

Fire prevention rises toward celebrity status at MOFD

By Nick Marnell

To bolster its fire prevention efforts, the Moraga-Orinda Fire District bumped its fuels mitigation manager position from seasonal to year-round, increased the number of fire prevention aides from six to nine and plans to add a full-time administrator to support expanded fire prevention efforts. These actions are in addition to the state-funded North Orinda Shaded Fuel Break project, which commences in mid-July and will be supervised by a project

manager and the district Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. Based on public demand, the MOFD board directed Fire Chief Dave Winnacker to shift \$150,000 from a contingency fund in the 2019-20 district budget into the fire prevention division. The major benefactor becomes the district fuels mitigation program, which increases from a six-month to a year-round program, and now includes funding for one full-time, year-round fuels mitigation manager and two seasonal,

part-time fuels mitigation and outreach crews. These three-person crews will continue to operate the district wood chipper program, which is already booked through August.

Because of the added fire prevention efforts, the district will replace one part-time district aide position with the full-time administrator, who will support the fire prevention division. That job should open later this summer. The fuels mitigation manager position has been posted, along with that of the district fire

marshal, as Fire Marshal Kathy Leonard retired in early July after 10 years with MOFD.

The district brought on retired Alameda County Fire Department Deputy Chief Jim Call to supervise the North Orinda Shaded Fuel Break program, a \$4 million state funded project to remove problem vegetation along a 14-mile stretch running along north Orinda and western Lafayette. Dennis Rein, the MOFD Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, will see his hours increase through the

duration of the project as he helps Call supervise the program.

MOFD also promoted engineer and 10-year veteran Jacob Airola to captain June 6. Airola replaces Steve Gehling, who moved up to battalion chief in April. "I have been very fortunate to have great mentors throughout my career," Airola said. "I'm excited for the opportunity to work in a new capacity in this community."

Lafayette Fire Station 16: The long and winding road

By Nick Marnell

Eight words from the deputy fire chief summed up the exhilaration and the exasperation of the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District regarding the long-delayed opening of Fire Station 16 in Lafayette.

"We have power! We are up and running," Aaron McAlister said on July 2. The final piece of the power puzzle was the installation of a new transformer by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, which delivered the equipment by the day it promised.

The excitement of that accomplishment, though, barely masked the frustration over PG&E delays the district experienced throughout the winter and spring.

PG&E approved the fire

station power plan in March 2018, but in February the utility rejected the indoor placement of the power meter. "During a visual inspection, the inside meter conflicted with our safety standards," PG&E spokesman Matt Nauman said. "We told the fire district design team that we required 24-hour access to the meter."

Concurrently, confusion reigned over the type of utility panel required for the station, whether 200 amp or 400 amp. An April design approved by the company proved "unbuildable," according to the district, and approval of the updated design for the indoor meter and 400 amp power supply took more than a month.

Not only did ConFire management become frustrated by the delays, so did

the district governing board.

"Given the role PG&E has played in wildfires in Northern California, you would think that they would do all that they could to get local fire stations open," Director and County Supervisor Candace Andersen said. "It was incredibly frustrating to have these delays and it should not have required a county supervisor and PG&E's legal counsel to get involved to also resolve where an electric meter should be placed."

The city of Lafayette lost patience in June, as the utility had not yet supplied a date for the transformer installation.

"To think that PG&E (yes, PG&E) is responsible for the delay of a publicly funded fire station and capability from becoming operational in the heart of the California fire

season - in the middle of a high fire risk area - is just stunning given what's happened over the past few years," said Lafayette City Council Member Cam Burks who, fueled by public outrage, threatened to convene the city's Emergency Services Task Force to investigate the delayed station opening, which had been expected in March.

The political pressure appeared to work, as in mid-June PG&E promised the transformer by July 2, and delivered.

Nauman again stressed that the safety of the utility's customers and the communities it serves was PG&E's most important responsibility, and said the company worked closely with ConFire to ensure the station met company safety standards. "We work

with first responders every day and will continue to collaborate to keep the Lafayette community safe," Nauman said.

McAlister acknowledged that PG&E was not solely responsible for the station delays, as heavy rains this spring caused the soil to compact and pushed back the paving of the driveway. The deputy chief said that the building should be operational on Aug. 1, with the crews, which have worked out of Fire Station 15 since April, able to move in by the middle of the month.

And then, after six years with no fire station along the winding roads of Happy Valley, Lafayette will lay claim to the newest fire station in Contra Costa County.

Fire districts prepare for PG&E planned power shutoffs

By Nick Marnell

As they are for any hazard, the Lamorinda fire agencies are prepared for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company Public Safety Power Shutoffs that the utility may implement in extreme fire danger this summer and fall.

"We don't consider the shutoffs any different from any other emergency," said Aaron McAlister, deputy fire chief of the Contra Costa

County Fire Protection District. "We prepare at multiple levels for all risks. Earthquakes, flooding, mudslides. We constantly challenge ourselves."

