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## Canyon Road Bridge's Phase II construction underway



Image courtesy Moraga Public Works Department

Artist's rendering of completed new Canyon Road Bridge

By Vera Kochan

The original Canyon Road Bridge, built in 1936, that connected Moraga with Canyon over the San Leandro Creek, was replaced by a temporary bridge following a damaging landslide that occurred near the area in 2017. Last year saw the completion of Phase I (installation of the new inbound lane) and the removal of the temporary bridge. The project was put on hold during the winter months in consideration of potentially construction-disruptive rain, which never really proved a factor this past season.

A Phase II update to the town council on April 14 was delivered by Public Works Di-

rector/Town Engineer Shawn Knapp, who briefly outlined the upcoming project's continuation. The new construction will address the installation of the outbound lane over the creek, while the foundation of the temporary bridge will remain, for now, to help secure and protect the new permanent bridge.

Additional features to the finished project will include pedestrian lighting, bike lanes, and a reopening of the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail between Valle Vista to Westchester (this pedestrian bridge section of the trail was closed by the town due to the landslide movement). An

overall landscaping and restoration of the site project will follow. Phase II is expected to be completed sometime in November.

According to Knapp's presentation, the Highway Bridge Program's approved costs, as of March 12, totaled \$11,937,250. HBP will fund \$10,568,047 and Contra Costa Transportation Authority Measure J - Major Streets Funding will contribute \$76,442 toward design and \$362,000 for construction. The town is budgeting to use \$780,000 from its Measure J (Return to Source) toward its contribution of costs.

## Moraga Chamber bestows 2020 Business & Nonprofit of the Year honors



Photos provided

Award presentation to Canyon Club Brewery, from left: Moraga Chamber member Ron Haas, owner Kevin Hamilton, Chamber member Peggy Hall, CCB employee Kirsten Popcke, Chamber members Larry Tessler and Hannah Mattioda.



Moraga Chamber of Commerce board member Ron Haas (left) presents award to Moraga Rotary president Brian South.

By Vera Kochan

After an incredibly difficult year, during which time the entire world reconfigured itself, the Moraga Chamber of Commerce picked up where it left off by awarding this year's Business of the Year honors to Canyon Club Brewery and Nonprofit of the Year accolades to the Rotary Club of Moraga.

The Chamber's criteria for nomination are: Practice good business strategies; support the Moraga community; serve as a good business role model; have good customer relationships; demonstrate ethical business practices; and be a member in good standing.

One of the newest businesses in town, Canyon Club Brewery located at 1558 Canyon Road, has quickly made its philanthropic mark in the community. Since opening its doors in July 2019, owner and Lamorinda resident Kevin Hamilton has used his signature product, beer, as the catalyst for many fundraising endeavors.

In October, CCB had created 25 kegs of a custom blend beer to serve across the Bay Area. All proceeds went to Notes for Hope in their mission to support breast cancer prevention. In the early days of shelter-in-place mandates, when folks were home do-

ing a lot of baking and supplies were running low at grocery stores, CCB created Pop-up Bodega. Because they were able to get regular deliveries from suppliers, CCB decided to order ingredients that were becoming scarce such as flour, chocolate chips, yeast, eggs, brown sugar, etc. Eventually, they also sold hand sanitizer (their own blend), gloves and the most coveted item of all - toilet paper. They even gave away a roll of TP with every to-go order.

CCB had also teamed with Campolindo Football Moms for Diversity and the Campolindo football team to hold an in-house fundraiser whereby 10% of all proceeds from the evening was donated to the Diversity and Inclusion Program.

They regularly partner with Saint Mary's College for the school's fundraising efforts; are involved in brewing a signature beer for the Ales for ALS cause; and are working with former Oakland A's manager Tony LaRussa's Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) to develop a special beer. Anyone who adopts a rescue animal should take a photo and submit it for consideration onto the beer's label.

Hamilton was shocked when members of the Chamber showed up at CCB with a plaque presentation: "It was really nice! When things got bad with COVID, it was the town of Moraga that kept us afloat. The town really saved us, and I think Moraga deserves this award." Where is the plaque now? "It's in our manager's office. We haven't found a permanent place for it yet. We'll probably build a wall where we can display it along with newspaper articles about us." For more information about Canyon Club Brewery visit: [www.canyonclub.works](http://www.canyonclub.works).

Nonprofit of the Year honors went to the Rotary Club of Moraga. Historically, the global Rotary organization has been around for more than 110 years with a "network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves." There are over 35,000 clubs worldwide working to promote peace; grow local economies; fight disease; support education; save mothers and children; and provide

clean water, sanitation and hygiene.

Moraga's Rotary was established in 1967 and has assuredly done its duty in upholding the global organization's standards. Proceeds from the Club's most recent fundraiser, a Lasagna Dinner, were used toward installing security cameras at all Moraga School District campuses by June. They have also been collecting donations to equip all 110 classrooms with medical kits.

Additional community support comes in the form of: Funding and building the All-Access Children's Playground at Moraga Commons Park; annually funding the Brother Albert

Rahill/Moraga Rotary Endowed Scholarship at Saint Mary's College; provide two scholarships to the Camp Royal Leadership Camp; provide three Campolindo Senior Student College Scholarships; annually make over 300 Christmas stockings for children in Juvenile Hall; donate to the Moraga Education Fund; hold Rotary E-Waste Recycling and Document Shredding Events; support the Moraga Community Faire; award gift certificates to a Teacher of the Month; and that's just on a local level.

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