

**MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DON TATZIN**

The year will end with many activities for the City. Heading the list are the grand opening ceremonies at the new Lafayette Library and Learning Center. On November 7, Mt. Diablo Blvd. in front of the new library will be transformed into the site of a marvelous gala. You can purchase tickets by contacting the Lafayette Library and Learning Foundation. The grand opening occurs a week later, November 14, with festivities beginning at 9 a.m. The doors will open around 10:15 and there will be programs and entertainment throughout the day. Come see this wonderful building and enjoy the realization of the dream of the more than 2,000 families that contributed more than \$14 million and thousands of volunteer hours to the project. During my tours of the building, I continuously discover new amenities and design features that will make this a wonderful attraction for our community.

With the opening of the Library and adjacent Community Hall, many city meetings now held at the Community Center in Burton Valley will move downtown. The Council will start meeting in the Community Hall on November 23, and the Planning, Design Review, and Circulation Commissions will hold their meetings at the Library and Learning Center. This change of venue should make meetings more accessible to many residents and business owners.

Rooms in the Library and Community Hall will be available to rent. The Lafayette Library and Learning Foundation is managing the rental program. You can contact them at (925) 283-6513.

The revised draft of the Downtown Specific Plan was released for public comment and review in September. While the review and comment period will extend for several months, the most intensive reviews will occur during the next few months. The good news is there has been a lot of comment and most people agree with the recommendations regarding protecting and enhancing the creeks, adding a public parking facility, and creating plazas and pocket parks in a few locations. The bad news is that there is little support for the draft plan's proposals regarding height and density. Some believe that if adopted, the proposal would make further development in the downtown economically infeasible. Others believe that the proposal is too lax and could result in a canyon effect in the downtown as more properties are developed. The Planning Commission will hold a series of hearings about the plan and they encourage you to review the document and submit comments to them. Their recommendations will come to the Council in early 2010 and we encourage you to provide your comments to us as well.

*Continued on page 3.*

*Upcoming Events*

*November*

Tues. Nov 3 • 12:30 pm  
**Shop Lafayette Working Group**  
Chamber Conference Room

Thurs. Nov 5 • 4pm-7pm  
**Business Expo 2009**  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
45 John Glenn Dr., Concord

Sat. Nov 7  
**Annual Board Planning Retreat**

Mon. Nov 9  
**Chamber Office Closed**

Fri. Nov 13 • 8am  
**Coffee with the Mayor**  
Chamber Conference Room

Sat. Nov 14 • 9am-5pm  
**Lafayette Library & Learning Center Grand Opening**  
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Wed. Nov 18 • 11:45am  
**Green Committee**  
Chamber Conference Room

Thurs. Nov 19 • 8:30 am  
**Entrepreneur's Club**  
Chamber Conference Room

Fri. Nov 20 • 7-8:30am  
**Community Thanksgiving Breakfast**  
Veterans Memorial Building  
3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Wed. Nov. 25  
**Chamber Office closes at 12 Noon**

Thurs. Nov 26- Fri. Nov 27  
**Chamber Office Closed**

*December*

Tues. Dec 1 • 12:30 pm  
**Shop Lafayette Working Group**  
Chamber Conference Room

Thurs. Dec 3 • 5:00 pm  
**Ribbon Cutting Lamorinda Dental & Lamorinda ENT**  
911 Moraga Rd., Suite 102

Fri. Dec 4 • 7:30 pm  
**Rossmoor Big Band Dance**  
Rheem Theater  
350 Park St., Moraga

Thurs. Dec 10 • 5pm  
**Ribbon Cutting Time After Time**  
3608 B Happy Valley Rd.

Wed. Dec 16 • 11:45 am  
**Green Committee**  
Chamber Conference Room

Thurs. Dec 17 • 8:30am  
**Entrepreneur's Club**  
Chamber Conference Room

**Office closes for Holidays**  
Starting Wednesday,  
Dec. 23 at noon  
and reopens  
Monday, Jan. 4



**NOVEMBER MIXER**  
**Wed. Nov 11 • 5:30-7pm**  
**The Kensington**  
1580 Geary Road  
Walnut Creek

**HOLIDAY MIXER**  
See page 3 for more info!  
**Wed. Dec 9 • 5:30-7pm**  
**Mechanics Bank**  
3640 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

## MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN - TONY EICHERS

As we approach the holiday season I am delighted to report that our 'Try Lafayette First' initiative is working! And hopefully the campaign will prove to be a big success for all businesses, large and small. It has been a difficult year for all, and walking about town, I am encouraged by the foot traffic in and around Mt. Diablo Blvd. I am hoping that everyone is benefiting. Please continue doing your part to attract customers by offering great customer service and continuing the great reputation that Lafayette businesses are known for.

