www.lamorindaweekly.com



Pair of Notable **Upcoming Events**

Identity Theft Town Hall

Who isn't concerned about idenyourself and best practices to avoid the free informative Town Hall Meet-Lafayette Senior Services.

Lafayette Community Breakfast Roughly a week before Thanks- C. Tyson

giving, on Friday, Nov. 20, community members can take time to reflect tity theft? Find out how to protect and give thanks at the annual Community Breakfast, sponsored by the what can be a real expensive hassle at Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. This year the event will be held at Our ing at 7 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Veterans Savior's Lutheran Church at 1035 Memorial Hall, 3780 Mt. Diablo Carol Lane with breakfast catered by Boulevard, hosted by the Lafayette Dave's Cuisine. Keynote speaker is Crime Prevention Commission, the Rev. Dr. David Sammons who will Lafayette Police Department and discuss "Your resume versus your eulogy." To register, go to Lafayettechamber.org or call for more information (925) 284-7404.

Downtown Congestion

... continued from page A2

"The intent is to reduce downtown Road. Causes include the number of congestion, but also improve the driveways to businesses and signaloverall quality of life in its broadest ized intersections that add to backups. sense – safety, economic vitality, local character and environment." Arup is from throughout Lamorinda and bea global consultant group that specializes in infrastructure design, economics and planning.

many studies in the past addressing traffic-related issues in Lafayette, Arup Senior Transportation Engineer Mike Iswalt said the key difference this time is new sources of big data that can specifically identify travel patterns – a critical factor to find tailored solutions. The study is funded by a grant from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority.

Recognizing there are no quick fixes, the Arup consultants will customize the wide-ranging study with input from the Downtown Congestion Reduction Steering Committee, feedback from an online survey, as outreach in the spring that will focus well as GPS and cell phone information. Ultimately the consultant will identify feasible strategies and focus on implementation, which means finding funding.

zero in on segments that are most congested, and analyze how the street network performs. Iswalt explained that Lafayette is a bit unusual in that there are three to four hours in the afternoon where the congestion is fairly constant – starting around 3 p.m., running until 6 p.m. "Congestion is something that we all dislike as it who was hit by a car near Stanley on takes longer to travel places, which keeps us away from home, work, and the enjoyable things in life," wrote Iswalt in a memo for the Nov. 9 presentation.

One of the most surprising findings from the initial work done by the consultant is that 63 percent of the traffic is heading down Moraga Road toward Mt. Diablo Boulevard to Highway 24. "There is pressure at the Nov. 9 city council meeting, and Y," said Iswalt, referring to the path toward freeway onramps from Moraga

Consultants are asking residents yond who happen to drive, bike or walk through Lafayette to be a part of the solution by going online to com-Acknowledging there have been plete a short transportation priorities survey, and to take a moment to map issues and opportunities by dropping pins on a map and explaining briefly what the problem is at that particular location. These two informationgathering tools will be live for approximately the next five weeks at www.lafayettecongestion.com.

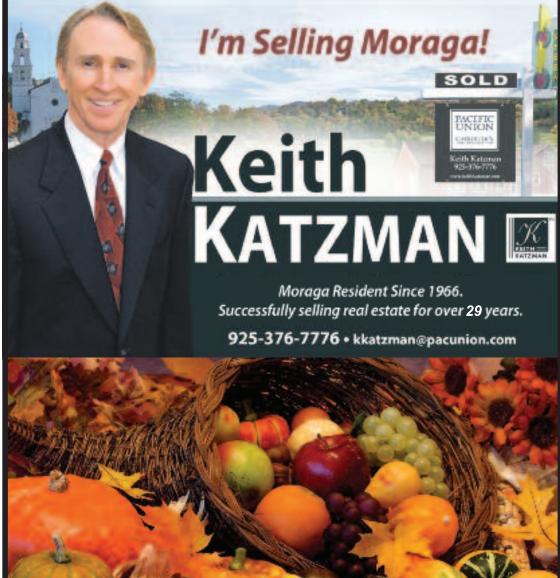
Baumgardner made it clear that the consultants understand that any recommendations will have to consider "the bang for the buck – benefits versus the cost and difficulty to implement."

There will be a second round of on a short list of specific ideas gleaned from the first portion of the study that

are the most promising. Two public speakers added a somber note to the discussion. Stanley The data allows the consultants to Middle School Principal David Schrag spoke for Lafayette School District Superintendent Rachel Zinn who was unavailable that night; he pointed out there have been three students hit by cars near the school in the last year and emphasized that safety

be the top priority. The mother of an 11-year-old boy Oct. 29 asked, "What are we waiting for? The next child may not be so lucky." Council Member Traci Reilly pointed out there will be a meeting of the Joint City / School District Traffic and Safety Task Force on Nov. 16 that will discuss this item.

To view the entire Arup presentation, go to www.lovelafayette.com, click on public meetings and go to the scroll down to read the attachment.



At this time of Thanksgiving celebration my thoughts turn gratefully to my clients with warm appreciation for their continued support and confidence.

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Keith Katzman



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