



JAN/FEB 2021

A BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VOL. 27 NO. 1

Minimum wage increases; new laws take effect in 2021

Minimum wage increases; new laws take effect in 2021

As employers continue to grapple with ever-changing COVID-19 regulations, new employment and labor laws that begin January 1, 2021 will bring additional obligations and burdens to small businesses.

The first big change is the minimum wage increase. California's minimum wage increases to \$14 per hour for employers with 26 or more employees and \$13 per hour for employers with 25 or fewer employees. Local ordinances, including for those businesses located in unincorporated Los Angeles County areas, may impose further increases to the minimum wage.

More than 20 new labor and employment bills were signed into state law in 2020. Not only were new COVID-19-related laws passed in the areas of workers' compensation, paid sick leave and workplace safety, but also beginning January 1, 2021, employers must follow stringent COVID-19 recording and reporting requirements.

Other new laws are related to leaves of absence; worker classification; harassment discrimination, and retaliation protections; privacy; and wage and hour. One of the most substantial bills in this legislative session was SB 1383, which significantly expands the California Family Rights Act (CFRA) to include all employers with five or more employees-effectively eliminating the New Parent Leave Act, the obligations of which will be folded into the expanded CFRA. This expansion will have a major impact on small businesses. See detailed information on this new law below.

Here is a brief summary of some of the other new laws taking effect in early 2021: AB 685 – COVID-19 Notification

Allows the state to track COVID-19 cases in the workplace more closely. Expands Cal/OSHA's authority to issue Stop Work Orders for workplaces that pose a risk of an "imminent hazard" relating to COVID-19. Requires notice in the event of a COVID-19 exposure in the workplace, including providing written notice to "all employees" who were at the worksite within the infectious period who may have been exposed to the virus.

AB 979 – Corporate – Diversity

Requires that a publicly traded corporation with a principal executive office in California appoint members of underrepresented communities to the Board of Directors.

AB 1281 – Privacy

Grants another one-year extension (until January 1, 2022) of the exclusion of certain Human Resources data from coverage under the California Consumer Privacy Act.

AB 1512 - Security Guards - Rest Break

Allows employers to require that security guards covered by collective bargaining agreements, and paid at least one dollar more than minimum wage, remain on premises and on call during rest breaks.

AB 1947 - Statute of Limitations Wage/Hour Discharge for **Discrimination Complaints**

Lengthens from six months to one year the statute of limitations for bringing a claim of discriminatory discharge in violation of any law under the jurisdiction of the Labor Commissioner; authorizes attorney's fees for successful plaintiffs.

AB 1963 - Human Resources -Mandated Child Abuse Reporting

Human Designates Resources professionals who work for businesses that employ minors, and employ five or more employees, as mandated child abuse reporters. Such persons must be given mandated reporting training, and a written statement describing their obligations.

AB 2017 - Protected Time Off - Kin Care

Provides that the designation of sick leave taken for kin care shall be made at the sole discretion of the employee.

AB 2143 - Discrimination and Harassment

Clarifies when a no-rehire provision

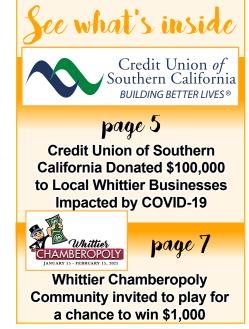
in a settlement agreement regarding harassment, sexual assault, or criminal conduct is permitted; requires certain employer documentation.

AB 2399 - Family Temporary Disability Insurance

Expands Family Temporary Disability Insurance (FTDI) program to include absences due to military service of family member.

AB 2992 - Protected Time Off - Crime

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WHITTIER AREA HAMBER OF COMMERCE

In an effort to support small businesses that have suffered in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the Whittier

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Chamber, City Partner to Support Whittier Restaurants and Small Businesses City Council approved an additional \$200,000 allocation to its Whittier Relief Fund at a special meeting in December, bringing the total grant funding to half a million dollars. Through a partnership with the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce's Business & Economic Recovery Taskforce, the new grant opened the day before Christmas and will continue until funds are depleted.

