



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 27, Number 05

May 2007

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CalChamber Opposes Health Care Tax on Small Employers

By: Cal Chamber



The California Chamber of Commerce is opposing AB 8 (Núñez; D-Los Angeles), which imposes a tax on small

employers who can't afford to provide health care coverage.

AB 8 requires employers to provide health care coverage or pay a new payroll tax, which should require approval by a two-thirds vote, although the bill has not been classified that way by the Legislature.

The AB 8 mandate is broad in scope and provides no exemptions, but does not apply to the self-employed.

"If an employer can't afford to provide health care coverage for their employees today, they won't be able to afford to pay the health care tax in AB 8 tomorrow," said CalChamber President Allan Zarembeg. "Simply mandating coverage doesn't make it any more affordable.

(Health Care- continued on page 13)

Legislative Business Affairs Forum



Senator Gloria Romero

The Legislative Business Affairs Forum will be held at Edison CTAC. This event sponsored by Southern California Edison, will feature Senator Gloria Romero who will speak on Business Issues in the San Gabriel Valley. This is a FREE multi chamber event with Azusa, Duarte and Irwindale Chambers of Commerce.

May 11, 2007

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Edison CTAC

6090 N. Irwindale Ave., Irwindale, CA 91706

Presenting Sponsor:

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★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Miller Luncheon ★
May 10, 2007 ★
11:30 a.m.-1:30p.m. ★
RSVP Required ★
Presenting Sponsor: ★
Picasso's Cafe ★
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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Calendar of Events

May 2007

"The legacy of heroes is the memory of a great name and the inheritance of a great example." -Benjamin Disraeli-



1	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 a.m.	Vineyard Bank
2	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
3	27th Annual Golf Tournament	10:00 a.m.	Sierra La Verne Country Club
	Presenting Sponsor: 1st Centennial Bank		
8	Irwindale Education Foundation	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
9	Business Development Committee	9:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
10	Let's Do Lunch	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Miller Brewing
	Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Topic: Beer University		
11	Legislative Business Affairs	8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	Edison CTAC
	Presenting Sponsor: Southern California Edison Speaker: Senator Gloria Romero		
24	GMI Breakfast-Mini Expo	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
	Presenting Sponsor: Foothill Transit		
TBD	Board of Directors Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
28	Memorial Day	CHAMBER CLOSED	

June 2007

"It doesn't matter who my father was; it matters who I remember he was." -- Anne Sexton



5	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 a.m.	Vineyard Bank
6	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
7	Business Development Committee	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
12	Irwindale Education Foundation	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
14	Let's Do Lunch	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Irwindale Community Center
	Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe Topic: E-Waste		
25	Board of Directors Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
28	GMI Breakfast	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
	Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe		

July 2007

Where liberty dwells, there is my country.
-Benjamin Franklin-



3	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 a.m.	Vineyard Bank
4	Independence Day	CHAMBER CLOSED	
TBD	Environmental Committee	Noon	Chamber Office
5	Business Development Committee	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
10	Irwindale Education Foundation	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Office
12	Let's Do Lunch	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	TBA
	Presenting Sponsor: Diversified Transportation Topic: Business Card Bingo		
23	Board of Directors Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Office
26	GMI/Mini Expo	7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Picasso's Cafe
	Presenting Sponsor: Picasso's Cafe		

Save the Date
Irwindale Educational Foundation BBQ
Friday, July 20, 2007
@ Miller Brewing Company
 The foundation has awarded \$140,000 to
 107 applicants since 2002.

Robert W. Morgan
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Member News



(L-R) Valerie Niedringhaus, Seaboard Envelope and Vee Clark, SCE Federal Credit Union

Seaboard Envelope Co. Inc, was established in 1939 in downtown Los Angeles. The business thrived there until 1988 when Seaboard Envelope Co. moved operations to the city of Irwindale where it has continued to be a reputable envelope manufacturer.

Seaboard Envelope produces a wide variety of quality envelopes for various industries: commercials, booklets, catalogs, and announcements in various sizes and colors. Seaboard also specializes in custom printing (inline and offline), adhesives, converting, and windows. Seaboard Envelope takes great pride in their work and remains a company that produces a quality product, and has a reputable image in the envelope and printing industry.



(L-R) Armando Romero, Citizens Business Bank and Vee Clark, SCE Federal Credit Union

Our vision to be the best bank for business and professional clientele continues to grow and expand. Today, **Citizens Business Bank** is the premier relationship bank for businesses and professionals in the Inland Empire, Los Angeles County, Orange County and the Central Valley areas of California with business financial centers serving seven counties. Our mandate is to

be the best at what we do and what we do is create and maintain loyal customer relationships by meeting and exceeding our customer's expectations for financial products and services, for responsiveness, professionalism, personal service and for our commitment to them.



(L-R) Lisa Bailey, Irwindale Chamber; April Ambassador of the Month Celia Smith, Sanctuary Shack; and Kim Travanty, Vineyard Bank.

Member News



Renaissance Pleasure Faire Where Fantasy Rules!

Irwindale City officials welcome the Renaissance Pleasure Faire back to Irwindale for the third year! Opening day ceremonies were held on April 7, 2007. The Renaissance Pleasure Faire is located at the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area at 15501 E. Arrow Hwy in Irwindale and is open weekends April 7 thru May 20, 2007 from 10 am to 7 pm. For information on the Faire and its activities call (626) 969-4750 or go to www.RENFAIR.com



Business of the Month for April is: Jan's Towing

Jan's community service efforts include donating flatbed trucks for many parades such as the holiday parades in Glendora, Covina and Duarte. They provide free service for the Police Department Baker to Vegas ride; sponsor an auto auction every Saturday at their Azusa location, and every year they provide free bikes to Soroptimist International for their Bike Raffle Drawing.

