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WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER of commerce

JANUARY 2018

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VOL. 24 NO. 1







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The YMCA of Greater Whittier – A Place for All

For over 100 years, the YMCA of Greater Whittier has been a place for children and families to learn, play and thrive.

As the leading nonprofit for **youth development**, **healthy living** and **social responsibility**, the Y works side-by-side with neighbors in our community to ensure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to be a part of their cause. To do their important work, the Y relies on support from members, donors, volunteers and community leaders.

The YMCA of Greater Whittier offers a variety of membership options, and membership comes with many benefits. Membership includes the use of both Uptown and East Whittier facilities, including the pool, gym and group fitness classes, on-site child watch while you work out, and reduced rates on Y programs, such as swim lessons and youth sports. The Y strongly believes in making their facilities, classes, and programs affordable to all. Within available resources, the Y will provide assistance to those who wish to participate regardless of their ability to pay.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The YMCA of Greater Whittier offers safe, values-based before-and-after school care, preschool and day camps during school breaks. Children learn foundational skills, develop healthy, trusting relationships and build self-reliance through the Y values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Between the Uptown and East Whittier Ys, it has become the largest childcare provider in the area.

Children, teens and adults also have the opportunity to unplug and head up to YMCA's Camp Arbolado in the San Bernardino mountains. For more than 80 years, Camp Arbolado has made a positive difference in the lives of countless youth and adults. This year-round wilderness retreat is the ideal setting for summer camp, outdoor education and weekend getaways for families, church and charity groups and business retreats.

In 2017, more than 3200 kids learned teamwork, connection, movement and skill building in YMCA of Greater Whittier youth sports leagues, martial arts, dance and gymnastics programs. The Y offers co-ed basketball, flag football, soccer and T-ball leagues. The Y's dance and gymnastics programs enable youths to explore their potential in a caring, non-competitive environment, while the martial arts program promotes selfdiscipline and builds self-esteem.

The YMCA invented the concept of group swim lessons long ago, and today, there is no organization more qualified to teach aquatic safety to children, adults and people with special needs. Participants learn vital safety skills and build confidence to reach swimming skill milestones. In addition to swim lessons, the YMCA of Greater Whittier has the Sharks swim team for children who have the skill level to swim competitively and water polo classes to learn the fundamentals of the sport in a supportive environment.

HEALTHY LIVING

Well-being and fitness goes beyond just working out at the YMCA. In addition to fitness facilities, the Y provides educational programs to promote healthier decisions and programs that support physical, intellectual and spiritual strength. The Y offers



Continued on page 8





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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year everyone! We at the Whittier Chamber have some exciting new programs that will help increase your exposure in 2018! The first is our new Community Resource Magazine that is taking the place of our annual directory. This new publication will be printed twice a year and will include all members, advertising, and a wonderful map of our City of Whittier. Look for another exciting new product, our online visual directory, to be launched in the Spring.

On January 11th, CAPC will be hosting their Grand Opening from 4-6 p.m. at their new location at 7702 Washington Ave. Hope to see all of you there so you can learn how they help people Capitalize on Capabilities.

Is 2018 the year your supervisors or managers need to complete their certificate of training on Sexual Harassment Prevention? The Chamber is offering this important workshop on January 19th at the Doubletree Hotel Whittier from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. so be sure to sign up early. Even if you don't have 50 or more employees, we are strongly recommending that you attend this workshop. Small businesses are especially vulnerable to claims and one lawsuit could potentially bankrupt a business. Make sure you take steps to train all of your employees who oversee others!

Looking for new business leads? Our Whittier's Wild West Business Expo is a great place for you to come on January 24th from 4-7 p.m. at the Whittier Community Center. Sponsorships, tables and booths are still available. Call the Chamber office and talk with Courtney and she can assist you in getting your business more exposure to the community.

Ring in the new year at the first Wake Up Whittier of 2018 at Rio Hondo College on Wednesday January 17th! Join over 160 business professionals and start the year off right by building your business network. It will be a fabulous time on this great campus.

We have two more ways that you can Be Seen in 2018. Our Action Pak is an avenue to promote your business to your fellow Chamber members. The cost is only \$100.00 for 600 flyers. Sign



up today to be included in this special packet of information that will also include our new Community Resource Magazine. Flyer deadline is January 10th. The Action Pak is another way that the Chamber helps you gain more exposure for your business or organization. If getting your business more visible in the community is one of your goals for 2018, then the Door to Door Residential Flyer Program is for you. You supply 4,000 flyers and the Chamber will distribute them throughout areas of Whittier. The deadline to get your flyers to the Chamber office is January 18th and you must call the Chamber office to get on the list. Flyers will be distributed on January 29^{th} – just in time to promote any and all Valentine Specials you have to offer!

Happy New Year and be watching for more ways to BE SEEN in 2018 through your Whittier Chamber membership!



If you participate in your company's 401(k) plan, the value of your account balance may well be your most significant financial asset. And if you happen to be facing, or anticipate facing, major financial obligations, you should be aware of the possible ways you can tap this source of funds while you're still working and a plan participant.

Generally, distributions from a 401(k) plan while you're still employed and before you reach age 591/2 are not permitted. However, if you have an unusual financial obligation and an immediate need for cash, you may be entitled to a distribution from the plan. If your plan provides for hardship distributions, and you can show that you have an immediate and heavy financial need, then you may be entitled to a distribution of funds necessary to meet your obligation. There are regulations which spell out what is an immediate and heavy financial need. Included in this category would be funeral expenses for a family member, for example. On the other hand, a distribution for the

Hardship Withdrawals and Loans from 401(k) Plans

TAX TIPS

purchase of a boat or a television wouldn't be a distribution on account of an immediate and heavy financial need.

There's a limit on the amount you can take out of your 401(k) plan due to hardship. Hardship withdrawals are limited to amounts attributable to elective contributions to the plan. These are the amounts that you have elected to have your employer contribute on your behalf into the 401(k) plan, and any earnings on these amounts. You should be aware that hardship withdrawals are taxable distributions, and if you're under age $59\frac{1}{2}$, you may be subject to a 10% addition to tax on premature distributions.

Special rules apply to the withdrawal of any "after-tax," or voluntary contributions, you may have made to your plan. These amounts can be withdrawn while you're still working. However, these distributions will be taxed under a formula that excludes from income a pro-rata portion calculated with reference to your after-tax contributions as they relate to the total value of your account.

