



Moraga Civic News

Public Meetings

Town Council

Wednesday, May 14, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, May 28, 7 p.m.
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School,
1010 Camino Pablo

Planning Commission

Monday, May 19, 7 p.m.
Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

Design Review

Monday, May 12, 7 p.m.
Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

Town of Moraga:

www.moraga.ca.us
Phone: (925) 888-7022

Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org

School Board Meeting

Moraga School District

Tuesday, May 13, 7:30 p.m.
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium
1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
www.moraga.k12.ca.us
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.

Send a letter to the editor:
letters@lamorindaweekly.com

please...



Moraga Police Department

Alleged child endangerment, 4/23/14 Elementary school officials notified Moraga police that a parent arrived at school to pick up children while exhibiting signs of intoxication. The observations were reported to Child Protective Services. The parent was contacted at home and provided a statement, although it was roughly two hours since the incident occurred. The parent declined to cooperate in quantifying a blood alcohol level.

Porch package pilfered, 4/25/14 A Paseo Grande resident reported a package being stolen off the porch. Apparently two men pulled up in a gray car, took the package and drove off toward Moraga Road. The value of the contents of the box was approximately \$30. No suspects or leads at this time.

Food taken, 5/21/14 Two males in a red truck took property from the parking lot of a local Asian restaurant, according to video surveillance footage. The subject had stolen items from the same area approximately one month prior, after being denied permission to take the items by the restaurant owner. Unfortunately the license plate was unreadable, but the video documents the theft. Stolen items exceed \$950.

Student suicidal statements, 4/23/14 A 19-year-old Saint Mary's College student was sending suicide statements via text message to her boyfriend.

Police met her at her dorm room and determined that she was a danger to herself and transported her to the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center in Martinez for a mental health evaluation.

Purse stolen, 4/28/14 It was the middle of the afternoon when police were dispatched to a major retailer in the Rheem Shopping Center. An 80-year-old woman had been targeted and was intentionally distracted by a male subject in his mid-20s, while his accomplice snatched the victim's purse from her shopping cart. The elderly woman notified her banks and credit card companies, but she was advised that the cards had been used in Walnut Creek shortly after the theft. The case is under investigation.

Driving on a suspended license, 4/26/14 A Toyota Camry was pulled over on Canyon Road at midnight for erratic driving. The 24-year-old driver was arrested for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license, no proof of insurance, open container of alcohol and a probation violation.

In addition, the following crimes were reported in Moraga April 23-29:

Medical Assist – Oxford Dr
Battery, by non-cohabitating person – Camino Pablo
Civil Dispute – Rheem Blvd
Found Property – St. Mary's Rd
False Alarm – Rheem Blvd
Danger to Self – Camino Pablo

The Bernie & Ryerson Team



NEW LISTING!

1443 Camino Peral, Moraga
Exclusively Offered at \$625,000

Stunning 3BR/2BA townhouse located in the highly desirable Casitas HOA. Spacious, open & light 1697± sq. ft. with gourmet kitchen & 2-car garage.



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Confusion over Hetfield Appeal

By Sophie Braccini

Moraga Town Council members Dave Trotter and Mike Metcalf recently appealed a Planning Commission decision to approve the general plan for the Hetfield Estates – seven homes to be built on a 58-acre open space parcel alongside a new road extending out from Hetfield Place. The Town Council held a lengthy discussion of the appeal at its April 23 meeting.

Planning commissioners determined in March that a dirt Emergency Vehicle Access road that would connect the new development to the back of Sanders Ranch was not desirable and opted instead for a pedestrian trail – this formed the basis for the appeal. Metcalf also indicated a concern over the limited amount of additional parking spaces.

In the end, the Town Council reduced, rather than increased, the total

number of parking spaces and Sanders Ranch residents were given 10 years to decide if they want an EVA.

Confusion about what type of vehicle could navigate the proposed EVA and how much it would cost, and who would pay for it, was evident at the council meeting. Moraga-Orinda Fire District fire marshal Kathy Leonard explained that an ambulance would not use an emergency route to reach Sanders Ranch unless it was paved and noted that a dirt road would accommodate only four-wheel drive vehicles, which could carry emergency response personnel and apparatus but would not be able to take someone out of the property. Leonard added that because Sanders Ranch is not a high fire danger zone the real issue is the medical response time.

John Wyro, the developer of the Hetfield Estates property, explained that the condition of approval never required more than building a dirt road that would go from the development to the property limit at the back of Sanders Ranch. The cost to construct a paved road would fall on the owners of the 273 Sanders Ranch homes, an expense that some Sanders Ranch residents who attended the meeting found useless. “No way for anything paved,” said Brent Mayer. Stan Roth, who sits on the board of the Sanders Ranch Homeowners Association, nuanced, “We just want to preserve our ability, in the future, to do what is best for (Sanders Ranch).”

