

Installation & Award Banquet



This annual event presented by Vulcan Material Company was held once again at Pomona Valley Mining Company in Pomona. Installation of the 2013 officers and directors featured Mr. George Poitou, SCE Federal Credit Union, as the 2013 Chair of the Board (see list of 2013 Board of Directors on page 15). Mrs. LaShawn King Gillespie, Foothill Transit, was also honored for serving as Chair of the Board in 2012.

Special thanks to the Irwindale Explorer Post # 496 Color Guard, Irwindale Young Citizen Lauren Osmonson, as well as Christina Horton, Kare Youth League, who graced us with a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem.

Awards were also presented in the following categories: Citizen of the Year, Theresa Olivares; Ambassador of the Year, Brenda Reuter, Athens Services; Employee of the Year, Nathan Kirschenbaum, AmericanWest Bank; Business Person of the Year, Gale Banks, Banks Engineering; The "Joe Dishanni Business of the Year" award was presented to Partee Insurance Associates.

After the dinner and awards program, cocktails flowed and guests enjoyed casino style games sponsored by Hanson Aggregates. The evening was exciting, awarding, and entertaining. The event also featured a live auction, silent auction, and raffle. Many guests walked away with baskets, prizes, and amazing deals! SCE Federal Credit Union also provided Lego Piggy Banks as attendee gifts.

We are very appreciative of all of our sponsors, live auction, silent auction and raffle prize donors, and all of those that made a difference in making this year's event a huge success!



We look forward to a new year with our new leaders as we thank those who paved the way for them this past year!

Thank You... to the following businesses for donating Silent Auction and Raffle items for the Chamber's 33rd Annual Installation & Awards Banquet in January!

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 Picasso's Café, Bakery & Catering
 Royal Coaches Auto Body & Towing
 SCE Federal Credit Union
 Sharp Seating Company
 Sorell Law Group
 The Pasadena Playhouse
 Vulcan Materials Company



Calendar of Events

March 2013

"The meeting of preparation with opportunity generates the offspring we call luck." – Tony Robbins



6	Environmental Committee	Noon	TBD
7	Business Ambassador Mtg.	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
12	IEF Board Meeting	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
13	Eco-Beat Speaker Series: Stormwater Solutions	11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Irwindale Community Center
14	Mega Mixer Multi-Chamber Mixer	5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.	Irwindale Event Center
15	Windows 8 Modern Tools for Business	9:00 a.m.	Irwindale Community Center
21	"On The Rocks"	4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	DoubleTree By Hilton
25	Board Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
28	GMI/Mini Expo	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe

April 2013

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children. -Native American Proverb-




3	Environmental Committee	Noon	TBD
4	Business Ambassador Mtg.	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
9	IEF Board Meeting	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
11	State of the City Luncheon	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Edison EEC
22	Board Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
25	Good Morning Irwindale	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe

May 2013

"The secret of Happiness is Freedom, and the secret of Freedom, Courage."-Thucydides-

Memorial Day

2	Golf Tournament Title Sponsor: Jan's Towing	Shotgun @ 11:30	Sierra LaVerne Country Club
8	Environmental Committee	Noon	TBD
9	Business Ambassador Mtg.	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
14	IEF Board Meeting	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
20	Board Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
22	How to Sell in the New Economy	9:00 a.m.-Noon English 1:00 p.m.-4:00p.m. Spanish	Irwindale Community Center
23	GMI/Mini Expo	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
27	Memorial Day	CHAMBER CLOSED	



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All reservations must be honored. Cancellations must be done 24 hours prior to event.

For further details, future events, or to RSVP please visit our calendar at www.irwindalechamber.org or please call us at 626-960-6606.



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Member News



(L-R) George Poitou, SCE Federal Credit Union with new member Marie Taylor, NAI Capital Commercial Real Estate.

Welcome New Member

NAI Capital is one of the largest full-service commercial real estate brokerages serving Southern California, with 14 brokerage offices strategically located throughout Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura and Kern Counties.

NAI Capital Commercial Real Estate

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 626-204-1520

www.Bacani-Taylor.com



February Ambassador of the Month

Nathan Kirschenbaum (Left), AmericanWest Bank presents Ade Rogers, Rogers & Associates, with the February Ambassador of the Month Certificate. Congratulations!

