



Insights

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 28, Number 4

April 2008

CORNERSTONES of Irwindale Commerce



Well-Paying, High-Demand Jobs Available in Building Trades



Gov. Schwarzenegger Highlights the Need for Trained Workforce to Rebuild California

To create jobs and help keep the state's economy growing, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger discussed the need to recruit apprentices for public works projects funded by the 2006 voter-approved infrastructure bonds. The bonds authorize \$42 billion for education, housing, levee repair, flood

control, parks and transportation projects.

"There is really no job out there more satisfying than working to make California even greater than it is today. These apprentices will be actually building a better California, with their own hands and skills. I know each

(Jobs-continued on page 13)

Solis Backs Plan To Invest In Renewable Energy, Create New Jobs

Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis (CA-32), the House sponsor of the recently enacted Green Jobs Act (Public Law 110-140) which authorizes \$125 million for workforce training for jobs in the renewable energy industries, backed landmark legislation that will make significant new investments in renewable energy sources, create hundreds of thousands of new jobs, help end our dependence on foreign oil and slash taxpayer funded subsidies to oil companies. The Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008 was approved by a vote of 236 - 182.

"With oil prices reaching another record high of \$102 per barrel, the time for action on renewable energy and American energy independence is now. This bill is good for our environment, good for our economy and good for our national security," said Solis. "Ending our dependence on foreign oil and using renewable energy to help fight global warming will make our nation stronger. And at a time when our economy is struggling, these investments will help create hundreds of thousands of new jobs. "

The Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act makes new investments that will help reduce our dependence on foreign oil, increase renewable electricity production, and protect our environment. The bill extends and expands tax incentives for renewable

(New jobs-continued on page 13)

★ **Business Solutions** ★

★ **Topic:** ★

★ **Guerilla Marketing** ★

★ **Wednesday, April 16** ★

★ **11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** ★

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Calendar of Events

April 2008

The earth is what we all have in common.
-Wendell Berry-



1	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
2	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
3	Business Development Committee	9:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
8	Irwindale Education Foundation	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
8	CEO Roundtable	7:30 a.m.	TBA
10	Let's Do Lunch Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering State of the City, Speaker Mayor Larry Burrola	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Edison CTAC
15	Grand Opening	11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Fabian Protection Services
16	Business Solutions Topic: Guerilla Marketing	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Irwindale Community Center
19	Feast at the Faire Location: Renaissance Pleasure Faire Wedding Garden	4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Santa Fe Dam
24	Good Morning Irwindale Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe, Bakery & Catering	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
28	Board of Directors Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office

May 2008

A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself. -Joseph Campbell-



1	Golf Tournament Title Sponsor: 1st Centennial Bank	Shotgun Start @ noon	Sierra La Verne Country Club
6	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
7	Business Development Committee	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
7	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
8	Let's Do Lunch Presenting Sponsor: Vulcan Materials Business Card Bingo	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Irwindale Community Center
13	Irwindale Education Foundation	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
13	CEO Roundtable	7:30 a.m.	TBA
19	Board of Directors Meeting	CANCELLED	
22	GMI/Mini Expo Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe, Bakery & Catering	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
28	Memorial Day	CHAMBER CLOSED	

June 2008

Be intent upon the perfection of the present day.
-William Law-



3	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
4	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
5	Business Development Committee	9:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
10	Irwindale Education Foundation	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
10	CEO Roundtable	7:30 a.m.	TBA
12	Let's Do Lunch Presenting Sponsor: 1st Centennial Bank	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Miller Brewing
23	Board of Directors Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
26	Good Morning Irwindale Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe, Bakery & Catering	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe

**For more details and future events please visit our
online calendar at: irwindalechamber.org**

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Member News



Armando C. Alejos, a newly appointed agent with State Farm Insurance Companies, is opening his office located at:

**5200 Irwindale Avenue Suite 246
 Irwindale, CA 91706**

The public is welcomed and encouraged to stop by and visit his new offices.

As a State Farm agent, Armando and his bilingual support team specialize in providing excellent insurance and financial planning services to customers. With nine years of combined experience with Jason Vasquez and Gina Vasquez, Armando brings a vast amount of experience and knowledge to his newly appointed post as an agent. Those interested in additional information can always reach Armando at his office by calling (626) 214-1390.

“My goal is to help the people of Irwindale and the surrounding communities to manage the risks of everyday life, recover from the unexpected, and realize their dreams,” he said.

About State Farm: State Farm insures more cars and homes than any other insurer in North America. State Farm’s 100,000 associates serve nearly 73 million auto, fire, life and health policies in the United States and Canada. State Farm also offers a broad range of life insurance and financial service products. State Farm is ranked No. 19 this year on the Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit statefarm.com.



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Special appointments and emergencies are welcome!

Do the Best Companies Join Chambers of Commerce?

The best places to work tend to **belong** to their local chamber of commerce, according to a recent study by the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). Of *Fortune* magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For" in the United States and Canada this year, 94 are members of their local chamber, including all of the top 24.

Separately, ACCE found that in a random sample of 100 companies in the *Fortune* 1000, at least 75 were members of their local chamber.

"This 'Best Companies to Work For' information is one more indication that the best companies tend to be chamber members," according to ACCE President Mick Fleming. "If a company cares about its employees, there's a good chance it also cares about its community and the chamber is the way that great employers invest in both."

Local chambers of commerce are associations of businesses that come together to improve the local economic climate and help members network and find new business. Strong employers link with and learn from like-minded peer companies through business-led civic organizations - chambers of commerce.

Consumers seem to expect chamber members to be better-than-average companies. A study by the Atlanta-based Schapiro Group last August found that consumers are 63 percent more likely to buy products from companies that they believe are chamber members.

Dr. John S. Nixon Named Mt. SAC's President/CEO

Mt. San Antonio College Interim President Dr. John S. Nixon was named the permanent President/CEO of California's largest single-campus community college district.

