



Moraga Civic News

Public Meetings

Town Council

Wednesday, October 12, 7:00 pm
Wednesday, October 26, 7:00 pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School,
1010 Camino Pablo

Planning Commission

Monday, October 17, 7:30 pm
Moraga Library, 1500 Saint Marys Rd

Design Review

Monday, October 24, 7:00 pm
Moraga Library, 1500 Saint Marys Rd

Liaison

Friday, October 14, 8:00 am
Fire Station, 1280 Moraga Way

School Board Meeting

Moraga School District
Tuesday, November 8, 7:30 pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate
School Auditorium
1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
www.moraga.k12.ca.us
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

Town of Moraga:

www.moraga.ca.us

Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org



Police Report

Sexual Battery, 9/27/11 At St. Mary's College, a female student reported an incident of sexual battery in Hagerty Lounge with an international student. The victim requested the investigation be submitted to the District Attorney's Office for criminal review.

Phone not home, 9/30/11 Great workout, but apparently the phone thief wasn't a team player. At 9:15 p.m. a St. Mary's student was playing intramural football near the gym and placed his iPhone on the ground near the edge of the field. About half an hour later he returned to find his phone had gone missing. No witnesses at this time – the fellas were too busy watching the ball. Approximate value \$400.

Semi-similar vanished phone, 9/30/11 A Campolindo student said she left her iPhone and other personal items on the ground next to her locker at lunchtime. When she turned around to pick up her things, the phone was a goner. Once again – lots of students milling around, but no one saw anything.

D.U.I. 10/01/11 Cops pulled over a Mitsubishi weaving along Moraga Road at 9:30 at night. The 28-year old driver showed objective signs of alcohol intoxication. She flunked the breathalyzer test big time - .24, three times the legal limit.

Thief strikes again, 10/03/11 The Assistant Manager of Orchard Supply Hardware reported that a familiar white adult male entered the store, grabbed a Milwaukee tool set, and left through an unsecured side exit. Apparently the same fellow had stolen several items in the past month at the Moraga OSH and other OSH locations. Loss was approximately \$499.

Smashed car window, 10/3/11 Although nothing was missing, someone broke a car window from a vehicle that was parked on Donald Drive. Estimated cost of having the window replaced, \$300.

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Wine and a Movie? Maybe Not

By Sophie Braccini

To sip a glass of Chardonnay on a leather sofa while watching a movie on the big screen is one idea of entertainment that the operators of The New Rheem Theatre want to bring to Moraga. After installing the sofas, the California Independent Film Festival Association (CAIFFA) applied for an alcohol license from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) last July. Not long after that the ABC indicated that 'an area resident' filed a protest and the matter will have to be settled through a public hearing.

"I contacted Beverage Control and the person who filed the protest is Emily Justice," said Chief of Moraga Police Bob Priebe, "The over-concentration issue was the reason given for the protest. I was not told how many licenses are active in the Rheem Center, but at one license per 2500 (people), that means only six are recommended for the entire town."

There are already 11 active licenses in Moraga, including restaurants and stores that sell alcohol. Emily Justice was, at the time she filed the protest, the Director of Youth Development and Training at the Center for Human Development, a non-profit funded in part by Contra Costa Health Services. At the time she left that position, Justice was the supervisor of Jaime Rich, the Center's Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coordinator.

In August, the Alcohol & Other Drugs Advisory Board to the Contra Costa Health Services wrote a con-

cerned letter to ABC indicating that it was not opposed to the sale of alcohol but wanted to make sure that no minors would be able to gain access to it.

"We thought it would be acceptable as long as the 21 and over crowd had access to alcohol in a separate area," said Moraga resident and Advisory Board member Jim Doyle, "we were concerned that the theater is a family venue." Doyle also indicated that every time he went to events organized at either the Rheem or the Orinda Theatre (which is also managed by CAIFFA) he was pleased with the way things were handled and he was aware that Moraga needs more businesses, not less. "It is important for the community to weigh in," he said.

CAIFFA's Leonard Pirkle has been quite concerned with the whole process. "We have increasing demands from the studios that are requiring that we buy all digital equipment for our theaters, and we won't be able to make that important investment (in the \$200,000 range) if we do not increase our concession sales," he said, "ABC would like us to have one of our theaters dedicated to viewers 21 and older, which could be hard to manage. I don't know if we have a solution, but we are trying to come up with a plan."

The date of the hearing has not yet been set. John Carr, ABC Public Information Officer, indicated that ABC encourages applicants and protesters to sit down and discuss solu-

tions before heading to a hearing.

Jaime Rich, who does not want to be a hindrance to local business, indicated that she would like to discuss the situation with CAIFFA. "If I could sit down with them and come up with a reasonable solution, there's a possibility that the protest could be dropped," she said, although she was

not sure if she had the authority to do so or if she'd have to refer back to Contra Costa Health Services.

Residents who wish to express their support or opposition to the project can call ABC at (510) 622-4970 or send an email either to ABC at OAKDirect@abc.ca.gov or to Jaime Rich at Jaime@chd-prevention.org.

The Haunting of the New Rheem Theatre



The California Independent Film Festival Association recently announced the return of the Dark Dreams Haunted House to the large theater the last two weekends in

October. The construction started in late September. "These are all professional sets," explains Joanne Foy, "we are creating 2000 square feet full of nightmares!"

Foy warns younger residents that this is a scary haunt. "Children 10 to 99 years old can come on their own," she says, "but younger ones could be scared by the monster and should only wander in under their parents' supervision."

On Halloween day, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., the "house" will be free of monsters so that little ones can go without risking too big a scare. "It's old fashion fun for the whole family, children, teens and adults alike, and completely safe," adds Foy, who's been doing this for years and admits that she absolutely loves it because it reminds her of her childhood.

Senior Solutions, Foy's company, is the corporate sponsor of the event. "This is an annual fundraiser for the theater," adds Foy, "all of the workers and participating monsters are volunteers." The haunting will take place on October 21, 23, and 28-31 from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. and 'til midnight on Halloween.

TSAC Establishes a Formal Appeal Process

By Sophie Braccini

All appointed bodies in town, such as the Design Review Board or Planning Commission, have an appeal process to allow residents who disagree with decisions to call on the elected body, the Town Council. Until now, the Traffic Safety Advisory Commit-

tee (TSAC) didn't have an explicit appeal process, which led residents who couldn't satisfy TSAC rules to abandon their requests. In response to a demand from the Town Council, the three remaining members of TSAC remedied that situation last week.

"We are an advisory body, we should not be able to terminate citizens' requests with no recourse," said TSAC Chair John Valentine.

Chief of Police Bob Priebe added that it was important, even if a project didn't satisfy all of TSAC's conditions at the neigh-

borhood level, that it could be reviewed by the Council that would consider the overall safety of the Town.

TSAC members decided on a 30-day appeal period. Next month, the committee will reconsider other aspects of its traffic guide.

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

OKTOBERFEST IN MORAGA!
Hosted by the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga and Moraga Parks and Recreation
Sunday, October 16, 2:00-6:00pm at the Hacienda
Food and drink, music, fun for the entire family

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1700 School Street, Moraga, Ca
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Serbian Food Festival



Saturday, Oct. 15th, 2011
12:00 Noon to 9 p.m.

~Authentic Serbian Cuisine~
Sarma - Kobasice - Cevapcici - Raznici
~Barbecued Lamb & Pig~
~Delicious Home-made Pastries~
Torte - Strudel - Rostule - Other
~Beverages~

~ Serbian Music & Dancing ~

Mark Your Calendar Now!
Join Us and Bring Your Friends!

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