

WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OFCOMMERCE

MAR/APRIL 2021

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> WHITTIER AREA AMBER

Businesses, volunteers to be recognized at Annual Meeting and Installation program

It's celebration time at the Whittier Chamber of Commerce as we present our Annual Meeting and Installation program. The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity to step back and reflect on all that has happened at the Chamber, within our business community and around the City over the past 12 months. While it has certainly been a year like no other in the Chamber's 107-year history, there are silver linings and things to celebrate. Through it all, Whittier has remained resilient and Whittier Strong and our Annual Meeting gives us a chance to recap the work the Chamber has done for our community and recognize some of the outstanding leaders and businesses who have truly done amazing things this year.

Like everything else this year, we will be presenting our Annual Meeting virtually, but we promise it will be a fun and entertaining evening with a chance for you to "see" some of your favorite people. Please join in on Thursday, April 1, at 6 p.m. at the 107th Annual Meeting and Board Installation "Create Your Own Canvas" being presented by U.S. Bank. Tickets to this special event are \$60 per person and include a \$35 gift card to a local Whittier restaurant and a box full of surprises. "We are very proud to help sponsor this event because we believe in the Chamber and all it does to help shape the business climate in Whittier," explained Francine Flores, U.S. Bank Vice President and District Manager.

Evening highlights will include recognition of three retiring board members, installation of the new Executive Committee and three new members of the Board of Directors, a State of the Chamber recap of the 2020-2021 year under the leadership of Chamber Chair of the Board Bryan Tabizon of Rose Hills Memorial



2020-2021 Chair of the Board Bryan Tabizon from Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary will pass the gavel to Sandra Hahn from Crêpes & Grapes Café at the 107th Annual Meeting and Installation program on April 1.

Park & Mortuary, and a first look at incoming Chair of the Board Sandra Hahn of Crepes & Grapes Café and her Board's vision for the new Chamber year. "It is my honor to be taking on the role of Chair of the Board of the Whittier Chamber," exclaimed Sandra Hahn. "I hope to build on Bryan's leadership and strength from this past year while continuing to focus on our members and their needs," she added. In addition to the State of the Chamber, volunteers and businesses will be recognized for their outstanding contributions to the organization and the Whittier community.

Sponsors for this event to date include Presenting Sponsor U.S. Bank and Community Partners Republic Services, Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary, PIH Health, Suburban Water and Athens Services. Additional sponsorship opportunities that include

marketing benefits are still available. Please call the Chamber office for details. The Annual Meeting and Installation program will

be presented on the Remo virtual platform with the opportunity to have tables of 8 or individual seats available. Tables of 8, which include additional marketing of your business, are available for \$600. Individual seating is \$65. To reserve a table or individual seat for the program, please visit www.whittierchamber. email info@whittierchamber.com or com. call (562) 698-9554.



The Whole Child is Expanding Services

On the job training programs assist employers and out of work job seekers



Rio Hondo America's Job Center of California (AJCC) has announced plans to ramp up outreach efforts to notify out-of-work job seekers and employers about on-the-job training and Incumbent Worker Training program. Grant dollars have been provided to the Workforce Center by the U.S. Department of Labor, designed to help workers update their job skills and acquire new skills so they can return to the job market.

These grant dollars help grow a skilled workforce, get people back to work and reduce the turnover and training costs for businesses. "We are pleased to have AJCC/ SASSFA as a community partner and work with them to develop our workforce," stated Whittier Chamber Chair of the Board, Bryan Tabizon from Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary. "These grants will be incredibly helpful to our local businesses as we continue to move forward in the recovery stage." On-the-job training grants are reimbursed directly to employers up to 50% of the hourly wages for the duration of the training period. Employers can use their own training to teach new employees, ensuring the program will deliver the results they need.

Included in the program for the employer are free screening, assessment, and referrals of applicants. The employer makes the final hiring decision, determines job performance standards, and has the right to terminate a trainee if necessary. AJCC staff will assist employers through all phases of program is also designed to upgrade an employer's existing team's skills to improve retention and advancement, with financial assistance provided through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Training On-the-job and The Incumbent Worker Training program is a great way for employers to bolster their current operations and receive much-needed help during this difficult period. Employers are encouraged to take leverage of this opportunity. "We are grateful to AJCC for providing programs that will build the workforce of



the program and will provide prompt monthly payments with a minimum of paperwork.

Incumbent Worker Training is designed for employers to assist in training their current workforce to expand their business offerings, offer promotional or hirer pay to incumbent workers, or to reduce turnover. The the region's skilled workforce.

tomorrow," stated Carol Crosby, Whittier Chamber President and CEO.