The Board of Trustees announced its unanimous selection last night in regular session, which concluded a nationwide search for the institution's eighth president. The Board noted that Nixon's candidacy received widespread support among the faculty, staff, student groups, as well as community leaders.

"We believe Dr. Nixon has the experience, vision, and leadership to advance Mt. Sac to the next level of excellence and distinction," said Board President Dr. Manuel Baca. "He's the right person for these challenging times when the institution must complete its campus master plan to accommodate future enrollment growth and expand academic and student support programs."

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Irwindale Educational Foundation BBQ



Past Recipient Christina Davila

This year's 9th Annual Barbeque Fundraiser for the Irwindale Educational Foundation ("IEF") is scheduled for Friday, July 18, 2008 and will again be held in the grassy area at Miller Brewing Company, located at 15801 E. First Street in Irwindale. The

festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. with entertainment followed by dinner, raffle drawings, and a live auction.

The IEF, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, provides Scholarship grants to qualified City of Irwindale residents and employees and their family members. Scholarship grants are also available to employees and their family members for companies located in Irwindale and who are in good standing with the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce. IEF's Scholarships focus on assisting students with career development through continuing their education at colleges, universities and vocational schools.

Only 300 tickets will be sold for the July 18th BBQ fundraiser. The cost is \$100 per ticket (admits two guests) which will be entered into the cash prize drawing. Winners need not be present to win **1st Prize \$5,000; 2nd Prize \$500; 3rd and 4th Prize \$250.**

This event is the only major fundraising event the IEF undertakes each year. Your financial support to the IEF is greatly appreciated and is fully tax deductible. **Over the last two years this event has made it possible to award of \$82,000 in scholarships to 64 qualified applicants.** If you wish to purchase a ticket, make a contribution, or would like additional information, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at (626) 960-6606. Thank you in advance for your support.

ENHANCE YOUR WEBSITE PRESENCE

Take full advantage and leverage the powerful online system that the Irwindale Chamber has invested in. It offers the latest technology built-in to better serve our members and community. The system incorporates a new website and database with innovative features on member pages such as:

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Business of the Month



L & B Foods

March Business of the Month L&B Foods

Barbara Vanderhoop, owner of L&B Foods, opened the first of two Irwindale McDonald locations in June 1994. She was selected as Business Woman of the Year by the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce in 1998.

Barbara has testified in Washington, D.C. about the impact that raising the minimum wage will have on consumers and the negative impact that managed care is having on physician compensation.

The company and Barbara herself are avid supporters of the Ronald McDonald House Charities. She has co-chaired the annual "Mac Tonight" dinner since 1997 and raised more than \$300,000 in 2007. The company provides an opportunity for schools to earn funds by having a "Dining for Dollars" fundraiser with 15% of purchases going back to the school. They also support the Irwindale Educational Foundation and provide coupons for free items for children's achievements at school and on sports teams. The company also donates to Citrus College, Foothill Foundation, and the Fairplex.

Barbara has served on the Chamber's Board of Directors for many years. She has chaired the Chamber's Golf Tournament, and continues to sponsor lunch each year for the tournament as well as providing prizes for Chamber Fundraisers.

Your Company Can Be Business of the Month

If you would like to nominate a company for the Business of the Month award you can download a nomination form at www.irwindalechamber.org. Nominees will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Demonstrates excellence in industry through longevity, awards of merit, employee programs, reputation, exterior beautification, etc.
- Exhibits commitment to the Irwindale community by involvement in the Chamber of Commerce, support of the Irwindale Educational Foundation, Library Reading Programs, local service organizations, etc.

Awardees will receive the following:

- Framed Certificate
- Spotlight on Website for 30 days
- Spotlight article in newsletter
- Lunch for two at the monthly luncheon or breakfast during month of honor
- Qualify for annual Joe DiShanni Business of the Year Award.



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First Quarter Renewals

Thank you to the following members who have invested in the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce one again. We value your membership and look forward to a continuing relationship.



A-1 Power Sweeping	Irwindale 4th Street Associates, LLC
A-Advantage Insurance Services	J & I Trucking
Ace Hardware Corporation	Lwd, Inc.
All American Asphalt	Monrovia Floral
American Medical Response	Proforma
Artemis Concepts	Q & B Foods, Inc.
Avolio's Pizza Restaurant	R R & M Truck Parking
Ayutla Meat Market	Radisson Suites
Azusa Inn	Renaissance Pleasure Faire
Azusa Recruiting Station	Residence Inn By Marriott-Arcadia
B & K Electric Wholesale	San Gabriel Valley Chapter of LeTip
Benlo Company	Sanctuary Shack, The
BP Air	SCEP, Inc.
Breeder's Choice Pet Food Inc.	Shaker Shirts
Cal Blend Soils Inc	Shelving Plus Inc.
California Community News	Steven G. Sorell, Esq., CPA, Attorney at Law
Champion Awards & Specialties	Sunbelt Business Brokers
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CPC/Chaparral Concrete	Prudential Financial
Duarte Family Chiropractic	United Rentals
Earthquake SOLUTIONS	Valley Light Industries Inc.
Elegant Designs Specialty Linens, Inc.	Waste Management
Express Personnel Services	Boy Scouts of America
Gutierrez Preciado & House	Citrus Valley Health Partners
Hampton Inn-Arcadia	SCE Federal Credit Union
Harrison-Nichols	1st Centennial Bank
Hose-Man Inc.	Allstate Insurance Agency-R. Leyba
	City Of Hope
	Hanson Aggregates
	Jan's Towing
	Rancho Duarte Florists
	Rich Carey CPA

First Quarter New Members

Century 21 Sunny Hills
 Century Publishing
 China Leather Collection Inc.
 Comerica Bank
 Fix It, LLC
 Hyde International Group, Inc.
 Joe's Place
 Labor Ready
 Maria Theresa A. DeGuia, D.D.S., Inc
 State Farm-Armando Alejos

Business Development Committee

Purpose of the Business Development Committee:

To increase membership through recruiting and retention which is to be accomplished by fulfilling the following:

1. Set benchmark goals for recruiting and retention.
2. Show value of membership by increasing our image to members and the community.
3. Create new synergy with other committees as they relate to membership.

