

# Letters to the editor ... continued

## Yard signs reveal MOFD board agenda

Yard signs for Michael Donner and Steve Danziger, running for the MOFD board say "Ad paid for by International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1230 Political Activity Committee FFPC 744488." If the union is footing the bill for these campaigns, what might Donner and Danziger owe the union? How many dollars is the union spending this year? Last time the union ponied up at least double the money that an average campaign spends with no money from community members. How will balancing the interests of the union against the interests of the community, which is safety and fire prevention play out.

If past is prologue, these incumbents will not represent our community interests. The record shows that Donner and Danziger voted not to spend any of the \$400K windfall money from the admin portion of a grant. Both voted to reduce the home hardening grant program from \$750K to \$500K. Both Donner and Danziger voted against extending the free chipping program over the summer.

Our community needs to take back control of our MOFD from the outside special interests.

Melanie Light  
Orinda

## Dell'Aquila for MOFD

I support Vince Dell'Aquila for MOFD Board Division 3. He is a long-time resident with strong budget management experience. Vince is also 100% community funded and has received no special interest funding. As such, he's not beholden to the organization the Board oversees. That's smart governance.

Steve Sciamanna  
Orinda

## Elect Vince Dell'Aquila for MOFD Board - Division 3

Vince Dell'Aquila has the skills our community needs to run a professional MOFD Board.

The Board is legally required to represent the local citizens to do what is in our community's best interest.

Vince is a general contractor, coach and educator who is very involved in our community. Vince will listen to the residents and then guide MOFD's \$33 Million budget, large pension obligations and investment portfolio. The Board has hired an amazing Fire Chief and the best professional firefighting and emergency staff possible to run the day-to-day operations; the MOFD Board's role isn't to manage operations. The Board requires professionals, like Dell'Aquila, who have experience overseeing budgets with business and construction experience to help build Moraga's new fire station and represent only the interests of our community.

Dell'Aquila has received 100% of his funding from friends, family and local citizens and is endorsed by hundreds of local residents and community leaders. His competitor, according to the official State campaign records up to 10/11/22, has received 100% of his funding from non-resident organizations.

Support Vince Dell'Aquila as the most qualified choice for the MOFD Board.  
John Kotowski  
Orinda

## The MOFD Election; Conflict of Interest

Candidates make promises which are impossible to hold them to.

Candidates are endorsed by individuals and institutions who may or may not know anything about the candidates' past performance.

And then there are financial endorsements. For individual donors, a contribution is a commitment to the candidate and the belief that the candidate will do the best thing for the com-

munity. But for institutional donations, one must ask "what are they looking for in return?"

Three MOFD Director candidates, Young, Danziger and Donner, to date are 100% funded by the MOFD employees' union. Four years ago that union provided over \$30,000 in funding to the candidates who then controlled the employees' contract negotiations. That contract comes due in another two years. The union was obviously happy with past results.

I smell a conflict of interest and will support their opponents Hasler, Dell'Aquila and Roemer.  
Steve Cohn  
Orinda

## MOFD needs Greg Hasler as director

Over the past four years I have monitored the actions taken and not taken by the current Fire Board members. I see that they have failed to address the present and future financial needs of MOFD. Strong and successful organizations identify risks and how to prepare to meet them. MOFD needs Greg Hasler, who with his professional background would be a prudent, keen, and independent voice for our communities. I have known Greg for several years, and he is a man with admirable ethics and integrity.  
Rachel Erickson  
Moraga

## Greg Hasler exceptionally qualified for fire district board

I am impressed with the strong financial professional background of Greg Hasler. Given his extensive experience, I know he will bring to the MOFD Board a skilled, perceptive, and independent voice to address what policies and practices should be adopted by the Board. His expertise is vital to meet the expanding needs for abatement, as well as for preparation to protect Moraga and Orinda from a devastating

wildfire.  
William Weber  
Moraga

## David Shapiro for Moraga Shapiro for Town Council

David Shapiro is the strongest and most fitting candidate for Moraga Town Council. He clearly has the insight, intellect and aptitude to be a key contributor on the Town Council. I have known David and his family for over 20 years. Our youngest daughters grew up together. We need David on the Council because he can work efficiently and decisively to ensure our finances are protected. We need David because he will work diligently to find ways to fund the Town's now underfunded pensions. And, a very important topic looming in front of us all is finding ways to meet State housing mandates while protecting the interests of all Moragans. David's background as an accomplished attorney demonstrates his keen ability to strategize and to analyze the difficult issues facing Moraga. He will work earnestly to protect our community. I am voting for David Shapiro for Moraga Town Council and encourage you to vote for David Shapiro as well.