In early December, the City Council set aside \$300,000 in surplus General Fund dollars to support local restaurants that were recently banned from offering sit-down dining service as a result of the California and Los Angeles County health orders. After much consideration, the City opted to expand its existing small business grant program to those impacted by COVID-19 and offer a total of \$500,000 to personal care establishments and independently owned and operated small businesses that generate sales tax revenue in the City of Whittier "The Whittier Relief Fund will provide a modest leg up to many small business and restaurant owners who are trying to make ends meet during what should be a joyous holiday season," said

Mayor Joe Vinatieri in December. "From streamlining outdoor dining permits over the last six months to providing \$130,000 in PPE grants throughout the summer, the Whittier City Council has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to our business community during this very challenging year. I am proud of our response and commend my colleagues and City staff who have worked tirelessly to identify meaningful ways to assist our friends and neighbors in need."

As a result of California's Regional Stay At Home Order, outdoor dining operations were closed, leaving restaurants with take-out, curbside pickup and delivery service options only. In addition, occupancy was limited at many essential and non-essential businesses including grocery stores, personal care establishments, and retail shops. The goal of the City's program is to provide subsidies to restaurants and smaller, non-chain businesses with less access to corporate capital or other funding that also generate sales tax revenue for the City.

residents, the sales tax they generate, and the services that they provide which are critical to the public," explained Bryan Tabizon from Rose Hills Memorial Park and Chair of the Whittier Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. "We are pleased with the City Council's business-friendly action and support of Whittier businesses."

The Whittier Relief Fund will offer grants in various amounts ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 to eligible businesses based on criteria including having a valid City business license, maintaining a bricks and mortar location in the City, and gross taxable sales, with a larger percentage of funds available to businesses that continue to reinvest in the community and support City services through their annual sales tax generation. Funds can be used for general operations and overhead such as payroll expenses, supplier payments, rent or mortgage, or PPE and/or sanitation supplies for the workplace.



"City of Whittier small businesses and organizations are vital to our community because of the jobs they provide to our

"Small businesses are the backbone of our community and it's our privilege to come to their aid during these unforeseen circumstances," said Whittier Chamber

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JAN/FEB 2021



2020-2021 Board of Directors

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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

The best is yet to come

Happy 2021 - finally!

It is safe to say that we could have neither predicted nor prepared for what 2020 had in store for us as business owners and decision makers. There was no playbook to follow. No benchmark data to draw upon. No lessons learned from companies that had dealt with these situations before. Truly, the word most often used to describe 2020 was "unprecedented."

As we celebrate a new year, the words that now come to mind are "resiliency" and "innovation." As we've seen throughout history, times of great adversity are often followed by adaptability and creativity. We witnessed this in 2020 as many businesses had to demonstrate agility to survive. Restaurants acclimated to offering only takeout and delivery. Schools learned to provide instruction online. Companies that could, adapted quickly to a remote workforce business model.

Given the promise of positive outcomes from the COVID-19 vaccine, there is hope that the virus will get under control. As we have done throughout this past year, the Whittier Chamber will continue to proactively advocate with our local, county, state and federal elected officials to fully reopen Southern California's businesses in a safe way. We will continue to be creative with the ways we connect, inform and promote our businesses and nonprofits. We will rally our community to shop local and remind them to put their money where their heart is and support the small businesses that need us now. We will continue to research and develop new grant opportunities to help our businesses move from "survive to thrive."



And, we will continue to promote that healthy businesses equal a healthy community.

The Whittier Chamber is prepared to navigate a new road map and continue to serve our business community with leadership and strength. We are confident that our "Whittier Strong" mentality will see us through and that the best is yet to come. Our successful future depends on the partnership with you and we look forward to working together on a smart restart for Whittier.

