

May 2006

Don't Miss it! Taste of Lafayette



Ann Denny
& Dale Turner,
architect
at Taste of
Lafayette '05

The 4th Annual Restaurant Walk will take place on Tuesday, May 16th. Registration and wine tasting will be begin at 5:30 at Lafayette Plaza (corner of Moraga Rd. & Mt. Diablo Blvd.). Sponsored by Bonnie Ann Moore and **Nationwide Mortgage**, our friends from Wine Thieves will be there to get you started. At 6:30pm, you can jump on the Black Tie Bus, sponsored by **Diablo Foods**, or you can walk to more than 15 of Lafayette's finest restaurants to sample a taste of what they do best. At 8:30pm, it's back to the Plaza for coffee and dessert. Music is provided by **Generations in Jazz**. The Chamber proudly partners with the **Lafayette Community Foundation** on this event with part of the proceeds going to LCF. Opportunities will be available to bid

on great items. Download your registration form from the Chamber website, www.lafayettechamber.org. This event will sell out quickly. Don't be left out. Call the Chamber for more information, 284-7404.

Clocks etc. Celebrates their 30th Anniversary - Mixer on May 10th

On May 20, 1976, Scott Hampton opened the Old Timer in a 400 sq. foot space on the east end of town in Lafayette, specializing in antique clocks, furniture and clock repair. Over the years he expanded his space to 1300 sq. feet, changed the name to Clocks Etc, and added new clocks and accessories to the selection. His wife, Wendy Tamis, joined the business in 1986 and together they have made Clocks etc. an exciting place to shop. They moved to their current location in La Fiesta Square (971 Moraga Rd.) in 1999 and expanded their space to 2600 feet. Their store carries the largest selection of clocks in Northern California as well as items for the home and garden. They have a full-service store and will beautifully gift wrap any item and provide shipping and engraving services. They will be hosting the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce mixer on May 10th. Scott has served as a Chamber board member and the Chamber's President. Scott is credited with dreaming up our annual Art & Wine Festival. Wendy is currently a board member. Please join us for this happy anniversary celebration.



Scott Hampton of
Clocks etc.
30 years ago

Emergency Preparedness HOW ARE YOU DOING?

The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Emergency Preparedness had it's first public meeting on March 27. About 45 concerned business professionals and emergency responders came to hear Amy Gaver from the Red Cross. Amy prepared a presentation on a Guide to Business Continuity Planning. Along with her presentation, she gave each participant a CD with step-by-step instructions to:

- Address life safety issues
- Minimize interruption to your business and customers
- Transition back to normal operations
- Provide public and private agencies with information
- Formalize your plan

We thank the American Red Cross representatives Rick Palmer and Gene Blanc for helping us plan this informative meet-

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MAY MIXER

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

CLOCKS ETC.

971 Moraga Road (in La Fiesta Square)

Members free, Guests \$20 (includes two drink tickets), cash bar and hosted appetizers. This unique gift shop offers much more than clocks! We hope to see you there!

President's Message

Budd MacKenzie, Chamber President

“Cultural Lag”

The total travel time between San Francisco and Kabul, Afghanistan is thirty-three hours, twenty-two of which are spent on planes, jockeying for position on the armrest. The agent who assigns you the adjoining stranger is the most important person encountered during the entire journey. Be pleasant, at all costs.

Upon arrival in Kabul day has become night, or vice versa. Two weeks later my body had finally adjusted, when I boarded Ariana airlines for the return home. “Jet lag,” it’s called, presumably because the body has trouble catching up with the jet experience. It’s curable with ample dosages of rest and a few trips to In N Out. Overcoming the cultural lag is impossible.

Kabul is a city with over three and a half million people, built for 500,000. Hundreds of thousands survive “on the street,” competing for “spare change.” There is no “spare change” in a country where per capita income is \$200 per year and government employees, on average, earn \$30 per month.

