

# Lamorinda Community Moraga

Calendar	
Town Council	7:30pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School 1010 Camino Pablo	
Wednesday, April 8	
Wednesday, April 22	
Planning Comm.	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Monday, April 6	
Design Review	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Monday, April 13	
Park & Rec	7:30pm
Hacienda, Mosaic Room 2100 Donald Drive	
Tuesday, April 21	
Liaison	8:00am
Fire Station 1280 Moraga Way	
Friday, April 10	
Town of Moraga online: <a href="http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us">http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us</a>	
Chamber of Commerce: <a href="http://www.moragachamber.org">http://www.moragachamber.org</a>	



**Possession of pot 3/20/09** Three 18-year-olds were contacted in the East Bay Regional Park staging area after closing time. Officers found marijuana in the center console of the car which happened to be registered to the driver's parents. In case of "dry mouth" they had a plastic bottle partially full of Arizona iced tea mixed with alcohol behind the driver's seat - clearly thinking ahead. The alcohol was photographed and disposed of. Driver was cited for possession of marijuana and an open container of alcohol.

**Handicap parking 3/19/09** Officers noticed a Buick Le Saber parked in a handicap stall that faces Safeway - it had a disabled placard hanging from the rear-view mirror. Officers stopped the vehicle as it left the parking lot. The driver told officers that the owner of the placard was a family member who had recently passed away and she didn't know that she could not use the placard. Surely the officer was filing this under lame excuse of the day. She was issued a citation and the placard was confiscated.

**Possession of marijuana 3/14/09** A suspicious vehicle was reported at the rear delivery area of the Home Goods store in Rheem. A couple was in the car and gave their permission for the vehicle to be searched; the female advised officers that she had marijuana in her pants pocket. She was cited for possession. Great location for a romantic date, maybe the pot made it seem like Paris?

**Fight on campus, 3/14/09** Officers contacted a male student at 1:00 a.m. in the Claeys parking lot on a report that he was causing a disturbance and appeared incoherent. The subject said he was in a fight with six other male students, although the alleged opponents (presumed to be intelligent college students) had wisely scattered by the time the cops came. Our erstwhile intoxicated student was unable to identify any of the subjects and didn't want to prosecute. A friend offered to escort him back to his dorm room to sleep it off.

## Meet Mike Segrest, Moraga's New Town Manager

By Sophie Braccini

Mike Segrest, Moraga's new Town Manager, has the face and experience of a seasoned sailor. If sailing is a metaphor for life, Segrest has helped captain the helm of several town governments as well as skipping his own boat in the Caribbean. Through both calm and turbulent waters, Segrest brings an impressive list of accomplishments to the Town of Moraga. The challenges in our fair town are a contest for any captain, and how Segrest will maneuver through our own sea of opportunities remains to be seen.

Segrest started his career as a landscape architect and town planner in Austin, Texas. Working in Austin, Segrest gained valuable experience working on open space development projects such as Town Lake, a large body of water surrounded by public parks and recreation facilities. Later, he moved to Boulder Colorado where, as the Town's Parks and Recreation Director, he developed and managed a number of local recreation projects. His success in managing Parks and Recreation ultimately led him to the role of Boulder's Assistant Town Manager. As the Director of Community Services in Lakewood Colorado, Segrest participated in a number of high profile development projects including a new community golf course. Feeling the pull of the sea, he took a two-year sabbatical to sail the Caribbean Islands with his wife, Debbie. He returned to Colorado as the Town Manager of Snowmass Village, a small ski resort that was suffering

from chronic deficits and a community development plan that had been on the drawing board for twenty years. "The challenge at Snowmass was to create a consensus that would work for the town, the developer and the public," recalls Segrest.

A town manager has to work with people and organizations that see things from many different perspectives. "It is more interesting to deal with different opinions," he says, that's how creative solutions emerge." At Snowmass, it took work, negotiations and a referendum to finally approve the mixed-use development that Segrest was hired to bring to fruition. Part of the challenge was getting local residents on board. "With any change comes a certain degree of uncertainty," admits Segrest, "some are afraid to lose their quality of life; the issues of traffic impact, esthetics always come to the forefront." Segrest sees his role as bridging the gap between what the community can embrace and what the developers find interesting. For example, he believes that affordable housing in Moraga is a necessity to conform to our State mandate, but that the quality and the appropriateness of the location are key to properly integrating it into the fabric of the town.

"The economic situation we're in has one positive aspect," says Segrest about Moraga's state of affairs, "a down-turn is a good time to plan and get ready for when the cycle starts again."

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## Moraga Appoints a Revenue Enhancement Committee

By Sophie Braccini

A much anticipated Revenue Enhancement Committee was approved by the Moraga Town Council on March 26. Only three Council Members were present; the two newest members, Karen Mendonca and Howard Harpham, were away in training. The mission of the Committee is to recommend to the Town Council potential strategies for enhancing existing, and creating new, revenues sources for the General Fund and special-purpose needs.

Back in February, the Town Council authorized the formation of a Revenue Enhancement committee, and appointed Mayor Dave Trotter and Council Member Mike Metcalf to serve on that committee. The two men worked on a charter document and the list of people they felt were suitable to sit on the committee.

