

RESCUE 1

FOUNDATION

2021-22

**SCRAPBOOK
&**

PHOTO ALBUM

The **2021-22 Photo Album & Scrapbook** is a visually rich and informative document highlighting key events, community initiatives, and achievements related to the **Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD)** and its partner organization, the **Rescue One Foundation**, during the 2021–2022 period.

Key Highlights:

1. Community Events

- **July 4th, 2021 Orinda Parade:** The Friends of the Moraga Adobe participated in a horse-drawn carriage. The parade featured vintage planes, local bands, cheerleaders, and community groups such as the Orinda Rotary and Moms Demand Action. The event was live-streamed for the first time.
- **MOFD Open House (May 7, 2022):** The fire district welcomed residents for demonstrations and engagement at Station 45.
- **Fire Prevention Open House (October 1, 2022):** Included displays and partnerships with Cal Fire and MOFD to promote wildfire preparedness.

2. Fire Safety and Preparedness

- **Controlled Burn at Painted Rock (June 2021):** A fuel reduction and training exercise involving MOFD and multiple Bay Area fire agencies.
- **Weather Station Installation:** A portable Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS) was reinstalled to monitor real-time environmental conditions for fire risk assessment.

3. Rescue One Foundation Contributions

- **\$200,000 Bequest** from longtime Moraga resident Angie Sakalay, the largest in the foundation's history.
- **Equipment Funded:**
 - LUCAS CPR devices, thermal imaging cameras, defibrillators, AEDs, drones, and decontamination systems.
 - Stryker power gurneys and a Kubota RTV for rugged terrain response.
- **Foundation Mission:** Since 1977, Rescue One has supported MOFD by purchasing advanced equipment and funding paramedic training, with donations entirely from local citizens.

4. Public Outreach and Education

- Emphasis on **creating defensible space** to protect homes from wildfire.
- Shared resources and links for residents to learn more about fire mitigation and emergency preparedness.

2021

July 4, 2021 – Orinda Independence Day Parade

- Friends of the Moraga Adobe participated in a horse-drawn entry.
- Parade featured vintage planes, local bands, public service groups, and live-streaming for the first time.
- Rescue One Foundation and MOFD were represented.

June 21–24, 2021 – Controlled Burn at Painted Rock

- MOFD led training and fuel reduction exercises in Moraga.
- Participating agencies included East Bay Regional Parks, Cal Fire, Oakland Fire, and Berkeley Fire.

September 1, 2021 – Passing of Angie Sakalay

- Longtime Moraga resident and Rescue One donor passed away.
 - Later revealed she bequeathed \$200,000 to Rescue One Foundation.
-

2022

March 2022 – Rescue One Foundation Receives Historic Donation

- Officially notified of Angie Sakalay's \$200,000 gift—the foundation's largest ever.

May 7, 2022 – MOFD Open House at Station 45

- Community members invited for fire safety demonstrations and engagement activities.

July 4, 2022 – Orinda & Moraga Celebrations

- Rescue One Foundation had a presence at both Independence Day events.
- Continued tradition of community engagement and public education.

September 2022 – Rescue One Foundation Meeting

- MOFD Chief Dave Winnacker demonstrated a Stokes litter tie-in system.

October 1, 2022 – MOFD & Cal Fire Fire Prevention Open House

- Held at Station 45 to promote National Fire Prevention Week.
- Showcased wildfire defense strategies and safety technologies.



**JULY FOURTH
ORINDA PARADE
2021**





**JULY FOURTH
ORINDA PARADE
2021**



Wednesday, July 7, 2021

Vol. 15 Issue 10

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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The Friends of the Moraga Adobe ride in horse-drawn style along the parade route.

Photo Sora O'Doherty

From flags to vintage planes, it was a flying Fourth in Orinda

By Sora O'Doherty

Having only missed one year since its inception in 1984, the Orinda Fourth of July Parade was back in 2021, a little bit smaller, but still replete with bands, politicians, cars and even airplanes. With 38 entries, the parade was announced at its starting point in the Theatre District by Bill Cosden and on the Village side by the "Voice of Orinda," Steve Harwood and Scott Butler at the Orinda Community Center. At

the conclusion of the parade, there was a special fly-over of vintage planes by the Memorial Squadron in honor of America's Independence Day and in support of the "Best Home Town" parade in America.