2021 will be a year of rebuilding, a year of community resilience and, most of all, a year of hope. 2021 will provide you with 12 new chapters and 365 new chances to make it what you want.

Wishing you and your family a healthy, safe and prosperous new year.

Picasso Medical Aesthetics & Spa

(562) 945-1830

Rob Marin Realty

(562) 688-1873

Warner, David A., D.D.S., Inc.

Periodontics & Dental Implants

(562) 945-7621

Whittwood Town Center

(Kimco Realty Corporation)

(949) 252-3873

RENEWING MEMBERS

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

Ardent Tax & Accounting Solutions (562) 209-6218

East Whittier Lions Club #2502 (562) 945-6034

Ezaki, Ramsey A., D.D.S. (562) 947-9958

Healthfirst Medical Group (562) 949-9328

Home Instead Senior Care (562) 698-8600

Law Offices of Steven Ibarra (562) 452-9937

> **Auntie's Restaurant** (562) 464-1959

Calvary Baptist Church (562) 698-8058

Community Escrow Services, Inc. (562) 698-2220

E Forty Two Solutions, Inc. (323) 825-3871

Friends of the Whittier Hills Association (626) 622-6541

NOVEMBER

Living Right Now Reverse **Mortgage Solutions** (562) 743-0869

> **Michaels Furniture** (562) 696-2999

Molina's Automotive

Ooma Inc. (747) 221-1339

(562) 698-0943

DECEMBER

James Hardware Company (562) 691-1711

MAP Property Services, Inc. (562) 945-3404

(562) 698-7323

Roberts Real Estate & Property Management (562) 903-1139

> Servpro of Whittier (562) 698-5368

Shelter's Right Hand (562) 373-5541

Suburban Water Systems (626) 543-2531

> **Visiting Angels** (562) 947-5390

Wilkinson Barneson Insurance Agency (562) 789-5704

Zen's Tea House (888) 866-4299



If you have a Facebook account and directly on your phone, scan this code!

(562) 698-8713

Parminter, Robert, D.D.S.

Pina Reading Academy

Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce 8158 Painter Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602 (562) 698-9554 • (562) 693-2700 FAX www.whittierchamber.com · info@whittierchamber.com F 🜀 😏 You 🔤 @WhittierChamber





SUBSCRIBE FOR UPDATES

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.

JANUARY

25 Years: Skills Organization (562) 325-5620 **5 Years:** Xtreme Tint (562) 789-0600

Angel & Patty, Inc. (562) 696-6515

FEBRUARY 15 years: RMH Entertainment I (562) 693-9911 Pe

10 Years: My Attorney LA

(562) 693-5027

5 Years: Farmers Insurance -Peter Rodriguez Agency (714) 396-5120

First United Methodist Church (562) 698-0022

Financial Partners Credit Union (562) 904-4590

Minimum wage increases; new laws take effect in 2021 -Continued from front page

Victims

Expands leave for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking to include leave for the victim of any crime that caused physical injury or mental injury with a threat of physical injury.

AB 3372 – Employment Taxes

Permits any notice or document required to terminate, modify, or release an earnings withholding order for taxes to be served by electronic transmission.

SB 1383 – CFRA Expansion (see detailed information below)

In addition to SB 1383, there are 2 laws already in place that employers should be clear on.

SB 1159: Workers' Compensation COVID-19 Presumptions

(took effect on September 17, 2020) The new law codifies an earlier executive order signed by Governor Gavin Newsom that provided a rebuttable presumption that an employee's illness related to COVID-19 is an occupational injury and therefore eligible for workers' compensation benefits if specified criteria are met. The executive order applied to cases that occurred between March 19–July 5, 2020. SB 1159 also creates a rebuttable presumption for health care workers and first responders who contract COVID-19 after July 6, 2020.

The law also creates another presumption having to do with an "outbreak," and the application of the presumption will depend on employer size. If an employer has 100 or fewer employees, an "outbreak" occurs when 4 employees test positive within a two-week period. If an employer has more than 100 employees, an outbreak occurs when 4% of workers test positive.

