

# IRWINDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**IRWINDALE**  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
 LEADING THE WAY FOR OTHERS

It is the mission of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce to BUILD solid relationships and provide quality services which SUPPORT chamber members and businesses, in order to PROMOTE the economic vitality of our community.

Volume 30, Number 12

*Celebrating 30 Years*

December 2010

### 2010 CORNERSTONES

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LEADING THE WAY FOR OTHERS

## Stopping Refrigerant Leaks

By: California Environmental Protection Agency

Beginning January 1, 2011, owners and operators of refrigeration systems that use more than 50 pounds of high global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants must comply with new Air Resources Board regulations designed to reduce California's greenhouse gas emissions. The new rules build on existing local and federal regulations and are expected to benefit businesses through cost savings due to reduced refrigerant consumption.

High-GWP refrigerants include chlorofluorocarbons, ydrochlorofluorocarbons, and hydrofluorocarbons. These compounds can be thousands of times more capable than carbon dioxide at trapping heat from the sun. Refrigeration systems that use ammonia, carbon dioxide or other non-high GWP refrigerants are not subject to the rule.

**Who must comply?** Any business with a stationary, non-residential refrigeration system using more than 50 pounds of high-GWP refrigerants must comply. Please check with your service technician first to determine the amount of refrigerant your system uses. Most small businesses, such as bars, restaurants, liquor stores, and gas stations do not have these size refrigeration systems. Facilities that typically have these size systems that would be subject to the rule include:

(Refrigerant Leaks-continued on page 2)

## Holiday Bad Check Alert for Los Angeles County Merchants!

By: Bad Check Restitution Program District Attorney

Ready or not, the holidays are just around the corner! Retail merchants have been busy all summer preparing for the Christmas shopping season and what may be their last chance to meet projected annual sales goals. Consumers have learned the best deals are available to those who shop late in the season when merchants slash prices, rather than buying early in the season. Unfortunately for merchants, this phenomenon often results in higher losses due to bad checks. Most of the offenders are law-abiding citizens who lack selfcontrol and have over-extended themselves. Nonetheless, they may have broken the law: knowingly passing a worthless check is a crime.

To help merchants keep bad check losses to a minimum, the **Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office** recommends taking the following precautions:

- Ask for valid Drivers License and record the number on the check. No license, no check!
- Record both the home and work telephone numbers on the front of the check.
- Do not accept a "post-dated" or "two-party" check and never agree to "hold" a check.
- Checks with only a P.O. Box are risky; be sure to record the complete address.
- Do not accept "counter" or temporary checks printed by the bank for a new account.
- Check should be signed in your presence; do not accept previously signed checks.

(Bad Check-continued on page 2)

Happy Holidays  
 Chamber Closed  
 December 24-31

### Inside this issue:

Calendar	3
Member News	4-8
Green Pages	9-10
Irwindale Rocks!	11-13
Pillars of Irwindale	14
Chamber/City Information	15
Phone: (626) 960-6606	
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<a href="http://www.irwindalechamber.org">www.irwindalechamber.org</a>	

## Milestone Breakfast



30 Year Members

The Irwindale Chamber of Commerce honored its 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 year members at the Annual Milestone Breakfast, sponsored by Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering, held at MillerCoors on October 25, 2010. Milestone honorees received a plaque presented by Anita Hernandez, Chair of the Board and a Certificate of Recognition from Assemblymember Dr. Ed Hernandez, 57th Assembly District.

Congratulations to this year's Honorees:

### 30 Year Members

Am-Vets Post 113  
B & K Electric Wholesale  
Benlo Company  
Breeder's Choice Pet Food  
Davis Wire Corporation  
Edison CTAC  
Gas Company  
Hanson Aggregates  
Harrison-Nichols  
Hose-Man Inc.  
MillerCoors  
Nu-Way Arrow Land Reclamation  
Southern California Edison  
Steve's Auto Sales  
Valley County Water District  
Vulcan Materials

### 25 Year Member

Select Office Solutions

### 20 Year Member

Ace Hardware Corporation  
BBL Partnership  
LA Works  
Lewis Engraving Inc.  
Sanitary Supplies LLC  
Santa Fe Dam Rec. Area  
United Transportation Union

We applaud our Milestone Members for their long term support of the Chamber and for recognizing that chamber membership and community involvement are good investments. For information on how to get the most from your Chamber membership, please visit us at:

[www.irwindalechamber.org](http://www.irwindalechamber.org)

### 15 Year Member

A-Advantage Ins. Services  
Athens Services  
Duarte Unified School Dist.  
Hampton Inn-Arcadia  
Precision Electric Company

### 10 Year Member

Biosense Webster  
Earthquake SOLUTIONS  
Reichhold, Inc.  
Tandex Test Labs  
Veolia ES Tech. Solutions

### 5 Year Member

A-1 Power Sweeping  
BP Air  
Charles P. Crowley Co.  
Gale Banks Engineering  
Jack In The Box  
LeRoy Haynes Center  
Neighborhood Homework House  
Renaissance Pleasure Faire  
Valley Light Industries Inc.  
Viking Video Cassettes Inc

### (Refrigerant Leaks-continued from coverage)

- Supermarkets and large grocery stores;
- Food and beverage processors;
- Cold-storage warehouses; and,
- Those using industrial-process cooling.

The regulation also affects any person who installs, services, or disposes any appliance using a high-GWP refrigerant or sells, distributes and/or reclaims high-GWP refrigerants.