This will be my last article as your 2009 Chamber Chairman, and I would like to say it has been an exciting, eventful and encouraging year. It has been an honor to work with the local businesses, fellow Chamber Board members, Ambassadors and volunteers. I am proud to be part of this great organization, and in particular, I am proud of our staff Linda, Karen, Barbara and Jay.

## Lafayette Library and Learning Center (LLLC) GRAND OPENING!

Saturday, November 14, 9am-5pm

3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Corner of Mt Diablo Blvd and First Street

Wow - it's finally here! All those years, those meetings, those starry-eyed dreams and deep-down desires of what a library can, could, and should be, are about to come to fabulous fruition: Our Lafayette Library and Learning Center opens Saturday, November 14 with a day of free festivities, and you won't want to miss a thing!

Start at 9AM in a parade of farewell and fellowship as you follow Lafayette's beloved, original Model-T fire engine, "Old Betsy," up from the old library to the new LLLC. The Mayor's official ribbon cutting takes place at 10 AM, as well as the unveiling of the commissioned sculpture, Speechless - and then the fun truly begins!

All 12 members of the Glenn Seaborg Learning Consortium will be on hand throughout the day with demos and workshops, including a California Shakespeare Theater mini performance of Romeo and Juliet, rocket making with Chabot Space & Science Center, creek activities with Greenbelt Alliance, and critters from both the Oakland Zoo and Lindsay Wildlife Museum. Mimes, clowns, magicians, and plenty of music will add even more pizzazz, along with the folks from KKDV Radio, giving away prizes from their popular party games.

Come for an hour or stay all day, and wander through this wonder that over 2,000 donors and hundreds of volunteers envisioned and helped bring to life. Docents will be on hand to introduce you to a place you're sure to call a second home in the years ahead. For more information call (925) 283-6513 or visit [www.lafayettelib.com](http://www.lafayettelib.com).

**BUSINESS EXPO 2009** The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce is proud to once again partner with our neighbor chambers and present our annual Business expo. Together with the Pleasant Hill, Hispanic, Concord and Martinez Chambers, we invite you to join us on Thursday, November 5 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 45 John Glen Drive, Concord. The event begins at 4pm and runs until 7pm. 150 businesses from the five chambers will display their products and services to more than 1,000 attendees. This event is a great place to network, showcase your business and make new contacts. Admission is free to the public. For more information, go to [www.lafayettechamber.org](http://www.lafayettechamber.org) or check this YouTube link <http://www.youtube.com/GuavaFilms#p/u/0/Up7iJ3NMgsY> for our Comcast commercial and even better view the "outtakes" at [http://www.youtube.com/user/GuavaFilms#p/u/0/Mideev9zB\\_I](http://www.youtube.com/user/GuavaFilms#p/u/0/Mideev9zB_I)

## 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.

### 2009 Officers

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

##### Chair of the Board:

Tony Eichers,  
Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa

**Vice Chair:** Caesar Perales, CPA

##### Executive Committee:

Larry Blodgett,  
Blodgett's Abbey Carpet & Flooring  
Steve Cortese,  
Cortese Investment Company  
Dennis Garrison,  
Oakwood Athletic Club  
Stacy Spell, Oakwood Athletic Club  
Edward Zeidan, Nerd4Rent  
Barbara Townsend, Futures Explored

##### Immediate Past President:

Larry Duson, Bank of the West

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Polly Bernson, Debbie Cooper,  
Mike Heller, Budd MacKenzie,  
Sandi Mitchell, A.J. Nisen,  
Steve Palsa, Dave Simpson,  
Steve Snyder, David Watson

#### ADVISORY BOARD

Joanne Archer, Fred Brill, Ann Denny  
Steve Falk, Nora Harlow, Chris Lane,  
Ute Medford, Anna Stevenson, Ed Stokes,  
Wendy Tamis, Jesse Wellen

#### CHAMBER OFFICE STAFF

Jay Lifson, C.E.O.  
Karen Rose, Director of Events  
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](mailto:info@lafayettechamber.org)

[www.lafayettechamber.org](http://www.lafayettechamber.org)



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[www.blodgetts.com](http://www.blodgetts.com)

Mayor continued from page 1.

years of work by a citizen task force and reflect the results of many interviews, workshops, and a public opinion survey. The Council asked the authors to set priorities for the recommendations and identify funding sources.