Another way to get cash from your 401(k) plan is through a plan loan. A plan loan is ordinarily a taxable distribution, but if your plan provides for loans and certain conditions are met, you could receive the funds tax-free. There is a fiveyear repayment requirement, interest on the loan will ordinarily be nondeductible, and the amount of a plan loan is limited to 50% of the value of your non-forfeitable accrued benefit-generally your vested benefit—with a limit of \$50,000. The five-year repayment requirement doesn't apply if the loan is for the purchase of a residence. Unlike a taxable hardship distribution, a plan loan doesn't require that you establish an immediate and heavy financial need. Your ability to borrow from your 401(k) plan depends on requirements under the terms of the plan.

Another point to keep in mind is that a plan loan—unlike a hardship distribution—doesn't reduce the value of your 401(k) assets. Your account remains fully vested, subject, of course, to your obligation to repay the loan.

If you have any questions regarding the above discussed topic or any other tax matter, please feel free to give me a call at (562) 698-9891.

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.

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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to our Chamber members who donated gifts for our 25 Days of Giveaways during our 2017 Shop Home for the Holidays campaign.

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California Grill (562) 907-7017

City of Whittier (562) 567-9999

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> Fejjab Spa (562) 351-6430

The Flag Shop (562) 945-3377

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The Greenleaf Thai Cuisine (562) 698-8570

> La Pescadora (562) 698-4144

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New York Life – Mario Navarro (562) 857-1412

> **Norms Restaurants** (562) 907-2760

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Whittier Museum & Historical Society (562) 945-3871 x102

> **YMCA of Greater Whittier** (562) 907-6530

Chamber offers mandated Sexual Harassment Training

The Whittier Chamber, in conjunction employees, and, due to the rise in with Compliance Training Group and Employer's Choice Screening, is offering a Sexual Harassment Training and Compliant Employment Background Check Workshop on Friday, January 19 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the DoubleTree Hotel Whittier for all Whittier area businesses.

Sexual harassment in the workplace has become a serious area of concern. Your liability as an employer may be extended to acts committed by supervisors and rank-and-file employees. Therefore, it is essential that you understand what constitutes sexual harassment, under both California and federal law, and take steps to prevent or stop it.

Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual physical or verbal conduct in the workplace. There are two categories of sexual harassment: quid pro quo and hostile environment. Understanding the differences in the two categories is important because they have different liability implications.

California employers of 50 or more employees, including those outside California, are required to provide supervisors within the state of California with two hours of sexual harassment training every two years. "2018 is a training year for many employees and we are proud to partner with Compliance Training Group and Employer's Choice Screening to provide the Whittier area business community this necessary and required training for owners and supervisors," stated Chamber Board President Laurie Perschbacher.

"This course is intended for employers who need sexual harassment training in California as required by law; however, small businesses are extremely vulnerable to lawsuits and it is recommended that they also attend this important workshop," explained Patty Kotze, President and co-founder of Diversified Risk Management.

The two-hour course for supervisors includes:

- Real workplace scenarios
- Harassment prevention training that addresses current issues in the workplace
- Increased flexibility allowing the users ٠ to move through the course at their own pace without waiting for the audio to complete, while ensuring that users still fulfill the two-hour training requirement
- Quizzes & final test "California Assembly Bill 1825 explicitly covers training for supervisors; however, while the law does not require employers to train non-supervisor

sexual harassment claims across the U.S. over the past twenty years, we are now providing general training for non-supervisor employees as well. We want to ensure a business' entire workforce is educated on sexual harassment and their rights and responsibilities in the workplace," stated Kotze. Employees taking this STOP course will learn STOP about sexual harassment, discriminatory behavior, and types of conduct that create a hostile workplace. The course engages employees and confirms their understanding of the course material via interactive features.

In addition to the Sexual Harassment Training, this Workshop will also include an important component featuring information on new compliance laws affecting employment background checks that take effect January 1st. Not only will these laws affect large employers, but small businesses will be subjected to these requirements as well.

Recently, California passed "Ban the Box" for ALL employers with 5 or more employees. Assembly Bill 1008 will restrict employers from utilizing applicant's conviction records in making an employment decision, including a "ban the box" provision, and an exclusion against considering criminal convictions history until a conditional job offer has been made. Governor Brown signed the bill on October 14, 2017 and employers will have until January 1, 2018 to review their policies and procedures to ensure they comply with the new law.

The new law makes it unlawful for California employers to:

- Include any question on a job application inquiring about previous criminal convictions (unless the application is completed after a conditional job offer has been made.)
- Inquire or consider an applicant's conviction history before a job offer is extended.

Consider, distribute, or disseminate ٠ information about criminal history that California already prohibits employers from considering, such as (a) an arrest not resulting in a conviction (except in the limited situations described in Labor Code section 432.7), (b) referral to or participation in a pretrial or post trial diversion program, and (c) convictions that have been sealed, dismissed, expunged, or statutorily eradicated pursuant to law.

All employers in the state of California should understand and prepare for this new law by updating their employment applications, reviewing their hiring policies, and partnering with competent companies that provide compliant employment background checks.

"It is so important that employers understand this process and we will outline the steps in each of these areas to be sure all businesses are in compliance with the new laws," stated Cody Farzad, Vice President of Employers Choice Screening.

New trends are also emerging such as prohibiting employers from asking job applicants about previous wages. "Employers should start preparing for these trends by reviewing their hiring policy and background screening process," Farzad recommended.

Registration for the Sexual Harassment Training and Employment Background Check Workshop is just \$45 per person and can be done at www.whittierchamber. com. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the workshop will officially start at 8:30 a.m. A continental breakfast will be provided. Upon completion of the course, each attendee will receive a signed certificate of completion. For more information, call the Whittier Chamber office at (562) 698-9554.



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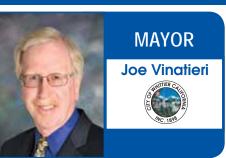
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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



I hope you all enjoyed the holiday season here in Whittier and had a chance to participate in the Chamber's Shop Home for the Holidays campaign. The City is proud to sponsor the annual campaign and help promote shopping locally, especially during the busy giftgiving time of year. Thank you to the many businesses that donated prizes during the 25 Days of Giveaways and congratulations to all of the lucky winners.

As we settle into our normal routines after the hustle of the holidays, it is wise to take a moment to reflect on the past year and consider all of the possibilities that lay ahead in the coming year, especially for our businesses. You are encouraged to dust off your business plans and take some time to update your goals, financial projections and targeted marketing activities for the next 12 months. The City will continue our efforts of proactive business attraction and retention in the New Year and staff is always available to help you streamline your permit process or connect you to local small business assistance. Call Katie Galvin-Surbatovic, the City's Business Development Manager, at (562) 567-9320 to schedule an appointment. A strong business community is what keeps our City thriving.

