

May 2009

Greetings Fellow Residents,

I want to take the time to share with you the recent happenings and what's going on in our city.

- There continues to be discussions regarding code ordinances and ensuring that fair practices are in place. We have requested our City Administrator to schedule a special session for Council to review city ordinances. We'll continue to revisit this issue until progress is made.
- Budget is set to be voted on at the June council meeting. Check out the details on line at the city's web site. A substantial amount has been put aside for park improvements, so please let your Council know how you would like to see these funds utilized. It hasn't been decided yet what to do with the piece of land the former Council purchased for a basketball court on Bridge street near 12th. As funds will be allocated toward our parks, it's important that we hear from you. **Please email me directly to let me know how you want park money spent. My email address is at the bottom of this letter.**
- Citizen volunteers are continuing to contact me to come forward and help. Whatever your talent or passion, there probably is a place for you! When we pool our talent and resources, we can accomplish good things. It is the residents and business owners of Lafayette that will transform our town. I fully support citizen activism and I'm thankful for the Councilors that will do everything they can to support volunteers and businesses to make Lafayette a nicer place to live and shop.
- Thank you to the Councilors that recently supported citizen involvement and voted "YES" to flowers for our downtown. Unfortunately, some Councilors voted "No" to funding approximately \$800 for flowers, pots, and supplies so residents could do the labor to beautify our city flower beds and place large flowering planters at various locations downtown. Despite the opposition, some Lafayette residents pushed on, and coordinated the effort anyway. Citizens and Cub Scouts gave their time, resources and even personal finances to purchase flowers, top soil and pots. A special thank you goes to Linda Lyon and other residents for their investment in our town. Thanks also to the businesses that agreed to maintain and water the planters. What a great display of cooperation between the business community and residents!
- A downtown business association is officially coming together. They've had their first meeting, and many of the businesses are beginning to share ideas to improve our community.
- Keep your eyes open for colorful banners on 3rd Street. This is another project coordinated by residents willing to spend their time and make it happen.
- The next items on the agenda for committee and review are evaluations of our current water and sewer bonds and a review and recommendation to improve our current Safe Housing Code. If you have opinions or experience in these areas and would like to get involved, please contact me via email.
- An overall city beautification committee is just being birthed. Please contact me or Linda Lyon at 503-864-4539 to share your opinions, ideas or to get involved.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve you all,

Mayor Chris Heisler

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