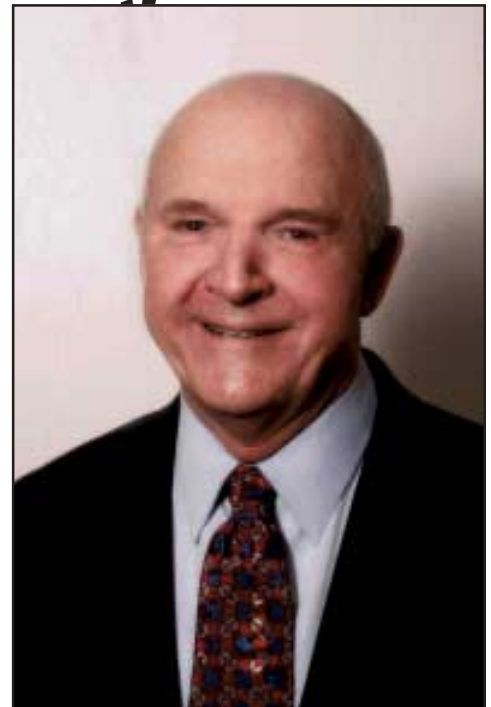


Mayor to host 'State of Rancho Mirage' Address

Following one of the toughest years for the economy of the Palm Springs Valley, the State of California and even the whole country, the City of Rancho Mirage will be fortunate to end their fiscal year without a major deficit, while continuing to enhance the city and the lives of its' citizens.

Mayor Gordon Moller will host the Annual State of the City luncheon on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at the Westin Mission Hills Resort. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$35 per person with reservations, \$45 the day of the event. Call 760-568-9351 for reservations or more information.



Mayor Gordon Moller



Daylight Donuts Ribbon Cutting. Owners Howard and Pauline Wilkins celebrated their Grand Opening with Mayor Moller and Chamber Directors and Ambassadors on January 14. They celebrated their opening with a 99 cent per dozen sale on glazed donuts. They are located on Highway 111 next door to the Hilton Garden Inn.

Chamber, City Mourn Alan Seman's Passing

Former Councilman and Mayor Alan Seman passed away on January 12 of pancreatic cancer.

Seman served on the Rancho Mirage City Council from 1989 until he resigned last month due to illness. Mayor Gordon Moller stated, "Alan had a positive and upbeat attitude in everything he did. Everyone recognized Alan as a kind and gentle person who gave 110% of himself in all he undertook. He was a well respected

member of the City Council because of his high level of dedication to not only the City but the entire Coachella Valley. We will miss his involvement and the direction he provided in guiding our City."

Seman had been an active member of the Rancho Mirage City Council since 1989. During his years of service as Council Member, he also held the office of Mayor in 1992, 1993, 2000, and 2005, and the office

of Mayor Pro Tem in 1991, 1996, 1999, 2004, and 2009.

Prior to his role in public service, Seman served as President of Seman Electronics Corporation. He is a native of New York who came to Rancho Mirage with his wife, Jeanette, to retire. However, "retired" was never an accurate description of his busy lifestyle. Seman represented Rancho Mirage as a board member at many agencies, including the: Cove Communities Services Commission; CVAG; Arthritis Foundation; Children's Discovery Museum of the Desert; American Lung Association; American Cancer Society; Arthritis Foundation; Multiple Sclerosis Society; and the Alliance for Clean Air, just to name a few.

Seman was a World War II veteran and served with the 42nd Infantry Division. He was one of several local residents recently featured in The Desert Sun's Veterans' Day special section honoring World War II heroes. Seman fought in the Battle of the Bulge, a major German offensive that penetrated the front line of the Allied forces, and helped liberate the Dachau concentration camp.

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Rancho Mirage Chamber of Commerce
42520 Bob Hope Drive, Suite B
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

New Business Openings May be Sign of Brighter 2010

November and December of 2009 saw a slew of new businesses opening in Rancho Mirage with more new businesses to open in early 2010. These businesses are welcome additions to our community and we thank them for taking advantage of the City's reputation as the "Address of Choice"

Bobby Chan menswear opened at The River next to the Century Movie Theaters. They offer "the look and lifestyle you deserve at affordable prices."

Brandini Toffee has opened its first-ever retail location at the Rancho Las Palmas shopping center. This unique success story features the toffee created by Brandon Weimer and Leah Post during their freshman year of high school. In 2008, they appeared on air with Martha Steward and their toffee was also selected for Oprah's gift list on oprah.com.

Daylight Donuts opened at 71-680 Highway 111 between the Hilton Garden Inn and Hibachi Japanese Steakhouse by longtime

Palm Springs Valley business owners Howard and Pauline Wilkins with the company motto of "Taste the Difference."

Desert Patio has opened its factory showroom at the Monterey Marketplace offering "exceptionally crafted outdoor furniture that is sure to provide long-lasting enjoyment."

