



Lafayette Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, Nov. 10, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Nov. 10, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
Stanley Library
3477 School St., 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



Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report, Oct. 12-25

Alarms	56
Armed Robbery	
900 block Moraga Rd	
911 Calls	17
Battery	
3300 block Mildred Ln	
Burglary, Residential	
1200 block Panorama Dr	
Burglary, Auto	
4000 block Mt Diablo Bl	
1100 block Camino Vallecito	
3900 block S Peardale Dr	
Defrauding Innkeeper	
3500 block Mt Diablo Bl	
30 block Lafayette Cr	
Disturbance	
500 block Morecroft Rd	
El Nido Ranch Rd/Acalanes Rd	
3500 block O'Connor Dr	
Burton Dr/Silverado Dr	
DUI	
Acalanes Rd/Hwy 24	
Harassment	
3500 block Terrace Wy	
10 block Casa de Sima	
Hit & Run	
Lafayette Library	
3600 block Mosswood Dr	
50 block Lafayette Cr	
Deer Hill Rd/N Thompson Rd	
Deer Hill Rd/Hwy 24	
Health & Safety Violation	
Mt Diablo Bl/Hampton Rd	
ID Theft	
500 block Merriewood Dr	
3500 block Eagle Point Rd (2)	
3500 block Hillview Ln	
Petty Theft	
900 block Janet Ln	
1200 block Upper Happy Valley Rd	
Noah's Bagels	
800 block Topper Ln	
3700 block Mosswood Dr	
1100 block Camino Vallecito	
900 block Bell St	
Grand Theft	
1000 block Oak Hill Rd	
3900 block Los Arabis Dr	
Missing Person	
800 block Acalanes Rd	
900 block Moraga Rd	
Promiscuous Shooting	
3300 block West Terrace	
Public Nuisance	
Bentley Upper School	
Happy Valley Rd/Franklin Ln	
Mt Diablo Bl/Dewing Av	

STILL #1 FOR A REASON



2008 THROUGH 2014





3251 Glenside Drive, Lafayette

Just Listed • 1st Open Sun. 1-4!

Custom 4BR/3BA, 3240± sq. ft. East Coast farmhouse featuring high-end finishes, impeccable design and amazing quality. Beautifully landscaped .44± acre level lot with a 1BR/1BA, 400± sq. ft. guest house steps from the prized Lafayette trail. Centrally located with easy access to downtown, commute routes and top-rated schools.

Offered at \$2,250,000 • 3251GlensideDrive.com



DanaGreenTeam.com | 925.339.1918



License # 01482454

Temporary Storage in Old Library

If the costume doesn't fit, store it

By Cathy Tyson

The Town Hall Theatre Company is bursting at the seams with props and costumes from productions old and new. As a tenant, it can't change its charming, yet aging facility. Now with roughly 150 students per week in classes, and performances all year long, artistic director Joel Roster calls the building

"stuffed" and explains that there are racks of beautiful donated costumes and existing inventory – and nowhere to put it.

Just a few blocks down Moraga Road, the old library building sits empty. Although it's been vacant for five years, Town Hall Theatre board member Mike Gilson asked the city

manager if they could use 400 feet of the space for temporary storage on a month to month basis. The final fate of the building and necessary renovations for whomever may inhabit it will surely not happen overnight.

It was suggested that \$1 per square foot per month for rent would be appropriate. The lease

was approved by the Lafayette City Council on Oct. 27. The new tenants are aware that the space is strictly "as is."

The deal generates a bit of revenue for city coffers and will open up an entire classroom for Town Hall Theatre to use while it figures out a long-term solution.

Large Wight House Application on Hold

By Cathy Tyson

After years of public meetings and countless comments from residents, the very controversial 10,000-square-foot home proposed at the top of Monticello Road got a last minute reprieve when a final decision about the Hillside Development Permit application was continued to the next Lafayette City Council meeting, scheduled for Nov. 10.

Following its first vote on the matter in September, in which the council rejected the permit 4-1, the item was on the council's consent agenda for a second reading and final vote Oct. 27, but a letter was received that day from attorney David Bowie disputing the grading quantities of the project.