The last major aspect of SB 1159 is that it imposes reporting requirements. If an employer is informed that an employee has tested positive, the employer must notify its workers' compensation carrier within three business days of obtaining the information. The employer must not reveal identifying information, but must disclose the date of the positive test, address of the worksite, and the highest number of employees that were at that worksite for the previous 45-day period.

An FAQ that provides guidance on how to apply this new law is available on the California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) website (www.dir.ca.gov)

AB 1867: Supplemental Paid Sick Leave (went into effect on September 9, 2020)

AB 1867 provides supplemental paid sick leave benefits to workers who are not eligible for benefits under the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). While the FFCRA does not apply to employers with 500 or more employees, these large employers will now have to provide benefits under AB 1867. Moreover, the new law applies to health care providers and employers of first responders.

SB 1383: California Family Rights Act Expansion (takes effect on January 1, 2021)

Out of all the laws passed in 2020, SB 1383 will have the greatest impact for small businesses.

The law is a multi-faceted approach to revamping the California Family Rights Act (CFRA), which is California's version of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). These two laws formerly ran together and had subtle differences



For many people, the New Year represents a clean slate that provides an opportunity to change unhealthy behaviors and take steps that lead to a more fulfilling life. While most will use this time to create resolutions to achieve goals like losing weight, gaining financial independence, or finding true love, many do not realize that mental health is a key factor in reaching any goal in a satisfying manner and with lasting success. Therefore, when deciding on a New Year's resolution, keeping mental health in mind is wise. Below you will find five actions that can help improve your mental health.

Know your self-worth

Self-worth is the value you place on yourself. In order to realize your self-worth, it is essential to learn to acknowledge your strengths, recognize your accomplishments, work on the areas that require improvement, and use daily positive affirmations.

Surround yourself with positive people

Surround yourself with people who act as positive influences. These people can help you find the best

If you feel overwhelmed and would like to connect with a mental health professional, you can schedule an appointment with a counselor at the Whittier Counseling Center by calling (562) 907-7466 or visiting whittiercounselingcenter. org. For immediate emotional support 24/7, you can also contact the Los Angeles County Access Center helpline at (800) 854-7771, where a professional mental health specialist can assist you.

between them. Starting in the new year, however, the differences between the two laws are huge.

The biggest change SB 1383 makes to the CFRA is that the CFRA will now apply to employers with just five or more employees. Moreover, the New Parent Leave Act, which dealt with baby bonding time for employers of 20 or more employees, is gone and all baby bonding leave will be covered by the CFRA.

SB 1383 also greatly expands the list of family members for whom an employee could take leave to provide care for. A family member was traditionally defined as a spouse, child or registered domestic partner, but SB 1383 expands the definition to include grandchildren, grandparents, siblings and parents-in-law.

Employers may now encounter a scenario where an employee can take leave to care for a grandparent under CFRA and not concurrently take FMLA leave because caring for a grandparent is not eligible under the FMLA.

Lastly, SB 1383 does away with geographic eligibility requirements and the 50 employee threshold so even if an employer employs only 10 workers in California, all 10 workers will now be covered under CFRA.

5 Simple New Year's Mental Health Resolutions

parts of yourself. They can inspire you to be and do better, and they can be a great support system, especially during trying times.

Stay active

Ongoing physical activity is beneficial for both your body and mind, while a sedentary lifestyle does the opposite. Studies have shown that not only does regular physical activity help to keep people fit and healthy, but it also helps to fight depression and anxiety.

Manage stress

Coping with stress in a wholesome manner is crucial to maintaining a healthy mind. Rewarding ways to manage your stress can include making time to unwind through pleasurable activities such as hobbies, connecting with loved ones, or engaging in spiritual practices (e.g., meditation, prayer, or even altruistic activities like community service).

Know when to ask for help

Many people find it difficult to ask others for help. Nonetheless, even the best of us need assistance or advice at some point.

