

April 2007

Chamber Board Supports upcoming June Ballot Measure



The Lafayette City Council has placed the "FIX OUR ROADS" bond measure on a special election ballot for June 5, 2007. After holding a series of Road Task Force Meetings, and a Town Hall meeting targeted at residents living on the "worst" streets in Lafayette, a committee was formed and they persuaded the council to put a Flat Tax measure on the ballot. The city currently faces a \$24 million gap in needed funds to bring all streets up to a desirable level. About 30% of the our

public roads are in disrepair. Tony Coe, our city engineer has identified over 100 streets as "failed." These roads will need to be reconstructed. Many of these streets were built in the 50's and 60's. Back in 1995 a Roads & Drains bond measure was passed. It raised \$13 million to fix the city's main streets. The amount raised was never enough to cover all the residential streets. Many options were reviewed before the wording for the ballot measure was submitted. If passed by 2/3 of the voters, the flat parcel tax that is proposed will cost each homeowner \$150. There is a multiple scale that applies to multi-residential and commercial properties. You can find your equivalent by going to the city website or call the Jay Lifson at the Chamber of Commerce office.

At the March Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meeting, the board approved a motion to support the 2007 "Fix our Roads" measure.

If you are interested in finding out more about the measure, please contact one of the committee co-chairs Dan Bosshart 962-9555 or Don Tatzin 284-7694. The "Fix our Roads" committee meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm and every Sunday at 2:00pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane. Opposition to the measure has already submitted their argument. More information will be reported as it is made available. If a business would like to make a contribution to the "Fix our Roads" campaign, they can make their check out to "Fix Our Road", and mail to 3461 S. Silver Springs Rd. Lafayette, CA 94549. If contributions are over \$100, please write down the Employer name and Occupation/Position in the memo section on the check.

Coffee with the Mayor

Join Mayor Carol Frederighi for coffee and conversation.

Get an up-to-date report on city issues.

Wednesday, April 18, 8:00 a.m. • Chamber Conference Room

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Lafayette Library and Learning Center Ground Breaking Ceremony

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 4 -5pm

At the site of the new Library, 1st Street and Golden Gate Way

Come celebrate and enjoy!

Made possible by a partnership with the Lafayette Redevelopment Agency, Lafayette Community Foundation, State of California and Contra Costa County.

Lafayette's 2nd Annual Earth Day Festival and Science Symposium

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 12:00 to 4:30pm

Acalanes High School
1200 Pleasant Hill Road

For information go to
www.sustainablelafayette.net
or call 299-0230

Email info@sustainablelafayette.net

APRIL MIXER

Wednesday, April 11
5:30 - 7p.m.

Join us for this progressive mixer
on Fiesta Lane.

PETAR'S, P&L FRAMING,
TWIGS FLORAL & ART,
TREASURE TROVE AND
MEGAN HANEY DESIGN

President's Message - Part I

Stacy Spell *General Manager, Oakwood Athletic Club*

I have been asked to speak about leadership to the Leadership Class at Acalanes HS. I was honored to be asked, however, I am slightly nervous-no- actually really nervous! I know I will be speaking in front of some of the most intelligent kids in the country! I am reminded that Acalanes has a 99% rate of graduates that go on to college! A very impressive audience!

I see a lot of these kids every afternoon at the club. Not only are they bright, but athletic and polite too! I have been planning for four weeks what to say! What qualities make up a leader? How does one become a leader? We all see many examples in the news today, good and bad, and in our history books too, of what makes a leader. Is it integrity, charisma, strength of conviction, focus? These might be some of the qualities in a leader. As I write, I am starting to formulate in my mind why I do what I do, the passion that I have, and what my particular strengths are; while at the same time acknowledging what I need to work on. So what makes an effective leader? I believe it is leading oneself first! Obviously there is a lot to be explained in what that means! If I can illustrate that through my half hour talk, then I will have said what I feel is necessary and important. I have a feeling that the students will also give me a clue as to what constitutes a good leader! So we will see how this early morning in late March goes.

I am looking forward to this opportunity so stay tuned for part two!

El Charro's 60th Birthday

Congratulations to Dave Sheilds and his staff on 60 years of business!

