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LINDA EHRICH



Pear and Wine Festival
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Moraga Commons Park
925-888-7045




Al Dessayer and wife, Alice

Photo provided

Town of Moraga honors three-time mayor, Al Dessayer, for 47 years of service

By Vera Kochan

The town council approved a proclamation honoring Al Dessayer for his decades of varying service to the Moraga community. During the Aug. 25 meeting, Mayor Mike McCluer stated, “I just want to say how much we value Al for 47 years. My God, Al, how did you do that?”

Dessayer played a part in the town’s efforts to incorporate in 1974 and served as its first treasurer. He continued his service as a planning commissioner between 1980-81. One year later, he was elected to the town council, holding a

seat for 12 years. In that period, he held the position of mayor in 1985, 1988 and 1993. He also found time to be a member of Friends of the Moraga Library and the Moraga Historical Society.

The proclamation notes, “One of Al’s many accomplishments includes identifying the opportunity for the Town to purchase the excess State land when Caltrans’ plan to create Gateway Boulevard through Moraga was thwarted. This vision resulted in the creation of the Commons Park, a centerpiece and main gathering place in Moraga; and the Town’s acquisition of the land which is now nine holes at

Moraga Country Club.”

Overlapping his town council duties while also serving on the board of directors for Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (County Connection) beginning in 1987, Dessayer represented Moraga for 34 years by ensuring that public transportation was available to residents in an economically conscientious manner.

In describing Dessayer’s work ethic, Council Member Renata Sos said, “He was tenacious, he cared deeply for what he was doing and that when it came to fiscal responsibility, he was unparalleled and unrivaled.”

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community. Send a letter to the editor: letters@lamorindaweekly.com

Moraga’s street repair project picks up where it left off

By Vera Kochan

If it’s summer, it must be street repair time in Moraga. This year’s project began on Sept. 1, and will include base failure repairs on 12 streets. Work hours will be Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. According to the contractor, Bear Construction, Inc., the project is

scheduled for completion in November.

A June 23 staff report by Public Works Director/Town Engineer Shawn Knapp and Assistant Engineer Sharon Chan disclosed that “Bear Construction has been in business since 1916, and is a local family-owned company headquartered in Hayward, Calif. Recently Bear satisfactorily completed several simi-

lar projects for the cities of Salinas and Hayward. Based on analysis of the bid packages, Bear is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; the bid proposal was reasonable and competitive.”

The town had awarded the 2021 Street Repair Project (Phase 1) contract in the amount of \$299,669 with an additional 10% contingency of \$29,967 for a total not to

exceed \$329,636. However, according to Chan, a change order for the construction contract was approved during the town council’s Sept. 8 meeting. The updated total is not to exceed \$389,636. Funding for the project comes from Fund 711 Pavement Management and Fund 213 Measure K.

Bear Construction lists the major components of the

work to include “replacing limited concrete curb, gutter and sidewalks, digout repairs, crack sealing and traffic striping.” Included in the list of 12 streets are base failure repairs along three major arterials: Canyon Road; St. Mary’s Road; and Moraga Road.

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