

Vic Ryerson sits with his two enraptured grandsons as they watch construction vehicles at work on Ivy Drive in Orinda.

Photo Margie Ryerson

The Summer of Road Construction One man's peeve is another kid's nirvana

By Chris Lavin

phalt, giant drums tamping it down, backhoes tearing in the back. through pavement – big trucks are everywhere, it seems, becoming the bane of a driver's existence. Except to the ment," said Shelby O'Conner in Moraga, who was wending her

B4

C2

A8

Advertising

herry pickers hoisted to trim trees, pavers laying as- 3-year-olds who ogle even a garbage truck from their car seats way through Safeway pushing one of those big shopping carts

"There is a certain fascination with earth-moving equip-

with the faux car on the front, her toddler steering. "And garbage trucks."

... continued on page A14







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Life in Lamorinda	RI - RIO
Not to be Missed	B8-B9
HOW TO CONTACT	US B9
Food	B10
Service Directory	B10
Sports	C1 - C3
Classified	C2
Shop Moraga	C4
Our Homes	D1 -D16
Our Homes	
Our Homes This Week Read Al	bout: A2
Our Homes This Week Read Al BARTTax Measure	bout: A2 Iry A2
Our Homes This Week Read Al BARTTax Measure Rent to Own for Old Libra Moraga Historical Society New Moraga Librarian	A2 ary A2 Turns 60A4 A5
Our Homes This Week Read Al BARTTax Measure Rent to Own for Old Libra Moraga Historical Society	A2 ary A2 Turns 60A4 A5

Civic News A1-A14

Jazz Workshop Wraps Up

Pacific Rim Volleyball

PG&E works with Lafayette to conduct tree evaluations - page A3.

Fire Districts

Station 46 discussions continue – page A8.



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Worst Fire Season Ever?

By Nick Marnell



Deer Hill Road fire brightens sky July 29

late-July heat wave.

charred approximately 40 acres.

wo large vegetation fires that required a

personnel seared Lafayette and Moraga during a

tion fire in a cattle ranch near Natalie Drive in Mor-

aga. More than 120 fire personnel from various

agencies responded to the 4-alarm fire, which

On July 30, firefighters extinguished a vegeta-

Photo courtesy ConFire

"It's the largest vegetation fire I've seen here in combined response of more than 190 fire my 10 years with the district," said Moraga-Orinda Fire District firefighter Mark DeWeese. The fire was reported at 12:35 p.m. and was contained in slightly more than one hour.

MOFD fire chief Stephen Healy praised the efforts of the rancher who had recently mowed the area near the site of the fire. The fire threatened structures in the nearby neighborhood but

C1-C3

crept no closer than 100 feet to the nearest yard.

One firefighter received a minor injury and went right back to work. No one else was injured, no cattle were injured and no homes were damaged.

A 10-acre vegetation fire broke out along Deer Hill Road in Lafayette the previous day. The fire was reported at 4:10 a.m. and nearly 70 firefighters brought it under control by 5:30 a.m. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District fire marshal Robert Marshall said that the brush fire threatened a home 100 feet from the flames, but no structures were destroyed, no injuries were reported and the only property damage was to a cellular phone tower.

The cause of each fire remains under investigation.

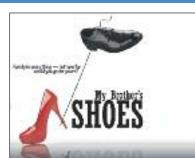
On Aug. 5, ConFire and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection announced the arrest of James William Wilson, who was booked in the county jail in Martinez on eight counts of arson. Investigators said that Wilson's activities were attributed to more than 30 fires since April along State Routes 4 and 24, and all three Lamorinda communities were affected.

... continued on page A8

D1-D16

Life in Lamorinda

Film featuring locals as extras premiers at Rheem – page B3.



Sports

Thousands

compete at

page C1.

OMPA meet -

B1-B10



Attracting feathered friends to our backyard gardens page D13.

Our Homes