Chamber board members and ambassadors gathered to celebrate their success.



Lafayette Chamber of Commerce

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and maintain a healthy business climate and to preserve and enhance the quality of life in Lafayette.

2007 OFFICERS EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:

Stacy Spell, *Oakwood Athletic Club*

1st Vice President:

Larry Duson, *Bank of the West*

Vice Presidents:

Larry Blodgett, *Blodgett's Floor Covering*

Steve Cortese, *Cortese Investment Co.*

Edward Zeidan, *Nerd4Rent*

Treasurer: Caesar Perales, *CPA*

Immediate Past President

Budd MacKenzie,

Law Offices of Budd E. MacKenzie

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joanne Archer, Polly Bernson, Kathy Bowles,
Tony Eichers, Mike Heller, Chris Lane,
Tim McKinley, Ute Medford, Sandi Mitchell,
A.J. Nisen, Steve Palsa, Wendy Tamis, Greg Woehrle

ADVISORY BOARD

Judy Carney, Ann Denny, Steve Falk,
Dennis Garrison, Teresa Geringer,
Joan Grimes, DeWitt Mosby,
Eddie Roodveldt, Ed Stokes, Jesse Wellen

CHAMBER OFFICE STAFF

Jay Lifson, *Executive Director*
Karen Rose, *Special Events Director*
Linda Carlson, *Office Manager*
Barbara Gilmore, *Membership Services Director*

LAFAYETTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

100 Lafayette Circle, Suite 103
Lafayette, CA. 94549

(925) 284-7404

FAX (925) 284-3109

info@lafayettechamber.org

www.lafayettechamber.org



Sandi Mitchell

Partner
Your Real Estate 'CEO'

Phone: 925.451.8308

Fax: 925.465.9954

Email: homes@sandimitchell.com

website: www.SandiMitchell.com

1261 Locust Street, Walnut Creek, CA 94596



Alan 'AJ' Nisen

Mortgage Loan Consultant

MBA, Notary & Lafayette Chamber
Board Member

Phone: 1.925.688.3820

Mobile: 1.925.963.5836

AJ.nisen@BankofAmerica.com



March Joint Mixer for Lafayette and Pleasant Hill Chambers of Commerce

*Oakwood Athletic Club in Lafayette
Wednesday March 14th.*

The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce held a joint mixer with the Pleasant Hill Chamber at the Oakwood Athletic Club. Stacy Spell and her staff hosted a fantastic evening supplying scrumptious food and a wonderful atmosphere. Stacy even provided a Hand Analysis Specialist Terri Lin Snider for the guests to receive complimentary readings. New member Extreme Pizza donated tasty gourmet pizzas to the delight of our guests. The Great Room was overflowing with chamber members greeting one another and sharing stories. Music from Generation in Jazz's group Jazz Outrage created a soulful environment for the event. What a terrific time!

A big thank you to the chamber members who donated generous items for the raffle: Sonia's Beauty and Body Shop, On Location, Outersphere Communications, Diablo Rapid Print, Meritage Jewelry Concepts, Gold Coin Car Wash, Twigs, Assistance League of Diablo Valley, Skincare by Earline, Light Energy Systems, Paychex Payroll Services, Digital Imaging, Sugi Health & Fitness, Payroll Masters Marketing and Energy and More.



Stacy Spell, General Manager of Oakwood, Chamber members, Edward Zeidan, Mary Shaaf, Cory McDade and Michelle Billings



Charly Daly CEO of Pleasant Hill Chamber, June Catalano Pleasant Hill City Manager, Faye Donaghu and Dick Hixson



Thanks to Jazz Outrage from Generations in Jazz for their wonderful performance at our March mixer!

Member Spotlight

Ed Stokes Honored



Dan Stokes, Betty Stokes, Ed Stokes & Connie Collier

Ed Stokes is no stranger to awards, having already been designated Lafayette's Citizen of the Year in 1976 and Business Person of the Year in 1991. In addition, he also carries the title of Honorary Mayor of Lafayette. Ed has earned all of these accolades based on the quality of his business, Diablo

Foods, and his involvement in and support of many organizations within the community.

