

# Lamorinda Community Calendar, Notes, News

# Moraga

Calendar	
City Council	7:30pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School 1010 Camino Pablo Wednesday, July 9	
Planning Comm.	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive Monday, July 7	
Design Review	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive Monday, July 14	
Park & Rec	7:30pm
Hacienda, Mosaic Room 2100 Donald Drive Tuesday, July 15	
Liaison	8:00am
Fire Station 1280 Moraga Way Friday, July 11	
Town of Moraga online: <a href="http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us">http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us</a> for: • all meeting notes • calendar updates	



**Possession of Marijuana, 6/13/08** An officer had a report of suspicious activity on Ascot Drive and checked it out. In the creek area, hidden from sight, he contacted four juveniles. When they saw the officer it appeared that they tried to ditch their contraband. Perhaps it was the distinct odor of pot in the air that inspired one of the kids to 'fess up that he had some pot in his backpack. A female in the group had cigarettes in her purse. All the parents were called; two citations were written, one for marijuana and one for tobacco.

**Underage Possession of Alcohol, 6/14/08** Who knew a car parked in the Moraga Commons parking lot at 2:45 in the morning would be up to no good? Officers on routine patrol noticed three male juveniles in the car. The smell of alcohol and a large bottle of Crown Royal Whiskey got the officers' attention. The teen in possession of the booze received a citation. All the parents were called and the kids were taken home.

**D.U.I., 6/15/08** A car was pulled over on Camino Ricardo going in excess of 60 m.p.h. in a 35 m.p.h. zone at 2:21 in the morning. What a surprise, the driver failed in-field sobriety tests. He had a blood alcohol level of .21. He was cited and released to a family member.

**Grand Theft, 6/17/08** A staff member at Saint Mary's College called Moraga Police Department to report a theft. On May 23, 2008 a \$2,700 Apple laptop was delivered to campus via Fed Ex. The package was signed for, but can no longer be located. The incident is under investigation.

**DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE**  
Moraga Police Department no longer needs property related to the following cases for evidentiary purposes: Case 01-1333 and Case 07-754. If you are involved in either of these cases and have ownership of items involved and want to claim your property please contact the Moraga Police Departments Property Officer Heather Pomeroy at (925)888-7054. All Evidence for Case 01-1333 will be destroyed after July 10, 2008. All evidence, phones, radios, and cameras for case 07-754 will be destroyed after August 15, 2008.

## When Dogs and Soccer Collide

By Sophie Braccini

Bringing your dog to run freely at Rancho Laguna Park has been a Moraga tradition for years. And for years, dogs have been allowed to play off-leash before 9 a.m. in the morning and after 7 p.m. in the evening. So to the "dog community," the news that a half an hour would be removed from their window of dog frolicking in the morning sounded like an intolerable infringement upon their rights, if not the first step in the direction

## Moraga Center Specific Plan Takes Shape: Community Input Needed

By Sophie Braccini



Planning Director Lori Salamack is holding a Specific Plan document, available at the Moraga Library or the Town Offices Photo Andy Scheck

The first visualization of the Moraga Specific Plan for the Moraga Center area was presented to the public on Monday, June 16th during a Planning Commission meeting. The Dahlin Group and Fehr and Peers presented alternative plans to develop the area. A draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for each option assessed impacts on traffic, air quality, and drainage among other aspects. The public has forty five days to comment on the plan, from June 17th-August 1st. Planning Director Lori Salamack encourages all residents to send their comments to her office. The consultants will subsequently present their responses to residents and the Town Council.

"Moraga's General Plan calls for a Specific Plan in both the Moraga Center and the Rheem areas," says Salamack, "the Moraga Center area is the largest undeveloped location where we can plan for the affordable housing that the Town has the obligation to design in order to comply with ABAG." The

Dahlin Group was awarded a contract to present different scenarios for development of the area, while Fehr and Peers assessed the traffic impact of the proposal.

The purpose of the plan is to revitalize the shopping center, create a real town center, add mixed student/senior/ multi-family housing and provide opportunities for potential new businesses such as a hotel, a community center/gym and office spaces.

The area that is proposed for the highest density is "the village" west of Laguna Creek and up to Camino Ricardo. The density would start at 24 units per acre closer to the creek to go down to 12 dwellings per acre approaching Camino Ricardo. The Ranch area would be renovated and harbor eclectic retail and walking space, School Street would be extended past Safeway to connect with St Mary's Road and would be developed in a 'Main Street' style with mixed commercial and residential use. ... continued on page 6

## Town Council Honors Gentleman Sweeny

By Sophie Braccini

There was quite a turn out at the Town Council on June 11th to hear a proclamation to honor the memory of Jim Sweeny. The Moraga resident who passed away on May 25th, at age 81, was a former Council Member and Mayor of the Town.

Fellow former Council Members lined up to talk about the man they all respected as a mentor. Sweeny's funeral was a private event, so the homage the Town paid him was an opportunity for some of those who loved and held him in high esteem to convey their admiration and express how much they would miss him.

Sweeny was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia to a working class family with five children. Only he and a brother went to college. A very bright young man, he graduated from law school but rapidly moved into management consulting. He started his career on the East Coast and was promoted Director of the San Francisco office of Towers Perrin Forster and Crosby Management Consultants in 1972.

The family moved to Moraga. After a very successful career, he retired early in the mid eighties

because, according to daughter Carol Sweeny-Greco, "He knew he wanted to give back to the community and had the means to do so." A very patriotic man, he was a socially-progressive Republican. He was open-minded on many issues, and had no racial or sexual intolerance. "My mother and he were anything but prejudiced and provincial," said Greco, "they raised my sister, Sue Hilk, and me with fabulous values and we were encouraged to make our own choices."

This openness was characteristic of his positions when it came to Town government. He was elected to the Town Council in 1988 and served two terms. "He loved the open space and the wanted to protect the ridgelines," says Sweeny-Greco, "but he understood the business issues, and was seeking reasonable managed growth to maintain the charm and personality of the town." In line with these positions he was involved in implementing the Moraga Open Space Ordinance (MOSO 1986).

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