

MORAGA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2008
8:00 AM to 9:30 AM
FIRESIDE ROOM HACIENDA

WRITTEN BY RHODA MURRAY

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE
Saturday, March 29th 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

OSH BROWN BAG SALE
Osh is having a 10% off sale on 3/29-3/30. It is a brown bag sale that will go out in newspapers, however there will be bags in the store.

LEASE SEMINAR

We wanted to thank Larry Tessler for our leasing seminar. Click on attachment in the body of this email to read a synopsis of the information given at this seminar. This information will soon be on the Chamber website. www.moragachamber.org

CERT BUSINESS PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR

Thank you to Ken Tom for setting up the CERT preparedness seminar. Tom Sepe of State Farm spoke about insurance needs, Steve Angelides of Diablo Link Communications spoke on computer preparedness, Mike Metcalf spoke about what to expect from the Town, and Mike Marchiano spoke on County realities regarding earth quakes. Information

From this seminar will soon be on the Chamber website. www.moragachamber.org

SYNERGY OF LARGE AND SMALL BUSINESSES IN MORAGA-----

How can we support our big chains as well as our small business? Rhonda Murray, manager of Home Goods and John, assistant manager at Safeway talked about the town, belonging to a Chamber for the first time in their careers and how this experience has made a difference. They felt more apart of the community and more connected to their customers. A discussion followed about the need for a balance between the large chain stores and the small privately owned businesses. Each provides a needed service in Moraga. We must ask the question, what do we want our town to look like? There is a definite place for the large chain stores, but if we want our Town to have it's own personality, we must remember to also support the small businesses or they will be gone.

ROAD CLOSURES

6/16/08 THROUGH 8/22/08

Nora Harlow, public relations for EBMUD attended todays meeting. She talked about the closure of Moraga Road from June 16 through August 22 weekdays from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM. This project is replacing old pipelines. Public transportation will still be available on St. Marys road. Lafayette, Moraga, and Orinda have road improvement projects

that will be worked on at the same. This scheduling is directly related to grant money availability. EBMUD will do everything they can to help with traffic flow. Preliminary work has already begun. Some traffic control will begin as early as May 19th weekdays from 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM.

**ROAD CLOSURE MEETING
MAKE LEMONADE OUT OF LEMONS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16th 2:00 PM
TEREZETTOS**

The reality is that traffic in and out of Moraga is going to be hampered throughout the summer. We, as a business community, have an opportunity to use this time to encourage Moraga residents to shop in Moraga. Come to a meeting to brainstorm ideas to promote staying in Moraga during the summer and discovering how to Shop Moraga First. Please email Edy at Edy321@comcast.net and let her know you will attend.

**COMMUNITY FAIRE
RHEEM SHOPPING CENTER
MAY 10 11:00 – 4:00**

Longs, Mechanics Bank, Union Bank of California, Wells Fargo Bank, Moraga Retreat Care, and Homegoods are major sponsors of this event. Without their generous support we could not afford to put on this Community Faire.

There are 38 businesses that will have booths. We are hoping for between 20 and 30 booths of vendors showing sustainable products. Non profit organizations are participating including a booth where dogs can be microchipped. We will have wine tasting, musicians, hula dancers and CERT trainers.

MORAGA BEAUTIFUL WEEK
MAY 5 THROUGH MAY 11

All businesses are invited to participate in Moraga Beautiful Week. This can be done by highlighting "Green Products" and having sale items that residents can buy to help tidy up our town.

CHAMBER FUNDRAISER
HAWAIIAN LUAU
SEPT 6, 2008

Ken Tom will be talking about this at our next meeting.