The parade committee was co-chaired by Diane Lautz and President Bill Waterman of the Orinda Association. This year, for the first time ever, the event was live-streamed by three separate cameras filming from different angles. The live-stream was also recorded, and is available for viewing on

YouTube.

The event opened with the raising of the American flag at 9 a.m. The Lewiston Jazz Band from Berkeley played at 9:30 a.m., and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Friends of the Orinda Library held its annual book sale on the library plaza. Before the parade began in the Theatre District, the winners of the winter Lamorinda Idol sang the national anthem.

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From flags to vintage planes, it was a flying Fourth in Orinda

... continued from Page A1

Following Sen. Steve Glazer, the parade ended with the Orinda Volunteer Pick-Up Marching Band, playing the national anthem and five songs honoring the United States Marines, Army, Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard. The band is organized by Colleen McCormack, owner of Lamorinda Music. Other bands included the Silicon Valley Bagpipe Band, St. Gabriel's Band, and the East Bay Banjo Band. Other entertainment included stilt walkers, the brass boppers and the Spirit

of '29, a Dixieland Jazz Band.

Many public service groups, such as Orinda Rotary, Moms Demand Action, Friends of the Moraga Adobe, Friends of Wagner Ranch, Friends of Orinda Creeks, the Peter Pan Foundation, Orinda Masonic, the Lamorinda Order of DeMolay, the Lamorinda 4H and the California Rescue Dog Association also marched in the parade. The Friends of the Orinda Library also participated, in addition to library staff. Local businesses were also represented, including Orinda Motors, Blodgetts, The Forge Pizza Truck, Mechanic's Bank, Ex-

pert Tree Service, Uncle Sams Go Karts.

The arts were represented by The Orinda Starlight Village Players and Lamorinda Idol. First responders included the Orinda Police Department and Rescue One from MOFD, while local government was represented by Orinda mayor Amy Worth and vice mayor Dennis Fay. Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan rode with the Moms Demand Action. Miramonte High School was in evidence with the football team and cheerleaders, as well as the track team.

Exercises in Moraga train area firefighters and reduce flammable fuels



Photos Sora O'Doherty

By Sora O'Doherty

In late June a controlled burn at the John Muir Land Trust's Painted Rock property in Moraga served the dual purpose of reducing fuels that might feed a wildfire and providing an opportunity to train firefighters from around the Bay Area. Moraga-Orinda Fire District Battalion Chief Steve Gehling was the incident commander.

Moraga residents were warned that they might smell or see smoke during the exercises June 21-24. Bystanders

came from as far as Walnut Creek, from where they could see the smoke.

The exercises started at 10 a.m. and concluded no later than 5 p.m. each day. According to Gehling, 10 MOFD firefighters were joined by 20 firefighters from East Bay Regional Parks, three from the Berkeley Fire Department, and four each from the Oakland Fire Department, the Military Ocean Terminal Concord Federal firefighters, and Cal Fire Santa Clara Unit.

The Fire District coordinated the training with the

Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Fire Weather Forecasters at the National Weather Service to ensure the size and timing of the training burns would minimize smoke impacts on homes and smoke-sensitive sites in the area. As it happened, the conditions did not require rescheduling any of the training days.

Signs were posted cautioning motorists and bicycles of the additional fire equipment traffic and potential for reduced visibility along Moraga Road and Rheem Boule-

vard. As the firefighters set fire to the hillside starting at the top of the hill and coming down toward Moraga Road,

one traffic lane was closed. Moraga Police Department cars were present to monitor the situation.

Fire District Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors

Wednesday, July 21, 6 p.m.

For meeting times and agendas, visit www.mofd.org

ConFire

Board of Directors

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, July 13 1 p.m.

For meeting times and agendas, visit www.cccfpd.org



Longtime Moraga resident bequeaths \$200K to Rescue One



Photo courtesy Tony Nuccio

Angie Sakalay passed away on Sept. 1, 2020.

By Jennifer Wake

As part of her lifelong commitment to give back to the community, over the past several years Moraga resident Angie

Sakalay made an annual donation to the Rescue One Foundation – a nonprofit that collects and administers funds to purchase medical equipment on behalf of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District.

