

I ♥ Moraga: Call for Photos
 Email to recdesk@moraga.ca.us
 For Town's New Website
moragarec.com
925-888-7045



EXPERIENCE MATTERS



Linda Ehrich
 Realtor
 93 Moraga Way
 Orinda, CA 94563
 925.698.1452
 Linda@LindaEhrich.com
 www.LindaEhrich.com
 DRE# 01330298



LINDA EHRIKH



Kymberleigh Korpus: Her journey to becoming mayor of Moraga



Photo Vera Kochan

From left, new Vice Mayor Mike McCluer and new Moraga Mayor Kymberleigh Korpus at the dais.

By Vera Kochan

As Moraga's new mayor, Kymberleigh Korpus takes the reigns of a reorganized town council while looking back on her road to the end result. In 2011, when she and her family moved back into the town where she grew up, Korpus never imagined that one day she would become its mayor. "I vaguely intended to try to 'get involved' in town government at some point in the future, but the intention wasn't clearly enough formulated in my mind to even consider the possibility that holding an elected position here in town was a potential reality – much less being the mayor."

Korpus' first foray into government involvement was to join the Planning Commission in March 2016, after a neighbor's complaint over a Rainbow play structure she was installing for her kids the prior year. Upon her appointment, she voraciously studied the Moraga Municipal Code and Moraga Design Guidelines. When a controversial project (Moraga Town Center Homes) came up for review Korpus' research showed that a particular analysis/standard did not appear in the MMC. Through her efforts, the Planning Commission ended up denying the application in a 3-3 vote stalemate. Despite her attempts to take the matter public through open letters to the town council and social media in the summer of 2016, the town council approved the MTCH project.

Korpus' work did not go unnoticed by residents who were frustrated about planning issues. When one resident asked her to run for town council she laughed at the idea. Soon others approached her to run. "What really got me to take the idea seriously, though, was when one resident told me how valuable he thought my approach to making decisions was," Korpus recalled. "And that my ability to articulate and stand up for what I believe (rather than just acquiescing to the status quo) was exactly what the town council desperately needed."

When asked how it felt to be mayor of a town she grew


up in, Korpus replied, "It's a bit surreal, actually ... and a bit like playing dress-up sometimes. I'm still that same young girl inside in many ways, and that young girl peeks out from time to time and lets me know she is a bit in awe of the fact that she now gets to stand up in public and bear the impressive title of mayor of the town she grew up in."

Recalling her halcyon days of youth spent hanging out with friends at the Rheem Valley Bowl or Fudge Alley, bike rides along Moraga's trails with her mom, cardboard sliding down hills during summers and playing volleyball for Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School or Campolindo High School, Korpus acknowledged, "But when I feel the awe, I only feel it in spurts – because the reality of the situation is that it's a lot of work!"

Korpus said her family is proud of her work on the town council. "In particular, my three boys are very enamored with the title 'mayor' because they've been hoping for three years for the opportunity to brag that their mother is the mayor," she laughed. "They even nagged me for weeks after I was elected mayor about the fact that the town website hadn't been updated to list me as the mayor yet, because their friends wouldn't believe them that their mom was actually the mayor of Moraga."


With the hope that the council members can continue to work together to set Moraga back on track, Korpus sites some of the issues that still need attention (pavement, storm drains, capital asset replacement and pension liability). As the town begins the new Canyon Bridge project and completes others already underway, Korpus said, "It became clear last year that the town is quickly approaching a crossroads. In the near future, the town will need to decide who it wants to be." Citing three potential scenarios to Moraga's fiscal recovery as either to proceed with cash flow issues due to failing infrastructure; make painful cuts in services;

... continued on Page A9



Town Council
 Wednesday, Jan. 22, 7 p.m.
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.
Planning Commission: TBA
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.
Park and Recreation Commission: Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7 p.m.
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.
Moraga School District Board Meetings: Thursday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m.
 Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
www.moraga.k12.ca.us. See also AUHSD meeting page A2

GET AHEAD IN MATH THIS YEAR



WHEN MATH MAKES SENSE, YOU SUCCEED!

MATHNASIUM®
 The Math Learning Center

GRADES K-12
 Pre-Algebra • Algebra 1 & 2 • Geometry
 Pre-Calculus & Calculus
 SAT/ACT Preparatory
 Individualized Instruction

HOMEWORK HELP FOR ALL LEVELS
Flat Monthly Fee
 Drop-in any time, no scheduling needed!

1 WEEK FREE TUTORING & HOMEWORK HELP
 Must present coupon. New students only.

3435 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette
 (Golden Gate Way at Mt. Diablo Blvd.)
(925) 283-4200 www.mathnasium.com

Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church - 1700 School Street; Moraga, CA 94556

Are you ready for some fun? Join us at our...



15th Annual Crab Feed & Dance
Saturday, February 8th, 2020

Cocktail Hour ~ 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
 Dinner ~ 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
 Dancing ~ music provided by a popular DJ ~ 8:30 - 11:00 p.m.

Dinner & Dance - \$60 ~ Dinner tickets MUST be purchased in advance.
 No admission to dinner without a ticket!

You asked for it, You got it! The Dessert Silent Auction Is Returning!

For non-crab lovers: Chicken available by special advance order request.

For tickets and reservations please call Thea at (925)672-6799 or (925)890-0918,
 or email her at thecubsfan23@yahoo.com

MEF AUCTION GALA 2020

ROARING 20s

APRIL 25, 2020 ♦ ST. MARY'S SODA CENTER

MORAGA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

MEF NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!
 TO MAKE AN AUCTION DONATION, VISIT

MEFauction.com

FEBRUARY 14 Become a MEF Business & Civic Sponsor and receive auction benefits

MARCH 9 Deadline to donate an auction item

APRIL 16-23 Online auction open to all

QUESTIONS?
 Contact mefspecialevents@gmail.com