



Lafayette

Public Meetings

City Council

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

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Sept. 4, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

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

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Aug. 22, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
District Office Board Room
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

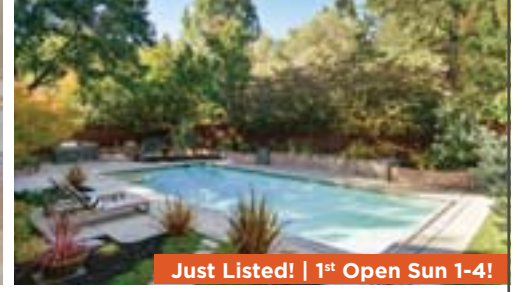
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Condos proposed for Lafayette Circle

By Pippa Fisher



Plans for the proposed mixed-purpose retail/condominiums development on Lafayette Circle are moving forward to the consent calendar for resolution and condi-

tions of approval in early September.

Commissioners heard from city staff and from the developer, Lenox Homes' president Dan Freeman, together with architect Newell Arnerich who described the proposed 12-unit condo building at the Aug. 6 planning commission meeting.

The three-story structure will sit at 210 Lafayette Circle, on the site of the old Spruzzo's restaurant and a parking lot, neighboring the site of last year's fire that burned the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce offices and the La Finestra restaurant.

Utilizing a mixture of natural materials, the project comprises 12 residential units ranging in living space size from 657 square feet to 1,813 square feet including two units on the first floor, which will be ADA-accessible and available at below market rates to moderate-income households. Additionally the project will provide 1,007 square feet of ground floor retail space. It features a courtyard, and terraces and balconies on all levels.

City Planning and Building Director Niroop Srivatsa explained that the project complies with the

general plan as well as the downtown specific plan for the area. It complies with parking requirements, utilizing car lifts to save garage space. Notably it provides considerable bike storage, too, which combined with enhanced pathways, is part of an attempt to discourage the use of cars, said Arnerich.

A pathway will lead back to the creek and the developer will work in time with the city to provide a bridge over the creek.

Srivatsa explained to the commissioners that the project has been before the design review commission twice and that they are now recommending the PC approve the project, with certain recommendations, many of which the developer is already working on such as meeting the public art requirement.

The commission took public comment, hearing from seven in-

dividuals, mostly neighbors who expressed their desire to see this project move forward. One neighbor, however, did not support it, saying that this would be more appropriate to Walnut Creek or San Francisco.

Planning Commissioner Kristina Sturm expressed some concern over creek frontage use, hoping that a more active use will be encouraged, suggesting perhaps a bench and educational signage.

Planning Commission Vice Chair Steven Bliss suggested this was a "keystone project" and said that he was glad to see the effort made by the applicant to work with the city in their direction.

A motion recommending approval subject to conditions was supported unanimously. Staff will now prepare a draft approval resolution and conditions of approval, which will appear as a consent calendar item at the Sept. 4 meeting.



Acalanes Class of '68 celebrates 50 years

By Pippa Fisher



Class leaders in 1968: Diane Currier, Dawn Ide, John Rarig, Joe Fox and Rob Olson. Photos provided



Current reunion committee members, standing: Brynn Brown (Christiansen), Roger Boothe, Anne Coleman (Magrath), Ron Dawson, Linda Momsen (Querio) and Denne Calloway; seated: Jim Hale, Chuck Baumann, and Deidre Lingenfelter (Currier).

They came of age listening to Elvis Presley to a backdrop of the Vietnam War and assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy. It was Lafayette's first year as a city. And now the Acalanes class of 1968 is preparing to celebrate its 50th high school reunion in the same year as the 50th anniversary of the city's incorporation.

They were the first wave of baby boomers, all born in 1949 or 1950. "None of us thought much about it at the time and the fact that most of our parents fought in World War II just seemed like a typical family function. The reality is that we all came from postwar families and were some of the first to move from the cities to the 'burbs," says organizer and class of '68 graduate Chuck Baumann. He remembers that Lafayette back in the '50s was a very rural area.

Baumann notes that this group was unique in that they have all stayed very close friends. "You would think that after 50 years we would all drift away - our classmates are spread all around the country - and yet, so many have made the commitment to

travel here to enjoy a wonderfully planned weekend to share with fellow classmates from 50 years ago," he says.

Baumann is expecting a big turnout for three days of celebrations.

It kicks off with a golf tournament at Boundary Oaks in Walnut Creek at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 24 followed by a tour of Acalanes High School and then a "meet and greet" at El Charro from 5 to 6:30 p.m. They are expecting more than 50 classmates to attend.

The reunion itself will be held at the Orinda Country Club from 5 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 25. Baumann says that the evening will be filled with all types of exciting events, with several live bands and musicians, and entertainment provided by a classmate who has been playing on Broadway in New York for the past 43 years.

A highlight of the evening is sure to be the first viewing in 50 years of a movie made by several of the students back in 1968 called "Race." It is a silent movie, recently transferred from reel-to-reel onto DVD. ... continued on page A8

Considering Making a Move This Fall?



Photo by Megan Allen

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