

IRS Releases Form to Help Small Businesses Claim New Health Care Tax Credit

By: IRS.gov

The Internal Revenue Service today released a draft version of the form that small businesses and tax-exempt organizations will use to calculate the small business health care tax credit when they file income tax returns next year. The IRS also announced how eligible tax-exempt organizations—which do not generally file income tax returns—will claim the credit during the 2011 filing season.

The IRS has posted a draft of Form 8941. Both small businesses and tax-exempt organizations will use the form to calculate the credit. A small business will then include the amount of the credit as part of the general business credit on its income tax return.

Tax-exempt organizations will instead claim the small business health care tax credit on a revised Form 990-T. The Form 990-T is currently used by tax-exempt organizations to report and pay the tax on unrelated business income. Form 990-T will be revised for the 2011 filing season to enable eligible tax-exempt organizations—even those that owe no tax on unrelated business income—also to claim the small business health care tax credit.

The final version of Form 8941 will be available later this year. See the draft form at:

www.irs.ustreas.gov/pub/irs-dft/f8941--dft.pdf

The small business health care tax credit was included in the Affordable Care Act signed by the President in March and is effective this year. The credit is designed to encourage small employers to offer health insurance coverage for the first time or maintain coverage they already have.

In 2010, the credit is generally available to small employers that contribute an amount equivalent to at least half the cost of single coverage towards buying health insurance for their employees. The credit is specifically targeted to help small businesses and tax-exempt organizations that primarily employ moderate- and lower-income workers.

For tax years 2010 to 2013, the maximum credit is 35 percent of premiums paid by eligible small business employers and 25 percent of premiums paid by eligible employers that are tax-exempt organizations. Beginning in 2014, the maximum tax credit will go up to 50 percent of premiums paid by eligible small business employers and 35 percent of premiums paid by eligible, tax-exempt organizations for two years.

The maximum credit goes to smaller employers—those with 10 or fewer full-time equivalent (FTE) employees—paying annual average wages of \$25,000 or less.

The credit is completely phased out for employers that have 25 FTEs or more or that pay average wages of \$50,000 per year or more. Because the eligibility rules are based in part on the number of FTEs, and not simply the number of employees, businesses that use part-time help may qualify even if they employ more than 25 individuals.

(Propositions-continued from coverage)

Prop 21: Oppose – Vehicle License Fee for Parks

This fee will negatively impact many businesses, and it would be problematic to increase costs to businesses in the current economic climate.

Prop. 22: Support – Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Act

This act protects investments in transportation projects, prohibits the state from borrowing local government property taxes and from borrowing Prop. 42 (gas tax) funds.

Prop. 23: Support – Suspension of AB32

AB32 included the ability of the Governor to suspend the provisions of the bill in the event of an economic downturn. This suspension has not been utilized even though this is the worst economic climate in recent history. We believe that a suspension is critical to help our local and state economy stabilize and grow.

Prop. 24: Oppose – Repeal Corporate Tax Loopholes Act

This initiative repeals recently enacted tax benefits that are critical for business investment, long term success and thus will save jobs and encourage new hires.

Prop. 25: Oppose – On Time Budget Act of 2010

Our State Legislators main purpose is to create a balanced budget each year. We oppose this measure because it will exempt the budget bill and other bills providing for appropriations (spending money) related to the budget bill from the existing two-thirds vote requirement and provide that those appropriations take effect immediately. The 2/3 majority is necessary to prevent either party from passing unreasonable budgets that would in effect force tax increases to cover the approved appropriations.

Prop. 26: Support – Stop Hidden Taxes Initiative

We support this measure because it closes a loophole in the law that allows the State Legislature to raise, by a majority vote rather than the required two-thirds vote, taxes on products and services simply by calling them “fees” instead of “taxes.” Hidden taxes and fees work against job creation, driving businesses out of our state and forcing many small businesses to close.

Prop. 27: Oppose – Eliminates State Commission on Redistricting Ballot

We oppose this initiative because it overturns the California Voters First Act reform (Proposition 11 of 2008). We believe California cannot afford to return to a system where the politicians select their voters by drawing their district lines.