**Implementation timeframes** - Beginning January 1, 2011, the following are required:

- Facility owners and operators requirements such as:
  - Conduct leak detection and monitoring and recordkeeping;
- Servicing - Follow Required Service Practices such as:
  - Technicians must be U.S. EPA certified;
  - Leaks must be repaired prior to recharging; and,
  - Cylinders must be properly evacuated before disposal.
- Distributors, wholesalers, and re-claimers – Follow prohibitions such as:
  - Must sell high-GWP refrigerants only to certified technicians or their employers.

### Beginning January 1, 2012:

- Facilities with systems with greater than or equal to 2,000 lbs. of high-GWP refrigerant must register with the ARB, submit an annual report, and pay annual fees;
- Distributors, wholesalers, and re-claimers must report annually.

### Beginning January 1, 2014

- Facilities with systems with greater than or equal to 200 lbs. but less than 2,000 lbs. of high-GWP refrigerant must register, submit an annual report, and pay annual fees.

### Beginning January 1, 2016

- Facilities with systems with greater than 50 lbs. but less than 200 lbs. of high-GWP refrigerant must register.

**For More Information** visit our website at [www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reftrack/reftrack.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reftrack/reftrack.htm), email [reftrackinfo@arb.ca.gov](mailto:reftrackinfo@arb.ca.gov); or call (916) 327-8532 and sign up for the listserve [www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv\\_ind.php?listname=reftrack](http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv_ind.php?listname=reftrack)

### (Bad Check-continued from coverage)

- Accept checks for the amount of purchase only.
- No out-of-state checks; they are very difficult to recover if returned by the bank.
- Use caution when accepting checks from out of your area. Ask customers why they are shopping so far from home?
- Trust your instincts! If something seems wrong, it probably is. Suggest an alternate method of payment.

This unique program provides assistance free of cost to recipients of bad checks. The primary goal of the program is to obtain restitution and secondly, to hold bad check writers accountable for their actions. Check writers reported to the program must pay restitution and attend a special educational class on personal money management or risk having their case reviewed for a possible criminal filing.

<http://da.lacounty.gov/badcheck.htm>

# Calendar of Events

## December 2010

*What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.* -Ralph Waldo Emerson-



1	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
2	Business Ambassador Mtg.	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
9	Holiday Lunch	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Double Tree Monrovia
13	Board Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
16	Good Morning Irwindale	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering
24-31	Happy Holidays	<b>CHAMBER CLOSED</b>	

## January 2011

*"Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises."* -Demosthenes-



5	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
6	Business Ambassador Mtg.	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
11	IEF Board Meeting	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
12	Business Solutions	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Irwindale Community Center
	Topic: Labor Law Update		
21	Installation & Awards Banquet	6:00 p.m.	Pomona Valley Mining Company
24	Board Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
27	GMI/Mini Expo	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe

## February 2011

*Do what you love. When you love your work, you become the best worker in the world.* -Uri Geller-



2	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
3	Business Ambassador Mtg.	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
8	IEF Board Meeting	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
10	Let's Do Lunch	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	TBA
24	Good Morning Irwindale	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
28	Board Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office

**For further details, future events, or to RSVP please visit our online calendar at [www.irwindalechamber.org](http://www.irwindalechamber.org)**

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## Member News



Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year.

Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services is a non-profit organization founded in 1950 to assist children, ages 0-18, in need of guidance, support, and positive reinforcement

**60th Anniversary**

to develop qualities of character and value systems that will encourage and facilitate their success in life. Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services seeks to prepare these children to live as productive members of the community. They do this through their residential, mental health, day, substance abuse and foster care and adoption programs. If you would like more information, please contact Vicki Mastro at 626-960-4861 or e-mail at [vicki\\_m@ettielee.org](mailto:vicki_m@ettielee.org). Holiday gifts for children are always welcome this time of year!

Mission Statement: Helping vulnerable children and their families develop skills to lead successful lives.

Changing Lives, Saving Lives, Building Hope for children and families in family-like settings.

**Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services**  
[www.ettielee.org](http://www.ettielee.org)



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From a small dinner party to a large corporate event, ELM Concierge would love the opportunity to make your next event shine! Complimentary tent measuring and event assessment available. Please call for an appointment and let them know you are with the Irwindale Chamber.

[www.elmconciierge.com](http://www.elmconciierge.com)

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# Business of the Month



## advancedmicrocomputingconcepts

**BUSINESS ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** AMC has provided strategic IT services to several Irwindale Chamber businesses since 2002. AMC was awarded the status of Small Business Technology Expert with the Cisco Select Certification as well as being a Citrix Silver Solution provider.

AMC is a recognized Microsoft Certified Partner and was recently selected as the technology partner of choice to co-host the Microsoft Community Connections event through the Chamber of Commerce.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** AMC supports the CIF Southern Section, including sponsorship of their recent 6th annual golf tournament. They are a longtime sponsor and supporter of the H.B.I.C. organization, home of the Cleta Harder Developmental Day School for Children and have setup an online donation portal for the Wendy Casiano fund. In addition AMC has donated time and resources to several local businesses and organizations.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ACTIVITY:** A longtime, active Cornerstone member of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce, AMC recently hosted a Technology Lunch & Learn with the Irwindale Chamber and has served as the keynote speaker at multiple Irwindale Chamber events.

[www.AMCSolutions.net](http://www.AMCSolutions.net)

### 31st Annual Installation & Awards Banquet

Pomona Valley Mining Company  
Friday, January 21, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m.

