



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VOL. 25 NO. 3

Chamber supports the establishment of valet parking in Uptown

For the second time in the past six months, the Whittier City Council has discussed the possibility of establishing a valet parking service in Uptown Whittier. In September, 2018, Council indicated support in concept for a valet program and City staff was directed to gauge interest among the Chamber, the Whittier Uptown Association and the Uptown Whittier Improvement District. While it did not fit into the Chamber's mission to manage a valet service in Uptown, both of the Uptown organizations expressed interest in taking an active role in managing the program.

At a recent meeting, Council voted in favor of requesting that both the Whittier Uptown Association and the Uptown Whittier Improvement Association submit detailed proposals to City staff for evaluation and ultimate consideration by Council at a future meeting.

"The Chamber supports the concept of valet parking as a way to improve the overall Uptown experience," explained Chamber Board President Gary Lee Martinez. "The addition of a valet service could drive an increase in traffic and revenue to Uptown businesses, making it easier for residents and visitors to enjoy Uptown as a shopping, dining and entertainment destination," added Carol Crosby, Chamber Executive Director.



Valet parking is a component of the Uptown Whittier Specific Plan that was developed and approved in 2008 to assist in revitalizing and densifying the 185-acre Uptown area. The Specific Plan includes the following eight principals for design and future development: 1) Pedestrian orientation; 2) Mix of land uses; 3) Infill development; 4) Interconnected street system; 5) Quality of the public realm; 6) Distinct character; 7) Housing choice; and 8) Smart transportation and parking. It is also part of an ordinance

adopted in 2011 which resulted from the Uptown Whittier Parking Management Plan recommending valet parking as a way to maximize parking efficiency and customer service.

"We are excited at the possibility of bringing valet parking to our Uptown District," stated Frank Medina, President of the Whittier Uptown Association. "It would be forward progress for the vision of what Uptown Whittier can and will be," he continued. According to the Uptown Association, a few benefits that valet parking would bring to Uptown within the next six months.

include 1) a positive atmosphere, 2) total convenience for families and guests who will enjoy dining at any one of Uptown's many restaurants & bars, 3) security and safety for families and guests 4) less stress knowing that finding parking will not be an issue.

Once parameters are given and proposals are submitted by the Uptown Association and the Uptown Whittier Improvement Association, City staff will review them and bring a recommendation forth to City Council



PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** WHITTIER, CA PERMIT # 355 ACRO

Businesses, volunteers to be celebrated at **Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner**

It's "fiesta time" at the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce. As another great year of supporting the business community comes to a close, we look back on all of the exciting things that happened in the Chamber and around the City over the past 12 months. Please join us on Thursday, April 4, at the 105th Installation Dinner and Annual Meeting being presented by U.S. Bank. At this lively event, we will celebrate our successes and the volunteers and businesses who made such a great year possible. This year's event is taking place at the DoubleTree by Hilton -Whittier with the evening's festivities kicking off with a poolside networking hour (weather permitting) beginning at 5:00 p.m. followed by a Mexican buffet and dinner program starting at 6:00 p.m. Tickets to this special event are \$50 per person and include great networking, delicious food, entertainment and a few 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 five retiring board members, installation of the new Executive Committee and five new Board of Directors, a State of the Chamber recap of the 2018-19 year under the leadership of Chamber Board President Gary Lee Martinez of The Traveling Traveler, and a first look at incoming Chair of the Board Elizabeth Martinez of Republic Services 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 Elizabeth Martinez. "I hope to build on Gary's successes 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.



Gary Lee Martinez will pass the gavel on to Elizabeth Martinez at the Chamber's 105th Annual Meeting and Installation on April 4

Sponsors for this event to date include Presenting Sponsor U.S. Bank and Community Partners Republic Services, Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary, PIH Health, Athens Services and DoubleTree by Hilton Whittier Los Angeles. Additional sponsorship opportunities that include marketing benefits are still available. Please call the Chamber office for details. To reserve a table or individual seat at the event, please visit www.whittierchamber.com or call (562) 698-9554.





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Whittier Chamber Business Focus Official monthly publication of the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce This publication is mailed monthly to all licensed businesses in the city of Whittier, all Whittier Chamber members and 4,500 Whittier residents in selected areas. Papers are also distributed via various community locations such as Whittier Library, Community Center, Senior Center, City Hall, etc. Total monthly readership is 20,000. We welcome comments, press releases and community interest stories. All submissions are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication. The Whittier Chamber reserves the right to approve and edit submitted material. The Business Focus is also an excellent vehicle within which to advertise! For current advertising rates or to submit an article, email info@whittierchamber.com or call (562) 698-9554. 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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been an absolute pleasure and Community" Resource Magazine were honor to represent the Whittier Chamber of Commerce as President of the Board. I was asked last year at my installation what my plans were and what I was going to incorporate in my presidential year. I did give that a lot of thought and my main objective was to leave the Whittier Chamber of Commerce in a better place. Hopefully, I was able to put the Whittier Chamber in a position to be more relevant to our 600+ members, build a solid & united Board of Directors that always looks out for our members' best interests, and strengthen our communication, making the Chamber more visible and accessible.

As I reflect on this past year, I am proud of the things we accomplished. It was an exciting year as we worked to be a catalyst for business growth, a convener of leaders and influencers to get things done and a champion for our community.

This year we introduced valuable new ways to promote our members, added informative seminars and workshops that helped make businesses run smoother and stay in compliance with the law, and we stayed on top of what our community needs to thrive.

This year we also introduced ExploreWhittier.com a website geared toward residents and visitors which highlights places to Eat, Shop, Stay and Play in Whittier. We also gave our WhittierChamber.com website a clean, modern update and we have unveiled a new Chamber app. Two more editions of our "Whittier...Connecting the



While most of us think of casualties as causing losses (which is more typically the case), in some situations gains may result from insurance payments in excess of the taxpayer's basis in the damaged property.