These positions were approved at the August 23, 2010 board of directors meeting.


Calendar of Events



October 2010

Witch and ghost make merry on this last of dear October's days. ~Author Unknown

1	World of Food Poker Tournament Presenting Sponsor: MillerCoors	6:00 p.m.	MillerCoors
6	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
7	Business Ambassador Mtg.	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
12	Board Planning Session	CHAMBER CLOSED	
14	Let's Do Lunch Topic: Modernize Your Business P.C. Speaker: Anthony Chiappetta, AMC Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Irwindale Community Center
20	Mixer/Ribbon Cutting	4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Valley Light Industries
25	Board Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
27	Inland Empire Largest Mixer	5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Ontario Convention Center
28	Milestone Membership Breakfast Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering	7:30 a.m.	MillerCoors



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November 2010

"Thanksgiving Day is a jewel, to set in the hearts of honest men; but be careful that you do not take the day, and leave out the gratitude." -E.P. Powell-



3	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
3	Travel Briefing-Barcelona & Madrid	6:00 p.m.	Irwindale Community Center
4	Business Ambassador Mtg.	8:00 a.m.	Chamber Office
4	Eco Beat Series Business Clothing Drive	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Irwindale Community Center
10	Let's Do Lunch Topic: How to Develop a Successful Hiring Process Speaker: Martin Levy, Human Resources 4U Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Edison CTAC
17	Business Solutions	11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	TBA
18	GMI/Mini Expo Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
25-26	Thanksgiving	CHAMBER CLOSED	



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December 2010

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



1	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
2	Business Ambassador Mtg.	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
2	Chamber & You	7:30 a.m.	Irwindale Community Center
9	Holiday Lunch	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Double Tree Monrovia
13	Board Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
16	Good Morning Irwindale Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
20-31	Happy Holidays	CHAMBER CLOSED	

**For further details, future events, or to RSVP
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www.irwindalechamber.org**



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Member News



VLI CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Founded in 1970 as a small non-profit agency serving just 12 individuals with developmental disabilities in a garage in Covina, Valley Light Industries turns a wiser

and more mature 40 years old this year! Currently working with over 220 consumers throughout the greater San Gabriel Valley, the agency has grown from a small program offering segregated services in a workshop setting to providing almost exclusively community based opportunities for its patrons.

Having recently completed a 3 year conversion process that created the services people with developmental disabilities have long asked for, our services now include paid employment with companies such as Jet Propulsion Laboratories, Cal Tech University, Zenith Specialty Bags, the Claremont Colleges, Target, Ready Pac and, for the past 25 years, the City of West Covina. Over 100 individuals have secured jobs in integrated sites where they work alongside their non-disabled peers and earn a paycheck. Professionally trained "Job Coaches" work with our consumers to ensure that they are performing according to the employer's standards.

For those consumers who may not be ready or able to participate in full time work, VLI's *Ventures* program offers services of a social, recreational and a vocational nature. Learning to navigate within their own communities gives these consumers a sense of belonging, and supports inclusion as they access the neighborhoods where they reside. Many groups have part-time jobs to earn a little spending money for their monthly field trips, and all give back to the community by participating in some type of volunteer service.

VLI also maintains a small program in Irwindale that supports individuals with self-advocacy, self-help, community awareness and paid work in an environment conducive to their personal support needs, as well as a six bed residence in a quiet neighborhood in the city of Claremont.

SAVE THE DATE: You are all invited to join us as we celebrate our 40th anniversary during national Disability Awareness Month at an ("after hours" **business mixer on Wednesday, October 20th from 4-7 pm.**) There will be a ribbon-cutting for our newly built administrative offices in Irwindale Business Park at 4:30 and door prizes raffled off at 6 pm.

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Business of the Month



BUSINESS ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Superior aims to be the distribution powerhouse of the wireless industry in the United States, providing a complete wireless product and service portfolio to major carriers, OEMs and retailers through all channels of distribution.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE: Superior participates in the Irwindale Educational Foundation BBQ. In 2010 Superior Communications sponsored the City of Irwindale Music in the Park Program.

