



Fire Districts

Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors
 Wednesday, Sept. 5, 7 p.m.
 Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas. Visit www.mofd.org

ConFire Board of Directors
 Tuesday, Sept. 18, 1:30 p.m.
 Board Chamber room 107, Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez
 For meeting times and agendas, visit <http://alturl.com/5p9pu>.

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.
 Send a letter to the editor: letters@lamorinda-weekly.com

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MOFD firefighter suffers heart attack after wildfire deployment

By Nick Marnell



MOFD and ConFire crews at the Marsh Fire in July
Photo courtesy Moraga-Orinda Firefighters

A firefighter from the Moraga-Orinda Fire District who responded on a task force to a wildfire in Solano County has been released from the hospital after suffering a heart attack.

According to Capt. Lucas Lam-

bert the firefighter, who requested anonymity, spent 24 straight hours in heavy smoke and unfavorable conditions working the Nelson Fire, a 2,100-acre wildfire between Fairfield and Vacaville. The fire was contained on Aug. 12.

As he traveled back to the Bay Area, the firefighter felt chest palpitations, and he went to the emergency room the next day, where he was treated for a heart attack. He is resting and recovering at home.

"This was an eye-opener to us all," Lambert said, noting that the stricken firefighter was young, in good shape and apparently in good health. "We need to take care of our bodies, especially during fire season."

Lambert himself was recently deployed at the Ferguson Fire, a 95,000-acre wildfire near Yosemite Valley, as a safety officer. Other MOFD personnel worked the Carr Fire, a 200,000-acre blaze in Shasta and Trinity counties, and crews from the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District were deployed to the Mendocino Complex fire,

at 360,000 acres the largest fire in California recorded history.

ConFire Chief Jeff Carman told his advisory fire commission on Aug. 13 that the current fire season has already been record setting, and it has not yet fully matured. Fire officials say that fire seasons are growing longer and more intense with each passing year.

And more deadly. "During my first week, we observed three moments of silence," Lambert said.

According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, this year some 12,500 firefighters have worked more than 940,000 acres of state fires, which have damaged or destroyed over 2,000 structures, and have pushed the 2018 death toll among firefighters to six.

Competitive MOFD board races shaping up

By Nick Marnell

Two last-minute incumbent withdrawals and the addition of last-minute challengers in three divisions add intrigue to the Moraga-Orinda Fire District board races for the November general election.

President and Division 4 director Brad Barber explained his withdrawal from the race in an Aug. 14 announcement. "My decision not to run for re-election to the MOFD board was based on a number of factors, the most important of which is that I was asked by Marc Andrus, the Episcopal Bishop of California, to serve as Treasurer of the Diocese of California for the next two years," Barber said. In addition, Barber serves on five boards at UC Berkeley and is a regent of Samuel Merritt University in Oakland.

"Perhaps most importantly, my wife would like me to cut back," he

said. Barber said that the board has made significant, if incremental, progress in his tenure on the board, mainly in the financial sustainability of the district. He wished more progress had been made in improving the comparatively slower emergency medical response times in Orinda. "That is a complex problem but it should not be an insoluble one," he said.

The district's first and only female director, Kathleen Famulener, withdrew her candidacy in Division 1, saying that it was time for her to retire. She, too, cited financial accomplishments during her five-year tenure, including the lowering of the district pension debt by \$12 million, setting aside money in pension and retiree health care trust funds and nearing the payoff of the

district pension obligation bond.

"It's time to pass the mantle to the next generation," Famulener said.

In her division, the race will feature Moraga businessman Nate Bell versus Greg Baitx, an East Contra Costa Fire Protection District engineer.

"I live on the edge of open space, and with wildfires that will undoubtedly continue, I am very concerned," said Bell, who believes strongly in citizen involvement in government and that it is needed now more than ever. "I want to ensure the highest level of fire and medical service for the community," Baitx said.

Two candidates vie for Barber's Orinda Division 4 seat. Michael Donner, a retired Oakland firefighter and current business owner, will

oppose Lucy Talbot, a community volunteer and co-owner of a family business. "I want to get involved at the next level," said Talbot, who feels strongly that MOFD needs to allocate more of its resources to fire prevention, and needs to improve response times especially for medical emergencies, which far outnumber fire responses.

