

## Moraga Mayor Will Not Run

By Sophie Braccini



Mayor Lynda Deschambault at the Union Bank of California Ribbon Cutting Photo Sophie Braccini

ynda Deschambault was elected to the Moraga Town Council four years ago on the slogan, "Preserving our past, planning for our future." As Moraga's current Mayor, she feels that she accomplished her mission and now needs to focus her energy on a broader county-wide effort. Her term in office ends this year and she announced last weekend that she will not seek re-election in the fall.

"When you love everything that you do, it is hard to choose which one to invest in," she said, "And it is harder still to decide which one to let go of." Deschambault struggled with the decision for a while, but feels her legacy will stand.

One of her main objectives was to foster a more open and participating government in town; she believes that has been achieved, with documents readily accessible to the public and community groups fully engaged in town policy-making. She will continue to advocate to ensure that all meetings are open to the public.

A long-time environmental protection advocate, she is pleased with the progress that was made during her tenure and cites the protection of the Mulholland Ridge Open Space, the energy saving measures taken by the town and the compromise reached on the Palos Colorados Development.

Former Mayor Cherie Grant observed, "Lynda provided an opportunity for elected officials to engage in topics such as the long term sustainability of our community, and what type of legacy we want to leave to our children."