

### **“Get on Board” and Support Local Business**

Don't miss the 26th annual San Rafael Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase! It is the largest business expo in the North Bay, attracting hundreds of attendees and the best way to get directly in front of your local business owners, residents and local leaders in the San Rafael Community!

This year's event takes place on Wednesday, September 10 from 4:30-7:30pm at the Embassy Suites in San Rafael. There is fabulous complimentary food, desserts, local wineries, a great raffle and over 80 businesses showcasing their products and services! I hope that you can join us. Please click [here](#) to print out a coupon for free admission.

### **Business Disaster Planning**

September is National Preparedness Month. The recent earthquake in Napa is a reminder to all business in the North Bay of the importance of being prepared and planning for a natural disaster. I myself owned a business in Los Gatos during the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989 and it took a lot of hard work to recover. My husband and I were not adequately prepared for the real challenges that businesses, especially small businesses, face in a natural disaster. This is not to scare you. It is to encourage you to do take some simple actions that may go a long way when you need it the most:

1. Identify potential hazards. Every business is different and you will need to know what may interrupt your business operations temporarily or worse.
2. Begin addressing those hazards. Look at your priorities and find where your business is vulnerable. It may be equipment that needs 24 hour electricity or a computer network where you must have access to operate.
3. Create a plan. I know this may sound daunting, but start small. It may be as simple as locating the nearest generator vendor, backing up your network off line, duplicating your insurance files and storing them off site, and registering your phone for emergency alerts. Creating a Business Disaster Plan can reduce the risk and losses your business might face in a disaster and guide you and your business to adapt more quickly.

For more information, visit our [business resource page](#)

### **Connect with other Businesses**

The Chamber is busy planning several signature events this fall for you to make new connections and increase your company's exposure:

- **Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament and BBQ, Thursday, October 16, 4:30-9:30pm, McInnis Park Golf Center**

The San Rafael Chamber and the Marin Builders Association present the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament & BBQ. You don't have to be a seasoned poker player to join in the fun! Place your bets on the future of those that need us the most. A portion of the net proceeds will benefit the Marin Builders Association Scholarship Fund.

Come on out to McInnis Golf Center and have some fun!  
Join us for a good time, eat some great bbq, raise money for a charity and play poker!!

[Click here](#) to register  
[Sponsorship Opportunities](#) for additional company exposure

- **Forecasting the Future Economic Conference, Thursday, October 30, 7:30-10:00am, Embassy Suites**

The San Rafael Chamber and the Marin Economic Forum, present the 11th Annual Forecasting the Future Economic Conference, co-hosted by the Marin Council of Chambers. The event will feature esteemed keynote and panel speakers discussing local, regional and global trends and issues that impact business in Marin County. Dr. Robert Eyler CEO Marin Economic Forum will present the Marin fall bulletin.

Due to Marin's push to attract more Life Sciences businesses and employment to the region, our guest speakers; Gail Maderis President & CEO BayBio, Chris Stewart Economic Development Manager City of Novato and Larry Gerrans President & CEO Sanovas, will provide a snapshot of the Bay Area and Life Sciences as they exist currently, trends in the industry and the possible challenges in the future. Additionally, we have invited Superintendent Mary Jane Burke to discuss the Marin Career Pathways Grant, how it will aid in workforce development in the future and how this change impacts our children moving forward.

[Click here to register](#)

Sponsorship Opportunities for additional company exposure

- **Woman of Industry Luncheon, Tuesday, November 18, 11:00-2:30pm Peacock Gap Golf Club**

The ***“Women of Industry” Luncheon*** is in recognition of the successful Women Business Owners, Professionals and Entrepreneurs here in Marin County. The San Rafael Chamber of Commerce is hosting the second annual luncheon in recognition of one exemplary San Rafael businesswoman. This honor goes to a businesswoman who exemplifies extraordinary leadership in her industry or company and has made a significant contribution to the citizens and the businesses of Marin County.

This year we are honoring **Ann Brebner**, Emeritus Board Member of the California Film Institute. As a young entrepreneur in the 1960's, Ann started a casting agency in Marin, contributing her talents to films such as *American Graffiti*, *Bullitt*, and *Harold and Maude*. Ann founded the Marin Shakespeare Festival, which she ran for 10 years before putting her talents and energy into revitalizing the Rafael Theater in San Rafael. Ann's business talents and community contributions have made a significant impact on the business climate of San Rafael over the past 50+ years.

We invite you to join us this year as we pay tribute to the fabulous and remarkable Ann Brebner, our *Women of Industry Business Leader of 2014*.

Come for lunch and stay for the shopping.

[Click here to register](#)

[Sponsorship Opportunities](#) for additional company exposure

Please feel free to reach out to me with any feedback about the Chamber's advocacy efforts, programs, or ways you can strengthen your connection to the Chamber. We thank you for your support and want to hear from you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne K Webster". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joanne k Webster

President and CEO

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