The Division 3 incumbent confirmed that he is not going away. Steve Anderson will face two challengers, including retired Oakland Fire Department administrator Steve Danziger and Red Smith, a technology executive. Division 3 includes portions of Moraga and Orinda, but all three candidates live in Orinda.

The seven candidates will have a chance to explain their positions in detail in the Oct. 17 issue of this newspaper.

Fire Station 43: vertical movement at last

Moraga-Orinda Fire District Chief Dave Winnacker updated the board Aug. 15 on the Orinda fire station progress.

"The last of the concrete was poured on Aug. 13," the chief said. Because of the size of the site, the presence of the concrete crews has been inhibiting the speed at which the framers could work, but as the concrete crews finish up, there will be noticeable vertical progress on the site, Winnacker said.

The first floor should be completed by the end of the third week of August, and the second floor should be in place by the end of the month, with trussing and roofing in September.



Photo Nick Marnell

Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report July 31 to August 13

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Alarms | 17 |
| 911 Calls (includes hang-ups) | 3 |
| Traffic | 63 |
| Suspicious Circumstances | 12 |
| Suspicious Subject | 0 |
| Suspicious Vehicle | 9 |
| Service to Citizen | 43 |
| Patrol Request/ Security Check | 32 |
| Vacation House Check | 13 |
| Supplemental Report | 19 |
| Welfare Check | 7 |
| Auto Burglary | 2400 Block Fitness |
| Barking Dog | 70 Block Hardie Dr. |
| Battery | Miramonte High School |
| Civil | Police Department 3800 Block Via Granada |

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|------------------------|--|
| Civil Problem | 60 Block Miramonte Dr. 100 Block Danefield Pl. 1800 Block Joseph Dr. |
| Corporal Injury Spouse | 200 Block Draeger Dr. |
| Disturbance-Domestic | 40 Block Cumberland Ln. |
| Disturbing The Peace | Chalda Way/Rheem Blvd. Safeway 1100 Block Alta Mesa Dr. Safeway |
| Drunk In Public | Mid. Block Rheem Blvd. |
| Excessive Speed | Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr. (2) Larch/Lindell Moraga/St. Marys Rd. Rheem Bustewart Ct. Rheem Bufemwood Dr. Larch Aviwandel Dr. Larch Ave./Canyon Rd. El Camino/Larch Moraga Rd./St. Marys Rd. Moraga Rd./Corte Santa Clara Moraga Rd./Devin Dr. |
| Found Adult | 10 Block Fleuti Dr. |
| Found Property | CVS Donald Dr./Laird Dr. |
| Grand Theft | 700 Block Camino Ricardo 400 Block Tharp Dr. |
| Hailed By Citizen | Moraga Rd./St. Marys Rd. Police Department |
| Harassment | 700 Block Crossbrook Dr. |
| Identity Theft | 100 Block Alta Mesa Ct. |
| Loud Music | Campolindo High School 50 Block Buckingham Dr. |
| Loud Noise | 1100 Block Larch Ave. |
| Loud Party | 50 Block Shuey Dr. 10 Block El Camino Flores Crossbrook Dr./Greenfield Dr. |
| Mentally Ill Commit | 100 Block Miramonte Dr. |
| Missing Adult | 80 Block Louise Ct. 500 Block Rheem Blvd. |
| Motorist Assist | 10 Block Louise Ct. (2) |
| Other Non Criminal | Moraga Way/School St. Police Department |