**Presented By:**



**Honoring**

Anita Hernandez, MillerCoors, 2010 Chair of the Board

Along with the recipients of our annual awards

Joe DiShanni Business of the Year

Business Person of the Year

Ambassador of the Year

Employee of the Year

Citizen of the Year

**Installing**

Atisthan Roach, Vulcan Materials, 2011 Chair of the Board

Along with the Chamber Officers and Directors

RSVP at [www.irwindalechamber.org](http://www.irwindalechamber.org)

or contact the Chamber office at 626-960-6606

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## Holiday Safety Tips

By: LAPDOnline.org

The following Holiday Safety Tips were compiled, in cooperation with the LAPD Crime Prevention Section, to contribute to the safety and security of people during the holiday season. The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors. The Los Angeles Police Department wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season.

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Always carry your California Driver License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses and other rapid transit.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods

of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

### Driving during the holidays

- Avoid driving alone or at night.
- Keep all car doors locked and windows closed while in or out of your car. Set your alarm or use an anti-theft device.
- If you must shop at night, park in a well-lighted area.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.
- Park as close as you can to your destination and take notice of where you parked.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.
- Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car. This creates a temptation for thieves. If you must leave something in the car, lock it in the trunk or put it out of sight.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to going to your car.
- Keep a secure hold on your purse, handbag and parcels. Do not put them down or on top of the car in order to open the door.
- When approaching and leaving your vehicle be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area.
- Ask mall or store security for an escort before leaving your shopping location.

### Holiday Home Safety

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- When setting up a Christmas tree or other holiday display, make sure doors and passageways are clear inside your home.
- Be sure your Christmas tree is mounted on a sturdy base so children, elderly persons or family pets cannot pull it over on themselves.
- If you use lights on your Christmas tree ensure the wiring is not damaged or frayed. Frayed or damaged wiring can cause a fire.
- Place your Christmas tree in water or wet sand to keep it green.
- Never place wrapping paper in your fireplace.



May this  
Holiday Season  
bring blessings to  
you and yours.

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# Spirit of Giving 2010



The Irwindale Chamber is once again adopting a Cottage of 12 teenage boys (15-18 years old) at the Leroy Haynes Center in La Verne this holiday season. **Gift Cards (\$25-\$35) to Target, Walmart, Game Stop, Foot Locker, and Hot Topic are on the boys' wish lists.** If you'd like to donate cash, gift card or other items please bring it to the Chamber office or to any Irwindale Chamber event now through December 9<sup>th</sup>.

We have also begun our Virtual Stocking Campaign.... Participants who donate at least \$20 in cash or gift cards will be listed on the virtual stocking which will be placed on

the weekly email update through December 14, 2010

For additional information on either of the above mentioned, please call the Chamber office at (626) 960-6606 or visit us at [www.irwindalechamber.org](http://www.irwindalechamber.org)

As you make your determination on charitable contributions we thank you for considering these fine organizations.

- Am-Vets Post 113**  
Pete Ramirez, 626-338-4440
- Boy Scouts of America**  
Lucia Bernal, 626-351-8815
- Cory's Kitchen**  
Wayne Leamons, 626-305-0392
- Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services**  
Vicki Mastro, 626-960-4861
- Foothill Family Service**  
Kathleen Quintas,  
626-564-1613 xt 105
- Foothill Unity Center Inc.**  
Joan Whitenack  
626-358-3486
- Irwindale Police Officers Assoc.**  
John Fraijo, 626-962-3601
- Irwindale Educational Foundation**  
Camille Diaz, 626-430-2200
- Lisa Bailey, 626-960-6606**
- Irwindale Public Library Foundation**  
Pat Sullivan, 626-430-2229
- Kare Youth League**  
David Carson, 626-442-1160
- LeRoy Haynes Center**  
Jane Woods, 909-593-2581

- Neighborhood Homework House**  
Jan Wickersham  
626-969-7051
- Pacific Clinics**  
Brian Greene, 626-254-5023
- Pasadena Tournament of Roses**  
Traci Ridling, 626-449-4100
- S.G. Mountains Reg. Conservancy**  
Ann Croissant, 626-335-1771
- S.G.V. Habitat for Humanity**  
Sonja Yates, 626-387-6899
- Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area**  
John Norcia, 626-334-1065
- Santa Teresita**  
Sister Carmen, 626-932-3424
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- Soroptimist International**  
Amanda Secola S.I.I.  
949-795-2776
- Valley Light Industries Inc.,**  
Pamela Hayes, 626-337-6200
- Volunteer Center of S.G.V.**  
Judy Angelo, 626-792-6118
- YWCA San Gabriel Valley**  
Lisa Brabo, 626-214-9442

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### Upcoming Classes:

#### HVAC System Testing for Energy Efficiency ••

Thursday, December 2, 2010  
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. with lunch  
Event # 23625

#### Financial Analysis Techniques for Owner-Occupied & Income – Producing Properties **NEW** •

Friday, December 3, 2010  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. with lunch  
Event # 26592

#### Integrating Photovoltaics Into the Building Design •

Wednesday, December 8, 2010  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Event # 26646

Call 1-800-336-CTAC  
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- These programs are funded by California utility customers and administered by Southern California Edison under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.
- These classes are jointly offered by California Energy Centers operated by CTAC (Southern California Edison Company), the Energy Resource Center (Southern California Gas Company, a Sempra Energy Utility), the Pacific Energy Center (Pacific Gas and Electric Company) and San Diego Gas & Electric, a Sempra Energy Utility.

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## A Conversation with your Police Department

The Irwindale Police Department is pleased to have this opportunity to “dialogue” with you, our City’s business residents. It’s our hope that, through open communication, together we can address issues or concerns that you may have from time to time. In the course of the next few months, we’d like to address not only general concerns but any specific police-related questions you might have as well (see contact information below).

