

Chamber Announces Leadership Mesquite

Leadership Mesquite is an ideal program for business executives and leaders new to the area, who will benefit from an instant "in" to who's who and what's what in the community.

Over the course of the program participants will make strong connections with their classmates – other high-level business professionals in Mesquite. The networking benefits of the **Leadership Mesquite** experience extend far beyond the end of the program.

Leadership Mesquite participants will attend educational sessions one day each month beginning April 2011 and concluding September 2011. These sessions will be held on the third Thursday of each month.

Every community needs to have a group of citizens who are willing to serve on boards, planning commissions and the other various committees that make the city work. Not only does this group of community leaders need to have the desire to serve, they also need a fundamental knowledge of the way the community operates. In fact, the very health of the community may depend on how well-prepared these people are.

When a person volunteers or is appointed to a position of responsibility in a community, there is no guarantee that they have any knowledge of 'how things work' in their town. It makes sense that there should be a way of preparing people to take responsibility; to teach the social, economic and political underpinnings of the community they serve. The **Leadership Mesquite** program sponsored by the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce offers this exact service.

Topics include History of Mesquite; Local Government; Education, K through College; Health, Recreation & Public Safety; Casinos and Restaurants; Manufacturing & Construction, and Services Clubs & Arts.

For the Mesquite area to grow and prosper, we need leaders from all backgrounds and vocations to take on the challenges facing our community. The goals of the **Leadership Mesquite** program are to challenge and motivate leaders by providing dialogue and information so they are better prepared to strengthen and transform our community.

Applications, tuition information and other details can be obtained by contacting the Chamber at 346-2902.

Our Mission: To Encourage and Benefit the Growth of Businesses in the Mesquite Area.

MARCH EVENTS

LUNCH

MARCH 9TH

Speaker: Candidate Forum

Sponsor: Kelly Smith,

Edward Jones

Eureka Casino

11:15 to 1:00 pm

RIBBON CUTTING

MARCH 10TH

Desert Oasis Spa

840 Pinnacle Ct

Bldg 11 Ste 103

5:00pm

MIXER

MARCH 17TH

Sports & Events Complex

Sponsored by: Mesquite

Senior Games

1635 Bertha Howe

5:00 to 7:00 pm

RIBBON CUTTING

MARCH 24TH

Advanced Wound Care

Consultants

1301 Bertha Howe #9

5:00pm

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THE DESERT
VALLEY TIMES.

INTERESTING,
RELEVANT
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EACH WEEK.



Becoming a Better Manager

By: NonaMarie Miller, Canyon Media Group

In the second of a 12-part series, we'll look at the second element of great managing, according to 12:

The Elements of Great Managing by Rodd Wagner and James K. Harter, PhD.

The Second Element: Materials and Equipment

This basic element of great management sounds simple but is often overlooked. Do your employees have the tools necessary to do the job well? I remember when I started my first sales job I was given a desk, a telephone and a phone book along with encouraging words from my boss: "Good luck." No sign of The Second Element here!

According to 12: *The Elements of Great Managing*, "Of the 12 Elements, whether a person has the materials and equipment needed to do his work well is the strongest indicator of job stress. The data show there are few things more frustrating than to want to make a difference at work and to then be held back by inadequate resources." And job stress doesn't just impact the workplace. According to the book, "Nearly one-third of workers in the United States say stress on the job caused them to behave poorly with family or friends in the prior month." Can you think of a time you blamed job stress for your poor behavior?

If you saw the 1999 cult favorite *Office Space*, you understand the Second Element. In the movie, one constant source of stress was an undependable copy machine. According to 12, "When three of the characters in the movie take the unreliable office copier into a field and smash it to pieces with baseball bats, they too were just reflecting emotions that research bears out."