Rogers & Associates

Ade Rogers
 626-480-1414

www.raacpa.com

Making Your Money Work For You Join Gene De Young of Professional Advisory Services

Thursday, March 28th from 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

This is a down to earth presentation that helps identify who you are as an investor as well as what types of investments best fit your "investor type." Location: Glendora Chamber of Commerce, 224 N. Glendora Ave. Glendora, CA. Seating is limited. Please R.S.V.P. by calling 626-294-4728 or emailing g.deyoung@gsirep.com. Light refreshments will be served. Gene De Young is a registered representative of and offers Securities and Investment Advisory services through Girard Securities, Inc., a Registered Broker Dealer, member FINRA and SIPC. Professional Advisory Services is not affiliated with Girard Securities, Inc.

February Business of the Month



Business Accomplishments: Mario Del Fante Florist has been in business for 47 years. He is a longtime member of the FTD (Florist Transworld Delivery-45 years) and Society of America Florist for over 30 years. He was named West Covina Small Business of the Year in 1993 and 2005. He received the City of Hope Life Sustaining Award 2005-2006 as well as the California Assembly District 57 Small Business of the Year in 2010. He was named West Covina Citizen of the year in 2011.

Community Service: Mario Del Fante is involved with the Irwindale Educational Foundation and Meals on Wheels, in which he has donated plants and carnations for past several years. He is a Career Day Speaker at the local Jr. & High School. He has been a member of the West Covina Lion's club for 43 years where he served as Past President and was awarded the Melvin Jones award in 1993-1994. Mario Del Fante joined his first chamber in 1966; he is currently involved in multiple chambers. He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1952 and Sacred Heart Church in Covina for 44 years. He also volunteers and donates plants to Citrus Valley Health Foundation Annual Golf Tournament.

Chamber of Commerce Activity: Mario Del Fante has been a member of Irwindale Chamber since 1982. He attends the Good Morning Irwindale breakfast regularly. He donates plants to Annual Golf Tournament and Installation dinners every year.

**Mario Del Fante Florist
626-919-3404**

www.MarioDelFanteFlorist.com

Due to publication deadline the current business of the month is featured on our website at www.irwindalechamber.org

To nominate your company as Business of the Month please contact the Irwindale Chamber for further information and details at 626-960-6606.

Mark your Calendar
33rd Annual Golf Tournament
Thursday, May 2, 2013
@ Sierra LaVerne Country Club
Title Sponsor:

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you are where you go Life is a series of experiences – so you might as well get out there and live as many of them as you can! Check out the new Foothill Connections Facebook page to discover lots of fun, new places to go in the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys facebook.com/foothillconnections.

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U.S. Requires Poster Change for Employers of 50 or More

By: CalChamber Alert

Employers with 50 or more employees are required to display an updated federal family leave poster starting March 8.

The final rule outlining the requirement was issued just last week by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to implement federal laws expanding Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) protections.

The FMLA applies to employers with 50 or more employees. The FMLA changes were legislated by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 and the Airline Flight Crew Technical Corrections Act (signed in 2009).

The regulations were issued for public comment February 15, 2012, and the comment period closed on April 30, 2012.

Family Leave Notice Change - The final regulation requires a change to the federal FMLA notice/poster entitled "Employee Rights and Responsibilities Under the Family and Medical Leave Act," prepared by DOL.

This is "Notice C" on the California Chamber of Commerce *California and Federal Employment Notices Poster*.

All covered employers (50+ employees) must display the poster summarizing the major provisions of the FMLA and telling employees how to file a complaint.

The poster must be displayed in a conspicuous place where employees and applicants for employment can see it. A poster must be displayed at all locations even if there are no eligible employees.

The FMLA includes a special leave entitlement that permits eligible employees to take up to 26 weeks of leave to care for a covered servicemember during a single 12-month period.

Definition Clarified

The revised federal FMLA poster clarifies that in addition to those currently serving, a "covered servicemember" also includes veterans discharged in the last five years.

Among the mandatory revisions on the federal poster is a note that the FMLA definitions of "serious injury or illness" for current servicemembers and veterans "are distinct from the FMLA definition of 'serious health condition.'"