In this initial column, we’d like to talk about the first of “*Three Phases of a Robbery.*”<sup>1</sup> Although we are fortunate to have so few in our City each year, as Coach Joe Gibbs once observed, “A winning effort begins with preparation.”

**Robbery – Phase 1: Before:** In California, robbery is generally defined as the felonious taking of personal property of another by means of force or fear (211 PC).

If you have a business where there might be a perception that money is kept in the workplace, then your employees are subject to being the victim of a robbery. Understand that robbery represents the smallest monetary loss to businesses when compared to other business crimes such as shoplifting, employee or ID theft, and burglary.

**The first phase to a robbery is before: Before:** Good customer service will be your best deterrent to crime.

- Provide robbery protocol training for your employees.
- Keep windows free from obstructions such as advertising material.
- Greet customers as they enter and make sure to make eye contact.
- Limit cash on hand or in the register.
- Consider installing an appropriate alarm system.
- Surveillance cameras should monitor frontal views of customers, entrances and exits.
- Height markers should be placed on all entrances/exits.
- Put together a “robbery box.” This box should contain an extra set of keys to all doors, suspect identification sheets, first aid kit, pads of paper and pencils, paper towels to cover up and protect fingerprints, and whatever else you think would be needed after a robbery (within your company’s policy). This box should be kept under the counter or where it is easily accessible. By having all these items in one place, you will not have to fumble around after the robbery – when adrenalin and emotions are running high.

If you’d like your Community Police Officer to stop by and review your business’s preparations for robbery or, for that matter, “hardening” your business against other crime, please let us know. We’d be happy to set up a mutually convenient time to meet and discuss your options.

In the meantime, if you have any other questions you’d like us to address on these pages, let us know by emailing me, Sergeant Phil Reeves, at: [preeves@ci.irwindale.ca.us](mailto:preeves@ci.irwindale.ca.us).

Next month – “Robbery – Phase 2: During.”

<sup>1</sup>“City of Irwindale P.D.: Partners against Crime.”

# The Green Pages

## December 2010



### How and Where to Recycle Your Christmas Tree After the Holidays

By: [pickyournchristmastree.org](http://pickyournchristmastree.org)

Christmas is over, the egg nog has gone off, the relatives finally departed... and you're left packing up the lights and ornaments and wondering what to do with the Christmas tree. Put it out by the curb and hope that the garbage men will take it away. Not likely. Put it in a corner of the yard and believe it may break down. Not in your lifetime. So what?

Many cities and counties have recycling services to put your old Christmas tree to new life as a wildlife sanctuary, on a sand dune to protect the beach, chipped for mulch or as a bird feeder. Look below on this page for both general tips and options specific to your local area:

**What Are Your Recycling Choices?** After the holidays, don't throw your natural tree away! Here are some tips on what to do with your tree after the holidays. In general, you have these options:

- Curbside pick-up for recycling - Most areas will collect trees during their regular pickup schedules on the 2 weeks following Christmas. There are often requirements for size, removing ornaments, flocking, etc.
- Call for an appointment to have a non-profit in your area pickup your tree. Some boy scout troops are offering a pickup service for a small donation (often \$5).
- Take your tree to a drop off recycling center. Most counties have free drop-off locations throughout the county. Usually, you may take up to two trees to any of the following drop-off locations at no charge.
- Cut the tree to fit loosely into your yard waste container.

#### Other tips and ideas

**Removing the tree:** The best way to avoid a mess removing your tree is to place a plastic tree bag (which are available at hardware stores) underneath the stand when you set the tree up! You can hide it with a tree skirt. Then, when the holidays are done, pull the bag up around the tree, stand and all, and carry it outside. Obviously, you will want to remove the stand before recycling the tree. If some needles do scatter inside, it is better to sweep them up; as needles can clog vacuum cleaners.

**Tree Recycling / Mulching programs** are a fast-growing trend in communities throughout the nation. They chip and shred the trees, then make the mulch available for use in your garden.

**Soil erosion barriers:** Some communities use Christmas trees to make effective sand and soil erosion barriers, especially at for lake and river shoreline stabilization and river delta sedimentation management (Louisiana does both).

**Fish feeders:** Sunk into private fish ponds trees make excellent refuge and feeding area for fish.

**Bird feeders:** Place the Christmas tree in the garden or backyard and use it as a bird feeder and sanctuary. Fresh orange slices or strung popcorn will attract the birds and they can sit in the branches for shelter. (Make sure all decorations, hooks, garland and tinsel strands are removed). Eventually (within a year) the branches will become brittle and you can break the tree apart by hand or chip it in a chipper.

**Mulch:** A Christmas tree is biodegradable; its branches may be removed, chipped, and used as mulch in the garden. If you have a neighbor with a chip, see if he will chip it for you.

**Paths for Hiking Trails** - some counties use the shredded trees as a free, renewable and natural path material that fits both the environment and the needs of hikers!

**Living, rooted trees:** Of course, next year, you could get a rooted (ball and burlapped or containerized) tree and then plant it in your yard after Christmas (It's a good idea to pre-dig the hole in the late Fall while the soil is still soft, then plant the tree into that hole immediately after Christmas.)  
NOTE: Living trees have a better survival rate in mild climates, than in a northern area.

