

Lamorinda Community

Calendar, Notes, News

Lafayette

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Monday, September 22	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, September 18 Thursday, September 30	
Design Review	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Tuesday, September 23	
Park, Trails, Rec.	7pm
Community Center 500 St Mary's Road Wednesday, October 8	
Senior Services	3:30pm
Community Center, Alder Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, September 25	
check online: Town of Lafayette: http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us	
Chamber of Commerce: http://www.lafayettechamber.org	

Candidates Night
Monday, October 6,
7:30 p.m.
Lafayette
Community Center,
500 Saint Mary's Rd.



Car burglary, 9/07/08 An unknown suspect broke into a Lucille Lane locked car and took a satellite radio valued at approximately \$400.

Cranky neighbor, 9/6/08 A pick-up truck stopped by the open door of neighbors van which was parked on the street. Driver allegedly flipped off the occupants of the van and drove quickly onto his nearby property on Lucille Lane. When police arrived the alleged hand gesturer claimed he never flipped anyone off. Not surprisingly, there is an ongoing dispute between these neighbors.

Door jam, 9/5/08 An Ethan Court resident was sitting in his den in the very early morning hours, when he heard a loud bang at the front door. Shocked homeowner yelled, "Hey!" and saw an unknown car drive away. A portion of the door frame was forced off the deadbolt, estimated damage \$300. Attempted breaking, but not entering?

Car burglary, 9/3/08 Someone broke into a locked Somerset Place Toyota and took the wallet of the vehicle's teenage driver. Let's hope the teenager was low on cash and credit cards.

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Candidates Speak Out on Civic Pride

By Cathy Tyson

Candidates for the upcoming City Council election were asked to comment on how residents, businesses or government contribute to civic pride in Lafayette. The question was posed via e-mail for fairness. The candidates touched on a range of answers, but a recurring theme was volunteerism.

Current City Council Member Carl Anduri noted that, "What sets Lafayette apart is the volunteer spirit of its residents. An incredible number of people volunteer their time, energy and expertise to help others and to make Lafayette a better place in which to live." He goes on to note the beneficial impact of parents supporting schools, youth programs, drivers for seniors, the faith community and service clubs. "One ex-

ample – without the years of service of members of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission, we would not have the trail system and recreational facilities we have now."

To summarize, Anduri notes, "When we look around our city and consider the many disparate elements, large and small, that come together to give us our sense of community and civic pride, the essential ingredient is clear – residents who have cared enough to contribute their time."

Challenger Gabriel Froy-movich noted that it's easy to be proud of Lafayette. "We are a vibrant city, but still know our neighbors and local merchants. Our residents volunteer with the city and run organizations like the Rotary

Club. Our businesspeople, through the Chamber of Commerce sustain a vibrant, friendly business community."

He sees room for improvement in city services, "We must ensure that we can be proud of our infrastructure. Right now 15% of our residents live on failed roads." Froy-movich would like to see a different approach to City planning, "When the Council pushes ABAG recommendations on us, we are jeopardizing our unique character. We do not need to forcibly cram more and more residents into our already congested downtown area." Froy-movich sees Lafayette as a special community, "That's why we live here and why we take such pride in our small city. We should



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start planning it that way, instead of deferring to cookie-cutter planning from a regional organization."

Incumbent Carol Federighi opines that "together we make a difference," referring to the many individuals that help make the city vibrant. "Bumper stickers all over town proclaim 'Love Lafayette.' Lafayette is a volunteer community, whose residents, businesses and

government all contribute to City pride." She believes a variety of dedicated individuals who donate their time to school boards, parent clubs, the Arts and Science Foundation, play a part. In addition, "A tireless corps of community volunteers raised over \$13 million dollars for our new Lafayette Library and Learning Center."

... continued on page 6

City Offices Officially Green

By Cathy Tyson



Janneke Petersen, summer intern extraordinaire Photo provided

It took a fair amount of work, a dedicated college student intern, Janneke Petersen, and a willing property manager, but the result was worth it: the Lafayette City offices are now officially certified Green by the Bay Area Green Business Program.

"We thought that if the City were going to encourage Lafayette businesses to go green, we should set the example," said Community Development Director Ann Merideth. "Janneke did all the work and she did a terrific job."

Petersen, a senior this year, is an Environmental Studies major at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. "Everyone was very receptive to the changes and actually many of the ideas were suggested by city employees. For example, one person

had the simple and effective idea to get a dish rack to dry lunch dishes on to reduce paper towel waste from drying. There were already a number of things the city was doing locally for the environment – it just made sense for the government of-fices themselves to be green."

Because the city rents space for their offices in Desco Plaza, collaboration with Terry Turner, the property manager, was vital. "It would be impossible to do this without him. He was great to work with. For example one of the requirements is low flush toilets, as opposed to standard 3 gallon models. He has agreed to replace all the toilets in the building by mid 2009," said Petersen.

It ain't easy being green. To become green, businesses and pub-

lic agencies must meet criteria in four categories: waste reduction, pollution prevention, energy conservation and water conservation.

"For example the city cancelled its contract for bottled water with Alhambra – saving money and reducing lots of plastic bottle waste. Now employees drink tap water via a Britta pitcher," noted Petersen. The City Offices also uses 100% post consumer content recycled paper, reduces paper waste in creative ways, has switched over to a green cleaning product, uses energy star rated computers and printers, and has a green purchasing policy, among other initiatives. Petersen also worked with the police (who share the building) to find a more environmentally sound way of

washing their vehicles.

Following the completion of the lengthy list of requirements, audits by P G & E, EBMUD and the Solid Waste Authority personnel were required to obtain certification.

"There is a strong role for local government to play in address-

ing environmental issues, especially since our federal government is not adequately addressing them. Now that the Lafayette City Offices are certified green, they can truly "walk the talk" as they move forward and promote sustainability in the community," said Petersen.

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