

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Decadent Ribbon Cutting, Anyone?

The French Bakery, 71 Lafayette Circle, 283-0224

The French Bakery will hold a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on August 28th at 4:40 p.m.

A place for afternoon tea, lunch and deserts, located in the charming white bungalow on Lafayette circle. Business hours are Tuesday to Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cell Phones for Soldiers

Prudential California Realty, 999 Oak Hill Road, Lafayette, Contact: M'lissa Cassidy, 283-7000

The Lafayette office is proud to announce that they are an official drop-off location for the Cell Phones for Soldiers Program. With the combined efforts of the Bergquists, and ReCellular, every used cell phone donated will provide one hour of free talk time to soldiers serving abroad. Every 16 months, U.S. consumers retire an estimated 150 million cell phones and less than 10 percent of those phones are recycled. ReCellular pays Cell Phones for Soldiers enough to provide an hour of talk time per phone for soldiers abroad. Cell Phone for Soldiers was founded by teenagers Robbie and Brittany Bergquist from Norwell, Mass. Since the beginning, they have raised enough money to send 500,000 prepaid calling cards to soldiers serving overseas. ReCellular works with a recycling partner to reclaim materials from every component that is donated.

In Lafayette, agent Barbara Harkins brought the flyer into the office and the group decided to collect phones at work. To participate, simply drop off your used phone to the Prudential Office any weekday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. or call M'lissa Cassidy to arrange for a pick up. "We just want to help our troops and their family," says Cassidy, "it's an easy thing to do, and we want to keep it going as long as possible."



Barbara Harkins (left) and M'lissa Cassidy get ready to send a phone
Courtesy of Prudential Realty

SZFM Design Studio Wins Awards

Sudhish Mohindroo and Eric Maltman are proud to announce that SZFM

has received three awards from the Pacific Coast Builders Conference 2008 Gold Nugget Awards Program:

Grand Award for Shuey Podva Building in Danville; Award of Merit for Lafayette Mercantile; Award of Merit for Salvio Pacheco Square in Concord.

SZFM was the architect partnering with developer Steve Cortese to design the Lafayette Mercantile located on Mt. Diablo Blvd between Lafayette Circle and Dewing Ave. "Our primary focus was how the building would integrate within the framework of the public space," said Mohindroo, who has a wealth of experience in urban planning and esthetics. He believes that a timeless and elegant design is the key for a development to be successful and last. "The upper floors where the offices are provide the classical frame that supports the creativity and life brought by the retailers at the street level," adds the architect. The star theme that runs all over the buildings adds to its appeal and cohesion.

Garden Lights Landscape & Pool Development (254-4797) Wins 8 Awards at Annual CLCA Chapter Banquet

Orinda business owner Steve Lambert of Garden Lights Landscape Development received eight top honors at this year's "Beautification Awards" presented June 7th at the Pleasanton Hotel by the CLCA's (California Landscape Contractors Association) East Bay Chapter President. The awards include: Judges Award "Best of the Best" – Large Design/Build, Bluford Residence, Orinda; First Place - Medium Residential Installation, Shellenbeck Residence, Moraga; First Place - Small Design/Build Installation, Vega Residence, Moraga, First Place - Special Effects Lighting, Dunne Residence, Orinda. "It's really rewarding to have your work recognized by your peers in the industry," said Lambert.



"Best of the Best" – Large Design/Build, Bluford Residence, Orinda

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce

- No mixer in August
- Wednesday August 21st, Entrepreneur Club meeting, starting at 8:30 a.m. in the Chamber's office
- Rock the Plaza continues at the corner of Mt Diablo Blvd and Moraga Rd. On August 8th come and hear Stagefrite, on the 15th the Ramblers and on the 22nd the Spazmatic. Concerts are free of charge, food sold by Lafayette Rotary Club.

Moraga Chamber of Commerce

- The August Chamber meeting day and time was changed. Chamber members and their spouses are invited to participate in a Barbeque on Tuesday, August 26th at the Moraga Commons Park from 6 to 7:30 p.m.
- Aug 28th the Chamber will be present at the St Mary's fair for new students from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. 600 to 800 new students will be present on campus with their parents. Anybody interested in participating needs to contact Edy Schwartz at Edy321@comcast.net before August 10th.

Orinda Chamber of Commerce

- Chamber Breakfast Meeting 8:00 a.m. - August 28th at Shelby's Restaurant -Theater Square. Cost \$10.00 (paid at door). The guest Speaker will be Tom Chen of the Subcommittee for Emergency Preparedness. He will address the following topic: "Is Orinda Ready?"
 1. Major natural hazard impacting Orinda businesses
 2. Local and regional response capabilities and resources
 3. Structural and infrastructure vulnerabilities affecting Orinda business
 4. Mitigation alternatives and recommendations
 5. Getting Orinda businesses prepared