The Emperor Asian Buffet has opened on the west end of Rancho Mirage at 69600 Highway 111, serving lunch and dinner.

Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery is now opened at River's Crossing at 72060 Highway 111, just east of California Patio.

Fixtures – Visions for Living is bringing its passion for kitchen, bath and the outdoors to a new showroom at 71-905 Highway 111 where you can explore, be inspired and uncover hundreds of ways to start and finish your day.

Maraca's Cantina is now open at Monterey Marketplace offering its unique Mexican cuisine

amidst a colorful setting. The restaurant will continue its tradition of catering to families and offering a full-bar and happy hours in the early evening hours.

Mike's Shoe Repair recently opened to rave reviews of outstanding customer service at 71428 Highway 111, directly across from Desert European Motorcars.

The Palms Café recently opened at The Atrium Center at 69-930 Highway 111 serving breakfast and lunch.

Signature Bridal and Tuxedo has opened alongside Fast Frame at 72116 Highway 111 and offers "the finest selection of designer bridal gowns and the perfect attire for all your bridal party needs."

Stress Management & Prevention Clinic has opened at 71511 Highway 111 offering Yoga, meditation and private coaching by Jaime Carlo-Casellas, Ph.D. to individuals "learning to cope with the ravages of stress and stress-related conditions."

Opening Soon

The Crab Pot Restaurant will open its second Valley location in Rancho Mirage in early 2010 at 70030 Highway 111 (between Las Casuelas Nuevas and Bangkok 5). The restaurant promises to be the perfect spot to bring family and friends for a classic seafood meal.

Papa Mario's Pizzeria will be open soon at The River at 71800 Highway 111, between Starbucks and Ben & Jerry's.

Stuart's Steakhouse will be opening soon at the old Black Angus Steakhouse location at Highway 111 and Frank Sinatra Drive. This is the newest venture for Stuart Anderson, who founded the Black Angus chain of restaurants.

Swirlcup – Yogurt on Tap will be opening soon at Monterey Marketplace at 34-151 Monterey Avenue.

iNvision Computing will be coming within the next month to the space next to Daylight Donuts. They are Apple computer specialists.

Rancho Mirage Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors & Staff

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Advanced Hearing Systems

Vice Chair Michael Crandal
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Vice Chair Art Gregoire
Fountains at the Carolotta/
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The River at Rancho Mirage

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Communications Director**
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Patty@ranchomirage.org

42520 Bob Hope Drive, Ste. B
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
760-568-9351

Welcome to Our New Chamber Members

Brandini Toffee

Rancho Las Palmas Shopping Center

42560 Bob Hope Drive
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.200.1598

www.BrandiniToffee.com

Restaurants - Confectionary

In the fall of 2006, high school freshmen Brandon Welmer and Leah Post, friends since preschool wanted to raise money to go on a class trip to Italy. Their parents informed them that if they wanted to go to Italy, they would have to pay for half of the trip themselves. Too young to get jobs, they decided to start their own business. With Brandon's experience in making toffee, **Brandini Toffee** was born! Brandini Toffee is handmade with only four ingredients: butter, sugar, dark chocolate, and roasted almonds.

Within several months, they raised money to cover the full expense of their trip plus spending money. This temporary fundraising entrepreneurship has evolved into a fully fledged business.

In 2008, Brandon and Leah appeared on the Martha Stewart Show. In addition Martha Stewart named **Brandini Toffee** a "Favorite Dessert." In July 2008 Brandon and Leah were the youngest entrepreneurs to receive the coveted Gold Sofi™ Award for Outstanding Chocolate from the National Association for the Specialty Food Trade. Success continued for the 2008 Holiday Season when **Brandini Toffee** was featured as the 2008 Oprah's Favorite Things.

Sales of Brandini Toffee reached half a million dollars in 2008. Almost \$1 million dollars in sales are anticipated this year. Brandon and Leah are now freshmen in college and their college expenses are being funded by **Brandini Toffee!**

FootLoose Reflexology

Margaret Lai
71843 Highway 111, Ste. A
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.534.1902

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certified experienced therapists. Treatment includes an optional 10 minute gentle head massage, an optional 10 minute neck and shoulder massage and a 10 minutes arm and hands massage. Your feet will be soaking in a wooden bucket filled with warm herbal water, concluding with a 30 minute foot reflexology treatment in a peaceful, relaxing open area environment.

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Consultants

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72180 Highway 111
Palm Desert, CA 92260
Phone: 760.773.9844
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When you combine the collective years of its many veteran stylists and therapists, with their significant clientele, an electric yet Zen energy can be felt upon first setting foot into its (beyond visual) setting.

Guests are meticulously catered to, even prior to receiving their anticipated service, whether a walk-in or a regular to the Karl Vasquez scene. All this, yet, with beyond reasonable pricing.

