Lamorinda Community,

Calendar

City Council 7pm Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Tuesday, Nov 13 Monday, Nov 26

Planning Comm. Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, Nov 1

Thursday, Nov 15 Design Review Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Tuesday, Oct 23 Tuesday, Nov 6

Park, Trails, Rec. Community Center 500 St Mary's Road Wednesday, Nov 14

Circulation 7pm Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, Nov 15

Emergency Prep. 9:15am City Offices 3675 Mt, Diablo Blvd. Suite 265 Wednesday, Nov 14

Youth Services Community Center, Eldenberg Room 500 St Mary's Road Monday, Nov 5

check online: Town of Lafayette: http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us

- all meeting notes
- calendar updates

Chamber of Commerce: http://www.lafayettechamber.org for:

- local businesses
- upcomming events



Vandalism, 10/02/07 Unlucky victim parked and locked his car on the street in front of his home on Green Place and went inside. Owner returned to vehicle about an hour later and saw that the front passenger window was broken. Nothing was missing from the car and there was no other damage.

More Vandalism, 10/02/07 Two sets of expensive golf clubs were taken via the smashed rear window of a vehicle parked in a driveway on Hidalgo Court. The owner of the car and the clubs didn't hear a darn thing. Two sets of clubs, estimated value \$2,500 each, for a total of \$5,000.

Even More Vandalism, 10/01/07 An individual left his car parked and locked in his Warner Court driveway. An unknown suspect smashed the rear passenger window. Nothing was taken and the car was still locked when the police came to investigate. No leads or witnesses.

Yet Another Vehicle Petty Theft, 10/01/07 At about 7:00 p.m. an Audi A4 was parked in the driveway of a Robles Court home. When the owner came out at about 8:30 a.m. the next morning, he found an unknown suspect had entered the car and stolen a silver Canon Elph camera, valued at \$150, and a set of 12 champagne flutes and a silver ice bucket, valued at \$200.

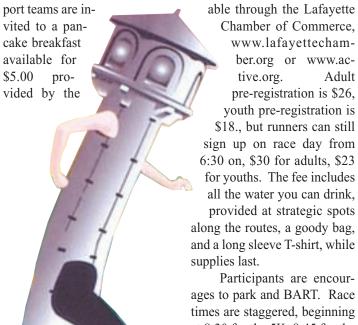
Calendar, Agendas, Notes, News Something for Everyone at the Reservoir Run

Tt's not too late, grab your sneakers, get the dog and head to downtown Lafayette for the 15th annual Reservoir

By Cathy Tyson

Run. The event, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, features a 10K length for serious runners, a 5K run for semiserious runners and a 2-mile race for families with kids in strollers and dogs on leashes. The out and back course starts at Mt. Diablo between First Street and Moraga Road.

Last year over 2,000 people participated, along with scores of sideline supporters. Money raised will be divided between Lafayette schools and the Chamber of Commerce for their services and programs. Music will be provided by Stanley Middle School. After the workout runners and their sup-



Participants are encourages to park and BART. Race times are staggered, beginning at 8:30 for the 5K, 8:45 for the 10K and 9:00 for the 2-mile event. For more information, see www.lafayettechamber.org or see www.YouTube.com for an interesting video – just type in Lafayette Reservoir Run.

At the early October Plan-

ning Commission meeting neigh-

bor Steve Peers surprised most

everyone in attendance and offi-

cially withdrew from the tentative

agreement between Rancho and the

neighbors, citing that year after year

Rancho is not in compliance with

their current use permit and that the

proposed increase to 300 families is

just too many. Another neighbor

spoke up pointing out that Rancho

has reneged on all of its promised

compromises. A third neighbor

complained that she was okay with

25 additional families, but not spe-

cial events that might go until mid-

for five of the last six years noted

that the club has an infrequent park-

ing problem, especially during

swim meets. To address that, Ran-

cho has developed a Parking and

Traffic Management Plan, which

Brad Fox, Rancho Treasurer

night.