A second mandatory note states that special hours of service eligibility requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

Although the new poster has a revision date of February 2013, the DOL specifically noted that employers may either start using the new poster immediately or may use the old FMLA poster through March 7, 2013.

Changed requirements taking effect on March 8, according to the DOL, include "military caregiver leave for a veteran, qualifying exigency leave for parental care, and the special leave calculation method for flight crew employees."

(Federal Grants-continued from coverage)

also know they're happier in their jobs and become more productive employees."

Health Cost Savings

The results are remarkable. By encouraging health screenings, immunizations, and programs to manage weight and quit smoking, Safeway and its workforce have saved substantially on health care costs through reduced absenteeism, reduced claims and fewer doctors' visits.

"And while the rest of the world has had on average an 8 percent, 8-and-a-half percent health care cost increase on an annual basis, our costs are nearly flat," Renda says.

One example of the success of Safeway's wellness program is Eric Ward, a facilities manager with the company. Ward has taken full advantage of Safeway's wellness program. By consciously choosing fresh fruit or vegetables to snack on, keeping a regular running schedule and making consistent use of Safeway's state-of-the-art fitness center at company headquarters, he's lost more than 60 pounds.

"I have a lot more energy, I have a lot more," says Ward. "I can lead my people as opposed to manage them. I listen to them more; I'm more attentive as opposed to just being tired."

Based on a Texas case study, wellness programs can yield savings of \$2.43 for every dollar spent, according to the Centers for Disease Control. On a larger scale, it's the kind of math that adds up for any business, regardless of size.

"I think wellness is not just a smart business practice for the people who benefit, but also for the employers themselves," says Dr. Sanjay Varshney, dean of the School of Business at California State University, Sacramento.

Renda sums up the benefits best, saying, "Any business that doesn't invest in its employees and wellness programs is really missing a huge opportunity."

More Information - Businesses interested in learning more about how to establish a workplace wellness program and the tangible benefits it creates should visit www.healthlawguideforbusiness.org.

**Scholarship Applications Available
April - May 2013
Mark Your Calendar
14th Annual Barbecue Fundraiser
Friday, July 19, 2013
@ MillerCoors**



10 Tips for Better Time Management

By: SBDC.org

What’s the one thing that small business owners never seem to have enough of? No, it’s not customers, inventory or capital—it’s time. If you’re constantly wishing that there were more than 24 hours in a day, try these 10 tips to better manage your time.

- 1. **Harness your natural rhythms.** Do you notice that you have more energy in the mornings, or that you’re most creative late at night? Whenever possible, take advantage of these natural energy cycles. For instance, if you’re more energetic in the morning, schedule key tasks such as client meetings, brainstorming sessions or long-range planning then.
- 2. **Choose a scheduling system.** Having your to-do list and appointments written down in multiple places causes confusion. Create one electronic calendar you can access anywhere, such as iCal, Outlook or Google Calendar, and put all your commitments there. Simplify scheduling by sharing it with your assistant.
- 3. **Make appointments with yourself.** Important but non-urgent tasks like strategic planning often get pushed aside by urgent tasks like dealing with a customer crisis. Set aside time each week to work on long-term issues in your business, and treat this time as you would an appointment with your biggest customer.
- 4. **Manage interruptions.** Interruptions can’t be avoided, but they can be managed. Try building in a 15-minute cushion between appointments to account for interruptions; closing your door for a set time each day so you can focus; and turning off sound alerts on your computer so you don’t get distracted every time a new email arrives.
- 5. **Get a grip on email.** Try checking your email just three times a day—in the morning, before lunch and in the late afternoon. Train your team to eliminate unnecessary emails and avoid “reply all.” Consider holding a “no email” day (or afternoon) once a week so people can focus on work uninterrupted.
- 6. **Limit meetings.** Hold meetings only when necessary and keep them as brief as possible. (Holding meetings standing up can encourage brevity.) Start on time, and people who are habitually late will quickly learn to show up on time.
- 7. **Use technology.** There are apps to help you do everything faster, from scanning receipts to sharing contact information to taking notes and more. Search “business productivity apps” online, and ask your colleagues what apps they rely on, to find the best ones for you.

