



Photo Nick Marnell

MOFD Fire Marshal Jeff Isaacs

# MOFD fire marshal increases staff, determined to mitigate community fire hazards

By Nick Marnell

With the importance of the fire marshal role taking on added significance in the new decade, the Moraga-Orinda Fire District named Jeff Isaacs, an industry veteran with decades of firefighting and administrative experience, to the position in January.

Isaacs spent 20 years with the California Department of

Forestry and Fire Protection, where he worked his way up to division chief of the Southern Region in Fresno. Since September Isaacs served as the MOFD fuels mitigation manager, a position that he intends to fill immediately as he beefs up the fire prevention division.

The fire marshal also plans to replace the six part-time code enforcers with three full-time fuels mitiga-

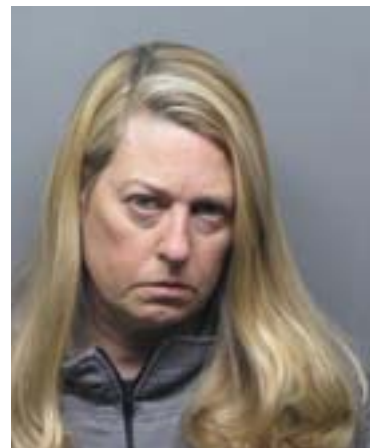
tion specialists, who will report to the fuels mitigation manager. "We'll be able to train better and provide more consistent supervision," Isaacs said. That should come as a relief to the district residents who had been subject to arbitrary code enforcement by former part-time employees.

Isaacs laid out his 2020 operational plan to the district governing board Jan. 8.

Highlights included the reorganization of his department in the first quarter, public outreach and education of the new fire code requirements in the spring, property inspections and re-inspections all summer, and continuation of the district's popular chipper service throughout the year.

... continued on Page A9

# Orinda teacher charged with sexual abuse of a minor



Courtesy Lafayette Police Dept

Kyle Ann Wood

By Nick Marnell

Detectives from the Contra Costa County Office of the

Sheriff Jan. 8 arrested Miramonte High School teacher Kyle Ann Wood, who was subsequently charged with two counts of felony sexual abuse of a minor by the District Attorney's office. According to the criminal complaint, the abuse occurred between October 1997 and June 1998 while Wood was a teacher and the victims were students at Acalanes High School. One of the two students has passed away.

Colleen Gleason, sexual assault/child abuse unit supervisor with the DA's office, said that the accuser came forward to law enforcement in October and the sheriff's office immediately began its investigation. "They knew

that Wood was still a teacher and they worked hard to wrap up the case over the holiday break," Gleason said. "We were able to file charges because there was independent evidence that clearly and convincingly corroborated the victim's allegations." Wood has pleaded not guilty to both counts.

John Nickerson, superintendent of the Acalanes Union High School District, confirmed that Wood has been a teacher with the district since 1994 and said that she was immediately placed on administrative leave. Wood taught at Acalanes High School until 2009 when she was transferred to Miramonte. "It was not a discipli-

nary transfer," Nickerson said.

On the Miramonte High School website, Wood is listed as teaching ninth grade and 10th grade physical education. "I enjoy hiking, surfing, and photography. I played high school and college basketball, swam and played summer softball," Wood wrote in her profile. Julie Parks, Miramonte High School principal, did not respond to a request for confirmation.

"We hold student well-being as our greatest priority, and whenever we hear about situations that are counter to this value, it is of the greatest concern. I assure you that our district office will cooperate

fully with law enforcement in this ongoing investigation," Nickerson said in a statement.

Though no one from the sheriff's office or DA's office would comment on the motivation or timing of the allegations, it should be noted that Assembly Bill 218, which Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Oct. 13, gives those who experienced childhood sexual abuse until age 40, or five years from discovery of the abuse, to file civil lawsuits. Survivors also have a three-year period starting this January in which sexual abuse claims that have since passed the statute of limitations can be pursued.

The DA's office was not aware of a civil suit filed by the accuser.

# MOFD chief proposes aggressive, radical fire code

... continued from Page A1

But probably the most drastic proposed regulation is a ban on the use of combustible ground cover, including mulch, within 2 feet of each district structure, and that all vegetation must be trimmed within 2 feet of each structure.

"It will have a dramatic impact on how homes look," said Winnacker, noting that a reduced fire threat cannot coexist with a fully vegetated, semirural community. "You can't have both."

Included in the code is the requirement for an exterior fire hazard inspection within six months prior to the sale or transfer of real prop-

erty. Winnacker had been frustrated with the lack of effort in bringing parcels up to code, especially those along district evacuation routes, and he proposed this regulation to ensure that weed abatement is completed before a property changes hands.

Other highlights of the code include an increase in tree clearance from 5 feet to 6 feet around a structure, the requirement of exterior under-eave sprinklers for new construction and an increase in road width up to 28 feet for new construction.