Whittier Restaurants and Small Businesses Support-<u>Continued from front page</u>

President & CEO, Carol Crosby. "Ensuring their continued success benefits us all and we are hopeful that our collective recovery efforts help sustain them through this pandemic."

Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications will be reviewed weekly by a Grant Review Committee consisting of representatives from the City, the Chamber, the Whittier Uptown Association and the Chamber's Business & Economic Recovery Taskforce. Applicants will receive notification of their award status shortly after the review. "The goal is to get money quickly into the hands of those businesses that need it most right now," explained Crosby. Grants applications can be accessed at https:// bit.ly/Whittier-Relief-Fund.

Inquiries regarding the Whittier Relief Fund should be directed to Katie Galvin-Surbatovic, City of Whittier Business Development Manager, at kgalvin-surbatovic@cityofwhittier.org or by calling (562) 567-9351 or to the Whittier Chamber of Commerce at info@whittierchamber.com.





562.945.3404 mapmanagement.com



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



City's budget planning process and

Happy New Year, Whittier. I hope you were able to enjoy the time spent staying safer at home this holiday season and looking back on what you were able to accomplish last year. Although 2020 was challenging, I hope that you've had a chance to reflect on not only the adversity we've all overcome, but the joyful moments we found in our day to day lives during this global pandemic. So many of you were of service to your friends and neighbors, lending a hand to those in need, and getting creative in your homes and businesses, and its my hope that you carry that same spirit with you as we continue to navigate COVID-19 and set our sights on what's to come in 2021.

COVID has forced all of us to do things differently, and while many business owners have experienced hardship, some of these setbacks may have also pushed some to try new things and look for new opportunities to maintain and grow their business. It's time again to dust off your business plan, identify financial projections, and outline your marketing activities. The City is here to support you, whether it's helping you with an existing business or helping you start a new one.

Prior to the holiday break, the City Council allocated \$500K to the Whittier Relief Fund for small business grants

to help those in need with covering payroll, rent, and other overhead expenses. Not knowing what would happen at the federal level and the timing, the Council wanted to help with an immediate cash infusion to our small businesses, and I hope that you took advantage of these emergency monies. This was one part of the City's COVID-19 Recovery Plan, in addition to creating the Greenleaf Promenade and a COVID-19 Rebate Program, and we will continue to look for ways to further support our business community as we get back to business in 2021. Whether you're looking for a new office or retail space, or making necessary improvements to your existing location, staff is here to streamline your permit process and offer ombudsman services at no cost to you. Call the Business Development Manager at (562) 567-9351 to schedule an appointment if you are looking for resources or to relocate in the New Year. A thriving City is only as strong as its business community and I'm confident that the year ahead is a promising one!

Speakingofeconomicdevelopment, a variety of projects are in the pipeline or nearing completion. Our shopping centers are looking to enhance the shopping experience with experiential uses as the retail landscape continues

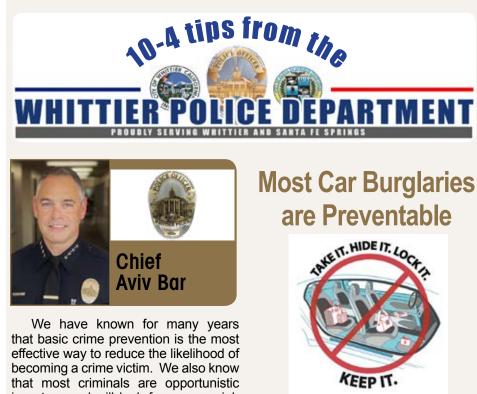
to evolve, and City staff is meeting with representatives to ensure that this process is community-focused. The Groves development will soon feature over 700 homes and approximately 150,000 square feet of retail including In-N-Out Burger, Raising Cane's, Stater Bros, and Panera Bread, as well as family-friendly activity areas and open space to enjoy. This has been a long time in the works and I know many of us are thrilled to see this up-and-coming micro-community breathing new life into what has been a blighted, underutilized site for so long. Staff will also begin marketing the former Alpha Beta site and looking to attract great uses for what is soon to be another new development in the Uptown area, as well as revisiting the Streetscape & Beautification plans for our beloved, historic main street, Greenleaf Avenue. Additionally, a new state-of-the-art parking pavilion is set to open within weeks on Comstock Avenue, further solidifying Uptown Whittier as a destination location. Thanks to the City's partnership with the Whittier Uptown Association and Uptown Whittier Improvement Association, Uptown will continue to provide a fun, family-friendly experience for residents and visitors alike for years to come.

