



MORAGA

See public meetings schedule on these pages and 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

Town Council:
Wednesday, May 24, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 14, 6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission:
Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 p.m.
Park and Recreation Commission:
Monday, June 19, 7:00 p.m.,

Town Council agrees to a Biennial Budget

By Vera Kochan

The Moraga Town Council unanimously agreed to adopt a resolution directing the town manager to prepare a proposed Biennial Budget on a recurring basis. The 4-0 vote (Mayor Renata Sos was absent) during its May 10 council meeting will ensure that this budget will become effective with Fiscal Year 2023-24 and Fiscal Year 2024-25. Moraga's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

According to a staff report by Administrative Services Director Annie To, "Preparation of the annual fiscal year budget is an involved, time-consuming, and costly process. Over the past few decades, several California cities have converted from a one-year budget preparation process to

a two-year preparation process in order to reduce staff time and cost, and to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and efficacy with respect to implementing governing board direction. This two-year budget format is more commonly referred to as a 'biennial budget' which consists of two annual one-year budgets which are prepared by staff and reviewed and approved by the governing board every two years."

This new format is encouraged by the Government Finance Officers Association (GGFOA) of the United States and Canada, as well as the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO).

By switching to a biennial budget, staff will only have to prepare one budget document for two separate fiscal years.

Additionally, staff will produce a "mid-cycle budget review" for the town council's attention which will contain a summary of the estimated first fiscal year results, along with recommended budget adjustments for the second fiscal year. None of this will affect the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) which will continue on an annual basis.

The obvious benefit to the new biennial budget is a savings of staff's time with regards to an annual preparation process. "As experienced in other local governments that have made this conversion, the Town Council will be enabled to focus more on long-range strategic and fiscal planning, and relieved of the minutia of the annual budget process," To stated in her staff report.

"This format promotes conservative revenue estimates and more realistic appropriation requests," added To. "This, in turn, provides the operating departments with greater responsibility to account for budget variances and allows for unused funds to be carried over to the second fiscal year, subject to Town Council review and approval."

The Mid-Cycle Review would provide the council with a glimpse of future expenditures to allow for any budgetary changes due to emergencies and the like.

Any fiscal impact would most likely show a cost savings for the town in that staff will spend less time on budget preparation. Additional savings are expected with regards to printing and distributing a biennial budget report.

Senior Program Roundtable Discussion
June 13 @ 10am
RSVP to recdesk@moraga.ca.us

Next Move program helps people reach their goals



Maura Wolf and Shari Simon

Photo provided

By Sophie Braccini

Two Moraga women, a Saint Mary's College professor and a former high-tech executive, created the company Next Move in 2018 – an active social-impact company whose mission is to support people to reach their goals through social support and accountability. Week after week the two met up, checked in about life, and proceeded to map out ways they believed they could support people, especially young adults or folks with marginal identities, to move forward on their goals.

Maura Wolf and Shari Simon were both at a pivotal moment of their lives and were both seeking answers beyond pre-scripted scenarios. Simon had quit her executive position in marketing, sales and management at Oracle for family reasons but still wanted

to impact society in a profound way; Wolf was teaching leadership at Saint Mary's College, had published several books including "What Matters Most: Everyday Leadership at Work, at Home, and in the World" and was also desiring to broaden her impact.

The academic process they use is called Action-Inquiry. Simon and Wolf tracked apps and tech-based solutions developing with similar goals. They dove into academic research that grounded their practice-based findings. They designed and ran pilots, each time gathering data from participants about how to improve the process. Simon adds that it is during this first phase that it became clear to them that doing this with a small group, or even just one other person, was essential to sustaining the process. She believes that connection and support built that way will al-

ways bear more fruit than what any app could do.

The Next Move process is designed to help people to tune in and really take note of what matters in their life, then move on to design small actions, or what Next Move refers to as micro-moves, in the direction of a goal.

This summer, Next Move and Saint Mary's College of California, are offering a new program, a certificate in Impactful Leadership. It is supported by a local donor who wants to keep it affordable for all. The program is designed for anyone looking to have more structure and support for a goal that matters to them. The goal may be career-oriented, like finding a new job, or wellness oriented, like bouncing back from COVID life to set in place new health routines. The program is individualized, as each person focuses on their own area of growth and development and moves through cycles of action and reflection, with small group support along the way.

Programs to date have been held at several colleges and the company has started training coaches and facilitators to bring the program to a variety of different settings and regional areas.

The summer program will be offered online from June 6 to July 11 on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. with optional live gatherings at Saint Mary's College. For more details, visit www.nextmovenetwork.com/virtualevents

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Summer Bike Challenge – Good for you, good for the air

By Vera Kochan



Image provided

Although the Summer Bike Challenge may sound like a new activity, it has been around since 2015, when it first began in Pleasant Hill as a youth bike challenge. Over the years it has evolved into an activity that can include the whole family.

Launched by 511 Contra

Costa, this year's challenge still has the same theme in mind, to "get you outside and on the move." According to its website, "511 Contra Costa is a county-wide program that strives to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality by providing the public with information, resources, and tools that promote mobility options beyond driving alone. ... continued on Page A5

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Before After

Dr. Matthew Tamplen, who grew up in Lafayette and is a nationally recognized Double Board-Certified Facial Plastic surgeon, opened a private practice in Downtown Orinda to better serve Lamorinda patients. Specializing entirely in the face, Dr. Tamplen's expertise is nationally recognized for providing patients with beautiful, elegant, and natural results.

Matthew Tamplen, MD
Orinda Office: **NEW LOCATION**
96 Davis Road, Suite #5, Orinda, 925-444-0824
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