



See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
City of Lafayette:
 www.lovelafayette.org
 Phone: (925) 284-1968
Chamber of Commerce:
 www.lafayettechamber.org

1144 Palomares Court, Lafayette | Central Lafayette Rancher on Cul-de-Sac



3 Bedroom | 2 Bathroom | 1800± Sq. Ft. | .43± Acre Lot
 Offered at \$1,295,000 | 1144PalomaresCourt.com

COMPASS

Lafayette's #1 Real Estate Team Since 2008
 925.339.1918 | DanaGreenTeam.com | DRE 01482454



Lafayette community gathers at celebration of life



Photo J. Wake

Jazz music filled the air in the back field of Stanley Middle School in Lafayette Sept. 22 as hundreds gathered to cele-

brate the life of crossing guard Ashley Dias, who was struck and killed Sept. 8 in front of the school. In honor

of the former Stanley student who had played the saxophone in Bob Athayde's music class in 1990, two of Dias' for-

mer classmates returned to campus to play "I Will Remember You" on the guitar and flute.

Stanley principal Betsy Balmat opened the ceremony by telling those gathered that "tonight is not meant for sadness but celebration. We come together tonight as a community to heal ... and to celebrate the life of Ashley Dias."

Several of Dias' family members spoke of this "fun-loving friend with a self-deprecating sense of humor." A neighbor of the Dias family, Gretchen Placzek, said, "Ashley became a crossing guard while running clinical trials for cancer patients. He called

it his 'side hustle.' ... Ashley was a gift to everyone who encountered him."

His mother, Gloria Dias, said, "We celebrate his gift of life on Earth and the lives of the children he saved." She spoke about how she and her husband, Fabio, had lunch with Dias that fateful afternoon and "in a blink of an instant he was gone."

Gloria Dias expressed her gratitude for all the community support – the homemade cards, the hugs, the calls and the home cooked meals – and for "a glimpse of Ashley through your eyes," adding, "Hold your children close and always tell them you love them." – J. Wake

Council makes minor adjustment to Burton Valley Safe Routes to School pilot program parking restriction hours

By Jennifer Wake

Lafayette residents who live near Burton Valley Elementary School once again expressed concerns to city staff and council during the Public Comment portion of the Sept. 13 council meeting, asking for changes to proposed safety measures planned near the school as part of a Safe Routes to School pilot program.

The council had voted on Aug. 23 to restrict parking on the west side of Merriewood Drive, the north side of Rohrer Drive between Silverado Drive and Merriewood Drive, and the west side of Silverado Drive between Merriewood Drive and the park trail entrance approximately 100 feet south of Burton Drive for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon, Monday through

Friday, during the school year, in addition to adding a stop sign and 11 speed humps as part of its traffic calming measures, as well as new crosswalks at the intersection of Burton Drive, Silverado Drive, Lucas Drive and Somerset Drive. Following council's direction to staff, a resolution was presented to council on Sept. 13 for approval, which is needed when involving parking restrictions.

According to Engineering and Public Works Director Mike Moran, 150 pages of public comment were added to the Aug. 23 staff report presented to the council, with a large contingent of those residents thinking that the two-hour periods are too long, while others expressed the desire for 24/7 parking restrictions or 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. restrictions at the proposed locations.

Council Member Carl Anduri said, "It's clear we're not going to make everybody happy with our decisions," adding that he didn't think "a longer period (of parking restriction) will allow us to learn more. We should look at less restrictive times to learn the same amount, as opposed to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m."

Council Member Gina Dawson agreed with Anduri, saying, "Obviously, we have a safety issue across town and need to address that. I believe in a narrow time frame within school days."

During this portion of the six-hour-long meeting, council and staff also discussed how parking restrictions would be enforced, how data would be collected and what steps would be taken to pursue longer-term solutions, such as the addition of sidewalks to the area.

In response to Vice Mayor Teresa Gerringer, who said she'd been asked when speed humps were going in, Moran noted that they have chalked hump locations and have a contractor for paving and striping. "Signage goes hand in hand with speed humps so it could be done within a month or two after we receive a formal green light from this body," he said, noting that adding the stop sign at Indian Way and Merriewood would happen at the same time.

In an effort to make parking restrictions as small as possible during this one-year pilot study, council voted to amend the morning parking restriction to no parking from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., leaving the afternoon times of 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. the same. Council Member Wei-Tai Kwok said, "Let's try some

change and learn from it, and be open-minded to change."

Mayor Susan Candell noted that council had allocated money to use as a buffer "if we need to make adjustments. ... We're trying to look for those things that we can quantify," she said.

Moran said they will plan to count bikes in the enclosure and have people around Burton Valley count pedestrians to see if there is an uptick in those walking or biking to school. They will use data provided from the schools from 2017-18 pre-COVID as a baseline.

Kwok asked that the city also conduct a qualitative analysis by asking for feedback about the pilot program from the community. Council moved to approve the resolution as amended with a 4-0 vote, with Kwok abstaining.



FREE VIRTUAL EVENT 

Presents its 12th Annual

Senior Symposium

with Honorable Susan Candell



Susan Candell,
Mayor of Lafayette

John Swartzberg, MD
Clinical Professor Emeritus, UC Berkeley School of Public Health

Alan Brast, PhD
Clinical Director, Comprehensive Wellness

LeAnn Blankenship, MD
Epic Care

Taylor King
Fire Inspector, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

Karen Hinojosa
Contra Costa County Legal Services

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2nd
8:30 am–noon



JOHN MUIR HEALTH
Diamond Sponsor



KAISER PERMANENTE
Platinum Sponsor

Learn from our expert panelists about local services available to seniors and their families



Register





epic care
Gold Sponsor

Register at lafayettecf.org to secure your virtual seat at the table, as these expert panelists discuss:

- Critical fire prevention tips every senior needs to know right now
- Ways seniors can cope with emotional stress during uncertain times
- The local and global impact of Covid on seniors and where we go from here
- Recognizing the signs of elder abuse and what to do if you're experiencing abuse


BATTERSBY.

833RosedaleAve.com B.

Top Lafayette Close-in Location

3 Bedrooms + Detached Office, 2 Baths
 1894 Sq Ft* .25 Acre*
 Stunning Living Areas
 Dramatic Walls of Glass Single Level
 High Vaulted Ceilings Light & Bright
 Separate Office/Work Space
 Walk Score 80 (Very Walkable)
 Top Rated Lafayette Schools Nearby



Ashley Battersby
Patricia Battersby

Brokers/Partners
 (925) 323-9955
 DRE# 01407784
 ashley@ashleybattersby.com
 @ashleybattersbyhome
 *per public records

Offered at:
\$1,595,000

It's Village. Of Course.