Hussein is a bellman in the hotel where I stayed. He works six days a week from 5 am to 10 pm for \$100 per month. From noon to 4 he teaches history at the University of Kabul, earning \$70 per month. His 17-hour a day work schedule requires him to sleep at the hotel. He has time to visit his three children and wife, one day a week. He explained to me that his fellow professors describe him as “lucky.” He after all, has a job in a hotel.

In Lalander, the village we support, there are two schools, one we funded and one funded by the government. Upon arrival I learned that the government funded school lacked water. Why? Because the water pump requires \$30 of gasoline a month. Teachers, who earn \$50 a month, had been purchasing gasoline when they could. The students didn’t have a pencil, pen, notebook or ruler. Why? Because, they needed 50 cents per student to purchase these items. We solved these needs, bought and installed playground equipment, built shelving and purchased books to start a school library. Within two days of announcing our support, enrollment rose by 30 students to 120.

I was there to oversee the planting of 12,981 fruit trees, provided to 200 plus farming families. While there, two bridges were constructed, four irrigation systems were repaired, several micro credit loans were made, the \$20,000 hillside irrigation project was completed, and enrollment by girls in the schools increased by 50%, with a promise that more will follow.

Back in Lafayette, nestled among million dollar homes, where a sign announces the successful funding of a \$31 million dollar learning center, and a gallon of gasoline can buy school supplies for 6 Afghan children, I awake daily to a cultural lag that I did not, until a year ago, fully comprehend. It’s impossible to describe. I strongly recommend to anyone who can, to experience the cultural lag first hand. Go see for yourself. What you now perceive as problems cease to be. I no longer have any. Well there is one. I must get to In N Out before tonight’s Chamber meeting. I’m not totally cured of jet lag.

One final note — Hope is running rampant in the valley, as we continue to provide the villagers with the means to shed their dependence upon others. Visit www.trustededucation.org for a more complete accounting.

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.

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Budd MacKenzie
Law Offices of Budd E. MacKenzie

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Ute Medford, Mt. Diablo Bank

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LAFAYETTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

100 Lafayette Circle, Suite 103
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FAX (925) 284-3109

info@lafayettechamber.org

www.lafayettechamber.org

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Lovinda (Lori) Carson, R.N.
Owner

Chamber Briefs

Lamorinda gets a new Van The Lamorinda Senior Transportation Program has just acquired a new paratransit van. This van will help many of our older adults and persons with disabilities in Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda with their medical appointments, shopping needs and more. The new program kicks off on May 5th at 2:00pm. There will be a reception at the Senior Services office, 500 Saint Mary's Rd., Lafayette (Lafayette Community Center). For more information, please call 284-5050.



Our own KEN MANNING was recognized by the Rossmoor Rotary Club last month As Past President and Chairman of Membership, Ken has brought in his 50th new member to his Rotary Club. Ken has certainly kept busy in his retirement as an Ambassador to the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce and as an extraordinary Rotarian. Congratulations Ken!

Light The Night Walk An evening community event that celebrates and commemorates lives touched by cancer. This event, held this year on October 7, at Walnut Creek's Civic Park helps raise funds and awareness for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. To get involved, please contact Kendra Ott at 415-581-1186 or email otk@lls.org or www.lightthenight.org

Mt. Diablo Business Women — "Celebrating Our Common Humanity" Thursday May 11, 2005 • 5:45-8:30 p.m. • Lafayette Park Hotel – 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette

There will be open networking, a sit down dinner and a presentation on "Celebrating Our Common Humanity" Presented by Elodia Tate. Bring 50 business cards to promote your business. Call now to reserve your spot, before it's too late! MDBW Hotline: (925) 429-9253 More info: www.MtDiabloBusinessWomen.org

Food Safety Certification Training available The Contra Costa County Environmental Health Division is offering comprehensive training covering safe food handling practices and sanitation. Available at the Martinez, Mt. Diablo and West Contra Costa Adult education Centers for \$85. For information about the classes, please call 925-646-5225 ext. 211

Small Business Workshops Presented by the Contra Costa Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
May 8 - Six Points to Successful Sales
May 18 - Managing Human Resource Issues *Small Business Workshop cont...*

