



Moraga Civic News

Public Meetings

Town Council

Wednesday, October 24, 7:00 pm
Wednesday, November 13, 7:00 pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School,
1010 Camino Pablo

Planning Commission

Monday, November 5, 7:00 pm
Moraga Library, 1500 Saint Marys Rd

Design Review

Monday, October 29, 7:00 pm
Moraga Library, 1500 Saint Marys Rd

School Board Meeting

Moraga School District

Tuesday, November 13, 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
Phone: (925) 888-7022

Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org



Police Report

Underage slightly drunk driving, 10/13/12 At just after midnight, a car with a broken license plate lamp was pulled over in front of the Rheem Shopping Center. Cops found that the 20-year-old driver smelled like alcohol. After some field sobriety tests, his blood alcohol content was found to be .013%, substantially under the .08% that defines drunk driving, but he was under twenty-one, so he was ticketed.

Bike theft, 10/13/12 Sometime between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. a girl's Trek mountain bike was taken from a Ross Drive front porch. Estimated value is \$100.

Keyed front car door, 10/13/12 A brand new Infinity JX35 was parked on Walford Drive near Rimer Drive between 6:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. when someone keyed the front passenger door and spit at the door's glass window. Estimated damage roughly \$500. No witnesses or leads at this time, but it sounds like someone has anger issues.

Stolen campaign signs, 10/09/12 Nineteen of twenty negative political signs about a particular Town Council candidate were stolen from various locations around town. Value of the signs is approximately \$130. A police report was requested to document the theft.

Razor blade through window, 10/09/12 While the vehicle's owner was attending a Moraga School Board meeting at Joaquin Moraga School someone wedged a razor blade into the passenger window of the parked car. No damage was done to car, but the victim requested documentation.

Same night, same place, more vandalism, 10/09/12 Sometime after 5:55 p.m. a superficial, six-inch long scratch was etched in a School Board member's car while it was parked at Joaquin Moraga School. There was no evidence to suggest the damage was intentional or accidental.



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Cows Grazing on Our Hills: A Century-Old Affair

By Sophie Braccini



Photo Andy Scheck

Moraga is not India, but cows are sacred here; they herald the semi-rural character that the Town and most of its residents view with

pride. John Hoover and his family have raised cattle in Moraga for more than a century—his cows have grazed along Mulholland Ridge since the late '70s. "We've been raising cattle in the town of Moraga since 1910," said Hoover. "I've been here all my life."

On October 10, the Moraga Town Council renewed its contract with Hoover for two more years, allowing his cattle to continue grazing at the Mulholland Open Space Preserve.

The cows provide a way to keep the grass low on the hills. "We also provide fire breaks that we dig with our tractors, and we keep up the fences," said Hoover. He also added two new water sources for his animals that serve wildlife as well.

Hoover said that he and his crew are happy to educate children about the cows when they walk on the trails and ask questions. "We make sure that the cows are gentle," said Hoover during the meeting. Walnut Creek residents got their city to ban cattle grazing in town, arguing that the animals were dangerous. "If a cow shows signs of being mean, I remove it and put it in a pasture that is not a public agency," said Hoover.

Council Member Dave Trotter commented that he heard Moraga grass was the best in the area. "Moraga grass has a lot of late growth," confirmed Hoover, "and it can reach 24 inches high. We really appreciate being able to graze here."

Political Signs Politically Correct?

By Sophie Braccini



Getting a bit overwhelmed by signs?

Photo Sophie Braccini

They're everywhere. During election season they're like mushrooms after the rain; they seem to sprout spontaneously at night out of the most fertile electorate ground, especially at roadway intersections.

It may interest you to learn, though, that strictly speaking, these signs are not legal.

The Moraga sign ordinance indicates that political signs can be set at election time on public land; but California code specifies that, to be lawful, a sign ordinance has to be 'content neutral', not setting specific rules based on what the sign says, ruling just on its size, luminosity, location, etcetera.

However, it's likely that residents would be displeased if Town employees spent their time removing signs. So the Town looks the other way, at least for a month or so, as candidates freely redecorate the town. And sometimes, things get a bit rough.

Recently signs urging residents to remove Council Member Karen Mendonca from office appeared alongside her own campaign signs—they were swiftly removed by an unknown person or persons. The resident who put up the signs, Doug Home, came to a recent Town Council meeting to notify his elected representatives that his 20 signs had gone missing. "I strongly support your right to post any sign you want," said Mendonca.

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.

Send a letter to the editor:

letters@lamorinda
weekly.com



MORAGA'S LOCAL PROBLEM:

- OUR ROADS ARE FAILING
- LOCAL FUNDS ARE REQUIRED TO FIX THEM
- IT'S ALREADY A \$25 MILLION PROBLEM
- IN 10 YEARS, IT'LL BE A \$75 MILLION PROBLEM
- FAILING ROADS HURT OUR HOME VALUES
- BAD ROADS SLOW EMERGENCY RESPONSES

MORAGA'S LOCAL SOLUTION:

- A ONE-CENT SALES TAX -- JUST FOR MORAGA
- FIXES POTHOLES AND CRACKS
- KEEPS STREETS FROM DETERIORATING FURTHER
- REPAIRS MORAGA'S ROADS WHILE PROTECTING SERVICES
- FUNDS CAN'T BE TAKEN BY THE STATE

For Moraga – Vote **YES on K**
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More Information at www.MoragansForMeasureK.com

Paid for by Moragans For Measure K

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6TH ANNUAL DARK DREAMS HAUNTED HOUSE

OCT. 19 & 20, OCT. 26-28 2011, AND HALLOWEEN OCT. 31 - 7-11PM

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