

# Downsizing a Perfect Fit for this Pair

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*This cozy living space leads to the outdoor patio.*

*Photos Cathy Tyson*

Because they love to travel, having recently been to Cancun for a granddaughter's wedding and also back from a two-week cruise to France and Italy, the convenience Merrill Gardens offers is a real plus – housekeeping and maintenance are included in the monthly fee. "It's so nice not to worry about garbage cans and picking up the mail," said Lois, who is looking forward to settling in. Reviewing all of the many social choices, Lois adds, "What more could you ask for?" They have a car in the underground garage, adding to their sense of freedom. Looks like smaller is better for this charming couple.

"It's such a pleasure," said Marvin about thoroughly enjoying his retirement, not missing work a bit. Lois worked full time once their youngest turned 14. Marvin's dad, Sam Kay, founded the Kay Chesterfield furniture business back in 1921, with Marvin starting his career there in 1945, retiring 50 years later in 1995. The



*Lois Kay does some clipping on her patio.*

business used to make and sell high quality furniture, then focused on re-upholstery; while the location near the Oakland Coliseum hasn't changed, the business retains the family name but is under new ownership. A few lovely pieces, at least 40 years old, re-upholstered of course, decorate their new home.

*Merrill Gardens offers independent living, assisted living, and memory care options, spread out over 89 senior living units, in studios as well as one- and two-bedroom apartments. On the Mt. Diablo side, retail shops will soon be open to the public, once occupied. An underground garage with parking for shoppers, residents and visitors is easily accessible from the Second Street side. The roof top deck is open; it features a brand new outdoor kitchen with barbecue, tables and chairs, and several large raised planter boxes for residents to use. The common areas are spacious and stylishly decorated – there's even a grand piano for residents to enjoy.*

## Jim Colhoun Presents 3607 Powell Drive, Lafayette

*This classic style home features four bedrooms, plus a large office with full bathroom. The private backyard with pool and spa is on .60 acres with multiple lawns, terraces and oak and redwood trees. The public rooms include a beautiful living room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, a formal dining room, also with hardwood floors, and a spacious family room and eat-in kitchen overlooking the rear yard. You'll love the location on a quiet street and the easy convenience to downtown Lafayette K-8 schools, shopping, restaurants and BART. Call Jim Colhoun for more information or visit the virtual tour at [www.3607PowellDr.com](http://www.3607PowellDr.com) for additional photos.*



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