May 23 - Identify your Customers and Competition Using ReferenceUSA

Space is limited. Reserved seats recommended. For information call 925-646-5377 or email cjensen@contracostasbdc.com

Martini Contest helps raise funds and awareness for Adult Literacy

The annual "Best Martini in the East Bay" contest is back at the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa on Monday, June 19, from 6:00pm -8:00pm. This must attend event raises money for Project Second Chance, Contra Costa County Library's adult literacy program. For more information, please contact Susan Lynn 925-927-3250 slynn@ccclib.org. Tickets will be available at the door.

Support the Bay Area Crisis Nursery It's Human Race Time Again!

This year's Human Race is Sunday, May 7, at Heather Farm Park in Walnut Creek. Please visit their website www.bacn.jkmas.com

American Cancer Society's 2006 Relay For Life of Lafayette

Please join in the fight against cancer by becoming a participant or volunteer in the Relay For Life. This year's event begins on Saturday, July 8th and the fun progresses non-stop for 24 hours, concluding on Sunday, July 9th at 9am. All this happens on the Acalanes High School Track. For information, please contact Kristen Hunter at your local American Cancer Society office at 934-7640, ext 303 or email to kristen.hunter@cancer.org.

The Contra Costa Chinese Cultural Festival

is Sunday, May 7th at Acalanes High School from 10am-4pm. The event features Arts & Crafts, Martial Arts, Fashion Display, Kid's Activities, Cultural Performances, Music, Chinese Calligraphy, Food and much more. Free Admission. Contact Ellen Osmundson at 925-939-7460 or email at infor@dvcca.org for more information.

Happy Valley Elementary Wins!

Congratulations to the students at Happy Valley Elementary who had two teams win the California State Odyssey of the Mind competition. Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students. Kids apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program. Now these teams are on their way to the World Tournament held this year in Iowa May 24-27. They are looking for some community support. If you would like to find out more, please contact Claire Phillips at Claire_phillips@sbcglobal.net

DVB
Diablo Valley Bank

Robert Ewen
Senior Vice President & Area Manager

402 Railroad Avenue, Suite 101, Danville, CA 94526
925-314-2837 phone, 925-314-2875 fax
rewen@diablovalleybank.com

CAESAR C. PERALTA
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

3675 MT. DIABLO BLVD., SUITE 265 925-284-2020
LAFAYETTE, CA 94542 FAX: 925-284-7370

The Spirituality & Business Discussion Group

Has the rain gotten you down? Want to infuse some sunshine into your business life? Please join our ongoing Spirituality & Business Discussion Group, May 24th, from 5:15PM-6:15PM at the Lafayette City offices, 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 265. Our lively and provocatively unpredictable discussions will brighten up your day! Free to Lafayette Chamber members; \$10 for non-member guests. Previous attendance NOT required. Please contact (925) 284-7404 to register. Facilitated by Rhonda Chaikin, HMR Associates (Help Me Rhonda!) See you there!

April Ribbon Cutting



May Ribbon Cutting Tuesday, May 23rd at 4:30pm

Lafayette Travel Center

3678-A Mt. Diablo Blvd. —
Come celebrate their new location!

Members who Renewed in March

More than Forty-five Years
Lafayette United Methodist Church

More than Thirty-five Years
Johnson Clark & Associates

More than Twenty-five Years
Century 21st Heritage Real Estate

More than Twenty Years
Assistance League of Diablo Valley
Bell-Carter Foods, Inc.
El Charro Mexican Dining
Lafayette Community Center
Squirrel's Coffee Shop
The Grapevine

More than Fifteen Years
Hair by Dallas & Company
The Cotton Patch

More than Ten Years
Allied Waste Services
Byron Park
Classic Values, Inc.