Two other citizen committees are hard at work. In late October, the Charter City Committee recommended a draft city charter that could be brought to the voters in the November 2010 election. The Open Space Committee is developing recommendations for the City to purchase land that would be protected as open space. The necessary money will come from a portion of Lafayette's share of the recent voter-approved East Bay Regional Park District funding measure.

Later this year we will discuss alternatives regarding how Lafayette obtains police services. Since incorporation in 1968, the City has contracted for service from the County Sheriff. However, the cost of this service is rising rapidly and consumes about 40 percent of our General Fund Budget. The assessment will help us determine if there are options that would give us equal or better service at a lower cost.

Our 2009 road repair projects are completed. This year we focused on fixing failed roads in residential neighborhoods. We also repaved portions of Deer Hill Road and St. Mary's Road using federal stimulus funds. The 2010 project list is long and will again focus on failed residential streets. After that, we need to find new sources of funding in order to continue to reduce the backlog of failed roads.

The City recognizes that these are hard times for many businesses and residents. We implemented a small stimulus effort and will coordinate our efforts with the Chamber's "Try Lafayette First" program. Because the economy is unlikely to get better quickly, I anticipate that the Council will extend the stimulus program at least through 2010. The Try Lafayette First program is another example of the outstanding contribution the Chamber makes to our community.

As I near the end as my term as Mayor, I thank you for your efforts to make Lafayette a great community in which to live and work and appreciate those who have contacted me during the year. I know that you will enjoy working with my likely successor as Mayor, Brandt Andersson, while I continue to serve as a council member.

Best regards,  
Don Tatzin, Mayor

## 30TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING BREAKFAST

Join city leaders, residents and the business community for breakfast as we have done for 29 years. The 30th Annual Community Thanksgiving Breakfast will be held on Friday, November 20, from 7:00am - 8:30am at the Veterans Memorial Building, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Breakfast will be graciously prepared by Chef's Touch Catering. Our guest speaker is California State Controller John Chiang. The event is sponsored by PG&E and is presented by the Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club, the Lafayette Rotary Club and the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. Reservations are required - a form is included in this newsletter or can be downloaded at our website [www.lafayettechamber.org](http://www.lafayettechamber.org).

## October Mixer **Heritage Bank**



*Grace Ocampo, Bethany Curiel, Ute Medford, Kurt Chambliss, Dana Emelia, Gerriann Smith and Albert Ma of Heritage Bank.*

The October's mixer was hosted by Heritage Bank in Walnut Creek and the theme was Oktoberfest! Ute Medford, Gerriann Smith and staff had the bank decorated to match the celebration including the food. The bank was packed with Chamber members and guests who enjoyed nibbling sausages and potato salad and tasting the brew that was provided by new member Ale Industries.

A big thank you to our Ambassadors who helped with greeting and serving our chamber members during the event. Sanjay Prasad of Pacific National Bank and Shelli Shepherd Wahl of Oakmont Memorial Park have joined our ambassador group and were very helpful during the mixer. We greatly appreciate the donations for our raffle from the following chamber members, Heritage Bank, Diablo Trophies & Awards, Sports Basement, Town Hall Theatre, Skin Care by Timberly, Lafayette Car Wash and the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce.

## 2009 HOLIDAY MIXER

Our Holiday Mixer will be held on Wednesday, December 9th. This year's host is Mechanics Bank located at 3640 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Please bring a raffle prize for this well attended mixer as this is a great opportunity to showcase your business products and services. We will be reaching out to our restaurant community to ask for donations of your specialties to be available to taste during the event. Please contact Karen with your comments or questions at [Karen@lafayettechamber.org](mailto:Karen@lafayettechamber.org). A letter will be sent out shortly regarding the mixer to all our Chamber restaurants with details.