Development activity was steady in 2017 and you'll see more dust over the next year. The City's Public Works Department has been busy replacing over five miles of sewer lines and more than eight miles of the City's water main system, with additional miles to be completed over the next two years. Combined with other capital improvements like new street lamps throughout town and improved lighting along Beverly Boulevard, Washington Boulevard and Whittier Boulevard, we will help ensure safer paths of travel and a stronger foundation for future development within our city. In retail news, the Friendly Hills Marketplace is booming with recent additions like Pizza Press and Nekter Juice Bar, and the second Off the Hook Fish Grill location

is set to open soon next to Grub Burger Bar at the new Whittier Crossing center off of Michigan Avenue and Whittier Boulevard. Additionally, the purchase of the Whittwood Town Center by KIMCO Realty will mean an enhanced look and new stores on the east end of town as they prepare to discuss renovation and expansion in 2018.

Having reached a settlement agreement regarding the site of the former Fred C. Nelles Correctional Facility, Brookfield Residential will be moving forward with their approved plans to develop as many as 750 homes and approximately 180,000 square feet of commercial retail including new businesses and restaurants to enjoy. In other news, Uptown Whittier property owners recently approved the formation of a Community Benefit District and the new Uptown Whittier Improvement Association will look to begin utilizing close to \$500,000 annually for local upgrades including enhanced security, sidewalk operations and marketing.

Combined with the construction of a new 455-space multi-level parking structure on Comstock Avenue, and a proposed Streetscape Beautification Plan, residents and business owners in Uptown Whittier are sure to see changes taking shape over the coming months.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming Business Expo on Wednesday, January 24, 2018. The annual event will be held at the Whittier Community Center from 4 to 7 p.m. and is always a great evening for anyone looking to build their business in town. Enjoy entertainment, tasty food and quality networking with other local professionals. Thank you to the Whittier Chamber for hosting this event each year.

Let's keep the momentum going in 2018 and continue to work together to make Whittier a great place to LIVE, WORK and SHOP.

Happy New Year to you and your family!



AWARDS CEREMONY & APPRECIATION DINNER CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HONORING THE OUTSTANDING OFFICERS, STAFF & VOLUNTEERS OF THE WHITTIER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS



During 2017, crime was steady, but showed some signs of leveling off and even some minor decreases overall in Whittier. Make no mistake about it; just as criminals continue working hard to take away your money and valued possessions; the Whittier Police Department continues to work just as diligently to prevent you, your family and your business from becoming victims of their criminal activities. Maintaining vigilance combined with taking some additional steps throughout your day can help reduce your chances of being targeted by criminals.

The most prominent crimes in our community during 2017 continues to be property crimes; specifically, thefts from vehicles, thefts of vehicles and burglaries. Whittier continues to experience a high percentage of reported thefts from vehicles and car burglaries that involve the loss of valuable items that are left in plain view by owners while away from their vehicles. Popular items that continue to be taken include purses, laptops, cell phones, sunglasses, GPS devices, backpacks, packages left on seats, floorboards, or on the dash and coins left out in the open. In many of the theft from vehicle cases, owners left the doors unlocked making it extremely easy for criminal to commit their crimes. In some of the cases, the criminals were much more destructive and broke the windows or punched the door locks and stole the items they wanted. You can help us reduce crime in our community and your chances of becoming a victim by getting the word out to family and friends to NEVER leave any items of value in plain view while away from your vehicle. This includes phone chargers and miscellaneous paperwork that may encourage criminals to break your window in search of more items. We saw a small increase overall in violent crimes for 2017, which is why we as a community need to be observant of out surrounding and not let our guard down when it comes to avoiding becoming a crime victim in 2018. Robbery is a violent crime where force or fear is used to obtain property from the victim. Pedestrians, walking alone at night are easy targets for would-be robbers on streets, in parking lots or in areas with low lighting. As with burglaries, criminals look for an easy target. They size up

Help us avoid crime in the new year -2018

weaknesses in potential victims and always examine the person for visible items of value. With the continued increase and dependency on smart phones, iPads, iPods, and other small and handheld valuable electronics, criminals do not need to go far to find potential victims walking around with headphones on. Such victims will never hear the criminal coming until it's too late. When in parking lots and on the street, please remind family and friends to STAY ALERT, walk confidently, and avoid displaying those items that criminals want and can easily grab. Remember that life is much more important than property - during a robbery be smart - avoid fighting with a suspect to protect property. Property can be replaced, you cannot!

As a continuing reminder, fraud, identity theft and unauthorized computer access always remains active and can have a dramatic impact on victims for a long time after the crime is detected. Please make sure to take an active role in your cyber security and change your passwords frequently, using letters, numbers, and symbols when composing new passwords. Also, shred all bills and mail with your personal information on it and make sure to SECURE YOUR HOME OR **BUSINESS WIRELESS INTERNET** CONNECTION AND NETWORK. An unsecured wireless connection will open the door for not only criminals who want to access your system for the purpose of theft and fraudulent activity, but might also invite unwanted individuals to use your home or place of business as a place to congregate and use the free wireless access when you and/or your employees are away. As always and most importantly, never hesitate or think twice before calling the police when you see or hear something suspicious. As I continue to speak with people in the community I continue to hear phrases like "I didn't want to bother you guys," or "I know you have bigger things to deal with". In our view, it's the smaller things that lead to bigger things and suspicions many times lead to the capture of criminals - so please, call us anytime and we'll be glad to assist! If you would like additional crime prevention information, please visit www.cityofwhittier.org/depts/police/.





Lenny Roman from Ocean Honda and Tom Nguyen from Toyota of Whittier presented a \$10,000 check to the Whittier Police Department for their Family Adoption Project



Michael Davis is a Captain with the Whittier Police Department and can be reached at (562) 567-9253 or via email at mdavis @cityofwhittier.org.



2018 Minimum Wage Hike brings changes for California Employers

By: Gail Cecchettini Whaley, J.D., CalChamber Employment Law Counsel/Content.

In 2016, Governor Brown signed SB 3, a bill that increases the minimum wage in California to \$15 per hour by 2022. The governor's action made California the first least \$62,400 for all employers. This works out to an increased cost to employers state in the nation to commit to raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour statewide.

Large businesses with 26 or more employees began complying on January 1, 2017, and will reach \$15 per hour in 2022.

