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Moraga Beautiful Week and Community Faire

By Sophie Braccini

The 25th edition of Moraga Beautiful Week will shine more than ever under the sign of sustainability and self-reliance. With a long, hot summer of road closures to look forward to, Moraga residents who can't leave town for a couple of months may want to consider staying closer to home than usual. For that purpose, the 2nd annual Community Faire should attract even more visitors than last year. Moraga Beautiful Week is also an occasion for the community to show its pride and make a special effort to spruce up before summer's really here.

The Community Faire offers a good venue to get to know what our Town has to offer. It will be held on May 10th at the Rheem Shopping Center on Moraga Road from 11am to 4pm. It is co-sponsored by the Moraga Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Moraga, in collaboration with Sustainable Moraga, the Lamorinda Art Alliance, and the Lamorinda Wine Growers' Association.

The event is family oriented and children's activities will be on-going, among them face painting, paint-a-pot, recycled art, paper flowers, and spin art. The Entertainment Stage will include youth and adult performers: the Miramonte Jazz Band at 11 AM, the Juke Joint Band (www.jukejointband.com) at 12PM, a juggler, a gymnastics show, a Karate demonstration, and preschool Montessori kids presenting Hula dancing and Spanish songs.

The Faire will include a Sustainable Living element that will showcase vendors and services for home building and remodels, renewable energy, indoor products and furnishings, and socially responsible investing.

In the afternoon, a panel including Tapan Munroe, a recognized author, speaker, consultant and advisor in the area of economic and policy analysis, Tom Wright, a natural food veteran who started the natural and organic foods industry in 1973 and is a consultant for Whole Foods, Moraga Mayor Lynda Deschambault, who has more than 25 years of professional business experience as an environmental scientist and Katryn Lyddan, Executive Director of the Brentwood Agricultural Land Trust.

Prior to the symposium, Moraga Cham-

ber President Edy Schwartz and the East Bay Municipal Utility District's Nora Harlow will launch the "It's All Here" campaign, an information drive about the road closures in the summer and ways to avoid being stuck in traffic (see article on page 3).

The wine-tasting booth will feature area wineries such as Parkmon Vinyard and the Lamorinda Wine Growers' Association; Moraga restaurants will offer delicious food for sale from booths. Local merchants and service providers will have special offers and promotions. Artists from the area will display and sell their creations. Painters, jewelers, photographers and ceramic artists will be help with last minute Mother's Day gifts.

The sponsors of the Community Faire are all Moraga businesses: Long's Drugs, Moraga Retreat Care, Mechanics Bank, HomeGoods, Kimco Realty, Wells Fargo and Union Bank.

Other notable events during "Moraga Beautiful Week": May 3rd Moraga Juniors Garden Tour, May 4th Bring Back the Native Garden Tour, May 5th to 9th Homeowners Clean Up Days, May 5th thru 9 Homeowners Yard Waste, May 8th the first Rheem Green movie night (starting at 6pm with appetizers and wine testing, followed by the projection of "Blue Vinyl" at 7pm), May 10th Meet at the Moraga Commons Park to volunteer for cleanup.

Schedule for the Moraga Beautiful Week

May 3	Moraga Junior Women's Club Garden Tour
May 3-11	Moraga Garden Center 20% off all native plants
May 3-11	Safeway Display of Environmentally Friendly Products
May 3-11	Long's Drugs Rheem Aisle 8 Featuring Natural and Organic Foods and Green Cleaning Products
May 4	Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour
May 4	Farmer's Market @ Moraga Center 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
May 5-9	Homeowner Clean-Up Days
	Curbside Re-Use Pick-Up and Large Garbage Pick-Up
May 8	Green Movie Blue Vinyl @ Rheem Theatre
	Wine & Appetizers 6:00 p.m. Movie 7:00 p.m. \$15.00/\$10.00
May 10	Moraga Commons Park Clean-Up 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
May 10	Moraga Community Faire @ Rheem Center 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
May 10	Composting Class @ Moraga Ace Hardware 1:00 p.m.
May 10	Moraga Barn Tours
	Courtesy of Canyon Construction 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
May 11	E-Waste Free Drop-Off @ Hacienda
	2100 Donald Drive 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
May 11	Donald Drive Neighborhood Yard Sale 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.