The owner, Jan Qualkenbush, has been honored with the Humanitarian Award from the Glendora Community Coordinating Council. His Marketing Director, Rona Lunde, has been involved in the Irwindale Chamber for several years. She has served as an Ambassador since 2000, has chaired the Ambassadors from 2001-2003, was awarded the Ambassador of the Year multiple times, and last year was awarded Employee of the Year for Jan's Towing.

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How to Network Like a Pro

Submitted By: Anne Woods, Express Personnel Services

Are you one of those people who never meets a stranger? Perhaps you're more comfortable knowing only a few people but knowing them well. Networking is a valuable way to build your client base, add customers, build your brand, achieve growth and take your business to the next level. But it can be difficult to keep up with new networking trends as technology advances and our world becomes more wired. Don't worry; many tried and true networking methods are still effective, especially since people find increased value in personal interactions. Using a mix of new and old networking techniques can help you build your business network and, in turn, your business. Check out the techniques experts say are the best investment in your networking time.

- **Set networking goals.** To establish a business network that will benefit you, you must first decide what you want to get out of networking. If it's simply to say you know people, then it is probably not worth your time. An example of a good goal is networking in order to gain referrals, to build your brand or to increase clients.
- **Focus on relationships.** With a purpose in mind, you can see how relationships rather than contacts will best boost your business. A desk drawer full of cards of people you've merely met won't do half as much good as 10 relationships you have taken time to build. Relationships aren't as difficult to build as you might think. You might meet someone at a professional meeting, in your business day or at your child's soccer game. Whenever you meet someone, focus on building relationship, and you will have a better shot of adding a valuable.
- **Give more than a business card.** This doesn't mean you should toss out your business cards. Rather, you should raise your networking expectations beyond simply passing out cards. Instead of relying on a piece of paper to be remembered by, have a meaningful conversation with a new acquaintance, asking them to tell you what they love about their job or organization. People will remember those who've shown a personal interest in them.
- **Build relationships online.** Networking Web sites are not just for teenagers to share comments and photos. Many free sites such as [LinkedIn](#) exist to help business people build a strong network. This is a particularly useful tool for companies seeking to build relationships outside their geographic location, especially those looking to grow into new areas.
- **Become an online expert.** Online networking is more than just adding a profile to a Web site. Many small business owners are building relationships by launching their own blogs. Successful bloggers network to others in the blogosphere, adding experts and users to their business network. Consider launching a blog on a respected site such as [blogger.com](#) or [typepad.com](#) to add your voice into the mix in your industry or field. You might be surprised who you meet online and, in turn, how many people begin trying to build a relationship with you.

“Daytona 500” of NASCAR

Submitted By: Jason Christley, NASCAR Public Relations

In only five short years, the NASCAR Toyota All-Star Showdown has become the pinnacle of short-track racing.

The special event at the half-mile Irwindale (Calif.) Speedway was designed to bring together the top drivers in the NASCAR Grand National Division from across the nation. Each of the first four events have resulted in remarkable races that have elevated the Showdown to the status of “the Daytona 500” of NASCAR’s Developmental Series.

The fifth edition of the NASCAR Toyota All-Star Showdown, to be held Oct. 19-20 at Irwindale, will continue the tradition. “Everyone looks forward to it,” said Matt Kobyluck, the 2006 NASCAR Toyota All-Star Showdown winner. “When you go to that event, you know you’re competing against the best that there is to offer at the level we’re racing. You’re also competing against guys that are going to be moving up to the next level. There’s a lot of potential for recognition for both the drivers and the teams.”

Changes to the format will up the ante:

- The top 15 drivers in the final championship point standings for the NASCAR Grand National Busch East Series and West Series will receive invitations and be eligible for bonus awards. However, only the 2007 champions have “protected” starting positions in this year’s Showdown. All other competitors must attempt to qualify for the race through the new time trial procedure or the last-chance 50-lap “Open.”
- Any driver approved to compete in the NASCAR Grand National Series at tracks of half-mile or greater may also enter and attempt to qualify for the race.
- The starting field has been increased to 40 cars and the race lengthened to 250 laps.
- One of the biggest changes will be the procedure for drivers to be “locked into” the event. Any driver who wins a Grand National race overall in 2007 will automatically qualify for the race. In addition, the 2007 champions from each of the NASCAR Developmental Series will also be eligible for “protected spots” in the starting lineup. Invitees will include the champions of the NASCAR Grand National Busch East Series, the NASCAR Grand National West Series, the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, the NASCAR Whelen Southern Modified Tour, the NASCAR Canadian Tire Series, the NASCAR Mexico Series and the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series National Champion.

Also new is the addition of a 150-lap NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Super Late Model race on Friday night, providing an opportunity for some of the nation’s best short track drivers to shine on a national stage. Many of the current NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series stars got their starts at their local short track. At the Daytona 500, NASCAR launched a comprehensive awareness campaign, “NASCAR Hometracks,” to spotlight racing on the grassroots level.