- 8. **Pare down.** Are you participating in organizations, reading industry publications or using outdated processes that no longer add value to your business? Look for ways to simplify and streamline, whether by canceling memberships, unsubscribing from emails or revamping business processes.
- 9. **Delegate.** Trying to do everything themselves is a common time-waster for small business owners. Determine which tasks only you can perform, then train your employees to take over the rest. Yes, training will take a little time upfront, but it will save you time in the long run.
- 10. **Get enough rest and exercise.** It sounds counterintuitive, but taking time out to exercise and get adequate sleep will give you the energy to get through your day more effectively and productively.

Are You Ready to Start a Business?
Tuesday, March 26, 2013 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 El Camino College - Business Training Center
 13430 Hawthorne Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250

Info: This workshop will take you through all the steps that are essential in starting a small business including home-based businesses. Learn what it takes to be an entrepreneur, tax and license requirements, and more. You will also learn how to structure a business plan, which is critical in starting a small business and to obtain a business loan. Learn everything you need to start your business in this information-packed session!

Sign Up: Please call to register 310-973-3177. \$30 Payment is required.

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Marketing Your Business -FREE-
Wednesday, April 17, 2013 - 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
 Pacific Coast Regional - Los Angeles District Office
 330 N. Brand Blvd., Suite 1200, Glendale, CA
 **Parking will not be validated—parking rate \$9.00

Info: Marketing elements such as resources, information, tips and ideas to help you market your business successfully. The importance of creating marketing plan for your business and how to establish one. How to determine a marketing budget and learn to prepare one.

Sign Up: To register call (213) 674-2696 or sbdc.contact@pcrcorp.org

(Health Insurance-continued from coverage)

- **Aging and Growing Population:** The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the number of people over the age of 65 will increase by about 30% over the next 10 years. Older people have more health issues and use more health care services than younger people. Furthermore, overall life expectancy is at an all-time high. As advancements in medicine and nutrition continue, the number of individuals who need care increases.
- **Increase in Chronic Disease:** The growth of such chronic conditions as diabetes, asthma and heart disease, combined with an aging population and the growing ability to treat the chronically ill, contributes to higher levels of spending. In particular, there has been tremendous focus on the rise in rates of obesity and its contribution to chronic illnesses and health care spending.
- **Advancing Medical Technology:** Some analysts state that the availability of more expensive, state-of-the-art medical technologies and drugs fuels demand for more intense, costly services even if they are not necessarily cost-effective.
- **Unnecessary Spending:** Up to 20%, perhaps more, of total health care spending is due to various forms of waste, including overtreatment, failures of care coordination, failures of care delivery, administrative complexity, pricing failures, and fraud and abuse, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation.
- **Fragmentation of Care Delivery:** The managed care model behind the health maintenance organization (HMO) has contributed to cost containment, but coverage still suffers from fragmentation in many areas. In the traditional health care coverage model, providers are paid for volume rather than patient outcomes, generating little financial incentive to coordinate with others to deliver care more efficiently.

Affordable Care Act Cost Drivers - In addition to traditional continuing cost drivers, the following provisions of the ACA are expected to contribute to health care premium increases:

