



GREEN NEWS - Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa Receives Lafayette's First Green Award for Business

Over the last few years the City of Lafayette has been working to develop and

adopt "best practices" to ensure a better environment for its residents and visitors. The Environmental Task Force, with the help of our local organization Sustainable Lafayette, created the first GREEN AWARDS. At the April 14th City Council Meeting, Mayor Mike Anderson gave the awards out to a number of residents for their work and then called on Tony Eichers, Vice President and General Manager of the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa. The hotel became the 1st business to receive the award. The following is a brief summary of the changes they have made to "green" their property.

-Water Conservation includes replacing showerheads with low-flow technology, incorporating a linen re-use. These have reduced their usage of water, energy for water heating, and decreased the quantity of waste water.

-Energy Conservation includes use compact fluorescent bulbs and a program to turn off lights and appliances in the guest rooms and meeting room facilities when not in use to further conserve energy.

-Indoor Environmental Quality includes the installation of air filters with High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filtration, use of vacuums designed to reduce micro-organisms, dust and airborne pollutants, use of cleaning agents that are environmentally-friendly and operable windows in guestrooms.

-Waste Reduction includes recycling of dry and wet garbage and food, separating and recycling trash at the housekeeping carts, offices have specifically marked recycling bins, and encouraging the use of recyclable disposable products.

-Hazardous Material Recycling include following a strict recycling program for the disposal of hazardous materials such as light bulbs, batteries and electronic parts.

-Environmentally Responsible Fixtures and Appliances include a program to replace old, wasteful fixtures and appliances with new efficient fixtures and appliances.

-Non-Smoking Rooms - In 2000, the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa and Woodside Hotels were pioneers in the United States in establishing a 100% no-smoking policy for all our guestrooms and public spaces.

-Transportation includes encouraging public transportation with our complimentary shuttle service to and from BART for our guests.

The GREEN COMMITTEE at the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce has been working together since January. The group has split into two sub-groups. The first group is working on assembling information and material that we can share with local businesses. They are also going out to do a survey to find out where local businesses are in the process. The second group is working on a recognition program that should also help businesses get started. The first phase is for businesses to pledge to make their operation more environmentally friendly. The second step will include some benchmarks that local businesses have achieved. The third step will involve the business to complete the Green Certified Business Program administered through the Contra Costa County hazardous Waste Department.

The GREEN Committee looks forward to working with the Lafayette Community. You are all invited to attend our meetings. We meet the third Wednesday of every month at noon in the Chamber Conference Room at 100 Lafayette Circle, suite 103.

And CONGRATULATIONS to the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa.

Upcoming Events

Thurs., May 15

Entrepreneur's Club
8:30am, Chamber Office

Thurs., May 15

**Ribbon Cutting -
Massage Cottage**
4:30pm, 71 Lafayette Circle

Sat., May 17

May Fest
**A Day of Community Awareness
and Friendship.** 284-5050
10am-4pm
Lafayette Elementary School

Sat., May 17

Concert at the Res
1pm, Lafayette Reservoir

Tues., May 20

A Taste of Lafayette
5:30pm Downtown Lafayette

Wed., May 21

The GREEN Committee
12pm Chamber Office

Thurs., May 22

Ribbon Cutting - U S Nails
4:30pm - 3486 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Fr., May 23

Rossmoor Big Band Dance
7pm, Lafayette Veteran's
Memorial Building

Thurs., May 29

**Business Issues /
Govt. Affairs Meeting**
8:00am, Chamber Office

May Mixer

Wednesday, May 14
5:30pm

**Lafayette
Community Center**

500 St. Mary's Road

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Celebrating 60 years!

Our organization filed its Articles of Incorporation back on January 17, 1948. On that same day, a truce between nationalist Indonesia and Dutch Troops in Java was signed. Less than four weeks later, James Taylor and Billy Crystal were born. What does that have to do with the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce? Absolutely nothing! However, we thought inquiring minds would like to know. We celebrate our 60th year by growing to over 640 members which now ranks us as the 13th largest Chamber of Commerce in the East Bay (Alameda, Contra Costa & Solano Counties) and 17th in the entire Bay Area according to Business Times. We have limited records to identify who was a member of the chamber way back in 1948. But we are honored to have a relationship with the following businesses for over 50 years: Orchard Nursery, Mt. Diablo Nursery, Big O Tires, Lafayette United Methodist Church, Hillside Inn & Blodgett's Floor Covering.