# Business Briefs

**The American Red Cross** invites you to the Contra Costa Heroes Breakfast on Tuesday, November 3 at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville. Registration is at 7:15 am, Program 8am-10am. The 2009 community heroes being honored are Capt. Chesley Sullenberger III, Sara Borski, Corp. Larry Lewis, Lori Cohere, Monument Crisis Center and Lindsay Wildlife Museum. For more information & to purchase tickets (\$40) call 415-427-8086 or [www.redcrossbayarea.org](http://www.redcrossbayarea.org).

**Hospice of the East Bay** is offering a workshop for people who have experienced the death of a loved one, and find the holiday season to be a sad and stressful time of the year on Wednesday, November 4 from 7pm-9pm at 3470 Buskirk Avenue, Pleasant Hill. This workshop is offered for a fee and requires pre-registration. The fee is waived for those who cannot afford it. For further information and/or to register call 887-5681.

**Mt. Diablo Nursery & Garden** announces a Holiday Gift Boutique on Sunday, November 15 from 1-4pm featuring local artists with handmade, local, and unique items including soaps, candles, lotions, sachets, olive oils, wines, honey, watercolors, glass ornaments & more. They are located at 3295 Mt. Diablo Blvd. For more information call 283-3830 or visit [www.mtDiablonursery.com](http://www.mtDiablonursery.com).

**Selvig Construction November Special** Frustrated with your list of tasks you never get around to? Want to update your home with a beautiful remodel? David Selvig Construction is offering a special to fellow Chamber members this month. Take advantage of either a Free one hour consultation on any repair or remodeling project OR One hour free labor on any job 4 hours or more. We have 30 years experience. Call today (925) 299-1243.

**The Avalon University of Metaphysics** and the Avalon School of Massage Therapy offer the following classes for November: Prenatal Massage, November 4 & 13; Magick & the Craft of the Wise, Tuesdays, November 3 - December 15; Aromatherapy, November 5; Toning Circle, November 11; The Shaman Labyrinth: A Path of Light, Friday evenings starting November 13 or Wednesday mornings starting November 18; Yogaworks, Tuesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m.; Classic Hatha Yoga, Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. To register, call 925-280-6500 - [www.avalonofwalnutcreek.com](http://www.avalonofwalnutcreek.com).

**Mt Diablo Business Women Networking Dinner**, 5:45-8:30pm, November 12, 2009. Lafayette Park Hotel, 3287 Mount Diablo Blvd, Lafayette: Guest speaker Peggy White Executive Director of the Dean Leshner Center for the Arts speaking on The Symbiotic Relationship of Business & Art. For info and registration please contact: [www.mtDiabloBusinessWomen.org](http://www.mtDiabloBusinessWomen.org) Memers:\$37 Guests:\$55 Register Early by noon November 9,2009. Please no walk-ins!

**Junior Achievement** - a non-profit funded by foundations and businesses - offers an exciting opportunity for you and your office to partner with local schools to educate students about business and financial literacy. By volunteering in the schools or hosting a Job Shadow, companies can increase outreach. Programs are offered to the schools at no cost. For more information, please contact Jenni Beeman at 465-1082 or email at [jbeeman@janorcal.org](mailto:jbeeman@janorcal.org). Information available at [www.janorcal.org](http://www.janorcal.org).

**Meals on Wheels** is pleased to proclaim November as "Meals on Wheels Month" and introduce its new annual fundraiser, "Dine Out." Over 30 local restaurants throughout the county have partnered with this program and their dining clientele to help raise much needed funding for hot meals delivered daily to shut-in seniors. Last year alone, nearly 200,000 meals were delivered here in the Diablo Valley! To learn more and view participating establishments, visit [www.DineOutNOW.org](http://www.DineOutNOW.org).

**The Avalon University of Metaphysics and the Avalon School of Massage Therapy** offer the following classes for December: Healing Hot Stones - December 3 and Toning Circle on December 9. To register, call 925-280-6500 - [www.avalonofwalnutcreek.com](http://www.avalonofwalnutcreek.com)

**MARKETING YOUR BUSINESS AT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Have you recently changed your business cards or added new brochures? Have you stopped by for a visit to see if your supply of cards are running low? Please bring some over to the Chamber office for our business showcase area. Every day there are many people that are here - business people, residents, clubs and organizations and relocated new residents. Please contact Barbara at [Barbara@lafayettechamber.org](mailto:Barbara@lafayettechamber.org).



