

Lamorinda Community

Moraga

MORAGA PARKS & RECREATION 925-888-7045
www.moraga.ca.us

- Breakfast with Santa, 8:30am seating still available, Sat., Dec. 13
- Try a new class - gymnastics, soccer, St. Mary's All Sport Camp, Cooking, Flag Football and more
- River Rock Casino trip, January 13
- Enjoy our "New Customer" 20% discount on a Parks and Recreation Department activity

- Calendar**
- City Council** 7:30pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School
1010 Camino Pablo
December 24 canceled
 - Planning Comm.** 7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room
2100 Donald Drive
Monday, December 15
 - Design Review** 7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room
2100 Donald Drive
Monday, December 22
 - Park & Rec** 7:30pm
Hacienda, Mosaic Room
2100 Donald Drive
Tuesday, December 16
 - Liaison** 8:00am
Fire Station
1280 Moraga Way
Friday, December 12
 - Town of Moraga online:
<http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us>



House Rocking, 12/02/08 A Francisca Drive resident called police to report at about 7:00 p.m. a group of male juveniles, approximately 17 to 19-years-old threw a rock at his house. The rock allegedly shattered a window; it's estimated the repair will cost is \$500.

Pot on campus, 12/01/08 A janitor found a plastic baggie with green plant material, suspected to be marijuana, at around 1:00 in the afternoon on the school grounds. So far no one has stepped forward to claim the 1.21 grams of evidence. Imagine that.

Not taking the hint, 11/30/08 An 18-year-old Moraga man was knocking on the doors and windows of a Cortes Court home at 3:00 in the morning. Police found the young man in the area, and oddly enough, he appeared to be intoxicated. He explained that the house belonged to his ex-girlfriend who wouldn't return his phone calls or text messages.

Loud party, 11/28/08 Officers came to a Hodges Drive home on a report of a loud party. The 18-year-old host cooperated with police and assisted in disbursing the 25 underage guests. The party featured large amounts of alcohol. Even the distinct smell of pot was detected. The nose knows. Presumably the parents were out of town.

On the Razor's Edge: Moraga's 2008-2009 budget

By Sophie Braccini

Moraga's Town Council praised staff on December 3rd for great work in balancing the Town's budget under difficult circumstances, while still finding funding for an additional police officer. However, everyone was aware that the fragile equilibrium could be compromised when and if the State of California acts to compensate for its \$20 billion deficit. "We are amongst the smallest fishes in the pond," said Finance Director Joan Streit, commenting on Moraga's position in the hierarchy of public agencies, "when the State declares a 'state of emergency' it can 'borrow' from us sums that we may never see again."

Interim Town Manager Jay Tashiro and Streit had to find financial solutions for a decreased income, while the Council requested funding for an additional police officer. Moraga Police counts 12 officers + 1 whose salary is paid by

COPS (Citizens Options for Public Safety), a State fund that could be on the chopping block. At the same time, Moraga's net income decreased by more than \$200,000, due to lost sales tax among other issues.

During the past few months, Town staff has suffered serious attrition. The solution for additional money was found there: by not replacing and/or downgrading the vacant positions. For example, the Human Resources manager will not be replaced and neither will the Town Clerk. Instead a position will be created for a Clerk/Assistant to the Town Manager. The Assistant to the Planning Director will be replaced by an administrative clerk. Additional cuts have been made in projects to make ends meet.

"If we lose more funding from the State, we will have to re-evaluate the level of service the residents are getting from staff," warned Streit.

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A Young Parks and Recreation Director Reaches Out To The Community

By Sophie Braccini



Jay Ingram, Moraga Parks and Recreation Director Photo Sophie Braccini

Jay Ingram joined Moraga Parks and Recreation Department (Parks and Rec) a little over a year ago. He arrived from Marin County, full of energy and with high hopes for the Moraga community: the town had just gotten back its own recreation department and was going to be able to offer new classes. "I do believe in the motto 'creating community through people, parks and programs,'" says Ingram, "Moraga has yet to recognize the positive impact a Parks and Rec can have on a community." He is working hard at improving their experience.

After a year in office, Ingram has a lot to show for it: the department is managing a full offering of classes for all ages (go to //moraga.ca.us/production/moraga_recreation_programs.php), in 2008 the Hacienda de las Flores hosted 49 paying events from retreats to music recitals, and from theater performances to weddings; Ingram organized the first community garage sale, summer movies at the Pavilion, the 2nd Annual Treeline Triathlon and many other events. Monthly trips were organized to take seniors to fun and exciting places in the Bay Area. The department worked with other groups and individuals for the success of Moraga Beautiful Week, 4th of July, the Summer Concert series, Pear Festival and the Hacienda Open House. Coming up are "Breakfast with Santa" and 15-minute private visits with the bearded man in red who comes bearing gifts. ... continued on page 7

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Contact Kevin Moss in membership, at 925.631.1913, or Membership@moragacc.com for more info & an application.

Our facilities are available to host your special event:

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- Golf Tournaments
- Bar & Bat Mitzvahs
- Receptions
- Reunions
- Wedding Ceremonies

Contact Kori Campbell, the Club's Catering Director, for more details: 925.631.1903, or Kori@moragacc.com.