Member Management Team:

Visit five members and five prospective members per month.

1. Recruitment-Actively solicits for prospective members with a coordinated effort schedules meetings with prospects to discuss benefits and value of membership. Follows up in a timely manner.
2. Retention-Visit members, give information about Chamber programs and benefits. Ask questions and relay information to staff in a timely manner. Encourage participation/attendance at events. Follow up with a note or call.

New Business Welcome Team:

Give benefit information and encourage involvement.

1. In a coordinated effort, make welcome calls to each new business license, review 2-3 benefits of membership. Encourage attendance at GMI or luncheon. Invite to participate in a manner suitable to individual needs.
2. Follow up at three months with a call or visit.

The Business Development Committee has also started a Member to Member discount program. Participation is open to all Irwindale Chamber of Commerce members. The program is promoted at various chamber events, the chamber office, and in chamber publications. It is highly encouraged to the participants to use their own marketing channels to promote the discount program.

Requirements to participate in the Member to Member program:

- Be a current member of the chamber.
- Discount must be available to all active chamber members and their employees
- Discount must be of monetary value.
- Provide in writing a full description of discount, and how it is going to be applied.
- Information will be posted in the next available update.
- All offers subject to approval.

The Business Development Committee meets on the first Thursday of every month. We welcome new committee members so if you are interested in joining us just give us a call at 626-960-6606 or at www.irwindalechamber.org. We look forward to meeting you.

The Green Pages

April 2008



Following the Waste Stream

Article By: Joelle Novey, Coopamerica.org



We try to choose reusables over disposables, and recycle and compost everything we can. But every week, there's always something left that gets taken "away" by the garbage trucks: stiff plastic packaging from just about any new purchase; incandescent light bulbs recently replaced with compact fluorescents; wrappers from Fair Trade chocolate; assorted tissues and dust; waxy boxes from Chinese takeout; a deodorant canister. In our recycling bins sit magazines, containers from organic yogurt, soda cans, glass bottles from organic olive oil.

Americans generate more than four pounds of trash per person, per day, according to the EPA. Where is all of this garbage going? We might like to imagine that our trash is forever thrown "away," but ultimately, there is no "away." All of our trash continues to exist in the world—with serious consequences for people and the planet.

From Curb to Landfill

On the whole, a little more than half of America's household garbage goes to landfills. The rest goes to incinerators, recycling centers, or composting facilities.

While garbage pickup is generally organized by the local government, it changes hands at a transfer station and becomes the responsibility of private haulers, who are paid by the ton to take it away. Transfer stations, which are often located in low-income neighborhoods at the edges of cities, are large warehouses where tons of garbage are dumped by collection trucks and repacked into trucks, barges, and rail cars for their journey to the landfill or incinerator. The garbage thrown away by city dwellers may travel to a distant landfill several states away—many solid waste companies have paid rural towns to landfill garbage from larger urban areas.

At every step, trash headed for the landfill takes a heavy toll on the environment: there is pollution generated by the fleets of diesel-powered trucks that transport it. Then, there's landfill gas. The decomposition that takes place in a well-mixed compost bin can't happen in landfills, because the oxygen-breathing microbes that decompose garbage can't breathe more than eight feet below the surface. In the absence of oxygen, anaerobic bacteria eat the garbage instead, producing climate warming methane and carbon dioxide, and water. Besides being a potent greenhouse gas,

the methane that rises off landfills is highly flammable and contributes to local smog.

A landfill's most significant environmental impact is the fluid that drains off the garbage. This liquid, known as leachate, is a toxic "juice" of the chemicals that erode off of electronics, pet waste, nail polish remover, food waste, cleaning products, and more. One sample of the leachate coming off a landfill in New Jersey, for example, contained oil and grease, cyanide, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, silver, mercury, and zinc. Numerous studies have demonstrated that living near a landfill has negative health consequences.

Since the 1990s, the EPA has required landfill operators to collect methane and to control leachate by lining landfills. Some landfill operators collect methane for energy, others simply "flare," or burn, the methane to reduce greenhouse gases, smog, and risk of fire. But in the case of leachate, there is no permanent solution: every landfill leaks eventually. The EPA only requires landfill owners to check water quality and methane buildup for 30 years after a landfill closes, but that landfill will threaten air quality and groundwater for thousands of years, according to G. Fred Lee, whose environmental consulting firm specializes in landfills.

Incineration

In decades past, many buildings had their own incinerators out back where garbage was simply burned. Incineration has fallen out of fashion since the 1980s, when community opposition successfully defeated dozens of proposed new incinerators in New York, California, and elsewhere. But 13 percent of America's garbage is still burned. Modern-day incinerators are enormous columns the size of an office building, where thousands of tons of garbage a day burn at 3,000°F temperatures. They have pollution controls on their smokestacks, and many recover at least some energy from the process through "waste-to-energy" technology. That said, incinerators still cause serious environmental problems—burning plastic produces carcinogenic dioxin and leaves behind ash laced with heavy metals. This ash is buried in landfills, where it contributes to dangerous leachate.

Recycling

There are 9,000 curbside recycling programs across the country, a growing number of which are "single stream" programs in which residents place empty glass bottles, aluminum cans, and plastic containers together in their bins.

(Waste Stream-continued on page 12)



Small Business, Big Results

Submitted By: Jayne Foote, Veolia ES Technical Solutions

This story was printed from [News](http://www.greenbiz.com/news/), located at <http://www.greenbiz.com/news/>. Source Kevin A. Fletcher

For more than four decades most efforts to influence the greening of business in the U.S. and around the world have focused on big business. Getting one golf course or hotel to reduce water use or use eco-friendly cleaners may seem small. If all 15,000 golf courses or 40,000-plus hotels in the U.S. took this step the collective impact would be staggering.