The City of Lafayette is 40 years old! And so is Diablo Foods! Last month a celebration broke out at Ed's store to pay homage to our Honorary Mayor. Way to go Ed and Congratulations to Lafayette!

EBMUD Pipeline Project will impact Lafayette traffic

The East Bay Municipal Utility District is installing more than three miles of large-diameter water pipe from the Lafayette Water Treatment Plant on Mt. Diablo Blvd. to Draeger Drive in Moraga. Pipeline construction is schedule for the spring of 2008 and will continue to the fall of 2009. Work will begin on Moraga Road between Sky-Hy Drive and Draeger Drive, where two-way traffic will be maintained except for a few sections. Work hours will be weekdays between 8:45 am and 4:30 pm, with some exceptions. The narrow portion of Moraga Road from Nemea Lane in Lafayette to just north of Sky-Hy Drive in Moraga will require closure of Moraga Road between Old Jonas Hill Road and Sky-Hy Drive from June 16 to August 22, 9 am to 5:30 pm weekdays. Off-road construction through the Lafayette Reservoir Recreation Area is expected to occur after September 2008, and work hours will be 8 am to 6 pm weekdays.

Delays and detours are expected. When vehicles must be guided around lane closures there will be delays, and traffic may also increase on other roads, such as St. Mary's Road, as some drivers choose to avoid the construction area. There may be brief interruptions of water service, but no major outages. Construction with the Lafayette Reservoir Recreation Area will require temporary detours or closure of portions of some trails. The main access road will be closed from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm daily for eight weeks.

The most noticeable impacts will be felt during the June 16 - August 22 road closure because Moraga Road is an important arterial used by thousands of people every day, and in part because several city projects will be under construction at the same time.

The City of Lafayette is planning to repave Mt. Diablo Blvd. from Dolores Drive to First Street this summer. At the time this article was being written Matt Luttrupp of the City's Engineering Department said there are no definite dates yet for the Mt. Diablo Blvd. repaving project, but it will begin after June 16 and be completed by the end of August. The City will have weekly updates on the project posted to the City's website: www.ci.lafayette.ca.us. For further questions regarding the Mt. Diablo Blvd. project Matt can be reached at 299-3247.

EBMUD will have weekly updates on the pipeline projects at their website: www.ebmud.com.

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.

2008 Officers EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Larry Duson, Bank of the West

1st Vice President:

Tony Eichers,
Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa

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Blodgett's Floor Covering
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LAFAYETTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

100 Lafayette Circle, Suite 103
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Nationwide Mortgage, Inc.
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More than Five Years

Bryn Rowe Landscape Design
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Employerware, LLC
Gold Coast Chamber Players
International Education Center at DVC
Keenan Heinz Company / Really Cool Stuff
Meritage Jewelry Concepts
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RE/MAX Accord
Sleep Train Pavilion
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More than One Year

Aspen MedSpa
"B" Food International
Bay Area Comprehensive
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Law Offices of Magany Abbass
LLP Meetings & Conferences, LLC
Matthew Kennedy & Co.
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R-Mac Properties – Lee Deily
Simple Reverse Mortgage Solutions
Skin Solutions
State Farm Insurance – Patrick Ketcham
Tax Buddha
The Learning Cafe

Clocks, Etc. picked as the 2008 Lafayette Small Business of the Year

On Friday, May 9, Wendy Tamis and Scott Hampton, owners of Clocks, Etc. will be honored at the annual Contra Costa Council luncheon that celebrates our county's small businesses and entrepreneurs. Clocks, Etc. was picked by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors not only for the success of this small business, but for all the contributions Scott and Wendy have made to our community, our thriving downtown, local charities and the wonderful work they have spearheaded for raising awareness and money for Ovarian Cancer. Scott is the chamber member who dreamed up our Art & Wine Festival. He is currently the chairman of our Ambassador Committee and Wendy currently serves on our Board of Directors. If you would like to attend the luncheon held at the Concord Hilton, please call the chamber for details, 284-7404. Deadline to register is May 2.