Small businesses with 25 or fewer employees had a one-year delay and will see their first increase on January 1, 2018. Small businesses have until 2023 to reach the \$15 per hour rate.

Date	Employers with 26 or More Employees	Employers with 25 or Fewer Employees
01/01/2018	\$11 per hour	\$10.50 per hour
01/01/2019	\$12 per hour	\$11 per hour
01/01/2020	\$13 per hour	\$12 per hour
01/01/2021	\$14 per hour	\$13 per hour
01/01/2022	\$15 per hour	\$14 per hour
01/01/2023	\$15 per hour	\$15 per hour

Prepare for the minimum wage increase by analyzing other pay practices that might be affected.

Until the minimum wage reaches \$15 per hour, the governor has the authority to suspend increases based on current economic conditions. However, these "offramps" are discretionary and would come into play only if there are declining state revenues from sales tax; there is a decline in the labor market; or there is a budget deficit (this offramp is permitted to occur only twice).

Once the minimum wage reaches \$15 per hour for all businesses in 2023, wages could then be increased each year up to 3.5 percent (rounded to the nearest 10 cents) for inflation, as measured by the national Consumer Price Index.

Employers need to prepare for the minimum wage increase and examine other pay practices that might be affected by the increase. (Hint: There are more than you might think!)

- Minimum wage ٠
- Overtime rate
- Exempt/nonexempt
- Notice requirements
- Meals and lodging
- Piece-rate employees
- Draws against commissions
- Tools/equipment
- Subminimum wage

Overtime

The minimum wage increase affects the overtime rate that must be paid to employees who perform work that qualifies for overtime.

Double check your overtime rates beginning January 1.

Effective January 1, 2018, the overtime rate for minimum wage employees is: Employers with 26 or more employees: \$16.50 per hour for time and one-half or \$22 per hour for double-time.

Employers with 25 or fewer employees: \$15.75 per hour for time and one-half or \$21 per hour for double-time.

Classifying Employees

The minimum wage rate change affects the classification of employees as exempt versus nonexempt. For an employee to qualify under the commonly used administrative, executive or professional exemptions from overtime, the employee must meet the salary-basis test (which means the employee's salary must be no less than two times the state minimum wage for full-time employment) in addition to meeting all other legal requirements for the exemption.

That minimum salary rate is \$45,760 annually, effective January 1, 2018, for employers with 26 or more employees. For employers with 25 or fewer employees, the minimum salary threshold for the administrative, executive and professional exemptions is \$43,680 for 2018.

By 2023, the minimum salary threshold for these exemptions will rise to at of \$20,800 per exempt employee over the 2016 salary threshold.

Employers should be mindful of the effect of the required salary threshold for exempt/nonexempt classifications and ensure that employees meet the salary basis test for the particular exemption claimed. Misclassification is costly. Employers who are unsure if their employees are exempt or nonexempt should always check with their legal counsel.

Posters and Notices

The minimum wage rate change affects your notice requirements:

First, all California employers must post the official Minimum Wage Order (MW-2017) in a conspicuous location frequented by employees.

Second, California employers must provide each employee with a written itemized wage statement at the time wages are paid (Labor Code section 226). Among other mandatory information, the itemized wage statement must include all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours the employee worked at each hourly rate.

Third, employers in California must provide nonexempt employees with a written wage notice at time of hire and again within seven calendar days after a change is made to any information in the notice (Labor Code section 2810.5).

Wage statements should include any change to employees' pay caused by the minimum wage increase.

If an employee's rate of pay, including overtime rate, increases on January 1, 2018 due to the minimum wage increase, the employee must receive notice from his/her employer by January 7, 2018. The separate wage notice is not required if the employer has reflected the change on a timely itemized wage statement that meets all legal requirements.

Local Ordinances

Remember that local ordinances may affect your minimum wage obligations. Some cities and counties in California adopted their own local minimum wage rates that are separate from the state rate. This is part of a growing trend. Local minimum wage rates may change at any time; employers should closely monitor them. CalChamber members have access to local ordinance content, including a wizard to help employers determine which local ordinances and labor law posters apply to their business.

Note: Exempt/nonexempt classification is based on the state minimum wage, not local ordinances.

Best Practices for California Employers

Remember: California employers must pay employees no less than the state minimum wage per hour for all hours worked. Because California's state minimum wage is higher than the federal minimum wage, employers will be required to pay the state rate. When state and federal laws differ, employers must comply with the more restrictive requirements.

- Display a poster that includes the official Minimum Wage Order (MW-2017). CalChamber's 2018 California and Federal Labor Law poster includes the required minimum wage poster.
- Update any necessary payroll documentation.
- Provide revised, itemized wage statements in a timely manner when wages are paid and ensure the statements accurately reflect the new minimum wage increase.
- Provide employees affected by the minimum wage increase with an appropriate wage notice showing the change in the rate of pay, if required.
- The obligation to pay the minimum wage can't be waived by any agreement, including collective bargaining agreements.

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HOLIDAY LUNCHEON MIXER



Chamber Past President Chris Hardeman from DialMed Home Care was one of the lucky winners of the Gift Card tree at the Holiday Mixer



Mariposa from LadyBugs Termite and Pest Control, Rafael and Angelica from Farmer's Insurance and Galvin from Costco celebrate the holidays with the Whittier Chamber



Ryan Keene from Edward Jones Investments, Gina Romero from Servpro of Whittier and Mark Scott from L.A. CADA enjoy the Holiday Mixer at Candlewood Country Club



Candlewood Country Club General Manager Enrique Contreras reveals their new beautiful Clubhouse design







Over 50 business professionals gathered one last time in 2017 to network and promote their business



Pete Rodriguez from Farmer's Insurance and Jennifer Zamora from Bank of the West network at the Chamber's Holiday Luncheon Mixer







Councilmembers Josue Alvarado and Fernando Dutra and Mayor Joe Vinatieri get ready for the start of the Christmas parade with Uptown Association President Rose Drieslein and Chamber Board President Laurie Perschbacher



Assembly Majority Leader Ian Calderon and daughter Charlie greet Chamber Executive Director Carol Crosby at the parade



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LET'S BUY A DUSE TOGETHER

YMCA Continued from front page

group exercise classes that range from cycling and Zumba to yoga and Tai Chi. Water therapy classes provide relief for arthritis or aching backs. Personal and group training is available to support members in reaching their goals. The YMCA of Greater Whittier's Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) is part of the Centers for Disease Control program and is endorsed by the Diabetes Prevention and Control Alliance. The YMCA also offers SilverSneakers and Silver&Fit for active older adults or seniors looking to improve their physical well-being and strengthen social ties.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

When you are involved with the Y, you create lasting personal and social change. Whether you want to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve your or your family's health and well-being, or give back and support your neighbors, your involvement with the Y will positively impact those in the Whittier area.

