

Lamorinda Community


Calendar, Notes, News

Lafayette

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Monday, January 12	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, January 8	
Design Review	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Tuesday, January 13	
Lafayette Finance Review Committee Report	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Tuesday, January 13	
The City Council will hold a public workshop to review the work and recommendations of the committee	
Town of Lafayette: http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us Chamber of Commerce: http://www.lafayettechamber.org	




Lafayette Police Blotter will be back next time.




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Finance Committee to Present Report

By Cathy Tyson
In an effort to have the most efficient budget possible and to address long term financial problems, the City Council appointed a dream team of experienced private sector business and finance volunteers to examine the City's budget and come up with recommendations to improve effectiveness. With four failed tax measures and potentially declining future revenue, the report could not have come at a better time.

Starting in April the Committee reviewed the results of the 1992 report by a prior Finance Review Committee, interviewed city-wide department heads, looked at

last year's audits, analyzed the effect of the Redevelopment Agency on finances and reviewed major capital projects. The City Council scheduled a public Workshop to discuss the report in detail with the Finance Review Committee on January 13 at the Lafayette Community Center.

Currently Lafayette has an \$18M unfunded backlog of road repairs and the lowest police staffing in Contra Costa County. In addition, there's a \$250,000 annual shortfall in revenue for downtown maintenance. Looking forward, future projections are not very encouraging, "two of the primary revenue sources - sales

and property tax - can be seriously and adversely affected by downturns in the economy," according to the report.

The six member committee went through the budget from soup to nuts looking for ways to reduce expenditures and enhance revenue. In doing so they, "assessed both the financial impact and the risk to the community. This analysis led to the options falling into one of four quadrants," ranging from Low Financial Impact / Low Risk to High Financial Impact / High Risk. Everything was on the table from eliminating the annual holiday party to diverting the Parking Fund balance to

road repair to reducing payroll.

On the whole they found, "The City has generally done a very good job of identifying and acting upon opportunities to manage the taxpayer's money with prudence and leveraging outside sources of revenue."

Bottom line, the Final Report had six specific recommendations. The first is to acquire what will soon be the old library site for city offices. Right now the city is renting office space at Desco Plaza. Launching a study to evaluate opportunities for a more cost effective Police Services structure is their second recom-

mendation. Thirdly, reclassify the Youth Diversion officer as a non-sworn position.

The balance of the recommendations include: Transfer the current balance in the Parking Fund to pavement management program; Fund future downtown maintenance with assessment districts; Increase revenue using one or more of these options: property transfer tax, increase sales tax, business license fee.

The City Council Finance Review Workshop will be held on January 13 at the Lafayette Community Center. To read the report in full go to www.lovelafayette.org.

Wide Range of Options for Fitness at Lafayette Rec

By Cathy Tyson



Many options at the Lafayette Rec Center on St. Mary's Road

Plants getting a little tight? Maybe they didn't shrink in the dryer. For those of us who made a New Year's resolution to get healthier and/or slimmer, Lafayette Recreation Programs are just what the doctor ordered. From Jazzer-

ize to Weight Training for Women to Gentle Yoga for seniors, even Belly Dancing, there is something for everyone right in town.

"It just makes sense," said Jennifer Russell, Parks and Recreation Director refer-

ring to the Try Lafayette First campaign. "It's convenient, saving gas, saving money and most of the instructors are from Lamorinda."

She's not kidding, with reasonable prices and classes starting in January, this could be just the opportunity to actually keep at least one new years resolution.

Jazzercise instructor Nancy Goldner comments that her class is, "fun, extremely effective and covers everything in sixty minutes. It's friendly, non-competitive and lends itself to a wide range of ages and abilities." Goldner

has been teaching for thirty years, with Lafayette Rec since 1986. She's had a range of students - from St. Mary's College students to an 80-year-old. With thirteen different classes scheduled every week, this is the most popular exercise class at the Community Center.

Looking for something a little different? Zumba class is a new cardio workout set to Latin music that is entertaining with easy to follow instructions. How fun is that, burn-

ing calories while dancing? No experience necessary. It's not every day that you get to let out your inner Latina in Lafayette.

Addressing the scale directly is, What Works Weight Management, described in the class catalogue as, "Are you one of those people who say in frustration, "I know HOW to lose weight, I just can't seem to DO it?" Do you long to fit into the beautiful now too-small clothes in your closet? In this valuable four-week class you will learn tools that really work to help you lose weight in relation to your personal lifestyle, schedule and obstacles."

With a total of 199 classes, the breadth of offerings is unbeatable and obviously too numerous to name here. Here are just a few: pilates, tennis, roller hockey even "Quick and healthy meals from Costco and Trader Joe's." For more information, go to www.lafayetterec.org.

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Big Band Ball Room Dance



with The Rossmore Big Band

Friday, January 23, at the Art Deco Rheem Theatre in Moraga.

Doors open at 6:30 pm and the dance runs from 7:00pm through 10:00pm.

Tickets \$10 per person

available at the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Rheem Theatre in Moraga and Orinda Chamber of Commerce.

Call 284-7404 for reservations www.lafayettechamber.org