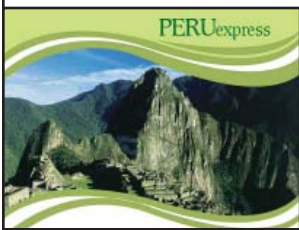
**Important:** Never burn your Christmas tree in a fireplace or wood stove. Pines, firs and other evergreens have a high content of flammable turpentine oils. Burning the tree may contribute to creosote buildup and risk a chimney fire.

#### General tips for most haulers:

- Remove all ornaments, tinsel, lights, and other NON-Organic decorative materials. This includes tree stands.
- Trees are often required to be cut into 4 ft lengths; so you may need to cut your tree in half. In some locales, the trees must be cut small enough pieces to fit inside your green (yard waste) container.
- Flocked trees will often need to be chopped-up and disposed with regular solid waste. Each area has different requirements, so be sure to check with your hauler's website.
- Trees are usually collected curbside for two weeks.
- FREE Drop-off locations are also commonly available
- If you miss the collection period, you can cut-up the tree and place it in your green (yard waste) container for pick-up on the regularly scheduled service day; assuming your area has a yard waste collection program to which you subscribe.



### Travel with the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce



**Peru, Feb. 1-8, 2011**

8 days/ 7 nights

**Last Chance to register!**

\$2,250 (members pp dbl occ)

\$2,350 (non-members pp dbl occ)

You will visit Lima, Cuzco and Machu Picchu. Pricing includes roundtrip airfare from LAX, domestic flights, hotels, and breakfast daily.



**Morocco, March 31-April 10, 2011**

10 days/ 9 nights Morocco!

\$2,377 + air taxes (members pp dbl occ)

\$2,477 + air taxes (non-members pp dbl occ)

Price includes land tour, air from LAX, hotel transfers, professional tour director, and baggage handling.



**Barcelona & Madrid**

Departs Nov. 13, 2011 for 8 Days

\$2,049 (members pp dbl occ)

\$2,149 (non-members pp dbl occ)

You will visit Barcelona, Las Ramblas, La Sagrada Familia, Parc Guell, Madrid, Prado Museum, Paseo Castellano, Gran Via, and Plaza de Espana

## Green Gifting

Submitted By: Kim Holland, Citrus College

**Green Gifting** – what is it? It's reducing the impact on the environment by giving a gift or service that is sustainable.

Think about giving a gift of service or where the proceeds of the sale goes to help others or a gift made of recycled materials. Baking, crafts, or using materials you have on hand are other ways to go **Green**. Think about giving a gift to an organization that honors the giftee and helps others - a gift that keeps on giving— a fruit tree, a chicken or even a sewing machine.

Think about giving your time by visiting a loved one or offering a hug. This is **Green Gifting** at its core – give with love!

By Sue Yarberry in the Child Development Center



We Deliver Preferred Solutions

107 South Motor Avenue  
Azusa, Ca 91702

Phone: (800) 395-6726

Fax: (626) 334-4563

## The Irwindale Chamber of Commerce Environmental Committee

E-mail your environmental questions to our committee and one of our committee members will respond to you.

**Chair:** Elizabeth Bagwell - City of Hope  
Luis Cetina - Metropolitan Water District  
Ann Croissant- San Gabriel Mountain Conservancy  
Craig Doerr- American Reclamation  
Jackie Doornik - San Gabriel Mountain Conservancy  
Jayne Foote - Veolia ES Technical Solutions  
Raymond Hamada - City of Irwindale  
Kim Holland - Citrus College  
April Kelcy- Earthquake SOLUTIONS  
John Norcia - Santa Fe Dam  
Patricia Sullivan- City of Irwindale Public Library  
Racine Ward- Biosense Webster, Incorporated  
Sue Wyninegar - City of Hope  
Rainbow Yeung - South Coast Air Quality Management  
Lisa Bailey - Irwindale Chamber of Commerce  
Dominique Yates - Irwindale Chamber of Commerce

Websites: [www.envirocommittee.com](http://www.envirocommittee.com)

### Mission Statement

To prepare, inform and advocate, on behalf of the business and residential community, environmental concerns and emergency preparation and response planning.

### Join the Committee

If you care about health and safety issues that affect community business, or the environment, you should consider this committee.

**Meeting:** 1st Wednesday of each month

**Time:** 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Irwindale Chamber of Commerce,  
16102 Arrow Highway, Irwindale

**E-mail:** [EnviroCommittee@irwindalechamber.org](mailto:EnviroCommittee@irwindalechamber.org)

[www.citruscollege.edu/greenteam](http://www.citruscollege.edu/greenteam)

# IRWINDALE ROCKS

As Provided by City Staff



## GETTING TO KNOW CITY EMPLOYEES

### Iris Espino, Business License Clerk

Iris Espino was born and raised in Irwindale. She started working for the City of Irwindale while in high school when she was assigned to the Finance Department as part of the summer youth program. She later worked for The Claremont Colleges at Pomona College as the assistant to the District Manager. She also worked at the Irwindale Recreation Department for nearly three years where she coordinated the youth cheerleading program. Iris came full circle when she was hired in December 2006 as the Business License Clerk for the city.

As the Business License Clerk, Iris is responsible for reviewing, processing, recording and calculating fees for Business Licenses. You will see her courteously serving customers at the public counter, providing information on business license fees and regulations to applicants and assisting applicants in completing forms. She investigates violations and notifies business owners of unlicensed businesses about license requirements as well as collecting fees and penalties to bring businesses into compliance. Additionally, Iris handles all accounts receivable including the handling and reconciling of all cash receipts and revenue tracking for the City, special funds, Housing Authority and Redevelopment Agency. Iris was a member of the 50th Anniversary committee and is a member of the safety committee.