At the Council meeting, Vice-Mayor Chew asked why other Council Members had not been asked to propose names and why no announcement for recruitment was made to the public. At this time it appears that one seat is still vacant for a member of the Chamber of Commerce and one for the general public.

Trotter and Metcalf wrote the

charter and selected the members according to a series of criteria. "Among other things, we were looking for people with a broad cross-section of prior and current experience, as community volunteers and/or elected officials, with the Town, the MOFD and the Moraga schools," said Mayor Trotter, we were also looking for people with specific skills and expertise in financial and accounting matters, corporate and municipal finance, and public communications. These criteria guided the selection process."

Each town and city has different processes to set up such committees. For example, in Orinda, according to Mayor Sue Severson, the Charter of the Revenue Enhancement Task Force was written by the entire City Council, all Orinda community members were eligible to apply, and a description of the committee was posted publicly, in many ways, for several weeks.

The selected individuals in Moraga are: Trish Bare, who has a long record of community service in Moraga focusing on education and improving local schools; a former attorney, Bare served for many years on the board of directors of the Moraga Education Foundation (MEF).

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## Palos Colorados Precise Development Plan Approved, But...

By Sophie Braccini

The joint meeting between the Planning Commission and the Design Review Board on March 16 made definite progress in getting the Palos Colorados development project where it wants to go, meaning, off the ground of the property located east of Moraga Road and south of Sky Hy Drive. The Precise Development Plan (PDP) was approved by the Planning Commission after a long discussion where all participants made a conscious effort to find common ground. The plan approves plans for semi-custom

homes and design guidelines for the property owners who may want to build totally custom homes. However, on March 25, the Planning Commission's decision was appealed by a Council Member and the Town Council will review the issue at its April 8 meeting.

The main issues that had stopped the Commission and the Design Review Board from adopting the plan during previous sessions were the lack of written commitment from the developer to apply green guidelines to the

project and the size of some semi-custom homes that exceeded 6000 sq ft, not including the garage, that were found excessive for lots that often barely exceed 1/2 acre.

During the March 16 meeting, it was clear that both staff and developer were eager to reach a solution. At a previous Town Council meeting, Moraga Mayor Dave Trotter had clearly formulated his desire to see the matter resolved, so the Planning Commission could concentrate on other issues, such as the Specific Plan.

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### GREAT HOMES FOR THE SPRING MARKET!

**New Listing!**

**315 BIRCHWOOD DR., MORAGA**  
Views of Mt. Diablo!  
Lots of potential! Great floorplan, 2243 sqft, 4 Br, 2 Ba, needs some TLC. Fabulous .36 ac. lot with pool, play areas & views of Mt. Diablo.  
**\$950,000**  
[WWW.315BIRCHWOODDR.COM](http://www.315BIRCHWOODDR.COM)

**9 SANDERS RANCH RD., MORAGA**  
Beautiful traditional home in great gated community. 4Br, 3.5 Ba, 3 car garage on .31 ac. Many improvements and walking distance to K-8 Moraga schools.  
**\$1,375,000**  
[WWW.9SANDERSRANCHRD.COM](http://www.9SANDERSRANCHRD.COM)

**7 DICKENSON DRIVE, MORAGA**  
Gorgeous traditional home, featured on 2003 Kitchen Tour. Completely updated throughout 2294 sqft, 4Br, 2 Ba, .23ac. lot & studio. Walking distance to outstanding K-8 Moraga schools.  
**\$1,125,000**  
[WWW.7DICKENSONDR.COM](http://www.7DICKENSONDR.COM)

**86 SANDERS RANCH RD., MORAGA**  
Fabulous resort-like back yard featured on the 2008 Lamorinda Garden Tour. Over 3400 sqft, 5 Br, 3.5 Ba, on a .75 acre lot. Completely updated with heated floors.  
**\$1,875,000**  
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**EASTER EGG HUNT @ 10:00am (All Kids Are Invited!)**

**APRIL 12TH**  
**"RESURRECTION POWER: WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?"**

## WILLOW SPRING CHURCH

Is proud to provide **FOUR** services for you and your family beginning this Easter Sunday!

<p><b>CHILDREN'S CHURCH:</b> (with Pastor Zach Diestler)</p> <p>10:30am A service "for kids by kids" with songs, games and crafts! (Kindergarten-5th Grade)</p>	<p><b>ADULT SERVICES:</b> (with Pastor Brad Reiches)</p> <p>9:00am; Traditional 10:30am; Contemporary (Nursery care is available for both services)</p>	<p><b>YOUTH SERVICE:</b> (with Pastor Darren Hill)</p> <p>10:30am A high-energy service for Junior High and High School students!</p>
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Willow Spring Church is an evangelical, non-denominational, Bible-Driven church with a vision to:

*"Work with God to build effective people who are inspired to excellence and committed to others."*

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**Sign up for "Camp Hacienda" Moraga's first Summer day camp. Come for an entire day or 1/2 day. Camp starts June 17 and goes every weekday until August 14. Sign up early as space will be limited. Look for details in our Summer Activity Guide.**