



Lafayette Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Jan. 6, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

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

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, Jan. 15, 7:30 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room at 1212
Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Thursday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
Stanley Library
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us



Crime Bulletin

Lafayette police chief Eric Christensen alerts residents to a trio of burglaries Christmas week at the east end of Lafayette near Olympic Boulevard and Pleasant Hill Road. The thieves entered homes by prying open rear sliding glass doors and took off with jewelry and small electronics, leaving no fingerprints behind.

In at least one of the incidents, the suspects were in the area for a couple of hours casing and then burglarizing a home. Police are looking for a dark green or black, 2009-2012 Volkswagen Routan. Christensen offers some specific tips to avoid being the next victim: **Put a wooden dowel in the track of your sliding glass door** to prevent it from being forced open.

Set your alarm every time you leave your home.

Report suspicious vehicles and people; trust your instincts! Call police at (925) 284-5010 or, if you don't want to call, you can email the license plate number, and a photo if you take one, to 94549Tip@gmail.com.

Put out a decoy jewelry box. These burglars are looking for the jewelry box and for a quick escape.

A safe that can be carried is no good. If you have a small safe, bolt it to the floor or keep it very well hidden.



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*Data obtained from Trendgraphix 2013 | A Member of Real Living



Tatzin Takes the Helm as Mayor, Again

By Cathy Tyson



Mayor Don Tatzin with furry friends Tioga, Cloud and Tam.

Photo Ellen Reinties

Ever youthful civic statesman Don Tatzin is starting his 29th year serving the citizens of Lafayette, and marking his sixth term as mayor at the still spectacular compensation of zero dollars.

Residents will have to think hard to recall a time when Tatzin was not on the City Council – hint: it was when Ronald Reagan was in his first term as president.

At Lafayette's annual reorganization event held at the last City Council meeting in December, Tatzin graciously thanked his wife Ellen for her "endless and complete support," members of the public, city staff and his fellow council members, including now former mayor Mike Anderson who served in 2013.

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Refreshing, Sustainable Space for Recreation Coming

By Cathy Tyson



Image courtesy Alan Cross

The Manzanita room will get more than a facelift in the new year. Look for the demolition and replacement of this multi-use building at the Lafayette Community Center in the fall of 2014, after the busy summer recreation programs wrap up.

Park, Trails and Recreation commissioners weighed the options earlier in the year, considering whether to do an extensive remodel on the 60-year-old structure or simply tear down the old

building and start from scratch. They decided, and the City Council agreed, that the start-fresh option, which provided the most benefits to residents at a reasonable cost, would be better in the long run than a simple remodel. The contemporary design by project architect Alan Cross of Proto, Inc. delivers a fresh, expanded space to accommodate a wide range of uses from hectic Camp Awesome to dog training classes to weddings.

Cross came up with an eco-

nomical yet sustainable facility that provides flexibility. He described the project as a challenge with a fair amount of "healthy dialogue" about competing objectives; basketball games don't necessarily need the same kind of ambiance as a birthday party. The sleek 5,000 square foot design benefitted from input on users' perspectives with an emphasis on durability. He feels the design reflects the "spirit, vitality and excitement" the city is looking for, with double-duty fea-

tures like transparent panels incorporated into the walls that will let in natural light during the day, and provide a warm glow for a lantern effect at night.

The \$1.8 million estimated cost will be funded exclusively through development fees paid by developers along with voter-approved Measure WW Funds that can only be used for improving parks, trails and recreational facilities, along with an anticipated contribution from the Lafayette Community Foundation. Funding was approved by a vote of the City Council.

The project has been approved, subject to conditions. One of the conditions is that a subset of design review commissioners will continue to give feedback for minor tweaks of the project.

"We received insightful comments during the design process and feel the project has benefited from Design Review Commission input," said Jennifer Russell, director of parks, trails and recreation. She added that staff "is excited by this project and we look forward to developing cost-effective, sustainable solutions for the building systems. I have always considered the Lafayette Community Center a major asset for our residents and offering them a brand new building is a good investment."



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