Clocks, Etc. celebrates anniversary thirty-two years ago this month, a little shop opened on Mt. Diablo Blvd. under the name "The Olde Timer Watch & Clock Shoppe". Since that time, the little shop has grown and even expanded to a store in Walnut Creek and the name changed to "Clocks, Etc." The new name reflected the diversity of product (garden, home décor, etc.) and the need for one large store. "Clocks, Etc." now with a space of almost 3000 sq. ft. is proud to be in the downtown core of Lafayette in La Fiesta Square shopping center.

Scott Hampton & Wendy Tamis, co-owners of the shop thank Lafayette for 32 wonderful years!



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The chamber's E Club continues to grow. Last month we had Rhonda Chaikin present "Tips for how to GREEN your business." We also began a new program where our E Club members are doing a little "show & tell" about their businesses during our coffee-networking time. Join us for our next meeting on Thursday, May 15, 8:30am at the Chamber office.

HOW TO SCREEN AND HIRE FOR A LEGAL WORKFORCE

In cooperation with the Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda and Pleasant Hill Chambers of Commerce, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will hold a workshop for employers interested in learning more about what they can do to maintain a legal workforce and avoid violating federal hiring laws on Tuesday, May 13, 5pm - 7pm at the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa. For more information call 284-7404 or see the enclosed flier.

The presentation will include information on correctly completing the Employment Eligibility Verification Form (Form I-9) and employers' responsibilities to ensure they hire authorized workers, as well as hands on introduction to fraudulent document detection. ICE will also brief employers on the agency's IMAGE initiative, which stands for ICE Mutual Agreement between Government and Employers. As part of IMAGE, ICE is partnering with companies to strengthen hiring practices and reduce the unlawful employment of undocumented foreign nationals. Businesses participating in IMAGE must adhere to a series of best practices including the use of the E-Verify Employment Verification Program, administered by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the Social Security Number Verification System, administered by the Social Security Administration.

Lafayette Chamber programs now includes appointments with SCORE representatives

The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the addition of face-to-face appointments with Keith Blakeney, SCORE representative.

SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" is a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and the formation, growth and success of small business nationwide. SCORE is a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

SCORE's 10,500 volunteer counselors have more than 600 business skills. Volunteers are working or retired business owners, executives and corporate leaders who share their wisdom and lessons learned in business. The local appointments will be held each week at the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce office every Tuesday from 1:00pm - 3:00pm. If you would like to meet with Keith, simply call the chamber office, ask for Linda and have her schedule a one hour appointment. There is no charge for these sessions. For more information about SCORE and review the other programs they provide, visit www.score.org.

Citizen of the Year DINNER



(L TO R) Sam Richards - **Lamorinda Sun**, Citizen of the Year - Jeanne Ateljevich, Supervisor Gayle Uilkema and Mayor Mike Anderson.

Skin Wisdom RIBBON CUTTING



Timberly Scott, owner of Skin Wisdom celebrated the grand opening of her business with a ribbon cutting with Lafayette Chamber of Commerce ambassadors and friends. Please contact Timberly at 323-1091 or email her at TimberlyK@gmail.com

Powell's Sweet Shoppe RIBBON CUTTING



Zeina Hissen, owner of Powell's Sweet Shoppe celebrates with a ribbon cutting with customers, friends from the Lafayette Chamber and David Schrag, Principal of Stanley Middle School.



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Steve O'Connor
Manager

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Capital Projects Assessment Committee On Tuesday, April 15, the committee met to review the staff report that was prepared by City Engineer Tony Coe. The group (minus Yup Van Overveen) voted 4-0 to approve the proposed Capital Improvement Program that calls for total expenditures of \$4,472,000 for 2009. \$1,833,000 would be used to fix nine failed roads, \$1,024,000 for drainage and other improvements on six streets and \$1,145 for (PMP) Pavement Management Programs. The money needed for these projects seems to be available. For the work programs in upcoming years, the money sources are not so secure. There is concern that the \$2,500,000 from Palos Colorados and the RDA Debt Repayment may not come in as planned. At this time, the committee made it clear is still favors pavement maintenance (keep the good roads in good condition, rather than then suspending that policy and using the funds to fix only failed streets).