- **Guarantee Issue/Community Rating/Individual Mandate:** Beginning January 1, 2014, all individual and group health plans must issue policies to all applicants, regardless of health status, pre-existing conditions or other factors, and premiums cannot vary based on the applicant's gender or medical history. The risk of adverse selection (healthy individuals dropping coverage and entering the market only when they need coverage) is a concern; adverse selection could destabilize the market and increase rates for all those who remain in the risk pool.
- **Expansion of Covered Benefits/Essential Health Benefits Package:** All health policies in the individual and small group markets will be required to cover a broad range of mandated benefits, many of which may or may not be included in coverage today. As a result, many people will be required to "buy up" and purchase coverage that is more costly than what they currently have. Furthermore, there will be limits on out-of-pocket costs for enrollees and no lifetime benefit maximum on these essential health benefits, further pushing up the cost of coverage.
- **Health Insurance Tax:** Beginning in 2014, the ACA imposes a new sales tax on health insurance. This tax is larger than all the other industry-specific taxes in the ACA combined.
- **Age Rating:** The ACA limits how much premiums can vary based on age, which means younger adults will be particularly hard-hit by new rules. Actuaries estimate that the effect will be to increase premiums for adults under age 30 while decreasing premiums for those aged 55 and above. This sudden rate increase could drive the young and healthy out of the market, until they become sick and need coverage.
- **Medical Device Tax:** Starting 2013, a 2.3% excise tax on gross receipts in excess of \$5 million for domestically sold medical devices will be imposed on manufacturers. A narrow band of products that are "generally purchased by the general public at retail for individual use" are exempt from the tax. The total tax is projected to be more than \$29 billion over the next 10 years.
- **Administration of the Exchange:** California was among the first to adopt the health benefit exchange established by the ACA, approving legislation in 2010 setting up "Covered California." Covered California's plan includes an assessment fee on premiums to fund the administration and operation of the exchange. The best case scenario would be an assessment of 2% on premiums, but if enrollment figures are lower than expected, the assessment could be as high as 5%.
- **No Cost Sharing on Preventive Services:** As of August 1, 2012, the ACA requires certain preventive health services and screenings to be covered in all new health insurance plans without cost sharing. This means that, for these services, there will be no co-payment or co-insurance for the services, nor will there be out-of-pocket costs if a deductible has not been met. Eliminating cost sharing will drive up the costs of coverage to the extent that current cost sharing is eliminated. Many preventive services may already have been provided without cost sharing in some plans.
- **Cost Shift:** Due to lower provider payments for Medicare, costs could shift to private payers in order to fully cover costs. This cost shift could fuel higher prices for those with private insurance, rather than public programs.
- **Administrative Costs:** Due to various new administrative requirements, including expanded documentation, notification and recordkeeping, costs for both employers and insurance companies will increase.

In addition, a number of taxes will be imposed directly on individual taxpayers beginning January 1, 2013.

Hours Worked Also Basis of Pay for ‘Salaried’ Nonexempt Employee

By: CalChamber Alert

Can an employer dock the pay or debit the sick leave bank of a nonexempt salaried employee?

Employees who are nonexempt and who are told they will earn a “salary” still are subject to the provisions of the wage orders and Labor Code.

All sections of the wage orders are important, and you should pay attention to time records, premium pay, meal periods and rest periods. Noncompliance can be very costly.

Pay for Hours Worked - You can dock the pay or debit a sick leave bank if a balance is available. However, a nonexempt “salaried” employee must be treated the same as an hourly paid employee—the employee must be paid for hours actually worked in the pay period.

California Labor Code Section 226(a) lists certain information that must be on the wage statement. The information required by the Labor Code includes gross wages earned, which can vary, depending on the hours worked in a pay period.

For example, a salary of \$3,500 per month is equivalent to \$20.19 per hour ($\$3,500 \times 12 = \$42,000 / 2,080 \text{ hours} = \20.19 per hour). The overtime rates are \$30.29 per hour for time-and-a-half and \$40.38 per hour for double-time.

Wage Statement - The wage statement portion of a nonexempt employee’s paycheck must show the hourly rate(s) of pay and all hours worked at each rate, according to Labor Code Section 226 (a). If the employee has not worked any overtime, there will be only one rate of pay.

If the employee works any overtime, or is owed premium pay for missed meal or rest breaks, however, the number of hours and the appropriate rate of pay must be reflected on the itemized statement.

While nonexempt employees may like to think of their compensation in terms of a set amount, employers must comply with the Labor Code requirements for itemized statements, as well as pay employees for all hours actually worked in the pay period.

Pay Days - Paying employees twice a month means that employees are paid no later than the 26th of each month for all hours worked from the 1st through the 15th of the month. Employees must be paid no later than the 10th of the next month for all hours worked from the 16th through the end of the previous month.

The number of potential hours in a pay period will vary, depending on the number of work days each month.

Nonexempt employees should be aware of the varying number of work hours and thus in the amount of their wages, if they are paid on a semi-monthly basis. In the alternative, nonexempt employees could be paid weekly or biweekly, and thus they would potentially receive the same amount of pay each pay period, if they work the same number of hours on a regular basis.

Vacation Earnings Cap Should Allow Enough Time to Use Vacation

By: CalChamber

What are the time limits and criteria applicable to a vacation earnings cap?

California Labor Code Section 227.3 spells out that whenever a contract of employment provides for paid vacations and an employee is terminated without having taken vested vacation time, all vested vacation shall be paid to the employee as wages at the final rate of pay.