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Southern California May-June 2007

May 3 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Government Subcontracting
Valley Economic Development Center (VEDC)
5121 Van Nuys Boulevard, Third Floor
Van Nuys, CA 91403

May 7 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Getting Started with Government Contracting
City of Anaheim Economic Development
City Hall East, 200 South Anaheim Boulevard, 1st Floor
Anaheim, CA 92805

May 10 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Introduction to Federal Contracting
Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce
2020 North Broadway, 2nd Floor
Santa Ana, CA 92706

June 5 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for DoD Suppliers
El Camino College Small Business
Development Center (SBDC)
13430 Hawthorne Boulevard
Hawthorne, CA 90250

June 12 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Doing Business With General Services Administration (GSA)
Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce
2020 North Broadway, 2nd Floor
Santa Ana, CA 92706

June 19 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Getting Started with Government Contracting
Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
Hosted by Ventura College
71 Day Road
Ventura, CA 93033

June 20 - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Introduction to Federal Contracting
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
4010 Watson Plaza Drive, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Lakewood, CA 90712

Members Honored

57th District Business of the Year Royal Coaches Auto Body & Towing

Royal Coaches has been recognized by Assemblyman Dr. Ed Hernandez as Business of the Year 2007 in the 57th district. Assemblyman Hernandez chose Royal Coaches because of its work on behalf the community, including its Topsy Tow service program and contributions to youth organizations. For the past four years, Royal Coaches has provided free 24-hour tow services to inebriated drivers to their homes.

They have fostered a partnership with local communities in support of non-profit organizations that support community service and youth programs. In 2001, Royal Coaches earned the distinguished award of "Business of the Year" for its service and contribution to the community. These commitments have also been extended to the City of West Covina and its community where they have proudly lived and worked for many years.

Royal Coaches is a "state of the art" collision repair facility and towing and storage garage. The company is an authorized repair facility for all the major insurance companies as well as being an official police tow for the city of Baldwin Park, the city of West Covina and the California Highway Patrol. Royal Coaches Autobody and Towing is family owned and has been in business since 1958. Royal Coaches mission is to provide high quality collision repair in an honest, ethical and efficient manner.

The Outstanding Woman of the 24th District Award Dolores Holguin

Dolores Holguin has been recognized by Senator Gloria Romero as Outstanding Women of the 24th district. Dolores Holguin has lived in Baldwin Park for 17 years. As the first Latina elected to the Valley County Board, she has been elected three times as well as serving her third term as a Board Member of the Valley County Water District.

Dolores has been an advocate of open government and instrumental in preventing public officials from serving on multiple public agency boards representing conflicts of interest. Her work in this area helped to spearhead Senate Bill 274, further clarifying existing state law pertaining to incompatible offices, whether elected or appointed. Dolores also served as a leader in East San Gabriel Valley's efforts to oppose water rate increases while maintaining a reliable water source and safe drinking water. She has also been a key player in advocating to remove contaminants from the San Gabriel Valley's groundwater basin.

Dolores, a retired State Parole Agent for the California Department of Corrections, currently serves as a public policy advisor. She's also an active member for the California Correctional Peace Officers Association and worked for the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs.

Members Selected As Women of Achievement

The YWCA San Gabriel Valley will host their 23rd Annual Women of Achievement Gala Luncheon on Friday, June 1, 2007 from 11am-2pm at the Pacific Palms Resort in City of Industry. The event will offer a VIP Reception, Luncheon, Awards, and Silent Auction. This year the YWCA will honor ten dynamic women who make lasting contributions to their communities, professions, and families! We are thrilled to announce that four of these women have connections to Irwindale!

Business

Marissa DeRosa-Buckisch, Irwindale Picasso's Café, Bakery, and Catering

Marissa, born in Glendale, CA., raised in Pasadena & San Dimas, is a "spicy" Scorpio, from an Italian/Spanish ethnic background. Vice President of Picasso's Café, Bakery, and Catering Co. where she oversees all divisions marketing, special event coordination, and operations.

Marissa is the recipient of the 2001- Chairman's Award for Special Recognition for her charter launch of Cuisines of Covina, from the Covina Chamber of Commerce; and also recipient of the 2002 Covina Chamber's Director of the Year. Under her efforts, her business in Irwindale has received Business of the Year in 1999 and 2005 from the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce. Marissa has served on the Board of Directors, for the San Dimas and Covina Chambers of Commerce, and is the First Vice Chair for the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce. She is active in many Associations throughout the San Gabriel Valley, and California including the International Caterers Association, the National Restaurant Association, and the National Association of Catering Executives. Some of her enjoyments are: mediating, kickboxing, day-spa retreats, and listening to jazz music. She loves to get away from it all by relaxing in San Clemente with her husband Richard and her personal goal for 2007 is "aligning her personality with her heart and soul."

Education

Barbara Dickerson, Azusa

Neighborhood Homework House / Azusa Unified School District

Born in the segregated south, education was a focal point of the life of Barbara Ransom Dickerson. She was exposed to education first through her church and then through formal schooling. She was often required to memorize poems and perform in a number of church events

Later upon entering school she found it an experience that she enjoyed and flourished in the environment. After graduating she taught in the public schools, elementary and secondary, working with Migrant Families and under

represented students. Having completed her graduate degrees (both her masters and doctorate) she then worked as an administrator at Grand Canyon University and Arizona State University.

Her passion is assisting others as they pursue their dream through education. She has always worked with at-risk students. Since relocating back to the area five years ago she has immersed herself in her new community, Azusa. In her city she gives of her time to the Azusa Woman's Club serving on the Executive Board, Azusa Coordinating Council and is an elected member of the Azusa Unified School Board. She is also actively engaged with the Soroptimist of Azusa-Glendora. However you can hear her excitement when discussing Our Neighborhood Homework House, an in-neighborhood tutoring/mentoring program for students' kindergarten through twelfth grade. Barbara serves as Chairman of the Board for that organization. In her leisure time, she enjoys spending time her husband and young adult son and daughter. As a first generation college student, Barbara can attest to the powerful impact of education for the student and their family. She wants to have all students prepared to experience this option.

