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## Lafayette's mayor takes it to the streets

By Pippa Fisher



Mayor Cam Burks (left) with Terry and John Kiskaddon of Harper Greer in La Fiesta Square. Photo provided

Lafayette Mayor Cam Burks is becoming quite a familiar face around town. In fact, he spent the weekend of Jan. 12-13 walking the entire downtown area and stopping in on more than 70 businesses along Mt. Diablo Boulevard. Additionally he held his usual weekend mayor's coffee on Sunday at the Starbucks in the East End.

Burks is taking on a very visible role this year, including maintaining an active presence on social media. His plan is to introduce himself and to discuss ideas for making the downtown even more vibrant. "I made it clear that it was our goal to do as much as we can, in partnership with the Chamber and property owners, as a city this year, to liven the downtown even more and encourage commerce. I emphasized the council's commitment and the importance we place on local business."

On Saturday Burks visited all the stores in La Fiesta Square and the Mercantile, plus businesses along Lafayette Circle in addition to most businesses on both sides of Mt. Diablo Boulevard from Trader Joe's all the way down to Whole Foods.

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On Sunday Burks focused on the East End. He said he met fantastic folks who are committed to the community and had some great ideas about how to stimulate commerce in the East End.

"I've just been blown away this weekend with our local business community and how dedicated they are to Lafayette," says Burks. "We are profoundly fortunate. It's crystal clear the important role these incredible people play in strengthening the special character of our city.

"It was one of the most rewarding and enjoyable few days I've had in Lafayette since I joined the council," adds Burks. "I'm incredibly proud of our local businesses and I am very eager to support them around every corner."

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