February marks the start of the



critical funding for three small business grant programs to name a few. The year ahead will be a very productive one and we're hitting the ground running. Whittier's on the Move! As we close the door on the last year and look to the future, I extend

my gratitude and thanks to all of you who continue to show up for your families, your businesses, and each other. Together, we'll continue to make Whittier a great place to LIVE, WORK and SHOP. Happy New Year to you and your family!





Workplace Diversity & Inclusion Training offered to Whittier area businesses

What does diversity in the workforce diversity as it currently stands in the really look like, and how can it benefit workplace, and effective strategies to your company? Many companies grow your company through an inclusive

in nature and will look for an easy job with the least amount of resistance to complete their crime.

Officers conduct interviews with car burglary suspects after their arrests. When asked how they committed their crimes, the criminals tell us they spent hours walking through parking lots and residential streets looking into vehicles for anything of value that was visible through the windows. When they saw an item, they simply smashed the window and took it. In other cases, the suspects said they parked in shopping centers and watched people place purses, backpacks, and other valuables in the trunk before heading to shop or use a fitness facility. When the owners walked away, the suspects smashed a window, opened the trunk, and removed the valuables. When the suspects examined a vehicle with nothing visible through the windows, they simply moved on to another vehicle.

This information should remind all of us that on any given day and any given time, criminals are looking for an easy target. In addition, the theft of purses and wallets from vehicles is a pre-curser to identity theft.

To reduce the chance of becoming a victim, do not leave ANYTHING visible in your parked vehicle. This includes when parked in your driveway. Even cheap sunglasses or a phone charger could entice a criminal to break the window and take them.

continue to fail at creating a diverse company culture simply because they are missing the one factor that must go hand-in-hand with diversity: inclusion. Leaders understand that a diverse workforce of women, ethnicities, and LGBT individuals creates a competitive edge as their clientele is typically just as diverse. However, a gap still continues to persist between what looks good on paper and the inclusion that is (or is not) taking place. Advocate Vernā Myers says, "Diversity is being invited to the party. Inclusion is being asked to dance." In addition, a recent article from the Harvard Business Review states that "without inclusion. the crucial connections that attract diverse talent, encourage their participation, foster innovation, and lead to business growth won't happen."

In this training, we discuss best practices for developing inclusion, the differences between inclusion and mindset and multi-faceted approach.

Topics covered:

- How to increase company growth integrating diversity through and inclusion among your team members.
- Learn step-by-step practices to promote inclusion and how they can be utilized within your company specifically.
- Understand what diversity truly looks like and how to leverage your diverse team to propel your company forward both financially and socially.

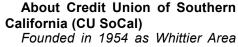
This webinar is perfect for C-Suite Executives, HR Team Members, and Administrative Staff. Going All In: Creating a Diverse & Inclusive Workspace will be a webinar taking place on Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 9 a.m. via Zoom. Attendance fee is \$50 for members and \$65 for non-members. Register at bit.ly/WC-DEI0121.



Credit Union of Southern California Donated \$100,000 to Local Whittier **Businesses Impacted by COVID-19**

Anaheim Hills, CA-based Credit Union of Southern California (CU SoCal) donated \$100,000 to more than 50 Whittier area businesses and their employees as part of their Merry Givemas event, Friday, December 18, 2020.

