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business briefs



Roger Gregory, Rotary President, Bill Sullivan, Hernan Bucheli, Provost Saint Mary's College. Photo provided

card to Safeway as well as a gift card to Ristorante Amoroma in Moraga. Sullivan will be presented with his award and gifts at an upcoming Moraga Rotary lunch at the college.

"Paths to Success" Business Forum

The Lamorinda Business Forum Presents "Paths to Success" from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on April 20, in the Lamorinda Music "Big Room" Theatre, Downtown Lafayette.

This lively panel discussion features three Lafayette brick-and-mortar business owners whose businesses have thrived by taking unique paths. The featured speakers are Tom Stenzel of Venture Quality Goods (opened 2012), Carole Sinclair of Farmyard Darlings (opened 2010, second location opened 2015 and) Colleen McCormick of Lamorinda Music (opened 2009).

"We chose these three business owners thoughtfully," says Jay Lifson, Executive Director of the Lafayette Chamber, who is serving as moderator for the panel. "Each has succeeded because they have found a way to differentiate their business in a competitive market (even during the recession), identify their ideal target customers and communicate to them effectively."

In addition to attracting local customers, each of these businesses has succeeded by attracting customers outside of Lamorinda, too. It helps that they each offer great products, merchandise them well, and deliver excellent customer service.

"I love that they all live in Lafayette, too," says Lifson. "We can each learn something from them that will help our own business, including the Chamber."

The event is free and open to the public, but space is limited. RSVP recommended. Presented by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. Visit <http://bit.ly/lamorindabizforum> for tickets and information.

Bill Sullivan Named Moraga's

Employee of the Month

Bill Sullivan, the Director of Scheduling and Special Events at St. Mary's College, has been named the Moraga Employee of the Month for March.

Sullivan oversees the scheduling and execution of hundreds of events and promotions at the college each year and makes sure all the needs are met with professionalism.

"Bill is a wonderful ambassador of our college," said Vice Provost of Enrollment and Communications for SMC, Hernan Bucheli. "He handles so many events and always finds way to solve scheduling issues and special requests when they pop up."

In winning the award, the Moraga Rotary and Chamber of Commerce will award Sullivan a gift card to Safeway as well as a gift card to Ristorante Amoroma in Moraga. Sullivan will be presented with his award and gifts at an upcoming Moraga Rotary lunch at the college.

From the Chambers

Lafayette

A Ribbon Cutting celebration will be held at 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 28 at the Tail Haven Hotel & Day Lounge, 3399 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

A Ribbon Cutting celebration will be held at 5 p.m. May 26 for Oakbay Chiropractic-Lamorinda, located at 1080 Carol Lane in Lafayette.

Moraga

The Entrepreneurs Lunch Series continues at 12 p.m. on Monday, April 11, at the home/made kitchen cafe & bakery, 337 Rheem Blvd. Cost is \$10.

This month's topic is "Mentoring: for the Mentee and Mentor," and will feature an interactive discussion with Jim Carlson from SCORE. Carlson has over 20 years of various sales leadership positions at Fortune 100 technology companies, where he successfully led Global OEM account teams. He has experience developing new markets as well as owning and selling his own company. Jim has participated in formal Mentor programs for over 10 years.

Open to both members and non-members. RSVP required to kathe@moragachamber.org.

The monthly Chamber Mixer will be held at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 19, at Bullfrog Creek Vineyard, 35 Hansen Ct. in Moraga. Hosts are Bullfrog Creek, Hall of Taxes and Hollie Felts-Howell.

Orinda

The Orinda Chamber of Commerce and the Orinda Rotary present the Orinda Trivia Bee on Friday, April 29 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephens Dr. Orinda. Cost is \$360 per team (up to six people per team), which includes a family style dinner. Doors open at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. and the game begins at 7 p.m. sharp. Winners take a cash prize for the nonprofit of their choice. Reserve a table quickly, as only 16 tables are available. To purchase a table go to orindachamber.org, call 254-3909 or email info@orindachamber.org.

Reach the reporter at: info@lamorindaweekly.com

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