

Civic News



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Public Meetings	
City Council	Monday, September 27, 7:00 pm Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd
Planning Commission	Monday, September 20, 7:00 pm Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd
Design Review	Monday, September 27, 7:00 pm Lafayette Library & Learning Center in the Arts & Science Discovery Center at 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
City of Lafayette: www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Chamber of Commerce: www.lafayettechamber.org

• Police Report •



Hot Pursuit, 8/22/10 A Walnut Creek resident led police on a high speed chase through Lafayette, Walnut Creek and Concord at speeds up to 80-100 miles per hour. The checkered flag came down as the "driver" crashed his vehicle and surrendered to authorities. Police were "shocked" to learn the driver was on parole until 2012 for Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sales. Parole clearly didn't stop the subject from going back into business as he was discovered to be in possession of 15 grams of individually wrapped bags of methamphetamine, scales, a pipe and \$103 in small bills. Meth Man was off to the Martinez Detention Facility for booking.

More Meth, 8/26/10 Lafayette Police conducted a routine traffic stop on Mt. Diablo at First Street and discovered the Lafayette driver had an outstanding local warrant for his arrest. The subject was arrested and his GMC Utility Truck was searched. Police discovered 2.6 grams of methamphetamine in two separate

baggies and the subject admitted to having the substance on his person. Bag Man was promptly offered a lift to MDF so he could enjoy some bread and water with Meth Man.

Stolen Van, 8/29/10 A 2005 Ford F150 van was stolen from the Union 76 gas station on Mt. Diablo Boulevard. The van had been parked and locked in a stall on the side of the business, the keys were removed and nobody had permission to take the van. A distinguishing feature of the van: the words "Creative Alterations" are written on both sides and on the back of the van. This could have a variety of meanings here in California.

Jewelry in the Glove Box, 8/29/10 A subject was stopped for a traffic violation at Deer Hill and Happy Valley and police learned he was on parole. A search led to the discovery of tools, gloves, ski masks and jewelry in the glove box. The driver and his passenger denied any knowledge about the jewelry and were transported to MDF. The jewelry was collected for safekeeping until the owner is identified. Who doesn't have an odd collection in the glove box? What's in yours?

Lafayette School Board and City Council Candidates' Event

Thursday, September 30, 7:00 p.m.

Sequoia Room, Lafayette Community Center, 500 St. Mary's Rd. The evening will also include a presentation on State Prop. 22, "The Local Taxpayer, Public Safety, and Transportation Protection Act of 2010."

Sponsored by the Lafayette Homeowners Council



The Lafayette City Council is soliciting applications to fill the following volunteer vacancies:

The Code Enforcement Appeals Board is the official hearing body for Code Enforcement actions within the City of Lafayette that are appealed. The duties of the board are to hear appealed Code Enforcement cases in accordance with Chapters 1-9 and 8-21 of the Lafayette Municipal Code.

The Lafayette Community Center Foundation is dedicated to renovating and expanding the Lafayette Community Center. The Foundation was formed in 1983 to oversee the capital improvements and renovations necessary to transform the old Burton School into an active recreation center designed to accommodate our community's diverse needs and to provide a beautiful place to learn, create and have fun.

The Creeks Committee encourages beautification of Lafayette's more than 16-miles of creeks and improves residents' awareness of creek maintenance and pollution prevention policies. The committee helps the City's staff ensure compliance with public education requirements under its Storm Water Permit.

Central Contra Costa County Transit Authority the Citizen's Advisory Committee follows the bylaws of the CCCTA Board of Directors and consists of members of the public from each of CCCTA's jurisdictions who have an interest in and commitment to public transportation. The CAC acts as a community advocate and liaison to transit users in their jurisdiction. Each Member is appointed by their jurisdiction for a two year term. The committee meets the second Tuesday of each month at 3478 Buskirk Ave., Ste. 100, Pleasant Hill, at 6:30 p.m.

Senior Services Commission is focused on enhancing the well-being of Lafayette's older adults by identifying their concerns and needs; providing information about resources; and promoting community programs and services that enable them to live meaningful lives.

Individuals interested in these volunteer positions may obtain an application on-line at www.ci.lafayette.ca.us or call the main office at 284-1968 and an application will be mailed to you. If you have questions related to these volunteer positions please call Joanne Robbins, City Clerk at 299-3210.

One Thing at a Time for Environmental Report

By Cathy Tyson

"We are not certifying the EIR (Environmental Impact Report) tonight," said Chair Thomas Chastain of the Planning Commission. Although at times it seems like a never ending process, the EIR - a component of the Downtown Specific Plan - is moving ever so slowly forward. The meager audience in attendance for the September 8 Planning Commission meeting indicated a certain lack of enthusiasm at this point in the process or that no action on the Final EIR was scheduled, only a presentation of an overview of the document.

The Draft EIR was released on January 26, 2010: "It identified



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the likely environmental consequences associated with the (Downtown Specific) Plan, and identified policies contained in the Plan to reduce potentially significant impact," said Ann Merideth, Community Development Director, in a staff report.

Merideth noted that the next step is to consider certification of the EIR before a Plan is adopted. To be certified, the EIR needs to meet the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regulations. Because the Revised Specific Plan will not be considered until early 2011, certification will be placed on hold until the Planning Commission completes its review of the Plan. A chicken and egg situation, to be sure.

"This is information that allows us to sharpen our discussion," said Chastain, referring to the environmental report as the Planning Commission continues to develop its recommendations for the revised Plan.

Indeed after this matter was addressed, the very next item on the agenda was the Revised Draft Downtown Specific Plan Review: Civic and Cultural District. Staff now recommends that the area be renamed the Plaza/Golden Gate Way Overlay or District, along with a host of other recommendations. It was last discussed by the Planning Commission in December 2009. The City Council is scheduled to receive an update from the Planning Commission on the progress of the Downtown Specific Plan at its September 13 meeting.

Road Closures for the Art & Wine Festival

By Cathy Tyson

Don't even think about parking on Mt. Diablo Boulevard, or at La Fiesta Square, Bank of the West, The Round Up, Uncle Yu's and the Hen House after 4:00 p.m. this Friday through 10:00 p.m. on Sunday for the Art and Wine Festival. Organizers need to make room for the multitude of artists' booths, beer, wine and food vendors, stages and the always popular kid zone. It takes a village to throw a party this big.

Crews of volunteers from the Chamber of Commerce will set up 65 barricades and 100 orange cones to help drivers take the hint.

Just like past Art and Wine Festivals, on Friday afternoon Mt. Diablo will be closed from Oak Hill to Dewing along with a portion of Lafayette Circle; in food terms - from Panda Express to Starbucks to Chow. Look for "No Parking" signs at 4:00 p.m. and "Road Closed" signs before 5:00 p.m.

A slight exception is that last call at Petars' parking lot will be 2:00 a.m. on Friday; the restaurant and bar will be open during the Festival, patrons will just have to walk there.

"We are leaving Fiesta Lane open on Friday night and will be



Doug and Marti Kohen with Jamie and Bob Johnson working the Lamorinda Weekly wine booth last year. Photo Andy Schreck

moving the barricade back to behind Chow around 6:00 a.m. on Saturday morning," said Jay Lifson, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce.

The event officially ends at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, and police will be on hand to gently encourage block party attendees to clear the streets - indicating that it's time finish your beer or wine and fork over the credit card on the fabulous painting you've been considering. Back to business, and parking, as usual on Monday morning.

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