Local employers with staffing needs are urged to contact WIOA Business Service Manager Jose Aguirre at Rio Hondo America's Job Center of California for more information about the program and how it can strengthen businesses and

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MAR/APRIL 2021



2020-2021 Board of Directors

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STAFF

President/CEO Carol Crosby

Director of Public Relations Celina Zambrano

> **Bookkeeper** Christina Almaraz

Whittier Chamber Business Focus Official Publication of the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce

This publication is mailed to 12,000 licensed businesses in the city of Whittier, all Whittier Chamber members, and Whittier residents in selected areas.

We welcome comments, press releases, and community interest stories. The Whittier Chamber reserves the right to approve and edit submitted material.

The inclusion of advertising, logos, or paid advertorial, or reference to any products, process, service, trade name, trademark, or manufacturer in this publication is not an endorsement by the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As I reflect on our 2020-2021 Chamber year, thoughts of gratefulness and hope immediately come to mind. At the same time, I am unable to ignore my thoughts of sadness for the impact this pandemic has had on our community, our businesses, our family life and our overall well-being.

Many of you have either suffered the loss of a family member or know someone who has. On behalf of myself, our Board of Directors, and our Chamber staff, I would like to express our deepest sympathy for the loss of life from COVID-19 and our sincere condolences to many of those in our community that have suffered the loss of a family member, a friend, or a co-worker.

Nearly one full year ago on March 19, 2020, LA County announced the first Safer at Home Order. This order required more than 10 million people to stay home and most businesses to close. In response, many of you packed up your offices and attended your first Zoom meeting the following Monday. Others masked up, sanitized, and continued your business operations and continued to serve others with the products and services we needed and continue to need. Some of you also closed



up your doors and had no choice but to halt or slow your business activities to a near standstill. Your Chamber staff rolled up their sleeves and stood with you and for all of you and your sacrifice during this pandemic. Your Chamber team tuned in and participated in any and every COVID conversation we could so we could provide you with valuable, credible information.

Your Chamber became a leading voice for our members

Continued on page 3

3 dynamic business leaders recognized for their contributions to the Chamber board

Dedicating their time, talent and treasure to the Chamber's Board of Directors for a combined total of over 19 years, Leighton Anderson, Debra Legan and Elizabeth Martinez will retire at the end of the Chamber's fiscal year on March 31, 2021. "I was proud to serve with these wonderful community leaders who contributed greatly to shaping our community vision," explained Chamber Chair of the Board Bryan Tabizon. "I want to thank each of them for their mentorship, and the shining example they set for me and other members of the Board," Tabizon continued. "Their enthusiasm, leadership and commitment to the business community will be greatly missed on our Board," added Chamber President and CEO Carol Crosby.

Leighton Anderson, a local attorney with Bewley, Lassleben and Miller, joined the Board of Directors for the second time in 2015. He had previously served as a Director from 2006-2012. During his time on the board, Leighton provided valuable legal insight on business matters and was a strong voice for the education community. Leighton was instrumental in revising the Chamber's bylaws throughout the years and ensuring that the Chamber remains a solid organization. A supporter of Chamber programs and events for many years, most recently Leighton served on the Nominating Committee to select new Board members to carry the Chamber's mission forward. Always an engaged participant at monthly Board meetings, we will miss Leighton's sense of humor, focus and attention to detail at the Chamber.

Debra Legan, Vice President of Marketing and Consumer Engagement at PIH Health, has spent the last 6 years serving the Whittier Chamber on its Board of Directors. During that time, Debra contributed her leadership, marketing, and management experience to help shape the work plan for the Chamber. Debra has served on the Executive Committee for many years as the Vice Chair of Business Information and Resource and, most recently, the Vice Chair of Administration, overseeing the nominating and



Leighton Anderson, Bewley, Lassleben & Miller Elizabeth Martinez, Civic member

personnel committees. Debra has been an avid supporter of the business community and an advocate for Chamber membership. Despite her busy schedule, Debra has been a hands-on leader on the Board and often dedicated her time to visiting members in their place of business or making phone calls to check in with members. We will miss Debra's amazing support of Chamber staff, her creative marketing ideas and corporate perspective on business matters.

PIH Health

Elizabeth Martinez, formerly with Republic Services and currently a civic member, has spent the last 7 years on the Chamber's Board of Directors. Elizabeth has been on the Executive Committee for the past 4 years in the roles of Vice Chair of Business Information and Resources and Vice Chair of Administration before serving as the Chair of the Board in 2019-2020 and the Immediate Past Chair this year. Elizabeth's leadership skills came in handy last year as the business community shut down right as she was finishing her term as Chair of the Board. Elizabeth has been a strong advocate for the Chamber and has participated on many committees over the years including the Silver Shield Awards Banquet, Hathaway Golf Classic and most recently the Virtual Whittier Chamberopoly. We will miss Elizabeth's understanding of the value of networking, her enthusiasm and her passion for the Chamber.





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HEALTH

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CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

The CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE is a dedicated group of influential businesses that help shape our community vision and support the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce's ability to strengthen the regional economy.

