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Lafayette

Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, Jan. 14, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Jan. 7, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Jan. 14, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, Jan. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Board Room AUHSD Office
1212 Pleasant Hill Rd., Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Jan. 9, 4:30 p.m.
Special Board Meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
Stanley Library
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org

Mayor Mike Anderson Discusses Priorities for 2013

By Cathy Tyson



Mayor Mike Anderson speaks with reporters Dec. 21 when Mt. View Drive reopened. Photo Cathy Tyson

Longtime Lafayette resident Mike Anderson won re-election to the City Council back in November, and was sworn in as mayor in mid-December. This isn't his first rodeo, having served on the council since 2004 and taking another turn as mayor in 2008.

At the official city council reorganization meeting last month, Anderson outlined his priorities for the coming year. Most pressing is the closure of the Los Arabis Fire station, bringing the number of fire stations that serve Lafayette down to two from three. The station had been closed due to mold and pest infestation since late June; at that time, the firefighters stationed there moved down the street

to Station 15 on Mt. Diablo Boulevard.

In order to avoid, or at least blunt the impact of the closure, while responding to Fire Chief Daryl Louder's suggestion of "creative solutions" Anderson called for adjusting staffing from three to two firefighters at each of Lafayette's three fire stations. Louder and union officials did not support that idea.

"There will be more discussion in the coming weeks," said Anderson. He explained that the chief will be going to all of the cities where there's a station closure – Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Martinez and Clayton. Also responding to concern about slower response times, ambulance service

provider American Medical Response is working on finding a way to reposition its units to better serve areas with station closures.

Moving on to the ever increasing traffic congestion within the downtown area, Anderson wants to take a comprehensive look at the overall situation, hoping to identify trouble spots, and use the latest ideas and technology, possibly adjusting signal timing to make traffic flow "as efficient as we can." Additionally he'd like to have a discussion with school district management about the possibility of staggered start times at Lafayette schools to help reduce bottle necks.

Concerned about some of the public comment regarding potential school overcrowding that came up at hearings for the controversial but recently approved KB Home project downtown, Anderson wants to partner with area schools, so that when a project is approved there are no surprises about potential expansion of the number of students. "We should have that conversation; we want to give schools information so they can plan accordingly – no surprises."

Finally, he'd like to encourage local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce to work with the Youth Commission on internships and summer jobs. Over the years as a liaison with this group, Anderson is clearly very impressed with the talents of the many students involved and the only city

task force that actually makes money – on the annual haunted house.

On a personal level, juggling his full time job with the East Bay Regional Park District and the demands of being mayor can be challenging. "It's a little crazy sometimes," Anderson said. "My wife calls it a habit or minor addiction."

The couple also had a unique storm-related surprise, with the now-famous Lafayette sinkhole, right in their immediate neighborhood. The good news is the repairs continued 24/7 to get the job done as quickly as possible. The bad news is that repairs were 24/7 with heavy machinery and diesel generators humming throughout the night. He used earplugs and a blindfold in order to get some sleep. Several of his neighbors were conspicuously absent; chalk it up to an extended Christmas vacation, staying at a friend's home, or perhaps taking up the offer partially subsidized by the City of Lafayette with a generous discount by the Lafayette Park Hotel—rooms for \$50 per night.

Despite the noise and fumes, Anderson has nothing but compliments on how the process was handled, from quick-acting city staff that diligently worked on plans to obtain the necessary permits, to service providers. "It's amazing how responsive they've been – EBMUD, Central San, PG&E, and of course the C.C. Myers crew working through the night."

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LAFAYETTE POLICE		
Police Report		
Dec. 9-15, 2012		
Alcohol	12/12 drunk in public	2nd St. @ Golden Gate Way
Assault	12/14 deadly weapon	1000 block Oak Hill Rd (twice in 2 hours)
Auto	12/9 reckless driving	S Lucille Ln @ St Mary's Rd
	12/10 accident	Central Lafayette exit @ Hwy 24
	12/12 accident	Brook St @ Moraga Rd
	12/13 accident	1200 block Pleasant Hill Rd
	hit & run	3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd
	12/14 accident	3900 block Happy Valley Rd
	hit & run	100 block Lafayette Circle
	12/15 reckless driving	Moraga Rd @ Old Jonas Hill Rd
Burglary/Theft/Robbery	12/10 auto	100 block Aspen Ct (twice in 60 min)
	auto	3400 block Moraga Blvd (twice in 90 min)
	petty theft	900 block 1st St
	12/11 petty theft	1100 block Upper Happy Valley Rd
	12/12 residential burglary	1700 block Reliez Valley Rd
	armed robbery	El Nido Ranch Rd @ Sunnyhill Rd
	12/13 ID theft	1000 block Calallero Ln
	12/14 petty theft auto	300 block Shire Oaks Ct 3600 block Mosswood Dr
Disturbance	12/9 party	Huntleigh Dr @ Somerset Dr
	12/11 public nuisance	Blackberry Ct @ Silver Dell Dr
	public nuisance	500 block Arrowhead Dr
	12/12 public nuisance	Arrowhead Dr @ Indian Way
	12/14 public nuisance	1000 block Windsor Dr
	public nuisance	Old Tunnel Rd @ Windsor Dr
	drugs	El Nido Ranch Rd @ Pine Ln
	party	3200 block Vernon Ave
	loitering	Charles Ct @ Hidden Oaks Dr
	12/15 party	1100 block Oleander Dr
Vandalism	12/11	200 block Lafayette Circle
Traffic Stops		69

Lafayette officers were checking on Happy Valley School Dec. 20 at 4 a.m. when they noticed a couple driving in the neighborhood. After they were pulled over, police found a pry device and a large quantity of mail that did not belong to the pair who live in Concord. Armed with search warrants, detectives from Lafayette and Orinda found items taken from both cities. Police will continue investigating other thefts from the area that may be linked to the couple. Lafayette Police Chief Eric Christensen calls it, "A great job by our officers and detectives to try to bring some of these thefts to a stop."

ANNA'S SUCCESS STORY

Anna Alvarado of Orinda tells her Living Lean story in her own words.

"I've tried a lot of different diets and had good results with most of them. The problem is, I always gain the weight back.

It seemed like no matter how much exercise I would do, and how few calories I would consume, I continued to gain weight.

With the Living Lean Program, I eat healthy, and I see results with my workouts.

I have lost 30 lbs so far, but more importantly I have adopted a fitness and eating regimen that will last.

Is your story next?
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