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## YOUR 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2009 board of Directors will be asked to approve the slate of new board members at their November Board Meeting. They will also be asked to approve the At-Large directors and the Advisors that Chair-Elect Caesar Perales and the Election Committee select.

### Thank you to our 2009 Board Members

We say thank you to the following Board Members who have completed their terms on the board. We appreciate the contributions they have made to our organization - Dennis Garrison, Michael Heller, Sandi Mitchell, Budd MacKenzie (President 2005) and Larry Duson who is the only person in our 60 year history who completed two full terms as President in 2004 and 2008.

And thank you to our advisors: JoAnne Archer, Fred Brill, Ann Denny, Steve Falk, Nora Harlow, Chris Lane, Ute Medford, Anna Stevenson, Ed Stokes, Wendy Tamis, Jesse Wellen and Jim Negri.

## CONTRAGULATIONS TO:

### Our new board members:

JoAnne Archer ..... Sew Fine Interiors  
Wendy Tamis ..... Clocks, Etc.

### Elected to a new term:

Edward Zeidan ..... Nerd4Rent  
Barbara Townsend ..... Future's Explored  
Stacy Spell ..... Oakwood Athletic Club  
Steve Snyder ..... RPM Mortgage

### Returning to the Board:

Larry Blodgett ..... Blodgett's Abbey Carpet  
& Flooring  
Steve Cortese ..... Cortese Investment Co.  
Caesar Perales ..... CPA  
A.J. Nisen ..... Bank of America Mortgage  
Polly Bernson ..... Diablo Rapid Print  
Tony Eichers ..... Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa  
Steve Palsa ..... Minuteman Press of Lafayette  
Dave Simpson ..... Lafayette Book Store  
David Watson ..... Professional Automotive  
Debbie Cooper ..... Mechanics Bank

## LAFAYETTE CHAMBER BOARD SUPPORTS MEASURE G

At the October 2009 Lafayette Chamber Board of Directors meeting, your board agreed to support Measure G. Measure G will protect Acalanes High School District from the deep cuts in the state budget. It requires a 2/3 vote for passage and will appear on the November 3rd State Ballot. This measure renews the existing \$189 parcel tax without increasing taxes. The money will be used to help preserve core academic courses, help preserve science, mathematics, music, art & foreign language courses and help maintain library hours. Senior Citizens over sixty-five will once again be offered an exemption if passed.

## BIG BAND DANCE - DECEMBER 4

The next Big Band Dance featuring the Big Band of Rossmoor will be held Friday, December 4 - 7:30pm - 10pm - at the Rheem Theater, 350 Park St., Moraga. Tickets will be available at the Chamber office or the Rheem Theater.

## SAVE THE DATE

Please mark your new 2010 calendar for the Annual Lafayette Business Person of the Year Dinner on Friday, January 22, 2009, with cocktails at 6:00pm and dinner at 7:00pm. In addition to honoring our Business Person of the Year, we will meet our 2009 Board of Directors and hear from Mayor Brandt Andersson as he delivers his State of the City address. This is our annual membership meeting/gathering. Do you have someone that you would like to nominate for the 2010 Business Person of the Year? See the nomination form in this newsletter.



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**Steve O' Connor**  
Manager

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Phone: 925-962-1940  
Fax: 925-962-1401

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Sunday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



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# New Member **WELCOME!** .....

## BREWERY \_\_\_\_\_

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470-5280 (phone)  
beer@aleindustries.com  
www.aleindustries.com  
Contact: Stephen Lopas

## CAMP – DAY/SUMMER \_\_\_\_\_

### **Mountain Camp**

100 Wrights Lake Road  
Pollock Pines, Ca 95726  
415-351-2267 (phone)  
info@mountaincamp.com  
www.mountaincamp.com  
Contact: Kamren Johnson

## CONSUMER REVIEW WEBSITE \_\_\_\_\_

### **Yelp.com**

706 Mission Ave., 7th Floor  
San Francisco, Ca 94103  
415-848-8277 (phone)  
Luther@yelp.com  
www.yelp.com  
Contact: Luther Lowe