Health

Janene House Gilpin, West Covina

Citrus Valley Health Partners / Make a Senior Smile

Janene House has been a Respiratory Therapist for nearly twenty-five years. Janene began her work in the East San Gabriel Valley with Foothill Presbyterian Hospital's Health Care Equipment Center in 1994. Continuing her work with the Citrus Valley Health Partners family, Janene has now been employed with Citrus Valley Hospice and Home Health for the last eight years. Janene has a passion for creating a better quality of life for seniors in her community and she does so through her professional contributions as well as her volunteerism.

Outside of her work activities, Janene finds the time to volunteer in leadership roles for a number of non-profit organizations. Her most notable involvements have been with the California Association of Health Facilities and Access to Seniors networking group. Further, she and two other colleagues created a non-profit senior organization called "Make a Senior Smile, Inc." in 2004. Janene serves as President of the board of this organization, which has the mission of providing resources and life enrichment opportunities for seniors in order to generate smiles for seniors. Janene is married to Al Gilpin, residing in Chino, CA.

The Green Pages

May 2007



Traveling Safety Tips - In Case of Disaster

By: April Kelcy, Earthquake SOLUTIONS

- Whenever possible park personal or rental cars in outside lots and not in subterranean parking lots or multi-story parking structures.
- Avoid those hotels that have rooms that can be approached only by outside walkways on the upper floors, and open exterior stairwells. Those open walkways and exterior stairwells are frequently points of collapse. Never step out onto one immediately after an earthquake, as they may have been weakened by the quake and may collapse under the weight of many exiting occupants.
- In interior hallways, count the number of doors in either direction to your nearest stairway exit. Do this when you first check in. Write down the information and keep it with your room key.
- At night, consider places you might stash your room key, car keys, and other small necessities behind a positively latched item. For instance, keyed refrigerators and microwaves often have positive latches. If a serious earthquake occurs, and the power is lost, this will simplify trying to find your necessary items in the dark. If they are not protected behind a positive latch, such small items may fly through the room randomly during the shaking, and be very hard to find.
- If you experience a heavy earthquake while on an upper floor in a high-rise hotel, consider trying to sweep away any broken glass on the floor with your pillow or a book, and then rolling out of bed into the drop, cover and hold position, pulling the covers with you. You may encounter broken glass, but on the other hand, if there is any kind of building collapse, the bed may hold off the ceiling. If you roll out of bed, roll toward the building core side, and not toward the building exterior wall.
- Always carry either spark-free lightsticks or spark-free flashlights with you in your luggage, as well as using an LED keychain light on your personal keys. Try to secure a spark-free light near to the side of the bed that is nearest to the building core. A flashlight can sometimes be wedged between the mattress and spring or frame. Lightsticks, however, might activate under that amount of pressure, so another location would be better. The idea is to be able to reliably obtain a spark-free light in the hurry, in the dark.
- After an earthquake has occurred but the immediate shaking has stopped, first shake out your shoes (there may be broken glass) and then be sure you have shoes on. Move about *carefully and SLOWLY*. You will probably be disoriented, and there will probably be broken glass everywhere, as well as fallen lamps and other items.
- Complete exiting from high-rise hotels is not always wise after an earthquake. Many lobbies have large skylight or greenhouse type designs that can shatter glass over a wide area. Also, if you leave the building, you will need to find open space at a distance at least 1.5 times the height of the nearest building. If you try to evacuate to an outside area without sufficient distance, you will be in danger of being showered by glass in aftershocks, and perhaps even under building collapse. The most common type of building collapse is when an outer wall sheds away. You are often safer in a building core than immediately adjacent to the exterior, and you are more likely to be rescued.
- If a fire occurs, do not leave your room without first testing the door for heat. Do NOT touch high on the door, or on any metal part. Lightly test the door from the floor level on up until you are sure it is all right to open and pass through. If at any time you encounter heat or smoke, immediately soak bath towels and pile them up against the threshold, and call for assistance. You may also be able to signal from windows or balconies, but do not open windows or leave patio doors open, as it will draw more smoke inside.
- If a fire requires evacuation, first wet face towels to hold over the nose and mouth before leaving. Take your keys, note with number of doors to your exits, and your spark-free light. However, *you must make every reasonable attempt to exit the building within no more than two minutes.* In most fire situations two minutes is about the maximum humans have before being overcome by the smoke and fumes.
- To survive longer in smoke and fumes, the usual rule is to get low and crawl down corridors. However, that may make you and your family more vulnerable to possible trampling, particularly in exit stairwells. You will have to use good judgment based on your circumstances at the time.



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California Employers Must Have An Emergency Action Plan

Submitted By: April Kelcy, Earthquake SOLUTIONS

Subchapter 7. General Industry Safety Orders

Group 1. General Physical Conditions and Structures Orders

Article 2. Standard Specifications

§3220. Emergency Action Plan.

- Scope and Application. This section applies to all emergency action plans. The emergency action plan shall be in writing, except as provided in the last sentence of subsection (e)(3) of this section, and shall cover those designated actions employers and employees must take to ensure employee safety from fire and other emergencies.
- Elements. The following elements, at a minimum, shall be included in the plan:
 - Emergency escape procedures and emergency escape route assignments;
 - Procedures to be followed by employees who remain to operate critical plant operations before they evacuate;
 - Procedures to account for all employees after emergency evacuation has been completed;
 - Rescue and medical duties for those employees who are to perform them;
 - The preferred means of reporting fires and other emergencies; and
 - Names or regular job titles of persons or departments who can be contacted for further information or explanation of duties under the plan.
- Alarm System.
 - The employer shall establish an employee alarm system which complies with Article 165.

