Moraga resident honored by Saint Mary's College



Millicent McCormack

Millicent McCormack will be honored on Saturday, Jan. 27 at Saint Mary's College during the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Alumni Association honors defor outstanding service to the farming globally. SMC community. McCormack is this year's Honorary Alumna, an Saint Mary's, McCormack has award given to friends of the col- been actively involved in the lege in recognition of outstanding Lamorinda community for deservice and dedication to the mis- cades. She was the first student sion of Saint Mary's College.

along with Alumnus of the Year, in Moraga for 42 years. McCor-Rand Morimoto, PhD. A tech in- mack taught at the Rheem School dustry pioneer, and founder and and at Camino Pablo, where she president of Convergent Com- retired from teaching in 2004. puting, Morimoto has served the "I was known for bringing Irish

Photo Mary Poppingo

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ongtime Moraga resident Clinton, Bush and Obama Administrations as a Y2K, cybersecurity and cyberterrorism advisor. The Emerging Leader Award will be presented to Yusuf Nessary, Awards. Each year the college's the founder of Zam Water; a humanitarian organization working serving alumni and friends by to increase access to clean water, bestowing six different awards quality education and sustainable

In addition to her service to teacher at Donald Rheem El-McCormack will be honored ementary, and taught first grade

Folklore to Moraga, introducing it to all of my first grade classes," says McCormack. "My name is synonymous with Leprechauns in this town!" Although McCormack was teaching in Moraga in the 1960s, it wasn't until 1973 when she and her late husband, Thomas, moved into a brand new house in Moraga after spending time in Walnut Creek and then Martinez.

When the couple moved to Moraga, they became members of the local Catholic Church, Saint Monica's. Although the parish was established in 1965, construction on the church's current location off Canyon Road wasn't complete until 1974. As a result, the McCormacks and the McCormack notes, "Because the so many credits each year, and

baptized in the Saint Mary's College Chapel." Twenty-two years to graduate from SMC with a degree in business in 1996.

As residents of Moraga and members of Saint Monica's, the McCormacks developed a strong relationship with Saint Mary's College, especially with Brother Mel Anderson. Thomas McCormack, who was also an educator, approached Anderson in the late '70s about establishing extension courses at the school for teachers, nurses, accountants, and other professionals in need of continuing education credits. "My husband was very entrepreneurial," other parishioners worshipped in says McCormack. "He noticed

church hadn't finished construct thought 'If other colleges and tion, our daughter, Kathleen, was universities can offer extension credit, why not Saint Mary's?""

Thomas McCormack, worklater, their daughter would go on ing with Saint Mary's, established the California Field Studies extension courses for professional growth, of which he served as an associated director. The Mc-Cormacks became very involved with the college and continued to be long after the field studies program ended as the college phased out extension credits in 2005. Millicent McCormack joined the SMC Guild in the 1990s, but became very active once she retired from teaching. Since 2004, she has served as the Guild's publicity chair—a job that has her continuously interacting with businesses and community members the Saint Mary's College Chapel. that I, as a school teacher, needed in Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda. ... continued on page B2

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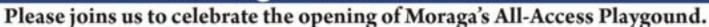
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