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICES \_\_\_\_\_

### **College-Watch, LLC**

712 Bancroft Road, #291  
Walnut Creek, Ca 94598  
548-0002 (phone)  
crobey@college-watch.com  
www.college-watch.com  
Contact: Cynthia M. Robey

## PLUMBING \_\_\_\_\_

### **Stefano's Plumbing & Drain**

P.O. Box 1725  
Lafayette, Ca 94549  
383-8506 (phone) 798-3932 (fax)  
stefanosplumbing@yahoo.com  
Contact: Stefano Patitucci

## REAL ESTATE SERVICES \_\_\_\_\_

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gphinds@aol.com  
http://FHALoansOnly.com  
Contact: Gordon M. Hinds

## RESTAURANTS \_\_\_\_\_

### **Fuz Restaurant**

3707 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Lafayette, Ca 94549  
299-9930 (phone) 299-9931 (fax)  
max@fuzrestaurant.com  
www.fuzrestaurant.com  
Contact: Max Khorasani

Fuz Restaurant is owned and operated by Head Chef Stephen Dill who brings a unique blend of global flavors that he learned and mastered in his travels around the world. Fuz caters to all aspects of one's pallet and is gaining popularity as one of the Easy Bay's finest!

## VETERINARIANS \_\_\_\_\_

### **Contra Costa**

### **Veterinary Emergency Center**

1410 Monument Blvd., Ste.108  
Concord, Ca 94520  
798-2900 (phone) 688-0516(fax)  
ccvec@sbcglobal.net  
www.ccvec.com  
Contact: Lauren Johannessen

# Renewing Members

## SEPTEMBER 2009

### **More than Forty Years**

Futures Explored  
JaCo Distributors, Inc.

### **More than Twenty-five Years**

Betty S. Vodzak, DDS  
Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church

### **More than Twenty Years**

The UPS Store

### **More than Fifteen Years**

Home Systems  
Pfy design  
T. Ray Bland CLU, ChFC  
Temple Isaiah

### **More than Ten Years**

Aegis Assisted Living of Moraga  
Amarin Thai Cuisine  
Cortese Investment Company  
Greg's Automotive & Muffler Repair  
Jackson's Wine & Spirits  
Lafayette Gallery  
Parker Harrison Real Estate  
Prive Jewelers  
Robert Jenson Salon

### **More than Five Years**

AVALON School of Massage Therapy  
California Glass Co.  
Diablo Valley Carpet Care  
Dudum Financial & Insurance Services  
Huether Insurance  
Specialtees  
Tom Rochford Real Estate Co.  
US Bank

### **More than One Year**

Better Care Choices  
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Metro Lafayette  
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Skin Care by Timberly  
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## DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN UPDATE

If you have read the article penned by Mayor Tatzin on page one, you are aware of the divide that has developed over the height and density of buildings in the downtown. Your Board of Directors voted back in April to approve the draft plan as amended by the Advisory Committee. However, the chamber now opposes the new draft. The revised draft calls for lowering the heights of buildings in the downtown from 35' 5o 43' by right down to 25'. We feel this will "downzone" properties making it difficult for property to be developed or redeveloped, have a negative impact on property value and slow the growth of sales tax and property tax revenue. This issue will be the focus of discussion over the next couple of months. The City Council has passed this issue down to the Planning Commission. Here is the schedule of upcoming meetings of the Planning Commission for the Downtown Specific Plan:

**November 19** Review of Specific Plan Districts  
(Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10)  
Planning Commission  
7 pm, Lafayette Community Center

**December 3** Review of Specific Plan Districts  
(Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10)  
Planning Commission  
7 pm, Lafayette Community Center

**December 10** Review of Specific Plan Districts  
(Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10)  
Planning Commission  
7 pm, Lafayette Community Center

**January 4 (Monday)** Review of Specific Plan  
Chapters 3, 11, and 12  
Planning Commission  
7 pm, Lafayette Library and Learning Center

You can find all the materials on this subject by visiting the city website, [www.ci.lafayette.ca.us](http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us)

## IN MEMORY OF KEN MANNING

Ken and Bette Manning were perhaps Lafayette Chamber's SECRET WEAPON. Ken Manning was loved by so many people in the Bay Area. He was a newspaper man! A native of Palo Alto and graduate of Stanford, Ken worked in advertising and then became publisher for more than 10 local newspapers. When he retired and moved to Ross-moor with his second wife Bette, he joined the Lamorinda community and became very active in Kiwanis and Rotary. He partnered with the Lafayette Chamber and became our best known Ambassador. Ken and Bette would visit dozens of businesses and encourage them to join the Chamber. Bette once told Ann Denny that she was going broke. Every time they visited a business, Bette had to buy something. After Bette passed away in 2000, Ken remained very involved with our Chamber. He will be missed by all of us. He passed away on October 4. He was 84 years old. There are no funeral arrangements planned.