Paid Vacation Not Required - The California Supreme Court in *Suastez v. Plastic Dress-Up Co.* (31 C3d 774) makes clear that, upon termination, an employee must be paid for the pro rata share of his or her vacation that has accrued through the termination date.

Neither the statute nor case law requires that an employer provide vacation benefits. The law addresses only the requirements that a vacation plan, if offered, must meet.

Accrual Caps - Although the law makes it clear that vacation plans may not have a “use it or lose it” provision, the Labor Commissioner has opined that a vacation policy may establish a cap on the amount of vacation that may accrue, if not taken.

Whatever the amount an employer establishes as an earnings cap, however, the employee must have a reasonable period to get below the cap. During that period, the employee would continue to earn vacation.

For instance, if an employee earns 80 hours vacation in an earning year, the cap could not be set at 80 hours because the employee would not have had any opportunity to get below the cap after earning the vacation amount.

The Labor Commissioner takes the position that prohibiting employees from accruing additional vacation during this period would violate Section 227.3 of the Labor Code.

Once the employee gets below the cap, accrual begins anew and vacation time is replaced up to the ceiling or “cap” imposed by the terms of the employment contract or policy.

The purpose of the cap is twofold:

- to encourage the employee to take vacation time off; and
- to prevent an employee from continuing to accrue vacation without taking time off, thus leaving the employer liable for unexpected extended leave periods or substantial unanticipated payments.

The Labor Law Helpline is a service to California Chamber of Commerce preferred and executive members. For expert explanations of labor laws and Cal/OSHA regulations, not legal counsel for specific situations, call (800) 348-2262 or submit your question at www.hrcalifornia.com.



The Green Pages

March



Visiting Kare Youth League

By: Remus Baias, 3M Unitek



assisted us upon arriving on site with directions to the meeting location and facility presentation.

The atmosphere on campus was festive. Fun and games, cotton candy, face painting, environmental education booths, and the school's music band combined seemingly well with recycling activities for e-waste, plastic bottles, and aluminum cans. The Environmental Committee members were surrounded by confident and knowledgeable teenagers describing their nature conservation activities and showing a rather outstanding engagement in today's sensitive environmental issues such as pollution and depletion of natural resources. Mr. Carson explained that one of the guiding principles in place at Kare Youth League is "leave it better than you found it" which makes embracing environmental issues and sustainability only natural to a "Kare".



Since 1931, Kare Youth League has served the greater San Gabriel Valley through a uniquely designed program, integrating athletics, camping and educational experiences. The Arcadia facility became the heart of the program in 1952, when Kare Youth League's founder, Orrick Hampton, was offered to lease the four acres of riverbed in Southern Arcadia for \$10 per year. Today, Kare Youth League utilizes every inch of the property to meet the challenge of a year round program. The facility currently consists of four fields which are converted throughout the year to accommodate football, baseball and soccer, along with five outdoor basketball courts and one modern gymnasium. Kare Youth League's bus fleet, which provides transportation to and from activities, is also stationed in Arcadia.

Our last Environmental Committee meeting was graciously hosted by the Kare Youth League at their Hampton Hall & Truman B. Stivers Center facility in Arcadia, home of the Rio Hondo Prep School. The meeting was fittingly held during the school's Green Day, a wonderful environmental fair combining fun and games with environmental education to fully engage the hearts and minds of the junior high and high school students at Rio Hondo Prep.

The logistics of the Environmental Committee meeting and the facility tour were carefully crafted by Mr. David Carson, Kare Director of Development, with uncommon attention to detail that included mailing beautiful invitations to the Environmental Committee participants and organizing a welcoming committee of Rio Hondo Prep students that

Kare Youth League is currently planning to open a new youth center and sports park in Irwindale on a vacant 14-acre lot near the Santa Fe Dam's southwest corner. The site is currently a nondescript triangle of land dotted by a few trees, some scrubby bushes and concrete rubble. Kare Youth League would transform it into a youth park with several baseball fields, soccer fields, football field, and offices. Should everything go as planned (and Mr. Carson and his team are working hard to make sure that it does), we will soon be welcoming Kare Youth League into our neighborhood! Along with hundreds of kids of all ages from Irwindale area, the Environmental Committee of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce looks forward to welcoming our new neighbor!

