

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

**City Council** Tuesday, March 15, 7 p.m. Auditorium, Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way

### **Planning Commission**

Tuesday, March 22, 7 p.m. Auditorium, Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way

#### Citizens' Infrastructure **Oversight Commission**

Wednesday, March 9, 6:30 p.m. Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way

### **School Board Meeting Orinda Union School District**

Monday, March 14, 6 p.m. OUSD Office, 8 Altarinda Road, www.orindaschools.org See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements City of Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org Phone (925) 253-4200

**Chamber of Commerce:** www.orindachamber.org The Orinda Association:



### Orinda Police **Department Incident Summary Report** Feb. 7 - 20

Alarms 70 911 Calls (includes hang-ups) Traffic stops **Suspicious Circumstances Suspicious Subjects** 14 Suspicious Vehicles **Barking Dog** 

10 block El Caminito Burglary, Auto 10 block Loma Vista Dr

90 block Brookwood Rd **Burglary**, Commercial 20 block Orinda Way

Burglary, Residential

400 block Camino Sobrante Credit Fraud 200 block Orchard Rd

Civil 10 block Beaconsfield Ct 100 block Orchard Rd

Disturbance Wilder at Gateway Blvd

100 block Stein Way **Dispute** 

60 block Oak Rd Wanda Lane/Tahos Rd Forgery

20 block Orinda Way **Health & Safety Violation** Miramonte High School ID Theft

> 30 block Donna Maria Way 50 block Sleepy Hollow Ln 100 block Moraga Way 10 block Don Gabriel Way Reported to police (2) 20 block Normandy Ln 100 block Canon Dr 30 block Daryl Dr

**Ordinance Violation** 40 block Tarry Ln

Police/Fire/ EMS 100 block Village Square

**Promiscuous Shooting** 10 block Tumbling Brook Rd

40 block Camino Sobrante 10 block Warford Terrace

### **Public Nuisance**

100 block Las Vegas Rd Martha Rd/Glorietta Blvd 10 block Bel Air Dr Totterdale Ct/Ardith Dr Tahos Rd/Bates Blvd 400 block Dalewood Dr 20 block La Vuelta 200 block La Espiral 100 block Oak Rd Southwood Dr/Southwood 80 block Davis Rd 20 block Southwood Dr 20 block Muth Dr

### **Reckless Driving**

Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd El Toyonal/Camino Pablo Wilder/Hwy 24 Camino Pablo/Miner Rd Moraga Via/Glorietta Blvd San Pablo Dam Rd/Wildcat

### Glorietta Neighborhood Coming Soon!

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### City Reaches Agreement with Represented Employees on 2015-17 Contract

by the Teamsters received a 3 percent pay increase effective Jan. 9, raise on July 1 of this year, under the terms of a two-year contract approved by the City Council on Feb. 16. Ratification of the agreement ends a cent on July 1 of this year, and in

rinda employees represented lengthy negotiation between the city and represented employees.

Other key terms settled by the and will receive another 3 percent agreement include increases in the city's contribution to the employees' 401(a) retirement plan, from 10 percent to 12 percent on Jan. 9 to 13 per-

standby pay, from \$200 to \$300. The State Disability Insurance program city will also contribute up to 14 percent, cumulatively, of the increased premium cost for medical benefits during the term of the agreement, and will share any cost increases equally with employees beyond that.

The city agreed to establish a

for employees, funded entirely by the employees.

The agreement is in effect for the period from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2017.

Victor Ryerson

# Founding Member of Moraga-Orinda Fire District Honored

By Nick Marnell

ou have to wonder how many lives have been saved thanks to that day in 1995 when Orinda developer John Wyro flipped through the newspaper, looking for something to "The county supervisors ran an ad

looking to replace board members at the Orinda Fire District. I thought, maybe I can help here," said Wyro, who will be honored March 18 as the 2016 Orinda Citizen of the Year. He got the job, thanks to his background in Vacaville city management, where Wyro had prepared a \$13 million budget and negotiated the union contracts.

It didn't take him long to figure out that the citizens of Orinda would be better served by a merger between the Orinda and Moraga fire districts. Wyro saw that Contra Costa County supplied the OFD with old equipment, the closest ambulance was assigned to Walnut Creek and paramedics did not staff the district apparatus. He talked with fire officials in Moraga and he orchestrated the creation of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District in 1997.

"Of all the community work I have been involved with, the formation of MOFD was the most rewarding," he said. "As a result, we brought paramedics to Orinda, and lives have been saved. If you can do that, nothing else really counts for much."

Gordon Nathan served with Wyro on the original MOFD board. "John was right in the thick of it, lending his ideas and opinions," he said. "He was elected the first board president and was instrumental in seeing that the new district built its first new fire station in almost 50 years."

Wyro said his biggest public service frustration came shortly after he left the MOFD board, on which he served for nearly 17 years.

"Station 46 was the low point," he said, referring to the failed joint venture between MOFD and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District to erect a fire station at the Lafayette-Orinda border. The consolidation was expected to save each district \$1 million annually in operating costs.

"I still think 46 was the best thing for the community and the taxpayers," he said. "We could have done a lot of things, not the least of which was to take care of the unfunded liability." The district recognizes more than \$28 million in net pension liability as of 2015.

"The breakdown was the lack of

Resist/Delay/Obstruct 10 block Orinda Way **Stolen Vehicle Recovery** Miramonte High School Theft, Petty

Safeway Rite Aid Theft, Vehicle

20 block Orinda Way **Unwanted Guest** 60 block Moraga Way

Vandalism Miramonte High School Warrant Service/Arrest Hwy 24/Orinda exit

commitment from the county; \$1 million to the supervisors is not really that big of a deal," said Wyro. "But the community got an extra fire station, so if that's the worst thing that's happened, then I guess it's not too

Wyro met his wife, Evans, while they were students at Utah State University. Married 47 years, they have two daughters, each with two children. It was Wyro's family who inspired him toward his original Orinda volunteer commitment, as assistant coach for his daughter's Orinda Youth Association soccer team.

"The coach quits, now I'm the coach," he said. "After a game I was approached by two members of the Orinda school board. They were getting ready to surplus sites, and they knew about my career as a developer. They asked me if I'd run for a board seat." Wyro won the election and served on the Orinda Union School District board from 1985 until 1989.

Today Wyro serves as a board member of the East Bay Waldorf School, again at the behest of his family.



John Wyro

"My daughter teaches there, and the school has some land issues coming up. It's the best of both worlds," he said.

At least until he once again flips through a newspaper and finds another Orinda volunteer opportunity that he simply cannot refuse.

Photo Ohlen Alexander

The March 18 Citizen of the Year dinner at the Orinda Community Center starts with drinks at 6 p.m., and dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$55. For tickets, go to Park Plaza Real Estate, 18 Orinda Way, or call (925) 254-7766.

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