So while boutique and niche smaller green firms (i.e., “green gazelles”) are helping to define the eco-business landscape, a huge collective potential lies dormant in transforming the millions of traditional small businesses located on Main Street, which are run by your neighbors and serve as the economic backbone of communities across the country.

The stakes for environmental leadership on this level are huge when you consider the statistics. The number of small businesses, for example, has increased 49 percent since 1982. Nearly 98 percent of all U.S. firms employ less than 500 people, with 90 percent having fewer than 20 workers.

Yet these small businesses generate more than half of the private gross domestic product and nearly half of all sales activity. They also consume more than 50 percent of all commercial energy use.

There are, however, barriers central to addressing real change. Many small business owners lack the time, the most precious of resources, because they need to focus on core business demands before taking on any non-critical action.

Research indicates that small businesses simply lack resources, which seems obvious but cannot be understated. For example, we recently assisted a golf course facility enter the Environmental Protection Agency’s National Environmental Performance Track program. We learned that the resources available for environmental excellence for this small business were stunningly different compared to a typical large-scale manufacturing facility. Resources, funds, and staff require small facilities like this golf course to act smarter and more effectively. Yet this small facility’s voluntary actions were real and significant, with habitat acreage added, water conserved, energy saved, and waste reduced on a scale proportionately greater than most multinationals.

Small business operators often identify the financial costs of taking action as a barrier for voluntary program participation although many programs, such as the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program, target process and behavioral changes by management staff, not large investments in new technology or large-scale projects.

The costs of the voluntary programs themselves to cover expenses such as educational and technical service and site

visits for entities managing such voluntary programs are also identified by small businesses as barriers to change.

Unlike larger firms and those U.S. industries heavily regulated since the 1970s, smaller businesses, specifically service-oriented firms, lack access and exposure to leading examples of environmental management by firms in their sectors. Likewise, training, structured programs, resources, and other tools for environmental education and change are few and far between for small businesses.

Given these and other barriers, what is needed to spark a broader participation in voluntary environmental program, and, more generally, a broader acceptance and practice of voluntary environmental leadership by small firms?

Research suggests that smaller firms are not motivated to take voluntary environmental actions solely in pursuit of profit or in seeking competitive advantage. Yet firms that do take voluntary environmental action are realizing the business value of these actions—in the form of reduced costs of operation, enhanced image and reputation that may differentiate them from the competition, and, in limited cases, increased revenue from a growth in customers or an ability to demand higher prices.

There are numerous voluntary environmental programs available to help businesses—run by government, nonprofits, and industry alike. Across the board, however, the uptake and involvement in these programs by this sector roughly match the profile seen with most “greenness of the American” surveys, such as the Roper Starch surveys.

These surveys show a small minority of firms, between 5 percent and 15 percent, taking the lead while the vast majority of firms, large and small, is still riding on the waves of their “green-hearted” peers. This may be helping to fuel the false argument that there is an across-the-board environmental epiphany happening in various business sectors, thus eroding any sense of urgency or opportunity for those business leaders on the cusp of taking voluntary action.

We continue to look to answer some of the questions raised above, specifically through the development of an Environmental Stewardship and Management Advisory Council comprised of business, government, and nonprofit experts in the area of small business voluntary environmental stewardship.

Yet it is clear that we all need to work together to find a way to make environmental stewardship and sustainable resource management the norm, not the exception, with smaller firms. After forty years of trying, we simply need to find a better way to educate, assist, and inspire this critical part of our economy to act.

8 Ways to Green Your Recycling

Submitted By: Patricia Sullivan

Article By: Trey Granger, Earth 911

Ideally, the act of recycling would be enough for you to rest easy. But here are eight ways to make your recycling efforts as eco-friendly as possible.

1. Change Your Recycling Perspective

Instead of asking, "What things around my house can I recycle?" try "What things CAN'T I recycle?" Putting cans and paper at the curb is how your parents recycled. The new generation is recycling everything from batteries to motor oil to computer monitors. Run a search using Earth 911's recycling locator to find a destination for these and other products.

2. Know What You're Recycling and Where to Recycle It

Driving around to five different recycling centers to find a home for your ferrous metals can easily be avoided with some research. Use Earth 911's recycling locator to make sure a facility provides the services you want. Driving 10 extra miles because you didn't do your homework will negate the effects of recycling.

3. Recycle in Groups

If you're dropping off recycling, you'll need a car instead of relying on a bike or public transportation. But what if you and three friends all recycled on the same day with one car-load?

Another option to recycle in groups is to Start a Recycling Program. This will cut down on your trips to the recycling center entirely.

4. Reuse Your Recycling Containers

Using plastic bags to carry your recyclables is great, but they only provide a one-time use. Instead, invest in storage bins that allow more content and can be used for numerous trips. Just keep the bins clean so you don't attract bugs.

5. Pre-cycle When You Shop

Nearly everything you buy at the grocery store will come in some sort of container. The key to pre-cycling is finding products in containers that are either made from recycled material or recyclable, or both. Anything in aluminum, cardboard or glass will be easy to recycle. Plastics get trickier.

6. Start Green-cycling

What happens to all the waste you create while gardening? Some communities have yard waste pick-up service, but an alternative is creating your own compost system. Green-cycling can occur year round whether its recycling your Christmas tree or composting your autumn leaves.

7. Reuse Before You Recycle

Your plastic containers won't be turned away if the writing has faded from a few trips through the microwave. Paper can be recycled no matter how many times it is written on. A little creativity can give many recyclables in your house a second life before they go to the curb.

8. Pass Along the Message

The current recycling rate in America is around 33 percent. By passing on some recycling knowledge, you can help raise that rate, and that is something worth talking about.