When thinking about materials and equipment for your

employees - don't make the mistake of assuming you know what they need. The person doing the job every day is the only one who knows what he needs to do it. The authors of 12 point to a fiberglass production facility in Brazil. "While the essence of the process hasn't changed, many of the details have improved, often through the suggestions of employees." Consider the gloves worn by some of the workers. "Without gloves, the employees risk their hands being punctured by small shards breaking off the fibers ... with gloves, they have more difficulty feeling the filaments, which are only 10 to 15 microns wide, about the width of a human hair." In this case, management listened to the front-line workers. One worker said, "The first gloves we had weren't comfortable and the safety department provided gloves that we like. I have a need to feel the strings and to feel safe...the gloves allow you to do your work better, not being worried about injuring your hands."

I'm sure you can all think of a job situation where your job was made harder because you didn't have the tools to do it right. Even simple things: a work space or desk that is too small can cut into productivity. Ask your employees if they have what they need. Take a survey of workers and ask them what equipment/tools/resources do they "need" and what equipment/tools/resources would "be nice to have." For each item on the list, does it increase their safety, comfort, or productivity? Determine if the tools they suggest are available. You'll be surprised at what you learn! And by simply asking the questions, your employees will feel that you care and their opinions matter.

To learn more, read The New York Times bestseller 12: *The Elements of Great Management* by Rodd Wagner & James K. Harter, Ph.D.

GOLD PREMIUM MEMBERS



SILVER PREMIUM MEMBERS



BRONZE PREMIUM MEMBERS





February Business of the Month

CasaBlanca Resort: They play a big role in our community. They are continually putting on events that are bringing people to town and benefiting our local business; along with marketing Mesquite outside of town and even around the world. They are one of the biggest employers here in town and contribute to a variety of charities from the local schools to the American Cancer Society.

IRS Tax Changes for 2010

Health Insurance Deduction Reduces Self Employment Tax In 2010, eligible self-employed individuals can use the self-employed health insurance deduction to reduce their social security self-employment tax liability in addition to their income tax liability. As in the past, eligible taxpayers claim this deduction on Form 1040 Line 29. But in 2010, eligible taxpayers can also enter this amount on Schedule SE Line 3, thus reducing net earnings from self-employment subject to the 15.3 percent social security self-employment tax.

Premiums paid for health insurance covering the taxpayer, spouse and dependents generally qualify for this deduction. Premiums paid for coverage of an adult child under age 27 at the end of the year, for the time period beginning on or after March 30, 2010, also qualify for this deduction, even if the child is not the taxpayer's dependent.

As before, the insurance plan must be set up under the taxpayer's business, and the taxpayer cannot be eligible to participate in an employer-sponsored health plan. Details, including a worksheet, are in the instructions to Form 1040.

A repayment requirement also applies to a taxpayer who claimed the credit on either their 2008 or 2009 return and then sold it or stopped using the home as their main home in 2010. Use Form 5405 to report the repayment.

In addition, certain members of the armed forces and some other taxpayers still have time to buy a home and take the credit. See Form 5405 and its instructions for details.

First-time homebuyer credit You must meet the required deadlines to be eligible to claim the credit. You must have bought — or entered into a binding contract to buy — a principal residence on or before **April 30, 2010**.

If you entered into a binding contract by April 30, 2010, you must have closed or gone to settlement on the home on or before **Sept. 30, 2010**. Because of the documentation requirements for claiming the credit, taxpayers who claim the credit on their 2010 tax return must file a paper — not electronic — return and attach Form 5405, First-Time Homebuyer Credit and Repayment of the Credit, and a properly executed copy of a settlement statement used to complete the purchase.

Taxpayers who claimed the first-time homebuyer credit for a home bought in 2008 must generally begin repaying it on the 2010 return. In most cases, the credit must be repaid over a 15-year period. Many of those affected by this requirement received reminder letters from the IRS.

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Standard Mileage Rates for 2010 The standard mileage rate for business use of a car, van, pick-up or panel truck is 50 cents for each mile driven. The rate for the cost of operating a vehicle for medical reasons or as part of a deductible move is 16.5 cents per mile. The rate for using a car to provide services to charitable organizations is set by law and remains at 14 cents a mile.

For further information about these changes visit the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov>.