The Town Council agreed that the developer should not construct the dirt EVA immediately but that he will set aside funds for 10 years to allow ample time for Sanders Ranch homeowners

to gather information and reach a decision as to whether or not they want an emergency access route built.

To mitigate a potential attractive nuisance – a hangout spot for teenagers that might be created by a four-car parking area at the end of the new road – the Town Council accepted Wyro's suggestion that the number of parking spaces at the road's end be reduced to three and moved closer to the homes, leaving the development with a total of six parking spots.

As the clock struck 11 p.m., council members had not reached a decision regarding what will happen to the developer's money if Sanders Ranch residents decide that they don't want to build an EVA. Because of the late hour and other topics to discuss, the final decision was postponed until the Town Council's May 24 meeting.

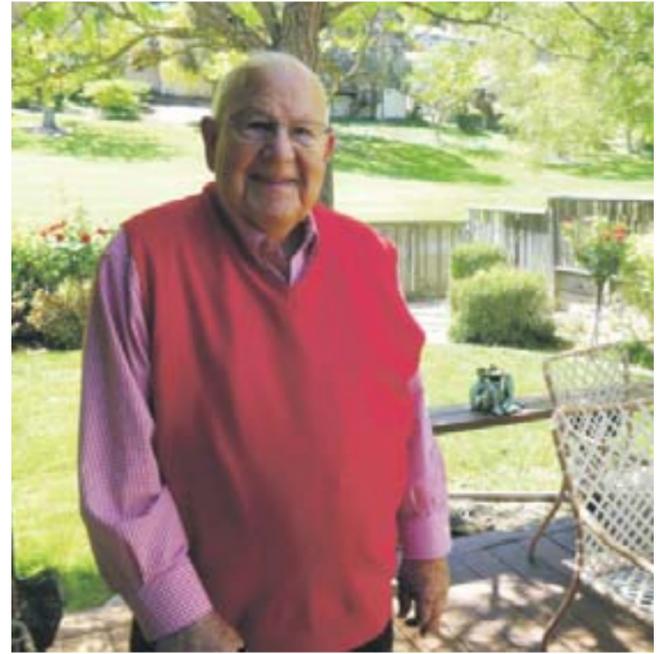
Cliff Dochterman – Citizen of the World – Moraga Citizen of the Year

By Sophie Braccini

Cliff Dochterman defines citizens, as opposed to residents, as people who take responsibility for themselves and for their community. The former university administrator lives by his principles, so it is only fitting that his town has recognized him as the Moraga Citizen of the Year for 2014.

It is impossible to talk about Dochterman without mentioning Rotary's fight to end polio. As president of Rotary International in 1992-93, as co-chairman of the committees that chose the project, as an organizer and as a participant in the immunization campaigns, Dochterman has been a key player in the global effort. When Rotary first undertook this humanitarian mission in 1979 there were 350,000 cases of polio in the world; 150 countries had new cases every year. Thirty years later there were about 1,000 cases and today only three endemic countries remain. This effort epitomizes Dochterman's life from the time he joined the Boy Scouts, at age 12, to today.

Dochterman was raised by a modest family during the Great Depression; he remembers that everyone was poor back then in Findlay, Ohio. His mother was a schoolteacher, his grandfather a Methodist minister. Findlay was the town of the Marathon Oil Corporation. “Every year, the company had a giving campaign, and one year, I must have been 6 years old, they asked my mother if they could give my brother and I \$5 to join the YMCA,” recalls Dochter-



Cliff Dochterman in his home at the Moraga Country Club

Photo Sophie Braccini

man. “I used to wonder how somebody could be so rich that they would give \$5 for the Y to someone they didn't know. And I often think back that this was my first idea of what civic duty, and responsibility to others, is all about.”

Responsibility is a key word to Dochterman. “It is a life changing experience to know that you can do something for somebody you don't know,” he says. “Individuals can make a difference; you don't have to go to the middle of Africa.

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Community Workshop: Town of Moraga Housing Element Update

Thursday, May 22, 7:00 to 9:00pm,

Hacienda de las Flores, La Sala Building, 2100 Donald Drive.

The Town of Moraga is updating its current Housing Element for the 2015-2013 planning cycle as required by state law. The workshop will provide an overview of the Housing Element Update process and solicit input on how the Town and community can address housing challenges facing Moraga. Participants will be asked to share their thoughts on the following questions:

- What are the major housing issues that should be addressed in the Housing Element?
- What are the barriers to affordable housing in Moraga?
- What can be done to address these issues and barriers?

Your feedback will be incorporated into a draft housing element update scheduled for hearings before the Planning Commission and Town Council.

For more information contact

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