Iris has earned her Associates of Arts Degree in Liberal Arts. She is currently working on obtaining her Bachelor's Degree in the Public Sector at California State University of Northridge. She plans to continue her education and attain her Master's degree.

In her spare time, Iris enjoys attending concerts and hanging out backstage with her buddy Megan. She loves baking (which is always appreciatively consumed by city staff), sewing and takes a variety of dance classes. She has a deep passion for photography and enjoys riding her beach cruiser around town and at the beach. Iris loves to travel and has visited many places throughout Canada, Mexico and the United States, including Puerto Rico. She plans to travel to Spain next year.

One of the highlights for Iris this year was winning a \$500 costume contest in Las Vegas for the "Poison Ivy" costume (from the Batman and Robin movie character) that she designed.

Iris's heroes are her parents, Ana and Ernesto Espino. Everything that she has accomplished thus far in life is a credit to the loving support and encouragement she receives from her parents daily. Iris has two older brothers and one nephew.

What she values most is spending time with her family and her boyfriend, Dan, whether it is a Sunday BBQ or watching Mexico play in the World Cup.

## SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF IRWINDALE



**The Mayor,  
City Council Members,  
Commissioners and Staff  
of the City of Irwindale  
Wish You and Your Loved  
Ones Every Happiness This  
Holiday Season  
and Throughout the  
Coming Year.**

### HOLIDAY CLOSURE

As a reminder, City Hall offices will be closed (except for Police and Recreation) from December 20, 2010 through and including December 31, 2010. Offices will open on January 3, 2011. Should you need to take care of any City business, please do so by December 16, 2010. City Hall hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

# IRWINDALE ROCKS

As Provided by City Staff



## Council Round-Up – October 13, and October 27, 2010

- Council approved amendments to the Budget for Fiscal Years 2009-10 and 2010-11.
- Council approved a resolution recording estimated revenues and appropriating additional funds from the FY 2007-2008 State Homeland Security Grant Program funds for the reprogramming of Police Department radios in order to comply with the Federal Communications Commission.
- The first amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Irwindale and TowerCo Assets, LLC was approved by Council.
- A contract was approved by Council for Geotechnical Engineering Services for 1) Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) Compliance of Mining Pits; (2) Grading Permits review for mine reclamation backfill of SMARA Pits; and (3) reclamation oversight of City-owned pits.
- Council approved three professional contract agreements for as-needed geotechnical engineering, mining engineering, and Surface Mining and Reclamation Act 1975 support services.
- Council approved a contract for Building and Safety Engineering services for processing grading permits for mine reclamation backfill.
- An offsite improvement reimbursement agreement with Huy Fong Irwindale, was approved by Council for reimbursement of costs related to the development project at 4800 Azusa Canyon Road.
- A status report was received and filed on Arrow Highway corridor planning efforts and staff was directed to continue work with the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments on the next steps in the planning process.
- An ordinance regarding administrative citation procedures and code amendment was approved.
- A resolution of the Irwindale Community Redevelopment Agency approving amendments to the budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10 was approved by the Agency.
- Council approved the first amendment to the Exclusive Negotiating Agreement between the Irwindale Community Redevelopment Agency and the Irwindale Housing Authority with Mayans Development extending the term of the agreement to January 19, 2011.
- Cancellation of the regular City Council and its agencies meetings scheduled for November 24, 2010 and December 22, 2010 was approved by Council.
- The Investment Quarterly Report was received and filed.
- Council retroactively approved a contract amendment for HCG, as it pertains to additional work on the Athens MRF Environmental Impact Report
- The consultant selection of AECOM was approved by Council for performing the engineering and environmental services for the project at Interstate 605 at Live Oak Avenue and Arrow Highway.

## Veterans Day

November 11th of each year is the day that we let our veterans know that we deeply appreciate the sacrifices they have made in their lives to keep our country free. They went to defend their nation and its ideals, giving up the comforts and conveniences of home. Too many never returned to their families, but none who served ever sacrificed in vain. We are eternally grateful for their quiet, heroic services.



Helping to honor our veterans is the Young Marines and the Am Vets Post 113



Veterans Monument



Commander of Am Vets Post #113 Pete R. Ramirez, guest speaker.



Mayor Ortiz receiving a proclamation from Anthony Duarte, Field Deputy for Congresswoman Chu.

# IRWINDALE ROCKS

As Provided by City Staff



## Halloween Costume Fun

### Pumpkin Carving Contest

1st place pumpkins as well as our Best Overall winner, the pirate.



Alice Herrera-Riley



Elijah Zepeda



Ian Zepeda



Krista Garcia

Some of our seniors showing off their costumes.



L-R: William Dorn, Lupe Gonzales, Mary & John Abele, Lenny Orosco



### Tiny Tots All Dressed Up

Back Row from left: Aidan Armendariz (Iron Man), Kevin Ramirez (Batman), Olivia Tapia-Hirsch (Cinderella), Zoey White (Sleeping Beauty), Autumn Quinones (Jesse), Noah Caldera (Woody). Front Row: Xorayah Ortiz (Jasmine), Reyna Mendoza (Belle), Noah Butler (Wolverine) and Vivian Hirsch (Alice in Wonderland)

Our Teen Club is one of the best. They volunteer at every event, raise funds for various causes, and work very closely with our seniors. They are an inspiration to other teens in our community and we are proud to have them.



Three of our Teen Club Members: Jade Lopez, Maria Galindo and Sonia Dominquez



Alva and Henry Dominguez



Teen Club and Seniors showing off their pumpkin carving skills.