Sadly, Sakalay passed away on Sept. 1, 2020. In the fall, according to Rescue One-Treasurer Gregory Reams, the nonprofit was notified by her brother and trustee, Tony Nuccio, that the nonprofit was named as a beneficiary in Sakalay's trust. Last month, Rescue One learned that Sakalay had bequeathed \$200,000 to the organization – the largest single donation the nonprofit has received since its inception in 1977.

"During any time, these truly significant donations enable us to grant funds to MOFD for items that may be more costly," said Rescue One presi-

dent Maridel Moulton. "Rescue One has always partnered with MOFD particularly to grant funds for the purchase of 'cutting edge' technologies and trainings. That reflects our founding intent when forward-thinking citizens of Moraga went door to door and raised funds to purchase a van and retrofit it to serve as our very first district ambulance while also sending two firefighters to Stanford to be trained as paramedics."

Over its 44-year history, Rescue One has purchased, with donated funds, over \$580,000 in advanced medical and safety equipment, supplies, and educational services for MOFD, said Reams. Some examples included multiple LUCAS devices at \$14,000 each, multiple thermal imaging cameras at \$10,000 each, multiple defibrillator/monitors,

ranging from \$8,000 to \$31,000 each, and multiple AEDs (automated external defibrillators) at \$2,000 each.

In 2016, at the Moraga 24-Hour Fitness, operations manager Kiley Yeaman used an AED to revive a client who had suffered a heart attack. She had learned how to use the device during a CPR certification class. Thanks to generous donations like Sakalay's, AEDs have been installed at multiple

locations throughout Lamorinda.

"The dual challenges of the pandemic and wildfires has prompted continued donations to maintain the very high quality of MOFD services so valued by our community residents," Moulton said. Rescue One is currently working with MOFD Chief Dave Winnacker "to identify the best way(s) to utilize these funds and to honor Angie."

Fire District Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 17, 6 p.m.

For meeting times and agendas, visit www.mofd.org



ConFire

Board of Directors

Tuesday, March 9, 1:00 p.m.

For meeting times and agendas, visit www.cccfpd.org





Rescue One Foundation a vital provider of cutting-edge equipment to fire district

By Lou Fancher

Moraga's Rescue One Foundation might be one of the best-kept secrets in Lamorinda. Board President Maridel Moulton says more than once people have asked if the organization he works with is part of Tonya Russa's ARF (Animal Rescue Foundation).

R1F is a citizen-developed nonprofit whose mission since its founding in 1977 has been to fund and purchase vital medical and safety equipment, supplies, and first responders' educational services for the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. The small, all-volunteer group does not supply the emergency fire and paramedic departments with big equipment such

as fire trucks, but instead pours its resources into ambulance improvements, drones, cutting edge weather data technology, portable command system hardware, CPR devices, decontamination systems and similar items.

"We do no actual fundraising," says Moulton. "All of the donations come from citizens who are thrilled and want to be supportive of our fire department."

Prior to R1F's formation, Moraga in particular was isolated from the ambulance services of Contra Costa County. Residents requiring an ambulance often had to use a private company for service and delays of up to an hour were not uncommon, according to R1F's historical fact gathering. De-

spite adequate Emergency Medical Team members to provide on-site medical services, delays in emergency transportation to medical facilities was inadequate or even life-threatening.

The Moraga Service League, a group active even before the formation of R1F, bought a van and refitted it to be an ambulance. Moulton says, "People went door to door to collect money." The R1F website fills out the history: "At the same time the Fire Chief, Don Skinner and his staff were in communication with the State of California Health Services, County Medical Office, and John Muir Hospital with the goal of obtaining the ambulance contract for the District. This was the start of community efforts to begin the MFPD Rescue Service and was the forerunner of today's Moraga-Orinda Fire District's paramedic ambulance service."

Moulton says citizen activists have continued the early groundwork laid by the Moraga Service League. "We always have invested in cutting-edge equipment," she said. "It began with the concept that we wanted this to be local. We now ask the fire chief to come to us – not for big ticket equipment like trucks and ambulances, but for state-of-the-art equipment and technology. For example, we were one of the first fire departments to have a drone."