This story is part of Earth 911's "Green Eight" series, where we showcase eight ways to green your life in various areas.

www.earth911.org

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: Jayne Foote - Veolia ES Technical Solutions

Elizabeth Bagwell - City of Hope

Sol Benudiz - Irwindale Police Department

Luis Cetina - Metropolitan Water District

Ann Croissant- San Gabriel Mountain Conservancy

Craig Doerr- American Reclamation

Raymond Hamada- City of Irwindale

April Kelcy- Earthquake SOLUTIONS

John Norcia - Santa Fe Dam

Thomas Rascop- Reichhold, Inc.

Celia Smith- Sanctuary Shack

Patricia Sullivan- City of Irwindale Public Library

Racine Ward- Biosense Webster, Incorporated

Rainbow Yeung - South Coast Air Quality Management

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
(one block east of Irwindale avenue)

E-mail: EnviroCommittee@irwindalechamber.org

Website: www.EnviroCommittee.com



So how does all that mixed-up recycling get sorted out? The bins are collected, often again by municipalities, and brought to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). In a MRF (rhymes with “smurf”), creative mechanical processes like blasts of air and magnetized devices sort recyclables. Teams of workers do the remaining sorting manually.

How much of what the MRF collects ends up being recycled? Though many of us now combine many different materials for “recycling,” some materials are truly recyclable over the long-term, while others can only be diverted from the landfill once or twice. Glass and aluminum are perpetually recyclable, while paper can be “downcycled” several times into lower-grade products. Plastics can usually only be “downcycled” once into a different material that is not itself recyclable.

The markets for various materials fluctuate, and MRFs end up landfilling or incinerating some “residuals”—a share of whatever they collect that cannot be recycled or sold for recycling. A 2006 study of MRF residuals across California found that MRFs send between 6 and 14 percent of the recyclables they receive to the trash, particularly paper and plastic. The fate of plastic “recycling” is particularly questionable—most plastics #3–7 are not recycled at all. Some MRFs will sell bales of mixed plastics to developing countries, especially in Asia, where they may be recycled, but are often burned or dumped unsafely.

Compared to landfilling or incineration, recycling is a significantly better deal for the environment. For just about all materials, recycling waste into a new product saves significant energy over creating the material from scratch. (See chart above for energy saved by recycling.)

Unfortunately, US landfills are full of recyclable materials. As of 2005, 79 percent of all aluminum, 78 percent of glass, half of the paper, and 95 percent of plastic in household garbage was going out with regular trash, instead of being put into a recycling bin, according to the EPA.

Composting: Aerobic decomposition can turn organic wastes into rich soil—but not in airtight landfills. Municipal composting facilities give organic waste an opportunity to decompose aerobically. Few municipalities offer curbside composting, but many regions have privately run composting

centers, and many individuals have reduced their own waste with backyard or worm composters. In large municipal composters, biodegrading refuse is kept aerated and moist in long cylinders. The compost is allowed to reach temperatures as high as 130°F, at which the decomposition accelerates. The compost is ventilated, stirred, and “cured” systematically, and sold by the pound to gardeners as rich mulch. (Composting food waste does release some CO₂, but this is a fraction of the global warming impact that the same garbage would have if it were landfilled, where it would produce more potent methane while decomposing anaerobically.) Many municipal composters will also accept bio-plastics. Look for a composter near you at www.findacomposter.com.

Towards Zero Waste

Increasingly, some community groups have set their sights on a visionary goal: zero waste. The idea invites us all to think beyond our own trash cans. What if businesses considered waste before they designed a disposable single-use product, or packaged a product in stiff clear plastic? How would businesses, governments, and consumers have to work together to create a world in which we truly didn’t have to generate waste at all?

“Garbage should worry us,” writes Elizabeth Royte in *Garbage Land: On the Secret Trail of Trash* (Back Bay Books, 2006). “...We don’t need a better way to get rid of things. We need to not get rid of things, either by keeping them cycling through the system—or by not designing and desiring them in the first place.”



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@ Northrop Grumman Corporation - West 3rd Street & Zachary Padilla Ave., Azusa

Hazardous Waste includes paints, glues, pesticides, oils, solvents, cleansers, old medicine, and car and dry-cell batteries. E-Waste includes computer monitors, TV’s, VCRs, stereos, fax machines, computer keyboards and cellular telephones. Improper disposal of these materials can pollute the environment and endanger children and pets.

- Limit of 15 gallons or 125 lbs. per vehicle
- Don’t mix materials, keep original labels on containers
- Put in a sturdy box in the trunk of your car
- No waste from business will be accepted
- No explosives, ammunition or radioactive materials will be accepted

For more information, call the L.A. County Hotline at 1 (888) CLEAN LA-(1-888-253-2652)

(Jobs-continued from coverage)

of them will take pride in helping repair and rebuild our state for future generations,” said Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Under California law, one apprentice for every five journeymen is required to be employed on all public works job. In addition, the state is projected to have a major labor shortage in many of the building trades due to retirements of highly-skilled baby boomers over the next 10 to 12 years when many of the infrastructure projects will be in full swing.

It is estimated that within the next six years the state will need more than 73,000 carpenters who will earn a median hourly wage of \$23.20; 25,000 plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters and electricians who will be paid a median wage of \$22-\$23 per hour and 15,000 operating engineers who will earn a median wage of more than \$27 per hour. Similarly, there is an equally critical need for laborers, cement masons and concrete finishers and ironworkers to build the bridges, highways, schools, levees and housing the state will need over the next 10 to 12 years.

