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Published October 12th, 2011 business briefs

Ribbon Cutting for Studio Jule 1024 Oak Hill Road, Lafayette 385-0155, www.jlapportephoto.com

On Thursday, October 13 at 5:00 p.m., Studio Jule will hold a ribbon cutting to celebrate its installation in a charming little downtown bungalow. Juleen Lapporte, the talented Lafayette resident and photographer, decided after about nine years in business to move her operations out of her home. "My family told me that they wanted to see pictures of themselves in the house, not of clients anymore!" With two teenage daughters in the house, it was time to separate her family and work life. Lapporte started her professional career as an environmental scientist analyzing data for Quality Assurance/Quality Control. After having children she looked for another way to balance her life. Lapporte finds that her work brings out the artist in her, while still using some of her love of math and science. "There is a scientific part to photography that has to do with the effect of light on people and places," she says, "and math is definitely needed for the business part." Being a professional photographer in a time where everyone has image capturing devices constantly with them and take pictures all the time can be challenging. "In fact it takes years to understand how light can express emotions, and that cannot be done with an iPhone," says Lapporte, "I love that people can capture some precious little moments of life on their own, but there are times you need a professional that will create a work of art... I love being around people," she says, "When somebody comes to me, usually the mom, we talk about what they are looking for. If I take a picture of a whole family, I like to have a little time with the kids to keep the atmosphere relaxed and playful. I guide them and they guide me. What also makes the portrait special is that we have fun doing it." Lapporte has gotten all her work so far through word of mouth and feels grateful for the community she lives in. She participates in fundraisers for schools and is also a volunteer with 'Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep" (www.nowilaymedowntosleep.org) a non-profit that takes photos of children who are not going to go home from the hospital, as a gift for their family. "It's very hard, but it feels right," says Lapporte.

News from the three Chambers of Commerce Lafayette

- The Chamber continues to support "Team Lafayette", a group of city staffers that raises money for cancer research. The group was created three years ago by Town staff members Dana Anderson, Michael Cass and Lisa Martin to support a colleague who was going through treatment for breast cancer. The group is partners with Lafayette businesses (including Mangia Ristorante on October 5 and Powell's Sweet Shoppe on October 12) that give a percentage of their sale on a specific day. "Wrist bands supporting them are on sale at the Chamber of Commerce Offices at 100 Lafayette Circle, suite 103," said Barbara Gilmore.
- Monthly Mixer on October 12, 2011 at ManorCare Health Services, 5:30-7:00 pm, 1226 Rossmoor Parkway, Walnut Creek.
- Optimizing LinkedIn for Local Business Networking Workshop presented by Robin Fox, October 19, 8 am at the Lafayette Library & Learning Center. Reserve your seat at workshops@lafayettechamber.org.
- Ribbon Cutting for Robert Jenson Salon, October 20, 5:00 pm at 999 Oak Hill Road.
- 19th Annual Reservoir Run on Sunday, October 30, 6:30-10:00 am. For more information go to lafayettechamber. org/events/reservoir-run. Registration table opens at 6:30 am.

Chamber Mixer & Speaker on Tuesday, October 25, 6:00-8:00 pm at the former Moraga Swim and Tennis Club, 1161 Larch Ave. Moraga. Hosted by the Moraga Country Club; with wine and cheese. Speaker Topic: Understanding the "Cloud."

Orinda

Business Neighborhood Watch Meeting on Thursday, October 13, 8:00 a.m., at Kattenburg Architects, 11 Moraga Way, #3, Orinda. Next meeting of the group that aims at preventing crime in Orinda businesses, supported by the Orinda Police Department. Coffee will be provided. RSVP via email to info@orindachamber.org or phone (925) 254-3909.

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