Diablo Rapid Print, Inc.
Lafayette Tree & Landscape, Inc.
Law Offices of Belzer, Hulchiy & Murray
Soroptimist International of Lamorinda
St. Perpetua School
*Stillpoint Center for Health,
Well-Being & Renewal*
Sturtevant Enterprises

More than Five Years
BMW Concord
Beauty Supplies Plus
Bryn Rowe Landscape Design
C & H Development Co.
Carey Tax Services, Inc.
Celias Mexican Restaurant
Chapman University
D.N.M. Insurance Services
Generations in Jazz
Good Stuff Coupons
Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa
Keenan Heinz/Really Cool Stuff
La Finestra Ristorante
Lafayette Moraga Youth Association
Mary Schrey, M.A., MFT
Nationwide Mortgage, Inc.
Osterman Orthodontics
Parodi & de Laveaga, CPA's
Pinnacle Promotions

Plaza Automotive
Reliv International - Independent Distributor
Rossi's Tennis & Running
Twigs Floral & Art
Wine Thieves

More than One Year
Britt Brown Design
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
Chrissy Brewer, M.S., LMFT
Claire Ames-Klein, Ph.D
Clocktower Associates
Dave Briccetti Software Consulting
Floral Arts Florist
Helms Briscoe
Help-U-Sell Lamorinda Homes
Karla Stevens, Realtor, CRP, CRS, ASP, e-Pro
Lafayette Academy
Lamorinda Auto Detailing
Lee Deily - Empire Realty Associates
Michael Lane Preschool
RE/MAX Accord - Lafayette
Reynold Financial Management
Risk Concepts Insurance Brokers, Inc.
Ryan Miyasaki, DDS
Take Shape for Life
The Treasure Trove
Ware Designs
Washington Mutual Bank

THANK YOU to our Earth Day Event Sponsors!

Dan Ridings - Stonehenge Builders • Steve & Ron Palsa - Minuetman Press
Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority • PG&E • Richard Abbott - Signworks (our event chair)

May Tech Tuesday

Introduction to Microsoft Publisher

Microsoft Publisher is an easy to use program for creating marketing materials for business and home. This class will show you how to create Flyers, Newsletters, Brochures, and more.

Tuesday, May 23, 9-10:30am

Nerd4Rent, 3503 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Ste 4, Lafayette

Cost: \$25 • Pre-registration recommended, as class size is limited.

To register or for more information, please call 925.283.5666, or go to www.Nerd4Rent.com

April Mixer

**WE FOUND OUT WHAT'S BLACK & WHITE AND
"READ" ALL OVER AT THE CONTRA COSTA TIMES!**

We packed the lobby at the Contra Costa Times for our April Mixer! Our thanks to the staff at the Contra Costa Times, Susan Foord Catering and the following Lafayette Chamber members who contributed some great raffle prizes: Contra Costa Times, Dudum Financial & Insurance Services, Gold Coin Car Washes, Lafayette Car Wash, Nationwide Mortgage, The Nut Factory, Paychex and Payroll Masters. Our next mixer is on Wednesday, May 10th at Clocks, Etc located in La Fiesta Square. We hope to see you there!



**Staff from The Contra Costa Times,
our hosts for the April mixer**

Emergency Preparedness continued from cover

ing. Also represented were Fire Marshall Richard Carpenter from Contra Costa County Fire Protection District and Ruth Burk, RN from Contra Costa Health Services who demonstrated the ease and importance of providing the community with AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators). Copies of the Red Cross CDs are available at the Chamber office. Save the date, Monday, June 26 when our next public meeting is scheduled. The Red Cross has launched a new program, PREPARE BAY AREA. Visit www.bayarea-redcross.org

ATTENTION CHAMBER MEMBERS

A couple of quick reminders:

**The Bike Race is coming back
to Lafayette on Sunday, July 9th.**

*There will be road closures and
detours throughout the day.*

**The City of Lafayette will be
paving Mt. Diablo Blvd.**

*from Brown Ave. east to Pleasant Hill Rd.
Work should be completed by July.*

**Visit the city website
www.ci.lafayette.ca.us**

*Click on the City Council Agendas.
There is going to be a lot of discussion
on ways to fund police services, roads
and drains. Get involved in the
discussion! Come to a meeting!*