SoCalGas Warns Customers About Utility Payment Scam

By: www.SocalGas.com

Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) is warning customers to be aware of a payment scam involving utility imposters demanding customers pay their energy bills with pre-paid cash cards or face immediate termination of utility service. The fraudulent activity has been reported in Los Angeles and at this time there are no indications that SoCalGas customers have been targeted.

Customers of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) have reported that individuals misrepresenting themselves as utility employees are calling and threatening to turn off electric and water service if payment is not made to them that day. Utility customers have been told that the payment must be made by purchasing a pre-pay cash card, and are directed to another phone number where information is then obtained from the card and the cash value is removed from the card.

“Although there are no reports of SoCalGas customers being a victim of this fraudulent activity, we want to alert our customers in an effort to prevent them from becoming potential victims,” said Michael Schneider, vice president of customer operations at SoCalGas. “We advise customers to be alert and not to provide any type of financial information if they receive a call from a suspicious company.”

SoCalGas customers have multiple payment options: online, pre-enrolled direct debit, by mail, or in person at an authorized payment location.

For customers behind in their payment, the utility provides past due notification in writing before service is shut-off for non-payment. When customers call SoCalGas for billing inquiries, employees will always be able to provide account

information and the exact past due balance. Additionally, all SoCalGas employees on company business are required to carry a photo ID badge.

If customers receive a phone call that makes them feel uncomfortable, they should hang up and call SoCalGas at 1-800-427-2200 or 1-800-342-4545 in Spanish, or the local authorities to file a report.

About Southern California Gas Co.

Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) has been delivering clean, safe and reliable natural gas to its customers for more than 140 years. It is the nation’s largest natural gas distribution utility, providing service to 20.9 million consumers connected through nearly 5.8 million meters in more than 500 communities. The company’s service territory encompasses approximately 20,000 square miles throughout central and Southern California, from Visalia to the Mexican border. SoCalGas is a regulated subsidiary of Sempra Energy (NYSE: SRE).



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: Remus Baias - **3M Unitek**

Gabriel Alvarez - **SA Recycling**

Jeff Arbour - **MillerCoors**

Elizabeth Bagwell - **City of Hope**

Ann Croissant- **San Gabriel Mountain Conservancy**

Bob Dlugosz - **Sun Green Systems**

Craig Doerr- **South Coast Fibers**

Jackie Doornik - **San Gabriel Mountain Conservancy**

Gary Erb - **Acrylatex Coatings & Recycling**

Lauren Festner - **Foothill Transit**

Wayne Filmalter - **3M Unitek**

April Kelcy- **Earthquake SOLUTIONS**

Paula Kelly - **City of Irwindale**

Philip Munoz- **Contract Worker**

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: Varies

Look for us on Facebook:
Irwindale Environmental Committee

LIBRARY RECEIVES GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY AND COMPUTER LITERACY

The Irwindale Public Library Foundation is pleased to announce that it has received a generous community grant from Southern California Edison. The grant will be used to create technology and computer literacy classes for adults at the Irwindale Public Library. Identified as a strong area of need for the surrounding communities of Irwindale, Azusa, Covina, and Baldwin Park, the computer literacy classes will offer computer training ranging from the very basics to email and social networking to on-line job seeking skills. Thank you to Southern California Edison for making this possible!



CELEBRATE! CHINESE NEW YEAR – THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE

Every month the Irwindale Public Library has family friendly activities celebrating different literary, cultural or social events. Past events have been held to celebrate Día de los Muertos, Elvis' birthday, and Las Posadas. In February the Irwindale Library hosted a celebration for Chinese New Year. The Year of the Snake was ushered in with crafts, stories, and many delicious Chinese treats. Gong Xi Fa Cai (Happy New Year)!