Example. A home is destroyed by fire. The owner (taxpayer) had purchased the home years ago for just \$100,000 and this amount remained the owner's tax basis (i.e., the owner made no capital improvements to the home). The home's value had risen to \$300,000 and the owner had it adequately insured. After the fire, the owner's insurance company paid the owner \$260,000. For tax purposes,

filled with reasons why we love Whittier and featured many of our long-standing businesses in our city. Finally, we have increased our social media presence and our efforts to echo what our members are doing. All of these are examples of how the Whittier Chamber is leading the way to educate, advocate, and connect our members and the community.

This year we have maintained our membership numbers and continue to see growth in all of our events. We take great pride in standing as partners with our city to create a strong business climate and we are pleased that our efforts have contributed to the City of Whittier winning the EDDY Award for the Most Business Friendly City in L.A. County for the second time.

At the end of our fiscal year, the Whittier Chamber is standing strong and we couldn't have succeeded without you, our members. I speak on behalf of the Board and our staff when we say "THANK YOU" for continuing to be a part of a Chamber that believes in its city, its community and its businesses.

During my tenure, I was blessed to have members of my Board of Directors who care so much for the Whittier community that they gave an amazing amount of time, talent and treasure while each member still managed to run successful businesses. Thank you to all the 2018-2019 Board members. A special thank you to our retiring Board members Chris Hardeman, Bonnie Watje, La Donna Munier, Tom Rios and



Krista Lesa. These dedicated individuals have spent many years helping to shape our Chamber. We are grateful for their contributions and I am thankful for their mentorship.

I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Chamber staff including Jessica Reyes, Courtney Gray and Celina Zambrano. I especially want to thank our Executive Director Carol Crosby and Associate Executive Director Lyn Carty for always being so helpful and making me look good throughout the year! This amazing staff is the hardest working team around and we appreciate what they do for our Chamber.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued investment in our Chamber and in your business. I look forward to "passing the gavel" to incoming Chair of the Board, Elizabeth Martinez from Republic Services, and seeing you all at the Chamber's upcoming Annual Meeting & Installation on April 4th at the DoubleTree by Hilton Whittier.

I believe the Whittier Chamber of Commerce is a vehicle with the opportunity to make your business and Chamber membership as successful as you make it! Do something different, make yourself and your business memorable and good things will happen! Thank you again for entrusting me to be your representative this past term.

TAX TIPS

Casualty Gains (Part 1 of 2)

the owner has a gain of \$160,000 on the replacement property within a required minus \$100,000 tax basis).

However, the gain resulting from insurance payments for casualty might not be immediately, or ever, taxed. Specifically tax on a casualty gain may be deferred under the involuntary conversion rules. Furthermore, where the property that suffered the casualty is the taxpayer's principal residence, the gain may be avoided altogether, as discussed below.

Involuntary conversions. If a taxpayer uses all of the insurance proceeds received from a casualty to purchase

casualty (\$260,000 insurance payment period (described below), the casualty gain will not be taxed. However, the basis of the replacement property is reduced by the untaxed gain. Thus, the gain is deferred but not avoided, i.e., it is "built in" to the replacement property. For example, if the taxpayer has a \$20,000 casualty gain and within the required period uses all of the insurance proceeds to buy replacement property for \$100,000, the taxpayer's basis in the replacement property is only \$80,000. The required period begins at the time of the casualty event and

Continued on page 9

Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce 8158 Painter Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602 (562) 698-9554 • (562) 693-2700 FAX www.whittierchamber.com info@whittierchamber.com

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Spring is right around the corner which means it's almost time for **SPRING CLEANING!**

From realtors to roofers, even cleaning services, the Whittier Chamber has great businesses that can help you get your home Spring ready!

AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

Aloha Air Conditioning Inc. - (562) 693-2553 X231 Comfort Time Heating and Cooling - (888) 717-0772 Energy Control HVAC - (562) 945-6966 Norwalk-La Mirada Plumbing + HVAC - (562) 868-7777 S & R Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc. - (562) 694-0110 Varitek Heating & Air Conditioning - (562) 365-3560

ARCHITECTS & ARCHITECTURAL PLANNERS

McDonnell Group - (562) 907-4426

CARPETS & FLOORING

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

CLEANING SERVICE

Southland Window Cleaning Company - (562) 547-7988 Star Kleaners - (562) 415-8676 Pro-Tech Carpet & Tile Care - (562) 447-4300

CUSTOM CABINETS

Associated Cabinets - (562) 266-1940

DRYCLEANING

Marketplace Cleaners - (562) 692-1718

DRYWALL CONTRACTOR

All Day Drywall - (562) 447-8833

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Active Electric Company, Inc. - (562) 801-5492 Harrison Electric & Solar - (562) 695-8321

ESCROW SERVICES

Arden Escrow Services, Inc. - (562) 945-9541 Community Escrow - (562) 698-2220 Focus Escrow - (562) 696-0793

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HANDY	MAN	

Leon Lesa's Cabinet Handyman Service - (562) 696-3521

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James Hardware - (562) 691-1711 Oromill Lumber - (562) 698-9453

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR/TREES California Arborist - (562) 698-3280 David Zoellner Landscape - (562) 947-6717 West Coast Arborists - (714) 991-1900

LOCKSMITH

Baker's Lock & Key - (562) 698-8051

MORTGAGE BROKERS & LENDING

Heartland Mortgage - (562) 320-0216
Lending Enterprise - (562) 639-1690
Living Right Now Reverse Mortgage Solutions - (562) 743-0869
Mountain West Financials - (626) 667-3200
Reliance Mortgage Service, Inc (562) 320-0510
Residential Bancorp – Whittier - (562) 299-9240
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage - (562) 902-5119