CHAMBER ACTIVITY: Superior has donated products for raffle and door prizes at Chamber events.

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Wednesday October 27, 2010

5:00 - 9:00 PM

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30 Tips to an Organized Work Space

By: organizetips.com

What to do when your desk is a disaster?:

1. Address your desk problems in blocks of time. You may be able to straighten out the clutter in a few hours. Devote a couple of hours a day to the job until you're done.
2. Have on hand a trash can, a pen, file folders, labels and other organizational aids that suit your needs.
3. Clear the space you want to organize then make a big pile of all the paper and start separating.
4. Evaluate each item, categorize it and put it away, throwing out as much as possible.
5. Even when you are feeling overwhelmed, just keep sorting and categorizing.
6. Enlist the help of a partner; a spouse, a secretary, someone who can help you keep going.

Tips to help you work better:

1. Make it a rule to always refill things. You can establish a special place for current projects, but otherwise put everything away.
2. Put loose papers in clearly labeled files ("Tasks," "To Read," etc.) or use color-coded folders.
3. State the location of your notes in your planner on the day or month the project is due.
4. Use a planner. Instead of jotting down notes on scraps of paper and never knowing where to find them, you'll have one place to look when you want to refer back to that million-dollar idea.

5. Set aside time daily for doing paperwork. During this time, use an answering machine or your voice mail system to screen calls, have your secretary hold calls or have a co-worker answer your phone (you can return the favor at another time).
6. Use a desk clock to help you stop early enough so you will have time to put things away at the end of the day.
7. Establishing a simple routine can work wonders. The rule is: Deal with it, File it, Pitch It.

Five things you should do daily in your office:

1. Defragment your computer- you'll waste too much time waiting for things to happen if you don't do this Daily!
2. Make sure all notes & addresses are transferred to your day planner.
3. Remove manuals & catalogs from your desk top & put them in their proper place.
4. File as you go- don't wait to put things away.
5. Run your virus scan for email or downloading files.

Reduce: Time to keep less stuff!

1. Save what you need electronically; use hard copies only when really necessary.
2. Scan documents into the computer and transfer information to intra-office network.
3. If you must send paper to more than one person, attach a routing slip and pass along as necessary.
4. If your company has electronic funds transfer (EFT) for payroll, sign up for it. Have suppliers and vendors arrange for EFT between your firm and theirs.
5. Reduce fax traffic by switching to fax modems. You can send and receive faxes on your computer.
6. Try to skip cover sheets when sending faxes. Most letters and memos already include the name of the receiver, and your fax machine probably stamps your name and phone number on the top of each page.
7. Subscribe to online news services.
8. Reduce the weight of the paper used in your printers, copiers, and fax machines. Given how much paper the typical office uses in a year, even a few ounces saved per ream adds up quickly.
9. Photocopy on both sides of the paper. The extra few seconds it takes to push the "duplex" button can help cut copy paper usage by almost as much as 50%.
10. Reduce catalog clutter and third class mailings by calling the 800 number of the catalog and asking to be removed from their list.

Reuse:

1. Flip faxes over and use the paper again.
2. Collate old single-sided memos, faxes, etc. into piles, with the printed side face down. Staple each pile four times along the edge of one of the two longer sides creating 5.5" x 8.5" scratch pads.



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Summary of HIRE Act

By: Martin Levy, Human Resources 4U

If a business hires/hired someone between 2/3/10 and 1/1/11, the employer is entitled to a general business credit of up to \$1,000 on its 2011 income tax return, as well as relief from certain employment taxes.

