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Fire Districts

District Board of Directors

Go to the website for meeting

location, times and agendas. Visit

ConFire Board of Directors

For meeting times and agendas

Hardwoods

CARPETSRUGS

• Linoleum

LAMINATE

TILE

visit http://alturl.com/5p9pu.

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 1:30 p.m.

Board Chamber room 107,

Administration Building,

651 Pine St., Martinez

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m.

Fire

Public Meetings

www.mofd.org

Moraga-Orinda

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

925-377-0977

www.lamorindaweekly.com Wednesday, November 16, 2016

MOFD Breaks Ground, Begins Station 43 Construction

roundbreaking for Moraga-JOrinda Fire District fire station 43 took place Nov. 9 as the construction phase of the project begins in earnest. The new \$4.5 million Orinda station will be erected on the Via Las Cruces site of the razed station, which had deteriorated beyond repair.

"The construction has proceeded on time, with no delays, and we are under budget," said Fire Chief Stephen Healy. "We have received cooperation from the city and the county and there have been no problems whatsoever." Completion is expected in October 2017.

The firefighters work out of temporary quarters in the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church parking lot, less than 300 feet away from the station site. — N. Marnell



From left, Fire Chief Stephen Healy; architect Alan Kawasaki; board president Steve Anderson; Battalion Chief Sean Perkins; firefighter-paramedic Jared Costanza; neighborhood resident Ellen Dale; directors Brad Barber, Fred Weil and Kathleen Famulener; and Capt. Dan Dick Photo courtesy MOFD

Jorgens Edges Smith for MOFD Division 5 Director

By Nick Marnell



Craig Jorgens

n keeping with the 2016 general election trend of a private citizen beating a well-known public Craig Jorgens defeated Orinda Mayor Victoria Smith for the Division 5 director seat on the Morboard.

"Voters liked my engineering and financial background," said Jorgens, during a break from taking down his campaign signs the day after the election. "We knocked on a lot of doors and met a lot of new people."

Jorgens structured his campaign around his ability to manage the fire district's \$65 million unfunded pension and health care liability,

cient fire and medical deployment and using data to improve MOFD response times in the Sleepy Holaga-Orinda Fire District governing low and El Toyonal neighborhoods time to move on." of north Orinda.

more people. Casual friends became better friends, and I made a lot of new friends," Jorgens said. "I look forward to working with the other board members."

Smith came up 117 votes short despite her strong name recognition thanks to 12 years of public service on the Orinda City Council. "Sure

official, retired business executive mapping hot spots for more effi- I'm sad," she said of the results, but she harbors no regrets about leaving her council post. "I've accomplished all I can there and it was

For now, Smith will continue to "I learned a lot more about the serve on the board of the Strive for fire district and I connected with Change Foundation, an East Bay nonprofit that helps the working poor achieve economic self-sufficiency.

> "I'll keep my eyes open," Smith said of future civic opportunities.

Jorgens replaces Alex Evans, who opted to not run for reelection to his north Orinda board seat.

With its New Standards Of Cover, Moraga-Orinda Fire District adds to its Roadmap of Services

By Nick Marnell

trict updated its Standards of district. Cover for the first time in 10 years within acceptable, recognized

he Moraga-Orinda Fire Dis- times, which continue to nag the

The Standards of Cover docand though the document showed ument analyzes MOFD's deploydistrict performance goals falling ment of its fixed and mobile resources and their response to fire, standards, it confirmed the frus- medical and special emergencies

Weil described the work as an as- the chief insert into the Standards sessment of "how well we're do- of Cover what the district can do ing and how we can do better." to shorten the Orinda response The 97-page document, loaded times. "We know what we know with charts, tables, graphs and about the roads," Evans said, and maps and presented by Fire Chief he urged Healy to continue to Stephen Healy at the district's work on improving the call pro-Nov. 2 meeting, focuses mainly cessing time and to keep on the on what the district can do to lookout for equipment that might improve its emergency response navigate those roads more quicktimes.

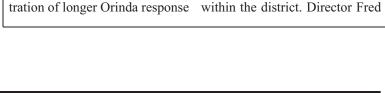
No governmental or legal response times, but according to how it can improve the substanis to reach all medical emergencies within Moraga and Orinda in seven minutes or less and all fires or rescues in seven minutes and 20 seconds, 90 percent of the time. The Commission of Fire Accreditation International, an considers those goals "Superior not a realistic option for MOFD. Service Levels" for a suburban Orinda residents voted in 2002 fire district like MOFD. response time problem for the district. Despite the fact that Orinda and two in Moraga, the district has long reported about a one-minute longer response time in Orinda than in Moraga. The September district incident report lists 56 total responses into Moraga at an average response time of 6.97 minutes 90 percent of the time, and 74 responses into Orinda at 8.23 minutes. "The conclusion I've come to is that the street routes are oblique and therefore less direct. The roads follow the topography, nancial plan and the budget docgrid," Healy said.

Evans also suggested that the requirements exist to regulate district include in the document the Performance Goals and Ob- dard water flow out of the fire jectives on Page 73 of the Stan- hydrants, notable the older ones dards of Cover, the district goal in north Orinda. Healy explained that the general manager of the East Bay Municipal Utility District — which owns the fire hydrants - said EBMUD would pay for 10 percent of the cost to improve water flow, as long as the fire district puts up 90 perindustry performance evaluator, cent, but the chief said that was and again in 2006 against mea-Orinda has always posed a sures that would have funded fire hydrant and storm drain repairs. The chief said that even three fire stations are located in considering the 2 percent of the 1,430 district hydrants that do not measure up to current water flow standards, MOFD can meet the needs for routine emergencies any place in the district with the use of its 2,500-gallon water tender, deployed at station 44 in Orinda. "I've never been to a fire in my 10 years here where I've said, 'If only we had a good water system," Healy said. The Standards of Cover, the strategic plan, the long-range fiwhich is a hilly terrain and not a uments present an accountable roadmap for MOFD operations, Outgoing director Alex Evans and each report is published on









Is this too young to go to Cal?

Actually, it's just the right age to get an eye exam at the University of California Eye Center. And again at three years. And regularly after that. (We developed ways to test kids' eyes while they play!) We're part of the UC School of Optometry, and offer you LASIK surgery, contact lenses, and an Eyewear Center with a vast collection of designer frames, too. We take most insurance plans, and major credit cards. It's time for your whole family to go Cal!



Open to the Public 7 Days a Week o www.caleyecare.com 510.642.2020

of north Orinda requested that the district website.

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

Please...