MOVING SERVICE

Mathis Moving - (562) 943-7885 Molina's Automotive & U-Haul - (562) 698-8713 U-Haul Of Leffingwell - (562) 943-7294

PAINT SUPPLIERS

Bob Downey & Sons' West Whittier Paint Co. - (562) 692-7214

PLUMBERS

Gabriel Plumbing - (562) 942-9999 Norwalk-La Mirada Plumbing + HVAC - (562) 868-7777 R.K. Knight Plumbing - (562) 947-5588

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1st Jon, Inc (877) 566-8646
Oceanic Arts - (562) 698-6960
Orbit Event Rentals - (562) 696-8875
PDQ Rentals - (562) 944-3206

ROOFING

Dr. Roof & Solar - (562) 777-4677

SECURITY

Aleco Security & Protective Solutions, Inc. - (562) 646-6272 Bay Alarm - (424) 249-2848 Inline Electronics - (562) 632-1157

SOLAR POWER

Dr. Roof & Solar - (562) 777-4677 Harrison Electric - (562) 695-8321 Sunrun - (310) 594-1167

REAL ESTATE

Rasmussen Gas Logs & Grills - (562) 696-8718

FURNITURE

Michael's Furniture (562) 696-2999

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

Associated Cabinets - (562) 665-2218
B2Bdesignbuild.com - (866) 659-6161
BMV Construction - (800) 595-3298
Hebert Design Werks - (562) 447-0383
MPG Construction Inc (562) 947-8961
MAP Property Services, Inc (562) 945-3404
RJP Construction - (310) 892-1719
South Coast, Inc (562) 695-9595

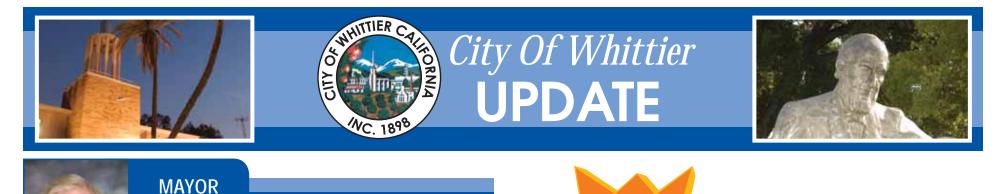
GLASS/HOME, AUTO, BUSINESS

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Angel & Patty, Inc (562) 696-6515
Angelica & Robert Gregory - Gregory Team Realtors - Keller Williams Realty - (562) 556-1519
Berkshire Hathaway Home Services - (562) 943-7266
Catalina Luxury Apartments - (562) 902-2288
Coldwell Banker Alliance Realty - (562) 945-2221
Coldwell Banker Ambassador - (562) 947-4771
Condominium Association Management – (562) 692-6722
Cuevas Team - RE eBroker Group - (323) 810-3295
Domis Team - Linda Domis - (562) 884-5373
Gateway Management Company - (562) 696-6900 x224
GM Properties - (562) 696-0200
Hart, Patrick Realtors - C.R.S (562) 943-3249
IET Real Estate - (562) 949-9111
J.R. Howard Enterprises, LTD - (626) 961-9651
KGJ Real Estate/Keller Williams - (310) 367-5927
MAP Property Management, Inc (562) 945-3404
Omnigold Realty - (562) 964-0107

Pabst, Kinney & Associates, Inc. - (562) 236-9069 Paul & Tiffany Real Estate 3rd Generation Realtors -(562) 225-5728 Petropulos, Ted Broker - (562) 947-1863 Realty Executives Cornerstone - (562) 698-0348 R'Gals Properties - (562) 692-5457 Re/Max Dynasty - (562) 698-8454 Roberts Real Estate & Property Management -(562) 903-1139 Rob Marin Realty - (562) 688-1873 San Miguel Apartments - (562) 698-1290 Sharpstone Realty, Inc. - (562) 217-7646 STC Management - (562) 695-1513 The 7 Team - (562) 777-5263 Town House of Whittier - (562) 236-9069 Whittier Brokers - (562) 693-3757 Whittier Business Center - (562) 907-4004 Whittier Square Building - (562) 945-5959 Woodruff Properties - (562) 693-0941

Joe Vinatieri



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Congratulations to the Whittier Chamber of Commerce for hosting their 21st annual Silver Shield Awards Banquet last month at Pacific Palms. Thank you to the committee for making it yet another successful event, and to the many residents and local businesses for their sponsorship and generosity. I am always taken aback by the many heroic stories of bravery highlighted, and the lengths our officers go to help and protect the people of Whittier. The City is extremely fortunate to have its own Police Department and the City Council is proud of each and every sworn and civilian member, along with our wonderful group of volunteers, who answer the call of duty day in and day out. Congratulations again to all the men and women recognized for their outstanding service and dedication to public safety. A safe community is a prosperous community!

I also want to take a moment to congratulate PIH Health on their 60th anniversary this year. The hospital has been a cornerstone of our community since its inception and we are proud and appreciative of the care the PIH Health staff provides to residents of all ages. As Whittier's largest employer, not only have they continued to expand their operations throughout our city, but through their continued expansion they've provided high quality jobs for many of our local residents. Cheers to another 60 years of enhancing lives, advancing wellness and providing good jobs within our community!

Believe it or not, 2019 is well underway and we have much to accomplish over the coming months. Our Economic Development staff has been busy meeting with developers and businesses looking to come to Whittier, while also preparing to market our growing community to a variety of national retailers at the upcoming International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) tradeshow in May. Much is happening behind the scenes and many of the vacant sites you may notice around town are on their way to becoming something new. The Uptown Whittier Streetscape Plan is also in the works with a draft plan derived from community feedback. The next step after plan approval will be the implementation of a phased approach to beautifying our Uptown district. The future of Uptown is bright!

