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## business briefs

### Sandy's Temporary Move

As owners Sandy and Louis Richard prepare to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and the 33rd anniversary of their clothing store, Sandy's, they've also had to move their well located store on Mt Diablo Boulevard in Lafayette (next to Postino, Radio Shack, Patchi's and Tart) to the back of the building while renovations are taking place. "We are looking forward to the change," said Richard, "we will take that opportunity to change our decor and we'll take a fresh look at our collection." Richard is not afraid of moving. As a secondary business he and his family have moved their primary residence eight times over the past 30 years, renovating and improving homes primarily in Lafayette. "We are used to packing and unpacking and living in a construction zone," says Richards, "every year we've had quite a lot of people coming in, but this year, not many made the effort to come by." The company that owns, and is renovating, the building paid for a prominent sign to be painted on the plywood that blocks the entrance of the old store. "Our regular clients come, but otherwise, the only foot traffic we have are the people who dine at Patchi's and have time to roam around while their pizza is cooked." Richards says that he is grateful for the owner to have paid for the sign. The plan is to get back into their normal space sometime at the beginning of 2012. "The City of Lafayette is planning to renovate our stretch of sidewalk," says Richards, "it is my understanding that the work has to be approved by the end of the year to take advantage of federal funding. We won't go back to our space until it is finished." Richards already has ideas about the new space: "Over the years, our merchandise has evolved toward special occasion clothing," he says, "our decor was contemporary/industrial style; we want the new Sandy's to be more cozy and inviting. It will be really beautiful."

### Open House at the Contra Costa Academy on October 9th

Former Stanley and Campolindo student, and recent graduate from University of California San Diego (with a degree in Computer Arts), Bobby Mazaheri, decided to start his own business when he had problems finding his dream job after graduation. A few months ago he started the Contra Costa Academy, an after school program for children who want to learn game creation on I-phones, apps, animation, etc. The four-week session take place Monday-Thursday 3:45-4:30 pm at 3400 Mt. Diablo Blvd Lafayette. On October 9th, an Open House will be an opportunity for his first students to showcase their work. Parents and students are invited to come and take a look. Mazaheri has taught for four years and has published many games. He gained industry experience working for Electronic Arts, Sony, and Bandai/Konami. For more information go to [www.contracostacademy.com](http://www.contracostacademy.com).

### News from the three Chambers of Commerce Lafayette

- Shop Lafayette Committee Meeting, October 11th, 12:00-1:00 pm in the Chamber meeting room
- Monthly Mixer, October 12th, 5:30-7 pm at ManorCare Health Services, 1226 Rossmoor Pkwy, Walnut Creek
- Ribbon Cutting for Studio Jule, October 13, 5-5:30 pm at 1024 Oak Hill Road, Lafayette

### Moraga

General Meeting Friday, September 30, 7:30 am at the Hacienda de las Flores. The topic for this month's meeting is important information about the needs of Moraga's infrastructure. Whether you live in Moraga or not, this information is important for you to have.

### Orinda

Business Neighborhood Watch Meeting, Thursday, October 13, 8:00 am, at Kattenburg Architects, 11 Moraga Way, #3, Orinda. The group aims to prevent crime in Orinda businesses and is supported by the Orinda Police Department. Coffee will be provided. RSVP via email to [info@orindachamber.org](mailto:info@orindachamber.org) or phone (925) 254-3909.

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