

Buy or rent? Lafayette continues to look for options

By Pippa Fisher

The city of Lafayette has long entertained the idea of owning its own city offices with periodic discussions at the council level over many years. At a recent city council meeting however a unanimous vote brought that dream slightly closer.

The board members were discussing a recently prepared financial model with a view to directing staff on the next steps.

Vice Mayor Don Tatzin pre-

sented the comprehensive model, requested at the Aug. 14 council meeting, which showed buying a property for \$10 million or less to be profitable in the long term over 50 years or so, while costing more money out-the-door in the intermediate future of 20-30 years or so than renting. He pointed out it is a “trade off” but that there is more certainty in buying.

... continued on page A11

Sustainable Lafayette’s next film night highlights ‘gangster gardeners’

By Pippa Fisher



Tomatoes are a staple for most urban community gardens, which is the focus of the next film being shown by Sustainable Lafayette on Oct. 5 at the Town Hall Theatre. Photo Pippa Fisher

Sustainable Lafayette’s third movie night of this year’s series is an inspirational story of the human spirit and how urban farming is transforming neighborhoods and lives.

To be shown at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5 at Lafayette’s Town Hall Theatre, the documentary “Can You Dig This” by Delila Vallot looks at the urban gardening movement that is taking hold in South Los Angeles, an area once better known for gangs, drugs, abandoned buildings and vacant lots.

Now, however, neighborhoods are being transformed as “gangster gardeners” call for people to put down their guns and pick up their shovels to create an oasis in one of the previously most dangerous places in America.

... continued on page A12

Lace up, Lafayette!

By Pippa Fisher



From left: Retired Acalanes High School Digital Design Instructor Susan Lane with Acalanes student Miles Wiesenthal, holding his winning poster, and Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jay Lifson.

Photo provided

It’s October and fall is in the air, which means the Lafayette Reservoir Run is right around the corner.

The traditional “Res Run” – now in its 25th year – has something for everyone, with a 5k, a 10k and a 2-mile distance. The event is always popular and usually attracts close to 2,000 runners with an equal number of spectators cheering them on and enjoying the party. This year’s Res Run takes place on Sunday, Oct. 22, with staggered start times at 8 a.m., 8:15 a.m. and 8:45 a.m.

All courses are an out-and-back format so all runners come back together and enjoy the Healthy Lifestyles Fair, live music and kid zone in the festive atmosphere. All participants receive a goody bag and T-shirt.

The annual race is put on by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce and cosponsored by the City of Lafayette to benefit Lafayette schools and Chamber programs. Specifically the money raised for schools has helped provide instructional assistants, field trip funding and technology in classrooms.

The Res Run is family friendly with lots of children, grandparents, parents with strollers and dogs all entering to take part in the fun along with some serious runners. It is not unusual to see familiar faces

among the runners – in past years Lafayette City Manager Steve Falk and several other members of city staff have been spotted along with several city council members.

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jay Lifson says he would love to run but will be a little busy with keeping the event running smoothly. “Fall is my favorite time of the year. The air is cold and crisp, the colors are spectacular and sense of community is best displayed at this annual event.”

The 5k and 10k races are chip-timed and certified, with the former being flat and fast. The 10k takes runners up and around the gorgeous Lafayette Reservoir for those who want a slightly hillier challenge (no dogs or strollers allowed). The 2-mile course is a run/walk for fun with no timing and is perfect for kids.

Each year the Chamber asks local high school students to create the poster for the run. This year’s winning poster was designed by Acalanes High School student Miles Wiesenthal.

To sign up runners or walkers should go to the Chamber website and follow the link <http://www.lafayettechamber.org/events/reservoir-run/>. Registration includes a T-shirt and runner packet.

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