Our Parks, Recreation & Community Services staff is hard at work and will kick off the renovation of yet another local park this month with help from our friends at KaBOOM! Community members from a variety of local organizations will come together to build a brand new playground at Broadway Park offering upgraded play equipment, a new splash pad and other amenities for families to enjoy. If you have time on the 7th, come out at 9:00 a.m. and join us for the community build day! I'm looking forward to seeing the finished product just in time for the spring.

We are also beginning preparation for the City of Whittier's participation in the 2020 Census. Not only does the U.S. Constitution require the Census every 10 years, but the exercise is very important when it comes to representation and the distribution of funds to our community. Staff will kick off outreach efforts and invite representatives from many of our local organizations to serve on a Complete Count Committee. Watch for more updates on how to get involved in the process and encourage your friends and neighbors to participate because everyone counts.

Don't miss the City of Whittier's annual Arbor Day ceremony and "green" festivities taking place at Michigan Park on Thursday, March 14, 2019. The fun starts at 10:00 a.m. and all are welcome to attend. See you there!



The Whittier Community Foundation has once again stepped up to the plate and put their efforts and resources into a project that will benefit the entire city. The Foundation recently announced that they will help fund the City's fourth KaBOOM! playground project, this time at Broadway Park, located at 12708 Broadway Avenue.

Along with the Foundation's monetary and volunteer support, Amway has been named as the main funding partner. KaBOOM! is a national non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that ALL kids get a childhood filled with the balanced and active play they need to thrive. The three previous City of Whittier park overhauls done as a KaBOOM/ Whittier Community Foundation partnership were at Kennedy Park, York Field, and Guirado Park. KaBOOM!, Amway, the Whittier Community Foundation, the Whittier Host Lions Club, City of Whittier representatives, and various community members will converge at Broadway Park on March 7th at 7:30 a.m. to build the new playground in one day. It is estimated that over 200 volunteers will be on hand to assist with the build project, which consists of assembling the playground, painting, constructing benches, making bird houses, and much more.

WHITTIER

COMMUNITY

today, Tomorrow, Togeller

Members of the community are invited to swing by (pun intended) the park and check out all the fun, work, and excitement!

For more information, contact Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department at (562) 567-9420.



COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS



Whittier Business Center celebrates their grand opening with fellow Chamber and community members!



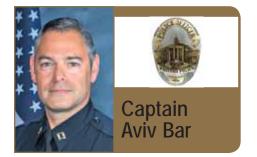
Arden Escrow Services, Inc. with Chamber members and friends, seconds after cutting the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of their new location!

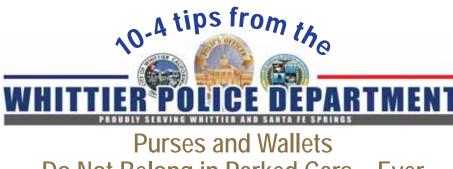


Regina Guevara from Omnigold Realty celebrated her ribbon cutting with Chamber President Gary Lee Martinez, family, friends, and the rest of the Chamber community!









Do Not Belong in Parked Cars – Ever

Parked cars with visible property left inside present a great opportunity for criminals. With an almost-silent windowsmash or lock-punch, thieves have easy access to your property. It's a crime that takes seconds to commit, but if a purse or wallet was left in the car, it could take the victim weeks, months or even years to recover from the crime.

Here are some reasons why you should NEVER leave a purse or wallet in a parked car:

- The window smash alone will cost you approximately \$300 to repair
- If your door locked is "punched" for access, it will cost you approximately \$300 to repair
- Your credit cards are likely to be maxed out before you discover the break-in
- Your debit cards are likely to be used to drain your accounts before you

discover the break-in

- Your checks will be used to fraudulently ravage your accounts
- Your ID card and other wallet/purse documents will be used to open lines of credit in your name for phones, cars, credit cards and other loans. Identity theft issues sometimes takes years to fix.
- Your identity information will be sold to many other crooks
- You will have to cancel all cards, close all bank accounts, reopen new accounts, reissue cards and checks
- You will spend hours updating direct deposit, automatic payments, credit cards on file with various websites and providers
- Having your driver's license or ID card stolen means STANDING IN LINE AT THE DMV!!! and no photo ID for a while, which definitely

complicates using checks or cards when shopping, verifying ID when flying, making transactions at the bank - just a few examples.

- You will need to replace your purse or wallet, and some designer brands cost into the thousands...
- You will have to replace all of your purse contents, including phones, keys, makeup, etc.
- Keys and your address in the hands of crooks likely means changing locks and adding security measures at home or office.

You, your family, friends and neighbors can avoid the loss and hassles - don't leave purses or wallets in parked cars - not on the floorboard, not behind the seats, not under the seats, not in the glove box, not in the center console, and not in the trunk. Take it with you always and avoid becoming a crime victim.

Tax Tips - continued from page 2

ends, generally, two tax years after the tax year in which the first payments resulting in gain are received (the twoyear period), but might end later because of a taxpayer request or in the case of certain disasters (see below). Property qualifies as replacement property if it's "similar or related in service or use" to the property that was destroyed.

Gain will be recognized to the extent the cost of the replacement property is less than the amount of the insurance proceeds. Say the taxpayer has a \$50,000 basis in an asset which is destroyed in a casualty and receives \$80,000 in insurance proceeds. The casualty gain is \$30,000. Within the required period the taxpayer buys replacement property for \$70,000: \$10,000 less than the insurance payment received from the casualty. In this case, the taxpayer will have to include \$10,000 of the \$30,000 casualty gain in gross income: the amount of the insurance payment not spent on replacement property. (Note, under the basis rule discussed above, the taxpayer's basis in the replacement property in this example would be \$50,000: the \$70,000 cost minus the \$20,000 of untaxed gain.)

If you have any questions concerning casualty gains, please do not hesitate to call me at (562) 698-9891.

