts Ct Moraga Rd

## False alarm

Fieldbrook Pl Camino Ricardo Calle La Mesa Brandt

Disturbing the peace

### Elder financial scam

Tharp Dr

Rheem Bl

### **Rheem Valley Shopping Center**

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# Jan. 28 and Feb. 4

Buckingham Dr Augusta Dr

Moraga Wy

## Larch Av

Ascot Dr

Found Property Devin Dr

### Vandalism

Moraga Rd

### D.U.I. Moraga Rd at Corliss

Traffic accident Moraga Rd Corliss Dr

Ascot

# Capturing a Piece of the County's \$2 **Billion Road Pie**

By Sophie Braccini

Then it comes to getting a share of the \$2 billion generated by measures C and J, Lamorinda is not very well positioned with its reputation of relative affluence. Additionally, secluded Moraga does not have within its boundaries any of the roads that get the bulk of the fundcance. This is why the creative members of the Lamorinda Program Management Committee, staff and elected officials, came up with a new concept: the inter-jurisdictional roads, fruitful – if the presentation of collaborative projects to improve these roads is the key to unlocking the county's coffers.

"There is no guarantee of funding," admitted Moraga's planning director, Shawna Brekke-Read, at a January Town Council meeting, "but it is one of the reasons that the committee members were discussing adding different categories and interjurisdictional routes. Increasingly Lamorinda is having difficulty being competitive in the grant world (for road projects), because to the question 'is the project on a route of regional significance?' we always respond 'no.' One idea is to bring a new category to the table."

The Lamorinda Program Man-

agement Committee did not completely agree on which roads should be included in the new concept, but some common ground was found that includes Moraga Road, Moraga Way, Mt. Diablo Boulevard and the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail.

The program management coming – the routes of regional signifi- mittee puts together and updates the Lamorinda Action Plan. It is comprised of one elected official from each city – Mike Metcalf (Moraga), Amy Worth (Orinda) and Don Tatzin (Lafayette) – supported by staff from or routes of Lamorinda significance. all three cities. The action plan as-Time will tell if the new concept is sesses regional transportation issues within the Lamorinda area, measures the level of service and makes recommendations on improvement projects and programs. The committee's role is also to foster a cooperative planning process under the Measure J program.

> "There are other routes that were proposed as inter-jurisdictional roads," Metcalf reported at the Jan. 22meeting of the Moraga Town Council, "Rheem Boulevard, Glorietta and the Saint Mary's Road-Glenside-Reliez Station-Olympic route." But the committee was divided. "It is a fact of life that these roads are used by commuters from different cities," said Metcalf, "but representatives of Lafayette and Orinda to the Lamorinda Action Plan meeting pointed out that residents living along these roads

consider them as neighborhood streets, not commute paths."

"Do we want to ruffle feathers (in Lafayette and Orinda), or do we want to take a backseat on this?" asked Councilmember Dave Trotter. The Moraga Town Council gave its support to the new concept for Moraga Way, Moraga Road, the regional trail, and Mt. Diablo Boulevard. On Jan. 27 the Lamorinda Program Management Committee agreed to implement the

# **What Are Measures C and J?**

In 1988 Contra Costa County voters approved Measure C, a 0.005 percent local sales tax that generated \$1 billion in funding for transportation projects and programs over 20 years. Measure C also created the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), with a board of 11 elected officials and three ex-officio members to guide the expenditure of the sales tax proceeds in accordance with the voter-approved expenditure plan. In 2004 the voters also approved Measure J extending the sales tax for 25 years, through 2034, and generating an additional \$2 billion.

## **More Moraga Civic News** on Page A11 and A14