- To be eligible, an employee must have been unemployed for at least 60 days, or must have worked less than 40 hours for someone else during such 60-day period, and the employer must obtain a statement certifying this prior period of unemployment from the employee.
- Hiring employers will be exempt from paying the employer's share of Social Security taxes on wages paid to these qualifying workers after the date of enactment, although the employer must still pay its share of Medicare taxes on these wages.
- Employers must also withhold the employee's 6.2-percent share of Social Security taxes, as well as income taxes and Medicare taxes on these wages. These employment tax benefits will be claimed on an employer's federal employment tax return, most of which are filed on a quarterly basis.
- If a new hire fills an existing position, the prior employee must have left voluntarily or for cause in order for the employer to qualify for the HIRE Act credits.

You should check with your CPA or Payroll Provider for additional information regarding this incentive.

Mortgage Loan Officers Do Not Meet the Administrative Exemption's Requirements - The Department of Labor (DOL) abandoned its position on the exempt status of mortgage loan officers as "administrative" employees, vacating an Opinion Letter issued by the Wage and Hour Administrator four years ago. The DOL now rejects the proposition that mortgage loan officers perform work that is directly related to their employer's general business operations. In the DOL's current view, mortgage loan officers are primarily responsible for the sale of mortgage loans, and therefore, they fall on the "production" side of the "production vs. staff" dichotomy. As production workers, loan officers do not qualify for the administrative exemption.

Once again, you can see that the proper classification of employees is critical to avoiding litigation.

Human Resources 4U can assist you in these and other Human Resource areas.



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Medicare and Medicaid Services

By: SBA.gov



Advocacy Suggests that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Take Small Home Health Care Businesses Into Consideration as it Finalizes the Home Health Prospective Payment System Update for 2011

On September 14, 2010, the Office of Advocacy (Advocacy) filed comments with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) providing the agency with its Regulatory Flexibility Act suggestions and industry concerns about the potential economic impacts associated with finalizing the Home Health Prospective Payment System Update for 2011. A copy of Advocacy's letter may be accessed at <http://www.sba.gov/advo/laws/comments>.

On July 23, 2010, HHS published the Medicare Program: Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update for Calendar Year 2011; Changes in Certification Requirements for Home Health Agencies and Hospices (75 FR 43236) in the *Federal Register*. The proposed rule would update the Home Health Prospective Payment System (HHPPS) rates effective January 1, 2011; update the wage index and outlier used under the HHPPS, and institute changes to the home health agency (HHA) capitalization requirements, among other changes.

Small home health agencies approached Advocacy voicing concerns that the proposed rule would have unintended consequences if finalized that would negatively impact business. They were primarily concerned with the "36-Month" provisions in the proposed rule that would restrict their ability to sell and acquire home health agencies, decrease their access capital, impose additional administrative burdens and cost, create a competitive advantage to a small number of businesses and negatively impact Medicare beneficiaries' access to care.

Advocacy provided the small home health care agencies' concerns to CMS and also raised additional Regulatory Flexibility Act analysis issues with the agency. Advocacy asked that CMS take Advocacy's and the affected entities' concerns into consideration as it continued to clarify, develop and finalize the rule.

For more information on Medicare and Medicaid services, visit the Advocacy's web page at www.sba.gov/advo or contact Linwood Rayford at (202) 205-6533.

The Green Pages

October 2010



Your Los Angeles County Fire Department Wants You to Stand By Your Pan

By: Alicia Mejia, Los Angeles County Fire Department

How often has the doorbell rung or a child interrupted you while you were cooking, causing you to forget about the chicken you left sizzling on the stove - until smoke filled the house?

If this sounds familiar, I hope you'll read on, because you're running the risk of having a dangerous fire. We often talk to people about the ways they can stay safe in their homes. Too often, we have that talk after they've suffered a damaging fire.

It's my hope that people reading this article won't have to learn the hard way. If we could give just one fire warning, we'd say "stand by your pan!"

Why? Because cooking is the leading cause of home fires, according to the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Latest statistics from NFPA say that one out of every three home fires started in the kitchen and more than 140,000 fires a year were related to cooking.

And guess why most of these fires occur? If you said it's leaving cooking unattended, you got it right.

Often when we're called to a cooking-related fire, the residents tell us they only left the kitchen for a few minutes. Sadly, that's all it takes to go from routine to disaster.

