

Pillar – more than just a space to work in Lafayette

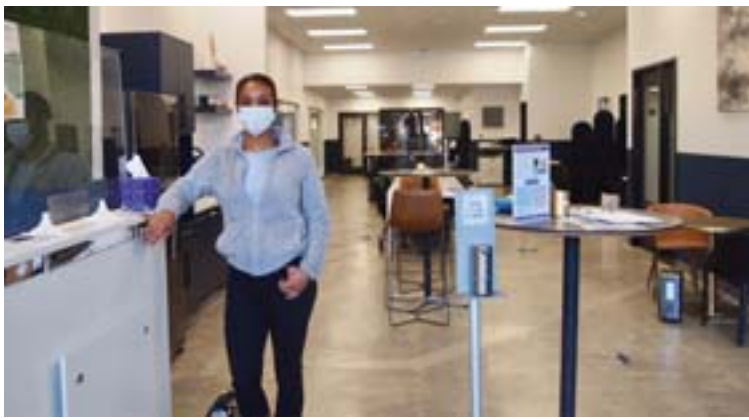


Photo Pippa Fisher

Amirh Davis, who co-founded Pillar co-working space in Lafayette with her business partner Christina Iguodala, is always happy to give tours of the new facility which includes high quality childcare.

By Pippa Fisher

It was an idea two years in the making, born out of the demand, identified by two moms juggling working from home and caring for an infant, for a space to work while keeping their small children safely nearby. The state-of-the-art, co-working space in downtown Lafayette opened its doors in early March ... and, per state guidelines, was forced to shut its doors just two weeks later.

The pandemic is challenging for many, of course, but especially for those entrepreneurs launching a brand new endeavor right at the start of the shelter-in-place.

Pillar is located at 3515 Mt. Diablo Blvd. opposite Whole Foods Market. Amirh Davis, who founded the facility together with her partner Christina Iguodala, is clearly very proud of the beautiful facility, which she explains reopened in accordance with COVID guidelines over the summer.

With a philosophy of providing a space for creativity and cultivating connection, the 5,000-square-foot building has been designed to provide individual, private offices, meeting rooms, training rooms, and an on-site, adjacent childcare facility, complete with a safe, outdoor play area as well as a nap space for children and a room for nursing mothers.

Both Davis and Iguodala recognized the demand for a quality work space outside the home, combined with the option of keeping infants and small children close by. They realized co-working facilities offering childcare were very rare.

In fact the childcare offered by Pillar is much more

than just childcare, with a play-based, specialist-designed, emergent curriculum allowing children to explore and develop as individually appropriate. Qualified Early Childhood Education teachers use art, dramatic play, blocks, music and movement, literacy, math and science to guide learning.

Davis says that one of their ideas is to work with Sparkles & Joy Founder Semira Moslem (see story in Nov. 11 issue of Lamorinda Weekly). Given the current COVID tier and occupancy restrictions, plans are not yet finalized but, according to Moslem, “The hope is we’ll have a pop-up some time in Q1 at Pillar for current and prospective Sparkles & Joy customers featuring a chef’s special appetizer along with non-alcoholic beverages to promote both Sparkles & Joy along with Pillar’s amazing workspace and founders.”

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jay Lifson recognizes the hard work Davis and Iguodala are investing in this facility. “Amirh and Christina are dynamic entrepreneurs who have much to share,” he says.

Currently Pillar has reduced seating capacity in all shared spaces, meeting rooms and café areas to allow for proper social distancing, and have added additional private offices and workspace options to provide increased isolation.

Pillar offers flexible membership plans and welcomes drop-ins. Currently childcare options do not include drop-ins – parents must reserve a space online in advance – in order to help keep stable cohorts of children.

For more information on Pillar, visit <https://pillarcowork.com/>

Lafayette discusses significant rezoning

... continued from Page A2

“How profoundly ludicrous this entire thing is right now... why we’re even talking about it tonight and not waiting until we figure out how to keep people and our community safe.”

Candell suggested looking also at other areas in the city, specifically the area opposite Oakwood Athletic Club.

Council members and commissioners heard public comments from over a dozen callers, some only now becoming aware of these issues. While some worried about the increased traffic on already congested streets, and the visual impacts of multi-story housing in the down-

town and around BART, others had concerns over possible parking woes if BART development didn’t include adequate commuter parking.

Several others, however, urged the city to move forward quickly, especially with the BART development and reminded the city of the critical need for affordable housing near transit in order to make Lafayette a more inclusive city.

It was a unanimous vote to take four possible scenarios forward, as well as the area opposite Oakwood, for staff to assess further.

The public will have another opportunity Dec. 15 to hear more on the subject of housing at the General Plan Advisory Committee meeting.

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community. Send a letter to the editor: letters@lamorindaweekly.com



Lafayette Public Meetings

Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, Dec. 21, 7 p.m.
Teleconference Meeting with Love Lafayette YouTube
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>

Design Review

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m. Zoom Teleconference Meeting with Love Lafayette YouTube
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>

City Council

Special Meeting
Wednesday, Dec. 9, 6:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting
Monday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.
Teleconference via City of Lafayette's YouTube Channel:
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>



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30-Day Snapshot of Lamorinda Sales