- If the employee alarm system is used for alerting fire brigade members, or for other purposes, a distinctive signal for each purpose shall be used.
- Evacuation. The employer shall establish in the emergency action plan the types of evacuation to be used in emergency circumstances.
- Training.
 - Before implementing the emergency action plan, the employer shall designate and train a sufficient number of persons to assist in the safe and orderly emergency evacuation of employees.
 - The employer shall advise each employee of his/her responsibility under the plan at the following times:
 1. Initially when the plan is developed,
 2. Whenever the employee's responsibilities or designated actions under the plan change, and
 3. Whenever the plan is changed.
 - The employer shall review with each employee upon initial assignment those parts of the plan which the employee must know to protect the employee in the event of an emergency. The written plan shall be kept at the workplace and made available for employee review. For those employers with 10 or fewer employees the plan may be communicated orally to employees and the employer need not maintain a written plan.

NOTE: Authority and reference cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

The above information is provided free of charge by the Department of Industrial Relations from its web site at www.dir.ca.gov.

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: Celia Smith- **Sanctuary Shack**

Sol Benudiz - **Irwindale Police Department**

Ann Croissant- **San Gabriel Mountain Conservancy**

Craig Doerr- **American Reclamation**

Jayne Foote- **Veolia ES Technical Solutions**

Raymond Hamada- **City of Irwindale**

April Kelcy- **Earthquake SOLUTIONS**

Khari Lands- **Express Personnel**

Irene Ramirez- **San Gabriel Valley Tribune**

Thomas Rascop- **Reichhold, Inc.**

Patricia Sullivan- **City of Irwindale Public Library**

Racine Ward- **Biosense Webster, Incorporated**

Lisa Bailey- **Irwindale Chamber of Commerce**

Dominique Yates- **Irwindale Chamber of Commerce**

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

New Sharps Legislation

Submitted By: Waste Management Think Green

U.S. residents use hypodermic needles to inject themselves more than three billion times per year. Improperly disposed syringes, hypodermic needles and other “sharps” are a serious hazard to our families and our communities. Used needles can transport blood-borne pathogens including HIV as well as Hepatitis B and C.

A law signed by Governor Schwarzenegger on July 12th, 2006 prohibits the placement of home-generated sharps in waste and recycling containers. This forward-thinking legislation makes California one of the first states in the nation to ban sharps from the residential waste stream. The effective date of this ban is September 1st, 2008, however, in the meantime, the Legislature and governor directed the California Integrated Waste Management Board and Department of Health Services to work with local governments and private sector stakeholders to implement programs to promote their use prior to 2008.

Waste Management is offering a convenient alternative for household sharps disposal through the Sharps Disposal by Mail System®. In cooperation with Becton, Dickinson and Company (BD) and Sharps Compliance Inc., the mail-back sharps disposal system is a universally convenient and confidential option available to all communities.

How does the Sharps Disposal by Mail System® work? The system includes a special rigid container for used sharps, a government-approved return mail-back box, a protective 3-ml bag liner and a simple tracking form. When filled, the container should be closed, bagged and sealed inside its original packing (that includes the pre-paid postage mailing box). Residents return the pre-paid postage box to the nearest post office. The box is then delivered to a processing center where both the sharps container and its packaging are destroyed. The receipt and complete destruction of the container and its contents are documented.

To implement a Sharps Disposal by Mail System® in your franchise area, please call your Waste Management liaison.

Reporting A Crime or Incident

Submitted By: Irwindale Police Department

Situations in which to Dial 911 for immediate police presence:

- Crimes in Progress
- Medical Assistance
- Any type of Fire
- Police are needed at the scene for robberies, burglaries, kidnappings, domestic disputes, terroristic threats, violation of protection orders, parental kidnapping, motor vehicle theft in progress, theft from person, auto accidents with injuries, etc.
- Suspicious criminal activity like alarms sounding, shots fired, shouts for help, sounds of glass breaking and strangers carrying items from neighbors' resident.

Tips for calling the Irwindale Police Department:

- Take a deep breath and stay calm.
- Give a brief description of the problem.
- Give the address to the location of the incident. If you don't know the address, give a cross street or a landmark.
- Listen to all questions by the dispatcher and answer them appropriately.
- Do not hang up until the dispatcher states that it's okay to hang up.
- Remember, you can always choose to stay anonymous
- Calls from pay phones are free; you do not have to deposit money to make a 911 call.
- Be as descriptive as possible when providing information. The more information you give about an incident, person, vehicle, the more information dispatchers will be able to relay to officers responding to your 911 call
- When calling 911 for medical assistance, the dispatcher will ask some basic questions and then transfer the call to Fire/Paramedics.
- If you experience problems with the dispatcher or feel your call was handled inappropriately, ask to speak to the on-duty watch commander.

Some Things are Too Toxic To Trash!

Free Household Hazardous & E-Waste Roundup

Saturday, May 19, 2007, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

@ West Covina Maintenance Yard 825 Sunset Ave., West Covina

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)**

(Women of Achievement-continued from page 9)

Science

Kathy Kinton Williams, Glendora & Irwindale Miller Brewing Company

Kathy became interested in science experimentation very early as she attempted to create new recipes for 4-H projects. This interest led to her graduating with a high honor B.S. Degree in Food Science from North Carolina State University and to several jobs as an analytical chemist. Her career took her from a North Carolina tobacco farm to the brewing capital of Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Quality Services Manager at Miller Brewing Company in Irwindale, California. In 1979, Kathy joined Miller Brewing Company working as a chemist at the Milwaukee Brewery. Kathy was promoted to several positions within Quality, and in 1991 was promoted to Environmental Engineer. She authored a chapter entitled, "Environmental Issues Affecting Breweries" in the reference/textbook The Practical Brewer, which is still in use today. Currently as Quality Services Manager of a 6.4 million barrel brewery, she manages five lab disciplines: chemistry, microbiology, sensory, packaging, and packaging materials.