Ed has been running Diablo Foods with his family since 1968. Along with Ed and his bride Betty, his son Dan, daughter Connie and his grandson Daniel help keep the store running smoothly. That has given Ed a chance to be involved with the city he loves.

Ed has been a member of the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce since 1968. He served as President, Board Member and now for many years continues to be a trusted advisor. He has been a Rotarian since 1976, serving as President of his club. He is a long time member of the Contra Costa Sheriff's Posse, supporter of Town Hall Theater and St. Mary's College. Ed is known throughout the city as a generous supporter of local schools and non-profit organizations.

On Thursday, March 15, the Lafayette Rotary Club threw a little party for Ed and gifted him with a new park bench for the front of his store with a plaque that reads,

IN HONOR OF ED STOKES HE EXEMPLIFIES THE ROTARY MOTTO "SERVICE ABOVE SELF" FOR HIS GENEROSITY TO THE CITIZENS AND CITY OF LAFAYETTE

During the dedication, Ed remarked, "I love each and every one of you. And some day I am going to come to your business and do the same for you."

The City of Lafayette, The Lafayette Rotary Club and the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce are forever grateful to Ed and the Stokes family for all they do for Lafayette.



C·M·G
MORTGAGE SERVICES

STEVE SNYDER
Loan Officer
1575 Treat Blvd., Suite 100
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
(925) 287-2236
(510) 599-4700

"LAFAYETTE RESIDENT SINCE 1991"



Focus on the Arts

Local Artist's Work on Display at Fastframe of Lafayette

Local artist Mary Robin Purcell will be exhibiting her watercolors at Fastframe of Lafayette during the month of April, 2007.

Robin has been passionately painting watercolors for twenty years. She was educated at the University of Connecticut, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design. After college, a decade ago, Robin moved to California and was immediately drawn to the exciting landscapes and perpetually sunny days of the East Bay. Her paintings of Mt. Diablo have been juried into many exhibits, and won numerous awards.

Recent exhibits and awards include the following: publication in North Light Books "Splash 9" 2006, a national anthology of the top 100 watercolor artists, the Carmel Art Festival 2006 (Honorable Mention Award), the CWA National Exhibit 2006 (the Jerry Little Award), and the 2006 William Lester Gallery Invitational, to name a few. She is a member of the California Art Club and CWA.

FASTFRAME is located at 3571 Mt. Diablo Blvd., next to Postino's. Call Owner Anthony Ruiz at 283-7620 for more information.

Dreamscapes will continue at the Lafayette Gallery through May 12.

Join the Lafayette Gallery as we journey through the imaginations of our 23 artists. Powerful, passionate, evocative images appear when we translate the fantasies and realities of our lives into art.

Whether it's a painting, a sculpture or a piece of jewelry, each piece of work represents an individual vision - a dreamscape of colors, textures and light. Lafayette Gallery, 50 Lafayette Circle, is open Tuesday to Saturday from 11am to 5pm. (925)284-2788, www.lafayettegallery.net

DLOC Planning to Take Guests 'Beyond the Footlights' at May Gala

Scenery, costumes and other décor from DLOC's production of "The Music Man" will create a show-biz atmosphere for "Beyond the Footlights," the company's major fundraising event on May 12 in Pleasant Hill. Stars of the show will also be on hand to entertain.

The event is scheduled from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. in DLOC's Firehouse at 1948 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill, where the company creates (as its logo says) "the music and magic of Broadway." The Firehouse includes administrative offices, rehearsal studios, and scene and costume shops.

"This will be DLOC's first large fundraising event, and will employ all of the talent and creativity that is to be expected of a pre-eminent musical theatre company," says Cynthia Murdough, development manager and chair of the event.

She said the driveway leading to the scene shop and front entry area will be tented, to provide a party atmosphere along with the indoor facilities.

Reservations, at \$100 per person, are available at DLOC, (925) 944-1565.

"Guests will be invited to experience what it is like to go 'beyond the footlights' of a major theatrical production," says Murdough. "With sets

from "The Music Man" providing a colorful backdrop for an elegant evening filled with fabulous food, wine, games and entertainment, our guests will feel like they have actually stepped onto the streets of River City."

