

Moraga and Orinda accept Lafayette's Sustainability Challenge



Photo Wei-Tai Kwok

Lafayette Mayor Carl Anduri issues challenge proclamations to Orinda Mayor Inga Miller (left) and Moraga Mayor Renata Sos (center).

By Vera Kochan

During the March 15 Lamorinda Councils' annual meeting, the city of Lafayette issued a Sustainability Challenge to the town of Moraga and the city of Orinda.

Sustainable Contra Costa Outreach Director Laura Wehrley stated that Lafayette Mayor Carl Anduri "really wanted a fun and friendly sustainable competition between the three Lamorinda cities, so we came up with this idea. He really wants Lafayette to win, so we are hoping to get a healthy number of registrants to make it a fun competition."

Wehrley explained, "Through our workshops, the Cleaner Contra Costa Challenge website, our SLIA (Sustainable Leaders in Action) youth team and more, we help Contra Costa residents reduce their CO2 footprint by saving water, energy, waste and more."

According to a Feb. 15 Lamorinda Weekly article, Anduri guesstimated that

Moraga led the way with nearly one million points, Orinda has approximately 500,000 points, and the largest of the three municipalities, Lafayette, trails at approximately 300,000 points. Moraga Council Member Steve Woehleke was quick to credit Campolindo High School as leading the challenge in the group category for all of Contra Costa County.

As of March 24, as noted on the cleanercontra-costa.org/moraga webpage, out of a suggested 915 homes, Moraga has 718 participating in the challenge, and out of a 390 tons of carbon dioxide reduction goal by December 2023, Moraga is nearly there at 92%. Orinda has reached 67% of its 300-ton reduction goal, with 290 homes participating, and Lafayette is currently at 52% of its 250-ton goal with 314 households signed up.

Some of the many ways challenge participants can reduce their carbon dioxide footprint is to adjust thermostats, shut off lights in un-

occupied rooms, dry clothes wisely, switch to LED lights, replace air conditioning filters, weatherize the home, insulate the attic, carpool, recycle, plant trees, take shorter showers and fix leaky faucets.

Lafayette's challenge letter to Moraga and Orinda involves two competitions: the 2023 Lamorinda Sustainability Challenge to determine which city's residents take more actions to save carbon dioxide and water and therefore have a higher cumulative score on the CCC dashboard on Dec. 31; and the 2023 Lamorinda Zero Waste Challenge to determine which city's residents reduce waste more between April 3 and May 14.

Lafayette had scheduled a Countdown to Zero kickoff event at the Lafayette Library from 5:30 to 7 p.m. March 28 at the Don Tatzin Community Hall.

To sign up for the Sustainability Challenge and help your town/city win visit: www.sustainablecoco.org.

The gauntlet has been thrown. Let the games begin!

Service Clubs Announcements

March 2023 Weekly Speakers

April 14 Jeff Whalen, The outlook for superconducting mag-nets in fusion reactors

April 21 Shomit Ghose, The amazing world of data, cows and cars

April 28 Victoria Briskin, Early alert canines

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Families gather for some spring fun

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In Lafayette, the annual Lafayette Rotary Candy Scramble will start at 10 a.m. on April 8, and is to be held, rain or shine, at Plaza Park.



Easter bunny at Moraga Commons Photo Jeff Heyman

After the candy scramble, there will be opportunities to take photos with the Bunny, a fire truck and a police car, and kids can check out the emergency vehicles.

And lest you think that fun was only meant for kids, in Moraga there was also a first annual event sponsored by the Parks and Rec Department, Bunnies & Brews: a

Hacienda Hoppy Hour on Sunday, March 26. Limited tickets were sold for this special event, and included a souvenir event glass for unlimited pours from local breweries and live entertainment. Childcare was provided onsite by the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee.

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