McAlister said that the district has responded to active shooter scenarios by changing some of its equipment and outfitting employees with ballistic material. To confront catastrophic fires, ConFire has upped its level of preparedness, including the predeployment of resources

during high fire danger and the addition of new equipment, like bulldozers.

For the PG&E shutoffs, the deputy chief said that the operation of the fire station

generators has been evaluated, as has the availability of the contractor who supplies fuel for the generators. A new plug-and-play generator is coming to Lafayette Fire Station 17,

which went dark during a PG&E outage in mid-June. McAlister said that Fire Station 16 will have a state-of-the-art generator when it opens in August.

... continued on next Page

Fire District Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District
Board of Directors
Wednesday, July 17, 7 p.m.
Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas.
Visit www.mofd.org



ConFire

Board of Directors
Tuesday, Aug. 6, 1:30 p.m.
Board Chamber Room 107,
Administration Building
651 Pine St., Martinez.
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.cccfpd.org



Public Safety

Emergency response:
Emergency: 24 Hours 911
Police Dispatch: 24 Hours
925-284-5010

Nixle: Text your zip code to 888777 or go to www.nixle.com

Lafayette Police Department:
3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
925-283-3680
Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt
925-299-3221
Police Department Tip Line
94549Tip@gmail.com
Police Department Traffic Issues
94549Traffic@gmail.com

Moraga Police Department:
329 Rheem Blvd.,
925-888-7055

Chief of Police, Jon King
ext. 7049

Orinda Police Department:
22 Orinda Way
925-254-6820

Chief of Police, Mark Nagel
925-254-6820
Orindatip@cityoforinda.org

Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report
June 16 - June 29



Alarms	92
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	13
Traffic	113
Suspicious Circumstances	12
Suspicious Subject	29
Suspicious Vehicle	21
Service to Citizen	53
Patrol Req./Security Check	19
Vacation House Check	63
Supplemental Report	34
School Assembly Check	2
Welfare Check	15
Vehicle violations	
Auto Burglary	
3300 Block Carlyle Terrace (2)	
1000 Block Carol Ln.	
3200 Block La Canada Rd.	
900 Block Dewing Ave.	
1000 Block Carol Ln.	
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	
3800 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Solana Dr./St. Marys Rd.	
Pleasant Hill Rd./Eb Sr 24	
900 Block Dewing Ave.	
3000 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Deer Hill Rd./Oak Hill Rd.	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)	
Petty Theft From Vehicle	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3800 Block Happy Valley Rd.	

1100 Block Hidalgo Ct.	
Reckless Driving	
Pleasant Hill Rd./Olympic Blvd.	
St. Marys Rd./S Lucille Ln.	
Reliez Station Rd./Olympic Blvd.	
Oak Hill Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Dewing Ave.	
Lucas Dr./Huntleigh Dr.	
Moraga Rd./Silver Springs Rd.	
Oak Hill Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Pleasant Hill Rd./Eb Sr 24	
Oak Hill Rd./Eb Sr 24	
Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Deer Hill Rd./1st St.	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Springhill Rd./Pleasant Hill Rd.	
Vehicle Theft	
3300 Block Mildred Ln.	

Other criminal activity

Fraud False Pretenses	
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Identity Theft	
600 Block Glenside Dr.	
Panhandling	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Petty Theft	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
10 Block Blackberry Ct.	
3300 Block Moraga Blvd. (2)	
4000 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Petty Theft Other	
3300 Block Johnson Rd.	
Shoplift	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)	

Nuisance to the Community

Disturbance-Domestic	
900 Block Risa Rd.	
10 Block Shreve Ln.	
Disturbance-Fight	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Acalanes Rd.	
Disturbing The Peace	
3700 Block Mosswood Dr.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Golden Gate Wy	
1200 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.	
Intoxicated Subject	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Loud Music	
1700 Block Reliez Valley Rd.	
Glen Rd./N Thompson Rd.	
Los Arabis Dr./Upper Happy Valley Rd.	
3200 Block Gold Ct.	
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Loud Noise	
3500 Block E View Dr.	
4000 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
1000 Block Dewing Ave. (2)	
900 Block Moraga Rd.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Risa Rd.	

Loud Party

3400 Block Moraga Blvd.	
Reliez Valley Rd./Toyon Rd.	
Glen Rd./N Thompson Rd.	
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Vandalism	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
600 Block Sky Ranch Ct.	
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	

Other

Animal Cruelty	
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Harassment	
3300 Block Mildred Ln.	
Minor Poss Of Alcohol	

1200 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.	
Ordinance Violation	
Hilltop Dr./Hastings Ct.	
1100 Block Upper Happy Valley Rd.	
3600 Block Chestnut St. (2)	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Risa Rd.	
Threats	
3300 Block S Lucille Ln.	
10 Block Vista Del Valle	
Trespass	
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	

Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report
June 18 - June 30



Alarms	24
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	11
Traffic	59
Suspicious Circumstances	10
Suspicious Subject	5
Suspicious Vehicle	3
Service to Citizen	23
Patrol Req./Security Check	22
Supplemental Report	18
Vacation House Check	11
Welfare Check	6

