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Lafayette

Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, November 13, 7:00 pm
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd

Planning Commission

Monday, November 19, 7:00 pm
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd

Design Review

Tuesday, November 13, 7:00 pm
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District

Wednesday, November 7, 7:30 pm
Wednesday, December 12, 7:30 pm
Board Room AUHSD Office
1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, November 14, 7:00 pm
Regular Board Meeting
LAFSD Office
3477 School Street, Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org

City Close to a Final Decision on Shorter Condo Project

By Cathy Tyson

KB Home once again came before the City Council, this time with new and improved architectural plans that completely removed the controversial fifth floor of the project slated for the parking lot behind Panda Express. “As you can see, it’s quite a bit lower than the existing development (Town Center II) next door,” said Senior Planner Christine Sinnette in her introduction to the City Council, concluding, “Staff recommends approving the project.”

Although preliminary and adjusted plans have been through the Design Review process and the Planning Commission, the height and mass of the structure that backs up to BART has always been contentious. Just this past September, the Planning Commission recommended denying the project, citing the fifth floor and parking circulation issues.

KB Home Senior Vice President Ray Panek reminded the Council how much the project has downsized from

its original iteration, commenting, “I guess I got hit in the head with a sledgehammer,” finally responding to constructive comments from the Planning Commission that they had serious concerns about the height. He displayed a selection of drawings depicting how the condominium project has shrunk. To the audience, it seemed like “now you see it, now you don’t” comparing the two versions.

Even though the current architectural plans eliminate the fifth floor,

they don’t include specifics on articulation, balconies, roof lines, paint color and material choices that still need to be finalized. City Council members were uncomfortable giving approval on a project without seeing a final product first. “You’re asking us to trust you,” said Mayor Carol Federighi.

Unfortunately the City Council is up against a deadline that governs the project.

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More Senior Housing Under Construction Downtown

By Cathy Tyson



First there was the 23-unit townhouse project at the site of the former Hungry Hunter at the intersection of Pleasant Hill Road, then there was the recent ground breaking of the Eden Housing project near Bo’s Barbecue, now just down the block a new location of Merrill Gardens senior housing is under construction on Mt. Diablo Boulevard at Second Street. If

all goes according to plan the new community should be open at the end of next year with 72 independent and assisted living apartments and a 17-person memory care unit, along with underground parking. The one and one third acre site is the consolidation of six separate parcels that included Yan’s Restaurant and Keenan Heinz.

This project is the only one of the

three with 6,400 square feet of retail space on the ground floor facing Mt. Diablo Boulevard and an inviting patio area that residents and the public can use. The main entrance to Merrill Gardens will be around the corner on Second Street. With over 55 facilities in nine states, this family owned and operated business has been around the block – and similar to other locations,

Image provided by Merrill Gardens the Lafayette facility will offer a variety of unique programs for residents, including an Active Living program and anytime dining. Unlike the Eden Housing project, where the vast majority of units are exclusively for low income residents, Merrill Gardens will offer market rate apartments. For more information, go to www.merrillgardens.com.



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Week of October 14-20, 2012

- Battery:**
10/18 3300 block Phillips Rd
- Burglary/Theft:**
10/14 3200 Block Lucas Cr
700 block Solana Dr (auto)
3500 block Mt. Diablo Bl (petty theft)
1000 block Regio Ct (auto)
700 block Solano Ct (stolen vehicle)
10/15 1000 block Ameno Ct (auto)
100 block Beaumont Ct (grand theft)
1400 block Reliez Valley Rd
10/16 3900 block S Peardale Dr (forgery)
000 block Carol Ln (auto)
1100 block N Thompson Rd (auto)
1000 block Carol Ln (auto)
1000 block Carol Ln (auto)
3300 block Springhill Rd (auto)
10/17 1200 block Laurel Ln (auto)
1000 block Sweet Rd (grand theft)
800 block Acalenes Rd
700 block Solana Dr (auto)
10/20 3500 block Mt. Diablo Blvd (stolen vehicle)
- Drunk in Public:**
10/19 Deer Hill Rd/Sierra Vista Wy
- Terrorist Threat:**
10/18 1200 block Pleasant Hill Rd



Police Report



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