Aviv Bar is a Captain with the Whittier Police Department and oversees the Patrol Division. He can be reached at (562) 567-9253 or via email at abar@cityofwhittier.org





5 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 30 years, Chris Hardman, Krista Lesa, La Donna Munier, Tom Rios and Bonnie Watje will retire at the end of the Chamber's fiscal year on March 31, 2019. "Each of these individuals displayed a great passion for serving the community and by witnessing that made it easy for me to agree to serve on the Board when I was asked several years ago," explained Chamber Board President Gary Lee Martinez. " I want to thank each of them for their mentorship, and the shining example they set for me and other members of the Board," Martinez continued. "Their enthusiasm, leadership and commitment to the business community will be greatly missed," added Chamber Executive Director Carol Crosby.



Chris Hardeman, owner of DialMED Home Care joined the Board of Directors in 2013 and served as the Chamber President in 2016-17. Chris brought with him his experience as an independent business owner which includes a strong understanding of technology, finance and employee relations. Chris has served as the Chair of our Legislative and Regional Chamber Alliance Committee and as a member of various Chamber committees.

Krista Lesa is the Property Manager for Terramar Retail Centers which manages The Quad at Whittier. Raised in Whittier, Krista has been an asset to the Board and has made promoting shopping locally a priority. Throughout her term on the Board of Directors, Krista has represented the retail sector and has been a generous community partner and sponsor of countless Chamber and community events.



WHITTIER AREA HAMBER

OF COMMERCE



La Donna Munier, VP Relationship Manager for Friendly Hills Bank, has spent the greater part of the last 2 decades serving the Whittier Chamber. LaDonna has been involved in just about every committee, but her true gift is in serving as a community liasion to our members. Her most recent role, and one she has held for several years, is VP of Membership on the Executive Committee. La Donna has been a true asset to the organization and is a past recipient of both the Whittier Chamber Ambassador of the Year and Volunteer of the Year awards.

Tom Rios, Sales Manager for Brookdale Uptown Whittier, joined the Board of Directors in 2013. Tom is the outgoing Vice President of Networking and Marketing on the Executive Committee and has previously served as the co-chair of the Hathaway Golf Classic. Tom has also graciously served as the Chamber's liaison to the Whittier Uptown Association, bridging the communication between 2 important business organizations.





Bonnie Watje, owner of ACRO Printing Inc., has been involved with Chamber leadership in some capacity for the last 25 years. Bonnie rejoined the Board as a mid-term replacement in 2017 after serving two pervious terms as Chamber President in 2000 and 2014. Bonnie has chaired just about every Chamber committee, including the inaugural Silver Shield Awards Banquet for the Whittier Police Department and in 2018, ACRO was recognized as the Business of the Year.

WAKE UP WHITTIER



Board Member La Donna Munier presents milestone certificate to Nordbak's Promotional Products at Wake Up Whittier for being a Chamber member for 20 years



Eddie Gomez with Dream Event DJs waking people up with great music at Wake Up Whittier



Chamber Executive Director, Carol Crosby, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to the YMCA of Greater Whittier's President & CEO, Curt Skotnicki, for hosting the Chamber's February Wake Up Whittier



New members Reliant Urgent Care, Thrivent Financial, at Wake Up Whittier





Table host Bluemoon Onstage showing off their Whittier Rocks t-shirts at Wake Up Whittier



The fantastic YMCA of Greater Whittier staff getting ready to host Wake Up Whittier



7931 Sorensen Ave. Whittier, CA 90606 For more info, Contact Jill Gillette at (562) 698-0451





March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

Certified Farmer's Market @ Uptown Whittier (Philadelphia St. and Bright Ave.) 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Purchase farm-fresh produce from local vendors. Free admission. For more information call (562) 696-2662

March 1 & 2

Death Trap by Ira Levin @ Whittier Center Theater (7630 Washington Ave.) 8 p.m. The twists and turns of this cautionary tale have delighted audiences since its premier in 1978. Call the box office (562) 696-0600 to purchase tickets

March 7, 8, 9 & 10

"Pippin" by Stephen Schwartz @ Ruth B. Shannon Center (6760 Painter Ave.) This updated circus-inspired version of Pippin continues to captivate and appeal to the young at heart throughout the world. Call (562) 907-4203 for more information or to purchase tickets

MARCH 12

SCORE Consultations @ The Whittier Chamber Office (8158 Painter Ave.) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. SCORE mentors will help you and your business open new markets, reach new customers, and achieve new goals. By appointment only. FREE. To make an appointment call (626) 593-1120

MARCH 14

City of Whittier Arbor Day @ Michigan Park (8228 Michigan Ave.) 10 a.m. Join the City of Whittier in celebrating Arbor Day! Free. RSVP by calling (562) 567-9400

MARCH 16

Masters of Hawaiian Music: George Kahumoku Jr, Nathan Aweau, & Kawika Kahiapo @ Ruth B. Shannon Center (6760 Painter Ave.) 2 & 7:30 p.m. Three Masters bring Hawai'i's unique folk styles, with origins in the early 19th century Hawaiian paniolo (cowboy) culture, to 21st century stages. \$50. For more information call, (562) 907-4203

Chorale Bel Canto presents J.S. Bach: Heart and Life @ East Whittier United Methodist Church (10005 S. Cole Rd.) 4 p.m. For more information visit, www. choralebelcanto.org

MARCH 20

Wake Up Whittier @ Liberty Plaza – Helpline Youth Counseling (14181 Telegraph Rd.) 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Enjoy your first meal of the day and network with other business professionals. FREE for Whittier Chamber members; \$20 for non-members. Call (562) 698-9554 or visit www.whittierchamber. com for more information.

