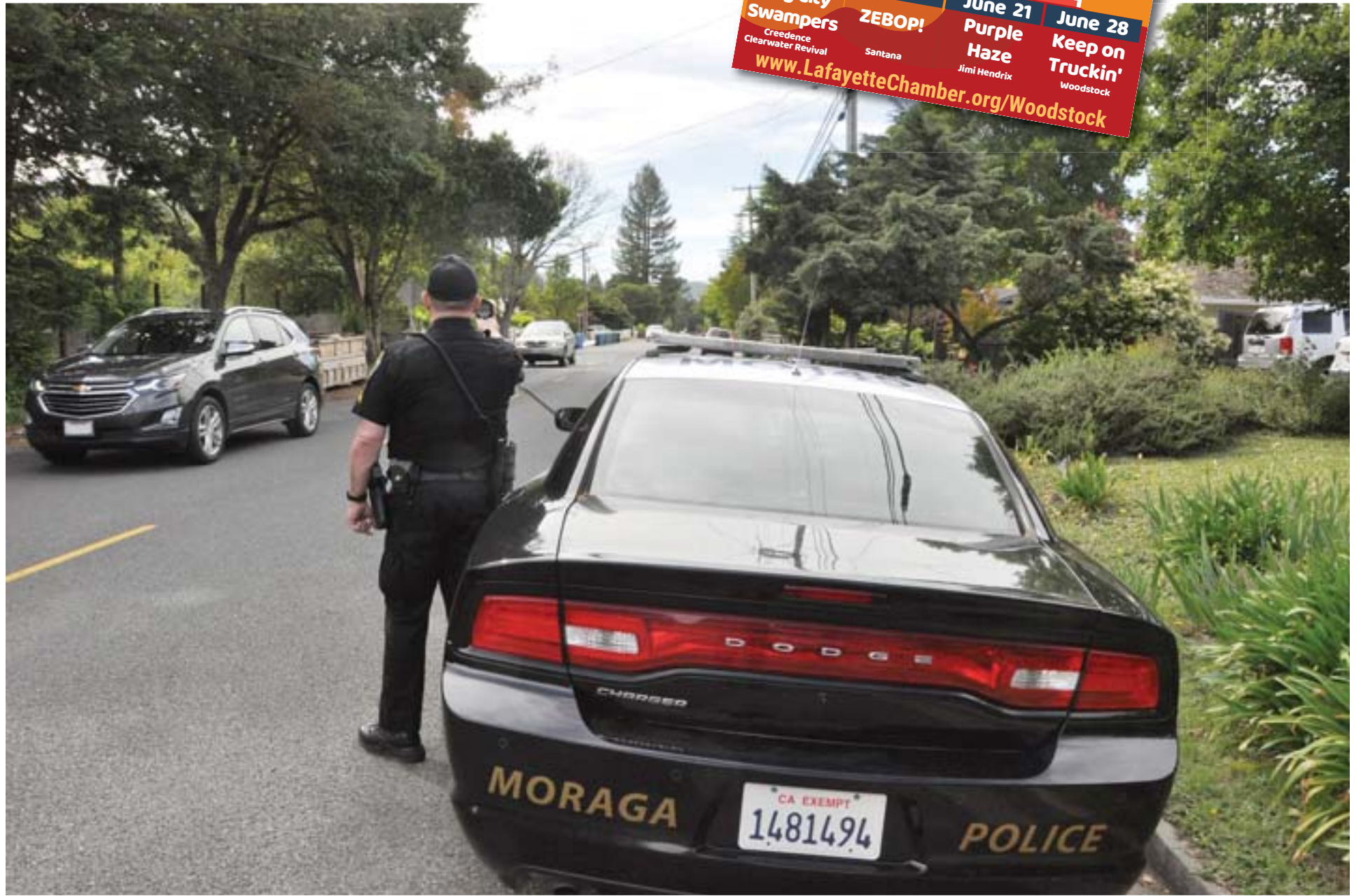




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Corp. R. Douthit points his speed gun at traffic on a Moraga neighborhood street.

Photo Andy Scheck

# Moraga a top town for speeding citations

By Vera Kochan

According to the Lamorinda Weekly's police blotter section, in the last month the Moraga Police Department handed out over 70 speeding tickets, and Moraga Police Chief Jon King stated that 624 speeding citations were issued in 2018.

When KPIX Channel 5 conducted a survey in 2013 to determine "which Bay Area town hands out the most speeding tickets," the small quiet town of

Moraga came out on top, handing out more speeding tickets per capita than any other municipality in the Bay Area.

When asked what the highest speed ever clocked was, King said, "I don't know the highest, but I have seen citations issued for speeds in excess of 90 mph on Moraga Way." It's common to see citations for reckless driving listed in both the Lafayette and Orinda police blotters as well.

Teen drivers don't fare very well when caught

speeding, King added. "Newer drivers who have a provisional driver's license can receive additional penalties, as they also violate the terms of the provisional license when they violate the Vehicle Code."

MPD vehicles come equipped with two speed tracking devices. Speed guns, the very same ones used to determine a pitcher's fastball, operate by Doppler radar, which performs speed measurements.

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# JMLT fills final donation gap to keep Painted Rock wild

Painted Rock property with the end of Buckingham Drive on right.




Photo Adam Weidenbach

By Sophie Braccini

A few days before the deadline for the John Muir Land Trust to deliver the \$2 million necessary to purchase the Painted Rock property, \$103,000 dollars were still missing – approximately the same amount the Moraga Town Council refused to contribute to the project. But recognizing that such an opportunity to preserve open space for future generations could not be missed, the JMLT board decided to use its reserve to fill the gap. Now Moraga and Lamorinda residents will have the privilege to gain access to over 500 acres of open recreational and stunningly beautiful space, from the very center of town.

JMLT Executive Director Linus Eukel explains that the reason why the board decided to contribute the missing funds to purchase the land of late Roger Poynts was the unprecedented number of people who contributed; the number of calls, emails, and donations coming in every day for the Campaign To Save Painted Rock was unlike anything the land trust has ever seen in three decades of conserving land. "Sometimes a very small amount of money: \$5, \$20," he says. "But it showed that the people of the community really cared."

The number of people contributing and calling the trust to find out if the target was met was in fact a bit overwhelming to the staff of the trust, which is a lean nonprofit where resources go to land preservation, not to payroll. ... continued on Page A11

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