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Bob & Francine Mathy
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Palm Desert, CA 92260
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Mountain View Carpet Care specializes in the cleaning of delicate fabrics. A trained technician uses truck mounted equipment to clean your Carpet, Upholstery, Tile and Grout. In addition, Area Rugs can be treated at the cleaning plant in Palm Desert. Call and talk to a knowledgeable cleaning professional to answer all your questions. Mountain View Carpet Care... *25 years of trusted service, experience makes the difference!*

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Allison Kunz
3010 Old Ranch Parkway
Seal Beach, CA 90740
Phone: 562.596.4770
www.olsonhomes.com

Real Estate Developers

The Olson Company was founded in 1988 on the concept of partnering with California Cities and Agencies to provide creative solutions for challenging sites and improve the local neighborhood.

The Olson Company has emerged as an innovator and leader in public/private partnerships, affordable housing, and as a progressive developer of difficult sites. Olson has partnered with over 85 Cities/Agencies across the State.

Coming Soon - San Jacinto Villas, Rancho Mirage.

The Olson Company thanks the City of Rancho Mirage for the opportunity to design and build this hallmark senior, affordable, green community. For more information contact Allison Kunz at akunz@theolsonco.com.

Tolerance Education Center

Meliss Banwer
35147 Landy Lane
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.328.8252
www.ToleranceEducationCenter.org

Museums

Hatred and bigotry still exists today, even here in the United States and it is very important to educate the public, especially the youth of tomorrow. The Tolerance Education Center provides an educational opportunity for students and the community at large. Students from throughout Riverside County will be given a learning experience about the danger of hatred and bigotry. In order to reduce the burden of the school districts, the Tolerance Education Center will pay for all transportation expenses.

The hope is that visitors will leave with a mindset that rejects prejudice, questions stereotypes, rejects hate and promotes diversity.

Universal Protection Services

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Phone: 760.346.1177
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Josh Tanner
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Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.324.9400
Country Clubs
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Marie Callender's

Becky Richards
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www.mc-pies.com
Restaurant/American

Fay McClung

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Time Warner Cable of Desert Cities

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Phone: 760.340.1312
www.timewarnercable.com
Cable Television Service

15 to 19 years

Burgess North American

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Palm Springs, CA 92264
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www.northamericanvanlines.com
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Children's Discovery Museum of the Desert

Lee Vanderbeck
71701 Gerald Ford Drive
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.321.0602
www.cdmod.org
Museums

Community Blood Bank

Michael Johnson
39000 Bob Hope Drive
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.834.3783
www.cbbc-blood.org
Health Services

10 to 14 years

College of the Desert Foundation

Colleen McBride
43500 Monterey Ave.
Palm Desert, CA 92260
Phone: 760.773.2561
www.codfoundation.com
Schools, Colleges, & Educational Services

Marywood-Palm Valley School

Vince Downey
35525 Da Vall Drive
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.328.0861
www.mwvpv.org
Schools, Colleges, & Educational Services

Palm Springs Art Museum

Bob Bogard
101 Museum Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92262
Phone: 760.325.7186
www.psmuseum.org
Attractions

The Springs Community Association

Kelly Robertson
174 Yale Drive
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.328.2131
www.springscommunity.com
Community Associations

5 to 9 years

Richard and Jacqueline Comras

Residential Member

Country Villa Rancho Mirage

Scott Gillis
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Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.340.0053
www.countryvillahealthcare.com
Assisted Living/Nursing

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D.W. Johnston
1445 N. Sunrise Way #203
Palm Springs, CA 92262
Phone: 760.416.1144
www.dwjohnton.com
Construction Companies

Jessup Auto Plaza

Andrew Jessup
68111 Highway 111
Cathedral City, CA 92234
Phone: 760.328.9999
www.jessupautoplaaza.com
Automobile Dealers

Northern Trust

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69710 Highway 111
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.770.8522
www.ntrs.com
Banks

1 to 4 years

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El Centro, CA 92243
Phone: 760.202.4522
www.BurgersandBeer.com
Restaurant/American

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Consignments

The Ritz-Carlton Rancho Mirage

Laurie Shields
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Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.318.4234
www.ritzcarlton.com
Hotels & Resorts

Robert & Charlene Scudder

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Stroke Recovery Center

James Martinez
2800 East Alejo Road
Palm Springs, CA 92262-6253
Phone: 760.323.7676
www.strokerecoverycenter.com
Non-Profit

Sunrise Country Club

Bill Athan
71601 Country Club Drive
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
Phone: 760.328.6549
www.sunrisecountryclub.com
Country Clubs

Tarbell Realtors, Elena Barmet

Elena Barmet
P.O. Box 3944
Palm Desert, CA 9260
Phone: 760.485.6421
Real Estate/Residential

Windermere Real Estate

Art Gregoire & Terry Nelson
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www.artandterry.com
Real Estate Residential