



### MORAGA

See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements  
**Town of Moraga:**  
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## Rheem Theatre sold



Rheem Theatre and surrounding retail shops Photo Vera Kochan

### By Vera Kochan

Moraga's Rheem Theatre located at 350 Park Street, has been on and off of the market since 2008 when prior property owner Mahesh Puri tried to sell it. With a list price of \$4.2 million, on April 12 the property finally found a buyer.

The Rheem Theatre property includes retail shops Glam Palace at 348 Park Street, iRepair Moraga at 354 Park Street, Sushi Fighter at 356 Park Street, and Ristorante Amoroma at 360 Park Street.

The Kase Group's Senior Vice President Michael Cisternino confirmed the April 12 closing date. The 2.1-acre lot with a square footage of 22,828 sold for \$4 million to Cinema West, which has a corporate office in Petaluma and owns theaters with 14 locations in California alone.

The historic Rheem Theatre, built in 1957 by architects Cantin and Cantin, boasted a lobby loaded with movie memorabilia, but theater operator Derek Zemrak confirmed that the movie memorabilia was not part of the sale and will not be staying at the Rheem.

Moraga Community Foundation President Tom Schnurr stated, "We are happy to say that our lease remains intact and it is currently business as usual at the Rheem!" This statement is evidenced by the theatre's marquee listing the April 26 opening of the much anticipated and potential blockbuster "Avengers: Endgame."

Lamorinda Weekly reached out to Cinema West for information about future plans for the Rheem Theatre property and adjacent retail shops but did not receive a reply by press time.

## Sinkhole

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While the town has made it clear that the property owners are responsible for repairs to the storm drain pipes on their property, the town continues to offer technical support. Town staff is gathering qualified consultants, many of whom were in-

involved with the 2016 Rheem Sinkhole, to provide that support.

To date, \$19,652.20 has been spent in providing technical support for the property owners. The \$80,000 appropriation will cover that and provide additional funding for the next few weeks until a plan has been developed. The

\$1.65 million reimbursement to the General Fund for the Temporary Canyon Bridge is expected to restore the town's General Fund Reserve level to 50 percent of operating expenditures by June 30 and is enough to cover the initial emergency response.



**Town Council**  
 Wednesday, May 8, 7 p.m.  
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

**Planning Commission**  
 Monday, May 6, 7 p.m.  
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

**Park and Recreation Commission**  
 Tuesday, May 21, 7 p.m.  
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

**Moraga School District Board Meetings**  
 Tuesday, May 14, 7 p.m.  
 Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga  
 www.moraga.k12.ca.us  
 See also AUHSD meeting page A2



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