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Leadership Morgan Hill to Honor Former Mayor Dennis Kennedy at High-Style Western Event

MORGAN HILL, CA – In high-style Western tradition, former Morgan Hill Mayor Dennis Kennedy will receive the Leadership Excellence Award of Leadership Morgan Hill at a tribute dinner Aug. 12 at the Guglielmo Winery.

“Dennis and loves all things Western, so this event honoring his years of dedicated service to the community is being tailored to his personal interests in a lively “Boots & Tux” tradition – only not quite all the way to tuxedos,” said Honorary Chairman Don Moody.

The Leadership Excellence Award recognizes an individual or individuals whose vision and leadership advances the spirit of community and charity; reflects courage and insight; and inspires others to lead in a like manner.

The Leadership medal is being bestowed for his many years of community service, including four terms as Mayor, three terms on the Morgan Hill Planning Commission, two terms on the General Plan Update Committee, and member of the Morgan Hill City Council. He is past chairman of South County Regional Wastewater Authority, served two terms on the Board of Directors of the Valley transportation Authority, and is a past president of the Santa Clara Cities Association.

Kennedy’s goals were to help Morgan Hill transition from a small agricultural community to a community that maintains it’s rural feel while providing a full range of services for its citizens including the development of the community center, a new senior center, youth programs, recreational facilities and programs, a new library, and supporting infrastructure.

“Dennis’s leadership style made a huge impact on how this City resolves it problems,” said Roger Knopf, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Leadership Morgan Hill. “Dennis moved the ethic for leadership behavior to one of grace and collaboration, making it the envy of our neighbors to the north.”

Medal recipients are selected by a blue-ribbon panel of community leaders and former Leadership Excellence Award winners. The Leadership Excellence Award has previously been awarded to Roger Knopf; the Guglielmo brothers, George, Gene and Gary; Mike Rubino, and leaders of the last century were honored in the Centennial year.

The event will include a reception, sit-down dinner, musical tribute and silent auction, all around a sophisticated Western theme. Event Chair is Cricket Rubino. Tickets for the tribute are \$110 and available at www.leadershipmorganhill.org or (408) 778-7211.

Leadership Morgan Hill, organized in 1995, is a leadership education and development program to create and inspire the future leaders of Morgan Hill. Its mission is to provide insight and tools that enable graduates to give back to the community through service.

To date, nearly 170 students have graduated from the annual, nine-month program and many now hold seats of influence in the community in government, on nonprofit boards and as local business executives and entrepreneurs.

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