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Five Tips to Make the Most of Virtual Networking

We're nearly a year into workfrom-home life. With vaccinations administered across the country and things slowly reopening, the truth is many of us will continue to work, go to school, and quarantine at home. Traditional networking events with your members and friends are postponed for the foreseeable future, and even grabbing coffee with someone is a little risky right now.

But making meaningful connections is still as important as ever. Whether you're looking for a new job or simply seeking to expand your network, you can still do so virtually, from the safety of your couch. Now is the perfect time to dive into virtual networking and embrace its full potential.

In order to make the most of your virtual networking experience, here are a few tips we recommend:

1. Put your best (virtual) foot forward.

While one of the advantages to working from home is staying comfy, you still want to put your best foot forward in a networking setting. (We're not saying you can't wear pajama bottoms and slippers!) Consider your background - is it tidy and professional? Do you have good lighting to ensure you are clearly visible? Your username is your new nametag – make sure it is accurate and professional. Remember to keep yourself muted when you aren't talking to avoid unwanted disruptions. And of course, ensure you have a strong network connection - nothing is worse than freezing in the middle of your elevator pitch!

2. Prepare Your Pitch

Every virtual event has an introduction moment. Just as you would in-person, be sure to prepare your pitch prior to the event. The benefit of the virtual world is that you can write it ahead of time and read it off when the time comes. By preparing ahead of time, you can perfect your messaging so that you say exactly what you want to and don't try to think of something on the spot.

3. Actively participate in sessions.

Just as with any networking, you will get out of it what you put into it. To make the most of virtual networking, show you are interested! Leave your camera on and be present during the session. While sending emails on the side might be tempting, fellow attendees will notice if you are not actively present. Utilize the chat features to engage throughout the event. If you see someone you would like to connect with further, don't be afraid to send them a direct message to schedule a separate meeting.

4. Leverage LinkedIn.

In a world where we're more isolated than ever, social media is filling a void for in-person networking. Utilize LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook to connect with other professionals in your field. Like and comment on their content. Publish your own using relevant hashtags to maximize visibility and engagement. Don't ignore connection requests or opportunities to network with people who aren't currently recruiting or hiring.

5. Bring the positive attitude.

The past year has brought plenty of challenges, and many of us have felt anxious, annoyed or worried about the future. It might be easy to utilize time with others to share things you're frustrated about. But if everyone has something negative to say, no one will leave the call feeling better.

Positivity is contagious. People will be drawn to it. If you're able to, share good news, something you found inspiring, or ask a question with a positive spin. Everyone will leave the event feeling better.

COVID-19 has upended our "typical" ways of doing lots of things. But, thanks to technology, there are several steps you can take to continue to grow your network in this new normal.

Message from the Chair <u>Continued from page 2</u>

and our business community. Like you, the Chamber has suffered setbacks and restarts this year, but I am proud that we have remained consistent and strong. I am grateful for our Chamber and the work that generated positive outcomes for our local businesses.

In addition, I, along with our Board are grateful for all of you. Specifically...

We are grateful for Ryan Lee, a Respiratory Therapist and Hospital Staffing Manager for DialMED Home Care. Ryan, a front line worker, worked in and provided staffing for COVID units all over Southern California.

We are grateful for Mrs. Laura Rooks, a third grade teacher at Ocean View Elementary School, for adapting and providing the best possible virtual learning experience for her students and our future generation.

We are grateful for Oscar Hernandez & the Boys and Girls Club of Whittier for your dedication to help the youth in our community and help bridge the gap with school closures.

We are grateful for Ronnie Galarze, a Funeral Director at Guerra Gutierrez Mortuary for doing whatever it takes to support and care for family members who experienced a loss during this pandemic.

We are grateful for Manny Mendoza & the Gas Company. Manny is a technician from the Whittier Base Location who continued to help our residents with stoves and furnaces during this last year and during the pandemic.

We are grateful for Brenda

Estrada and the Credit Union of So Cal HR team for your dedication, information, and long hours worked to ensure that your Team Members are safe.

We are grateful for Mike Seril from MS Fitness for joining Troy and Debbie Silva and the Orchard's BBQ team to make 100 sandwiches per day to feed our first responders. Mike lent his time to make sandwiches and deliveries.

The truth of the matter is that the individuals listed above, in some way shape or form, are heroic representatives of all of us in our intertwined community. There are thousands of community members who have made a positive impact on our community and our local business. All of us have lived through a historic moment in time and our lives are now changed. Many of you also did whatever it takes to adjust and help others. Some of you worked long hours and took no days off, some of you provided bath tissue for your elderly neighbors, some of you helped a kindergartener with online learning, some of you were students and adjusted to at-home learning, and some of you used the time you had to simply take your dog on a walk more or make "Whittier Strong" chalk art on your sidewalk. When we are back what will you do differently? How will you make a difference? How will you support your community?

