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Lafayette

Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

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

Planning Commission

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

Design Review

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

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, May 2, 7:30 pm
Board Room AUHSD Office
1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, May 9, 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

Police Report



Dear Readers: We are experiencing difficulty obtaining detailed crime reports from the Lafayette police departments, which is staffed by the Contra Costa County Sheriff. Please bear with us as we try to determine how to best serve the public given the limited information that is being made available to us.

please...



...thanks!

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.

Send a letter to the editor:

letters@lamorinda
weekly.com

Council Hears Zoning Update

By Cathy Dausman

The possible rezoning of the familiar "Christmas tree lot" property at the corner of Deer Hill Road and Pleasant Hill Road was less about substance than having a say during a lightly attended April 9 Lafayette City Council meeting. City Attorney Mala Subramanian read a prepared zoning update statement to the Council that described a brief history of the parcels along Deer Hill Road.

An application for development was received for a large multi-family project called the Terraces of Lafayette in the midst of city-spon-

sored discussions about possible down-zoning. Because the city is required to process the application, which includes an environmental review, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is expected to be completed by late April that will outline impacts of the proposed development.

"The data collected for the environmental review will likely provide new and useful information for the city as it makes final determinations regarding the most appropriate zoning designation for the property," said Subramanian in her report to the

City Council. Any action on zoning will have to wait for the completed EIR, and a subsequent thorough review.

The controversial project already has neighbors concerned. Traci Reilly said the process described in the staff report, "wasn't an accurate depiction of what was happening." Cliff Wagener added that he "can't see how it [the proposed development] can be done safely," arguing he thinks the area has the worst traffic in Lafayette.

David Bowie, counsel for the O'Brien Land Company, spoke next,

making it clear his client opposes rezoning of the site as there are "no rational grounds for it."

Only once the EIR has been completed will the application be considered by the city's Planning Commission, as Council Members reminded speakers they were not discussing the application that evening.

As if to clear the air, Council Member Don Tatzin commented, "We're getting too much into the definition of what 'is' is." And so, after 20 minutes of speakers and back and forth, Mayor Carol Federighi said simply, "We move on..."

Local Family Shares Art in New Exhibit at Library

By Cathy Tyson



From left: Liam, Lucas, Valentina, wife Jen, Sebastian, Zackary and Alan Photo provided by Brian Goggins at the outdoor plaza at First Street and Golden Gate Way, or

and Learning Center is a hidden gem.

Unless you're a regular attendee at municipal meetings like City Council or happen to enjoy functions sponsored by the Library Foundation in the Community Hall, it's fairly easy to miss out on the Gallery tucked into the main event space at the Library.

There have been a number of interesting exhibits since the doors officially opened in November of 2009. Members of the Public Art Committee, who are all working artists, have been diligently fulfilling their mission statement to secure art that will "contribute to the cultural enrichment of residents and visitors with a diverse and stimulating cultural environment."

Lauren Faulkner, Art Manager for

the Varella family, reports that, "Friend, fellow board member at the Oakland Museum of California and member of the Public Art Committee, Sandra Wolfe, approached Alan (Varela) regarding the loan of pieces from his collection to be featured in the exhibition series: Lafayette Collects." In appreciation of the Varella family's generosity, there was a reception at the Gallery to kick off the exhibit.

When asked about his motivation for sharing part of their private collection, Varela responded, "As a resident of Lafayette with five school-age children, it is important to my wife and I to pursue every opportunity to bring enrichment and diverse education into the community."

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