## New Workers' Comp Forms Available to Comply with October Deadline

By: CalChamber

*Where can I find the Medical Provider Network forms I need to comply with the new workers' compensation regulations?*

The forms for employers within an existing Medical Provider Network (MPN) can be downloaded at no charge from links within the [HRWatchdog Blog](#) at [HRCalifornia.com](#).

An MPN is a network of providers, including physicians, created to treat workers injured on the job in California. Each MPN must include a mix of doctors specializing in work-related injuries and doctors with expertise in general areas of medicine.

MPNs are created by payors (self-insured employers or workers' compensation insurers) and must be approved by the California Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC). Unless exempted by law or the employer, all medical care for workers injured on the job whose employer has an approved MPN will be handled and provided through the MPN.

### Requirement for All Employers

- Post a new version of the *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work* (dated 6/10/10) by October 8, 2010. Failure to post the notice by the October deadline can result in a misdemeanor and up to \$7,000 in civil penalties.
- Distribute a new *Your Rights to Workers' Compensation Benefits* pamphlet to all new employees who start work on or after October 8, 2010, at the time of hire or before the end of the first pay period.

**Medical Provider Networks** - Additional requirements for employers within an existing MPN are as follows:

- Create a complete MPN Notice and post it next to the revised *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work* poster. The complete MPN Notice is described in the *CalChamber Workers' Compensation Final Regulations Q & A* document, available on [HRCalifornia.com](#). Sample language is available in the [HRWatchdog Blog](#).
- Give the same complete MPN Notice to any employee injured at work on or after October 8, 2010.

Employers who are implementing, changing or terminating an MPN must also:

- Post a complete MPN Notice next to the *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work* poster by October 8, 2010. The complete MPN Notice is described in the *CalChamber Workers' Compensation Final Regulations Q & A* document, available on [HRCalifornia.com](#). Sample language is available in the [HRWatchdog Blog](#).
- Give the complete MPN Notice to any employee injured at work on or after October 8, 2010.
- Give all employees notice that you are implementing, terminating or changing the MPN.
- Submit a *Notice of Medical Provider Network Plan Modification* to DWC along with any necessary documentation. The mandatory DWC form is available in the [HRWatchdog Blog](#).

## Pillars of Irwindale

- ✚ Bailey Construction
- ✚ Champion Awards and Specialties
- ✚ Cleantech Environmental
- ✚ SA Recycling
- ✚ Steven G. Sorell, Esq.,  
CPA, Attorney at Law

Become a Pillar Member today! It's very simple, just double your standard dues and receive recognition all year long!

- Recognition in each issue of *Insights*
- Business Card Ad for one month
- Special renewing date plate for your membership plaque
- Pillar Member name badge
- Website Recognition for the entire year

For complete details call the Chamber office 626-960-6606

### Finding Funding for Your Small Business

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Wells Fargo Bank Training Room,  
802 West Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, Ca  
10:00 a.m.-Noon

If you want or need a loan to start or build your business, or if you need some financial help to survive this recession, this workshop is for you. Learn the 5 C's of credit so you will know what lenders are looking for when considering lending you money. Get information about available small business loan programs including the new America's Recovery Capital (ARC) Loan Program to assist businesses during a recession. Lastly, you will learn about the importance of having a well thought out business plan when asking for credit or loan consideration from a bank or other lenders.

For more information or to register for this training please email us at [sbdc@canyons.edu](mailto:sbdc@canyons.edu)

The Los Angeles Regional Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network is part of the national Small Business Administration (SBA). We provide individualized consulting and training to new and growing businesses. For more information and classes, please visit [www.lasbdcnet.org](http://www.lasbdcnet.org)

**IRWINDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Street Address: 16102 E. Arrow Highway, Irwindale, CA 91706  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2307, Irwindale, CA 91706-1168  
Phone: (626)960-6606 • Fax:(626) 960-3868  
E-Mail: info@irwindalechamber.org  
Website: www.irwindalechamber.org

**2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chair of the Board: Anita Hernandez *MillerCoors*  
1st Vice Chair: Atisthan Roach *Vulcan Materials*  
2nd Vice Chair: Louis Ornelas *Ready-Pac Produce*  
Treasurer: John Muldoon *Securitas Security Sevices*  
Secretary: Steve Sorell *Attorney at Law*  
Past Chair: Dennis Chiappetta *Athens Services*

**Directors:** Elizabeth Bagwell *City of Hope*  
Marissa Buckisch *Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering*  
Vee Clark *SCE Federal Credit Union*  
Andrew Elkins *Renaissance Pleasure Faire*  
John Gasparian *American Reclamation*  
Claudia Hubbard *Double Tree Hotel*  
Sam Kim *Ayutla Meat Market*  
Rachel Leyba *Allstate Insurance*  
Kevin McDonald *Foothill Transit*  
Jesus Rodriguez *Decore-Ative Specialties*

**Ex-Officio:** Sol Benudiz *City Manager*  
Lisa Bailey *President/CEO*

**Staff:** Dominique Yates *Membership Event Manager*  
Veronica Orosco *Administrative Assistant*  
Lisa Baca *Administrative Assistant*

**CHAMBER MEETINGS**

**Board of Directors** 4th Monday  
3:00 p.m. at the Chamber  
**Business Ambassadors** 1st Thursday at the Chamber  
8:00 a.m.  
**Environmental Committee** 1st Wednesday  
12:00 noon at the Chamber  
**Luncheons** 2nd Thursday  
Location Varies  
**Networking Breakfast** 4th Thursday at Picasso's Cafe  
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
**Toastmasters** Call for meeting details.  
626-256-7900