Wherever you found yourself during this pandemic, I am hopeful that you are now stronger, wiser, and ready to bounce back to support the positive activity brewing in our community. We are Whittier Strong!

We need your help!

Do you have old photos or stories to share about the days when former President Nixon worked and lived in Whittier? If so, please send them to info@whittierchamber.com for possible inclusion in a

Nixon hometown tour that is now being created.



RICHARD NIXON 37TH U.S. PRESIDENT

WHITTIER AREA



WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS AND STORIES!

Send your stories & photos to info@whittierchamber.com





Bryan Tabizon Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary Outgoing Chair of the Board 2020-2021 Sandra Hahn Crêpes & Grapes Caté Incoming Chair of the Board 2021-2022

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Athens

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ater System

Thursday, April 1, 2021 Virtual platform will open at 5:45 pm for networking Program will begin at 6 pm

Individual tickets: \$65 Table of 8: \$600 (includes additional marketing) All tickets include a \$35 gift card to a local Whittier restaurant and a special gift box. Details available in registration link.

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Spring is on the way, Whittier, and what a start to the year it's been. With plenty of exciting things happening around town, there's no doubt that Whittier's on the Move!

Although we're still navigating COVID-19, we are here to support your family and your business like we always have. City staff has been working closely with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, our local hospitals, and other regional partners to obtain and distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to our residents. The demand is high at present time with a limited supply, but I can assure you that the City of Whittier is advocating on behalf of our community at every corner. I am hopeful that California will tend to the needs of our 65 and older residents swiftly and provide vaccines to our childcare workers and emergency personnel soon. I encourage you to visit www.VaccinateLACounty.com to identify when and where you can expect to receive the vaccine, and to schedule your appointment once eligible. I am grateful to know that our local schools are re-opening and Whittier students will be back in their classrooms learning again soon. I know this has been a long and arduous process, but please continue to follow the guidance of our public health officials to keep yourself and your loved ones safe by washing your hands frequently, wearing your mask when you leave the house, and maintaining distance from others. It's a marathon, not a sprint, but the finish line is in sight. Watch for more COVID-19 updates on the City's website and social media pages to stay in the know.

At present time, there's still a small amount of funding available in the Whittier Relief Fund to help those in need with covering payroll, rent, and other overhead expenses. Review eligibility requirements and apply at www.whittierchamber.com/Whittier-Relief-Fund. I want to thank the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce and its Business & Economic Recovery Taskforce, as well as the Whittier Uptown Association, for their efforts to administer this grant program and others throughout the course of the pandemic. This was one part of the City's COVID-19 Recovery Plan, in addition to establishing the Greenleaf Promenade in Uptown Whittier, reducing business license fees, and creating a COVID-19 Buy/ Hire Local Rebate Program for home and business owners, and we will continue to look for ways to further support our community as our business sectors re-open. Staff is here to help streamline your permit process and offer ombudsman services at no cost to you should you be looking to relocate or expand your business in the coming months. Call the Business Development Manager at (562) 567-9351 to schedule an appointment or access additional recovery resources.

Additionally, the City's ongoing partnership with our local Small Business Development Center offers diverse opportunities for small business owners including free workshops, trainings, and business consultation with seasoned industry experts. The Long Beach SBDC hosts weekly webinars on everything from digital marketing and social media tips, to increasing your sales, understanding your financials, and how to apply for COVID-19 loans and/or forgiveness. Please visit www.longbeachsbdc.org for federal, state and local resources available to you and a list of upcoming virtual events to help get you back on track in 2021.

In anticipation of the busy spring season, City staff has been working around the clock to provide fun, creative, and accessible programming to the Whittier community. The Whittier Public Library offers all kinds of online resources including homework help, e-books, veterans assistance, Storytime, music, and movies, and provides curbside service at the Historic Depot and Whittwood Branch so you can reserve books ahead of time and have them ready when you drive up. Visit www.whittierlibrary.org for a list of upcoming events like the Wednesday Book Club and monthly reading contests for book enthusiasts of all ages.

Similarly, our Parks, Recreation & Community Services team has been busy finding ways to keep your family active while staying safer at home. Residents are encouraged to visit www.WhittierRec.com to try their hand at a new hobby like cooking, fitness, or dance, and to reserve a time slot for tennis or lap swimming at Palm Park. The City also recently celebrated a rededication at Lee Owens Park which now offers upgraded play equipment, a new splash pad and other amenities for families to enjoy.

Speaking of parks, we will celebrate Arbor Day during the second week of March with a virtual display of tree planting. In partnership with the Whittier Conservancy that donated funds to purchase trees, our friends from West Coast Arborists will be planting 50 trees at multiple addresses throughout Whittier, accompanied by signs to help create Arbor Day awareness in the community. Please watch social media for photos of the green thumb festivities during the week of March 7th.