Assistance League of Whittier "Ladies Day Out" @ Friendly Hills Country Club (8500 S. Villaverde Dr.) 11 a.m. Enjoy a 'Ladies Day Out', including lunch and fashion show by Teri Medina. \$28. For more information, contact Linda Crowley (562) 693-6533

Adult Re-Entry Success Conference @ Rio Hondo College (3600 Workman Mill Rd.) 5 p.m. Conference includes workshops on Financial Aid, Navigating My Time Through College, Stress Management and much more! Please call the Center for Career and Re-Entry Services at (562) 908-3407 for additional information and assistance with registration

MARCH 26

SCORE Consultations @ The Whittier Chamber Office (8158 Painter Ave.) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. SCORE mentors will help you and your business open new markets, reach new customers, and achieve new goals. By appointment only. FREE. To make an appointment call (626) 593-1120.

BASH @ TBD 4 to 6 p.m. Enjoy after hours business networking and great food! \$10 for preregistered Chamber members; \$15 at the door; \$20 for non-members. Call (562) 698-9554 for more information

MARCH 30

Helpline Youth Counseling (HYC) ZUMBAthon FUN-Raiser! @ Liberty Community Plaza (14181 Telegraph Rd.) 10 a.m. All proceeds will help support families that HYC serves throughout LA County and Long Beach. \$20 pre-registration; \$25 at the door. Visit hyczumbafun2019.eventbrite.com for more information



Thank you to Chick-Fil-A for hosting a great networking event!



Tasty Tuesday guests enjoy lunch and networking before hearing about some upcoming events from fellow Chamber members



Chick-fil-A staff poses for a quick photo after serving over 35 hungry Chamber guests at January's Tasty Tuesday



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Annual Meeting



Gary Lee Martinez Outgoing 2018-19 Chamber President



Martinez Incoming 2019-20 Chamber President

Thursday, April 4,

DoubleTree by Hilton Whittier Los Angeles 7320 Greenleaf Ave, Whittier, CA 90602

\$50 per person.

Reserve your seat today by registering at www.whittierchamber.com

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for an evening of fun as we celebrate our amazing members and volunteers!



WHAT'S COOL IN **YOUR SCHOOL**



Anatomage Table Installed at St. Mark's Lutheran School, **Hacienda Heights**

St. Mark's Lutheran School is the first elementary school in the nation to install on campus the Anatomage Table. Installed in the school's iLab in January 2019, the Anatomage Table is the only fully segmented real human 3D anatomy system allowing students to see dissections without a cadaver. The bodies are life size and students can see the muscles, bones, and organs beneath the skin layer.

Science teacher, Madison Shipherd, is leading the first instructional Human Anatomy class for 8th Graders. This pilot class will help St. Mark's develop a detailed anatomy curriculum for the next school year. All grade levels, from Kindergarten through the 8th Grades, will attend classes where the Anatomage Table will complement the new Amplify Science curriculum. St. Mark's future plans include a before/after school Bio-Med program where students will learn high school level anatomy and listen to

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guest speakers from the local medical community.

For more information on the new Anatomage Table, please contact St. Mark's Lutheran School at (626) 968-0428.







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We will never forget the 3 who paid the ultimate sacrifice, Detective John Pierce, Officer Keith Boyer and Detective Mike Lane

The 21st Annual Silver Shield event, hosted by the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce, featured a police vehicle expo and a SWAT display

Congresswoman Linda Sanchez and Senator Bob Archuleta join Chief Jeff Piper in congratulating Meritorious Citation awardees Officer Luis Salas and Sqt. Willie Lawson for going above and beyond the call of duty

Chamber President Gary Lee Martinez, Silver Shield Chair Laurie Perschbacher. and President-elect Elizabeth Martinez thank Senator Bob Archuleta for attending the Silver Shield Awards Banquet

Whittier City Manager Jeff Collier and Santa Fe Springs City Manager Ray Cruz, thank Captain Aviv Bar, Chief Jeff Piper and Captain Mike Davis for protecting their cities



Chamber members Rob Marin, Theresa Oliver, Judy Bradt, Claudia Guardado, Susan Ayala, Chamber Executive Director Carol Crosby and Chamber President Gary Lee Martinez get ready to start the program

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AROUND TOWN

The WAA and Whittier Art Gallery present All Things Clay & Glass

Show, from March 6-30, you will see not only the finest vases and pots, sculptures made from polymer, paper clay and even origami fashioned from clay, but also mosaics, and hand-blown art. Stock up with one of a kind, hand

Formerly called the Everything Clay crafted gifts to enjoy or to give. The show is open to all artists with a reception on Saturday, March 16, at 2 p.m. As always, there is no entrance fee, and is open to the public. For more information call the Whittier Art Association and Gallery at (562) 698-8710.

Six AALRR attorneys named 2019 Super Lawyers

Six partners at Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo (AALRR) were recognized as the top Southern California attorneys in their field by Super Lawyers, a prestigious directory indexing attorneys who exhibit excellence in law. Attorneys honored with a ranking from Super Lawyers undergo a rigorous selection process, including evaluation of peer recognition and professional achievement. Ultimately, just 5% of all lawyers in the state are selected to this



list. AALRR attorneys named to the list this year include Steve Andelson, Edward Ho, Thomas Kovacich, Nate Kowalski, Irma Rodriguez Moisa, and Mark Palin.

For more information on each of the attorney's please visit whittierchamber. com under Member News.

17th Annual 38th Congressional District High School Art Competition

Take advantage of this unique opportunity for your business to support student artists and promote the arts in the local schools. The committee of the 17th Annual High School Art Competition is asking for your generous contribution in sponsoring this program. This event relies solely on sponsors for financial support. Funds raised, and in-kind donations will be used exclusively to celebrate the talented students in the 38th Congressional District and to provide scholarships to all the winners.

If you are interested in supporting the competition, please contact Steven Nagy at (562) 860-5050 or CA38artcomp@gmail.com.

The Great Instrument Recall



The East Whittier Arts Education Foundation is asking for donations of gently worn wind & string instruments to support music instruction by their VAPA team of the East Whittier City School District. Donations can be dropped off Saturday, May 4 at the District Office drive through, 14535 Whittier Blvd. For more information visit ewaef.org.