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NEW MEMBER *Welcome*

GIFTS/WOMEN'S RETAIL

Yeti's Designs

180 Golf Club Road #161
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 395-1588 (Phone)
(925) 288-9990 (Fax)
dechen@yetisimports.com
www.yetisdesigns.com
Dechen Lama-Luna, Owner

Yeti's Designs was launched in 2005 to bring the arts and crafts of Nepal to the United States. Their online store features luxurious handmade "Summer" Pashmina (cashmere) shawls, beautiful sterling silver jewelry with semi-precious gemstones and "one-of-a-kind" handbags. They also exhibit their collection at various craft shows each month and offer personalized shopping by appointment. Upcoming events are listed on their website. Host a home party and earn your own beautiful shawls and accessories. Contact them for details at (925) 395-1588.

COMPUTER CONSULTING SERVICES/SALES

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3352 Walnut Lane
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(925) 283-4886 (Fax)
LCN@silcon.com
Alan Fernandes, Owner

NON-PROFIT

GoldenGate

Better Business Bureau

510 Sixteenth Street, Suite 550
Oakland, CA 94612
(415) 519-5453 (Phone)
(510) 238-1018 (Fax)

lisa@bbbmail.org
www.goldengatebbb.org
*Jumana Dajani,
Executive Field Representative*

The Better Business Bureau is committed to the belief that most marketplace problems can be corrected through voluntary self regulation. The BBB can help both businesses and consumers with a wide array of services including: Advertising Review, Business Reliability Reports, Charity Evaluation Reports, Dispute Resolution Services, Consumer Information and Media Alerts. We are here to help and our toll-free number is 866-411-2221.

REAL ESTATE

R-Mac Properties

102 Patterson Boulevard
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 934-1319 (Phone)
(925) 932-3204 (Fax)
Diane Nobel, Ad Director

RESTAURANTS

Jamba Juice

3518-C Mt. Diablo Boulevard
Lafayette, CA 94549
(925) 283-4215 (Phone)
(925) 283-9241 (Fax)
www.jambajuice.com
Bettie Draper, Manager

TRAVEL AGENCY

Pulaski Tickets & Tours

2190 Meridian Park Blvd, Suite A
Concord, CA 94526
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(925) 676-2504 (Fax)
klee_thomas@yahoo.com
Thomas Klee, OPC Director

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An Alliance of Independent Business Professionals

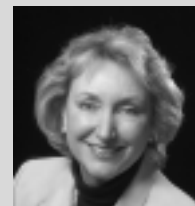
Meet some of our EClub members:



Christine Carey, Silicon Connections
Computer, Internet and Voice Services
Christina@SilCon.com • 925.631.2751



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lpfeifer@helmsbriscoe.com
925.247.0415



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925.451.8308



www.centralselfstorage.com

Karen Dunlap
Manager

3330 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA 94549
Phone: 925-962-1940
Fax: 925-962-1471

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

Office Hours:
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Saturday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



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Focus on the Arts

Big Band Ballroom Dance at the new Veteran's Memorial Building Get out your dancing shoes and get ready for some sensational big band music. The Rossmoor Big Band will play a fantastic selection of dance music. Pictured below.

Friday, May 26

7:30 - 8:30pm - Dance Lesson

8:30 - 10:30pm - Dancing

\$5.00 per person

(FREE to Veterans and band students)

Town Hall Theater Box Office:

283-1557



Sponsored by Kaiser Permanente, Generations in Jazz, the City of Lafayette and the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. To help at the event or make a donation, please call the the Chamber at 284-7404.

Gold Coast Chamber Players Sunday Serenades

A rousing season finale with the Gold Coast Chamber Players! Join these world class musicians in the beautiful Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building on June 4 at 3pm for a glorious afternoon of music making. Grab a glass of champagne (free to all guests) and bring in summer time with delightful music on a sunny afternoon!

