## **Downtown Plan Discussion Continues**

By Cathy Tyson

he draft Downtown Specific Plan marches on. Although there was an ambitious agenda of items at a recent Planning Commission meeting, only a few were addressed and final action deferred to a future meeting. Current discussion is focusing on the draft Downtown Specific Plan's (DSP) goals, policies and programs. Their task is reviewing each issue and providing preliminary direction to staff – clarifying whether the goals, policies and programs should be retained, revised or deleted.

Due to the lateness of the hour, the vision statement was approved, as well as sustainability and residential density. Quite a number of issues are scheduled for February 22 and March 7 meetings: height, setbacks, parks, circulation, creeks, districts, design guidelines, views and parking.

The Planning Commission started reviewing the DSP back in September of 2009; meetings are always open to the public and comments are welcome. Residents are invited to be part of the process at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center in the Community Hall building on the corner. Check the city website for the agenda, meetings usually start at 7:00, www.lovelafayette.com.

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## **Lafayette Contractor Cements Neighborhood Relationship**

By Cathy Dausman



Hot steaming asphalt comes off the Lucas truck

Photo Andy Scheck

step on a crack can nearly break Ayour back. Or so it seemed to Jim Lucas when he watched a neighbor fall on a section of broken sidewalk pavement along Lafayette's Glenside Drive. Lucas says the neighbor, out walking his yellow Labrador, "took a good little header but hurt his pride more than his tail bone." Soon afterwards Lucas, and

his company, went to work. Lucas owns JV Lucas Paving. He's been a Lafayette resident for 30 years and is a third generation contractor, in business with his son. Their company made the repairs at no cost to Lafayette, fitting the work in between previously scheduled jobs.

"That was nice," said City Inspector Mike Moran. He's worked with Lucas Paving on a half dozen projects over the last ten years, and inspected the job site. In this era of tight finances, "...to be honest, the city wouldn't have made the repairs."

## Discover & Go: Free Museum Passes

... continued from page A1

"We really believe that museums and libraries support one another so everyone can explore and learn" said Cathy Sanford, Deputy County Librarian. Seeking efficiency and effectiveness from the beginning, Sanford and library staffers figured, "If we are going to do this – let's do it right." Their goal was to make passes available in a virtual environment, printable right at home. With helpful "browse by venue" or "browse by date" options along with a handy calendar - they have clearly succeeded. For customers without Internet access, a pass can be reserved by phone or in person at any library in the county.

By leveraging some contributions and using very limited development money – they applied for and received a library innovation and technology grant. The grant money paid for a software developer to create the very easy to use system.

"The (venue) partners have been just wonderful!" said Sanford, who wants to build a partner consortium. Launched just a couple weeks ago, there have been no problems reported and growing usage by patrons. "We believe it will be the most successful program ever,"

"I really want to commend the county library system for automating the process," said Lafayette City Council member Don Tatzin who played a key role in the early stages of the project.

"Some forms of learning occur in a library, but

others involve going and exploring. This makes it affordable for those that might not otherwise be able to go," said Tatzin. "I want to encourage people to go to the website and get started." Go to www.ccclib.org.

### **Current Destinations**

- Asian Art Museum
- Bay Area Discovery Museum Beat Museum
- Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive Blackhawk Museum
- Cartoon Art Museum
- Charles M. Schulz Museum
- Contemporary Jewish Museum
- Habitot Children's Museum
- Lawrence Hall of Science
- Lindsay Wildlife Museum The Marine Mammal Center
- Museum of the African Diaspora
- Museum of Craft and Folk Art Oakland Museum of California
- Pacific Pinball Museum
- San Jose Museum of Art
- San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles
- The Tech Museum
- Town Hall Theatre
- **USS Hornet**
- Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum Zeum: San Francisco's Children's Museum

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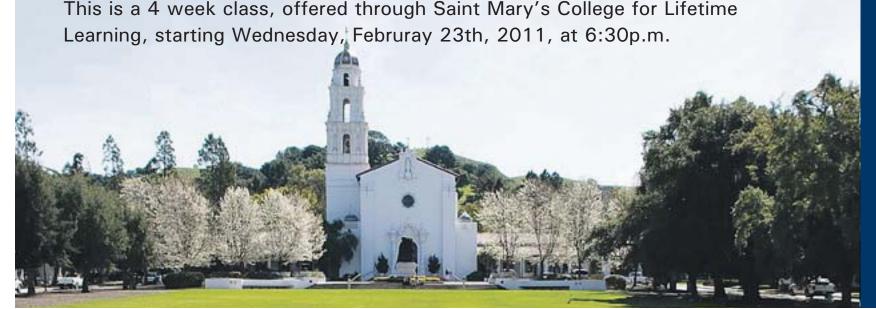
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