



Ware Designs
Fine Jewelry since 1977
 3645 Mt. Diablo Blvd.,
 Lafayette
 between Trader Joes & the Post Office
 283-2988
 www.waredesigns.com

50% off
Watch Battery
 Now \$5, Reg \$10
1 watch battery per person. Exp. 6/30/12. Usually installed while you wait. W/coupon. Restrictions apply.

**DESIGN
 INSTALLATION
 IRRIGATION
 DRAINAGE
 STONWORK
 CONCRETE WORK
 DECKS
 FENCES
 PATIOS
 LAWNS
 PONDS
 CLEANUP &
 HAULING**

BLUE RIDGE

925-258-9233
 CELL: 510-847-6160

LANDSCAPE COMPANY INC.
 BLUE JAY FELDMAN
 OWNER/OPERATOR
 WWW.BLUERIDGELC.COM

LICENSED
 INSURED
 Lic# 818633

Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts with our community!
 Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and city/town of residence -- we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only). Letters should be 350 words or less; letters of up to 500 words will be accepted on a space-available basis. **email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com;**
 Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

Editor:

The Orinda City Council should proceed with the process of amending Orinda's General Plan. It has been three years since the citizen's task force submitted its final report. Only the downtown portion of the report remains to be adopted. It is time for the Council to finish hearing the recommendations and vote on the two remaining issues: the addition of housing downtown and the enabling of more flexible zoning standards, including an increase of the height limit to 55 feet. The Council has heard sufficient public testimony. It has surveyed the community. No citizen vote is necessary. Those of us who have studied in detail the recommendations before the Council are satisfied that the addition of a modest number of housing units would add to the vitality of downtown and that the modest height limit increase proposed would not deny views of the hills in any material way. We elected our City Council to be our representative body. We applaud the Councilmembers for their openness, dedication and patience. It is time for their vote.

Tom Trowbridge
 Orinda

with Rancho Laguna the way it is, the 3-2 Council vote was not the way to eliminate something that so many people enjoy, and the Town has better things to do with its time and money than to continue trying to cut off users from Rancho Laguna. Collecting over 1800 signatures in less than two weeks time was not difficult because the majority wants Rancho Laguna to remain "as is." We turned in the petitions on June 6, and the next day the Town Clerk verified that there were more than enough signatures to temporarily suspend the ordinance. Now the County Elections office will examine the signatures and inform the Town within 30 business days of its review. If, as we expect, the final number of verified signatures is more than 10% of registered Moraga voters, the Town Council will have to decide whether to rescind the ordinance that ended off leash hours or put it on a ballot for all of us to vote on. This effort was so positive in so many ways. It got people talking and gave people a chance to be heard. It allowed all of us to participate in keeping Moraga a great place to live. There are a lot of happy faces at Rancho Laguna now. Thank you, Moraga!

Trish Bare, Moraga
 Tina Brier, Moraga

Editor:

We are two of the over 100 Moraga voters who participated in asking neighbors to sign petitions to stop the implementation of an ordinance that would have effectively banned all off-leash dog walking at any time at Rancho Laguna Park with no concrete alternative in sight. In less than two weeks, our group of similarly minded people collected over 1800 signatures of registered Moraga voters to tell the Council it had made a mistake. The outpouring from the community was inspiring. Although a few people who wanted to end a 30 year tradition - and ban the adults and children in our community who love to meet in the evening (and morning) with their dogs at the park - have complained about the referendum, the people who gathered signatures all said the vast majority were eager to sign the referendum. Voting is our cherished democratic process. Many expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to voice their feelings and many offered to circulate petitions to their friends and neighbors. A number of people who circulated petitions do not own dogs and rarely go to Rancho Laguna. They were just baffled by the Council's decision and its failure to acknowledge what many people in the community treasure - a short time each day to get together and talk (with or without dogs). The messages we heard most often were that people are happy

Editor:

What delicious irony: The June 6 edition of Lamorinda Weekly that gave us an article titled, "Spirit Van Program Seeks Friends with Funds in Moraga" about the Moraga Town Council declining to add \$3,500 to van service funding for disabled seniors and seniors without drivers licenses also told us in another article about "Sidewalk Beautification" in Lafayette, CA funded by federal taxpayers in Lafayette, AL, Lafayette, CO, Lafayette, IN, Lafayette, LA, Lafayette, MN, Lafayette, MO, Lafayette, OH, Lafayette, OR, Lafayette, NJ, and others. Since these fellow Lafayettes have shared in the tens-of-thousands of dollars cost of putting "decorative brick" in front of the Round Up (sic) Saloon, Lamorindans should not complain when Representative John "Free Lunch" Garamendi asks us to contribute to a \$100 thousand park bench in Lafayette, AL honoring the memory of former Rep. Willie "Boll Weevil" Wilson or \$200 thousand for a bronze statue of a praying prawn for Lafayette, LA, or \$300 thousand for . . . a decorative brick sidewalk in front of the Square Down Saloon in Lafayette, NJ. To borrow from that old quote about death: Everyone knows there is no free lunch . . . but no one believes it.

Edward C. Hartman
 Moraga

Join our Public Forum

If you have significant knowledge about an issue facing Lamorinda or one of its cities that requires more than the 350 words to which we limit letters to the Editor, don't despair! You can submit your letter to our Public Forum section. Just send your letter to **letters@lamorindaweekly.com** and let us know you'd like to be considered for the Public Forum.

MIKE'S AUTO BODY

WHERE QUALITY COUNTS
 Established in 1972

Mike Rose proudly announces
 the opening of our
 Lafayette Location...!!!

Mike's Auto Body
 3430 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
 (former Butler-Conti Dodge location)
 Lafayette CA 94549
 (925) 283-5600
 Lafayette@mautobody.com

Approved by most major insurance companies...

2012 Marks 40 Years in Business

Visit our website for our other 7 locations
 www.mautobody.com

SAVE FROM \$20...UP TO \$100 ON MANY SPACES THIS MONTH!

ONE EXAMPLE, ON SALE FOR A LIMITED TIME: WAS \$168 - NOW \$149!

THESE STORAGE PRICES AND MANY LIKE THEM WILL HOLD FOR 3 MONTHS!
 YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS THIS SPECIAL SALE!*

COME IN AND TAKE A TOUR. WE'LL GIVE YOU A GREAT TOTE BAG AS OUR "THANKS" FOR STOPPING BY. YOU'RE WELCOME ANY TIME!

TELL US HOW WE'RE DOING - GO TO 5ASPACE.COM AND CLICK ON OUR LINKS:

USE OUR FREE VAN TO MOVE IN WHEN YOU RENT!

ASK FOR YOUR 2012 NEIGHBORHOOD COUPONS WHEN YOU COME VISIT US!

455 MORAGA ROAD, SUITE F
 (925) 631-7000
 WWW.5ASPACE.COM

*Storage unit sale limited to units on hand: 1st come, 1st served. Offers expire June 30, 2012