The Governor has taken a number of actions to stimulate California’s economy this year, including:

- Announced \$394 million in Proposition 1B bond funding for 106 transit projects statewide.
- Announced \$10.5 million to train workers displaced by the housing slump.
- Awarded \$73 million for affordable housing projects in Proposition 1C and Proposition 46 funds to help more than 1,600 California families rent or purchase affordable housing.
- Awarded \$5.6 million to help displaced mortgage and banking workers find new jobs.
- Awarded more than \$2.7 million to registered nurse training programs to help boost the health care workforce in underserved areas.
- Awarded more than \$6 million in grants to help more than 1,500 newly discharged veterans as they return to the civilian workforce.
- Announced \$69.5 million in permanent low-interest loans from the Proposition 1C housing bonds to jumpstart 14 affordable multi-family projects up and down the state, helping more than 1,000 California families and individuals realize the dream of an affordable rental home.

The Governor also called for the broad use of Performance Based Infrastructure (PBI) and proposed the Strategic Growth Council to promote economic, sustainable growth and development and meet the state’s skilled workforce demands with 20,000 new engineers over the next decade.

For more information about apprenticeship programs in California, visit www.dir.ca.gov/das/.

(New jobs-continued from coverage)

electricity, energy and fuel, as well as for plug-in hybrid cars, and energy efficient homes, buildings, and appliances. Additionally, the bill includes solar energy tax credits that could reduce carbon dioxide pollution by 240 million tons.

The new investments in wind, solar, geothermal and fuel cell technology will also create hundreds of thousands of new jobs and help strengthen the American economy. The Geothermal Energy Association estimates that the geothermal provisions alone could create tens of thousands of new jobs and stimulate tens of billions of dollars of new investment in geothermal energy production.

Additionally, the legislation approved today repeals \$18 billion in unnecessary tax subsidies for big, multinational oil and gas companies. The vote comes shortly after the big five oil companies recently reported record profits for 2007, with ExxonMobil earning \$40.6 billion - the largest corporate profit in American history. While oil companies have profited, consumers have felt the pinch. The cost of a gallon of gasoline in the San Gabriel Valley is as high as \$3.49.

“Every day, families in East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley are feeling the pain at the gas pump and home heating oil costs are skyrocketing. All the while, big oil companies are making billions of dollars and receiving handouts from the government. It simply isn’t fair,” added Solis. “I was proud to back legislation that will slash subsidies to oil companies, create jobs and help make our nation energy independent.”

Solis is a member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming.

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Doing Business with General Services Administration (GSA)
 Valley Economic Development Center (VEDC)
 5121 Van Nuys Boulevard, Third Floor
 Van Nuys, CA 91403

May 5 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
SDB Certification and 8(a) Program
 El Camino College Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
 13430 Hawthorne Boulevard
 Hawthorne, CA 90250

May 13 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Introduction to Federal Contracting
 City of Anaheim, Economic Development
 Gordon Hoyt Conference Center, 2nd Floor, City Hall West
 201 South Anaheim Boulevard
 Anaheim, CA 92805

May 20 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
E-Commerce for Government Contracting
 Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
 4010 Watson Plaza Drive, Conference Room, 2nd Floor
 Lakewood, CA 90712

May 21 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Government Subcontracting
 Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 888 W. Santa Ana Boulevard, Suite 150
 Santa Ana, CA 92701

IRWINDALE ROCKS

(Previously the City Corner)

As Provided by City Staff



Council Round-Up –February 13 & 27, and March 12, 2008

- Council adopted a policy to be followed by Councilmembers when requesting items to be placed on a City Council agenda.
- Council approved and adopted a resolution outlining Recreation Department procedures for leaving and returning to the facility from the Kidzone Program.
- Council approved plans and specifications for sidewalk and access ramps replacement at various locations in the City and authorized staff to solicit bids for construction of the project.
- Council authorized the disposal of a surplus police vehicle through donation to the Rio Hondo Police Academy.
- Council approved the attendance of Councilman Breceda at the National League of Cities 2008 Congressional City Conference in Washington D.C.
- Council directed staff to submit a report relating to job duties of current custodians; costs associated with hiring two part-time custodians; and cost of outsourcing janitorial service
- Council approved the adoption of the County of Los Angeles Fire Code.
- Council approved the Transportation Bond grant funding expenditure for local streets and roads for Fiscal Year 2007/2008. The expenditure will include the Foothill Boulevard Reconstruction Project.
- Council approved the General Services Agreement between the City of Irwindale and the County of Los Angeles. As per the agreement, the County agrees to provide those City functions outlined in the agreement such as animal control, prosecution of City ordinances, assessment collections and a variety of public works activities. Also included in the services is public health code enforcement and law enforcement.
- Council authorized the City of Irwindale to submit a grant application for the Waste Tire Recycling Management Program for the Fiscal Year 2007/2008. The grant would provide for a Rubberized Asphalt Concrete Program (RAC) which offers opportunities to divert tire waste from landfills. The RAC provides funds to cities using rubberized concrete as overlay material. The City plans to use the funds for several major street improvement projects.
- Council approved a donation in the amount of \$5,500 to the Irwindale Education Foundation. The IEF raises funds to provide scholarship grants to deserving students. In addition, Council approved the donation of the use of a billboard display in the City.
- Council approved a donation in the amount of \$3,450 to the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce for the 28th Annual Golf Tournament an event that raises funds to continue vital non-profit programs that are designed to educate businesses within Irwindale.

Irwindale Education Foundation Fundraiser

It's that time again! The Irwindale Education Foundation is having their annual BBQ fundraiser on July 18th at Miller Brewing Company. Those wishing to support this worthwhile event, may purchase tickets from the Chamber of Commerce or from Camille Diaz or Theresa Olivares at City Hall. Only 300 tickets will be sold with a grand prize of \$5,000. In recent years, this event has made it possible to award over \$82,000 in scholarships to 64 qualified applicants.