The bottom line is that there's really no safe period of time for the cook to step away from a hot stove. A few key points to remember:

- Never leave cooking food on the stovetop unattended, and keep a close eye on food cooking inside the oven.
- Keep cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles (e.g. potholders, towels, rags, drapes and food packaging).
- Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of three feet around the stove. Keep pets from underfoot so you do not trip while cooking.
- Never use a wet oven mitt, as it presents a scald danger if the moisture in the mitt is heated.

- Always keep a potholder, oven mitt and lid handy. If a small fire starts in a pan on the stove, put on an oven mitt and smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan. Turn off the burner. Don't remove the lid until it is completely cool. Never pour water on a grease fire and never discharge a fire extinguisher onto a pan fire, as it can spray or shoot burning grease around the kitchen, actually spreading the fire.
- If there is an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning you and your clothing.
- If there is a microwave fire, keep the door closed and unplug the microwave. Call the fire department and make sure to have the oven serviced before you use it again. Food cooked in a microwave can be dangerously hot. Remove the lids or other coverings from microwaved food carefully to prevent steam burns.

A cooking fire can quickly turn deadly. We've seen too many homes destroyed and people killed or injured by fires that could have been easily avoided. Please heed these simple safety rules. We firefighters would like to be in your kitchen, but only when you invite us for dinner!

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Irwindale Businesses and Residents Commended for Successful Blood Drive

By: Latascha Johnson, Community Outreach Specialist at City of Hope



On behalf of the City of Hope please accept our thanks for hosting the blood drive for our patients on Thursday, August 19, 2010. As you may know, here at City of Hope we use more than 2,700 units of blood and platelets each month for our patients. All blood collected at our drives stays here at our hospital for the needs of City of Hope patients only.

Through the time, generosity, and commitment of your team and the local community we were able to collect **61 units of life saving blood!** Summer months are especially difficult collection months for us, so these gifts come at a wonderful time. In addition, collecting these units at *the Irwindale Community Center* gives City of Hope a savings of **\$19,215** in outside blood purchases.

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For hundreds of thousands who face women's cancers each year, hope is a precious thing. These mothers, daughters, sisters and wives count on places like City of Hope, where award-winning care offers the chance to overcome disease and innovative research cultivates new, better therapies on the path to cures.

City of Hope needs help to save lives worldwide. For more than a decade, survivors, supporters and advocates for women's health have answered the call, raising funds for research, treatment and education through Walk for Hope.

Walk for Hope culminates in a series of annual events held in eight cities nationwide. But it is powered by a year-round movement — tens of thousands of fundraisers, volunteers and donors dedicated to ending the devastation of women's cancers.

We're all in! Are you?

Sunday, November 7, 2010

Register at walk4hope.org

2010 ECO BEAT SERIES

Business Clothing Drive

November 4, 2010

For information on sponsorship or participation opportunities, please contact the Irwindale Chamber at

626-960-6606

or visit us at

www.irwindalechamber.org

Series Sponsor:



The Irwindale Chamber of Commerce Environmental Committee

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

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

Websites: www.envirocommittee.com

Mission Statement

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

Join the Committee

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

Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month

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

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

E-mail: EnviroCommittee@irwindalechamber.org

www.citruscollege.edu/greenteam

IRWINDALE ROCKS

As Provided by City Staff



GETTING TO KNOW CITY EMPLOYEES

Fred Galante, City Attorney



Fred Galante is a founding partner of Aleshire & Wynder. His experience includes litigation of land use, civil rights, Brown Act, and public contract issues as well as transactional work. As City Attorney and Redevelopment Agency Counsel for the City of Irwindale, he has successfully assisted in resolving disputes and has negotiated and prepared several significant redevelopment and housing development deals for the City, including successful developments of formerly mined or contaminated sites.

He served as Assistant City Attorney for the City of Irwindale from 1997 until 2003 when he became City Attorney.