COUNCIL ROUND-UP – JANUARY 9 & 23, 2013

- Council introduced for first reading an ordinance removing sections 5.16.010 through 5.16.100 of the Irwindale Municipal Code relating to City Council permits.
- A public hearing was held and a resolution adopted by Council to record estimated revenue and an appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 for fiscal year 2012-13 Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Funds for the Citizen's Option Public Safety Program (COPS).
- Council adopted a resolution approving the proposed use of the City's fiscal year 2013-2014 Los Angeles Urban County Community Development Block Grant allocation.
- A resolution was adopted by Council and the Council acting as the Board of the Housing Authority approving the purchase and sale agreement for the conveyance of the Olive Pit owned by the Irwindale Housing Authority to the City of Irwindale.
- The second reading of an ordinance removing sections 5.16.010 through 5.16.100 of the Irwindale Municipal Code relating to City Council permits was approved by Council.
- The quarterly Investment Report for December 31, 2012 was received and filed by Council.
- Council approved Amendment No. 1 to the City Manager's Employment Agreement.
- Council approved the specifications for the sidewalk and access ramps project at various locations, authorized staff to solicit bids for construction of the project, and found that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- A resolution was approved by Council waiving the formal bidding procedures and approving the issuance of a purchase order for the purchase of a Police Department in-car video system and required ancillary services using state grant funds and asset forfeiture funds.
- Council approved the award of a contract to TransCore ITS, LLC to procure traffic signal control system software and hardware and authorized the Mayor to execute the contract agreement on behalf of the City.
- The employment agreement for the Finance Director was approved by Council.
- The Council acting as the Board of the Successor Agency to the Irwindale Community Redevelopment Agency approved and authorized the Executive Director to execute the amended and restated contract services agreement with Converse Consultants for well abandonment services at 2200 Arrow Highway (APN 8535-001-911).

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

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair of the Board: George Poitou *SCE Federal Credit Union*
Vice Chair Dawn DeVroom *Arrow Automotive Services*
Vice Chair Gary Clifford *Athens Services*
Treasurer: John Muldoon *Securitas Security Services*
Secretary: Steve Sorell *Sorell and Associates*
Past Chair: LaShawn Gillespie *Foothill Transit*

Directors: Elizabeth Bagwell *City of Hope*
Doug Campbell *Southern California Edison*
Marissa DeRosa *Picasso's Cafe*
Dena Garvin-Smart *Alta Pacific Bank*
Claudia Hubbard *DoubleTree by Hilton*
Sam Kim *Ayutla Market*
Brian Ouellette *Vulcan Materials*
Kathy White *California Custom Fruits and Flavors*
Staff: Lisa Bailey *President/CEO*
Dominique Yates *Membership Event Manager*
Veronica Orosco *Office Manager*

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 Location Varies
Luncheons 2nd Thursday-Even Months
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: Julian A. Miranda
Mayor Pro Tem: H. Manuel Ortiz
Council Members: Mark A. Breceda, David "Chico" Fuentes,
and Manuel R. Garcia

City Council Meetings

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

City Staff

City Manager John Davidson
Assistant City Manager: Camille Diaz
Dir. of Public Works/City Engineer: Kwok Tam
Finance Director & City Treasurer: Eva Carreon
Director of Planning: Ken Lee
Human Resource Manager: Sharmeen Bhojani
Deputy City Clerk: Laura Nieto

Planning Commission

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

Parks & Recreation Commission

Chair: Dan Diaz Vice Chair: Paula Fraijo
Commissioners: Erlinda Duran, Marguerite S. Lopez, and Belen Zepeda

Senior Citizen Commission

Chair: Maggie Guzman Vice Chair: Iris Rodriguez
Commissioners: Virginia Diaz, Erlinda Duran and Arline Miranda

Library.....(626) 430-2229
City Librarian: Ryan Baker
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

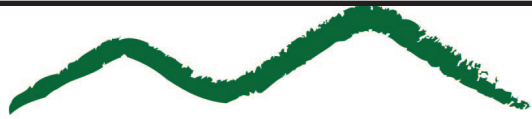
Service Yard.....(626) 430-2280
16034 Calle del Norte

Police Department

Police Chief: Dennis Smith

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

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.

Pillars of Irwindale

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- Pillar Member name badge
- Website Recognition for the entire year

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

Become an Irwindale Chamber Business Ambassador

Our VISION is to be the face of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce by providing networking and business opportunities while growing the business community.

The MISSION of the BUSINESS AMBASSADORS is to connect and strengthen business relationships, communicate chamber benefits, bring exposure to its members and help businesses reach their ultimate goals.

Join us for the next Business Ambassador meeting

Meetings: 1st Thursday of every month at the Irwindale Chamber office 8:00 a.m.



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| 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.

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.

