

Proposed Mixed-Use Project Gets Encouraging Feedback



Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, March 14, 7:00 pm Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd

Planning Commission

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

Design Review

Monday, March 14, 7:00 pm Lafayette Library & Learning Center in the Arts & Science Discovery Center at 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements **City of Lafayette:** www.ci.lafayette.ca.us **Chamber of Commerce:** www.lafayettechamber.org



Police Report

Tag...you're it! 2/20/11 A non-injury hit and run happened just before midnight along St. Mary's Road. The guilty party might have gotten away but left incriminating evidence, in the form of the car's



If approved, this will be the site of the Merrill Gardens senior housing facility along with retail space on the Photo C. Tyson ground floor.

developer working with a senior living facility operator were recently presented to the Design Review Commission and received generally positive responses.

Merrill Gardens, SRM Development and Wattenbarger Architects presented their initial plans to garner feedback on a mixed-use project that will tentatively include 72 independent and assisted apartments for seniors that has a mem-

Treliminary drawings from a ory care unit, and approximately 6,000 square feet of retail space on the street level fronting Mt. Diablo Boulevard at Second Street. Taking advantage of the upward sloping lot, the drive-in entrance to Merrill Gardens would be located on Second Street.

"We are just getting started with the planning process, this was our initial study session with Design Review," said Ryan Leong, Merrill Gardens Development

Manager. He estimates it could take "anywhere from four to six weeks to prepare a formal application."

The development company has owned the land at the corner of Mt. Diablo and Second Street for the last three years. The site is made up of six parcels totaling 1.35 acres that housed Kennan Heinz, Yan's restaurant and a couple of office buildings behind. The rear of the project would be adjacent to an ex-

isting apartment complex.

If developed, this would be the second senior housing facility in the immediate area. Just a couple of blocks down Mt. Diablo, Eden Housing has been approved to build a 46-unit affordable senior housing complex.

Design Review Commissioners liked the proposed Arts and Crafts design, along with the retail component and inviting public space along Mt. Diablo. The project includes a generous courtyard, underground parking accessible from Second Street, a landscaped rooftop deck and protection of the mature oak tree at the corner.

Merrill Gardens is the second largest private owner/operator of independent and assisted living facilities in California, with eighteen locations across the state. SRM Development is a construction company and developer that specializes in senior housing facilities.

Students Star in Foundation's Jazz Festival

By Cathy Tyson



vorites the Stanley Jazz Messengers, will play at the Friday show. Saturday features Erik Jekabson and his Quartet with the Acalanes Jazz Ensemble. Sunday's show includes talented young musicians from across the county playing in the Middle and High School Honor Bands.

The always popular Jazz Festival, the Lafayette Summer Music Jazz Workshop, and the Big Band of Rossmoor's Mentorship Program would not be possible without the generous support of the Generations in Jazz Foundation. It's run entirely by volunteers, and focuses exclusively on supporting community music activities. "The Foundation was created to preserve jazz education, an original American art form in our community," said Tom Carter, President of the Generations in Jazz Foundation. Life lessons like passion, leadership, innovation and constantly adapting can all be gleaned from music education, according to Carter.

front license plate, at the crime scene. After admitting to wrongdoings, said party was charged with DUI and booked at the county detention facility.

Bad Guys Beware, 2/18/11 Three men robbing a Mt. Diablo Blvd. jewelry store were surprised when, after smashing the display cases with sledge hammers, the store owner responded with gunshots. The robbers drove off, post-haste, but struck the victim's auto when they rounded the corner. An hour later, a local hospital reported a gunshot wound patient requesting body repair. Maybe later they'll get their getaway car fixed...

Smash and grabs run rampant, 2/15-2/21 No less than seven separate smash and grab reports were taken by Lafayette Police the week after Valentine's Day. Something's in the air; and it sure ain't love. • An iPod was taken from an Acalanes High School locker room.

· A shoulder bag with personal and tax info was deducted from a car.

· A Garmin GPS was directed out the open window of a car parked in an underground lot.

• A wallet was lifted from an unlocked vehicle at Meher School.

• A laptop and case were deleted (locks forced, and a window broken) from another car.

• Items valued at \$600 were taken and \$300 damage was done to a car parked at Springhill Elementary.

 Items valued at \$400 were taken from an unlocked car parked on Hough Ave.

Take my alarm, but don't call me in the morning, 2/15/11 Medical equipment valued at nearly \$16,000 was stolen during the wee hours from a building on Mt. Diablo Blvd. The alarm went off, but the suspect(s) had fled before the alarm report was sent.

Left to right: Evan Gruver - Acalanes, Erin Grant - Acalanes, Charley Burt - Rossmoor, Les Peterson - Rossmoor

Lafayette Jazz Festival, presented by the Generations in Jazz Foundation. Opening night is ieland tunes there is bound to be Thursday, March 10, for Rossmoor residents at their clubhouse; Lafayette is ground zero for jazz winner Tom Scott with jazz greats the public is invited to enjoy the appreciation, due in part to the show Friday, March 11, through

Acalanes Performing Arts Center. With bebop, swing, and Dixsomething for evervone. dedicated efforts of the Genera-

Photo Doug Kohen his year marks the eleventh Sunday, March 13, at the tions in Jazz Foundation, which has embraced and fostered programs that specifically encourage students.

> This year three-time Grammy Terry Miller, Andy Eberhard and John Burr, along with local fa-

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SENIOR SERVICES COORDINATOR 75% (30 hours per week) Part-time; Prorated .Benefits

The City of Lafayette is seeking a creative, highly motivated individual to develop and implement educational, informative, entertaining and servicerelated programs for older adults in the community. This position requires a self-starter with excellent communication and advocacy skills. A Bachelor's Degree and a minimum of 3 years work experience is highly desired. Apply Immediately.

A City of Lafayette Employment Application is required. For application, call 925.284.1968 or download at www.ci.lafayette.ca.us.

The Lafayette City **Council is soliciting** applicants to fill the following volunteer vacancies:



Representative to the Advisory Council on Aging **Circulation Commission** Code Enforcement Appeals Board **Community Center Foundation** Creeks Committee Downtown Street Improvement Implementation Committee (DSIMPIC) Representative to Central Contra Costa **County Transit Authority** Senior Services Commission

To learn more about these volunteer opportunities and to obtain an application visit the City's website www.ci.lafayette.ca.us. Positions open until filled.