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## Lafayette Civic News

### Public Meetings

#### City Council

Monday, October 24, 7:00 pm  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,  
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd

#### Planning Commission

Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 pm  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,  
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd

#### Design Review

Monday, October 24, 7:00 pm  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center  
in the Arts & Science Discovery  
Center at 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

#### School Board Meetings

##### Acalanes Union High School District

Wednesday, October 19, 7:30 pm  
Board Room AUHSD Office  
1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette  
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

##### Lafayette School District

Wednesday, October 12, 7:00 pm  
Wednesday, November 16, 7:00 pm  
LAFSD Office  
3477 School Street, Lafayette  
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

#### City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us

#### Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org



## Police Report

**Aye, Chihuahua!** 9/18/11 Lafayette experienced its own version of Beverly Hills Chihuahua when a Burton Valley resident reported the theft of his/her dog out of their own backyard. No way could the dog get out on its own, said the owner. But later that night, the owner called to report the dog's safe return.

**Big Screen Burglary,** 9/19/11 How can a couple of thieves possibly enter an in-law apartment and walk away with a 55" flat screen TV without anyone even noticing the crime?

**Wake up and Feel the 'Cuffs!** 9/23/11 A man arrested for being drunk in public went from one end of the behavior spectrum to the other in the blink of a bleary eye. Witnesses say he started yelling at people in a Lafayette business and was itching to pick a fight. By the time police arrived, the same man was asleep and had to be awakened so they could arrest him...

**Screw(driver)ing Around,** 9/18/11 Two men in the act of ransacking a vehicle and tampering with its ignition were interrupted when the owner caught them. One of the two tried to nonchalantly hide the screwdriver he was using in his back pocket. Guess there'll be no tooling around in that car...

## Future of Lafayette Redevelopment is Uncertain

By Cathy Tyson

The City Council has to decide the fate of the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) before Halloween. At the moment, after an in-house report and a thorough review by an independent analyst, the Council is undecided.

At issue is choosing to pay over \$414,000 this year and approximately \$100,000 in subsequent years to continue to have a Redevelopment agency.

With two bills – AB 26 and AB 27, the "Dissolution Bill" and the "Continuation Bill", the state of California is adjusting all Redevelopment agencies, as part of fiscal year 2011 – 2012 budget. AB 27, "Allows for cities to continue their Redevelopment agencies provided they pay a

large upfront 'ransom' as well as ongoing payments to the State annually," said Tracy Robinson, Administrative Services Director, in a staff report.

However the California Redevelopment Agency is suing to block those measures; the case, being heard by the California Supreme Court, has not yet been decided. If the matter is deemed unconstitutional, no decision is necessary and the RDA will stay as is.

If this seems rather like déjà vu, recall that the state pulled \$1.1 million from Lafayette's RDA for an "Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund" just a few years ago. In response, voters in Lafayette and across California approved Proposition 22 in November 2010 to stop the state from pulling

funds from redevelopment again.

Redevelopment agencies are funded through a portion of property taxes and help local municipalities eliminate blight and develop projects that benefit a targeted area and its economy, such as affordable housing and job creation. Neither Orinda nor Moraga have RDAs.

Lafayette's RDA was formed in 1995. Since then the Lafayette Library and Learning Center, the Veterans Memorial Building, improvements to Lafayette Plaza, undergrounding utilities in the downtown and enhancements along the Mt. Diablo corridor have been made possible through the RDA.

The choices before the City Council are three-fold: Dissolve the

RDA, make ransom payments to continue the RDA, or in case the legislation is deemed unconstitutional, continue the RDA as is.

To help clarify all of the impacts of the choices at hand, Don Fraser, a Redevelopment and Financial consultant, was brought on board. "With or without the Continuation Payments required under AB 27, the financial situation of the Agency is stretched thin. The 2011-12 tax increment revenues of the Agency will provide sufficient revenue to meet its Senior Obligations. These include deposits to the housing fund, bond debt service obligations, and pass through payments," wrote Fraser in a report to the City Council.

## What Local Trivia Group is Calling it Quits?

By Cathy Tyson



Winning team "Luke and the Black Hearts" at Petars Pub.

Photo Lindy Chan

What started out as an idea at a holiday party blossomed into two years and sixteen Pub Trivia events hosted by Lafayette's own city planning staffers by day/quiz masters by night: Lindy Chan and Michael Cass. From the get go, it was all about having an enjoyable evening and raising money for non-profits – in total, generous attendees raised \$3,485 for a variety of non-profit organizations like World Vision,

Special Olympics, Las Trampas, the Senior Helpline and more.

While organizers graciously congratulated everyone, they gave a special shout out to the winners with the largest cumulative scores. Team "Luke and the Black Hearts" came in first place overall. Team Member Dana Anderson notes that their team just really wanted to have a good time. He "can't credit Lindy and

Michael enough" for all the time, effort and expense it took after hours to put the program together.

"Our team had a lot of useless pieces of information for no apparent reason," explains Anderson, noting they did exceptionally well on the category that featured three pictures that represented a word and were able to garner extra credit for additional information like song titles. ... continued next page

Here are some of the questions from one popular Pub Trivia category: **Think Pink!**

1. Name what Mary Kay, Elvis Presley, and Clint Eastwood have in common.
2. Name the euphemism for hallucinations.
3. Name the metaphor for a layoff or termination of employment.
4. Name the expression for in good health.
5. Name the international symbol for breast cancer awareness.
6. Name the drink that is made from made of white creme de cacao, creme de noyaux and cream.
7. Name the group to which Rizzo, Frenchie, and others belong.
8. Name the term that is used particularly in the West to indicate work that is believed to be exclusively the domain of women and associates particular tasks with the female gender.
9. Name the symbol that was used by Nazis at the same time that the yellow Star of David and black triangles were used.

(Answers on page A10)

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