in Lafayette Town Hall on ZOOM Hosted by Lafayette Homeowners Council Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m.

Guest speakers: • Mayor Carl Anduri

• City Manager Niroop Srivatsa We welcome all Lafayette residents to attend.

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Younger festival-goers don funnel hats at the Contra Costa County Clean Water Program booth during the Sept. 30 Pear and Wine Festival.

Photo courtesy Moraga Public Works Dept.

Kid-friendly fun abounds at Moraga's Pear and Wine Festival

By Vera Kochan

This year the skies were gloomy, but the mood wasn't, for Moraga's annual Pear and Wine Festival.

Held on Sept. 30 at the Moraga Commons Park, there were booths galore from both town organizations as well as craftspeople selling their wares. Live music filled all corners of the park from the Bartlett Pear Stage, while the smell of grilled hot dogs and

hamburgers had people lined up to satisfy their cravings. The pear pie booth sold out of their specialty as was evidenced by the sight of many festivalgoers walking around with boxes of the coveted dessert for at-home consumption.

With so much new playground equipment recently installed at the commons, Moraga Parks and Recreation Department's efforts were immensely enjoyed by the younger festival attendees. Added to that, were the bounce houses and ginormous inflatable slides.

Thanks to the participation of the Moraga Lions Club, Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley, Moraga Park Foundation, and Lamorinda Wine Growers Association, the Pear and Wine Festival drew residents from the Lamorinda area and beyond for a day of family fun and sense of community.

Visit moragarec.com to check out the schedule of upcoming events.

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By Sora O'Doherty

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Multiple agencies involved in Lamorinda virtual evacuation drill

MOFD ran a virtual evacuation drill with the cooperation of local and county agencies on Sept. 30. Photo Sora O'Doherty

The virtual evacuation drill conducted Sept. 30 wasn't just for the benefit of residents, but was also intended to help the many local, county and state government agencies and volunteer groups practice essential skills for handling wildfire emergencies that have the potential to destroy parts of Lamorinda. At 7 a.m. representatives from the Police Departments of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda; the Moraga-Orinda and Contra Costa County Fire Protection districts, Contra Costa County Community Warning System (CWS), Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the Lamorinda Area Radio Interest Group (LARIG) gathered in the parking lot of the Lafayette Reservoir. Contra Costa County Regional Fire Communications Center, Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team and the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office Communications Center participated remotely.

Among the purposes of the drill were the goals of practicing how to establish and operate a unified command with law, fire and cooperating agencies in a large-scale wildfire scenario. In addition to seeing how effectively the community warning system could perform, the drill sought to provide an opportunity for law enforcement to activate the Genasys Protect/EVAC application from the field.

Local governments were involved as well. City and town staffs received a handout of the evacuation information from CWS, and were to practice updating evacuation details, such as arrival points, road closures, etc. Another goal of the exercise was to identify potential areas where communication can be improved between the field, CWS and the Genasys Protect/AWARE website.

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