Jack Davis, Ph.D.  
Moraga

## Riley for Orinda City Council

Janet Riley has been instrumental in many areas of our civic life, especially supporting our treasured Orinda schools. She has served our schools in nearly every capacity, from chaperoning field trips to balancing six-figure budgets for Parents Clubs. We would especially like to call attention to her leadership of the Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO) as an example of her tireless advocacy for Orinda's families.

Janet's knowledge, experience, and willingness to listen to all stakeholders was a hallmark of her tenure on the board. She effectively brought together the

varying interests and priorities of the school community in an effort to do what was best for students. During her two years (2007 - 2009) as president of EFO (predecessor to ONE), the organization raised nearly \$3 million to benefit our schools.

Janet's clear vision and thoughtful approach to problem-solving make her a highly effective leader. We have no doubt that Janet Riley will bring an unwavering commitment to community service, fiscal responsibility, and consensus building to the table once she's elected to the Orinda City Council.

Karen Derr Gilbert,  
EFO President 2005 - 2007  
Alison Holland,  
EFO President 2003 - 2005  
Joan Kiekhaefer,  
EFO President 2009 - 2013

## Janet Riley endorsement

It is my privilege to highly recommend Janet Riley to the Orinda City Council. I have known Janet for 30 years, and believe her to possess the skills and experience necessary to be an effective City Council member. Janet is an engaged, energetic, and open-minded Orindan who will help guide our City in a balanced and collaborative way. Please consider Janet Riley when you cast your vote in November.

Dayna Sayres  
Orinda

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**Katy Foreman**  
EXPERIENCED LEADER IN LAFAYETTE SCHOOLS

- Lafayette School District "Rapport" Chair, 2021-22
- Lafayette Elementary PTA President, 2020-21
- Recipient of the Las Trampas Creek Council PTA's "Special Person Award", 2021
- 19-year Lafayette Resident

[www.katyforeman.org](http://www.katyforeman.org)

## Endorsed by Lafayette Teachers via the Lafayette Education Association

Lafayette Education Association, as the representative for **certificated and credentialed staff in the district**, feels that **Rob Sturm, Dave Smith, and Katy Foreman** are the best candidates for Governing Board.

- Debbie Deltch, Lafayette Education Association President



**Dave Smith**  
LAFAYETTE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER

- Lafayette School District Governing Board Member: 2021 - Present
- Lafayette Partners in Education Board, 2019-21
- Measure L Parcel Tax Leadership Team, 2019-20
- 20 years of executive leadership as entrepreneur in nonprofit, government, and business sectors

[www.daveforlafayette.us](http://www.daveforlafayette.us)



**Rob Sturm**  
LAFAYETTE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD PRESIDENT

- Lafayette School District Governing Board: 2017 - Present
- Lafayette School District Governing Board President: Consecutive Terms (2020-21, 2021-22)
- 30+ years of law practice and legal community leadership

[www.robsturm.org](http://www.robsturm.org)

### Our Shared Goals

**Academic Excellence • Fiscal Responsibility • Sustainability + Safety  
Inclusion + Belonging • Mental Health + Wellness**

## Supported by Lafayette Community Leaders

Current and Former Mayors, Lafayette Citizens of the Year, LPIE Presidents, School Board Presidents, Library Board Trustees, and Superintendents



Mike Anderson, Carl Anduri, Teresa Gerringer, Erling Horn, Don Tatzin, Janet Thomas, Tom and Karen Mulvaney, Danielle Silvani, Kristin Connelly, Jala Kaufman, Mary McCosker, Richard Whitmore, Rachel Zinn