Save the date for this year's annual Eggxtravaganza on Saturday, March 27, 2021, which will feature either a unique drive-thru experience or a more traditional event with enhanced social distancing measures depending on Health Order restrictions. I have a feeling children will have plenty of

I wish you and your family good health and a happy Easter!

opportunities for fun and get to see the Easter Bunny one way or another! Please call (562) 567-9450 and follow social media for information as we get closer to the event, as well as announcements about our interactive EGG Scavenger Hunt that will encourage families to seek out large, hidden eggs throughout town and submit their photos for prizes before the Easter holiday.

Around the corner in April, join the Shelter's Right Hand virtually for their 25th Annual 5K Run/Walk on April 24 with live videos and messages from the community. Participants will receive a T-shirt and medal at the time of registration. Thank you to the sponsors who continue to make this event special for all involved, especially during this pandemic. Visit www.sheltersrighthand.org for more information and to take a stand against domestic violence.

That same day, join the Whittier Chapter of the United Nations Association for Whittier's annual Earth Day celebration, taking place via Zoom from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. This family-friendly event will include guest speakers and environmentally-friendly tips to help you and your family make greener choices together. Join me in learning more about how you can help reduce our community's carbon footprint and ensure a sustainable future for Whittier.

I sincerely appreciate the resilience and adaptability demonstrated by this community and I look forward to what I hope will be a brighter spring season. Be sure to like and follow @WhittierCityGov on social media for up-to-date community information and details on upcoming events.





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Whittier Police Officers respond to thousands of calls for service every year. These calls vary from traffic accidents, crime reports and suspicious persons, to serious crimes in progress. In most instances, a crime or suspicious circumstance involve a specific person, who may be the suspect responsible for the crime. Criminals flee the scene of their crimes in a hurry to avoid being captured by the police, however in many cases, it is the victims and witnesses who observed the suspect, that are able to make the escape only a temporary one.

A key to capturing criminal offenders is the prompt and accurate reporting of important suspect information to the Whittier Police Department. If you observe a crime in progress or suspicious activity, it is important to call 911 immediately. Calling 911 will automatically display your address a hat being worn. Move down to the

Report an Accurate Description of Criminal Offenders with "Head-to-Toe" Method

and phone number to the dispatcher, which will allow you to proceed directly to the crime information.

If you saw a suspect or a suspicious person, the first questions you will hear from the dispatcher are: "What did the person look like? Can you describe him/her to me?". For some reason, this simple question causes many callers to freeze, as they try to organize their thoughts, memories, and visual pictures into a sentence that is both helpful and timely. The description of a suspect is very important for responding officers, as they scan streets in the immediate area on their way to the crime scene.

A simple method for observing and remembering the complete description of a suspect or a suspicious person is "head-to-toe". Start at the head and observe hair color, hair style or



The Grand Re-Opening of Lee Owens Park includes a brand new splash pad, two ADA accessible playgrounds, walking paths, fitness equipment and more! Thank you to so many old and current City staff members, new and previous Council Members, former Assembly Majority Leader Ian Calderon and Supervisor Janice Hahn for making this possible for our Whittier Community!

face and neck area and note facial complexion, any facial hair, tattoos, scars, markings, or jewelry. If you heard the person speak, describe any accent or distinguishing speech patterns. Continue to the upper torso with a detailed clothing description. Observe the type and color of the shirt, and any distinct print or pattern. Examine the arms and hands for tattoos, markings, or jewelry. Move to

the lower torso with a detailed clothing description including belt color, pant color, condition, and any distinct design or print. End with the shoes and note color, condition and any distinct design or print.

Organizing the information from observation to reporting will allow officers to receive a complete and timely suspect description and hopefully facilitate a quick capture.

LACounty is helping train businesses on the implementation of COVID-19 safety protocols through a no-cost online training course called the COVID-19 Safety Compliance Certification Program (CSCCP). Once completed, business owners receive a certificate, and window seal to display on their storefront, which can reassure employees and customers alike that the business is following COVID-19 infection control and physical distancing requirements.

If you have not yet completed the CSCCP course or want to learn more about it, visit publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/ covid19cert.htm. Help support your employees, customers, and community while on the Road to Recovery.



http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/covid19cert.htm



COVID-19 Safety Compliance Certificate

Workplace policies and practices to protect employee health.

Measures to ensure physical distancing.



Communication with employees and the public.

Measures to ensure equitable access to critical services.

empowerment to climb the career ladder

YOUR POWERHOUSE LINEUP



Register at bit.ly/WC-RiseUpWomenCon21

In honor of International Women's Day, we're partnering with Rise Up for You to bring women from around the world together to celebrate, be inspired, and learn from other incredible female leaders. If you are looking to grow professionally and personally, be inspired by women in leadership who have paved their path on their own terms, and gain valuable strategies for elevating their voice and presence in the workplace, then this free conference is one you do not want to miss!