The YMCA of Greater Whittier is pleased to offer STRIDE, a day program to help intellectually and developmentally disabled adults achieve their highest potential in the community by increasing their independence and enhancing their quality of life. Participants learn reading and writing, basic math and computer skills, and enjoy community integration, volunteerism and social development.

The Whittier A.M. Y Service Club is part of an international organization that works with YMCAs for community betterment. Locally, it is a group of men and women of all ages, races, religious and socio-economic levels who support the activities of the YMCA of Greater Whittier.

When you join the YMCA of Greater Whittier, you're committing to more than simply becoming healthier. You are supporting the values and programs that strengthen the Whittier area. The Y is welcoming the community to their Open House January 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at both East Whittier and Uptown Whittier locations, or stop in and mention the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce before January 31 and pay no joining fee (up to \$150 value)!

Uptown Whittier YMCA Family Center: 12510 Hadley St. Whittier, CA 90601 (562) 907-6530

East Whittier YMCA Family Center: 15740 E. Starbuck St. Whittier, CA 90603 (562) 943-7240

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The Traveling Traveler Whittier Community Foundation Whittier Network Connection Whittier Police Department Whittier's First Day Whittier Uptown Association Women's & Children's Crisis Shelter Whittier Republican Women Federated Whittier Museum Whittier Place



please contact courtney@whittierchamber.com or call (562) 698-9554



Whittier's Wild West Business **Expo expected to draw hundreds** and connect businesses

The Whittier Chamber's largest Expo co-chair, from ARCpoint Labs. table at the Business Expo. "It's also a great way for businesses to and entertaining way" added co-chair business and community members. Susan Ayala from Athens Services.

provides a chance to learn about new spirit," said Laurie Perschbacher, products and services and network Chamber Board President. with local businesses. As a business, one of the great benefits of being part grab your cowboy hat and mozey of the expo is the opportunity to be on over to the Community Center some of the best that the Whittier area website at www.whittierchamber.com for has to offer!

The Wild West Business Expo business to business expo will take will feature a variety of food vendors place on Wednesday, January 24, representing some of Whittier's finest from 4-7 pm at the Whittier Community restaurants, caterers and eateries. Free Center. "This is a great opportunity for samples from each vendor's menu will the community to discover the best be showcased. Any restaurant or caterer of Whittier businesses on display interested in participating as a Grub and learn how they can do business sponsor should call the Chamber office locally," exclaimed Theresa Oliver, for details regarding a complimentary

"The Whittier Chamber's Business support each other and network in a fun Expo is a can't miss event for both We expect this sold out event to be full Attending the Business Expo of energy, excitement and community

C'mon y'all...dust off your boots, face-to-face with hundreds of potential on January 24. The event is free to customers to promote your brand. As attend and all are welcome. Contact a consumer, it is a great event to see Courtney at (562) 698-9554 or visit our more information.

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Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.



Remember: W-2s due to IRS by January 31

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reminds employers and other businesses of the January 31 filing deadline that now applies to filing Form W-2 wage statements and independent contractor forms.

Under the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act (PATH), employers are now required to file their copies of Form W-2 and Form W-3 with the Social Security Administration by January 31. The January 31 filing deadline also applies to certain Forms 1099-MISC reporting non-employee compensation such as payments to independent contractors.

In the past, employers typically had until the end of February, if filing on paper, or the end of March, if filing electronically, to submit their copies of these forms. The accelerated filing date started last year and is aimed at making it easier for the IRS to spot errors on taxpayer returns, verify legitimate returns, and prevent fraud.

Note that an extension of time to

For more information, visit www.irs.gov

file Forms W-2 is no longer automatic. The IRS only grants extensions for very specific reasons, and only one -r.day extension to file Form W-2 is available. If an extension is necessary, a Form 8809 must be completed as soon as you know an extension is necessary but no later than January 31.

Failure to file these forms correctly and timely may result in penalties.

As always, employers are also required to distribute copies of the Form W-2 to their employees on January 31.

Act now to get ready for the filing season by making sure that:

- Your company's account information is current and active with the Social Security Administration.
- You have correct employee information.
- You have enough copies of the forms you will need, if you use paper forms. Consider the advantages of filing your forms electronically (accuracy, speed, convenience).

PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE BUSINESS FOCUS

The Whittier Chamber's Business Focus is Whittier's premier community publication providing information on Whittier Chamber networking events, helpful tips for local business owners, important legislative information and special interest stories on local organizations other great things happening in our city.

> Want to see YOUR STORY on our FRONT PAGE?

Contact Luis for more information on a business spotlight article and other marketing opportunities to grow your business!

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NO MORE PAIN! Breakthrough Treatment Now Available In Whittier



Dr. Yani uses the ProAdjuster to analyze a patient's spine and pin-point areas of nerve impingement sync causing malfunction and pair rome

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.

Dr. Yani says that "The secret to this technology lies in its ability to



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deliver an extremely precise and gentle adjustment." She says that, "Even though traditional forms of adjusting 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 may be the answer you've been looking for...

- Low back pain Sciatic pain
- Neck & Shoulder pain
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- Headaches Scoliosis TMJ Problems
- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome TMJ Problems Knee or hip pain Arthritis Fibromyalgia Sports Injuries
- Planter Fascitis
 Knee or hip pain
- High Blood Pressure Diabetes

· High Cholesterol

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I thank God for Dr. Yani and her sister Dr. Miyoshi. They are God's angels. They're passionate about their work. They have such good hearts and are very caring! They take the time to listen to you. The ProAdjuster is fabulous. It doesn't hurt!!! I go in hurting and come out feeling so good! I have gone in crving and she fixed me up and by the time I got home, the pain was gone. Isabel is always energetic and a joy!!! They make you feel so at home. Before you walk in you can be sad because you're in a lot of pain, but once you're in there, they are full of smiles and joy and helpfulness and your sadness goes away! " ~Pam Correa



For more information, please contact Dr. Yani Feliciano at:

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Tax preparation checklist makes filing easier

Tax season offers plenty of challenges especially when it comes to gathering up all that documentation that needs to be handy while working on your tax return. Fortunately, a tax preparation checklist can make light of the situation and help you discover what's needed to proceed when ready. Being prepared for tax season will help you expedite your tax return preparation process, and quite possibly reduce your taxes. Don't forget to check out our list of reputable Whittier area accountants, bookkeepers and tax preparers to help you get it all done stress-free!