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|-------------------------|--|
| Petty Theft | 10 Block Avila Ln. |
| Petty Theft Bicycle | 2000 Block Ascot Dr. |
| Petty Theft From Veh. | 2000 Block Ascot Dr. |
| Public Assembly Check | Campolindo High School Kendall Ct. |
| Public Nuisance | Moraga Rd./Moraga Way 10 Block Fleuti Dr. |
| Reckless Driving | Canyon Rd./Sanders Dr. Joaquin Moraga Int School Safeway 100 Block Alta Mesa Ct. Safeway (2) |
| Shoplift | 1500 Block Canyon Rd. Campolinda High 1100 Block Larch Ave. |
| Vandalism | 600 Block Moraga Safeway Police Department |
| Vehicle Theft | |
| Warrant Arrest | |
| Reckless Driving | 100 Block Canon Dr. Rheem Blvd./Glorietta Blvd. Camino Pablo/San Pablo Dam Rd. San Pablo Dam Rd./ Bear Creek Rd. Camino Pablo/Eb Sr 24 |
| Revocation Of Probation | Orinda Theater |
| Terrorist Threats | 200 Block Orchard Rd. |
| Traffic Hazard | 50 Block Tara Rd. Las Vegas Rd./Mira Flores Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd. Camino Pablo/Ardilla Rd. E Altarinda Dr./St Stephens Dr. HWay 24/St Stevens 90 Block Via Floreado 200 Block Blk El Toyonal Wilder Sports Fields 10 Block Knickerbocker Ln. Safeway Safeway |
| Traffic Stop | 60 Block Davis Rd. |
| Vandalism | Safeway |
| Vehicle Theft | 60 Block Davis Rd. Safeway |
| Verbal Dispute | 10 Block De Soto Ct. |
| Walk Through | 10 Block Camino Sobrante |
| Warrant Arrest | Theatre Square |

Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report July 29 to August 11

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Alarms | 58 |
| 911 Calls (includes hang-ups) | 4 |
| Traffic | 76 |
| Suspicious Circumstances | 12 |
| Suspicious Subjects | 14 |
| Suspicious Vehicles | 15 |
| Patrol Request/ Security Check | 19 |
| Service to Citizen | 65 |
| Supplemental Report | 26 |
| Vacation House Check | 19 |
| Welfare Check | 9 |
| Accident Property | Camino Pablo/Wildcat Canyon Rd. Camino Sobrante/Orinda Way 20 Block Loma Vista Dr. Camino Pablo/Miner Rd. Moraga Way/Sanborn Rd. Beverages And More |
| Animal Cruelty | 900 Block Moon Ct., Laf. Safeway |
| Auto Burglary | Pine Grove Business Complex Wilder Sports Fields 100 Block Oak Rd. 100 Block Lucille Way |

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|-------------------------|---|
| Barking Dog | 60 Block La Espiral |
| Civil | 70 Block Van Ripper Ln. 10 Block Woodcrest Dr. 40 Block Donald Dr. 10 Block Knickerbocker Ln. Police Department |
| Disturbance-Domestic | 200 Block Overhill Rd. 30 Block Claremont Ave. |
| Drunk In Public | 50 Block Moraga Way |
| Dui Misdemeanor | 20 Block E Altarinda Dr. Camino Pablo/Miner Rd. |
| Evading Officer | Sb Broadway / Ivy |
| Failure To Obey | 10 Block Lloyd Ln. |
| Found Property | Happy Valley Rd./ Orinda View Rd. Orinda Theater Police Department |
| Found Property | 10 Block Loma Vista Dr. |
| Hit And Run Misdemeanor | |
| | 10 Block Juniper Dr. Miramonte High School 100 Block Stein Way 70 Block Donald Dr. 60 Block Don Gabriel Way |
| Identity Theft | 200 Block Glorietta Blvd. 20 Block Orinda Way |

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| Litter | 300 Block Glorietta Blvd. Police Department |
| Lost Property | 100 Block Silver Oak Terrace |
| Loud Music | 10 Block La Campana Rd. 70 Block El Toyonal Meadow View Rd./Glorietta Blvd. 70 Block Charles Hill Rd. |
| Loud Noise | Orinda Park Pool 500 Block Moraga Way 10 Block Meadow Park Ct. |
| Medical Hospital | 100 Block Brookside Rd. |
| Motorist Assist | Kittiwake Rd./Manzanita Dr. Glorietta Elementary School |
| Ordinance Violation | |
| Other Misdemeanor | Shell Station |
| Prom Shoot | 10 Block Via San Inigo 60 Block Charles Hill Rd. |
| Prowler | 600 Block El Toyonal |
| Public Assembly Check | |
| | 100 Block Camino Sobrante 10 Block Theater Square 200 Block Village Gate Rd. 100 Block Meadow View Rd. Overhill Rd./Moraga Way Safeway |
| Public Nuisance | |
| Reckless Driving | |
| Traffic Hazard | |
| Traffic Stop | |
| Vandalism | |
| Vehicle Theft | |
| Verbal Dispute | |
| Walk Through | |
| Warrant Arrest | |