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Lemon Boutique makes gift giving easier than ever

By Jenn Freedman

The modern boutique Lemon opened on Lafayette Square next to Sideboard in late April – a year after opening its first location in Danville – and has something for everyone and every occasion: baby, kids, women, men, home, spa, and accessories.

Lemon carries over 50 brands, primarily California-based. Twenty percent of the assortment comes from local Bay Area brands. In addition, Lemon frequently hosts pop-up shops in the store to help support small, local businesses.

With a focus on customer service, Lemon offers gift wrapping every day for just \$1-\$2, and online orders can be picked up in store or shipped. Lemon also prioritizes staying connected with the community by participating in many local events and charity fundraisers.

Owner Sara Weymouth is an East Bay native. After a 10-year stint in corporate America, she wanted a more family-friendly career and began exploring small business ideas. Identifying the need for a great gift shop, Lemon started as a pop-up in November 2017 and opened the first permanent store in Danville in April 2018.

Weymouth explains the inspiration behind her store's name: "Lemon is for my Grandma. Growing up she always talked about how good lemon is for your skin. She would rub it all over her face, neck, hands, etc. I used to think it was silly, but once I



Photos provided

started doing it I saw how amazing it really is. Also, Lemon is a super food and we are all about healthy living at Lemon so it just fit ... makes a really cute logo too!"

Lemon is open Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Or shop online anytime at www.lemongiftshop.com.



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Woodstock Lafayette – free Rock the Plaza concerts

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"We are transforming Lafayette Plaza Park to take you all back to 1969. Each of the four concerts will include a local artist alley (aka: Shakedown Street) where visitors can shop and socialize before the music begins."

Lifson explains that each Woodstock Lafayette concert is a two-hour set from the featured band "and includes the kind of live announcements and interruptions that live in the colorful history of Woodstock lore."

The lineup includes some of the Bay Area's best cover bands that feature the music of Creedence Clearwater Revival, Santana, Jimi Hendrix and the many artists that played at the original Woodstock event.

On June 7 The Fog City Swampers will take the stage. Described as a "high energy show" they play a wide range of classics. According to Lifson, "When organizers struggled to get bands to sign on for the original Woodstock festival, they made a breakthrough when they got an agreement from Creedence Clearwater Revival. They were paid \$10,000. So,

with a nod to that history, Woodstock Lafayette's first show will feature the Fog City Swampers doing CCR covers."

June 14's show features Ze-bop, a Santana tribute band. Lifson suggests bringing percussion instruments for the "Woodstock Drum Circle."

On June 21 residents can enjoy Purple Haze, an acclaimed Jimi Hendrix tribute band.

The series finishes on June 28 with The Keep On Truckin' Band, a band who describe themselves as a "tribute to the Woodstock generation" who perform rock, blues, funk and R&B.

Lifson says that bell-bottoms and hippie attire are encouraged. "These concerts are "tie-dye" optional. Bring a picnic and a blanket or buy dinner from the dozens of restaurants located within two blocks of the Plaza."

The fun will be happening every Friday in June at the Plaza Park at the corner of Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Moraga Road. This summer, the special artist alley will open at 5:30 p.m. The bands will be playing from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.