In addition to the DJI Inspire v2 Drone that monitors fire conditions and fuel loads in remote areas and is capable of providing low-cost assistance in search-and-rescue operations, R1F has funded the Remote Automatic Weather Station (RAWS). Developed by Forest Technology Systems, the RAWS tracks real time wind, humidity, moisture content, and other data used by fire managers to predict fire behavior.

"The RAWS expands the window in which we can conduct prescribed burns for the



MOFD's Stryker Emergency Patient Transport

Photo provided

purpose of fuel mitigation and firefighter training," MOFD Fire Chief Dave Winnacker said. "Having this tool and its ability to directly report real time local weather conditions to the BAAQMD has resulted in a significant increase in the number of days we have been able to use fire as a training and fire risk reduction tool."

Other acquisitions include the AeroClave Decontamination System and the Kubota RTV with Skid Pump. "The AeroClave has been critical in both the efficiency and efficacy of our expanded decontamination efforts," Winnacker said. "This nets two benefits by reducing the potential for disease transmission while returning units to an in-service status more rapidly. Given the small size of our system and increased demands for pre-hospital care and transport, both have been critical to the maintenance of our service delivery. The Kubota not only increases access to remote areas, but it has facilitated our use of prescribed fire by reducing the staffing required to move firefighting equipment over rugged terrain."

Moulton, asked about the AeroClave, says, "When they were transporting patients with COVID, they had to make sure the firefighters didn't get ill. The inside of an ambulance is stuffed with nooks and crannies. They were cleaning all of those surfaces with Clorox

wipes between each run. It was very difficult and time consuming."

R1F also supplied funds for the district's Stryker Emergency Patient Transport. The Stryker battery powered gurneys allow paramedics to use a hydraulic system to raise and lower gurneys with a simple press of a button. A retractable head section allows for maneuverability in tight spaces common to homes and ambulance

Moulton says the foundation relies on Chief Winnacker and other firefighting and rescue experts to recommend equipment and services needed to bolster their capabilities. "We don't try to do their job. They know their business. We are completely separate from MOFD, but we're responsive to their needs," she says.

Winnacker says the community support the MOFD enjoys is nothing short of remarkable and "one of the true joys of being a member of the fire district." Embodied in the volunteers who make up the R1F, he feels an obligation to return the commitment. "We strive to live up to these expectations and are deeply appreciative of the generations of residents and firefighters who worked so hard to make this a reality."

