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Coffee Talk

Every second Saturday of the month

Beginning March 8, 2014. 2p-3p.

Location: Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building



Dominique Millette



Please RSVP:
email dominique@managemarketrisk.com
or call 925-837-0955
www.wisewomenwealth.com

McShane Named Citizen of the Year

By Cathy Tyson



Toni McShane, pictured in her office at Stanley Middle School, is known for her positive guidance. Photo Cathy Tyson

Toni McShane was named Lafayette's Citizen of the Year for 2014. Having worked for the last 24 years with the Lafayette School District, she's well-known by scores of kids and their parents. This warm, mild-mannered enforcer of school policies, who is the assistant principal of Stanley Middle School, will wrap up her tenure and retire at the end of this school year. She's worked a total of 41 years, including 24 years with the Lafayette School District; she estimates in that time she's had about "15 bad days." "Find a job that you love," is her advice. McShane says she's no different from all of the incredibly committed teachers at the school. The one thing she won't miss is chaperoning school dances; with roughly 140 now under her belt, she figures she has two more left.

Post-retirement, McShane says she'll miss the wonderful staff she's worked with, but plans to visit with her kids and their 11 grandchildren, most of whom live relatively close by.

She grew up in a tiny town in Idaho, just across the border from Jackson Hole, Wyo., where she loved to ski. She moved to the Bay Area for high school and graduated from College of Notre Dame in Belmont, Calif. She was a teacher for many years and obtained a master's degree in leadership from Saint Mary's College, becoming the assistant principal at Stanley in 1996.

McShane will be honored by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce with a special dinner at the Lafayette Park Hotel on March 28. Contact the chamber for ticket information, (925) 284-7404.

Awards, Crimes and Cameras Discussed at Council Meeting

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Commission chair Cameron Burks described the three types available: Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) which can be monitored or unmonitored, automated license plate reading cameras (ALPR), and motion-activated still cameras. After doing extensive research, the commission found two of the three options were prohibitively expensive, at approximately \$600,000 for CCTV and \$700,000 for ALPR, and came with the significant downside of having police sort through a substantial amount of data.

Many neighbourhoods already use motion-activated still cameras that have been very effective, with the cost shared among residents. While carefully not mentioning the neigh-

bourhoods that use them, Burke suggested building on the current still camera system seemed like the most efficient option. The commission supports the use of these cameras – which are, at \$700 each, a bargain compared to the alternatives.

Councilmember Mike Andersen agreed. "It's clear that it's economical and there are quite a few cameras out there already." He suggested looking for a way to identify gaps in existing camera coverage, and hinted that there may be potential for the city to subsidize some or all of the cost of expanding camera coverage. Looking for further clarification, the city council asked the commission to come back in six months with more detail.

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