Rancho vs. The Neighbors By Cathy Tyson



Lafayette Rotary.

tration is avail-

Pre-regis-

Before Burton Valley's Rancho Colorados Swim and Tennis Club (Rancho) can proceed with a proposed renovation project, the Planning Commission encouraged Rancho's Board of Directors to come to an agreement with the 18 neighbors on the private portion of Rohrer Drive. Since the main building at Rancho has been there since 1960, and is badly in need of improvement and the last request for a membership increase was way back in 1966, one would think changes to Rancho wouldn't be a

problem. Although 84% of Rancho's current 250 families approved plans last year to hire an architect to proceed with the design, adjacent to Rancho the eighteen neighboring families weren't so sure. Their major concerns aren't even about the proposed new 2,395 square foot Clubhouse.

Rather, their primary concern is about increasing the membership from 250 to 300 families and associated impacts. The neighbors would also like Rancho's Board of Directors to certify that Rancho is in compliance with all conditions of approval and that Traffic Manage-

ment guidelines are enforced. These concerns are included in the Planning Commission Staff Report, where staff recommended 14 project specific land use conditions of approval covering everything from hours of operations, to number of swim meets, parking spaces and more.

After spending quite a bit of time meeting with neighbor representatives, Rancho Board President Todd Mullins said the Club has agreed with the neighbors on a number of issues including, removal of proposed tennis court lighting, hours of use, number of swim meets, limited number of members, noise, and the appointment of a Traffic Manager to oversee parking issues.

A letter to the Lafayette Planning Commission received September 26, 2007 from neighbors William Gavan and Tom Lowe stated, "As of this date, Rancho and the neighbors have essentially reached agreement on all of the major issues as outlined in the draft agreement with the exception of the number of member families that will be permitted." It goes on to say they will compromise and agree to

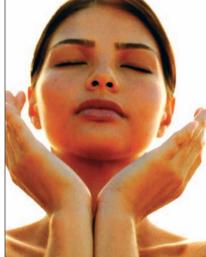


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was reviewed and approved by the Circulation Commission at their September meeting.

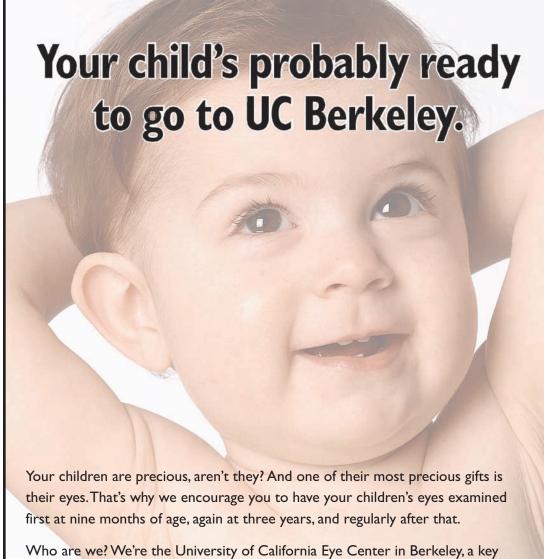
1020 brown avenue lafayette

Mullins added that Rancho has worked hard to educate club users about the private road, posting information on their website, in their quarterly club newsletter, telling outside swim teams specifically where to park and sending out notices to members. He agreed that on occasion in the past, some people have parked illegally, but within a few minutes those cars were moved. Finally, during the last four years serving on the Board there has not been one complaint about parking problems or traffic by the neighbors at a Board meeting.

Parking will continue to be a problem, due to the City's limited ability to enforce parking on a private road. One viable option available to disgruntled homeowners is to tow illegally parked vehicles. At this point, it seems like the neighbors don't like that option. The Planning Commission directed staff to consult with the City Attorney in terms of an enforceable condition of approval pertaining to parking on a private street.

In the end, the Planning Commission was willing to support 25 additional members to Rancho, bringing their current membership to 275 families, provided that the club returns in two years to revisit the process and check on Rancho's compliance with the conditions of approval.

Planning Technician Michael Cass noted, "This has been a somewhat contentious project." This was the sixth public hearing on this matter and it still isn't finalized. The matter is tentatively scheduled to be reviewed by the Design Review Commission on October 23, 2007, prior to returning to the Planning Commission for final action. Stay tuned.



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