



## ABOUT TOWN NEWSLETTER



**May 20, 2022**

### TOWN WELCOMES STEVE BORBELY

#### New Police Lieutenant

Welcome to Steve Borbely who is Moraga Police Department's new Lieutenant. Lt. Borbely comes to Moraga after serving for over 27 years with the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff, where he served in a number of different assignments, including working as an officer in Oakley, a detective, overseeing the Dispatch Center, and retiring as a Captain earlier this spring. Lt. Borbely is a US Army veteran, including service overseas. He has three great children and lives in East County. Please join us in welcoming Lt. Borbely to Moraga!



### MAY 25 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – VIRTUAL

#### Return to Zoom Format

The May 25 Town Council meeting will be held via Zoom due to the rising rates of COVID-19 in the Town of Moraga and across the County. The Zoom webinar link will be available in the Town Council Agenda and the meeting will be available for viewing via Live Stream. The Town Council has extended the Local Emergency to remain flexible and responsive to changing COVID-19 rates in the Moraga community. At this time, no decisions have been made for future Town Council meetings. Please refer to upcoming Town Council agendas for the specifics on in-person or virtual meeting formats.



## FIRE ABATEMENT DEADLINE – JUNE 1

Properties located in the Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) are reminded of the upcoming June 1 deadline to complete annual fire abatement work in preparation for the upcoming fire season. Property owners play a vital role in the increasing fire abatement efforts to reduce our community's exposure to the risk of uncontrolled wildfire.

Upon completion of required work, residents are requested to [self-report compliance online](#) to MOFD.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## COVID-19 RELEIF PROGRAMS

### Town of Moraga Small Business Grants Awarded

The Town of Moraga launched the [Small Business Grant program](#) in April 2022 to provide relief to Moraga businesses that have been impacted by COVID-19. To date, the Town has awarded 30 small business grants totaling \$150,000. The grant funds were approved by Town Council as part of the Town's American Rescue Program Act (ARPA) funding allocation. The small business grants provide up to \$5,000 in direct COVID-19 relief to assist local businesses impacted by economic hardship from the pandemic to assist with economic recovery.

Small Moraga businesses meeting the grant qualifications are encouraged to [learn more](#).

[APPLY](#)

### State Relief for Non-Profits and Microbusinesses

**\$2,500 GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR MICROBUSINESS & NONPROFIT COVID-19 RELIEF**

Visit [microbusinessgrant.org](http://microbusinessgrant.org)

Apply from May 17, 2022 through August 12, 2022 at 5 p.m.

- This program will provide \$2,500 grants to qualifying microbusinesses and nonprofits in the counties of: Alameda, Amador, Contra Costa, and El Dorado
- Must have been in operation in 2019, are still in operation, and were impacted by COVID-19 public health restrictions
- Visit the link to see if you qualify, and for help with applying!

[LEARN MORE](#)

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

### Moraga Library – Exterior Paint

The Moraga Library received a fresh coat of paint this week as part of the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Capital Improvement Program Municipal Facilities Painting Project which also included painting of the Moraga Commons Park Bandshell and the Casita Building at the Hacienda.

### Moraga Commons Park – Irrigation

Replacement of the Irrigation system at Moraga Commons Park is underway as the Town works to install a modern and efficient system throughout the park. As work continues, portions of the park may be unavailable on weekdays, as work is scheduled to continue Mondays - Fridays through early June.



## HACIENDA DE LAS FLORES IMPROVEMENTS

The Town hosted an Open House at the Hacienda de las Flores to highlight numerous site improvements recently completed through private investment in the aging facility. Wedgewood Weddings has partnered with the Town for event management of the private weddings and events hosted on the property. Since commencement of the lease on November 1, 2022 Wedgewood has made over \$300,000 in site improvements on the property.



Artificial Turf at the Pavilion Building



Renovations - Third Floor Dressing Suite



New Flooring - Second and Third Floors

## FIRST HACIENDA NIGHTS

Thank you to the community members and neighbors that joined us for the first Hacienda Nights food truck event and enjoyed a beautiful evening on the great lawn at the Hacienda de las Flores. Hacienda Nights are now on Tuesdays, so mark your calendars for the monthly event running through August. Join us June 21, July 19, and August 16.



[MORE INFORMATION](#)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Moraga Community Foundation – May 26**



**Lamorinda Bees – June 4**

On Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> Lamorinda Bees is teaming up with the Mt. Diablo Beekeepers Association to show how honey is harvested. The event will be held Saturday, June 4 from 2 - 4 pm in the Community Room at the Moraga Library. Learn how honey is extracted from the comb, processed, and jarred. Honey will be available for purchase and an observation hive will demonstrate what the bees are doing inside the hive. Volunteers will be available to discuss further with those who are interested in starting a backyard beehive. Backyard beekeeping is not only fun, but a great way to help the environment.



Questions? [Email Lamorinda Bees](#)

## WELCOME TO THE GARDEN – JUNE 5

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 5 to celebrate "Welcome to the Garden" at Rancho Laguna Park. The event will celebrate the two-year effort to establish the Monarch Habitat and Demonstration Garden. Beginning at noon with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, event highlights include a mini-butterfly parade around the park, food, games, and docent tours. Costumed adults, children and leashed dogs are welcome. Photo opportunity with the 6 foot "Wings" butterfly sculpture will be available. Hot dogs, burgers/vegan, soft drinks and water will be provided by our General Contractor and supporter Andy Boggeri of AB construction. Milkweed and other pollinator-supportive wildflower seeds will be available. The garden is beginning to bloom and butterflies have been spotted this spring. Bring the whole family and join the fun!



## THANK YOU MORAGA CITIZENS NETWORK

The [Moraga Citizens Network \(MCN\)](#) hosted an Employee Appreciation Luncheon this week at the Hacienda de las Flores. MCN was joined by numerous community and service group volunteers who donated time and food to honor the dedication and hard work of Town staff. This year's program theme focused on mindfulness and appreciation. Town staff send a heartfelt thank you to MCN and the community groups who contributed to the success of the appreciation event.



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Bollinger Canyon Rezone

There are two upcoming meeting opportunities to learn about the proposed rezone of the Bollinger Canyon Study Area:

**Tuesday, May 24 at 6:00 pm** - Special Planning Commission Meeting rescheduled from May 17 [Zoom Link](#)

**Wednesday, May 25 at 6:30 pm** – Regular Town Council Meeting

### Fiscal Year 2022/23 Operating Budget

The Audit and Finance Committee (AFC) is set to review the proposed Fiscal Year 2022/23 Operating and Capital Improvement Project Budgets on June 1 at 4:45 pm via Zoom.

The AFC review of the proposed budget is in preparation for Town Council discussion and review of the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Operating and Capital Improvement Project Budgets which is scheduled for the June 8 and June 22 Town Council Meetings.

[COMMUNITY](#)

[DEPARTMENTS](#)

[GOVERNMENT](#)

[SERVICES](#)



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