Mr. Galante’s experience includes: advising cities on various issues, negotiating and drafting real property leases, redevelopment, CEQA, mining and other land use related agreements, and representing cities at City Council, and Planning Commission hearings. He has managed several litigation matters, including challenges to denials of various permits and entitlements, CEQA challenges, breach of contract, nuisance, inverse condemnation, and civil rights matters.

He also serves as City Attorney and Redevelopment Agency Counsel for the City of Lynwood and General Counsel for the Home Gardens County Water District and the Orange County Council of Governments. He has presented several discussions on conflicts of interests, SMARA (California’s mining and reclamation law) CEQA, and the Brown Act, including through The Lorman Education Group, American Planning Association, California Chapter, and Inland Empire City Attorneys’ Association.

Mr. Galante speaks Spanish fluently. He was born in Mexico City and moved to the United States when he was eight years old. He received his B.A. in Economics from California State University at Northridge in 1992 and his J.D. in 1995 from Loyola Law School and was on the Dean’s List at both institutions. Mr. Galante is admitted to practice in California, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and US District Courts for the Central and Northern Districts of California.

Fred Galante has been married for 11½ years and has two children, an 8-year- old daughter and 5-year-old son. When not spending time with the family or working, Fred enjoys mountain biking and playing basketball.

City of Hope

As part of the City of Irwindale Intergenerational Program, the seniors and teens worked together making fleece blankets to be donated to the City of Hope. The blankets are to be given to the Pediatric Outpatient Unit for pediatric patients to take with them. In total 16 blankets were donated and seven more will be sent as soon as they are completed. The Pediatrics Department at City of Hope was really delighted to receive them!



IRWINDALE ROCKS

As Provided by City Staff



Council Round-Up – August 11 and August 25, 2010

- Council approved the adoption of an ordinance pertaining to State video franchise holders operating within the City in accordance with the digital infrastructure & Video Competition Act (“DIVCA”)
- Council authorized the disposal of surplus police equipment through donation to the Maricopa Police Department.
- Two Public Works construction contracts were approved by Council. One for the Gladstone Street Reconstruction Project and Martin Road Sewer Pump Station Project.
- Council approved with conditions the site plan and design review permit for a parking structure at the Gateway Business Center.
- An ordinance pertaining to the Official Police Insignia was adopted.
- An resolution requesting employment extension for the position of Interim Police Chief was approved by Council.
- Council approved the waiver of the formal bidding procedure for the purchase of audio digital recorders and computer recording management software.
- Council approved the amendment to the agreement with Athens Services for interim street sweeping services. The amendment would extend the agreement for one year with an option to extend for an additional year.
- Council adopted the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s 2010 Congestion Management Program.
- An urgency ordinance temporarily prohibiting the establishment of massage establishments and day spas was approved by Council.
- A verbal update was given on the status of pending CRA and Housing projects.

THE GAS COMPANY OFFERS TIPS ON PREVENTING, SPOTTING AND RESPONDING TO NATURAL GAS LEAKS

With colder weather on the way, natural gas usage for heating will increase throughout the region. Southern California Gas Co. (The Gas Company) urges customers to beware of natural gas leaks.

Though rare, leaks in natural gas pipelines can be caused by third-party contractors, hidden corrosion or natural disasters, and are highly flammable.

The Gas Company offers these safety tips:

- Most natural gas pipelines are buried underground, but only major pipeline routes are marked above ground with high-visibility markers. These markers purposely indicate only the general – not exact – location of major pipelines usually found where a pipeline would intersect a street, highway or rail line. However, most lower-pressure lines used to serve residential neighborhoods and businesses are not marked, which is why it’s important to know where they’re buried before digging for any reason.
- To ensure safety and to comply with California state law, call Underground Service Alert toll-free at 8-1-1 at least two workdays before digging to have utility lines marked at no cost. To find out if there are pipelines located in a specific area, visit the National Pipeline Mapping System Web site at www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov.
- Be aware of all the possible signs of a gas leak, including a distinct unpleasant smell – the odor additive in natural gas to help identify leaks – a hissing, whistling or roaring sound, a ground fire, as well as dead or dying vegetation near a pipeline.