Vehicle violations

Excessive Speed	
Draeger Dr./Moraga Rd. (3)	
Moraga Way/St. Andrews Dr. (3)	
Moraga Rd./Alta Mesa Dr.	
Canyon Rd./Moraga Way	
Canyon Rd.	
Canyon Rd./Larch Ave.	
St. Marys Rd./In Front of Library (2)	
Moraga Way/School St. (2)	
600 Block Moraga Rd.	
Moraga Way/Moraga Rd.	
Ivy Dr./Moraga Way (2)	
Donald Dr./Moraga Rd.	
Corliss Dr./Moraga Rd.	
Camino Pablo/Dickenson Dr.	
Moraga Rd./In Front of Commons	
St. Marys Rd./Stafford Dr.	
Rheem Blvd./Chalda Way (2)	
Moraga Rd./Devin Dr.	
500 Block Rheem Blvd.	
Donald Dr.	

Reckless Driving

3800 Block Campolindo Dr.	
Rheem Blvd./Moraga Rd. (4)	
Moraga Rd./St. Marys Rd.	
Rheem Valley Shopping Center	
Moraga Commons Park	

Other criminal activity

Battery Sexual	
Police Department	
Commercial Burglary	
Subway	
Corporal Injury Spouse	
50 Block Miramonte Dr.	
Fireworks	
Joaquin Moraga Int. School	
Forgery	
Police Department	
Fraud Credit Card	
Homegoods	

Fraud False Pretenses	
Police Department	
Not Available	
Grand Theft	
400 Block Kingsford Dr.	
500 Block Moraga Rd.	
Identity Theft	
10 Block Whiting Ct.	
1700 Block Spyglass Ln.	

Shoplift

Safeway	
Terrorist Threats	
Moraga Country Club	
Police Department	
500 Block Woodminster Dr.	

Nuisance to the Community

Barking Dog	
Country Club Dr./N Sandringham	
Disturbance-Domestic	
Not Available	
Drunk In Public	
Moraga Commons Park	
Litter	
Campolindo Dr./Paseo Grande	
Loud Party	
1100 Block Alta Mesa Dr.	
Public Nuisance	
Sullivan Dr./Corliss Dr.	

Other

Accident Property	
Police Department	
Mentally Ill Commit	
600 Block Rheem Blvd.	
St. Marys College	
Ordinance Violation	
20 Block El Camino Flores	
Other Infraction	
500 Block Augusta Dr.	
Public Assembly Check	
Safeway	
Moraga Commons Park	
Rheem Valley Shopping Center	
Verbal Dispute	
Dollar Tree	



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report
June 2 - June 15

Alarms	46
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	12
Traffic	65
Suspicious Circumstances	6
Suspicious Subject	22
Suspicious Vehicle	10
Service to Citizen	29
Patrol Req./Security Check	10
Vacation House Check	10
Supplemental Report	10
Welfare Check	4

Vehicle violations

Auto Burglary	
Safeway	
Petty Theft From Vehicle	

Police Department	
Reckless Driving	
Camino Pablo/Eb Sr 24	
Moraga Way/El Camino Moraga	
Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd.	
Ardrith Dr./Ivy Dr.	
Camino Pablo/Claremont Ave.	
Wb Sr 24 At Camino Pablo	
San Pablo Dam Rd./Camino Pablo	
San Pablo Dam Rd./Bear Creek Rd.	

Tc - Property Damage

10 Block Overhill Rd.	
Vehicle Surveillance	
Tahos Rd./St Stephens Dr.	
Vehicle Theft	
500 Block Tahos Rd.	

Other criminal activity

Burglary	
10 Block Northwood Ct.	
Grand Theft	
Police Department	
20 Block Big Rock Rd.	
90 Block La Espiral	
Possession Of Stolen Property	
Wb Sr 24 At Wilder Rd.	
Residential Burglary	
4300 Block El Nido Ranch Rd.	
50 Block Davis Rd.	
300 Block Tahos Rd.	
30 Block Charles Hill Cr.	

Robbery

10 Block Alta Vista	
Shoplift	
CVS	

Nuisance to the Community

Disturbing The Peace	
30 Block Zander Dr.	
Drunk In Public	
Police Department	
Loud Music	
Orinda Park Pool	
Loud Noise	
20 Block Bel Air Dr.	
Glorietta Elementary School	
Orinda Park Pool	
Dalewood Dr./Lombardy Ln.	

Loud Party

20 Block Hillcrest Dr.	
Public Nuisance	
10 Block Aspinwall Ct.	
Vandalism	
10 Block Hazel Tree Ridge	

Other

Accident Property	
90 Block Loma Vista Dr.	
Safeway	
200 Block Camino Pablo	
Camino Pablo/Santa Maria Way	
20 Block Moraga Via	
Sundown Terrace/Silver Oak	
Dependent Adult Abuse	
10 Block Charles Hill Rd.	
Ordinance Violation	
100 Block La Espiral	
10 Block Bobolink Rd. (2)	
Revocation Of Probation	
Safeway	
Unauthorized Possession	
Theatre Square	
Violation Custody Order	
Orinda Theater	