General Taxable Income

- ____ Alimony Received or Paid
- ____ Dividend Income Statements: Form 1099-DIV
- ____ Interest Income Statements: Form 1099-INT & 1099-OID
- Miscellaneous Income: Form 1099-MISC
- Sales of Real Estate: Form 1099-S
- Sales of Stock, Land, etc.: Form 1099-B
- State Tax Refunds: Form 1099-G
- _ Unemployment Compensation Received
- _ W-2 Form(s) for Wages, Salaries, and Tips

Retirement Income

- ____ Railroad Retirement & Social Security Income: Form SSA-1099
- _ Retirement Income: Form 1099-R

Business Income

- ____ Business Income and Expenses
- _ Farm Income and Expenses
- Form K-1 Income from Partnerships, Trusts, and S-Corporations
- _ Rental Income and Expenses
- ____ Tax Deductible Miles Traveled for Business Purposes

Tax Credits Checklist

- ____ Adoption Expense Information
- ____ Child Care Provider Address, I.D. Number and Amounts Paid
- First Time Home Buyer Tax Credit
- ____ Foreign Taxes paid

Expense and Tax Deduction Checklist

- Amount Paid to Professional Preparer Last Year
- ____ Casualty and Theft Losses
- Charitable Cash Contributions
- _ Doctor and Dentist Payments
- ____ Fair Market Value of Non-cash Contributions to Charities
- _ Home Mortgage Interest from Form 1098
- _ Home Second Mortgage Interest Paid

- Hospital and Nurse Payments
- ____ Investment Expenses
- ____ IRA Contributions
- ____ Job-hunting Expenses
- ____ Last Year's Tax Preparation Fee
- Medical Expenses for the Family
- ____ Medical Insurance Paid
- ____ Miles Traveled for Volunteer Purposes
- ____ Miles Traveled for Medical Purposes
- ____ Miles Traveled Related to Your Job
- _ Moving Expenses
- ____ Personal Property Taxes Paid
- Prescription Medicines and Drugs
- ____ Real Estate Taxes Paid
- ____ State Taxes Paid with Last Year's Return (if itemized) ____ Student Loan Interest Paid
- _____ Tax Deductible Unreimbursed Expenses Related to Your Job
- Union and Professional Dues
- ____ Unreimbursed Expenses Related to Volunteer Work

Tax Estimate Payments Checklist

- ____ Estimated Tax Payments Made with ES Vouchers
- Last Year's Tax Return Overpayment Applied to This Year
- ____ Off Highway Fuel Taxes Paid

General Information

- ____ Bank Account Number (BAN)
 - (For direct deposit/debit purposes)
- _ Child Care Expenses for Each Dependent
- _ Copy of Last Year's Tax Return
- ____ Dependents' Names, Years of Birth, and Social Security Numbers
- ____ Dependents' Post High School Educational Expenses
- ____ Educational Expenses for You and Your Spouse
- ____ Prior Year Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) & Personal Identification
- ____ Routing Transmit Number (RTN) (For direct deposit/debit) ____ Social Security Numbers for You and Your Spouse



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JAN 1

WHITTIER CHAMBER OFFICE Cuba L.A. @ Shannon Center for The Makaha Sons @ Ruth B. Shannon **CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S DAY**

JAN 9

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

JAN 11

Ribbon cutting @ CAPC, Inc. (7702 Washington Ave.) 4 p.m. Celebrate CAPC, Inc.'s new location. Stay for networking and light refreshments. Free. For more information call (562) 698-9554

JAN 13

28

heritage and the exhilaration of musical experimentation. \$25 general admission, tickets at www.shannoncenter.org \$20 seniors, \$10 students. Purchase tickets at www.shannoncenter.org

29

30 31

JAN 17

College (3600 Workman Mill Rd.) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. SCORE mentors will 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Enjoy your first meal help you and your business open new of the day and network with other markets, reach new customers, and business professionals. FREE for achieve new goals. By appointment Whittier Chamber members; \$20 for only. FREE. To make an appointment non-members. Call (562) 698-9554 for call (626) 593-1120 more information

JAN 19

Training @ DoubleTree Hotel (7630 Washington Ave.) 4 to 7 p.m.

JAN 20

Performing Arts (6760 Painter Ave.) 7:30 Center (6760 Painter Ave.) 2 & 7:30 p.m. Cuba L.A. keeps the soul of Cuban p.m. show times. Traditional Hawaiian music alive, fueled by the love of their music featuring Jerome Koko with Kimo Artis and Mark Yim. \$47. Purchase

JAN 23

SCORE Consultations @ The Whittier Wake Up Whittier @ Rio Hondo Chamber Office (8158 Painter Ave.)

JAN 24

Whittier's Wild West Business Sexual Harassment Prevention Expo @ Whittier Community Center networking and great food!

JAN 25

Muriel Anderson & Friends @ Ruth B. Shannon Center (6760 Painter Ave.) 7:30 p.m. Muriel Anderson and other musical guests. \$47. Purchase tickets at www.shannoncenter.org

JAN 27

WAGS Seminar @ Masonic Lodge (7604 Greenleaf Ave.) 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join 35th annual seminar featuring Peggy Clemens Laurtzen. \$35 for WAGS members and \$40 for non-members before 1/20. \$45 for both members and non-members after 1/20. For more information visit www.wagswhittier.org.

JAN 30

Tasty Tuesday Lascaris Italian Restaurant (16255 Whittier Blvd.) 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy business \$10 pre-registration; \$15 at the or visit www.whittierchamber.com

Whittier (7320 Greenleaf Ave.) Market your business or organization door; \$20 for non-members. Call 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Training includes to hundreds. Free to attend. Reserve (562) 698-9554 for more information compliance certificate and continental your table or booth by contacting breakfast. \$45 pre-registration Courtney at (562) 698-9554 and \$60 at the door. Register at www.whittierchamber.com



Kick your year off right by building your network of business professionals Wake Up Whittier • January 17 at 7:30-9:30 a.m. Rio Hondo College (3600 Workman Mill Rd.)

For more information call the Chamber office at (562) 698-9554

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AROUND TOWN

City of Whittier implements commercial recycling program

The City recently mailed letters to businesses encouraging commercial recycling. California Assembly Bill 341 (Chesbro, 2011) (California Public Resources Code §42649), requires businesses and public entities that generate four cubic yards or more of waste per week and multifamily residential dwellings with five or more units to recycle. The purpose of the law is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste from landfills and expand opportunities for recycling in California.