If a leak is suspected:

- Stay calm.
- Don’t light a match, candle or cigarette, and don’t turn any electrical devices on or off, including light switches.
- Leave the area where the leak is suspected and call The Gas Company immediately at (800) 427-2200 or call the local fire department.

Additional safety information is available on The Gas Company’s Web site at www.socalgas.com/safety.

IRWINDALE ROCKS

As Provided by City Staff



Summer Reading Program

The Summer Reading Program is offered to assist children in maintaining their reading skills during the summer. The Irwindale City Council, the Irwindale Public Library, the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce and various businesses in and around the City partner to provide both financial support for the program and reading incentives for the children to encourage them to achieve. When a child has read five books, they report to the Library on one of the books they've read. They can then select a prize from the treasure box and receive an Irwindale dollar for every book they read. At the end of the program, all the Irwindale money they've earned can be spent on prizes of their own choice. Children who are members of the Irwindale Public Library may participate.



The program started on Monday, June 28, 2010 at 10 a.m. with a kick-off party hosted by Vulcan Materials Company and four employees, armed with prizes, who came to read to small groups of children. Pictured (top left) is Jim Hardy from Vulcan reading to some of our young ones.



The program continued through summer with a weekly Tiny Tots (pictured bottom left) Storytime and Kid Zone Storytime and a weekly Wednesday afternoon program for the children. Most programs were developed and presented by staff members.



Two programs were contracted with performers. They were Dave Kinoin, singer / songwriter, presenting a musical Earth Watch program and Christopher Yates, pirate, who took the children on a round the world treasure hunt along with Blackbeard (Edward Teach) in a program laced with geography and history.



The Summer Reading Program ended on Friday, August 16, 2010 with a drawing for large single prizes like \$25 gift cards to Elephant Bar or Lucille's BBQ, tickets to a Dodger game or Quakes game, a Laker's practice shoe, tickets to the Pacific Asia Museum or movie tickets.

New Workers' Compensation Notice Must Be Posted by October 8

By: CalChamber



Is the state requiring new workers' compensation notices?

Yes. California's Department of Workers' Compensation (DWC) released regulations that require all employers within the state to post a new Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work. Employers must post this notice, in a conspicuous location frequented by employees, by October 8, 2010.

Failure to post the notice by the October deadline can result in a misdemeanor and up to \$7,000 in civil penalties.

Employers must also distribute a new *Your Rights to Workers' Compensation Benefits* pamphlet to all new employees who start to work on or after October 8, 2010, at the time of hire or before the end of the first pay period.

Required By October 8 All California employers must:

- Post the new version of the *Notice to Employees-Injuries Caused by Work* (dated 6/10/10) by October 8, 2010.
- Distribute a new *Your Rights to Workers' Compensation Benefits* pamphlet to all new employees who start to work on or after October 8, 2010, at the time of hire or before the end of the first pay period.

Pillars of Irwindale

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

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

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- Business Card Ad for one month
- Special renewing date plate for your membership plaque
- Pillar Member name badge
- Website Recognition for the entire year

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

Medical Provider Networks Employers within an existing Medical Provider Network (MPN) must also:

- Create a complete MPN Notice and post it next to the revised *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work* poster by October 8, 2010. The complete MPN Notice is described in the CalChamber's *Workers' Compensation Final Regulations Q & A* document, available on HRCalifornia.com.
- Give the same complete MPN Notice you've created to any employee injured at work on or after October 8, 2010.
- Employers who are implementing, changing or terminating an MPN must also:
- Post a complete MPN Notice next to the *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work* poster by October 8, 2010. The complete MPN Notice is described in the CalChamber's *Workers' Compensation Final Regulations Q & A* document, available on HRCalifornia.com.
- Give the complete MPN Notice to any employee injured at work on or after October 8, 2010.
- Give all employees notice that you are implementing, terminating or changing the MPN.