Kathy's leadership has been recognized. For example: first woman President of the Master Brewers Association of the Americas, Co-Chair of the World Brewing Congress 2004, Brewing Foundation member providing scholarships to graduate students studying brewing science, and United States agriculture delegate to Communist Byelorussia in 1976 and Sweden in 1973. Kathy's personal accomplishments are varied, including mother of a blended family, 2nd degree black belt in tae kwon do, member of Young Americans in Concert European Tour, self-esteem/self-defense instructor for Wisconsin YMCA "Girls Night Out Program", and speaker at women ministry events.

Presenting Sponsor, Rain Bird Corporation returns for the 19th consecutive year. Other sponsors include: Citrus Valley Health Partners, Foothill Transit, Helping Heroes Productions, Miller Brewery, and Southern California Edison. For Women of Achievement sponsorship opportunities, ads, tickets, and/or to contribute an auction item, please call Helping Heroes Productions at (626) 334-2177.

Founded in 1935, the YWCA San Gabriel Valley has worked at the individual and community levels to achieve our global mission statement: to empower women and girls and to work to eliminate racism, sexism, poverty and violence. Some of the services we provide include childcare and youth development, housing and shelter, economic empowerment, leadership development, global awareness, racial justice and human rights, health and fitness and violence prevention.

(Health Care- continued from coverage)

Nothing in AB 8 makes health care coverage any more affordable for the employer even though high costs are the main reason employers can't provide health benefits."

AB 8 also appears to allow a government agency to compete with the private sector in providing and marketing health care coverage, taking the state down the road toward a government-run health care system. California voters rejected government-run health care in 2004, overturning CalChamber-opposed SB 2 (Burton; D-San Francisco), a multibillion-dollar health care tax that appeared on the ballot as Proposition 72.

Significant Tax Likely

AB 8 does not yet specify the level of taxation (a percentage of payroll) for employers who do not provide health coverage. The tax increase needed to finance the level of benefits AB 8 describes, however, is likely to be significant.

For example, the coverage described in the bill is comparable to that of a typical health maintenance organization (HMO)-style plan, for which the average premium in 2006 was \$342 a month for an individual.

Covering that cost would require at least a 20 percent payroll tax for a \$10 per hour employee, just to fund health insurance for the individual.

Two-Thirds Vote Needed

The CalChamber believes the bill's designation as one needing only majority approval is in violation of Proposition 13, which requires all tax increases to be passed with a two-thirds vote of the Legislature.

This distinction is especially critical because health care inflation is growing at twice the rate of payroll for low-wage employees (who make up most of the California workers who lack health coverage). That differential will increase the pressure for additional tax hikes in the future.

Given that AB 8 includes no cost controls, another question to consider is its impact on other state operations. If AB 8 establishes an expensive government program without providing sufficient revenues to pay for it, will that underfunding jeopardize adequate funding for other state programs, such as public safety and education?

AB 8 also may violate federal employment benefits law. A recent court decision affirmed that any employer health care mandate violates the federal law designed to establish uniform rules nationwide to protect multi-state employers from having to contend with numerous differing state requirements regarding benefit plans.

IRWINDALE ROCKS

(Previously the City Corner)

As Provided by City Staff



Council Round-Up – March 15 & 28, 2007

- City Council authorized the use of the Manning Pit for the July 4th Fireworks display.
- City Council approved the Interim City Manager Contractor Agreement between the City of Irwindale and Robert Griego.
- City Council directed staff to move forward with the Irwindale Farmers' Market project.
- City Council directed staff to survey residents for preferred naming of the park for the Phase 2 Housing Project; have a bronze plaque for park signage; and have a dedication ceremony.
- City Council introduced an Ordinance amending the City Zoning Code to include provisions to permit the development of second residential units.
- City Council adopted a resolution declaring its support for the completion of improvements to the 605/10 interchange and the extension of Interstate 10 carpool lanes between the 605 and 57 Freeways.



Honoring Jackie Lopez

At the City Council meeting of March 28, 2007, the City Council presented to Jackie Lopez, a certificate in recognition of receiving the "Woman of Distinction" award presented by Honorable Hilda Solis, Congresswoman of the 32nd District. Jackie's five years of outstanding volunteer service at the Irwindale Senior Center is to be commended. She has given tremendous assistance from serving food, and sending out flyers, to helping with various senior activities

In addition to her service at the Senior Center, she has found the time to volunteer for numerous other agencies such as the Christ Community Church in West Covina, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Community Assistance Program for Seniors in West Covina, and for the Foothill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Glendora.

Jackie is a true example of an everyday hero. By choosing to care and to give of her time and service, she enhances the lives of many as she passes their way. We thank her for all that she does.

IRWINDALE ROCKS

(Previously the City Corner)

As Provided by City Staff



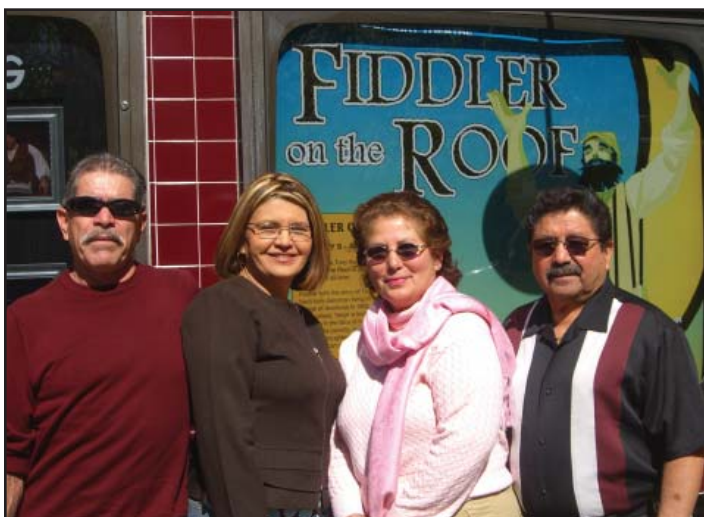
Welk Theater Group

Pictured are a group of anxious seniors waiting for their ride to take them to the Welk Theater on February 24, 2007. Our Senior Center organizes various field trips for our seniors and this was just one of many.