**IRWINDALE SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

**Am-Vets Post 113**  
16124 Calle de Paseo, Irwindale, CA 91806  
Meets 1st Friday at Am-Vets Park (626) 338-4440 Ben Aguayo  
**Irwindale Educational Foundation**  
P.O. Box 2307, Irwindale, CA 91706-1168  
Board Meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber  
**Soroptimist International of Irwindale**  
Meets 2nd & 4th Monday of every month, 6:00 p.m.  
5050 Irwindale Ave., Irwindale-Contact Amanda 562-587-9090

**City of Irwindale**

**City Hall**  
5050 Irwindale Avenue  
Irwindale, CA 91706-1168

**Phone: (626) 430-2200**  
Fax: (626) 962-4209 (City Hall)  
Fax: (626) 430-2295 (Building Dept.)  
Website: www.ci.irwindale.ca.us  
e-mail: postoffice@ci.irwindale.ca.us

**City Council**

Mayor: H. Manuel Ortiz  
Mayor Pro Tem: David "Chico" Fuentes  
Council Members: Mark A. Breceda,  
Larry G. Burrola, and Manuel R. Garcia

**City Council Meetings**

2nd and 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall

**City Staff**

City Manager: Sol Benudiz  
Assistant City Manager: Camille Diaz  
Dir. of Public Works/City Engineer: Kwok Tam  
Finance Director & City Treasurer: Laura Nomura  
Director of Planning: Raymond Hamada  
Human Resource Manager: Sharmeen Bhojani  
Redevelopment Project Manager: Jose Amador  
Deputy City Clerk: Linda Kimbro

**Planning Commission**

Chair: Arthur R Tapia Vice Chair: Doloras Amador  
Commissioners: Richard Chico, Robert E. Hartman and Carmen Roman

**Parks & Recreation Commission**

Chair: Dan Diaz Vice Chair: Paula Fraijo  
Commissioners: Carol B. Hernandez, Veronica S. Barbosa-Lara  
and Belen Zepeda

**Senior Citizen Commission**

Chair: David Martinez Vice Chair: Maggie Guzman  
Commissioners: Stella Breceda, Erlinda Duran, and Iris Rodriguez

\*\*\*\*\*

**Library.....(626) 430-2229**

City Librarian: Patricia Sullivan  
5050 Irwindale Avenue Fax: (626) 430-2266

**Recreation.....(626) 430-2224**

16053 Calle de Paseo Fax: (626) 962-3022  
Recreation Manager: Dan Grijalva  
Recreation Supervisor: Priscilla Zepeda

**Senior Center.....(626) 430-2283**

16116 Arrow Highway Fax: (626) 430-2275  
Senior Citizen Coordinator: Jackie Delgado

**Service Yard.....(626) 430-2280**

16034 Calle del Norte

Public Works Manager: Mike Rados

\*\*\*\*\*

**Police Department**

Interim Police Chief Wayne Hiltz

**Emergency..... 9-1-1**

Phone (non emergency)...(626) 430-2244  
5050 Irwindale Avenue Fax: (626) 856-0471

**Los Angeles County Fire- Irwindale Station**

**Emergency..... 9-1-1**

Phone (non emergency)...(626) 337-8919  
15546 Arrow Hwy, Irwindale



# IRWINDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LEADING THE WAY FOR OTHERS

P.O. BOX 2307 • IRWINDALE, CALIFORNIA 91706

“Jardin de Roca” Garden of Rocks

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Is this newsletter properly addressed? Please verify the information on the mailing label. If any changes are needed please call (626) 960-6606 or fax them to (626) 960-3868.

### Ten Great Reasons to be a Member:

- |                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Credibility</i>            | 6) <i>Community Involvement</i>    |
| 2) <i>Networking</i>             | 7) <i>Publicity</i>                |
| 3) <i>Government Advocacy</i>    | 8) <i>Business Referrals</i>       |
| 4) <i>Benefits and Discounts</i> | 9) <i>Leadership Development</i>   |
| 5) <i>Learning Opportunities</i> | 10) <i>Volunteer Opportunities</i> |

For more information visit [www.irwindalechamber.org](http://www.irwindalechamber.org).

**Vision:** To be the premier Chamber of Commerce leading the way for others. It is the mission of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce to build solid relationships and provide quality services which support chamber members and businesses, in order to promote the economic vitality of our community.

### Irwindale Chamber Builders

**Purpose:** to provide recognition for any member that refers new members to the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce.

The Irwindale Chamber of Commerce wishes to prominently thank the following members for sharing the value and benefit they receive by being an Irwindale Chamber member.

#### Referrals

Sol Benudiz, City of Irwindale (3)

Sam Kim, Ayutla Meat Market (2)

#### Recruiting

Anita Hernandez, MillerCoors for new members:

**Bell Pipe and Supply, Wireless Edge/Verizon, & Magid Glove**

Sol Benudiz, City of Irwindale for new member:

**Cory's Kitchen**

Atisthan Roach, Vulcan Materials for new member:

**Shoes That Fit and Proforma Quality Printing**

Rosalva Breceda, Pen Mar Beauty Salon for new member:

**Juan's Restaurante**

Congratulations to Sammy Kim of **Ayutla Market**, 2009 Builder of the Year with five new members!

**(626) 798 ★ 1901**

For Waste Collection & Recycling Services Contact • Craig Doerr or Joe Pimentel



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"2010 Diverse Entrepreneurs of the Year"



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