

# Halfling Bed & Breakfast for Dogs



## In-Home Dog Boarding

No kennel runs or cement floors  
Large securely fenced yard  
Transportation Available  
References

Alix Leopold  
Middletown Springs, Vermont  
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Aimee Gates and daughters Emily and Lucy enjoy tea at the annual Tea Party Fundraiser for the Bennington Free Library's Children's Room.

## Tea for Two

You're invited to Tea for Two, a parent/child Tea Party on Sunday, May 23 on the veranda of the beautiful Park-McCullough House in North Bennington. You may come for the 11:30 a.m., 1 or 2:30 p.m. tea seating. Children and adults are invited to come have tea, lemonade and delicious sweets and finger sandwiches, make a craft, play lawn games and enjoy the maypole. Tickets can be purchased for \$10 per person at the Bennington Free Library now through May 23. Last year this event was sold out so don't delay!

All proceeds will benefit the children's room at the Bennington Free Library.

## Mack Adds Senior Staff

Mack Molding Co. has reshuffled responsibilities and added new staff to its senior management team, it was announced today by Jeff Sample, president, Northern Operations. Set in motion by the retirement of a long-term employee – Bruce Bixler, who served the company for 36 years – the reorganization tapped internal talent that collectively brings 80 years of plastics industry expertise to the table.

Marc Colety, formerly Cavendish, Vermont, plant manager, has taken over the purchasing helm from Bixler, while Gene Birmingham moves up the ladder into Colety's former role. Bryan Campbell has been promoted to plant manager, Headquarters facility, and Carl Bickford has taken on the new position of quality manager-contract manufacturing.

"We always strive to challenge our staff with varying functional responsibilities so that they're ready to take on broader roles when the time comes," says Sample. "I'm thrilled to be able to fill these openings from within the company, and look forward to the contributions that I know each will make in the coming years."

Colety has worked for Mack for 15 years in a variety of managerial roles ranging from molding to manufacturing to plant operations. In his most recent role as Cavendish plant manager, he was responsible for everything from procurement through shipment of plastic molded and assembled products in a 120-person operation that runs 24/7. In his new position as director of procurement, his responsibilities will extend to all three of Mack's Vermont operations. Beyond his degree in busi-

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ness administration, Colety has trained in numerous quality, lean, management and statistical techniques. He served as a director on the board of the Springfield Regional Development Corporation for the past four years and is a member of the Society of Plastics Engineers.

A 13-year veteran of Mack, Birmingham was manufacturing manager at the Cavendish facility for eight years before being promoted to plant manager. In that role, he had full management responsibility for Mack's injection molding, assembly and paint operations there. Before that, he was a manufacturing/quality engineer. A graduate of Michigan State University (East Lansing, Michigan), he holds a bachelor's degree in packaging. Additionally, he has completed coursework in lean manufacturing, Six Sigma, and other areas of plastics processing.

Campbell, formerly an operations manager for a Tier 1 automotive supplier, joined Mack's sales department in 2008. There, he gained critical front line experience, both with customers and the complexities of the program management process. Now familiar with the unique needs of the medical OEM, he returns to the operations side, where he will manage a facility that focuses primarily on medical device manufacturing. Campbell was operations manager for Guardian Automotive, Warren, Michigan, before joining Mack. During his eight-year stint there, he also served as quality assurance manager and quality engineer. He holds a bachelor's in business administration from Catawba College, Salisbury, North Carolina, and has also completed lean manufacturing modules by Toyota Production System Training and the University of Kentucky.

Bickford, a 20-year Mack

veteran, has accepted the new position of quality manager-contract manufacturing at the Headquarters plant, where he will supervise a staff of quality engineers, as well as the metrology lab. "The hub of Mack's custom manufacturing activity, the Headquarters plant has developed to the point where we need this additional level of quality management and support," adds Somple, "which is Carl's primary area of expertise." For much

of his Mack tenure, Bickford worked in quality management, during which time he established several offsite repair and final product configuration centers to address the logistical needs of Mack's customer base. More recently, he added stints in plant and warehouse management. A graduate of Vermont Technical College (Randolph), Bickford holds a degree in electrical/electronic engineering.

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