Chamber Luncheon

**Wednesday
March 9th**

**Meet the
Candidates
RSVP
Required**

What are your concerns about the state of affairs in Mesquite?

We want to hear from you — submit your questions that you think would be pertinent to the community.

This is your opportunity to get some answers and hear from the candidates.

Every person will be asked one question from a random drawing during the lunch. No person will be asked the same question.

**Please submit your questions by
March 1st**

Submit your question to: info@mesquite-chamber.com



ACES FOR MESQUITE

ADVOCATE ~ COMMUNICATE ~ EDUCATE ~ SUPPORT

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Fax: (702) 346-6138
Info@Mesquite-Chamber.com
www.mesquite-chamber.com

Advocate

One Voice Mesquite!

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INDIVIDUAL

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HIGHLAND MANOR

Reapportionment/Redistricting and Mesquite:

- Mesquite needs and deserves united representation—that means one representative in congress, state senate, state assembly, and county commission
- Splitting city into two districts (congressional, state senate, and county commission) divides rather than unites our city, and hinders clear consistent, and effective representation of our interests
- Mesquite should be treated as a “community of interest” due to its geographic location and community cohesiveness around a multitude of variables
- The 2010 Census will likely chart Mesquite population at between 18,500 and 20,000
- With split representation, no single representative is completely accountable to, or for, Mesquite. As a result, no one is accountable to, or for, Mesquite
- The new 4th NV Congressional district, as well as state reapportionment and redistricting, presents an opportunity to do the right thing for **Mesquite...One Voice!**

The priority is to keep all of Mesquite entirely within one district for each elective office.



Contact your representatives to be heard:

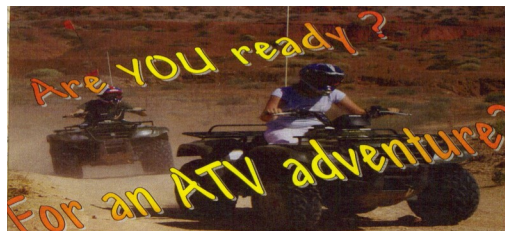
Assemblyman Cresent Hardy chardy@asm.state.nv.us

Senator Joe Hardy jhardy@sen.state.nv.us

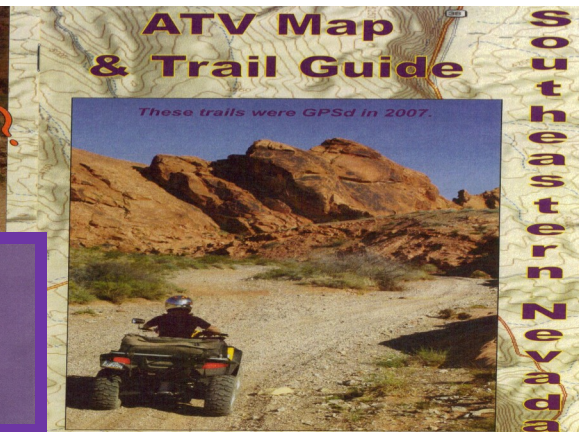
Senate Minority Leader Mike McGinness mmcginness@sen.state.nv.us

Look what's new at the Chamber!

You told us what you wanted and we listened



ATV MAPS SOLD HERE \$5.00



Educate

USDA Rural Development's~ Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) provides eligible farmers, ranchers and rural small business owners with grants and guaranteed loans to make energy efficiency improvements and to purchase renewable energy systems. Most rural projects that reduce energy use and result in savings for the agricultural producer or rural small business are eligible as energy efficiency projects, including lighting, insulation, or purchase and replacement of equipment with more efficient units. Eligible renewable energy projects include production of energy from wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, hydro power and hydrogen-based sources. The projects can produce any form of energy including; heat, electricity or fuel.

SAVE THE DATE MARCH 15TH

Free Workshop that will provide information about REAP and how to apply for funding!

5:00 to 7:00 pm

College of Southern Nevada

Contact:

Mark Williams

Rural Energy Coordinator

775-887-1222 x 116 or

mark.williams@nv.usda.gov



Committed to the future of local communities.