The district will coordinate the adoption of the code among the MOFD board, the two district municipal coun-

cils and the Board of Supervisors. All four governing bodies must adopt the code to ensure uniformity of standards within the MOFD jurisdiction. If one entity makes a change to the proposed ordinance, the fire code must go back to all four for adoption of the same change.

Winnacker said he hoped to complete the process by the end of February, and the new code would take effect imme-

diately. As it will be impossible to inspect all 14,000 district parcels in one year, the chief said his top two enforcement priorities for 2020 are the roadsides along district evacuation routes and properties that lie along the perimeter of wilderness areas.

Before the fire code is sent to the governing bodies, the district will hold another public meeting Jan. 28 at

Joaquin Moraga Middle School in Moraga. "It's not necessarily to convince people why this needs to be done, but to explain what we are proposing," Winnacker said. "These recommendations come from my professional opinion about how we can create the greatest increase in fire safety at the lowest possible cost and lowest impact to the district."

## 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, David M. Cook  
925-254-6820  
Orindatip@cityoforinda.org

**Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report**  
Dec. 22 - Jan. 11



Alarms	88
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	24
Traffic	143
Suspicious Circumstances	12
Suspicious Subject	43
Suspicious Vehicle	35
Service to Citizen	53
Patrol Req./Security Check	54
Public/School Assembly Check	2
Supplemental Report	35
Vacation House Check	46
Welfare Check	24
<b>Vehicle violations</b>	
Auto Burglary	
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (4)	
1200 Block Clover Ct.	
900 Block Moraga Rd.	
700 Block Glenside Cr.	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
100 Block Camellia Ln.	
400 Block Florence Dr.	
3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
900 Block Buchan Dr.	
1100 Block Robles Ct.	
1100 Block Hidalgo Ct. (2)	
1000 Block Serrano Ct. (2)	
80 Block Lafayette Cr.	
DUI Misdemeanor	
Reliez Valley Rd./Gloria Terrace	
1200 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.	
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Moraga Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd.	

Exhibition Of Speed	1000 Block Silverado Dr.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	3200 Block Marlene Dr.
Police Department	Pleasant Hill Rd./Deer Hill Rd.
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Petty Theft From Vehicle	1000 Block Serrano Ct.
Reckless Driving	Moraga Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Mountain View Dr.	Old Tunnel Rd./Manzana Pl.
Pleasant Hill Rd./Old Tunnel Rd.	600 Block Moraga Rd.
Oak Hill Rd./Eb Sr 24	Moraga Rd./Hamlin Rd.
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Almanor Ln.	Reliez Valley Rd./Johnson Rd.
1st St/Wb Sr 24	3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
Moraga Rd./Donald Dr., Mor.	Mt. Diablo Blvd./Brown Ave.
Tamper With Vehicle	1400 Block Sunset Loop
Vehicle Theft	Quandt Rd./Del Arroyo Ct.
1000 Block Via Media	1000 Block Oak Hill Rd.
10 Block Greenvally Ct.	
<b>Other criminal activity</b>	
Attempt Strongarm Robbery	3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Brandishing Weapon	3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Commercial Burglary	1000 Block Brown Ave.
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Fraud Credit Card	10 Block Valley High
Fraud False Pretenses	Police Department
Identity Theft	3900 Block Rancho Rd.
1000 Block Hunsaker Canyon Rd. (2)	Police Department
Misc Burglary	3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Panhandling	3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Petty Theft	3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
4100 Block Canyon Rd. (2)	900 Block Dewing Ave.
3200 Block Ameno Dr.	3300 Block Ameno Dr.
900 Block Moraga Rd. (2)	4100 Block Canyon Rd. (2)
3300 Block Mildred Ln.	1200 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.
Shoplift	3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (4)
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (4)	
Threats	3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
1200 Block Barott Rd.	3200 Block Marlene Dr. (2)
<b>Nuisance to the Community</b>	
Disturbance-domestic	3400 Block St. Marys Rd.
3200 Block Camino Colorados	3500 Block Terrace Way (2)

1000 Block Carol Ln.	900 Block 3Rd St.
800 Block Reliez Station Rd.	Disturbing The Peace
Police Department	Drunk In Public
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	Loud Music
3400 Block School St	1000 Block Carol Ln. (2)
Loud Noise	900 Block Dewing Ave.
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	Public Nuisance
3400 Block Golden Gate Way	3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Lafayette Cr.	Quandt Rd./Del Arroyo Ct. (2)
Vandalism	1000 Block N Thompson Rd.
1000 Block Glen Rd.	3300 Block Deer Hill Rd.
1200 Block Bacon Way	3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	<b>Other</b>
Animal Cruelty	1000 Block Dewing Ave. (2)
Fireworks	3300 Block Vaughn Rd.
3800 Block Quail Ridge Rd.	H&S Violation
500 Block St. Mary's Rd.	Loitering
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)	Ordinance Violation
1000 Block Dewing Ave.	Golden Gate Way/Mt. Diablo Blvd.
1000 Block Dewing Ave.	Brook St./Mountain View Dr.
1000 Block Dewing Ave.	Trespass
3600 Block Chestnut St.	Unwanted Guest
1100 Block Monticello Rd. (2)	3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)	200 Block Lafayette Cr.
3400 Block Moraga Blvd.	Violation Custody Order
3200 Block Sweet Dr.	Violation Restraining Order
300 Block Buckeye Ct.	800 Block Acalanes Rd.

