



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
9th Annual Small Business Awards: Minuteman Press, Moraga UPS Store and Shelby's.




The Small Business Award recipients and Chamber officials (left to right): Carlos Rangle, Candy Kattenburg, Javier Galdon, Edy Schwartz, Ron Palsa (second row), Jay Lifson, Steve Palsa Photo courtesy of Moraga Chamber of Commerce

Three Lamorinda businesses were recognized at the Contra Costa Council's 9th Annual Small Business Awards: Minuteman Press, Moraga UPS Store and Shelby's.  On May 15 the Contra Costa Council gave business awards to 10 Contra Costa small business owners, all nominated by their local Chamber of Commerce. The awards recognize the business owners' success in developing an outstanding business and their contribution to the community.

 "Ron and Steve Palsa moved their business, Minuteman Press, from Walnut Creek to Lafayette about 6 years ago," says Jay Lifson, Lafayette Chamber CEO, "they took a chance on Lafayette and bought the building next to the Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa on the East end of Mt. Diablo Blvd. What happened next was a partnership that resulted in one of Lafayette's most successful businesses and a community member that has never stopped supporting our city."

 "A few years ago, with a dream to own their own business, Javier and Jacqueline Galdon searched for an affordable franchise opportunity in the Bay area, and they happened upon the Mailboxes Etc/UPS Store in Moraga," says Edy Schwartz, President of the Moraga Chamber of Commerce, "with no background in shipping or retail, but with a lot of support and guidance from the previous owner and the franchise, three years later, the UPS store has become an indispensable 'office' for many home based businesses in Moraga."

 "The Orinda Chamber unanimously chose Shelby's to receive this award," says Candy Kattenburg, Executive Director of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, "it's not unusual that when you walk into Shelby's you are greeted by the owner Carlos Rangel and if you glance over to the kitchen area you can wave hello to (the other owner) Chef Arno Kober. It's Orinda's local 'hang out' and if you haven't tried Shelby's you should stop by on a nice day to sit outside and experience great dining."



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