

Lamorinda Community, Calendar, Agendas, Notes, News

Lafayette

Calendar

City Council 7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room
500 St Mary's Road
Monday, July 23

Planning Comm. 7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room
500 St Mary's Road
Thursday, July 19

Design Review 7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room
500 St Mary's Road
Tuesday, July 24

Park, Trails, Rec. 7pm
Community Center
500 St Mary's Road
Wednesday, Aug 8

Circulation 7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room
500 St Mary's Road
Monday, July 16

Emergency Prep. 9:15am
City Offices
3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Suite 265
Wednesday, July 11

Senior Services 4pm
Community Center, Alder Room
500 St Mary's Road
Thursday, July 23

check online:
Town of Lafayette:
<http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us>
for:
• all meeting notes
• calendar updates
Chamber of Commerce:
<http://www.lafayettechamber.org>
for:
• local businesses
• upcoming events

For a Day in the Sun, Lafayette Reservoir Offers a Full Plate

By Chris Lavin



Amanda Rainey is about to catch her first catfish. Photo Andy Scheck

During the school year the Lafayette Reservoir Rim is inhabited by strollers pushed by running mothers wearing headphones who have dropped older children at school and need to get some exercise, but now, in the hot days of summer, anglers, hikers and boaters are using the grounds for summer recreation.

Roller-bladers, skaters and scooter lovers also can use the trails around the reservoir on Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon till closing, and after 11 a.m. on Sundays on the paved trail. A launching area provides a place to put in your own boat, if it fits on top of your car, or else rentals are available. No motorboats are allowed.

"We almost always catch a fish here," said Jose Juarez of Oakland, who brought his family on a recent weekend to try their

luck from a dock. "Not today. Maybe it's too hot."

Always an optimist, Juarez grabbed another worm that he had purchased at a nearby bait shop, and baited the hook of a young boy who faithfully cast it into the cool water.

Located off of Mount Diablo Boulevard in Lafayette, the reservoir, managed by East Bay Municipal Utilities District, is a day destination open for recreation but also provides drinking water for EBMUD users, and therefore no swimming is allowed. A playground is provided, however, as well as a native garden area behind the visitor center and picnic areas, two of which may be reserved.

"We have been coming here for years,"

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The Race is On!

By Lee Borrowman

As the Tour de France winds its way through the high mountains between Le Grand-Bornand and Tignes, cycling enthusiasts who couldn't make it to Europe this month can enjoy an exciting race a bit closer to home. The 3rd Annual Lafayette Criterium will be held on Sunday, July 15. Early risers can watch Stage 8 of the Tour de France on Versus TV from 4:00AM to 7:30AM and still catch the end of the first heat in Lafayette.

Criterium racing is unique to the United States. A "crit," to use the jargon, is a fast race around a short course, traditionally taking place on city streets. Top cyclists will average speeds of 30 miles per hour, and sprint up to 40 mph. The 1 km route along Mt. Diablo Blvd., 1st Street and Golden Gate Way will be closed to car traffic, although the west-bound lanes of Mt. Diablo Blvd. will remain open.

Criteriums are spectator-friendly, and taking place right in middle of downtown Lafayette, this should be a great race to watch. Walking clockwise around the inside of the course,



opposite the direction of the riders, will offer the best viewing opportunities. If you'd rather not walk, Mt. Diablo Blvd before the finish line is the place to be, as riders round the last corner and sprint to victory both at the end of the race and in "prime" laps (a prime is a race within the race; a bell is rung and a small prize awarded to whoever completes the lap first).

The day's event is not just a single race but rather many, as cyclists are classified by age, gender and ability, and race in competitive groupings. Some riders will be competing in an "Omnium" this weekend, which combines scores from the Criterium with those achieved at the Mt. Diablo Hill Climb that takes place on Saturday, July 14.

Meet some of the racers on page 10.

Cyclists aged 9 or younger can take a crack at the track, too! Register your little racer in front of Boswells Sunday morning before 10:15. Sponsored by the Oakwood Athletic Club, this event is free but donations to the Lafayette Art and Science Foundation will be happily accepted at registration. All participants will be rewarded with race ribbons and cookies.

Kids race by age groups, each for 10 minutes:

- Ages 8-9 roll at 10:25
- Ages 6-7 at 10:35
- Ages 5 and under, including those on trikes and training wheels, take off at 10:45

Lafayette Criterium

Mt. Diablo Blvd. West bound open for traffic, East bound closed for traffic

Golden Gate Way

1st St.

