

Lamorinda Community

Calendar, Notes, News

Lafayette

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Monday, February 9	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, February 19 February 5 canceled	
Design Review	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Tuesday, February 10	
City of Lafayette: http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us	
Chamber of Commerce: http://www.lafayettechamber.org	

NEW LAFAYETTE LISTING

55 Arie Lane

Stunning New Construction in Reliez Valley!
Boasting architectural charm & quality finishes, this 5005sf Craftsman is situated on a serene .66 acre lvi property ideal for outdoor entertaining or simply retreating to privacy.

This old-fashioned neighborhood is located in the highly acclaimed Lafayette & Acalanes School Districts.

Presented at \$1,995,000




Lamorinda Teen Center
February meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday March 10, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Orinda Community Center

Bond Rating Upgraded to AAA

By Cathy Tyson

Lafayette's Bond rating was recently upgraded from AA to AAA by Standard & Poor's Rating Services. According to City Manager Steve Falk, "That means we'll pay less interest on our bonds, and also that no other California city is now more highly rated than Lafayette. Big kudos go to Administrative Services Director Tracy Robinson and Financial Services Manager Gonzalo Silva for working hard to make it happen; to Lafayette's entire finance team for its extreme competence; and to the Lafayette City Council for holding the line for these many years."

For readers not intimately familiar with the firm, Standard and Poor's is a leader in credit ratings and credit risk analysis. Credit ratings are one of several tools that investors can use when making decisions about purchasing bonds.

Considering these economic tough times, this upgrade is even more impressive. The recent assessment states, "Standard & Poor's Rating Services raised its underlying rating to 'AAA' from 'AA' on Lafayette, California's outstanding general obligation (GO) debt based on our assessment of the city's strong financial performance with, in our view, a very strong unreserved general fund balance."

"This is something that we've been working on - chipping away at - for more than a decade," said Falk. "Credit really goes to the City Council for holding the line on expenditures."

Neighbors Win - Divisive Permit Denied

By Cathy Tyson



Sessions Road neighbors celebrate the Lafayette City Council's decision

Photo Cathy Tyson

After more than two years of public meetings, the controversial development permit application of Lot 66 at the corner of Sessions Road and Sierra Vista Way by former Planning Commissioner Dick Holt was denied, to the great relief of many happy would-be neighbors. Large contingents of them were present to once again lobby their side of the issue. Council Members were torn between the claims from the applicant's attorney and equally persuasive arguments from disgruntled neighbors and elder statesman, former Mayor and Citizen of the Year, Ned Robinson.

The denial was based upon failure to follow specific size reduction instructions. At a December City Council meeting the applicant was advised to "reduce the building gross square

footage to be more consistent with that of the Sierra Vista Way neighborhood which averages 2,400 square feet." Although the square footage was reduced from 2,898 to 2,639, Mayor Tatzin stated that was not enough and with agreement from the other Council Members moved to deny the application.

From the beginning, this story took on a life of its own. Many neighbors felt that the

City Attorney should not have deemed the lot buildable in the first place and that the original application was filled with errors. "It should not be upon these two dozen homeowners to have to defend their deeded easements at great expense simply because Holt was able to manipulate his erroneous application through the Planning Department," said Pam Swarts.

... continued on page 6



Trunk Attack, 1/23/09 -

A woman parked her car and left it in a lot on Thompson Road. She returned to find the Toyota MR2 Spider in a different condition than she had left it. An unknown suspect had ransacked the vehicle and removed property without her permission. The suspect also pried open the front hood/trunk of the vehicle. Nothing was taken from the trunk. Fresh pry marks and paint chips were discovered on both sides of the front hood/trunk. Be on the lookout for suspicious individuals carrying crowbars.

Minor Plus Marijuana Equals Arrest, 1/23/09 -

A Lafayette Police Officer spotted a car parked in front of a closed business on Mt. Diablo Boulevard. The officer approached the vehicle and the minor occupant submitted to a vehicle search. The officer happened to discover a digital scale and a metal grinder in the glove compartment and both items happened to have a green leafy residue on them. The officer kept looking and then happened to discover two glass smoking pipes and 72.7 grams of a leafy plant material inside a jar in the suspect's

backpack. The minor suspect admitted to being an enterprising young businessperson in the marijuana trade. The minor was arrested and released to his father. The case was referred to the Lafayette Police Department Youth Services Officer.

Repeat Offender, 1/24/09 -

Lafayette Police spotted a white Acura driving on First Street. The officer pulled the vehicle over for having its left tail light out. As it turned out, the driver happened to be driving on a suspended license. The driver apparently has quite a habit of driving on a suspended license since he has 8 prior convictions within the last 12 months for the same offense.

Do You Have Gas? 1/26/09 -

A concerned Old Tunnel Road resident called police when an unfamiliar subject appeared outside his front door. The subject asked the resident if he had any gas and appeared to be incoherent. Lafayette Police contacted the subject nearby and determined he was intoxicated and unable to care for himself. He was arrested and transported to the Martinez Detention Facility. It is not known if the subject was asking for gasoline or if he was asking an inappropriate personal question.

the bar method

www.barmethod.com
childcare available

Walnut Creek, CA
1946A Mt. Diablo Blvd.
925.933.1946

San Ramon, CA
3211 Crow Canyon Place
925.830.8825

LONG FIRM THIGHS
LIFTED SEAT
FLAT ABS
SCULPTED ARMS



diablo BEST EAST BAY WINNER

2006 2007 2008 2009

Diablo Magazine Best of the East Bay "Best Butt Kicking Workout"

New Client Special*

30 days of unlimited classes for \$100

*Visit www.barmethodeastbay.com to send you and your friends a free trial class.

5A has never had such great discounts....

\$15 gets you into Any Size Unit!*

Take a Tour & get a FREE Terzetto's Coffee Card




Use our FREE Truck to help you move in!

*\$15 move in on new rentals only. Exp.2/28/09 ask Mgr. for details. Ask about our "Free Truck" or rental truck rebate.



925-631-7000

455 Moraga Road Suite F

www.5Aspace.com

MORAGA