There has also been discussion by City Council to consider going to the voters again in November with another tax proposal to increase the funds available to accelerate the repair of roads and possibly fund public safety police.

The Committee will make its recommendations to the City Council before the Budget Workshop on May 27.

Business Briefs

Summer Jobs for Students? Does your business have any summer jobs available for high school students? The jobs can be full-time, part-time, paid, volunteer or internships. Please contact the Lafayette Chamber at 284-7404 or email us at info@lafayettecham.org with the details and we will put you on our summer job board.

Lafayette Car Wash and Detail Center at 3319 Mt. Diablo Blvd. now provides on-site, while you wait windshield repair and paintless dent removal. Those nasty chips and bullseyes in your windshield can now be quickly repaired before they turn into large cracks, which would require expensive replacement. Small dents that have not broken the paint can now be made to disappear in minutes. Body and paint repair is also offered by appointment with costs of about half of traditional body shops. Stop in to see Blake Wellen for an estimate.

The Hospice Foundation of the East Bay's May Events. On Saturday, May 17 they will hold second annual A Walk to Remember at the Martinez Marina Amphitheater from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. for family and friends to gather together to celebrate the lives of their loved ones and raise funds to benefit Hospice of the East Bay. For more information, you can contact Peggy Hernandez at (925) 887-5678 or by email peggyh@hospiceeastbay.org. The 13th Annual Kyle Furrer Memorial Golf Tournament and Dinner will be held on Friday, May 30, at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, in Concord. In a six-person scramble format, this year's tournament's shotgun start will be at 1 p.m., preceded by check-in and a putting contest from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Including lunch and dinner, as well as green and cart fees, individual entries are \$160, with a six-person team rate of \$900. Those wishing to forego golf may enjoy a barbecue dinner for \$45 per person. All proceeds from the tournament benefit Comfort for Kids, the pediatric program of Hospice of the East Bay. Kyle Furrer, for whom the Tournament is named, was the third child to receive care in the Comfort for Kids program. For more information visit their website at www.hospicecc.org/FoundationDonations/FundraisingEvents.aspx.

Mt. Diablo Business Women Networking Dinner on May 8, 5:45 - 8:30 PM at the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd. \$37 member, \$44 guest, \$49 after 5/2. The speaker is Mary Frances Shaffer, an Entrepreneur and Resident of Orinda, on "From an Unconventional to Conventional Approach". Her company was touted one of the fastest growing companies in the INC. 500 in 2005 & 2006. For more info: 925-429-9253 or www.mtdiablobusinesswomen.org.

California Shakespeare Theater is looking for volunteers. Volunteering with California Shakespeare Theater can be a great opportunity to experience new things, spend time with

family and friends, earn high school credit, fulfill community service requirements, see great theater for free, and, most importantly, achieve the feeling that you are paying it forward in the spirit of volunteerism. To sign up to volunteer, or to learn more about available Volunteering Opportunities, please contact Elizabeth Schley, Volunteer Coordinator, today at 510.548.3422 ext 101 or via email at eschrey@calshakes.org.

The University of Learning offers to keep your child's brain active this summer with classes at their 1280 Boulevard Way, Suite 200, Walnut Creek location. Don't let their academic skills take a vacation. Have them feeling smart, confident, and ready for school next fall! Trust our experienced, credentialed teachers to review last year's curriculum, or create an advantage by previewing the material of next year's grade level. We make learning FUN! Students learn through games, creative activities, and peer interaction. 4:1 student/teacher ratios make our classes personal and successful. Register early for the best deal. Call to speak with an educational specialist to design your program today! 925-944-5443 or visit our website at www.LearnAtTheU.com.

Dechen Designs' "Mother's Day Show & A Taste of Spring Wines" on Friday, May 9th (5-8 pm) at Pleasant Hill Wine Merchants located at 2685 Pleasant Hill Road, #D, Pleasant Hill. See our new Sumer 2008 Collection of luxurious Himalayan Cashmere Shawls, Hand-painted Silk Scarves, Silver Jewelry and Wood Purses. Enjoy delicious wines to pair with food. Wine Tasting is optional and non alcoholic refreshments will be available. Regular Wine Tasting Fee \$10 - (\$5 Discount to all Lafayette Chamber and Entrepreneur Club members). To learn more or to view our upcoming events visit www.DechenDesigns.com or call Dechen@925.395.1588. Dechen Designs supports "Fair Trade" in Nepal.

