

Lamorinda Community Calendar, Notes, News

Moraga

Calendar	
City Council	7:30pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School 1010 Camino Pablo	
Monday, December 10	
November 26 canceled	
Planning Comm.	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Monday, November 17	
Design Review	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Tuesday, November 24	
Park & Rec	7:30pm
Hacienda, Mosaic Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Tuesday, November 18	
Liaison	8:00am
Fire Station 1280 Moraga Way	
Friday, November 14	
Town of Moraga online: http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us	



Taco Bell sign toast, 11/06/08 A white female, approximately 18-years-old, drove her Honda Passport through the drive-through and hit the electronic sign as she pulled away from the drive up window, and did not stop. Because a vigilant employee noted her license plate number, the young woman was contacted at St. Mary's College in her dorm room. Must've been anxious to enjoy her burrito.

Car vs. child, 11/02/08 At just after 3:00 p.m. the police department responded to a bicycle collision. Upon arrival, officers found a young boy and a small green bike under the rear tire of an SUV stopped in the roadway. The 8-year-old boy was treated for a broken leg and was transported to Children's Hospital for further medical attention.

Smashing pumpkins, 11/01/08 Real ones, not the band. Around 10:30 p.m., a Del Monte Way resident contacted police that someone smashed approximately 20 pumpkins in the roadway in front of her home. The reporting person had no idea who would do this. Public Works to the rescue – they came the next day to clean up.

Loud party, 11/01/08 Minutes after midnight, police responded to a Halloween party on Ascot Drive. The residents were cooperative, but cops stuck around to see that the approximately 15 party goers dispersed. A warning notice was issued and the hosts were warned of the repercussions should this happen again.

Moraga's New Council

By Sophie Braccini

As we go to press, the results of the elections have not yet been certified by the Contra Costa Elections Division. Provisional ballots still have to be verified and the county has until December 2nd to certify the outcome. Moraga had three Council seats to fill; Karen Mendonca and incumbent Mike Metcalf have won two of those seats. Candidates Howard Harpham and Janice Kolbe have only a seven vote difference between them. They are in 3rd and 4th place respectively and that margin was not enough for Harpham to feel comfortable claiming victory.

"Janice and I agree on probably 90% of the issues," said Harpham, "I'll be happy for her if she ends up winning and of course will be looking forward to sitting on the Council if my 3rd place is confirmed." Janice Kolbe added, "At

this point I would like to thank those who voted for me and continue to offer their support while we wait for the final results."

Karen Mendonca appears to have squeezed out a very narrow first place with an unofficial number of 4,012 votes compared to incumbent Mike Metcalf's 4002 votes, and she feels ready to sit with the four other Council Members. "I know all of them," says Mendonca, "I've talked with each of them, to Howard and Janice during the campaign, and I know Dave Trotter, Ken Chew, and Mike Metcalf from their work on the Council." Mendonca is looking forward to a Council committed to working together, treating each other with respect, and prioritizing in the best interests of Moraga.

Mendonca sees her election as a sign that people chose ethics and professionalism over other issues. ... continued on page 10

Land Use Initiatives: "No on Both" Triumphs

By Sophie Braccini

Moraga's heated debate over land use and open space came to a conclusion on election day, as Moraga voters voiced a clear preference for the status quo. Measure K, also known as MOSO 2008, which would have severely restricted open space development, was defeated with 56% of voters opposed to the initiative. The initiative that favored more development, Measure J, was soundly defeated as 86.5% of voters said "No."

"We obviously are disappointed in the election result, but feel very good about what we tried to do," said Renata Sos, who worked tirelessly over the past months in favor of Measure K, "We worked very hard to give the voters of Moraga the opportunity to protect our beautiful open space and preserve our quality of life."

Newly elected Council Member Karen Mendonca supported the measure as well: "I supported Measure K because I believe that our General Plan does not give enough teeth to city leaders to protect our ridgelines and sensitive lands. If citizens want to amend the General Plan we can review the guidelines

and make sure they are strong enough."

Howard Harpham was in the "No on Both" camp: "I'm glad they both failed," he said, adding that he believed that Measure K was particularly dangerous for the development of Moraga. "Now if people want to amend the General Plan we will have a discussion," he adds.

Mike Metcalf shares this point of view, noting, "This vote is a testament to the sagacity of Moraga people and we need to have gratitude to the 'No-No' people. I'm very happy about the result," he said. Metcalf is not opposed to a discussion about the General Plan but he believes that the General Plan's goals, policies and implementation programs are pretty effective, provided they are applied carefully and consistently. "It was good to learn that, during a recent Planning Commission discussion regarding the Rancho Laguna development, Planning Commissioners were testing the project against the General Plan — which is what they should be doing — and asking that inconsistencies be resolved," added Metcalf. ... continued on page 10

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- Rent the Hazienda for your next party
- Town Crier/Activity Guide due in your mailbox by December 1st

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