"We're honored to help those businesses and their employees in our community negatively impacted during these challenging times," said CU SoCal President and CEO Dave Gunderson. "Credit unions were founded during the Great Depression as financial cooperatives specifically to help one another. And, in good times and bad, that purpose has not waivered. We continue to be committed to our people-helpingpeople philosophy." Gunderson added, "It feels good to do good."



Schools Federal Credit Union, CU SoCal has a five-star financial rating from BauerFinancial, a nationally recognized independent bank research firm, and in 2020 was placed in the top 2% of all U.S. credit unions by DepositAccounts.com. Today, CU SoCal has more than \$2 billion in assets and is dedicated to "Build Better Lives Through Exceptional Member Experiences, Every Time," for its more than 121,000 Member-owners. Membership is open to those who live, work, worship, or attend school in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, or San Bernardino counties. For more information, visit CUSoCal.org.



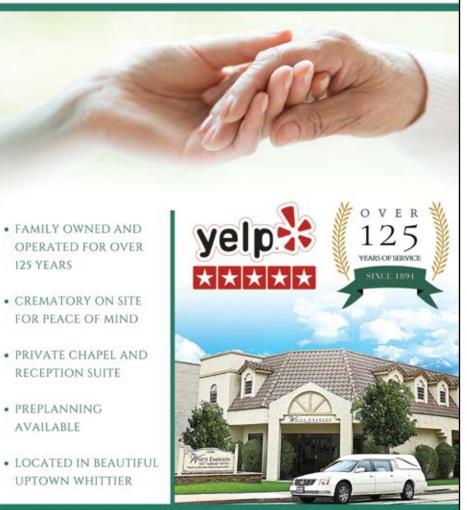


MEMBERS:

\$50 **NON-MEMBERS:**

\$65

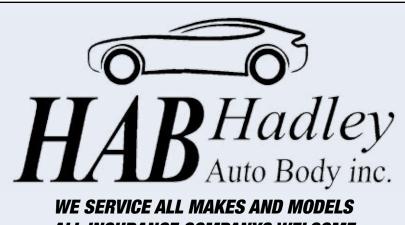
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 Understand what diversity truly looks like and how to leverage your diverse team to propel your company forward both financially and socially.

WHO IS THIS FOR?

- C-Suite Executives
- HR Team Members
- Administrative Staff

Thursday, January 28 at 9 a.m.

REGISTER AT bit.ly/WC-DEI0121

Office: (562) 692-9145 Fax: (562) 692-9148

Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-6:00pm & Sat. 9:00am-1:00pm mark@hadlevtow.net



11819 E. Hadley St., Whittier, CA 90601 Bus: (562) 692-3793 • Fax: (562) 692-1919

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JOIN ME IN BECOMING A CHAMBER MEMBER TESTIMONIAL

This is my first year as a Whittier Chamber Member! Choosing to do business in Whittier has made life as a resident in this City, purposeful and enriching. I have been in business here in Whittier for 2 years now. The Chamber has been such a wonderful network and resource, especially through this Pandemic, keeping members connected, acknowledged and well informed on local happenings

class products and services for businesses to accept all forms of payment. Whether in-store or online, a small boutique or international corporation, their solutions will drive revenue, decrease cost, and improve data security for your business. They pride themselves in building strong, long lasting relationships with their clients. At MBP, they make it personal.



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MEMBER NEWS



Virtual Whittier Chamberopoly offers exciting way to connect to local businesses

Community invited to play for a chance to win \$1,000

Taking the place of the Chamber's 5. BONUS! Chamberopoly players who popular Business Expo this year is a new and exciting way to get connected to the businesses and organizations that are in your own backyard. Introducing Whittier Chamberopoly - a unique and interactive virtual game that provides fun for businesses and families with an added bonus of a chance to win \$1,000 for every completed game that is entered into the drawing.

The Whittier Chamberopoly game will be available to be played January 15 - February 15.

