

Published August 5th, 2009

Fire Races Across Moraga Hillside

By Sophie Braccini and Lee Borrowman



Fighting the fire from above and on the ground Photo Bob Johnson

weed abatement had not been completed," he continued, which makes our work more difficult and it reduces our ability to protect structures."

According to Moraga Mayor David Trotter, Lou Fancher's ten-year old son Nicholas Johnson was the first to spot the fire on the middle of the hill behind the Rheem Theatre. He and his mother heard a popping sound, like a fire cracker. "It took me a minute to call 911 when my son told me he saw the smoke," said Fancher, "but the fire had already multiplied by five."

Fancher was so concerned about the speed of the spreading fire that she left her Ascot Drive apartment with her son to watch the efforts of the fire department from the safety of the Rheem Center.

Firefighters continued to watch for hotspots late into the night. "The deployment of forces and the efficiency was very impressive," said Fancher, "we thanked the firemen for all their work."



Photo submitted by Moraga Police Officer Randy Pacheco

Reach the reporter at: sophie@lamorindaweekly.com

Copyright © Lamorinda Weekly, Moraga CA