



**Public Meetings**

**City Council**  
Monday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,  
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**Planning Commission**  
Monday, Feb. 2, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,  
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**Design Review**  
Monday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,  
Arts & Science Discovery Center,  
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**School Board Meetings**  
**Acalanes Union High School District**  
Wednesday, Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m.  
AUHSD Board Room  
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette  
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

**Lafayette School District**  
Wednesday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m.  
Regular Board Meeting  
Stanley Middle School 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

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# Learning What Police Officers Really Do

By Cathy Tyson

It was a full house in the conference room of the Lafayette city offices for the second of six meetings of the Citizen's Police Academy. A cross section of a dozen eager residents representing the Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce, City Council, Oakwood Athletic Club and more came looking for a better understanding of the police department and the particulars of local law enforcement.

Police Chief Eric Christensen spearheaded the program, which was developed by members of the police department and the Crime Prevention Commission. This is the first roll out of the series of classes, which will be fine tuned and presumably offered

again later this year. So far, it seems to be working; attendees were engaged and had lots of opportunities to question, comment and learn.

It's a significant time commitment. Students are required to have a background check, then attend each three-hour session and complete a two-hour ride along with an officer in a patrol car. The initial session was an overview of the criminal justice system, followed up with last week's traffic and patrol operations session. In the coming weeks there are classes on police investigations, use of force, crime lab overview and tour, and a jail visit, culminating with an optional session at a firearms range along with a barbecue lunch. Graduation will occur at a council meeting.

With 23 full- and part-time personnel, which includes 17 sworn officers who are contracted through the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office, available 24/7 every day of the year, it's nice to know that these brave men and women take the job seriously, but still have a sense of humor.

Kicking off the traffic meeting was a video of a very irate driver being ticketed, with a fair amount of "bleeped" bad language. Professional and con-

genial Sergeant Dan Nugent, main instructor for the evening, called it just another day at the office. His overarching theme: "Traffic enforcement lessens traffic accidents. Our goal is to make people safe – that's it." He continued, "A ticket is a reminder to change behavior with a kicker – a fine."

Officer Neil Black, the citation king of the department with a whopping 1,100 citations for 2014, talked about what it's like to be a motorcycle cop and what the strategies are. Fellow officer Jerry Shaman also helped out with the class, describing his experiences on the job.

The class touched on a number of traffic-related topics including directing traffic, bicyclists and bike lanes, along with bad biker behavior, pedestrian right of way, and the risk/reward calculation that goes into authorizing a high speed chase. To illustrate that point, a video from the dashboard camera of a police cruiser was shown in hot pursuit on Highway 24 and along Happy Valley Road, sirens and lights blazing at 4 a.m. As suspected, it did not end well for the driver of a stolen truck who was on drugs.

After hearing complaints from students about less than courteous bi-

cyclists, Nugent – who referred to them as "Spandex warriors" – clarified that they are supposed to ride single file, not two and three abreast. He said the department wants them to obey the law, encouraging their compliance by writing up tickets that can cost \$500 for running a red light or "impeding traffic."

The night shift sees all kinds of colorful behavior. "After 10 p.m. booze is usually involved somehow," explained Nugent, citing bar fights, DUIs, domestic violence – even teenagers stealing alcohol from grocery stores.

The highlight of the evening was riding in squad cars down Mt. Diablo Boulevard, learning the nuances of a traffic stop and ways police try to protect themselves, and even how to light flares. "Very interesting!" said Robin Fox.

Council Member Traci Reilly is also a student; she was formerly on the Crime Prevention Commission and wanted a better understanding of the department. It's the biggest budget item the city pays for, so she was eager to participate.

She describes the classes as "very impressive so far."

Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report Jan. 4-17:	
<b>Abandoned Vehicle</b>	
School/1st St	
Silver Dell/Reliez Valley Rd	
<b>Alarms</b>	64
<b>911 calls</b>	7
<b>Burglary, Auto</b>	
500 block Silverado Dr	
300 block E. Lowell Ln	
3400 block Black Hawk Rd (2)	
3900 block Franke Ln	
Acalanes High School	
1000 block Timothy Ln	
Oakwood Athletic Club	
10 block Green Place	
10 block Ruth Ct	
3500 block Herman Dr	
600 block Augustine Ln	
<b>Burglary, Residential</b>	
3200 block Los Arabis Dr	
100 block Lafayette Cr	
<b>Burglary, Commercial</b>	
3200 block Stanley Bl (2)	
100 block Lafayette Cr	
<b>Battery</b>	
Hwy 24/1st St	
<b>Civil Disturbance</b>	
1st St/Mt Diablo Bl	
1700 block Toyon Rd	
Mt Diablo Bl/Oak Hill Rd	
900 block S Thompson Rd	
3400 block Golden Gate Wy	
3300 block Mt Diablo Bl	
10 block Gilmore Ct	
<b>Drunk in Public</b>	
Lafayette Park Hotel	
<b>DUI</b>	
Condit/Pleasant Hill Rds	
<b>Fire/EMS Response</b>	
Pleasant Hill/Springhill Rds	
4000 block Happy Valley Rd	
Mt Diablo/Village Center	
1000 block Via Media	
<b>Found Adult</b>	
Hidden Valley/AcalanesRds	
<b>Hit &amp; Run</b>	
Safeway	
3200 block Rohrer Dr	
Trader Joe's	
<b>Indecent Exposure</b>	
4200 block El Nido Ranch Rd	
Stanley Middle School	
<b>Petty Theft</b>	
500 block Silverado Dr	
500 block St Mary's Rd	
Oakwood Athletic Club	
10 block Rancho Diablo Rd	
3300 block Springhill Rd	
800 block Paradise Ct	
3200 block Glenside Dr	
30 block Lafayette Cr	
3300 block Victoria Av	
1000 block Windsor Dr	
30 block Lafayette Cr	
10 block Greenvally Dr (2)	
3600 block Mt Diablo	
3200 block Sharon Ct	
3400 block Moraga Bl	
<b>Juvenile Disturbance</b>	
School St/Moraga Rd	
Moraga Rd/Moraga Bl	
3400 block Mt Diablo Bl	
Pleasant Hill Rd/Park Ln	
<b>Missing Adult</b>	
900 block Stow Ln	
<b>Promiscuous Shooting</b>	
10 block Gilmore Ct	
500 block St Mary's Rd	
200 block Camelia Ln	
<b>Public Nuisance</b>	
Solana Dr/St Mary's Rd	
900 block S. Thompson Rd	
Safeway (2)	
700 block Solana Dr	
Mt Diablo Bl/Happy Valley Rd	
3500 block Mt Diablo Bl (2)	
800 block Topper Ln	
800 block Moraga Rd	
1000 block Oak Hill Rd	
Moraga Bl/4th St	
<b>Reckless Driving</b>	
Burton Valley Elementary	
500 block Silverado Dr	
Oak Hill Rd/Hwy 24	
Mt Diablo Bl/Dewing Av	
1600 block Springbrook	
Moraga Rd/St Mary's Rd	
<b>Shoplifting</b>	
Safeway	
900 block Moraga Rd	
<b>Suspicious Circum.</b>	8
<b>Suspicious Vehicle</b>	24
<b>Suspicious Subject</b>	25
<b>Threats</b>	
3300 block Mt Diablo Bl	
<b>Traffic Stops</b>	129
<b>Trespass</b>	
3300 block Sweet Dr	
<b>Vandalism</b>	
3500 block Mt Diablo Bl	
1200 block Pleasant Hill Rd	
900 block Hough Av	
3500 block Springhill Rd	
3200 block Mt Diablo Bl	
<b>Vehicle Theft</b>	
3400 block Moraga Bl	
200 block Lafayette Cr	
<b>Violation Restrain</b>	
30 block Circle Creek Ct	
<b>Warrant Service</b>	
1400 block Sunset Lp	

## Do you have a person in mind for the City of Lafayette to honor as 2015 Citizen of the Year?

**Criteria are as follows:**

- Must NOT be a current *elected or paid* member of any city council, school board or commission;
- Must be a current Lafayette resident;
- Must be someone who has given of their time, money or energy to help make Lafayette a healthy community, where people will want to live, work and shop;
- Must be someone who models excellence in everything they do;
- Must be someone who brings this community together and/or makes us proud to be a member of the community.

A celebration dinner will be held on **Friday, March 27** at the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa to honor the winner! The deadline for submitting nominations is **Friday, Feb. 13**.

*The 2015 Lafayette Citizen of the Year Award is co-sponsored by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce and Lamorinda Weekly.*

**Please send your nomination to Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jay Lifson**

Mail: Lafayette Chamber of Commerce  
Attn: Lafayette Citizen of Year nomination  
100 Lafayette Circle #103  
Lafayette, CA 94549

Email: jay@lafayettechamber.org



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

There are currently openings on the following Commissions and Committees:

- Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Community Center Foundation
- Capital Projects Assessments Committee (CPAC)
- Circulation Commission
- Creeks Committee
- Crime Prevention Commission
- Design Review Commission
- Downtown Street Improvement Implementation Committee - DSIMPIC
- Emergency Preparedness Commission
- Environmental Task Force
- Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission
- Planning Commission
- Public Art Committee
- Senior Services Commission
- Youth Services Commission
- Lafayette Representative to the Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging

For additional information visit the city's website:  
www.ci.lafayette.ca.us/city-hall/commissions-committees  
Or call Joanne Robbins, City Clerk 925-284-1968. Application deadline March 31, 2015. Positions open until filled.

**ALL LAFAYETTE RESIDENTS**  
Got Traffic? Can you say "gridlock"?  
All tied up and somewhere to go?  
**THEN PLEASE SAVE THIS DATE:**  
**APRIL 23, 2015 TOWN HALL MEETING 7 P.M.**  
COMMUNITY HALL- LAFAYETTE LIBRARY & LEARNING CENTER  
WATCH THIS SPACE FOR DETAILS TO FOLLOW  
SPONSORED BY LAFAYETTE HOMEOWNERS COUNCIL