

March 13, 2010

Dear Editor,

Parkland College recently launched an exciting new lecture series, called Access Success, at its campus. Access Success brings local business, technology, and industry leaders and innovators to campus to help students understand the world of business and entrepreneurship.

To date, speakers such as Rick Stephens, president of Horizon Hobby, and Lauren and Annie Murray, co-owners of L.A. Gourmet have addressed standing room-only audiences to share their experiences and insights. Students benefit immensely from the opportunity to hear firsthand the trials and tribulations involved in beginning an enterprise from the ground up; they also enjoy participating in dialogue with presenters after each lecture.

Access Success exemplifies what Parkland does best in making college students aware of business and entrepreneurship opportunities at the local level. This top-notch series gives aspiring young people access to some of the most successful and engaging business leaders in the district.

Future speakers include Greg Cozad of Cozad Asset Management; Mark Achler, senior vice president of new business for Redbox movie-rental kiosk company; Darryl Cheeks, managing partner of the Black Rhino Financial Group; and Ed Scharlau, vice chairman of First Busey Corporation. Access Success at Parkland College is another way that we work hard to prepare our students for the future and encourage them to follow in the footsteps of our most inspirational community leaders.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas M Bennett
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