

Lamorinda Community

Calendar, Notes, News

Lafayette

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Monday, Jan 28	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, Feb 7	
Design Review	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Tuesday, Feb 12	
Park, Trails, Rec.	7pm
Community Center 500 St Mary's Road Wednesday, Feb 13	
Circulation	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Monday, Feb 4	
Emergency Prep.	9:15am
City Offices 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Suite 265 Wednesday, Feb 13	
Senior Services	3:30pm
Community Center, Alder Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, Jan 24	

check online:
 Town of Lafayette:
<http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us>
 • all meeting notes
 • calendar updates
 Chamber of Commerce:
<http://www.lafayettechamber.org>
 • local businesses
 • upcoming events



Car Burglary, 1/11/08 Police were dispatched to Carol Lane, Building D to check on a car burglary. The victim parked his vehicle at approximately 9:00 p.m. in his assigned spot. He returned to the car, to find his left front window was smashed. A GPS navigation system valued at \$250 was the only thing missing. Estimated cost to repair the window, \$350.

Recoil pad removed, 1/11/08 Victim called police department to report an item missing from a UPS package left on his front porch on School Street. UPS said the package had not been opened when it was delivered. Estimated value of the shotgun recoil pad, \$30.



Letters missing, 1/7/08 – 1/8/08 The Lafayette School District called to report the theft of several brass letters from the M. H. Stanley Middle School sign. Unknown suspect(s) pried the letter from the concrete base. See photo above.

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Buckeye South Field to Become Chaney Field



Matt Chaney Photo Cathy Tyson

Both the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission and the Lafayette City Council unanimously approved naming the South Field at Buckeye Fields, "Chaney Field" for dedicated volunteer, Matt Chaney.

More than thirty glowing letters of support were submitted suggesting the name change, which was proposed by Lafayette Little League President Jon Ewing.

Chaney has volunteered for the Lafayette Moraga Youth Association Board and the Lafayette Little League Board. He also served as the Safety and Fields Manager and Groundskeeper for the Lafayette Little League and has volunteered at Burton Valley Elementary and at Stanley Middle School and put in a significant amount of time for soccer and rugby teams as well. Finally he has led weekly sing-alongs for Mulberry Tree preschoolers and is a leading fundraiser for ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis).

"I moved to Lafayette in 1998, and by the start of the 1999 season, I was shanghaied/coerced to participate as a Little League Board Member. At the time they were looking for a Safety Officer, dealing with ice packs and first aid, but it turned out to be a lot more. It kind of snowballed from there. I was on the Board from 1999 to 2004," reflects Chaney on his service.

He continued, "I was diagnosed with ALS – Lou Gehrig's disease -- at the end of 2000. It's a neurodegenerative disease, now I have impairment in my upper extremities: my arms, shoulders, head and facial muscles. By 2004 it got to the point where I had done my time on the Boards and should

allow some other lucky parent to have all the fun I was having."

"It became more and more difficult to drive the tractor and keep up with e-mail. I just decided to move on. I had to give up coaching as well. I was unable to do the demonstrating," he said referring to hand and arm movements necessary for the game.

He was genuinely surprised at the honor and said as much while he was being photographed.

As noted above, there were many letters of support, here is just a small sampling:

"His sound commitment to this community, his family, children and friends is inspirational to us all," noted Jon Ewing, President of the Lafayette Little League.

Jan Askin, Principal of Burton Valley Elementary, in her support letter said, "He promoted sportsmanship and fair play. His value as a role model is inestimable."

Brian Griggs, Chairman of the ALS Association, Greater Bay Area Chapter, noted that he and Chaney served together as coaches, managers and Board Members of Lafayette Little League. "I shared the conviction that the league should be for children of all ages and abilities and through Matt's involvement and leadership, the program's success has continued to escalate."

"I grew up in Lafayette, and though I know there have been hundreds of wonderful volunteers in this City, I know of no one who has affected the lives of so many people, adults and children alike as Matt," said long-time friend and fraternity brother at Cal, Robert Gonsler.

Wanna Work Someplace Sweet? This Candy Store Will Blow Your Mind!