HOT's 20th Annual Positive Image Awards

Hispanic Outreach Taskforce is hosting its 20th Annual Positive Image Awards on Sunday, April 28, 1 p.m. at Friendly Hills Country Club. They will be honoring individuals that have been a staple to the community, and who volunteer hours of their time to dedicate to non-profits such as Hispanic Outreach Taskforce and others. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit positiveimageawards.brownpapertickets.com.



Complimentary Financial Fitness Program for your Employees

As a new year begins, many people will make resolutions to improve their lives. The most common resolutions are to become physically healthier and save more money. At American First Credit Union they are here to help your employees do both...by becoming financially fit in 2019!

American First Credit Union is offering a complimentary Financial Fitness Program for your employees' benefits package. They provide a financial fitness checklist and solutions to help your employees set and achieve their financial goals. They are also offering FREE Money Wise Workshops to help your employees learn how to save more money, manage their personal finances and gain financial freedom. To set a time for your employees to participate in this free on-site financial education program, contact Barbara Hernandez at (562) 237-5073 or bhernandez@amerfirst.org.

Special Children's League Inc. **Annual Fundraiser**

Special Children's League Inc. is hosting its 56th Annual Zingo Fundraiser, "Wreathed in Love" on Friday, April 5 at Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park. This fundraiser includes a luncheon, silent auction, raffle, door prizes, and "Zingo!" All proceeds go directly to the Whittier area community organizations and Whittier District schools that serve infants, children and adults with severe, lifelong disabilities. A portion will also go to the United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara counties (UCPLA) to support its living facilities and programs for individuals with severe developmental needs.

If you are interested in contributing to this fundraiser, please contact Lena Carreras at (562) 500-8658.

5K Walk in Uptown Whittier to benefit victims of domestic violence

Registration is underway for the Shelter's Right Hand 23rd Annual "Stepping Out Against Domestic Violence" 5K Fitness Walk to benefit the Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter. On April 13, 2019, hundreds of community members and Honorary Chairperson, Debi Crawford, Owner, are expected to step out in support of victims of domestic violence. From Central Park, walkers will follow a 3.1 mile scenic walk through historic residential and business districts of Uptown Whittier.

The Shelter's Right Hand is pleased to announce that Crawford's Putty, the Jo Mitchell Foundation and Janice Hahn, Supervisor-Fourth District, County of Los Angeles are the presenting sponsors of the Walk. Generous grants from these sponsors make it possible for all entry fees, sponsorships and individual donations to go directly to the Women's and Children's Crisis are payable to Shelter's Right Hand, P.O. Shelter. The members of the Shelter's



Right Hand would like to thank all participating businesses, organizations and individuals for generously donating to the Walk and partnering with each other to bring hope for renewed lives of individuals fleeing domestic violence.

For registration and event information, visit the Shelter's Right Hand website at www.sheltersrighthand.org or call (657) 549-2551. Donations to benefit the Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter Box 9304, Whittier, CA 90608.



for more info email Mike Rizzo at mrizzo@whittier.edu or call 562 907-4967



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Southern California Gas Company Welcomes New CEO

SoCalGas recently announced several executive leadership changes as part of an ongoing effort to align Sempra Energy's management teams with strategic priorities and strengthen its leadership with a balance of deep operational and energy policy experience. The new executive leadership will help steward SoCalGas into California's clean energy future while continuing to provide safe and reliable gas service to the company's 21 million customers across Central and Southern California.



In December 2018, Bret Lane, formerly SoCalGas' president and chief operating officer, was named chief executive officer. During his 36 years at SoCalGas, Lane

Bret Lane, CEO SoCalGas 2019

has demonstrated exceptional leadership at the utility and in the natural gas industry. His experience will be called upon as SoCalGas continues to work together with policymakers, businesses, regulators and others to integrate the state's energy system in a way that enables California to achieve its 2045 carbon neutrality goal. Lane's guidance will be instrumental as SoCalGas continues to champion solutions that offer Californians energy choice and affordability.

On January 12, Jimmie Cho was promoted to chief operating officer for SoCalGas. During his nearly three decades with Sempra Energy's utilities, Cho has held a variety of leadership roles and most recently served as senior vice president of customer services for SoCalGas and senior vice president of distribution operations for SoCalGas and San Diego Gas & Electric. In his new role as chief operating officer, Cho will continue to focus on the safety and reliability of the natural gas system and on keeping this clean energy source affordable for customers.

Lastly, Maryam Brown, Sempra Energy's vice president of federal government affairs, will soon take on the role of SoCalGas president. In this role, Brown will promote the use of renewable natural gas and the development of renewable energy storage technologies, amongst other responsibilities. Putting waste streams to work as clean energy sources will be vital to achieving California's climate goals. Prior to Sempra, Brown served in a number of energy policy leadership positions, in both the private and public sector, including for the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce, U.S. Senate's Republican Policy Committee and ConocoPhillips. Her extensive national energy policy experience will be beneficial for SoCalGas customers as California moves towards a new energy future.

Together with the rest of the management team, Lane, Cho and Brown will lead SoCalGas in its continuing pursuit to deliver reliable, affordable natural gas service to its customers. They will continue to work to identify new and existing technologies that will benefit customers and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a way that is affordable and maintains choice in energy options.

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14 WHITTIER BUSINESS FOCUS



New members smile after learning what the Chamber does for their business at the New Member Orientation



For more information call Ben Greer at 562.762.3104 ben@gmpropertiesinc.com



RENEWING MEMBERS

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

> Asian Rehabilitation Service, Inc. (562) 632-1141

Associated Cabinets (562) 266-1940

California Domestic Water Co. (562) 947-3811

Farmers Insurance -Peter Rodriguez Insurance Agency (714) 396-5120

Financial Partners Credit Union (562) 904-4590

Gateway Management Company (562) 696-6900 X224

LivVolP.com, Inc. (844) 548-8647

Matrix Oil Corporation (805) 884-9000

My Attorney LA (562) 693-5027

Nordbak's Promotional Products (562) 905-6004

Pabst, Kinney & Associates, Inc. (562) 236-9069 Congratulations to our Milestone Members this month!