City of Irwindale Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Irwindale Chamber Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m.-Noon

IRWINDALE ROCKS

(Previously the City Corner)

As Provided by City Staff



Athens – Business of the Month

At the Council meeting of February 27th, Athens Services was recognized as the business of the month for January, 2008. Athens has been a member of our Chamber of Commerce for several years and has supported many of our programs. Councilmembers presented Athens with a City plaque in recognition of this honor. Pictured are from left Lisa Bailey, President and CEO of the Chamber; Vee Clark, Board Member; Marissa Buckisch, Chair of the Board; Councilman Fuentes; Brenda Reuter, Athens Services; Mayor Pro Tem Garcia; Mayor Burrola; Councilman Ortiz; and Councilman Breceda.

Labor Law Corner

By: Cal Chamber



Overtime Exemption for Truck Drivers Depends on Size, Use of Vehicle

We have a truck driver who only drives intrastate and is not subject to U.S. Department of Transportation logbook rules. Is this driver exempt from overtime?

A truck driver may be working only within California, intrastate and still be exempt from overtime. Determining that a driver is or is not exempt from California overtime regulations does not depend on “intrastate” v. “interstate” operation, but requires more specific inquiries regarding the size of the vehicle, and the use of the vehicle.

Most of the Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC) orders provide an overtime exemption for drivers whose hours of service are regulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the California Highway Patrol (CHP).

Criteria: The DOT regulates vehicles with a gross weight of 10,000 pounds or more that are engaged in *interstate* commerce as defined. This includes most long haul trucks.

The CHP regulates the following vehicles regardless of whether the vehicle is engaged in interstate or intrastate operation:

- motor trucks with more than two axles, truck tractors and trailers;
- two-axle motor trucks when towing a trailer with combined length of 40 feet;
- buses, school buses and farm labor vehicles;
- two-axle trucks of 26,000 pounds or less transporting hazardous material; and
- two-axle trucks with a gross vehicle weight of 26,001 pounds.

Determining Overtime

- First determine whether the truck is regulated by the DOT. If so, the overtime exemption applies. Is the gross vehicle weight of the truck between 10,000 and 26,000 pounds? This weight appears on an identification plate provided by the manufacturer and on the Department of Motor Vehicles registration. If the truck weighs more than 26,000 pounds, it also is regulated by CHP regulations.
- Is the truck engaged in interstate commerce? Does the truck cross state lines or have the transported goods crossed state lines?

If the truck is not subject to DOT regulations, determine whether the CHP regulates the hours of service pursuant to the criteria above. If so, the overtime exemption applies.

The exemption applies only to drivers whose duty is to regularly drive the vehicle. Relief or assistant drivers would be exempt as long as they drive the vehicle during the workday.

The exemption would not apply, and overtime may be owed, if the employee does not perform driving duties during the day. If the driver performs non-driving and driving duties in the same work day, only the non-driving duties are used to calculate any possible overtime due.

Job Offer Letters Beneficial; Advisable to Have Legal Counsel Review

We are considering sending job offer letters to successful applicants. What are the pros and cons of this practice?

Job offer letters are a good way to set forth a clear understanding between an employer and applicant, spelling out the terms and conditions of employment. Offer letters usually go out to the applicant you have selected for the job, and often follow a series of interviews and negotiations regarding the conditions of hire.

Letter Contents

Indeed, often the candidate for the job has already indicated he/she will be accepting the job, and the offer letter is a formality. Typically, the specifics of this type of letter set forth the following:

- scope of duties;
- compensation;
- reporting relationships;
- benefits;
- confidentiality; and
- protection of trade secrets.
- At-Will Statement

In addition, if the company is an at-will employer, that should be set forth in the letter. In *Dore v. Arnold Worldwide Inc.* (August 3, 2006), the California Supreme Court held that California employers may rely on clearly worded and unambiguous statements of at-will status.

In the *Dore* case, an employee sued his former employer several years after receiving, and signing, an offer letter that made clear his employment was at-will. When he sued for breach of contract and breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing, the high court concluded that the letter “defined ‘at-will,’ and contained no ambiguity, obvious or concealed, in its termination provisions,” dismissing those causes of action.

It is advisable to have legal counsel review your offer letters in order to preserve protection from claims that may be made years later, as in the *Dore* case.

Labor Law Corner

By: Cal Chamber

Probationary Periods Effective Tool; Misconceptions Common

My company uses a 90-day probationary period to protect ourselves from wrongful termination lawsuits if we need to fire a new employee. However, I've heard this might contradict our "at-will" policy. Should we keep using a probationary period?

Probationary periods, better termed "introductory periods," can be an effective tool for you to evaluate performance and limit benefits eligibility for new hires. However, the following misconceptions about introductory periods are common:

Misconception #1: Introductory periods contradict at-will employment. You may have heard that employment should be at-will from the first day, and that having an introductory period implies secure or guaranteed employment once the period is successfully completed.

However, the California Supreme Court recently clarified, in *Dore v. Arnold Worldwide Inc.*, that simply having an introductory period does not contradict an employer's at-will policy. As long as it is made clear that employment is at-will throughout the duration of employment, having an introductory period is fine.

Misconception #2: An employee can be let go for any reason during the introductory period.

You might terminate an employee during an introductory period, telling the employee "it just didn't work out." Many employers assume they are protected from wrongful termination or other lawsuits during any period they've defined as introductory. However, employees are protected from being fired for *illegal reasons* from the first moment they come to work for you.

An employee terminated during the introductory period might claim the termination was due to discrimination based on race, sex, national origin or any of the other classes protected by law.

Other claims might include wrongful termination in retaliation for reporting sexual harassment or for filing a workers' compensation claim. Terminating an employee during an introductory period provides no legal protection against these claims. Therefore, you should always document a legitimate, non-discriminatory reason for terminating an employee, even within the introductory period.