The new State law requires cities to implement a mandatory commercial recycling program that includes education and outreach to explain the State requirement, provide information on how to recycle, monitor businesses to identify those that are not meeting the requirement to recycle and inform them of the State requirement. The City must also report program implementation information to the State on an annual basis.

Businesses can use one or any combination of the following options in order to reuse, recycle, compost or otherwise divert solid waste from disposal:

- Self-haul to a recycling center.
- Subscribe to recycling service with the hauler authorized by the City to collect, haul, carry, or transport recyclable material. Contact Consolidated Disposal Service (800) 299-4898 to subscribe.
- Sell your recyclable material with a market value to a recycling service. The sale of recyclable materials must be documented by a bill of sale, receipt or other documentation satisfactory to the City Director of Public Works.

The law does not specify what materials or how much your business should recycle, but starting with typical household and office recyclables is a good place to begin. This might include office paper and mail, newspapers, magazines and catalogs, cardboard, glass and plastic bottles and containers, plastic bags and film. and cans.

Additional information can be found on the CalRecycle website at www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/recycling/ or by calling the City Customer Service line at (562) 567-9530.

Celebrate the exciting world of Latin Art at the Whittier Art Gallery

From Wednesday, January 17 to from 7 to 10 p.m. All artists are welcome. Saturday, January 27, the Whittier Art The fee is \$20 and both male and Gallery will be hosting a group show of Latin artists, which will include well known and emerging artists. There will be paintings in all mediums from oil to watercolor, sculptures, photography, jewelry and more.

Well known artist and teacher, Lisa Keffer-Ruiz is curating the show which will reflect the rich diversity of Latin cultures and the contributions of local artists to the community. It is the Gallery's hope that the work of these artists will inspire the conversations that will move forward appreciation of this very relevant and beautiful art genre. The reception will be held on Saturday, January 20 from 2 to 5 p.m. and the public is enthusiastically invited.

Also at the Gallery

female models are provided. For further information, call John Williams at (951) 236-0862.

The Gift Shop: Textiles, jewelry, cards, prints, paintings, and more one of a kind treasures by the Gallery's award winning members are available for purchase. Prices are deliberately kept low to enable the community to own fine art work at reasonable prices.

Ongoing Book Sale: Exciting art and other books are available for the donation you choose to make.

The Whittier Art Association is a nonprofit organization and memberships and donations to the Gallery are tax deductible. For further information, stop by the Whittier Art Association and Gallery located at 8035 Painter Avenue or call (562) 698-8710. The Gallery is

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small **Businesses accepting applications** for 2018 classes

You built your business, they'll help you grow it! The Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program is a scholarship-based program (paid for by Goldman Sachs) for qualified small business owners who are interested in growing their business and adding jobs. It offers you valuable skills, the opportunity to access financial capital, powerful networking opportunities, and much more.

It is a practical 11-session business entrepreneurship program that examines business fundamentals through the lens of actual business experiences, provides you with one-on-one business advisory services, and helps you develop and implement a business growth plan tailored to your own business.

Classes start in May 2018 and run for eleven weeks, one day per week, in Los Angeles.

Who should apply?

- 1) owners or co-owners of a small business
- 2) business in operation for at least two years
- 3) have revenues in last fiscal year of at least \$150,000
- 4) have at least four employees, including the owner

Visit www.10ksbapply.com to apply today! Deadline to apply is January 17, 2018. To learn more, or RSVP for an upcoming local information session webinar, please email 10000sb@lbcc.edu, or call (562) 938-5054.

From Maddi's Closet looks to enhance assistance for children with cancer

Helping children suffering from cancer was the focus of the From Maddi's Closet Board of Directors meeting recently as it works on a Strategic Plan to increase the non-profit organization's effectiveness.

The Strategic Plan process began with Board Members doing a candid assessment of the organization's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.



From Maddi's Closet

Among the strengths Board Members identified were: the clarity of its mission to help children suffering from cancer, its local focus and relatively small size, the passion and commitment of those assisting the organization, good donor support, strong youth involvement, positive reputation,

personal connection to the community, and relations within the medical profession. Board Members also noted the group's good financial stewardship and record of efficiency in performing a large amount of work with no paid employees.

In terms of limitations, the Board noted that the needs of young cancer patients in Los Angeles and Orange Counties far exceed the resources currently available to From Maddi's Closet. The Board cited a need to grow existing revenues in order to better serve patients, and to ensure the long-term sustainability of the organization as it works to address those needs. Volunteer resources will also require expansion to meet the growing needs in the fight against pediatric cancer.

Several opportunities for growth and enhancements were discussed by Board Members who indicated that the From Maddi's Closet message can be extended to additional communities in the area. Comments were also supportive of exploring partnerships with other organizations and developing new fundraising events.

Challenges facing From Maddi's Closet were discussed as being largely external and similar to those facing other non-profit organizations. Looming changes in health insurance coverage and tax laws have the potential for increasing the amount of patient costs not covered by insurance and reducing the funds available to provide necessary patient services, equipment, and assistance. Such changes could negatively impact the organization's ability to carry out its mission without securing additional financial support.

To make a gift by mail, send your check or money order to From Maddi's Closet,

Life Drawing Group: Meets at the open Wednesday through Sunday from Gallery the 1st Friday of each month 1 to 6 p.m.

15519 Surrey Lane, La Mirada, CA 90638, Donations may also be made online at www.frommaddiscloset.org. For information call (562) 947-3094.

East Whittier Lions Club invites community to night of laughter

On Friday, February 23, 2018, the East Whittier Lions Club will host a comedy night featuring professional comedians. The evening will include a 50/50 drawing, choice auction, dinner and dancing. The comedy night will begin at 6 p.m. at Friendly Hills Country Club, 8500 Villaverde Dr., Whittier. House helps restore these amazing Tickets are \$80 each or \$150 for two. For more information contact Lion Art Revueltas at (562) 201-1941 or eastwhittierlions@gmail.com.

Have you ever wondered what happens to a girl after she is rescued from human trafficking? Most of these girls have little to no education, lack a healthy family support system, and don't have any means to recover from the intense trauma that they have faced. That is why My Refuge House exists. By offering long-term therapeutic care in a family-style setting, My Refuge girls so that they have an education and can stand strong with a healthy support network. My Refuge House has homes established in Cebu, Philippines; an



Soroptimist monthly lunch to feature

anti-human trafficking activist

area with one of the highest amounts of child trafficking in the world.