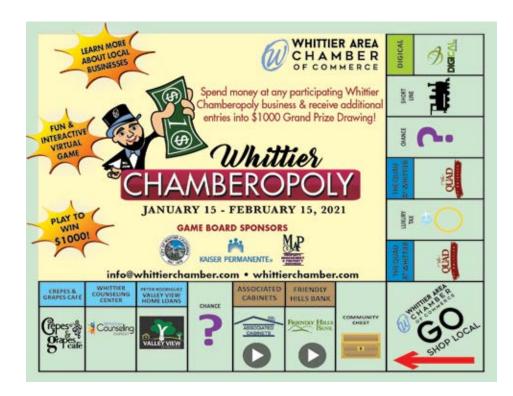
- Here's how you play:
- 1. Beginning January 15, download the game and play sheet from the Chamber's website at www.whittierchamber.com
- 2. Start at GO and visit each square.
- 3. Follow the instructions on the play sheet and find the clues on either the business's website or video. Some squares will be "free" spaces.
- 4. Once you have completed the game and filled in the play sheet, turn them in to info@whittierchamber.com to be entered into a chance to win \$1,000 cash.

complete the board may purchase an item from any Chamberopoly participant to receive additional entries into the \$1,000 cash drawing.

The purpose of this game is to remind players of the wonderful businesses and organizations in the Whittier area and to encourage them to choose locally when looking for products and services.

"Like everything else we have done this year, the Chamber has had to create new and exciting ways to keep our businesses connected and our community engaged," explained Carol Crosby, President & CEO. "We wanted to keep the same goal as our Business Expo to highlight local businesses, but in a virtual format," explained Special Events Vice Chair Shannon Gimbel-Hammer from Shannon G's Flowers. "We had a wonderful, creative committee who came up with this virtual Chamberopoly game and I'd like to thank Trese Childs, Bonnie Watje, Judy Bradt and Elizabeth Martinez for their creativity and dedication to this new program," Gimbel-Hammer continued.

For more information on Whittier Chamberopoly, visit www.whittierchamber.com or email info@whittierchamber.com.





Francis of Assisi said, "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible." In 2020 the YMCA of Greater Whittier, like so many organizations, has been challenged by the pandemic. In March of 2020, they scaled back operations doing only what was necessary and

JEWS

now, they have exciting news that just months ago felt like an impossibility. The Y is excited to announce that their childcare services have expanded to La Mirada at the former Rancho Elementary School campus, 14540 San Cristobal Drive, La Mirada. For more information, visit ymcawhittier. org/expanding-to-serve/.



Río Hondo College Trustees Swear in Two Members, Reorganize

Re-elected Río Hondo College Trustee Vicky Santana and newly elected Trustee Kristal Orozco took the Oath of Office on Dec. 16 during a Zoom meeting in which the Board of Trustees also selected new officers for the coming vear. Santana was sworn in by U.S.

Krystal Orozco

Rep. Linda Sanchez and Orozco was sworn in by newly elected California State Assemblymember Lisa Calderon. Shortly after, during a Special Board Meeting, Trustee Rosaelva Lomeli was selected as the new board president, Santana as vice president and Orozco as clerk. Read more at whittierchamber.com.





Credit Union *of* Southern California **BUILDING BETTER LIVES®**

Credit Union of Southern California Debuts New East Whittier Branch

TOYOTA OF WHITTIER

BUY LOCAL

Credit Union of Southern California (CU SoCal) opened its third fullservice branch in Whittier on Monday, December 14, 2020. The credit union held a socially distanced ribboncutting ceremony on December 15 for the branch located in East Whittier at the northwest corner of Whittier Boulevard and La Serna CU SoCal President/CEO, Drive.

Dave Gunderson was on-hand for the ceremony and expressed his excitement to serve the residents and businesses of East Whittier with this new, state-of-the-art location. "We're thrilled to be a part of the Whittier community since 1954 and to now have a third full-service branch in East Whittier," said Gunderson. Read more at whittierchamber.com



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