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business briefs



Photo provided

ECOLunchbox Uses Kickstarter to Fund New Line

In 2008 Sandra Ann Harris, a Lafayette mom, developed a 100-percent machine washable lunch bag with matching napkins as an alternative to the vinyl, plastic and other less-environmental options used by children and adults. She is now launching a Kickstarter campaign to expand the ECOLunchbox product range with an innovative new line of lunch containers to that are water-tight and don't use plastic. The purpose of the funding is to bring to market the Blue Water Bento collection, an innovative new line of lunch containers that combine no-leak silicone lids with non-toxic stainless steel bottoms. Since 2008, Harris says that ECOLunchbox has sold more than a quarter million lunchboxes and averted the use and disposal of tens of millions of pieces of plastic trash. Harris hopes to raise \$30,000 from the

Kickstarter campaign by Aug. 30 and as of Aug. 7

she has already raised 67 percent of that amount. To check it out, go to www.kickstarter.com and search ECOLunchbox (one word), or go to ECOLunchbox.com.

News from the Three Chambers of Commerce Lafayette

Save the date for the 20th annual Lafayette Art, Wine and Music Festival, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 19 and 20 in downtown Lafayette. "This little sidewalk sale has grown to be an award-winning Art, Wine and Music Festival with four stages, 21 live bands, 260-plus Artists, KidZone, great food - and arguably the largest selection of wine, beer and ale of any San Francisco Bay Area festival," says Chamber Executive Director Jay Lifson. The festival will be held on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information, visit www.lafayettefestival.com.

The Entrepreneur Club Changes Format

After 10 years and nearly 1,000 participants the Entrepreneur Club program is being retooled. The goal has been to create a place where business owners and managers can share ideas and solve problems that are specific to their business. Connections and alliances were made creating an ongoing learning community. Since the Club started, experts were invited to speak on dozens of topics including Public Speaking Skills, Social Media, Closing Sales, the Laws of Attraction, Working on your Elevator Speech, Digital Marketing, Human Resources, Your On Line Presence and even Yoga. Michelle Billings and Mark Shaw helped fuel this group since it began. "There are now many new programs available in the morning like GO RAMP UP that our members are participating in," explained Chamber Executive Director Jay Lifson. "July marked the final Thursday morning meeting. Beginning after the holidays, we will be shifting to a 'once a quarter' evening format that will combine a networking opportunity with great speakers." People already on the Lafayette Chamber EClub list will receive an invitation to join. If interested, contact the chamber at Lafayettechamber.org.

Moraga

The Fourth Annual Golf and Tennis Tournament will take place on Monday, Sept. 21 at the

Moraga Country Club. For golfers, the cost is \$175 per player, with play beginning at noon, and for tennis players, the cost is \$75 per player, with play beginning at 1 p.m. For golf and tennis registrants, dinner, refreshments and prizes are included. Dinner only (non players) is also available for \$40 per person, beginning at 4:30 p.m. Registration forms are available at the chamber website, and persons wanting more information may call Kathe Nelson at (925) 323-6524 or e-mail her at kathe@moragachamber.org.

Orinda

California Independent Film Festival Mixer at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 at Barbacoa, #145 Theatre Square. There will be margaritas and a presentation of some of the films, documentaries and shorts that will be shown at the film festival in Orinda, Moraga and San Francisco Sept. 10-16.

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