Address	Bed	Bath	Sq. Ft.	Sold Price
3179 Stanley Blvd	3	1	1124	\$1,050,000
3720 Magwood Ct	3	2	1888	\$1,000,000
31 Westminister Pl	3	2	1508	\$1,130,000
3265 Wooded Creek Ln	4	2	2031	\$1,225,000
3148 Oak Hill Rd	3	1	1594	\$1,200,000
3164 Somerset Place	4	3	2194	\$1,230,000
3371 Sweet Cr.	4	3	2232	\$1,350,000
3131 Sandalwood Court	4	2	1589	\$1,500,000
3281 SOGA	3	2.5	2719	\$1,361,000
1308 Mariano Rd	3	2	1886	\$1,710,000
35 Via La Cumbre	4	3	3090	\$1,340,000
3402 Blackhawk Rd	3	2	1835	\$1,485,000
3190 Diablo View Rd	4	3	3034	\$1,507,000
28 Greenline Ct	4	3	4531	\$1,790,000
1179 Glen Rd.	4	3	2072	\$1,977,000
3839 Boyer Cr	4	2	2794	\$1,641,725
3225 Greenhill Drive	4	2.5	2956	\$1,860,000
2 Middle Rd	4	3	2823	\$1,905,000
14 Northridge Ln	4	3.5	3290	\$2,008,000
3259 Summit Drive	4	3.5	3225	\$2,150,000
3230 Greenhill Cr	5	3.5	4899	\$2,200,000
3893 Quail Ridge Rd	4	3	3528	\$2,150,000
50 Rancho Diablo Rd	3	2.5	2342	\$2,050,000
3445 Silver Springs Rd	3	2	1917	\$2,175,000
3864 El Nido Ranch Rd	4	3.5	3499	\$2,300,000
1148 Hercules Street	4	4	3671	\$2,360,000
3443 Solano Ct	4	3.5	3434	\$2,460,000
1207 Camino Vallecito	4	4.5	4189	\$2,290,000
2976 Wilshire Ct.	3	3.5	3136	\$2,280,000
3295 Los Arroyos Cr	5	4	3476	\$2,410,000
3024 Via Ruess	4	4.5	3787	\$2,354,650
3172 Camino Colowado	5	4.5	3256	\$2,510,000
1982 Walter Valley Road	4	4.5	4748	\$2,790,000
3103 Happy Valley Rd	5	4.5	4070	\$1,828,795
3229 Upper Happy Valley Rd	5	4.5	3665	\$4,560,000

Address	Bed	Bath	Sq. Ft.	Sold Price
25 Gloria Ct	4	3	2421	\$1,650,000
3097 Westham Cr	4	2	2189	\$1,532,000
352 Danefield Pl	4	2	2055	\$1,825,000
32 Crockett Cr	4	3	3012	\$1,875,000
208 Promenade Rd.	4	2.5	3131	\$2,071,000
2 Crockett Drive	4	3	3453	\$2,540,000
8 Southard Ct	5	4	4132	\$2,695,000

Address	Bed	Bath	Sq. Ft.	Sold Price
10 El Topomal	3	1.5	1157	\$485,000
34 El Topomal	3	2	1457	\$1,030,000
88 Woodstock Rd	3	2	1517	\$1,079,000
14 Eastwood Dr	4	2	1632	\$1,262,000
22 Knickerbocker Ln	3	2.5	2180	\$1,690,000
48 La Vuella	4	3	2129	\$1,626,000
191 Moraga Way	3	2	1799	\$1,200,000
39 Charles Hill Rd	5	3	3720	\$1,518,999
5 Madrone Pl	3	3.5	1869	\$1,310,000
50 Bates Blvd	4	3	2050	\$1,415,000
57 Van Ripper Ln	3	2	2390	\$1,530,000
44 El Camino Moraga	3	2	1883	\$1,650,000
32 Evergreen Dr	4	3	2418	\$1,630,000
4812 Alvar Rd	3	3.5	2790	\$1,640,000
3813 Glorietta Blvd	4	2.5	2914	\$1,781,000
14 Camino Salsarita	4	3.5	3126	\$1,790,000
32 Soem Drives	3	3	2850	\$1,690,000
21 Los Arroyos	4	3.5	3739	\$1,830,000
521 Tates Rd.	4	2.5	2814	\$1,890,000
293 Ivy Place	4	2	2788	\$1,200,000
34 Sanborn Rd	4	3	2920	\$1,828,000
4 Candevick Rd	4	2.5	2448	\$1,980,000
60 Southwood Drive	3	3	2905	\$1,929,000
46 Valley Dr	4	3.5	3190	\$1,870,000
28 Via Caldeas	5	2.5	3641	\$1,920,000
305 Southwest Ct	3	3.5	3850	\$1,400,000
38 Valley Dr	4	4	3213	\$2,175,000
56 Summerville Ln	4	4.5	3138	\$2,300,000
46 Martha Road	4	2.5	2648	\$1,810,000
37 Oak Rd	5	4	4672	\$2,300,000
2 North Lane	5	3	3874	\$1,830,000
31 Olivine View Rd	4	4	3519	\$2,375,000
2 Casa Vieja	4	3.5	4186	\$2,900,000
7 Annie Road	5	4	5301	\$1,179,000
32 Candle Yr	4	4.5	4894	\$1,300,000
41 Donald	4	4.5	3929	\$1,625,000
10 Garden Ct	5	4.5	5396	\$1,540,000
48 Charles Hill Road	6	3.5	5953	\$3,700,000

Address	Bed	Bath	Sq. Ft.	Sold Price
148 Oranger Dr	3	2	1402	\$1,300,000
3972 Campolindo Dr	3	2	1756	\$1,130,000
17 Wooded Cr	4	2	1565	\$1,830,000
3736 Campolindo Dr	4	2.5	2309	\$1,340,000
3933 Paseo Grande	4	2.5	2341	\$1,345,000
1842 School St	5	3	1917	\$1,349,000
82 Marie Pl	5	3	2208	\$1,389,000
267 Lakefield Pl	5	2.5	2424	\$1,350,000
1355 Camino Patiso	4	2.5	3790	\$1,400,000
3866 School Street	4	2	2055	\$1,555,000

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