Concerns over the proposed home covered a number of topics: an estimated 5,000 truck trips through the narrow residential street, creating a nuisance to neighbors, drainage and hydrology reports, a significant amount of grading, the movement of 6,610 cubic yards of earth – the overall situation contributed to four out of the five city council members not being able to make the required findings to approve the project in September.

Bowie, representing the applicants, Steve and Linda Wight, commented in September that

throughout his lengthy career, "this project has had more attention to it than any other single family home I've ever been involved in." He reminded the council that traffic generated would be on public streets and that the Wights have agreed to a construction management plan that they would fund to provide daily oversight. He also pointed out the important component of the amount of cut and fill grading was the net off-haul of soil – which was originally 1,000 cubic yards and is now down to 310 cubic yards – a minimal amount necessary to widen the driveway to accommodate fire district access.

Neighbors came out in force over the years to express their opinions, which were uniformly negative. "There simply are no mitigation measures that can address either the volume of truck traffic or duration of the project," said Ann Julius, a Monticello Road neighbor, "the only realistic solution is to reduce the size and scope of the project."

Back in 2008, the City of Lafayette approved a Phase 1 application for a 5,900-square-foot home on the property, which expired. The owners then chose in 2011 to meet with a different architect and filed an application for a 10,003-square-foot

home on the 13.66 acre property. The Planning Commission considered the application in 2012 after a continued public hearing and asked that the plans be revised to reduce the height and mass, so the structure wasn't visible above the ridgeline. The commission ultimately denied the application in March of 2012.

That decision was quickly appealed and a de novo hearing was held in July that upheld the applicants' appeal, subject to specific changes.

A new application was filed in May 2013 for a new 9,638-square-foot residence with a 365-square-foot garden room and an attached three-car garage.

As part of the 17-page draft denial resolution the city points out that due process requirements have been met, but that the findings for approval of the project can't be made. Four of the five city council members cited that development grading should be minimized – and that the considerable amount of cut and fill with the project, along with the 5,000-square-foot footprint, is in no way minimal.

Another municipal code section declares that "development will not create a nuisance, or hazard." The majority felt that 5,000 truck trips over roughly 88 weeks to transport

materials and labor create a hazard for drivers, bike riders and pedestrians.

Council Member Mike Anderson saw things differently. "People have a right to build on property that they own," he stated, noting that the long driveway to the home already exists, and some of the grading will be used to widen the road for required fire equipment access. The approximately half-acre site is really the only available spot for the home on a relatively flat saddle portion of the property, and with the proper construction management plan, residents will have a safer neighborhood than they currently have.

There was a bit of lag time after the September council meeting. Council Member Brandt Andersson, an attorney, wanted to give the city's legal staff some time to go over the resolution and look at the basis of denial. After hearing Anderson's comments he suggested it's possible that "prudent people can argue either way."

It is unclear if this continuance will change the final outcome. Going forward, if the project is denied, it's possible the property owners could file suit, or they may submit a new application for a revised project that would be reviewed on its own merits.



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

Capital Projects Assessment Committee reviews the current Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and develops the long-range capital improvement plans for the City.

Community Center Foundation is dedicated to renovating and expanding the Lafayette Community Center.

Creeks Committee encourages beautification of Lafayette's more than 16-miles of creeks and improves residents' awareness of creek maintenance and pollution prevention policies. The committee helps the City's staff ensure compliance with public education requirements under its Storm Water Permit.

Crime Prevention Commission studies safety issues in the City and works to educate the public.

Downtown Street Improvement Master Plan Implementation Committee (DSIMPIC) The Downtown Street Improvement Master Plan, adopted in 1988, guides developers and staff in making improvements to street frontage in downtown Lafayette to develop a cohesive, positive visual image for Lafayette's downtown while providing amenities to make the downtown a more comfortable, safer and enjoyable place.

Senior Services Commission identifies senior concerns and needs; provides information about resources; and promotes community programs and services that enable seniors to live meaningful lives.

Lafayette Representative to the Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging.

Youth Commission coordinates activities and community functions that benefit both the youth and the community-at-large.

For applications and additional information visit the city's website www.ci.lafayette.ca.us or call Joanne Robbins, City Clerk 925-284-1968