

Published December 21st, 2011

business briefs



Jay Lifson, in the Santa mobile, launches the 3/50 Shop Local campaign at La Fiesta Square. Photo Robin Fox

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Coldwell Banker announced that Chad Morrison has joined the company as a sales associate in its Orinda office. In his new position, Morrison will specialize in residential sales throughout the East Bay. Prior to joining Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Morrison was president of the real estate development company, C.E.M Development Inc. He recently completed an intensive training program through Allied, which emphasized the principles and techniques of real estate. Morrison may be reached directly at (925) 253-4650 or via email at Chad.Morrison@camoves.com.

News from the three Chambers of Commerce
Lafayette

Lafayette 3/50 campaign was launched by Executive Director Jay Lifson on Sunday December 11, in Santa's own car, along the streets of Lafayette's business district. Residents were handed cards on which they could pledge to spend \$50 in at least three different local businesses during the holiday season, then send their receipts to the Chamber before January 6th to be entered in the "Thanks for Shopping Lafayette Raffle" - the grand prize is a \$500 gift card. "Driving in Santa's Lafayette caravan was fun," said Social Media Coach and Chamber volunteer Robin Fox, who accompanied Lifson in the back of the GTO convertible. "People on the street were surprised. We waved. Cars honked. Then, when we pulled into La Fiesta Square, what looked like a birthday party suddenly emerged. The kids saw Santa in the red and white Nash and broke into smiles. All fun!" Contact the Chamber for information, (925) 284-7404, 100 Lafayette Circle, Suite 103, Lafayette, CA 94549.

Moraga

The Chamber of Commerce needs help. In 2011 your Moraga Chamber of Commerce brought to its Membership instructional, interactive lectures, educational seminars and forums, great booth participation at Town-sponsored events and enjoyable mixers complete with music, food, beverage and great networking opportunities. As the Chamber moves into 2012, it needs everyone to find an event/program to volunteer, even if only for an hour. Contact kathe@moragachamber.org.

Free Holiday Wrapping at 5A-Rent-A-Space: December 1st through the 23rd, Santa's Secret Wrapping Room at 5A Rent-A-Space features everything you need from tables and chairs, lots of colorful wrapping paper, ribbons and tape. What to do with the kids? Bring them along! There will be fun coloring and crafts to keep them busy.

Orinda

Mark your 2012 calendar: The Chamber's Orinda Country Club Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, February 24, noon to 1:30pm at the Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante. The cost is \$30 per person. The luncheon's speaker will be award-winning weekend anchor for NBC Bay Area News, and Orinda resident, Diane Dwyer.

Numia Offers Free Accounting Software for Small Businesses
www.Numia.biz

Nicholas Gerber, who made a name for himself as a candidate in the US Senate election of 2008, is now offering a free, 'in-the-cloud', accounting software for small businesses. "Anyone can access our site at numia.biz, create a company and start using our software for free," says Gerber, "an unlimited number users from the same company can be located on different continents, they can be given access to see or edit all or part of the data, that are always available 'in the cloud'." "The National Association of Accountants does not endorse 'cloud-accounting' for security reasons," notes local CPA Kathy Macchi, "but as security improves, that position might change." "We chose to have our server in England because the privacy laws are better there, the data is encrypted too; it's an 'https' address," says Gerber. Right now Numia is for service-based business, not retail, Gerber adds, "Still, we already have 3000 clients, 1/3 in India, 1/3 in United States and the last third in the rest of the world."

New Sales Associate at Coldwell Banker, Orinda
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Reach the reporter at: info@lamorindaweekly.com

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