Already, DLOC has amassed nearly 100 items, valued at more than \$10,000, that will be auctioned during the gala. They include overnight stays in San Francisco and Napa, autographed theatre and entertainment memorabilia, a professional photo shoot and portrait, Bay Area theatre tickets, spa and beauty packages, restaurants, and wines.

Town Hall Theatre Presents "Lend Me A Tenor" through April 21

Town Hall Theatre Company presents Ken Ludwig's clever and wildly entertaining Lend Me a Tenor - winner of two Tony Awards, as well as four Drama Desk and three Outer Critics Circle Awards.

"This is the second funniest play ever written," says director Daren A. Carollo. "It's fast-paced and constantly manic, and as a director, it's a constant challenge to stay ahead of the audience. This is a great show for Town Hall - clever writing, terrific acting, and it gives an opportunity to our cast to make their own comic bits. They're being given free rein to be funny, and I guarantee it will be a good time."

Sophisticated themes - for mature audiences (adult themes and comic sexuality). Not recommended for children under 10. Length - 2 hours.

Contact the Town Hall Theatre Company box office for dates, times, and ticket prices: 925-283-1557, or visit www.townhalltheatre.com. The Town Hall Theatre Company, located at 3535 School Street at Moraga Road in Lafayette, is the oldest, continuously active theater in Contra Costa County.

Tom Taneyhill- Local Artist

Chamber member Tom Taneyhill invites you to an Art Exhibition LOST IN THE LANDSCAPE through April 13 at the Lesa Johnson Fine Art Gallery, 1041 Stuart Street, Suite B, Lafayette. An Art & Wine Pairing on Friday, April 13 from 7-9pm features wines for a picnic. For more information, please call 962-0980.

Michael Heller

BMW Concord

1907 Market Street
Concord, CA 94520-2626

Telephone
(925) 682-3677

Voice Mail Home
(925) 948-2150 (925) 944-1599

Fax Email
(925) 671-4067 mheller@bwhotmail.com



DVB
Diablo Valley Bank

Robert Ewen

Senior Vice President & Area Manager

387 Diablo Road, Danville, CA 94526
925-514-2837 phone, 925-314-2875 fax
rewen@diablovalleybank.com

Business Briefs

Mt. Diablo Business Women "Connecting Women to Women" invite you to their semi-annual Networking Extravaganza Thursday April 12, 2007, 5:45 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd. There will be open networking, a sit down dinner and an interactive presentation on networking Facilitator: Marion Woodward.

Barbara Kelley, Health Realization Coach will be offering two 7-week workshops for women called The Deep River Within beginning April 9, 2007. For more information visit her website at www.nowville.com/barbarakelley or give her a call at (925) 932-1332. Limited to 8 women per workshop.

East Bay Real Estate Values The East Bay Business Times came out with their annual list which ranks the average home values for 2006.

Lafayette ranked 4th with the following information:

2006 Average Home Value.....	\$1,057,983
Population	27,628
No. of households	10,391
Ave. Household income	\$178,894
Disposable income	\$127,015
Ave. Household net worth	\$1,102,866
Median age.....	44.1

Alamo, Danville 94506 and Orinda were the first three cities on the list.

Absolute Center Celebrates their 4th Anniversary Congratulations to Claudia, Katie and Louise. For information about their celebration on Friday, April 20, please contact Katie@absolutecenter.net or call 299-9642.

Bike to Work Day On Thursday, May 17, tens of thousands of residents from all corners of the Bay Area will put their car key aside, grab their helmets, and hop on their bicycles to make their commute to work. They will be seen on two wheels, big wheels, tandems and hybrids! Won't you join them. For more Bike to Work Day information, call 511 and say "bicycling" or send an email to btwd@511.org

Pleasant Hill Health & Wellness Fair Thursday, April 26, 3-7pm - Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Dr. For information, call the Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce, 676-7422

Congratulations to Abba Anderson

Abba opened a community acupuncture clinic at 2880 Sacramento Street in South Berkeley on March 21. For more information please call 510-684-2552

The Business of Consciousness (formerly Spirituality & Business Discussion Group). Celebrate spring and infuse new energy and consciousness into your business. Come join our ongoing discussion group and enjoy a stimulating dialogue about how we can successfully integrate metaphysics, spirituality & one's own inner process with our day-to-day business practices for ultimate professional and personal success. April's meeting will be held Wednesday, April 25th from 5:15PM to 6:15PM at the Lafayette City offices, 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 265. Previous attendance is not required. Please contact Rhonda Chaikin, HMR Associates (Help Me Rhonda!) at (925) 284-0705 to register. (Please note - this is not a business networking group.)