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MEMBER NEWS

Four AALRR Attorneys Atkinson, Andelson Loya, Ruud & Romo Named 2021 Southern essional Law Corporation **California Super Lawyers**

Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo ("AALRR") is pleased to announce that four partners have been recognized as top attorneys in their field by Southern California Super Lawyers. Steven D. Atkinson, Edward C. Ho, Nate J. Kowalski, and Irma Rodríguez Moisa are among the top five percent of the lawyers in California who are selected by Super Lawyers. Read more at https://www.aalrr.com/newsroom-news-3557.

Join the program that Goldman Sachs 10.000 helps you identify growth opportunities businesses

Managing your operations. One of the many skills you'll learn with Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses. Because streamlining how you operate can help you realize your vision for growth. The program delivered at Long Beach City College and Los Angeles City College gives you valuable skills for growing your business, the opportunity to access financial capital, powerful networking opportunities and more. It was designed to work around your schedule and is available at no cost to you! ACT NOW - APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 15, 2021 for Long Beach Program. To learn more, please email 10000sb@lbcc.edu. Apply at https://www.10ksbapply.com.

Whittier Union Schools **Recognized by College Board** for Diversity in Advanced **Placement Program**



The College Board has honored two Whittier Union high schools for expanding young women's access to Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science classes, recognizing Santa Fe and Whittier high schools with its 2020 AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award. Santa Fe and Whittier received the award for fostering equal gender representation in AP Computer Science Principles (CSP) during the 2019-20 school year. The schools are two of 1,119 high school campuses across the United States recognized by the College Board. Read more at https://business.whittierchamber.com/news/details/whittier-union-schoolsrecognized-by-college-board-for-diversity-in-advanced-placement-program.



Angel Awards Event to Honor Those Who Light the Way to **Recovery from Homelessness**

Whittier Area First Day Coalition (Whittier First Day) is pleased to share that it will be hosting its annual Angel Awards event on Friday, May 7, 2021 at 6 pm. In light of on-going public health guidance, the event this year will be held virtually and includes a special program, refreshments, silent auction and live auction. Read more at https://business.whittierchamber.com/news/details/angel-awardsevent-to-honor-those-who-light-the-way-to-recovery-from-homelessness.

Join Soroptimist International of Whittier for their Virtual Signature Awards Event



On Saturday April 17, 2021 at 2 p.m. enjoy a virtual presentation of Soroptimist International of Whittier's

Signature Awards Celebration Event. To receive the Zoom link, please book your no-cost reservation at www.siwhittier.org no later than April 15, 2021. For questions, please contact Petra Schmischke at (562) 652-3451. Read more at

Whittier's Public Central Library Remodel & Improvement has begun



The Central Library Remodel and Improvement project has begun. The Whittier Public Library Foundation is reaching out to community organizations and businesses to join in their Renovation Campaign, Our Next Chapter, to add the special features and enhancements to the library. Inquiries can be directed to Sue Settlage, VP Fundraising and Renovation Campaign Chair at suesettlage@gmail.com.

Shelter's Right Hand to Hold 5K Virtual Walk to Benefit Victims of Domestic Violence

Registration is underway for the Whittier's Shelter's Right Hand 25th Annual "Stepping Out Against Domestic Violence" Virtual 5K Walk to benefit the Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter. On Saturday, April 24th, the livestream will be hosted by members of the Shelter's Right Hand Board. Plan your own walk, run, cycle (or exercise of your choice) comparable to a 5K. Shelter's Right Hand wants to see you, so post your photos on their Facebook or Instagram page and use #srhvirtualwalk. Register by April 24, 2021 and you'll receive a T-Shirt and a



medal in the mail. Please donate and join together (virtually) to give vital support to the shelter. See you out there on social media on Walk Day! Sign up online at sheltersrighthand.org.

Lucky AFCU Saver Wins \$50,000 Grand Prize



American First Credit Union (AFCU) awarded Dale M. from Riverside, CA, its second annual grand prize of \$50,000 from their savings program called Big Prize Savings.

The importance of saving has been amplified since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020. Luckily, AFCU created their Big Prize Savings program in 2019 to promote and encourage good saving habits by incentivizing account holders a chance to win substantial cash prizes just for saving their money. Big Prize Savings awards prizes of \$1,000 each month, \$10,000 each quarter, and a \$50,000 grand prize at

the end of the year. Read more at https://business.whittierchamber.com/news/details/ lucky-afcu-saver-wins-50-000-grand-prize.



https://business.whittierchamber.com/news/details/signature-awards-celebration-event.



Assistance League of Whittier Announces New Board for 2021

The Assistance League of Whittier is pleased to introduce the new board of directors for 2021. From left to right: Pat Beck, Janice Geiger, Pauline Williams, Linda Crowley - President, Linda Eagan, Rita Holmes, Jan Sprague, Marjorie Williams. & Lenore Remland. Welcome to the Assistance League of Whittier! More information at https://business.whittierchamber.com/news/details/assistanceleague-of-whittier-announces-new-board-for-2021.