Supplemental Report	17
Vacation House Check	9
Welfare Check	6
<b>Vehicle violations</b>	
Accident Property	Safeway
Center St./Rheem Blvd.	1000 Block Larch Ave.
Auto Burglary	St. Marys College
DUI Misd	90 Block Danefield Pl.
Excessive Speed	Moraga Way/Viader Dr.
Country Club Dr./School St.	Ascot Dr./Moraga Rd.
Reckless Driving	Donald Dr.
Rheem Valley Shopping Center	Moraga Rd./Moraga Way
Tamper With Vehicle	200 Block Willowbrook Ln.
Tc - Property Damage	Seven Eleven
Corliss Dr./Woodside Dr.	Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.
<b>Other criminal activity</b>	
Burglary	Round Table
Fraud False Pretenses	2000 Block Ascot Dr.
Grand Theft	400 Block Center St.
Petty Theft	School St./Moraga Way
<b>Nuisance to the Community</b>	
Disturbing The Peace	20 Block Hour Fitness
Public Nuisance	1000 Block Block Alta Mesa Dr.
500 Block Moraga Rd.	Donald Dr./Laird Dr.
Unwanted Guest	20 Block Hour Fitness
Vandalism	1900 Block Ascot Dr.
<b>Other</b>	
Fireworks	Campolindo High School
Loitering	Bollinger Canyon Rd./St. Marys Rd.
Mentally Ill Commit	300 Block Birchwood Dr.
Public Assembly Check	Rheem Valley Shopping Center (3)
Fayhill Rd./Rheem Blvd.	Trespass
Rheem Blvd./St. Marys Rd.	Violation Custody Order
1700 Block St Andrews Dr.	

**Fire District Public Meetings**

**Moraga-Orinda Fire District**  
Board of Directors  
Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m.  
Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas.  
Visit www.mofd.org

**ConFire**  
Board of Directors  
Tuesday, Feb. 11, 1:00 p.m.  
Board Chamber Room 107,  
Administration Building  
651 Pine St., Martinez.  
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.cccfpd.org

<b>Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report</b> Dec. 31 - Jan. 13	
Alarms	17
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	3
Traffic	39
Suspicious Circumstances	9
Suspicious Subject	11
Suspicious Vehicle	15
Service to Citizen	39
Patrol Req./Security Check	30

<b>Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report</b> Dec. 29 - Jan. 11	
Alarms	55
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	3
Traffic	63
Suspicious Circumstances	8
Suspicious Subject	11
Suspicious Vehicle	15
Service to Citizen	85
Patrol Req./Security Check	78
Public/School Assembly Check	19
Supplemental Report	8
Vacation House Check	5
Welfare Check	10
<b>Vehicle violations</b>	
Accident Injury	Police Department
400 Block Moraga Way	Accident Property
Camino Pablo/Wb 24 Off	10 Block Valley View Rd.
Safeway	700 Block Miner Rd.
Auto Burglary	60 Block Moraga Way (2)
600 Block Orindawoods Dr. (5)	DUI Misdemeanor
Moraga Way/Camino Encinas	Hit And Run Misdemeanor
Bart Orinda Station	Camino Pablo/Miner Rd.
70 Block Moraga Way	Reckless Driving
Miner Rd./Camino Pablo	Orinda Country Club
Eb Sr 24 At Camino Pablo	Rheem Blvd./Zander Dr.
Tc - Minor Injuries	Coral Dr./Ivy Dr.
<b>Other criminal activity</b>	
Identity Theft	10 Block Whitehall Dr.
80 Block El Toyonal	400 Block Miner Rd.
Other Felony	Wb Sr 24 At Wilder Rd.
Residential Burglary	10 Block Darnby Ct.
300 Block Miner Rd.	Shoplift
Beverages And More	Rite Aid
Cvs	Warrant Arrest
Nations	Ivy Dr./Moraga Way
California Shakespeare Festival	<b>Nuisance to the Community</b>
Barking Dog	100 Block Leslee Ln.
Public Nuisance	Brookwood Rd./Camino Pablo
Unwanted Guest	1100 Block Monticello Rd., Laf.
<b>Other - none</b>	