Las Trampas presents the 18th Annual "What's in Our Hat?" Fundraiser PROCEEDS HELP SUPPORT ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

On Sunday, April 29th, join over 300 of the Bay Area's philanthropists who are gathering at the 4-star Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa to raise money for people with developmental disabilities. The annual "What's In Our Hat?" fundraiser supports the programs of Las Trampas, Inc., Contra Costa County's leading agency serving adults with developmental disabilities. Tickets are \$100 per person. Held from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The theme this year is "Day at the Races!" a tribute to the Kentucky Derby. 92.1 KKDV Diablo Valley's Hometown Station is the radio sponsor for this year's event, Don Potter will be the guest DJ.

For nearly 50 years Las Trampas has helped men and women with developmental disabilities to discover their capabilities and to lead fuller lives in their home, at work, and in the community. For more information about the event or programs at Las Trampas, Inc., call (925) 284-1462 ext. 239.



Congratulations Acalanes Boy's Varsity Basketball Team!

Winners of the 2007 Northern Regional Basketball Division III Finals.

Ware Designs
Fine Jewelry
since 1977
3418 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549
925.283.2988
www.waredesigns.com

Free watch battery with this ad while you wait (usually). \$10 value. One per person. Some restrictions apply.

Real Estate Lawyer
25 Years Experience/Licensed Real Estate Broker

Commercial/Residential
Title Matters • Probate/Trusts
Mediation/Dispute Resolution

Law Offices of Magany Abbass
3445 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette CA 94549
925.283-9088

NEW MEMBER *Welcome*

ACUPUNCTURE

Blessing Acupuncture

953 Mountain View Drive
Lafayette, Ca 94549
389-0216 (phone) 284-7163 (fax)
Info@blessingacu.com
www.blessingacu.com
Contact: *Rikke Blessing*

Rikke Blessing, founder of Blessing Acupuncture, is a California Licensed Acupuncturist and Herbalist. She specializes in Women's Health, Stress Management, and Reproductive Enhancement and holds national credentials as a Diplomate in Oriental Medicine from the The National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Her formal training includes a bachelor's degree in Chinese Linguistics from the University of Copenhagen, a master's degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine from the Academy of Chinese Culture and Health Sciences in Oakland, and postgraduate studies at Taiwan Normal University. Rikke is a professional member of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine and Resolve:the National Infertility Association. She is fluent in English, Danish, and Mandarin Chinese which enables her to bring the latest international medical research to her patients.

ATTORNEYS/LEGAL SERVICES

Carol Hehmeyer, Attorney at Law

3527 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #151
Lafayette, Ca 94549
284-5679 (phone) 296-6101 (fax)
CarolHehmeyer@yahoo.com
Contact: *Carol Hehmeyer*

BATH & KITCHEN

Rebath by Schicker

2250 Galaxy Court, Concord, Ca 94520
676-8422 (phone) 676-5432 (fax)
rbbs@rebath.net • www.rebath.com
Contact: *Lynette Dashner*

America's Largest One-Day Bath Remodeler. Remodeling should be exciting, not nerve wracking. At ReBath, we put new Acrylic bathtub liners and wall panels right over your existing old tub and walls, transforming you dated bath into a beautiful new one. Acrylic resists mold and mildew and will not chip, peel, rust, or discolor. Our



www.centralselfstorage.com

Steve O'Connor
Manager

3330 Mt. Diablo Blvd
Lafayette, CA 94549
Phone: 925-962-1940
Fax: 925-962-1401

Gate Hours
7 a.m.-7 p.m.
(7 days a week)

Office Hours:
Mon-Fri. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

one-day installation process allows for a stress-free remodeling experience. Call for a FREE in-home estimate. Go to www.rebath.com to view color charts and design your own bathroom today!