For more information or to purchase an updated poster or pamphlets, call (800) 331-8877 or download and print the notice at :

www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/forms/DWCForm7_2010.pdf

How to Write a Business Plan

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

El Camino College Business Training Center
13430 Hawthorne Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250
6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Why do you need a business plan? It may seem silly to ask yourself "What business am I really in," but some entrepreneurs/business owners have gone broke because they never answered that question. One watch store owner realized that most of his time was spent repairing watches while most of his money was spent selling them. He finally decided he was in the watch repair business and discontinued the sales operations. His profit improved dramatically.

A business plan precisely defines your business, identifies your goals, and serves as your firm's resume. It helps you allocate resources properly, handle unforeseen complications, and make the right decisions. It is crucial to have a business plan if you plan to obtain financing, but it also can inform your sales personnel, suppliers and others about your operations and goals. It also helps answer the question "What business am I in?"

\$30.00

Register at: www.lasbdcnet.org

IRWINDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair of the Board: Anita Hernandez *MillerCoors*
 1st Vice Chair: Atisthan Roach *Vulcan Materials*
 2nd Vice Chair: Louis Ornelas *Ready-Pac Produce*
 Treasurer: John Muldoon *Securitas Security Sevices*
 Secretary: Steve Sorell *Attorney at Law*
 Past Chair: Dennis Chiappetta *Athens Services*
Directors: Elizabeth Bagwell *City of Hope*
 Marissa Buckisch *Picasso's Cafe Bakery & Catering*
 Vee Clark *SCE Federal Credit Union*
 Andrew Elkins *Renaissance Pleasure Faire*
 John Gasparian *American Reclamation*
 Claudia Hubbard *Double Tree Hotel*
 Sam Kim *Ayutla Meat Market*
 Rachel Leyba *Allstate Insurance*
 Kevin McDonald *Foothill Transit*
 Jesus Rodriguez *Decore-Ative Specialties*
Ex-Officio: Sol Benudiz *Interim City Manager*
 Lisa Bailey *President/CEO*
Staff: Dominique Yates *Membership Event Manager*
 Veronica Orosco *Administrative Assistant*
 Lisa Baca *Administrative Assistant*

CHAMBER MEETINGS

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

IRWINDALE SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Am-Vets Post 113
 16124 Calle de Paseo, Irwindale, CA 91806
 Meets 1st Friday at Am-Vets Park (626) 338-4440 Ben Aguayo
Irwindale Educational Foundation
 P.O. Box 2307, Irwindale, CA 91706-1168
 Board Meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber
Irwindale Lions Club
 P.O. Box 2093, Irwindale, CA 91706
 Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesday's of every month, 11:45 a.m. at Farmer Boys
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
Soroptimist International of Irwindale
 Meets 2nd & 4th Monday of every month, 6:00 p.m.
 5050 Irwindale Ave., Irwindale-Contact Amanda 562-587-9090
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: H. Manuel Ortiz
 Mayor Pro Tem: David "Chico" Fuentes
 Council Members: Mark A. Breceda,
 Larry G. Burrola, and Manuel R. Garcia

City Council Meetings

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

City Staff

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

Planning Commission

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

Parks & Recreation Commission

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

Senior Citizen Commission

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16034 Calle del Norte
 Public Works Manager: Mike Rados

Police Department

Interim Police Chief Wayne Hiltz

Emergency..... 9-1-1

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

Los Angeles County Fire- Irwindale Station

Emergency..... 9-1-1

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



IRWINDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LEADING THE WAY FOR OTHERS

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Ten Great Reasons to be a Member:

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

For more information visit www.irwindalechamber.org.

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

Irwindale Chamber Builders

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

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

Referrals

Sol Benudiz, City of Irwindale (3)

Sam Kim, Ayutla Meat Market (2)

Recruiting

Anita Hernandez, MillerCoors for new members:

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

Sol Benudiz, City of Irwindale for new member:

Cory's Kitchen

Atisthan Roach, Vulcan Materials for new member:

Shoes That Fit and Proforma Quality Printing

Rosalva Breceda, Pen Mar Beauty Salon for new member:

Juan's Restaurante

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

(626) 798-1901

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



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626.969.6100 www.picassoscafe.com

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