Misconception #3: Once the introductory period is over, it's a lot harder to fire the employee. Introductory periods by themselves do not provide any particular legal protection to employers. Employment should clearly be at-will, both during the introductory period and for the entire duration of employment. Some keys to protecting yourself from legal claims stemming from introductory periods are:

- Have clear statements that employment is at-will in all employment documents, such as employee handbooks, offer letters, performance reviews, etc.
- Don't indicate that once an employee "passes probation," he/she becomes a "permanent employee." Those terms directly contradict the concept of at-will employment.
- Train managers so they know not to create oral contracts of employment by saying things such as "We're glad you're on board for the long haul" or "As long as you do a good job, you'll have a job with us."

Misconception #4: Introductory periods protect employers from unemployment insurance (UI) claims.

Employees are eligible for UI benefits even if they are terminated during an introductory period. To calculate an employee's UI benefit, the state looks at a "base period" of one year, starting anywhere from three to six months before the termination (depending on what month the claim begins in). Only employers who paid wages to the employee in the base period have charges made to their reserve account for that claim.

You would not be a base period employer for an employee who worked for you for less than three months. However, your UI reserve account may be charged if that same employee takes another job and quits or is fired during the period when you are the base period employer.

No Magic Words

The Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) requires employees to file a discrimination charge at least 60 days before the lawsuit can begin in court. If employees miss the filing deadline, their case cannot be heard. An Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) "intake questionnaire," along with an affidavit supporting a claim, is a sufficient "charge" that an employer violated the ADEA. The U.S. Supreme Court thereby resolved a conflict between circuit courts, which disagreed as to what constituted a "charge" under the ADEA. *Federal Express Corp. v. Holowecki et al* (February 27, 2008) 2008 U.S. LEXIS 2196.

What Should You Do?

- Do not discriminate against employees in a protected class. Almost all employees are in a protected class.
- Understand the persistence of employees, particularly a group of employees in a class action, to get their case heard. This case got all the way to the Supreme Court on the sole issue of whether one member of the class filed her agency claim in a timely manner.
- Have legal counsel review incentive programs to ensure a disparate impact on a protected group will not occur.

Let Us Help You Build A Better Business!!

The San Gabriel Valley Small Business Development Center (SBDC), a partnership between Mt. San Antonio College (MT. SAC), and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) offers classes, workshops, counseling, consulting services and business management resources for entrepreneurs and small business owners.

San Gabriel Valley SBDC programs and services support innovation, entrepreneurship, sustainability, growth, social impact and economic prosperity.

MT.SAC - San Gabriel Valley SBDC consultants have expertise in business planning, accessing capital, financial projections, marketing, technology management, contracting, and business strategy.

We do not charge a fee for consulting. Clients may be asked to take some of our trainings and courses, offered at no charge or at a very reasonable cost, before they receive consulting services so that they can make better use of the consulting input.

Entrepreneurs and Small Business Owners are encouraged to complete our online Request for Counseling Services form at www.mtsacsbdc.com or contact our main office at 626-337-2101. After we review your request, one of our Staff or Lead Consultants will contact you to set up an appointment.

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Wednesday, April 9, 2008 #18492
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Design-Build Small Commercial Duct Design *
NEW CLASS
Tuesday, April 15, 2008 #19078
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. with lunch

Fundamentals of Electricity and Energy Efficiency *♦
Tuesday, April 15, 2008 #18554
8:30am – 4:30 p.m. with lunch

Foodservice Energy Management Technology *♦
NEW CLASS
Wednesday, April 16, 2008 #18402
8:30 a.m. – Noon

Call **1-800-336-CTAC** or visit our web site at:
www.sce.com/energycenters

6090 N. Irwindale Ave., Irwindale, CA 91702

*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.





IRWINDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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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

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Ex-Officio: Lisa Bailey *President/CEO*
Staff: Dominique Yates *Membership Event Manager*
Veronica Orosco *Administrative Assistant*

CHAMBER MEETINGS

Ambassadors 1st Tuesday
8:00 a.m. at the Chamber
Board of Directors 4th Monday
3:00 p.m. at the Chamber
Environmental Committee 1st Wednesday
12:00 noon at the Chamber
Luncheons 2nd Thursday
Location Varies
Business Development 1st Thursday at the Chamber
7:30 a.m.
Networking Breakfast 4th Thursday at Picasso's Cafe
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Toastmasters Wednesdays at Irwindale Community Center
7:15 a.m. (Visitors always welcome!)
CEO Roundtable 2nd Tuesday
7:30 a.m. Location TBA

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
Irwindale Lions Club
P.O. Box 2093, Irwindale, CA 91706
Meets Tuesdays, 11:45 a.m. at Covina Bowl
Irwindale-Salvatierra, GTO, Mexico Sister City Corporation
P.O. Box 2054, Irwindale, CA 91706
Meets 2nd Tuesday, City Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.
Knights of Columbus
16025 E. Cypress Ave., Irwindale, CA 91706
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall
Sociedad Progresista Mexicana, Inc.
(626) 337-1193 Antonio Salazar
Meets once a month (usually Tuesday), City Council Chambers
Soroptomist International of Irwindale
Meets 1st Wednesday of every month, 6:30 a.m. at 16102 Arrow Hwy., Irwindale
V.F.W. Irwindale Post 9895
P.O. Box 2054, Irwindale, CA 91706
Meets 3rd Thursday at 4117 Alderson Street, Baldwin Park, CA

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

City Council Meetings

2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

City Staff

City Manager: Robert Griego
Assistant City Manager: Camille Diaz
Dir. of Public Works/City Engineer: Kwok Tam
Finance Director & City Treasurer: Abraham De Dios
Director of Planning: Raymond Hamada
Human Resource Manager: Sharmeen Bhojani
Deputy City Clerk: Linda Kimbro

Planning Commission

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

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: Valinda Acevedo,
Stella Breceda, and Nellie Tapia

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: Carol Acosta
Recreation Supervisor: Priscilla Zepeda

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

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

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

16034 Calle del Norte
Public Works Manager: Mike Rados

Police Department

Chief Sol Benudiz

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




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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.