2nd St.

Lafayette 2007 Criterium Schedule

Time	Classification	Duration	Prize
7:15	Cat 5	40 min	Medals
8:00	Women 3/4	40 min.	\$150/\$150
8:45	Men Masters 45+/55+	40 min.	\$150/\$150
9:30	Men Elite 3	50 min.	\$300
10:25	Kids 8-9	10 min.	Ribbons
10:35	Kids 6-7	10 min.	Ribbons
10:45	Kids U5	10 min.	Ribbons
11:20	Men Pro 1/2	70 min.	\$1,000
12:35	Women Pro/1/2/3	50 min.	\$500
1:30	Men Masters 35+ 1/2/3	50 min.	\$350
2:25	Men Masters 35+ 4/5	40 min.	\$200
3:10	Men Elite 4	40 min.	\$200

About the categories: Category 1 and 2 racers are the young pros and semi-pros. Category 5 cyclists are generally the least skilled and experienced, in their first year of racing. Older cyclists are grouped both by age and ability, 35 years and up, 45 years and up, or 55 years and up. Master racers can choose to race with younger age groups. At press time, the Masters 35+ 4/5 field was full at 50 racers but all other categories had plenty of room for last-minute entries (a racing license is required).



Lafayette's New Police Chief Focuses on Customer Service

...continued from page 1

Hubbard's first priority is to make the Lafayette Police Department a more customer-service oriented entity. "We have two responsibilities," says Hubbard, "The first, obviously, is to ensure public safety, and the other is to respond to the needs of the community. It's bad service to tell the public what it wants; you have to ask people what their concerns are, and listen to what they have to say."

Hubbard has been a very visible presence in the city since his arrival this spring, attending meetings and mixers at every opportunity, and is considering ways to find out exactly what residents of Lafayette hope their police department can do for them. A large part of this effort is the hiring of a new Public Service Officer. "The PSO will go with our officers to crime scenes, collect evidence and spend time with the citizen to gather more complete information. The PSO can also be proactive, offering suggestions for how people can be safer in the future," explains

Hubbard. Spending time with residents is not only good customer service, but Hubbard expects that the careful evidence and information collecting of the PSO will also result in more convictions.

There are two issues in Lafayette right now that concern Hubbard:

Bonfires set by teenagers using bad judgment during or after parties pose a serious risk during this severe fire season. Fires have been set off the reservoir trail on East Bay Municipal Utility District land, and in the open space in Burton Valley, putting surrounding homes and communities in harm's way.

Hubbard is reinstating and revamping the city's old Youth Diversion program, with a dedicated Youth Services Officer, providing what he calls, "A way for young people to learn citizenship right here in Lafayette." With the cooperation of the community, young first-time offenders who have committed a non-violent crime, such as shop-lifting, would find themselves on work-details, perhaps cleaning graffiti, or even washing patrol cars. Hubbard says he would also support a well-crafted Social Host Liability Ordinance, which would hold homeowners responsible if teenagers consume alcohol in their homes during a party, but adds that the one currently being circulated needs some revisions to make it viable.

The other issue is theft, which remains Lafayette's most rampant crime. Hubbard would like to remind everyone to lock the doors of their homes and cars. "We are still seeing thefts occurring from unlocked cars in which valuables have been left out in the open. This is very safe community for anyone walking down the street, but that doesn't mean your possessions are safe. Don't give anyone the opportunity to make you a victim."

Flute found, 6/24: A woman called the police to report that her son found tools and nails next to a walking trail by Beechwood Drive and she thought they might have come from the property across the street that is under construction. The officer made contact with the construction company owner who identified all of the stolen property as his except one item, a Gemeinhardt flute in a black case.

Tools lifted, 6/27: Unknown suspect(s) committed a theft of Kline tools and Allen wrenches valued at \$500 from the open bed of a parked vehicle belonging to a self employed electrician. No leads, witnesses or evidence at this time.

Bike retrieved, 6/27: A young man was observed leaving a bike in the bushes near the creek behind Walnut Street. When the elderly observer asked him what he was doing, he replied "looking for my billfold." The concerned citizen retrieved the bike, put it in her garage and called the police. The silver-colored bike's serial number was not reported stolen.

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