BEAUTY SALONS & SERVICES

Skincare by Earline

970 Dewing Ave., Suite #301
Lafayette, Ca 94549
283-5500 (phone)
Contact: *Linda Thyberg*

PHOTOGRAPHY

Lafayette Photo & Studio

3506-H Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, Ca 94546
283-6377 (phone & fax)
nidayer03@yahoo.com
Contact: *William Liu*

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Golden Quality Appraisal Services

853 Revere Road
Lafayette, Ca 94549
284-3964 (phone) 284-1195 (fax)
ricevuto@pacbell.net
www.goldenquality.com
Contact: *Vincent Ricevuto*

Coldwell Banker - Tom Stack

5 Moraga Way, Orinda, Ca 94563
878-9964 (phone) 253-0416 (fax)
Tom.Stack@camoves.com
www.TomStack.com
Contact: *Tom Stack*

Tom brings over 20 years of sales, marketing and licensing experience in the Rock and Roll merchandise industry to his position as a Broker Associate with Coldwell Banker in Orinda. Tom and his family live in Lafayette's Burton Valley, where they are active in the local community. They are widely known for presenting the annual "Halloween House," an event that entertains and spooks hundreds of people of ALL ages each October 31st.

RESTAURANTS

Extreme Pizza

1630 Cypress Street
Walnut Creek, Ca 94596
930-6100 (phone)
dwright@extremepizza.com
www.extremepizza.com
Contact: *Dave Wright*

The Cheese Steak Shop

3455 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, Ca 94549
242-1112 (phone) 242-1118 (fax)
gerryhenkel@comcast.net
Contact: *Gerry Henkel*

SOLAR PRODUCTS

INSTALLATION

Light Energy Systems

965 D. Detriot Ave.
Concord, Ca 94518
680-4343 (phone) 680-6588 (fax)
abi@LightEnergySystems.com
www.LightEnergySystems.com
Contact: *Lisa Maule-Baeta*

Light Energy Systems is a full service solar contractor, in business in the East Bay area since 1980. We engineer and install Solar electricity (PV), solar pool heating, solar hot water and radiant flooring. As one of the area's first companies to be accepted into the Green Businesses Program, we take our role of being environmentally conscious seriously. We have electrical, plumbing and solar licenses - all necessary for residential and commercial solar work. We offer our customers all the expertise of 26 years in business and we take care of the complex paperwork for the energy "rebates" that make a solar purchase so appealing today. What can "going solar" do for you? It locks in your energy costs and you are taking a big step away from fossil fuel dependence by harnessing a truly renewable energy resource - the light of the sun.

Renewing Members in February

More than Fifty Years

Lafayette United Methodist Church

More than Thirty Years

Las Trampas, Inc.

More than Twenty-Five Years

The Nut Factory, Inc.

More than Twenty Years

Bell-Carter Foods, Inc.

El Charro Mexican Dining

Kosich & Callahan Insurance Services

Lafayette School District

Our Saviors Lutheran Church

Squirrel's Coffee Shop

More than Fifteen Years

East Bay Municipal Utility District

Lafayette Tree & Landscape, Inc.

One Stop Shoe Care

Soroptimist International of Lamorinda

The Cotton Patch

More than Ten Years

Clocks, Etc.

Diablo Rapid Print, Inc.

Lafayette Improvement Assoc.