Move for Mental Health with HYC at the Walk for Wellness Virtual Walk

May is Mental Health Awareness Month! Your participation will help fight the stigma and support youth in their future opportunities. It's the 5K, Your Way! A virtual race means no designated course and time - you can walk, run, bike, hike, golf, or treadmill at your pace between May 17-31, wherever you choose! Register online at https://hyc.rallyup.com/hyc5k or text (855) 202-2100. Read more at https://business. whittierchamber.com/news/details/walk-for-wellness-virtual-On T 5k-let-s-move-for-mental-health.



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Recognizing that healthy businesses make healthy communities, Kaiser Permanente launched the Resilience Compass (resiliencecompass. org), a website for small, diverse businesses and employers with meaningful business resources and tools to help them succeed, especially in these tough economic times.

Aiming to help small businesses navigate uncharted waters while accelerating their road to recovery, highlights of the site include:

- Access to over 430 resources with funding opportunities, and guidance on business issues ranging from HR, Legal, Operations, Wellness, Marketing, and Technology.
- A visual walkthrough of survey results from smallto medium-sized business owners who shared how they have been impacted by COVID-19.
- Over 75 articles and blogs to support business leaders in navigating the changing support landscape in response to COVID-19.

As part of Kaiser Permanente's commitment to supporting communities facing systemic oppression and disenfranchisement, the Resilience Compass, was created with input from Kaiser Permanente's Impact Spending, Marketing, and Community Health leaders, and leverages relevant market research. For more information, please visit resiliencecompass.org.

Apply online at CUSoCal.org or call 800.698.7196





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The Whole Child, a Whittier-based non-profit organization, has announced expansion plans in the Southeast Los Angeles County region, opening a second headquarters and breaking ground on a new housing project. This marks the organization's latest capital projects, building on the successful 2019 development of the Safe Families Interim Housing facility located in Echo Park.

In its most recent fiscal year. The Whole Child served nearly 4,000 families, including 2,329 Whittier families, giving them the tools needed to raise emotionally and physically healthy children. The organization provided over 45,000 hours in mental health therapy for children and youth, which included therapy for over 1,700 Whittier children. The organization partners with local school districts to identify children in need. It provided housing services to nearly 1,600 families facing homelessness and permanently housed 360 families. The organization provided housing services to 410 Whittier residents, keeping families from experiencing homelessness. The Whole Child delivered parent enrichment resources to nearly 350 families, including 18 Whittier families. The program helps caregivers establish strong attachment with their children (prenatal - 5 years), reducing the risk of abuse, neglect, and prevention of removal from the home by protective services. Lastly, the organization hosted 136 CalFresh Healthy Living nutrition education workshops to address child obesity by providing Whittier families with nutrition education and physical activity promotion.

Scheduled this summer, The Whole Child will open its second headquarters to centralize its family housing, parent enrichment, and nutrition education services in neighboring Downey. The Downey headquarters will include a comprehensive access center for families, where clients will tap into multiple services at one location. The Whole Child's primary administrative and mental health headquarters will remain in Whittier.

Later this year, The Whole Child will break ground on its new Housing Complex for Homeless and Veteran families in Santa Fe Springs. The private-public partnership will provide a path from interim to subsidized rental and homeownership in the best of cases. "The development will build a hopeful future for families in need. including Whittier families. It will allow local families to stay in the community they already know, keeping them close to their support systems and children in their school district. By keeping families in familiar surroundings, we reduce the trauma caused by their precarious situation, especially trauma in children." stated Constanza Pachon, The Whole Child's CEO.

With its latest expansion plans, The Whole Child will meet the increased needs of vulnerable families. Founded in 1957, The Whole Child serves vulnerable children and low-income families in Whittier and the surrounding communities. For more information, email twcinfo@thewholechild.org or call (562) 692-0383.

RENEWING MEMBERS

Thanks to the following members for renewing their Chamber membership and for supporting our efforts to build a strong local economy

January

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Urteaga Chiropractic & Sports Medicine (562) 274-7771

West Coast Arborists, Inc. (714) 991-1900

Whittier College (562) 907-5043

Whittier Elementary Teachers Assn. (562) 693-8411

> Whittier Hearing Center (562) 698-0581

Whittier High School Alumni Assoc. (562) 556-4000

Whittier Union High School District (562) 698-8121 X1000

Xtreme Tint (562) 789-0600

February

The Whole Child's Downey Headquarters & Family Access Center



Whittier Community

- Drains & Sewers Cleaned
- Copper Repiping
- Air Conditioning
- Water Softeners
- Furnaces Hydrojetting
- Water Piping
 Leak Detections
- Disposals
- Water Heaters

