

# Firefighters learn the ropes at Painted Rock



MOFD training exercise at Painted Rock Photo Jayme O'Bryant

By Nick Marnell

Area firefighters participated in a low angle rope rescue training class held July 22 at Painted Rock in Moraga. The class included personnel from the Moraga-Orinda Fire District and was conducted

by Northern California Rescue Training, whose instructors are certified by State Fire Training, a division of the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Attendees gave examples of the need for a low angle rope rescue. The procedure

can be used when a car crashes over a ridge, such as along Grizzly Peak, or when someone falls into a shallow ravine, or in many cases where it is unsafe or impractical for rescue personnel to climb down a hillside unattended to aid a victim.

Firefighters practiced various components of the rescue operation, including treating and moving the victim, descending and ascending techniques, and group fall protection.

For MOFD Capt. Jon Bensley, a 14-year district veteran, the Painted Rock training session was his second go-around. Bensley took the course when he first came on board and he said it was time for a brush up.

"Everything we learn is a perishable skill," Bensley said. "Technology and strategy have changed over

the years and have made things better. We have to train constantly."

The class was conducted by Brook Mancinelli, a lieutenant with the San Francisco Fire Department.

One of the NCRT principals, Mancinelli lives in Lafayette and is hardly a stranger to MOFD. He began his fire service career as an

MOFD reserve and worked as a firefighter-paramedic, eventually serving more than three years as a district director.

Mancinelli made special arrangements to offer the rope rescue course to MOFD personnel. "The district has done a lot for me, and I wanted to give something back," he said.

## Fire District Public Meetings

### Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors  
Wednesday,  
Aug. 19, 7 p.m.

Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas. Visit [www.mofd.org](http://www.mofd.org)



### ConFire

Board of Directors  
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 1:00 p.m.

Board Chamber Room 107,  
Administration Building  
651 Pine St., Martinez.

For meeting times and agendas, visit [www.cccfpd.org](http://www.cccfpd.org)



# Grand jury directs fire agencies to update evacuation plans

By Nick Marnell

Years of major, destructive California wildfires got the attention of a Contra Costa County civil grand jury, which released a report on county preparedness should the county face a catastrophic wildfire within its boundaries. The panel particularly emphasized the need for the region to update evacuation plans and to incorporate advanced routing technology.

Contra Costa County's civil grand jury comprises 19 citizens who investigate the operations of government agencies. It is in the sole discretion of the grand jury to determine what government functions it inves-

tigates. For the June wildfire preparedness report, the grand jury interviewed county fire personnel, including Moraga-Orinda Fire District Chief Dave Winnacker, who said he spent six hours at one of the hearings.

The grand jury found that many of the eight county fire agencies lacked updated wildfire evacuation plans and directed that the fire agencies should incorporate advanced routing technology to determine the most efficient evacuation routes for residents. An example it gave was to divide the evacuation area into grids and map all roads, access points and evacuation centers

within each section.

The grand jury noted that a solid evacuation plan not only allows smooth resident evacuation but also allows emergency equipment and personnel to better respond to the fire. The panel found no fault with the MOFD evacuation plan.

Because MOFD has in place many of the procedures proposed by the grand jury, the district was ordered to respond to only two of the seven grand jury recommendations; three of the recommendations, however, were duplicated between county fire districts and fire departments.

One of the grand jury recommendations regards the ex-

pansion of new technologies, such as ground sensors, drones and satellites, to help detect wildfires in high-risk areas. Though the district has been in the forefront of using such technologies, Winnacker agreed with the recommendation.

"There's always room to better integrate these functions into our systems," he said.

The other panel recommendation to the district was to consider a mechanism like the ordinance passed by the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, which would enable a fire agency to recover labor and equipment costs from an electric utility for overseeing

the company's electrical work when it presents a high fire risk.

However, the San Ramon Valley Fire ordinance, and the district's right to issue fines or citations over ordinance violations, have been challenged in court.

"I agree with the grand jury recommendations," Winnacker said. "They will help move the region to a safer future. We will do anything to improve regional safety."

Because of the pressure on public agencies due to COVID-19, the grand jury gave until June 30 for fire agencies to respond to its findings and recommendations.

# MOFD board elections

Unless the candidates run unopposed, -Orinda Fire District residents will vote for board members from

two divisions in the Nov. 3 general election.

Incumbent John Jex filed papers to run for re-

election in MOFD Division 2, and incumbent Craig Jorgens filed for re-election in Division 5.

Division 2 includes the northern and eastern portions of Moraga, with Division 5 including the

northwest sections of Orinda.

# 10-year-old boy dies in Lafayette traffic collision

By Nick Marnell

The Lafayette Police Department confirmed that an Amazon delivery truck collided July 28 with Lafayette resident Leonard Cellura, killing

the 10-year-old boy as he rode his bicycle in the 500 block of Merriewood Drive.

