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EXPERIENCE MATTERS

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Being Kind Turns the Tide against Bullying

By Shayan Tajbakhsh



Moraga School District superintendent Bruce Burns (left) with Town Council members and iKind support-Photo courtesy Wendell Baker ers as the mayor proclaims October to be Bullying Prevention Month.



Brightly colored compliments and expressions of gratitude filled the blacktop at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School on Oct. 10. Photo S. Tajbakhsh

ecognizing that bullying is proven to have serious consequences for children's physical and mental health, along with their academic performance – sometimes lasting into adulthood - the Town ness and prevention activities Council recently proclaimed October designed to make our community to be Bullying Prevention Month in safer for all children and adoles-Moraga.

Mayor Ken Chew read aloud the resolution that concluded, "Be it re-

solved that ... Moraga schools, students, parents, parks and recreation programs, religious institutions, and community organizations be encouraged to engage in a variety of aware-

Two days later, students and staff at Joaquin Moraga Intermedi-

ate School put those words into action in a colorful display of, well, gram that involves students and

Eighth grade leadership student Maile Nomura came up with an idea to inspire kindness at her school. She asked her fellow students to write compliments, apologies and other positive messages in chalk around the word "iKind" on the school's blacktop (see photo).

IKind is JM's school-wide proteachers actively participating in and learning new ways to spread kindness and acceptance. Maile's project allowed students to express themselves in a creative way while messages for other students. The result was a multi-hued explosion

of sentiment representing the good

will of JM students.

IKind supporters are currently working to expand the program throughout the community. For more information, email Wendell Baker at wendell@able-baker.com.

Read a related article by Cathy at the same time leaving positive Dausman in our archive at www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/i ssue0717/Non-Random-Acts-of-Kindness.html.

MASON-McDUFFIE

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Offered at \$1750/mo. by Maureen Caldwell-Meurer 510.915.0092.

TIP OF THE WEEK

Every cloud has a silver lining! We have seen the stock market get clobbered with concerns about slow global economic growth, pushing investors into safer markets such as bonds. However, this is not unprecedented—stocks have performed badly with the Fed's easing of its bond-buying program in the past as well; we hope they rebound soon. This has also pushed home loan rates lower than we have seen in months, which is great news for buyers, especially as home prices are continuing to rise. Yes, the local real estate market is still alive and well! Treat yourself to sensational service when you call our agents!!

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