24 HOUR SERVICE

562 863-5717 · 562 868-7777

- Bath Remodeling
- ters Backflow Testing & Repair

State Contractor License #271767 American First Credit Union (562) 237-5073

> BMV Construction (800) 595-3298

California Domestic Water Co. (562) 947-3811

Discovery Depot College Avenue Station (562) 358-5001

Financial Partners Credit Union (562) 904-4590

First United Methodist Church (562) 698-0022

> Holistic Clinica (562) 360-1071

KGJ Real Estate/Compass (310) 367-5927 My Attorney LA (562) 693-5027

Pabst, Kinney & Associates, Inc. (562) 236-9069

R'gals Properties (562) 692-5457

RMH Entertainment (562) 693-9911

Star Kleaners (562) 415-8676

Telcog Communications (844) 548-8647

Uptown Flooring & Design, Inc. (562) 945-4407

Whittier Area Community Church (562) 945-4500

VISA

Congratulations to our Milestone Members this month!

Thank you to the following businesses that have been longstanding partners with the Whittier Chamber in helping to support our thriving economy.

MARCH

APRIL 100 Years:

40 Years: Credit Union of Southern California (866) 287-6225

25 Years: Shannon Center for Performing Arts (562) 907-4203 x4835

> P.C. The Help Desk (562) 869-4435

> > 20 Years:

Pacific Western Bank (562) 902-2292

15 Years:

Friendly Hills Bank (562) 947-1920

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. (714) 257-4481

10 Years: Kaiser Permanente

(562) 657-4452

A Special Event (562) 695-9570

Catering by Herach & Ara (323) 728-0573

> **5 Years: CIL Freight, Inc.** (626) 964-3232

White Emerson Mortuary (562) 698-0304

> **60 Years:** Whittier Brokers (562) 693-3757

40 Years: State Farm Insurance -Clayton Agency (562) 947-4795

> **25 Years:** California Grill (562) 907-7017

Whittier Village Stadium Cinemas (562) 945-5271

> **20 Years:** Whittier Elks Lodge #1258 (562) 696-7117

5 Years: Neece Coaching & Consulting (562) 587-8126

Employer's Choice Screening (562) 319-0413

Martplan Insurance Agency (562) 691-9414

NEW MEMBERS

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Suncoast Energy Inc. 11721 Whittier Blvd. Whittier, CA 90601 Elias Vela Email: eli.vela@suncoast-energy.com Phone: (562) 548-2788 Website: suncoast-energy.com



Suncoast Energy is a C-10 licensed and bonded electrical contractor, based in Whittier and serving all of LA and Orange counties. They offer a full range of services for all customers and specialize in commercial and industrial electrical upgrades. Suncoast Energy brings a unique set of skills to the electrical industry with projects ranging from EV charger installation to warehouse lighting upgrades. Contact them today with any questions. COVID-19 update: They are open and practicing safe CDC measures.



JOIN ME IN BECOMING A CHAMBER MEMBER



Shannon Gimbel-Hammer, Shannon G's Flowers & Clothing Boutique

TESTIMONIAL

When I opened Shannon G's Flowers over 17 years ago, I joined the Chamber right away. I knew it was one of the first things I needed to do to have a successful business. The Chamber has proved to be an amazing community of like-minded WHITE EMERSON MORTUARY





business people, supporters,

friends and customers. The staff goes above and beyond to help not only their members, but the business community in general. I'm so grateful for the connections I have made through the Chamber and I am thankful for their continuous support. The importance of the Chamber to our community is immeasurable and the resources and credible information we receive is very valuable. It is so important to join other businesses in supporting the Chamber's efforts to build a strong local economy and strengthen our community. Thank you Whittier Chamber of Commerce!!

- FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR OVER 125 YEARS
- CREMATORY ON SITE FOR PEACE OF MIND
- PRIVATE CHAPEL AND RECEPTION SUITE
- PREPLANNING Available
- LOCATED IN BEAUTIFUL UPTOWN WHITTIER



WWW.WHITEEMERSON.COM 562.698.0304 Se Habla Español 13304 E. Philadelphia St. / Whittier CA 90601 / FD217





Big 5 • Blaze Fast Fire'd Pizza • Burlington • Chili's • China Wok • Dollar Tree Don Roberto's Jewelers • Famous Footwear • Fantastic Sam's • Fashion Q • Five Below GameStop • GNC • H&R Block • Hawaiian Island BBQ • Hear USA • Maki Yaki Japanese Grill Marshalls • Michaels • Natalie's Nails & Spa • Petco • Rite Aid • Ross Dress for Less Rubi's Frosty Freeze • Sally Beauty Supply • Schoolsfirst Federal Credit Union • Staples Subway • T-Mobile • The Olive Garden • The Quad Cleaners • The UPS Store • TJ Maxx Vallarta Supermarkets • Weight Watchers • Yogurtland

NOW OPEN – La Michoacana

Whittier Boulevard & Painter Avenue • Whittier