Thanks to the following businesses that have been partners with the Whittier Chamber in helping to create a thriving economy.

60 years

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35 years

Doubletree by Hilton – Whittier (562) 945-8511

25 years

Whittier Square Building (562) 945-5959

20 years

Stater Bros. Markets (562) 941-7711

Cetera Advisor Networks, Christopher J. George (562) 945-7787

Hadley Tow (562) 692-3793

15 years

Domis Team - Linda Domis (562) 884-5373

Bill & Jim's Auto Repair (562) 695-0404

> Hispanic Outreach Taskforce (HOT) (562) 789-0550

Harmony Center for Spiritual Living (562) 698-0341

Crepes & Grapes Café



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9347 Santa Fe Springs Rd (562) 946-5400 **M-F 8-5:00**



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DISCOVER

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Rio Hondo College Foundation (562) 908-3476

RMH Entertainment (562) 693-9911

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

Whittier Area Community Church (562) 945-4500 (562) 696-3255

10 years

Whittier Community Foundation (562) 567-9400

> San Miguel Apartments (562) 698-1290

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Foltz, Sylvia



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HempWorx was launched as a product line inside of My Daily Choice in May of 2017. MDC/HempWorx manufactures 100% organic, high grade U.S.A. grown Hemp CBD products that deliver fast, safe, and impactful results for consumers. It is their mission to bless the lives of thousands of families across the globe with good health, with products consisting of oils, topicals, coffee, creamers, 2 pet products and zero THC Oils. They are 100% committed to providing their customers with the highest quality product lines within their industry and offer a 60-day money back guarantee.

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Reliant Urgent Care & Occupational Medical Center Wil Kiesel 11460 Telegraph Rd., Santa Fe Springs Phone: (310) 491-7060 Email: wkiesel@reliantuf.com Website: www.relianturgentcare.com

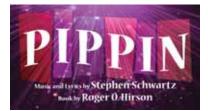
The leader in cost effective treatment of work-related injuries is now open in Santa Fe Springs - Located in the Promenade Shopping Center. Reliant is an Accredit Urgent Care and Occupational Medical Center providing quality medical care. The right Medical Care, at the Right Time, Every time!

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TESTIMONIAL



The Flag Shop has been part of the Whittier Chamber for 34 years, when my mother-in-law opened her doors in 1985. We made the choice to continue being a part of the Chamber to be able to network with other business and be part of the Whittier business community. The Chamber has promoted my business, continued to keep me up to date with local business events, connected us with SCORE mentoring and because of this connection we have been able to advance our business by relocating back to the retail & restaurant Uptown area of Whittier. I encourage anyone with a business in Whittier to join the Chamber and get connected with other local business and let the awesome Chamber team help promote your business!

Angie Mericle, The Flag Shop (562) 945-3377

NO MORE PAIN! Breakthrough Treatment Now Available In Whittier

Whittier, CA - Imagine forty years ago if you were told that lasers would replace scalpels in surgery or that robotic instruments would build cars; you may not have believed it. By the same token, would you believe that chiropractic treatments could be performed using a special hand-held instrument developed by NASA scientists; all while you were sitting in an upright position without any turning or twisting , movements? According to Dr. Yani Feliciano, "This new form of computerized treatment is so gentle and effective, that it truly amazes even the most skeptical patients. It's called the Ultralign and it's the

newest version of the Proadjuster which is the latest, stateof-the-art technology in existence today, and the only one in Whittier." This technology can safely and gently analyze and treat the spine and other joints to remove the nerve impingement that is often the

cause of pains in the low back, neck, shoulders and elsewhere in the body. It also works on a variety of muscular conditions to loosen tight muscles with ease and comfort. Many patients say that it's like getting a mini-massage. Even patients with knee, hip and foot problems such as plantar fascitis are being helped. It is also covered by most insurance companies including Medicare.

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Causing maliunction and pain. Dr. Yani says that "The secret to this technology lies in its ability to deliver an extremely precise and gentle adjustment." She says that, "Even though traditional forms of adjusting to be used a gentle adjustment." also work, people are drawn to this new technique because of how gentle it is and does not involve any twisting, especially in the neck.

Many people like getting adjusted with traditional manual techniques, all of which are safe and effective. But there are a large number of people who never get to experience the amazing benefits of chiropractic because they are scared to have their spines adjusted in that way," says Dr. Yani. Now, there is no longer a reason to be wary.

This technology is perfect for anyone who has been thinking about going to a chiropractor, but hasn't yet made that decision. Dr. Yani wants everyone to be able to experience these same benefits and if you have nerve interference causing any of the following conditions, the Ultralign and our wellness protocols may be the answer you've been looking for...

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Dr. Yani uses the ProAdjuster to nalyze a patient's spine and pin-point

areas of nerve impingement syndrome causing malfunction and pain.

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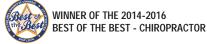
"When Dr. Yani and I went over my X-rays I was afraid I would need surgery on my neck. She reassured me that she could help me. I did exactly what Dr. Yani instructed me to do at home...icing my upper back and daily stretches. I truly believe that with the Proadjuster and Dr. Yani's help I was able to feel like my old self again. I can't believe how fast I felt the improvement and I'm even sleeping better too. I'm so happy! Thank you again Dr. Yani for all that you do for your patients."

For more information, please contact Dr. Yani Feliciano at: Friends Chiropractic 6736 Friends Avenue Whittier, CA 90601 Tel (562) 698-1275 www.proadjusterchiropractic.net

· Veronica Hernandez









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