Interview will be held at the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce 100 Lafayette Circle, #103 on Saturday January 26 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. For more information call (925) 299-YUMM

ABAG Allocation Revisited

By Cathy Tyson

Back in December, this newspaper reported on the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) of very low, low, moderate and above moderate income housing units for 2007 – 2014.

At the January 14th City Council Meeting, there was significant concern among Council Members about the methodology used by ABAG to determine Lafayette's allocation, a total of 361 units.

"The goal is to show that there is sufficient land in place to accommodate these numbers and that Lafayette's own rules and regulations don't provide any hurdles for developers to make these types of units available," stated Niroop Srivatsa, Planning and Building Manager. The downside of not having a state certified housing element is that Lafayette may be further down the list for consideration

when making grant applications, but the City isn't penalized.

ABAG Senior Planner Christy Riviere said, "Allocations are based on projections done every two years." A wide assortment of cities participate as part of the allocation committee, trying to find a balance considering economics, demographic trends, and transit.

Lafayette is not the only city that is unhappy with its allocation. Palo Alto, Emeryville, Mt. View and Berkeley are all officially appealing the ABAG numbers. Vice Mayor Don Tatzin commented, "They (ABAG) have been very tone deaf on this issue. The numbers they use are predicated on the housing market, which is changing rapidly. They need to be updated to reflect reality."

Lynn Hiden of the Lafayette Homeowners Council stated, "We need...to see that the disastrous and clumsy methodology passed by ABAG that resulted in so many un-

realistic allocations to so many cities gets changed." She continued, "We believe that the ABAG Board in no way comprehends what it has created and its resulting impacts. Like Palo Alto, we believe that if ABAG adopts more realistic and achievable RNHA goals, cities will be able to focus on actually providing adequate housing for a diverse population, a truly laudable goal."

If Lafayette officially appeals the allocation, the City would preserve its ability to litigate. However, as Planning and Building Services Manager, Niroop Srivatsa noted in an earlier article, there needs to be a technical reason to appeal, and staff doesn't believe there is a technical reason.

In the end, Council Members agreed to send a letter noting the non-response of prior letters, and asked for ABAG to review their methodology and subsequent allocation.

Beautiful Bentley Building

By Cathy Tyson

At a recent Design Review meeting in Lafayette, Commission members were quite impressed with the proposed Bentley School Classroom building for the Lafayette campus of this two-campus school. Also on the drawing board is a 77-space landscaped parking lot. "The architecture is just stunning," said Commission Member Bob Cleaver. Commission Member Bill Marquand added, "We're very fond of the building and all of its thoughtfulness and style."

Kava Massih of Kava Massih Architects gave a presentation on the 22,187 square foot, three story, boomerang shaped structure. Fitting snugly in a corner of the site, the building will house a number of classrooms, a library/media center, administrative offices, and an auditorium, as well as art and music classrooms on the ground floor. Because of the slope of the site, only the top story will be visible from nearby Highway 24. The Kava Massih firm also designed the gymnasium, student center and a classroom building on campus. The new proposed building will have design elements similar to the existing campus buildings: clean lines, exterior walkways open to the plaza below and a sweeping roof.

According to Mark Schlientz, an Associate at Kava Massih, ori-

enting the building with its back toward the freeway serves two purposes, blocking out freeway noise

and opening up a plaza area for students to enjoy.

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Body Makeovers By Living Lean

Joining the Living Lean program is one of the best things I've done for myself in a long time. My husband got the program for me for my 41st birthday in May of this year. At first I was very skeptical and didn't think that I would want to devote so much time to exercise. I haven't worked out for over 6 years and didn't think it was likely that I would be disciplined enough to maintain the exercise routine or the nutritional plan. However, I gave it a shot and was really surprised to see results in less than two weeks after I joined the program. Now, after being on Living Lean for over 15 weeks, I have lost over 20 pounds of fat. I feel much better in general and have a lot more energy to do all the things that I enjoy doing outdoors. Most of all, it feels great to know that I can accomplish something that I thought was next to impossible just a few months ago. Thanks Sheena for being such a great trainer and thank you Michael for such a wonderful birthday present! – Amy Chen

After being on Living Lean for 15 weeks, Amy lost over 20 pounds of fat.

Living Lean Team

For More Information Call Sheena at **(925) 360-7051**
 Space is limited so call today!