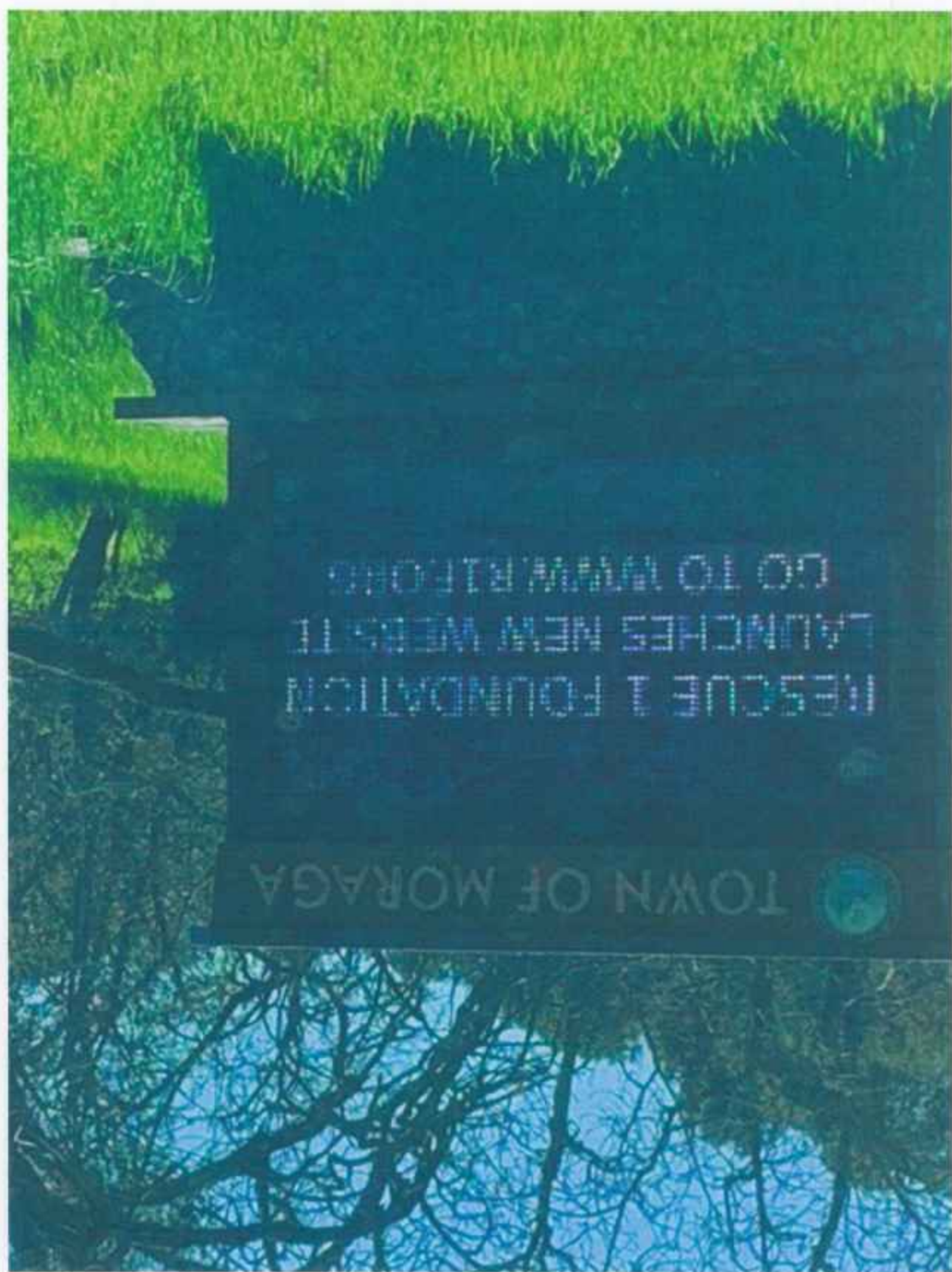
For more information about the Rescue One Foundation, visit its new website at www.rescue1foundation.org/.

R1F President Maridel Moulton & Chief David Winnacker are both interviewed by Lamorinda Weekly



COMMUNITY
EVENTS

SUPPORT MOFD
AT R1F ORG



TOWN OF MORAGA



RESCUE 1 FOUNDATION
LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE
GO TO WWW.R1F.ORG



The MCN Link

Promoting Participation
in the Moraga Community

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Hello Sally,



What a beautiful weekend for the Presidents' Day holiday! I hope you've enjoyed having a bit more time for hobbies, family, snow fun, and noticing the many trees and daffodils in bloom around town. Did you notice that today's date is all two's?

Please note the next meeting on **new housing site opportunities for Moraga**. It will be held on Wednesday, March 2. Details are below.

In the last issue of The MCN Link, the book fair link to the description of each book offered did not work. It does now! Using it is an easy way to choose the books you want before contacting the Orinda Book Store.

Forward to a Friend

RESCUE ONE FOUNDATION



Have you heard of this 45-year old organization? Do you know some of the amazing ways it has helped countless Moraga residents in emergencies? Rescue

One would love for you to visit its new website, www.R1F.org to learn about and support this vital organization of volunteers who work very closely with our fire department, MOFD.

COMING ON SATURDAY, MARCH 12



IDLE THREAT - A movie screening
TOWN HALL THEATRE, 3535 School St., Lafayette,
MARCH 12, 11 AM

The film, "Idle Threat", follows its director/producer George Pakenham as he brings the attention of

MOFD Volunteers reinstall weather station for the upcoming fire season



Three members of the Moraga Orinda Fire Districts' Communications-Support volunteer group recently helped reinstall a portable Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS). Charlie MacNulty (Moraga), Jason Matthews and Carol Bergren (Orinda) assisted MOFD Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Dennis Rein with the project. With fire season quickly approaching, collecting a good baseline of fuels and weather information is important, according to Rein.