JFK University's May Continuing Education classes include "Advanced Topics in Fundraising" on May 3, "Inspirational Leadership: Encouraging Others to Do Great Things" on May 9 and "Managing Innovation: Optimizing the Power of New Ideas" on May 29-30. For furthering information go to their website: www.jfku.edu/ce/leadership/.

Barnes Capital invites you to our "Seminar Series"

Location: 100 Lafayette Circle, Chamber Office

Seminar 1: Monday, May 12th, 5:00-6:30 pm:

"Is your Financial Institution the next Bear Stearns?"

"Are your Interests and the interests of your Advisor aligned?"

Seminar 2: Monday, May 19th, 5:00 - 6:30 pm:

Who is Watching your Money right Now? Is your Nest-Egg at Risk?

To reserve your date, call Elena at (925) 284-3503 or email us at elena@barnescapital.com.

New Cell Phone Law Takes Effect July 1, 2008

As of July 1, a new California law takes effect that requires drivers to use a hands-free device while using their cell phone. A hands-free device can be a headset or it can be a microphone/speaker system that's on your cell phone or installed in your car.

People Under 18 Cannot Talk or Text While Driving

The new law also applies to people under 18. They will not be allowed to use a cell phone or text messaging while driving.

For most of us complying with the new law will be very simple-we just have to buy and setup a wired or wireless headset for our cell phone. An important note: you must not cover both ears with your headset while driving-that is against the law and you can be ticketed for it. This article will discuss wired and wireless headset options and recommendations.

Wired Headsets

Wired headsets offer the lowest prices, the best sound quality, and the most reliability. They fall short on the "coolness factor" however. Many cell phones come with a headset jack that you can plug a wired headset into. There's no configuration with a wired headset-just plug it in and talk. Wired headset prices start at around \$15, and there are several styles to choose from, such as over-the-head or behind-the-ear.

Wireless (Bluetooth) Headsets

Wireless headsets use a short-range wireless technology called Bluetooth (who comes up with these technical names anyway?) Bluetooth devices typically cover distances from 3-30 feet, so they're perfect for use with cell phones. In order to use a Bluetooth headset, you need three things:

1. A Bluetooth-compatible cell phone
 2. A Bluetooth headset that's compatible with your phone
 3. Configure the cell phone and the headset to work together
- To find out if your cell phone is Bluetooth-compatible, check with your cell phone provider. I've listed several popular cell phone providers' websites below.

Bluetooth Headset Suggestions:

| Notes | Model | Est Price |
|------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Top Rated | Aliph Jawbone | \$99 |
| Top Value | Plantronics Voyager 520 | \$55 |
| Top Budget | Jabra BT125 | \$38 |

Where to Buy

Wired and Bluetooth headsets can be purchased from your cell phone provider, local office supply store, electronics stores, and online at places like www.headsets.com, www.amazon.com, or www.plantronics.com.

Cell Phone Providers:

| | | |
|------------------------|--|----------------|
| AT&T (also for iPhone) | www.wireless.att.com | 1-888-333-6651 |
| Sprint/Nextel | www.sprint.com | 1-800-SPRINT1 |
| T-Mobile | www.t-mobile.com | 1-877-387-4324 |
| Verizon | www.verizonwireless.com | 1-800-922-0204 |

Special Offer for Lafayette Chamber Members and Lamorinda Residents only... Free Bluetooth Headset Installation

co-sponsored by Nerd4Rent, the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Contra Costa Stationers and the Lamorinda Weekly.

Because we understand that setting up Bluetooth may be challenging for some people and because we want to promote driving safety, Nerd4Rent is making this very special offer to Lafayette Chamber members and Lamorinda Residents: Nerd4Rent will setup your Bluetooth headset for you at no charge. One headset per company or client.

