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## business briefs

By Sophie Braccini



(Loot in Lafayette): Betsey Hecht in the store Photo Sophie Braccini

Loot, 3598 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, 283-3800 Just a few months ago, Loot moved from College Avenue on the other side of the tunnel to Mount Diablo Boulevard in Lafayette. Ron Morgan is the owner of the business and Betsey Hecht the store manager. Morgan is a flower arrangement artist who teaches all over the country. He has an eye to discern the interesting objects that just need a touch of renovation to become fabulous, and he collects his "loot" everywhere he goes. The result can be found in the store tucked on Mount Diablo Boulevard across from the Mercantile, filled with an eclectic mix of marvelous home accessories with a broad range of prices, from very affordable gifts to stunning place setting and flowers. "We have felt very welcomed in Lafayette," says Hecht, "we had worked for years in Piedmont and Oakland but the rise of crime there made it impossible to stay. Here the synergy is good and our business is doing very well." Morgan teaches flower arranging in the store as well, the next class will be on September 22nd, call the store for details. For the Sassy Shoe Lover- Sacsies in Lafayette [www.sacsies.com](http://www.sacsies.com) Sheena Shastri lives in Orinda and is passionate about shoes. In January, she launched a product that she created called Sacsies. Sacsies are fashionable shoe totes designed for women's shoes, for travel and closet storage. They are unique in design and functional: they have a cylinder shape which cradles the shoes, an easy closure seal allowing adequate ventilation and the quilted lining creates added cushion to pad the shoes; the viewing window allows for an easy selection of shoes in your closet since you can see which pair is in each bag.

### From the three Chambers of Commerce

Tri-Chamber meeting Stratford at Countrywood invited the Chambers of Commerce for a joint meeting on September 10th. The event was well attended and very lively, a perfect venue to talk about synergies and make new business connections. Keith Miller, President of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce and Edy Schwartz, President of the Moraga Chamber of Commerce thanked the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce for organizing the Tri-Chamber events. Jay Lifson extended an invitation to Moraga and Orinda Chamber members to join all Lafayette Chamber events in the future.

### Lafayette Chamber of Commerce

- September 20th and 21st: Let's all go to the Arts and Wine Festival!

- Entrepreneurs Club on September 18th starting at 8:30 a.m. The Club is on the road again, going to "Clocks Etc.", 971 Moraga Rd in Lafayette.
- Business Issues Committee on Thursday, September 25th at 8 a.m. in the Chamber Conference Room.

### **Moraga Chamber of Commerce**

- September 27th: Let's all go to the Pear Festival!
- September Chamber meeting Friday, September 26 8 a.m. at Fireside Room in the Hacienda with speaker Rhonda Chaikin, who will share with the Chamber ideas for "Greening Your Business Environment" Orinda Chamber of Commerce
- September 30th: Let's all go to the Restaurant Tour!
- Orinda Chamber Mixer at the de Laveaga Estate on September 25th - 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Parking is very limited on the property. The Chamber will be shuttling guests to the site. Catch the shuttles in front of the Orinda Library and Chamber office.

### **The Orinda Chamber**

proposes to its members a unique visit with one of the most emblematic family of Orinda. The de Laveagas have continuously occupied the property where their ancestor built their house in 1888. Thanks to Marty Stewart De Laveaga and her family chamber members will be able to walk back in time and see her great grandparent's house



Tri Chamber Mixer

If you have a business brief to share, please contact Sophie Braccini at [sophie@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sophie@lamorindaweekly.com) or call our office at 925-377-0977.

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[back](#)

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