The station, which was donated to the fire district by the Rescue One Foundation in 2019, was taken off line last fall for maintenance. When oper-

ational, the station collects data on relative humidity, air temperature, fuel moisture, fuel temperature, wind speed and direction, peak wind gust and direction, solar radiation, and rainfall hourly. The station can be queried by fire managers in the field via radio to provide real-time data during an emergency.

"The District is working on wild-fire preparedness projects year-round," Rein commented. "We need every homeowner's help to manage their property and keep our communities safer. Fire season will be here before we know it." – S. O'Doherty

For more information on how to prepare for fire season visit:
www.mofd.org/our-district/fuels-mitigation-fire-prevention.

The data from the station is available to the general public here:
https://mesowest.utah.edu/cgi-bin/droman/meso_base_dyn.cgi?stn=TT612

Photo provided

The portable Remote Automated Weather Station.



Moraga-Orinda Fire District

April 8, 2022

This Year's Wildfire Safety Postcard Could Come with a "Golden Ticket" Surprise!

With another wildland fire season quickly approaching the Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) is sending out its annual wildfire safety postcard. The mailing goes out to over 14,000 property owners and is designed to inform residents about the steps they can take to comply with the fire code and increase the probability their home will survive a wildfire.

The Fire District is always looking for new ways to engage the community and increase the effectiveness of communications to the residents, so this year we've partnered with Miramonte High School's Digital Design Class to restyle the postcard. The class' artwork brings the safety information up to date, clarifies the message and makes the card more readable.

The new twist this year is that several of the postcards will include a Willy Wonka inspired "Golden Ticket". The first resident to present their Golden Ticket will win a ride in a fire engine during the Orinda 4th of July Parade. Other lucky residents receiving golden tickets will be able to redeem them for a special family ride in one of the District's fire engines. Moraga-Orinda Fire District Fire Chief, Dave Winnacker said "We want to stress the importance of being prepared for wildfire season, encourage families to take protective measures early, and have some fun because who doesn't want to ride in a fire engine?"

Last Monday afternoon Judy Silva from Camino Pablo Elementary School in Moraga applied the Official MOFD gold seal to seven postcards at the Minuteman Press offices in Lafayette. Rescue One Foundation board members, Maridel Moulton and Gordon Nathan acted as official observers to certify the process. Jon King, the Chief of Police for the Town of Moraga and MOFD Fire Chief, Dave Winnacker were also on hand to witness the process and escort the Golden Tickets to the post office.

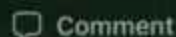


You and 31 others

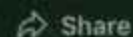
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Love



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Defend Your Home from Fires by Creating a "Defensible Space"



Trim Trees to Maintain at least 6 feet of Vertical Clearance Above Roof Line

Keep Roof and Gutters Clear of Debris

Trim Trees so Branches are at least 6 feet Above Ground and Remove Ladder Fuels

Grasses CUT and Maintained to 3 inches or less in Height

Remove ALL Hazardous Vegetation

Maintain 2 feet of non-combustible space around a structure

Remove ALL DEAD or DYING Trees!



MOFD

Moraga

Orinda

Fire

District



For More Information,
Scan the QR Code or
Visit Us At:

<https://www.mofd.org/our-district/fuels-mitigation-fire-prevention/hazardous-wildfire-fuels-reduction-program>

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2022 MOFD OPEN HOUSE AT STATION 45

MAY, 7, 2022







JULY 4TH 2022

*THE RESCUE 1 FOUNDATION WAS PRESENT AT
BOTH THE ORINDA PARADE AND THE
TOWN OF MORAGA CELEBRATION.*







Moraga-Orinda Fire District Open House &

Pancake Breakfast



Proceeds benefit the
Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation

National Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15, 2022

LOOK. LISTEN. LEARN.

Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere!

Saturday, October 1, 2022

8:00 am - 11:00 am

Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Station 41

1284 Moraga Way, Moraga, CA

Join us for



*Vehicle Extrication Demo * Fire Safety
* Breakfast with Fire

RESCUE 1
FOUNDATION



California Department of
Forestry and Fire Protection





STOKES LITTER TIE-IN SYSTEM

*DEMONSTRATED BY CHIEF WINNACKER
AT THE SEPTEMBER 2022 R1F MEETING*

