



COPPER MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COPPER MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

JOSHUA TREE, Ca –Copper Mountain College proudly announces that we are celebrating our 25th anniversary on April 24th at 10:00 a.m. on the Copper Mountain College Campus.

Copper Mountain College (CMC), is renowned as the college built by the community, its first phase having been paid for almost entirely with local private money and subsequent phases with substantial private help 25 years ago. Now governed by its own locally elected board of trustees, CMC's road to independence was accelerated by legislative action in recognition of the college's uniquely strong local support.

The college initially founded in 1966 when the residents of the Morongo Unified School District, elected to join the then Coachella Valley Community College District- now the Desert Community College District (DCCD). Classes were first offered in the High Desert in the fall of 1967 at the Twentynine Palms High School to approximately sixty students.

In 1981, a group of Morongo Basin Rotary Club members decided to build a campus with funds raised by community volunteers. Upon completion, the new campus quickly attracted a host of first-generation college students. In November 1999, Morongo Basin residents endorsed their new college in a 90 percent vote to become independent from DCCD. As a final step, in June 2001, CMC was granted full accreditation status by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Today CMC continues to grow because of the strong desire for education and the dedication of our community. In October of 2008, the college broke ground for the Bell Center, meeting both the needs for the college as well as the community. The Bell Center will serve as a place for not only sporting events, but a location to offer cultural events in the Morongo Basin that will bring people together.

The 25th anniversary celebration is open to the public and will take place at Phase I of the college campus. The event will consist of keynote speaker Assemblyman Paul Cook, longtime faculty and staff members, followed by a brief reception.

For more information regarding this event contact Laura Hall at 760.366.3791 extension 5442 . For general information about Copper Mountain College visit us at www.cmccd.edu or call 760.366.3791.