Lawrence Welk

As part of the field trip to the Welk Theater, our seniors were able to take a picture with Lawrence Welk, (not really!). Pictured from left with the cardboard Lawrence Welk are Pat Pelczynski, Van Moreno, and Myra Garcia.



Seniors & Fiddler on the Roof

On the field trip to the Welk Theater on February 24, 2007, our seniors enjoyed a presentation of Fiddler on the Roof. Pictured from left are Daniel and Royan Rodriguez, and Margie and Tito Padilla.



Quilting Project

Pictured is Dora West proudly showing off her beautiful handmade quilt. Dora accomplished this huge project while attending quilting class at our Senior Center.

This class is just one of the many classes offered at the Irwindale Senior Center.

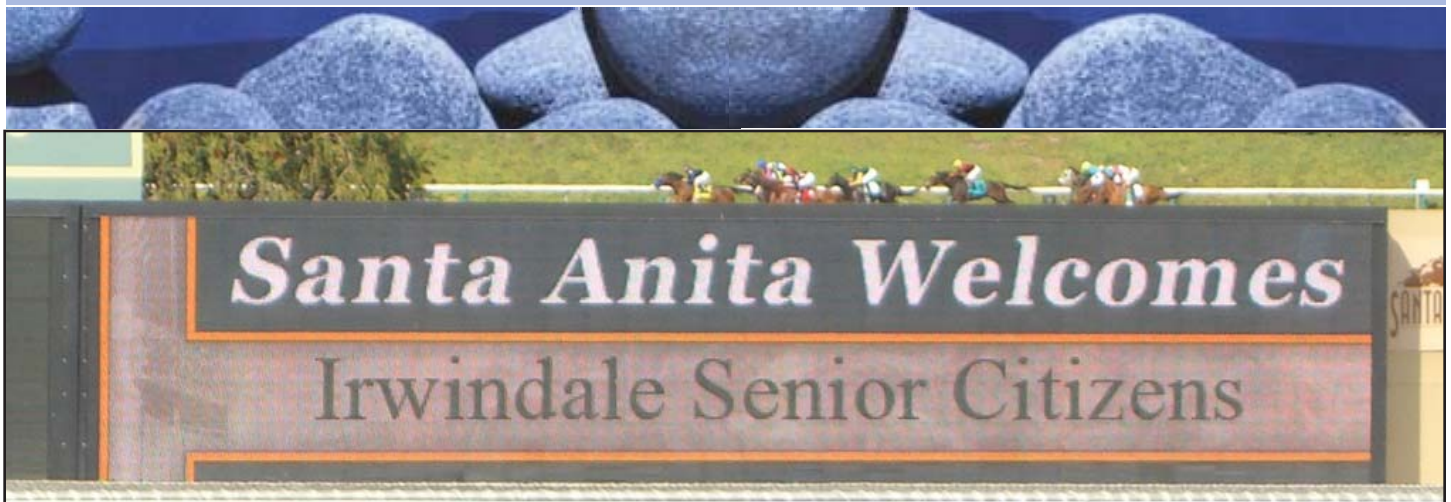
50th Anniversary Celebration

On April 9, 2007, over 25 community members gathered at the City Hall Council Chambers to plan the City's 50th Anniversary celebration. The actual date of the City's incorporation is August 6, 1957. Camille Diaz, Assistant City Manager, asked for input and ideas on ways to celebrate this special event. A list will of suggestions will be presented and the committee will be asked to select their priorities.

IRWINDALE ROCKS

(Previously the City Corner)

As Provided by City Staff



Seniors at the Races

Another of the field trips offered by our senior center is a "Day at the Races". As you can see by the sign pictured above, our seniors were made very welcome on their trip to the Santa Anita Race Park on March 23, 2007. Some won, some lost, but for sure, everyone had a great time.



The Santa Anita race track sent us this photo of two of our Irwindale Seniors posing in the Winner's Circle with the winning horse. The 6th race was in honor of the Irwindale Senior Center and was listed in the day's program and displayed on the infield board.

Recycle Your Business Attire

Submitted by LA Works

Part of LA Works' success when assisting our clients develop the appropriate skills that makes them competitive in today's job market is the organization's recognition of the value of creating a positive first impression. Having a professional look is critical when applying for any job position and that is the rationale behind LA Works' Fashion Works clothes closet. Through contributions from diverse members of the community, we have been able to provide professional "interview" clothes for our clients who may not have been able to afford attires they need when initially meeting prospective employers. This added service has been successful in assisting our economically challenged participants increase their likelihood of actually landing the position they had applied for.

Our organization has a few recommendations when accepting generous donations. These suggestions include: items received will be limited to clothes that the staff deems to be acceptable professional attires. This does not include accessories or shoes. Furthermore, in order for the clothes to be readily available for our clients, we would prefer that the clothes donated be dry-cleaned. The continued success of LA Works' Fashion Works is dependent on the on-going support of our supportive community members.