Law Offices of Crosetti & Titmu

St. Perpetua School

More than Five Years

Beauty Supplies Plus

Bentley School - Upper Division

Bowles & Verna

Celias Mexican Restaurant

D.N.M. Insurance Services

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Gold Coast Chamber Players

La Finestra Ristorante

Lafayette Moraga Youth Association

Piggy Bank Real Estate

More than One Year

ABsolute Center

Cathy Mu, CPA

Charmian Dobell, CPA

Cingular Wireless - The New AT&T

Comyns, Smith, McCleary & Deaver LLP

Empire Realty Associates - Lee Deily

K.E.V. Insurance Services

Michael Lane Preschool

NeedleWorks Embroidery
& Screenprinting

Partners in Order

Plastic Surgery Recovery House

Ryan Miyasaki, DDS

The Learning Café

Viva el Espanol

Ware Designs

Comprehensive Library Funding Plan

The Lafayette Community Foundation made a presentation to the Lafayette Redevelopment Agency at the March 12 Lafayette City Council Meeting. Foundation Chair Ann Grodin previewed a plan where the Foundation would loan \$9 million to the RDA to support operations, maintenance and programs at the new Lafayette Library and Learning Center, scheduled to open in 2009. The \$9 million loan along with the \$11.9 million from the State and \$22.4 million from the RDA provides all the funding required to complete development of the new building. When the project is completed, the RDA will repay the loan principal plus interest to the LCF. An estimated \$29 million in principal and interest to the Foundation will be paid to the LCF over approximately 30 years. The Foundation will then contribute the funds to support operations of the new Library. With existing cash flow from City and County funds included, the revenues should be enough to keep the facility open for 40 years per week.

The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors had a presentation made to them prior to the City Council Meeting. The Board voted to support the plan conceptually and encouraged the City Council to do the same.

Ivor Samson Named 2007 Citizen of the Year



Ivor and his wife Sharon

On March 23rd, the citizens and business owners of Lafayette came together to honor 25 year resident and former Mayor Ivor Samson as our 2007 Citizen of the Year. Ivor was picked from 11 nominees, all of whom have gone above and beyond the norm to contribute not only to quality of life in Lafayette, but our global community as well.

Ivor has served for several years as the President of the Lafayette Homeowner's Council and the Lafayette Planning Commission. He then went on to sit on the Lafayette City Council where he served as Mayor in 2001 and 2006. During his thirteen years on the City Council, he will be remembered for his dry humor, his insistence that all parties be treated fairly, and his emphasis on civility in public discourse. In his "day job," Ivor is an attorney with Sonnenschein Nath & Rosentahl, and is regarded as one of the nation's top property-rights lawyers. This type of work often means a grueling travel schedule. Yet Ivor was able to juggle his double duty. But there is another story here. Ivor also does a considerable amount of pro-bono work.

In 2004 Ivor Samson began a case against Emmanuel "Toto" Constant, who emerged after President Jean Bertrand Aristide was overthrown in Haiti, 1991. Constant's group the Revolutionary Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti beat, imprisoned and killed residents in pro-Aristide neighborhoods in 1993 and 1994. When Aristide returned to power in 1994, Constant fled to the United States. Samson and his legal team represented three women who were gang-raped, stabbed, tortured and left for dead. The Center for Justice and Accountability, a San Francisco human rights group, sued Constant for torture, attempted murder and other crimes. The court found Constant guilty, awarding \$15 million in punitive and \$4 million in compensatory damages to the three women. It marked the first time anyone has been held accountable for the state sponsored campaign of rape and torture in Haiti.

Ivor was praised, honored and roasted by his friends and peers at the "Citizen of the Year" dinner sponsored by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce and the *Contra Costa Times/Lamorinda Sun*. The event took place at the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa. CONGRATULATIONS IVOR! And thank you for your contributions.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 April	2	3	4 Executive Committee 4 p.m. Chamber Office	5	6 Good Friday Chamber Office closes at 12 noon	7
8	9 Chamber Board 12 noon, LPH&S Ambassadors Meeting 4:15 p.m., Chamber Office	10	11 Leads Group 9 a.m., Chamber Office MIXER 5:30 p.m. Lafayette Circle & Fiesta Lane. PETAR'S, P&L FRAMING, TWIGS FLORAL & ART, TREASURE TROVE AND MEGAN HANEY DESIGN	12	13	14
15	16	17 Ribbon Cutting Big O Tires 4:30 p.m. 3328-A Mt. Diablo Blvd.	18 Coffee with the Mayor 8 a.m. Chamber Office	19 Entrepreneur's Club 8:30 a.m. AVALON School of Massage 1280 Boulevard Way, Ste 214, Walnut Creek	20	21
22 Earth Day Acalanes H.S. 12 noon - 4:30 p.m. 1200 Pleasant Hill Rd.	23	24	25 New Member Reception El Charro 4:30 p.m. 3339 Mt. Diablo Blvd.	26	27	28
29	30	1 May	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12