Call now for tickets (925) 283-1557

\$30 general, \$25 senior, \$10 student

www.gcplayers.org

Information: (925) 283-372



Pamela Freund-Striplen
violinist & Artistic Director
of GCCP



Victor Romasevich
1st violinist,
San Francisco Symphony

Virtuoso- 7th Annual Wine and Food Classic

Sunday, May 21, 2006, 1:00 p.m. Join the California Symphony for their annual benefit auction, complete with fine tastings from premier wineries and restaurants. Held at the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa, Virtuoso features both a silent auction and a live auction conducted by renowned auctioneer Dave Reynolds, to benefit the California Symphony and its Music-in-the-Schools Program. Call (925) 280-2490 for tickets.

Business Spotlight



P & L Framing

Lila Lomax, Owner

15 Fiesta Lane, Lafayette

925/283-4668 (Phone)

925/283-1027 (Fax)

Hours:

9:30am-5pm Monday-Friday

10am-5pm Saturday

P & L Framing opened in 1980 and today is the oldest frame shop in Lafayette. They have been in their current location on Fiesta Lane for four years and previously were in La Fiesta Square for 20 years. The business actually got started in owner Lila Lomax's garage because she had a watercolorist friend who needed some art show entries framed and matted. Lila says after helping her friend prepare for the art show that "we decided it would be a fun business to get into." She says, "We started out trying to do framing for local art groups and with word of mouth, the business just grew and grew. After six months in a real store, it became a real business."

Lila is a longtime Lafayette resident, since 1962, and has seen the city grow and change in many ways over the years. She says their frame store is unique in that it is the only one in the area that has a computerized mat cutter. P & L Framing offers framed needleworks, shadowboxing (deep frame) and stretching oils for wooden frames. They've worked on a variety of jobs that include framing christening dresses, military medals and confederate money from the 1700's. They offer a huge variety of frames with an estimated 1500 samples hanging on their walls.

The staff at P & L Framing takes pride in customer service and they guarantee satisfaction in every job that they do. "For the most part, all of our customers are happy," says Lila. They've had some customers for 26 years since the business began.

One long-time job is framing all the Boy Scout badges for Troup 212 every year. It's a small staff of four at the frame shop...Lila works with her husband, Clark, daughter Sharon Evans and family friend Darcy McIntosh. The busiest time of the year is just before Thanksgiving and through the holidays. Lila says the slowest time of year is around tax time in the spring.

Most of the business for P & L Framing comes from referrals and word-of-mouth. "We see some customers every couple of years", Lila says and, "we have one customer from New York who comes out every summer and brings us something to frame." They have very loyal customers with some living in Sacramento and Los Angeles. Lila says many customers are now buying artwork on the internet and on cruises. Antique posters are very popular now and one customer they work with consistently has many Bill Graham vintage posters.



Enlightened Images
Photography

Gary N. Crabbe

www.enlightphoto.com

ph.: (925) 288-1461

fax: (925) 288-1462

email: gary@enlightphoto.com

Location Assignments for

Commercial or Editorial use,

Stock and Fine Art Prints.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May	1 Ambassador Meeting 4:30 p.m Chamber	2	3 Executive Board 4 p.m. Chamber	4	5	6
	7	8 Chamber Board 12 noon LPH&S	9	10 Leads Group I 12 noon, Chamber Mixer Clocks Etc. 5:30 p.m. 971 Moraga Rd. (La Fiesta Square)	11	12
14	15	16 Taste of Lafayette 5:30 p.m. at the Plaza	17 Leads Group II 9 a.m., Chamber	18 <small>Business Meeting</small> Entrepreneurs Club 8:30 a.m., Chamber	19	20
21	23 Tech Tuesday • 9 a.m. 3503 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Suite 4 • \$25 Fee Ribbon Cutting • 4:30 p.m. Lafayette Travel Center 3678-A Mt. Diablo Blvd.		24 Spirituality & Business 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. City Offices, Rm. 265	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day Holiday <i>Chamber Closed</i>	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

June