

Bennington Banner

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Business Briefs

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Sunday May 2, 2010

'Start Your Own Business' workshop

BENNINGTON -- A "Start Your Own Business" workshop will be presented today by SCORE in cooperation with Southern Vermont College.

The workshop will be held on Monday, May 3, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Southern Vermont College, room 201, 982 Mansion Drive. This workshop will be run by SCORE counselors in conjunction with The McCormick Division of Business of Southern Vermont College.

Small businesses create jobs helping not only future employees but the community as a whole. SCORE, a national non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to helping small business, also a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration, provides help, counseling and workshops to encourage and guide people through the business start up process. SCORE has chapters and branches throughout Vermont.

This workshop will appeal to people who are in the process of starting a business, or are thinking about it, and even who are currently involved in a small business. It deals with being in a business, money issues, getting customers, the business plan, and many other issues. Basically, it's what a small business owner needs to know before starting. The goal is to help entrepreneurs be more successful in their own business.

To assure a place, register in advance by contacting SCORE at 802-464-8896, or e-mail businessprograms@svc.edu.

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The fee is \$25 per person or \$35 per couple. Walk-in registrants are welcome.

Mack Moulding adds senior staff

ARLINGTON -- Mack Molding Co. has reshuffled responsibilities and added new staff to its senior management team, it was announced April 29.

Set in motion by the retirement of a long-term employee -- Bruce Bixler, who served the company for 36 years -- the reorganization tapped internal talent that collectively brings 80 years of plastics industry expertise to the table.

Marc Colety, formerly Cavendish plant manager, has taken over the purchasing helm from Bixler, while Gene Birmingham moves up the ladder into Colety's former role. Bryan Campbell has been promoted to plant manager, Headquarters facility, and Carl Bickford has taken on the new position of quality manager-contract manufacturing.

"We always strive to challenge our staff with varying functional responsibilities so that they're ready to take on broader roles when the time comes," says Jeff Somple, president, Northern Operations. "I'm thrilled to be able to fill these openings from within the company, and look forward to the contributions that I know each will make in the coming years."

Colety has worked for Mack for 15 years in a variety of managerial roles ranging from molding to manufacturing to plant operations. In his most recent role as Cavendish plant manager, he was responsible for everything from procurement through shipment of plastic molded and assembled products in a 120-person operation that runs 24/7. In his new position as director of procurement, his responsibilities will extend to all three of Mack's Vermont operations.

A 13-year veteran of Mack, Birmingham was manufacturing manager at the Cavendish facility for eight years before being promoted to plant manager. In that role, he had full management responsibility for Mack's injection molding, assembly and paint operations there.

Campbell, formerly an operations manager for a Tier 1 automotive supplier, joined Mack's sales department in 2008. There, he gained critical front line experience, both with customers and the complexities of the program management process. Now familiar with the unique needs of the medical OEM, he returns to the operations side, where he will manage a facility that focuses primarily on medical device manufacturing.

Campbell was operations manager for Guardian Automotive, Warren, Mich., before joining Mack.

Bickford, a 20-year Mack veteran, has accepted the new position of quality manager-contract manufacturing at the headquarters plant, where he will supervise a staff of quality engineers, as well as the metrology lab.

"The hub of Mack's custom manufacturing activity, the headquarters plant has developed to the point where we need this additional level of quality management and support, which is Carl's primary area of expertise," Somple said.

Celebrate National Train Day with special event

BENNINGTON -- The Southwestern Vermont Rail Corridor Committee, which is comprised of community leaders and local residents, invites the public to its National Train Day event on Saturday, May 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the North Bennington Train Station on Main Street.

Light refreshments and entertainment will be provided. The May 8 event brings the subject of rail to the southwest region of Vermont to life by offering those interested in rail travel the opportunity to meet each other, discover how to get involved with SVRCC and to learn about the recent American Recovery Reinvestment Act funds dedicated to "Track 3" to study rail passenger service in the western corridor.

Scheduled speakers include John Zicconi, director of planning, outreach and community affairs, at VTtrans, and invited Bennington legislative Transportation Committee members, and former State Senator Dick Pembroke.

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