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Moraga Gets Two New Police Officers

By Sophie Braccini



City Clerk Marty McInturf swears in new Police Officers Tyler Olson and Krista Koppinger as Police Chief Bob Priebe looks on. Photo Will Grant

Moraga Chief of Police Bob Priebe is pleased. This year his Department will have a full time detective position, filled by Will Davis, something Priebe has been looking forward to for years.

The detective slot is made possible by the hiring of two new officers, one to replace a recently vacated post, and a 13th position that is funded by a Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) State grant.

a senior officer in Moraga and will hit the streets on their own within a few months.

"When we started our testing process we got some very qualified candidates," says the Chief, "the trick is to find the right fit for the Moraga community."

"I was an officer for two years in Susanville, a little town north of Reno," says Olson, "it was a bit smaller than Moraga, with different demographics. We had two prisons there and a lot of parolees."

"I was first hired by the Sacra-

mento Police Department, but was let go as part of their budget cuts a month later," explains Koppinger, "I was attracted to Moraga because I want to work in a town where I can build a relationship with the community."

Both new officers say that working in a small department where you can handle your cases from the first phone call up to the District Attorney's office is a great environment in which to learn and grow.

"Everybody has been very welcoming here," says Olson. He enjoyed the warm welcome at the swearing ceremony during the December 14 Town Council meeting and added that the Chief made his transition very easy.

"My training officer, Randy Pacheco, is letting me handle calls that he feels are appropriate," says Koppinger, "the Chief has also been very welcoming, he is a wealth of knowledge and experience."

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New Mailboxes at Moraga Center



George Fisher at the new mail boxes. Photo Sophie Braccini

"It's a Moraga Movers' project," says George Fisher of the new mailboxes that were recently installed in the parking lot of the Moraga Center near McCaulou's.

Moraga Center, to see if a convenient and safe mail drive-through could be found."

The location was found, approved by Moraga's Postmaster Dorothy Lewis, and brand new boxes were quickly installed. "We were happy to provide this much easier and more convenient service for the community without having to journey to the Rheem Center just to mail a letter," said Joan Bruzzone.

S.Braccini

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