Thursday, May 22, 5-7 pm, Lafayette Chamber of Commerce
100 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette

Tuesday, June 3, 12-2 pm, Lafayette Chamber of Commerce
100 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette

Thursday, June 12, 12-2 pm, Contra Costa Stationers
3463-D Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette

Tuesday, June 17, 5-7 pm,
Nerd4Rent, 3503 Mt. Diablo Blvd Ste 4, Lafayette

Thursday, June 26, 5-7 pm
Nerd4Rent, 3503 Mt. Diablo Blvd Ste 4, Lafayette

Important To Do Prior to Bluetooth Headset Installation:

1. Make sure to fully charge your cell phone and Bluetooth headset

Important To Bring to Bluetooth Headset Installation:

2. Your Cell Phone and Bluetooth headset
3. Your cell phone and Bluetooth headset user manuals

If you don't want to shop for a Bluetooth headset, we can pre-order one for you. Just call Nerd4Rent at 925-283-5666, and tell us the model number of your cell phone and which headset model from the list above you want to order. We'll take payment by credit card and your headset will be waiting for you. Please order your headset at least one week before installation.

If you'd like more details on the new law, the Department of Motor Vehicles website link is: www.dmv.ca.gov/cellularphonelaws/index.htm

(c) Edward Zeidan 2008. Edward Zeidan is president of Nerd4Rent, Inc., a Lafayette-based technical support company that serves small businesses and individuals with all their technical needs. Nerd4Rent offers on-site support, remote support and maintenance plans. Nerd4Rent can be reached at (925) 283-5666 or at www.Nerd4Rent.com.

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Contact: Cheryl Kasovsky

Cheryl Kasovsky has worked in Lafayette styling hair for 23 years for special events or everyday. She can provide you with all your hair care needs. Specialties include eye lash and hair extensions, thermal straightening, up dos & eyebrow waxing, using only the finest products to ensure the very best results. Snipptiy Chix is the place to go to relax, enjoy yourself and get the style you are looking for.

U S Nails

3486 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, Ca 94549
962-0955 (phone) 676-0770 (fax)
Kim99lv@yahoo.com
Contact: Lien Vuong

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Trust in Education

985 Moraga Road, #214
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www.trustineducation.org
Contact: Budd McKenzie

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Contact: Denise Malvini

Shred-it is a world leading On-Site Document Destruction Company founded in 1988. We provide locked security consoles in your

office to store materials for shredding. A Shred-it Truck comes to your business and destroys your confidential materials On-Site. Shred-it is a Green company and saves over 9 million trees a year.

CONSULTANTS

Human Resource Advisors

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Lafayette, Ca 94549
283-7305 (phone) 283-7306 (fax)
info@humanresourceadvisors.com
www.humanresourceadvisors.com
Contact: Barbara Freet

CONTRACTOR/CONSTRUCTION

Gayler Construction

319 Diablo Road Suite #202
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820-0185 (phone) 820-0223 (fax)
darlene@gaylerconstruction.com
www.gaylerconstruction.com
Contact: Darlene Gayler

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www.patelco.org
Contact: Nora Elatrache

FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Lafayette, Ca 94549
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daniel.i.deitrick@smithbarney.com
Contact: Daniel Deitrick

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Laurie Muggee Fitness

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Lafayette, Ca 94549
876-4794 (phone)
laurie@spikeengineering.com
Contact: Laurie Muggee

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jtsmoothies@comcast.net
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craig@zippypro.com
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continued on page 8...

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Contact: Michael Moore

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www.sportsbasement.com
Contact: Priscilla Moreno

APRIL MIXER Our April mixer was hosted by Central Self Storage and Rhythm Room located at 3330 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Guests were treated to appetizers provided by our hosts and served by the students of Rhythm Room.

Steve O'Connor, manager of Central Self Storage conducted tours of the facility. Many of the members were not aware of the beautiful top floor terrace garden surrounded by eleven apartments that are owned and managed by Central Self Storage. The units are known under the name of Lafayette East Apartments. Please contact Steve at 962-1940 for upcoming vacancies of the apartments or information regarding storage needs. Their website is www.centralselfstorage.com.

Several age groups of dancers to the crowd's delight entertained us. Dianna Rowley, owner of the Rhythm Room introduced each group and advised the guests of the extensive categories of classes that are offered for kids and adults. Contact Dianna at 283-4801 or www.rhythmnroom.com for class schedules and information on performance opportunities.