Contra Costa County Fire Protection District crews arrived on the scene early afternoon and found a police officer and a concerned citi-

zen, who was administering first aid to Cellura. ConFire paramedics took over lifesaving efforts and transported the boy to John Muir Hospital in Walnut Creek, where he was pronounced dead.

"The driver is cooperat-

ing with Lafayette police. He has been interviewed and a blood draw was taken," Police Chief Ben Alldritt said.

As a matter of protocol, the fire district took its two Lafayette responding crews out of service in order to pro-

vide them counseling and emotional support, ConFire spokesman Steve Hill said.

Amazon representatives did not respond to a request for comment.

Alldritt said that the investigation is ongoing.

# 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](http://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



June 12 - July 25	
Alarms	46
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	10
Traffic	71
Suspicious Circumstances	11
Suspicious Subject	13
Suspicious Vehicle	16
Service to Citizen	39
Patrol Req./Security Check	38
Public/School Assembly Check	1
Supplemental Report	21
Vacation House Check	18
Welfare Check	19
Ordinance Violation	10
<b>Vehicle violations</b>	
Auto Burglary	
3300 Block Springhill Rd.	
3700 Block Sundale Rd.	
800 Block Mountain View Dr.	
Pleasant Hill Rd./Olympic Blvd.	
3500 Block Terrace Way	
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	
Old Jonas Hill Rd./John Way	
10 Block Nephi Ct.	
Moraga Rd./Moraga Blvd.	
1200 Block Upper Happy Valley Rd.	
800 Block Solana Dr.	
Police Department	
Bickerstaff St./Dewing Ave.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Pleasant Hill Rd.	

Reckless Driving	
3200 Block Andreasen Dr.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Happy Valley Rd.	
700 Block Moraga Rd.	
St Marys Rd./Rohrer Dr.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Carol Ln.	
Glenside Dr./Reliez Station Rd.	
Wb Sr 24 At Pleasant Hill Rd.	
15t St./Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Tc - Property Damage	
Lana Ln./Foye Dr. (2)	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./1st St. (2)	
Moraga Rd./Moraga Blvd.	
Police Department	
3400 Block Shangri La Rd.	
<b>Other criminal activity</b>	
Embezzlement	
3400 Block Golden Gate Way	
Fraud Credit Card	
3600 Block Bickerstaff St.	
Fraud False Pretenses	
1100 Block Crescenta Ct.	
Police Department	
Grand Theft	
3500 Block Silver Springs Rd.	
1000 Block Lindsey Ct.	
Identity Theft	
3600 Block Bickerstaff St.	
1100 Block Perales St.	
20 Block Crest Rd. (2)	
Misc Burglary - Storage	
1000 Block Carol Ln.	
Petty Theft	
3700 Block Rose Ct.	
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
700 Block Moraga Rd.	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
1000 Block Lindsey Ct.	
3700 Block Mosswood Dr.	
3400 Block Silver Springs Rd.	
100 Block Valley High	
300 Block Buckeye Ct.	
Petty Theft Bicycle	
1200 Block Sunset Lp.	
Shoplift	
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (6)	
3400 Block Golden Gate Way	
Warrant Service	
700 Block Solana Dr. (2)	
<b>Nuisance to the Community</b>	
Drunk In Public	
50 Block Lafayette Cir.	
Loud Music	
Summit Rd./Quandt Rd.	
1000 Block Manzana Pl.	
Springhill Elementary School	
Loud Noise	
Dewing Ave./Bickerstaff St.	
3300 Block Springhill Rd.	
3400 Block School St. (2)	
200 Block Lafayette Cir.	
1300 Block San Reliez Ct.	
Loud Party	
Pleasant Hill Rd./Reliez Station Rd.	
West Rd./Mountain View Dr.	
Public Nuisance	

Happy Valley Rd./Crestmont Dr.	
Happy Valley Rd./Deer Hill Rd.	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
1000 Block Los Arabis Ln.	
3600 Block Happy Valley Rd.	
700 Block St Mary's Rd.	
900 Block Moraga Rd.	
3800 Block Happy Valley Rd.	
Vandalism	
3200 Block Hillview Ln.	
3200 Block Beechwood Dr.	
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
1000 Block Brown Ave.	
900 Block Happy Valley Ct.	
<b>Other</b>	
Brandishing Weapon	
1000 Block 2Nd St.	
Fireworks	
10 Block Middle Rd.	
K9 Outside Assist Request	
2700 Block Parkside Cir., Concord	
Loitering	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Threats	
3400 Block Moraga Blvd. (2)	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Trespass	
Eb mud Properties	
3300 Block Springhill Rd.	
Unwanted Guest	
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
800 Block Ava Ct.	
Violation Restraining Order	
1200 Block Warner Ct. (2)	

## Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report



July 14 - July 27	
Alarms	13
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	12
Traffic	22
Suspicious Circumstances	5
Suspicious Subject	4
Suspicious Vehicle	7
Service to Citizen	59
Patrol Req./Security Check	10
Supplemental Report	6
Vacation House Check	2
Welfare Check	2
<b>Vehicle violations</b>	
Accident Property	
Center St./Rheem Blvd.	
Starbucks	
Dui Felony	
200 Block Corliss Dr.	
Excessive Speed	
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr (4)	
Moraga Way/Eastwood Dr.	
Moraga Way/Moraga Valley Ln. (2)	
Seven Eleven	
Moraga Rd./Commons Park	
Moraga Way/Miramonte Dr.	
Moraga Rd./Camplin	

School St./Moraga Way	
Miramonte Dr./Moraga Way	
Moraga Way/St. Andrews Dr. (2)	
Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr.	
Alta Mesa/Moraga Rd.	
Moraga Rd./Buckingham Dr. (2)	
Moraga Rd./Ascott Dr.	
Moraga Way/Viader Dr.	
Moraga Way/Moraga Rd.	
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	
700 Block Camino Ricardo	
Reckless Driving	
St. Marys Rd./Bollinger Canyon	
Seven Eleven	
Safeway	
<b>Other criminal activity</b>	
Petty Theft	
1900 Block Ascot Dr.	
Moraga Country Club	
10 Block Natividad Ln	
3900 Block Campolindo Dr.	
10 Block Dolores Ct.	
<b>Nuisance to the Community</b>	
Disturbing The Peace	
10 Block Sanders Ranch Rd.	
200 Block Draeger Dr.	
Litter	
10 Block Miramonte Dr.	
Loud Music	
100 Block David Dr.	
Campolindo High School	
Not Available (5)	
200 Block Draeger Dr.	
Public Nuisance	
Tharp Dr./Camino Pablo	
<b>Other</b>	
Fireworks	
300 Block Moraga Rd.	
Fish And Game	
Moraga Country Club	
Harassment	
1400 Block Moraga Rd.	
90 Block Miramonte Dr.	
300 Block Tharp Dr.	
Loitering	
Rheem Blvd./Moraga Rd.	
Public Assembly Check	
Rheem Valley Shopping Center (2)	
Sexual Exploitation	
Police Department	
Trespass	
Alta Mesa Dr./Via Joaquin	
Unwanted Guest	
Not Available	
1300 Block Camino Peral	
900 Block Country Club Dr.	

Alarms	42
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	20
Traffic	15
Suspicious Circumstances	2
Suspicious Subject	8
Suspicious Vehicle	5
Service to Citizen	65
Patrol Req./Security Check	113
Public/School Assembly Check	7
Supplemental Report	19
Welfare Check	4
Ordinance Violation	2
<b>Vehicle violations</b>	
Accident Injury	
Moraga Way/El Camino Moraga	
Dui Misd	
100 Block Las Vegas Rd.	
Reckless Driving	
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.	
San Pablo Dam Rd./Wildcat Canyon	
Tc - Property Damage	
Ifo Eb 24 On/Cam Pab	
Camino Del Ciello/El Toyonal	
Moraga Way/Orchard Rd.	
<b>Other criminal activity</b>	
Fraud False Pretenses	
10 Block La Noria	
Identity Theft	
600 Block Miner Rd.	
500 Block Miner Rd.	
Illegal Entry	
30 Block Charles Hill Rd.	
Residential Burglary	
200 Block Camino Pablo	
50 Block Lombardy Ln.	
50 Block Bobolink Rd.	
Warrant Arrest	
Rite Aid	
<b>Nuisance to the Community</b>	
Disturbance-fight	
Campolindo High School, Moraga	
Disturbing The Peace	
10 Block Easton Ct.	
80 Block Sunnyside Ln.	
Loud Music	
La Encinal/El Toyonal	
Loud Noise	
20 Block Carisbrook Dr.	
Miramonte High School	
Loud Party	
Miramonte High School	
Sleepy Hollow Ct./Tarry Ln.	
10 Block Sleepy Hollow Ct.	
Sager Ct./Donna Maria Way	
60 Block Van Ripper Ln.	
Public Nuisance	
Theatre Square (2)	
<b>Other</b>	
Corporal Injury Spouse	
Eb Sr 24 At Wilder Rd.	
Fireworks	
10-00 Block Bates Blvd.	
Trespass	
70 Block Windy Creek Way	
Orinda Country Club	
Unwanted Guest	
100 Block Moraga Way	



## Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report July 12 - July 25