PASADENA STAR-NEWS

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VISIT EDISON CTAC



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Chilled Water Systems * ♦
Tuesday, May 1, 2007 #15909
8:30am – 4:00pm with lunch

Incorporating Green Building into Energy Efficient Design
Wednesday, May 9, 2007 #17157
8:00am – Noon

Hot Rebates & Cool Savings for Foodservice *
Thursday, May 10, 2007 #16349
8:30am – 12:30pm with lunch

Fundamentals of Compressed Air Systems *
Wednesday, May 23, 2007 #16342
8:30am – 4:30pm with lunch

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.



Labor Law

By: Cal Chamber

Employees Must Be Granted Access to Certain Personnel Records

What records must be provided to a former employee?

Any employee is permitted, at reasonable times, to inspect his/her personnel files for records relating to the employee's performance or grievance, according to Section 1198.5 of the California Labor Code.

This exempts records relating to possible criminal violations, letters of reference or records that were obtained before the employee's employment or in connection with a promotional exam.

Section 1198.5 applies both to employees and former employees, since it deals with, among other things, grievances that could have led to terminations. The prior statute used slightly different language, and from that language it could be implied that the protection was extended to ex-employees. The current language no longer can be read in that way.

Research by the state Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE), however, concludes that the statute did not intend to limit the protection only to current employees, and DLSE will enforce the statute in favor of ex-employees.

Employee Access

Employers must afford current and former employees the right to inspect or copy their records upon reasonable request, but the employee may be charged the actual cost of any reproduction. An employer must provide this access within 21 days of any oral or written request, or be subject to a fine of \$750.

An employee has a right to a copy of any document he/she has signed relating to obtaining or holding employment.

There are prohibitions against disclosing medical information about a former employee without written authorization from the employee to do so, but these prohibitions would not apply to an employee who makes the request.

Payroll Records

Employers also are required (by Section 226 of the California Labor Code) to maintain records from each employee for each pay period, showing gross wages earned, hours worked, piece rate and piece rate units, deductions, net wages, pay period dates, the name of the employee, his/her Social Security number, the name and address of the employer and all applicable rates of pay.

Section 226 does not reference the daily time records required by the Industrial Welfare Commission orders. A request by a former employee for such records therefore is not subject to the requirements of Labor Code Section 226.

Retaliation

Submitted By: Anne Woods, Express Personnel Services

As employment-related lawsuits increase, so does the chance for retaliation charges. Many managers and supervisors are unaware of retaliation laws and unknowingly retaliate against employees who have lawsuits against the company. To protect yourself and your company, you need to know how to comply with retaliation laws and develop anti-retaliation policies.

As your total human resource solution, Express Personnel Services wants to help you learn more about retaliation. We have created free online resources for you, including:

- [Podcasts](#) featuring Alisha Chappell (PHR), HR Services Manager for Express Personnel
- [Case Studies](#) on other companies' retaliation mistakes
- [Quick quiz](#) to test your knowledge about retaliation laws
- [HR tips](#) on how to avoid retaliation allegations and develop anti-retaliation policies

Contact Express Personnel Services today for more information on retaliation, human resource services or staffing solutions. You can also subscribe to the [HR Hotline](#) to receive direct access to a team of HR professionals ready to answer your HR questions.

Small Business Consulting

- The SBDC is an economic development project of the U.S. Small Business Administration and the California Community Colleges, operating as a full service business assistance center.
- The SBDC services include one-on-one business counseling, loan application assistance, business development seminars, and onsite consulting.
- Please call the SBDC at 800-450-7232 to schedule your consultation, or to register for an upcoming workshop.

Upcoming Workshops

Writing Your Business Plan

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

@ Irwindale Community Center

16102 Arrow Hwy

Irwindale, CA 91706

Hiring, Firing & Retaining Employees

Thursday, May 24, 2007

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Red Roof Inn

204 N Village Court

San Dimas, CA 91773

Intro. to Patents, Trademarks, and Copyrights

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

@ Irwindale Community Center

16102 Arrow Hwy

Irwindale, CA 91706

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

2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair of the Board: Kevin McDonald *Foothill Transit*
1st Vice Chair: Marissa Buckisch *Picasso's Cafe*Bakery*Catering*
2nd Vice Chair: Dennis Chiappetta *Athens Services*
Treasurer: Robert Weil *Calwax Corporation*
Secretary: Atisthan Roach *Vulcan Materials*
Past Chair: Vee Clark *SCE Federal Credit Union*

Directors: Vance Baugham *SGV Economic Partnership*
John Gasparian *American Reclamation*
Anita Hernandez *Miller Brewing Company*
Sam Kim *Ayutla Meat Market*
Rachel Leyba *Allstate Insurance*
John Muldoon *Securitas Security Services*
Louis Ornelas *Ready-Pac Produce*
Jesus Rodriguez *Decore-Ative Specialties*
Kim Travanty *Vineyard Bank*
Director Robert Griego *Interim City Manager*
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 Vineyard Bank
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 Every Wednesday at Irwindale Community
7:15 a.m. (Visitors always welcome!)

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
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) 962-2018 (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 Fuentes
Council Members: Mark A. Breceda,
Suzanne Gomez, and Julian A. Miranda

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

City Staff
Interim 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
Economic Development Manager: Elaine Cullen
Deputy City Clerk: Linda Kimbro

Planning Commission
Chair: Richard Chico Vice Chair: Robert E. Hartman
Commissioners: Doloras Amador Larry Burrola and Arthur R Tapia

Parks & Recreation Commission
Chair: Dan Diaz Vice Chair: Belen Zepeda
Commissioners: Erlinda Duran, Paula Fraijo,
and Carol Hernandez

Senior Citizen Commission
Chair: David Martinez Vice Chair: Maggie Guzman
Commissioners: Stella Breceda,
Nellie Tapia and Patricia Trippy

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
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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.