## Focus on the Arts

**"All That Glitters"** is the seasonal holiday show at the Lafayette Gallery, 50 Lafayette Circle. The exhibit opens November 3 and continues through December 24, 2009. A gala reception is planned for December 4 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. All are invited to celebrate the season. Gallery hours Tuesday-Saturday 11am-5pm. For more information call 284-2788.

**Lafayette resident Steve Hobbs will be exhibiting his photography** at Fastframe of Lafayette during the month of November 2009, with an opening reception on November 15 from 12-4 p.m. His recent focus has been in and around Lafayette, with special interest in exploring the Lafayette Reservoir and the many faces of Mount Diablo. FASTFRAME is located at 3571 Mt. Diablo Blvd., next to Postino's. Call Owner Anthony Ruiz at 283-7620 for more information. You may view Steve's photographs online at his gallery by sending him an e-mail at [sjameshobbs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sjameshobbs@sbcglobal.net).

**This December, ghosts will be haunting the historic Town Hall Theatre** for their ever-popular holiday offering as they bring Leslie Bricusse's musical Scrooge to life! Based on the 1970 movie starring Albert Finney, Scrooge is a musical retelling of Charles Dickens' classic tale, A Christmas Carol. Director Jessica Richards returns after directing last season's Miracle on 34th Street. Scrooge is guaranteed to bring smiles to patrons of all ages. December 3-20. Tickets: [www.TownHallTheatre.com](http://www.TownHallTheatre.com)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>November</i>	2	3 <b>Executive Committee</b> 8am Duck Club <b>Shop Lafayette</b> 12:30pm Chamber	4	5 <b>Business Expo '09</b> 4pm-7pm Crowne Plaza Hotel 45 John Glenn Drive Concord	6	7 <b>Annual Board Planning Retreat</b>
8	9 <b>Chamber Office Closed</b>	10	11 <b>Mixer</b> 5:30pm-7pm <b>The Kensington</b> 1580 Geary Road Walnut Creek	12	13 <b>Coffee with the Mayor</b> 8am Chamber	14 <b>Lafayette Library &amp; Learning Center</b> Grand Opening 9:00am-5pm 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
15	16 <b>Chamber Board Meeting</b> 12pm Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa	17	18 <b>Green Committee</b> 11:45am Chamber	19 <b>Entrepreneur's Club</b> 8:30am Chamber	20 <b>Community Thanksgiving Breakfast</b> 7-8:30am Veterans Memorial Building 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd.	21
22	23	24	25 <b>Chamber Office Closes at 12 Noon</b>	26 <b>Chamber Office Closed</b>	27	28
29	30 <i>December</i>	1 <b>Executive Committee</b> 8am Duck Club <b>Shop Lafayette</b> 12:30pm Chamber	2	3 <b>Ribbon Cutting 5pm</b> <b>Lamorinda Dental &amp; Lamorinda ENT</b> 911 Moraga Rd. Suite 102	4 <b>Rossmoor Big Band Dance</b> 7-8:30pm Rheem Theater 350 Park St., Moraga	5
6	7	8	9 <b>Holiday Mixer</b> 5:30-7pm <b>Mechanics Bank</b> 3640 Mt. Diablo Blvd.	10 <b>Ribbon Cutting 5pm</b> <b>Time After Time</b> 3608 B Happy Valley Rd.	11	12
13	14	15	16 <b>Green Committee</b> 11:45am Chamber	17 <b>Entrepreneur's Club</b> 8:30am Chamber	18	19
20	21	22	23 <b>Chamber Office Closes at 12 Noon</b>	24 <b>Chamber Office Closed</b>	25	26
27	28	29	30 <b>Chamber Office Closed</b>	31		<b>Chamber Office Reopens Monday, January 4.</b>