

Lamorinda Community

Moraga

Calendar

- Town Council 7:30pm**
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School
1010 Camino Pablo
Wednesday, February 11
- Planning Comm. 7:30pm**
Hacienda, La Sala Room
2100 Donald Drive
Tuesday, February 17
- Design Review 7:30pm**
Hacienda, La Sala Room
2100 Donald Drive
Monday, February 23
February 9 canceled
- Park & Rec 7:30pm**
Hacienda, Mosaic Room
2100 Donald Drive
Tuesday, February 17
- Liaison 8:00am**
Fire Station
1280 Moraga Way
Friday, February 13
- Town of Moraga online:**
<http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us>
- Chamber of Commerce:**
<http://www.moragachamber.org>

Lamorinda Teen Center
February meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday March 10, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Orinda Community Center



Fire, 1/30/09 Police and Fire departments responded to a fire at the Rheem Valley Convalescent Hospital on Rheem Boulevard. The small fire was confined to one room and appeared to be caused by a malfunctioning electrical outlet. Hospital staff and police from Moraga and Orinda evacuated all 33 residents. After approximately 30 minutes residents were allowed to go back in. No one was injured.

Rape, 1/24/09 At 3:00 in the morning a sexual assault at Saint Mary's College was reported to the police department. Officers responded to John Muir Medical Center to investigate the incident. No other information was available.

Knife brandished, 1/24/09 Police were dispatched to the Rheem Shopping Center regarding a juvenile brandishing a knife. The victim stated he and the suspect got into an argument over \$20 that he allegedly owed to the suspect and that the suspect pointed the knife at his neck. Victim said he was not afraid and challenged the suspect to hurt him. Neither party sustained any injuries. Moraga P.D. later contacted parents of both kids and referred them to juvenile probation.

Stolen car, 1/21/09 An Alta Mesa Court resident said he parked his car in the driveway of his home on Wednesday morning. When he returned to the vehicle on Thursday morning it was gone. Officers located some of his property a few blocks away lying in the street. No suspects or leads at this time.

Please send storyideas to storydesk@lamorinda weekly.com

Upsurge in Fake Solicitors in Moraga?

By Sophie Braccini



istockphoto

As Lafayette establishes its new permit requirement for peddlers, Moraga has recently seen an increase in door-to-door solicitors. Residents are complaining, and the Police Department would like Moragans to know that people who peddle in Moraga need to carry a city permit and be ready to show valid identification.

"It was on Inauguration Day, between 4:00 and 5:00; a young blond couple, alleged college students, came to my door to raise money," recalls Joanne Furio, "the boy was holding a black leather binder, and said they were UC Berkeley students raising money for the orchestra to go to London." Furio says they indicated that their mother lived on a nearby street. The couple added that some of the money would also go to Oakland

Children's Hospital for books for children.

Furio replied that she wouldn't give money to an organization if she couldn't check them online and she asked the two to write down the name of their unit; they refused, continuing to state that they were local residents and eventually left. Furio didn't stop there, she says she called the orchestra and was told that no trip to London was planned and that they had no members with the name the young man had given. She proceeded to call Children's Hospital, which as a result of her call, issued a press release.

"The hospital has received a couple of calls from East Bay residents who said someone's apparently going door-to-door selling books and magazines claiming to raise money for our hospital," said Diana Yee, Director, Media Relations for Children's Hospital, "we do not raise donations this way (door to door). If people want to donate to our hospital, we encourage them to visit our website www.childrenshospitaloakland.org and click on the yellow "donate" button."

Janet Gilmore of the UC Berkeley Media Relations office confirmed that the Music Department does not raise money that way.

It may have been the same two people who went to a completely different neighborhood a few days later, with a slightly different tune.

... continued on page 6

Changes for Moraga's Beautification and Tree Planting Committee

By Sophie Braccini

Some had talked about sun-setting Moraga's Beautification and Tree Planting Program Implementation Committee. Its mission had been reassigned mid-term in the wake of a controversy about the Moraga Road traffic study and the setting of a new and improved Traffic and Safety Advisory Committee that took over the traffic safety part of its charter. When Christine Kuckuk, chair of the committee, presented her report to the Town Council on January 28th, it appeared that the group had achieved some important steps and that more work could be accomplished in the area of trees and beautification.

Kuckuk explained that the "tree" part of their mission had not been completed. Only a fraction of the town's trees on main arterials and town property have been inventoried and the town just applied to be part of the Tree City USA, an organization that requires a "Tree Board" to be set in place. When Council Member Mike Metcalf inquired as to the benefit of membership, Kuckuk explained that the organization provides access to grants for trees and forestry programs, gives advice and procedures for tree care and requires very little

from the town, other than celebrating "Arbor Day" at whatever time is deemed appropriate.

In her presentation, Christine Kuckuk reminded the Council of the Gates report, that had been ordered by the Town and that proposed guidelines for esthetic considerations while building on the scenic corridors. "We would recommend finding a home for this report so the public and staff have easy access to it," she said. Acting Town Manager Jay Tashiro highlighted the importance of clarifying what was to be applied in the text and what not, "property owners need to have clear guidelines about what the Town expects," he stated. It was proposed that the Design Review Board review the Gates report and add what was relevant to the design guidelines for the Town.

Mayor Dave Trotter asked Kuckuk if the committee would be available to give advice on trees and beautification as part of the Specific Plan that aims to revitalize Moraga Center, "your input would be very valuable," he said. It was decided that the committee would not be disbanded and would continue to pursue its mission, but with a new, shorter name: The Tree Planting Committee.



The stoplights at Moraga Rd and Ascot Drive are installed and ready to be turned on. PG&E is expected onsite to hook up the power in mid-February. Ascot residents couldn't be happier: "We are 20 year residents on Ascot and this is the best news to us and we wanted to let you know how happy and appreciative we are of you," wrote Carolyn Aguirre to Town Engineer Jill Mercurio.

Photo Sophie Braccini

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-Jessica Smith, New Attender

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Sunday Service Times:

Prayer.....8:00am

Traditional.....9:00am

Contemporary.....10:30am

Weekly Activities Include:

Wednesday:

Community Bible Study....10am

REVERB (youth).....7pm

Friday Night:

BLAST! Kids Club.....6pm

Saturday Night:

Catalyst(Young Adults)..7:30pm

Upcoming Sunday Mornings At WSC

February 8th:

"The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Christians, Habit 3"

2/15: "The 7 Habits Series", Habit 4

2/22: "The 7 Habits Series", Habit 5

3/1: "The 7 Habits Series", Habit 6

"To the degree that you become all that God created you to be, to that degree you are successful."

-Pastor Brad, GodThoughts, Vol.2, p.15*

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-Laura Diestler, Member



Mexico Mission Trip 2008

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*Willow Spring Church is the home of the Internationally recognized "GodThoughts" Ministry serving more than 10,000 people daily in over 100 countries around the world.

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-International Crepes, 2/24, 6:30-9:30pm
-Line Dancing Session II, 2/5, 11:00am-1:00pm
-Creative Writing Workshop, 2/7, 10:00am-4:00pm