Thanks to Chamber members who donated gift items for the raffle: Central Self Storage, Rhythm Room, Kate Thon of Mary Kay, Rising Loafer, Lafayette Car Wash, Warren E. Boschin and Associates, Gayler Construction, Tom Henry of CITI Smith Barney, Susan Foord Catering & Chow, Ciao! and Steven "Shags" Shagrin Money Coach/Planning For Life.



Diana Rowley, of the Rhythm Room and Steve O'Connor of Central Self Storage

Focus on the Arts

Gold Coast Chamber Players presents a program of "Fairy Tales and Love Songs," featuring hidden jewels in the chamber music repertoire on Sunday, May 10, 8pm at Acalanes High School Performing Arts Theater, 1200 Pleasant Hill Road. The program includes Ravel's "Mother Goose Suite", Bolcom's "Fairy Tales", Whitacre's "5 Hebrew Love Songs" and Schumann's "Piano Quintet". The Acalanes High Chamber Singers will be featured for the Whitacre piece. Tickets are \$30/25/10 - box office (925) 798-1300. For more information call (925) 283-3728 or visit their website at www.gcplayers.org.

Lafayette Gallery's Show "Garden Party," a celebration of art and nature, runs through May 10th. "Garden Party" is a celebration of the pleasures and enchantment of gardening - its scents, textures and colors as told through the artist's medium. As a special treat, garden clubs from the Lamorinda community will be bringing in floral designs to complement the art. Throughout the exhibit, garden clubs will visit the Gallery to select pieces of art as inspiration for their arrangements. For additional information about "Garden Party," contact curator Judy Feins at 925-253-1467, email her at judyandrich@gmail.com or visit the Gallery's website at www.lafayettegallery.net.

California Shakespeare Theater presents "Pericles" by William Shakespeare, directed by Joel Sass from May 28 to June 22. Somewhere between the craggy shores of tragedy and the loopy swells of comedy lies Pericles, the tale of a prince, his wife, and their daughter, all separated by the whims of fate (and the hands of evildoers). Acclaimed Minneapolis-based director Joel Sass makes his West Coast directorial debut with this wild fairy tale. For more information and tickets visit their website at www.calshakes.org.

Martinez Opera Contra Costa presents "Madama Butterfly" the weekends for May 10-11 and May 17-18 at Alhambra Performing Arts Center, 150 E Street, Martinez. For more information go to the website www.mtzo.com; for tickets online go to www.wilowstickets.org or call CBON (925) 798-1300.

Town Hall Theatre presents "Baby, Be Mine" from May 22 - June 28, created by Kevin T. Morales. It is the story of a young actress who, following the opening night of a Broadway show, invites one of the producers back to her place to pitch him the next great idea for a 1930's style musical revue. Romance is in the air (and maybe in the wine) as the two collaborate to create a story of a composer and his muse struggling in New York during The Depression. The romantic fates of their fictitious protagonists seem to parallel their own, but the course of love never did run smoothly. For tickets call the box office at 283-1557, for more information go to their website at www.thtc.org.

"Futures Explored present Motown", a musical revue on Friday, May 30, 1pm at Del Valle Theatre, 1963 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek, is sponsored by the generosity of Acalanes Adult Education. FREE, however, donations gratefully accepted. The theatre seats 400 people and they want as many people to come as possible.

May

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 Executive Committee Meeting 8am Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 Chamber Board 12pm Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa | 13 | 14 Mixer Lafayette Community Center 5:30pm 500 St. Mary's Rd. | 15  <i>An Alliance of Independent Business Professionals</i> 8:30am, Chamber Ribbon Cutting 4:30pm Massage Cottage 71 Lafayette Circle | 16 | 17 May Fest 10am-4pm Lafayette Elementary School Concert at the Res 1pm Lafayette Reservoir |
| 18 | 19 | 20 A Taste of Lafayette 5:30pm Downtown Lafayette | 21 The GREEN Committee Meeting 12pm Chamber Conference Room | 22 Ribbon Cutting 4:30pm U S Nails 3486 Mt. Diablo Blvd. | 23 Rossmoor Big Band Dance 7pm, Lafayette Veteran's Memorial Building | 24 |
| 25 | 26 Memorial Day Chamber Office CLOSED | 27 | 28 | 29 Business Issues / Govt. Affairs Meeting 8am Chamber Office | 30 | 31 |