Soroptimist International of Whittier would like to extend an invitation to women in the community to join them and their speaker, Amber Schlosser, for lunch on Tuesday, January 16 at 12 p.m.

at DoubleTree Hotel Whittier. Amber is the Development Director for My Refuge House and she is passionate in the fight against modern day slavery and believes that everyone has a duty to band together and stop it. She is energized by working with others who want to make a difference. A willing heart coupled with actions has the power to make dramatic change. Amber enjoys experiencing those changes with others! Come learn more about My Refuge House and how you can make a difference. Contact Dr. Wendy Kreider for more information at (562) 943-2431.

2018 State of the County

Featuring Supervisor Janice Hahn

DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton 13111 Sycamore Drive Norwalk, CA 90650

OF LOS

February 21, 2018 11:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m.

PRICE TO ATTEND

Lunch & Presentation \$35 Chamber Members \$50 Non Members

Table Sponsors Reserved Tables of (10) \$500.00

Major Sponsors \$1000.00 (Call for Details)

\$50 at the door based on space availability

For more info or to register, go online to whittierchamber.com or call (562) 698-9554

Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce | 8158 Painter Avenue | Whittier, CA 90602 |





Presented by the following Chambers of Commerce:

Cerritos **Downey** La Mirada Lakewood Montebello Norwalk **Pico Rivera** Whittier Santa Fe Springs







Sandra Hahn and her awesome staff at Crepes & Grapes Café served up a delicious lunch for Tasty Tuesday in November







Jessica Magdosku from Friendly Hills Bank Payroll, Christy Wyant from Martplan Insurance, Kim Praster from The Skin Room and Trese Childs

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CIDS

RENEWING MEMBERS

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

Assistance League of Whittier (562) 464-1959 MAP Property Management (562) 945-3404

Auntie's Restaurant (562) 464-1959

Brick & Co. Real Estate (562) 335-5269

Calvary Baptist Church (562) 698-8058

Children's Museum at La Habra (562) 905-9693

Community Escrow Services (562) 698-2220

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

> **GM Properties – Ben Greer** (562) 696-0200

La Casa del Cocinero (562) 295-6678

Leon Lesa's Cabnet & Handyman Service (562) 696-3521 Norm's Restaurants (562) 907-2760

S & R Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc. (562) 694-0110

Say Cheese Photography (562) 698-0530

> ServPro of Whittier (562) 698-5368

Shelter's Right Hand (562) 696-6382

The Skin Room (562) 536-1142

Steve's BBQ Restaurant (562) 789-0200

Whittier Area Genealogical Society (310) 995-8852

Whittier Art Association and Gallery (562) 698-8710

> Wilkinson Barneson Insurance Agency (562) 789-5704



SILENT AUCTION

Donation: \$50.00/ea.



Born at Beverly Hospital?

Calling all babies born between 1949 - present.

Join us for a celebration of the Beverly Babies Maternity Program and the grand opening of our brand new maternity suites.

Saturday, February 10, 2018 10am - 2pm

If you or someone you know was born at Beverly Hospital, this celebration is for you. For more information visit our website: **www.beverly.org**



309 West Beverly Boulevard, Montebello CA 90640

NEW MEMBERS

CELLULAR PHONES

T-Mobile

Jesse Arenas 13526 Whittier Blvd. Whittier, CA 90605 Phone: (562) 693-7565 Email: jesse.arenas@t-mobile.com Website: www.t-mobile.com

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CIVIC MEMBER

Henry Bouchot for Whittier City Council 2018 District 2 13006 E. Philadelphia St. Suite 307 Whittier, CA 90601 Phone: (562) 646-9296 Email: henry.bouchot@gmail.com Website: www.henrybouchot.com

where he lives with his wife and two boys.



SECURITY SERVICES

Aleco Security & Protective Solutions Inc. Carlos Lopez Whittier, CA Phone: (562) 646-6272 Email: alecoprotectiveservices@gmail.com Website: www.alecosecurityandprotectivesolutions.com

Aleco Security & Protective Solutions Inc. is a Veteran owned security firm that delivers a professional and effective security package for their clients. Although their company was formed a few years ago, the idea to form a security company stemmed from the owner's military service during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Given the USA's role in the Global War on Terrorism and the real threat to our nation, they stand to deliver a dedicated group of men and women to secure their community. Their mission statement is simple, "*For Continued Service,*" but it encapsulates the spirit of who they are. They will strive to be vigilant and continue this service for as long as they are needed.

Henry Bouchot is the founder of a nonprofit organization dedicated to

assisting disabled military veterans. As a former Marine Captain, he is passionate about helping his fellow veterans. He served as an attorney in

the Marines, and he found that it's true that one becomes their parents as

his were both entrepreneurs. In addition to starting a nonprofit, he is also running for Whittier City Council in April 2018. One of his main reasons

for doing so is his desire to completely revitalize Uptown Whittier, which is



JOIN ME IN BECOMING A CHAMBER MEMBER

TESTIMONIAL



As I start my 2nd year with the Whittier Chamber, I believe it was one of the best things I did when I decided to start my own business a year ago. Even though I have not been able to attend some of the events they plan, my information gets distributed through them regularly. New clients come in and say they found me through the Whittier Chamber. This is a great way to market and grow your business.

Barbara Dunagan, Integrity Tax and Notary Services

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:

Washington Blvd Animal Hospital (562) 693-8233

Whittier Secondary Education (562) 698-8121 x1260

SIGNS

Sofital Signs

Jason Arias Whittier, CA Phone: (562) 335-1316 Email: sofitalsigns@gmail.com Website: www.sofitalsigns.com

Jason Arias created Sofital Signs because his ultimate purpose is to make people smile. He believes design should positive, uplifting and enjoyed by everyone. It is also his belief that more can be accomplished when people combine their God-given talents and work together as a unified group. Jason started Sofital this past year and the name was inspired by his two girls "Sofia" & "Talia." For the past six years Jason did not create a single piece! He was constantly making excuses of how busy he was until something woke him up and told him to create again. Jason believes that everyone has talents in different areas but the hardest part is reaching deep down inside and pursuing that love. Sofital Signs is excited to be a part of the Whittier Chamber and give back to the community that they're a part of.



15 years:

T. Petropulos, Broker/Realtor (562) 947-1863

10 years:

Hillcrest Congregational Church & Country Day School (562) 947-3755

5 years:

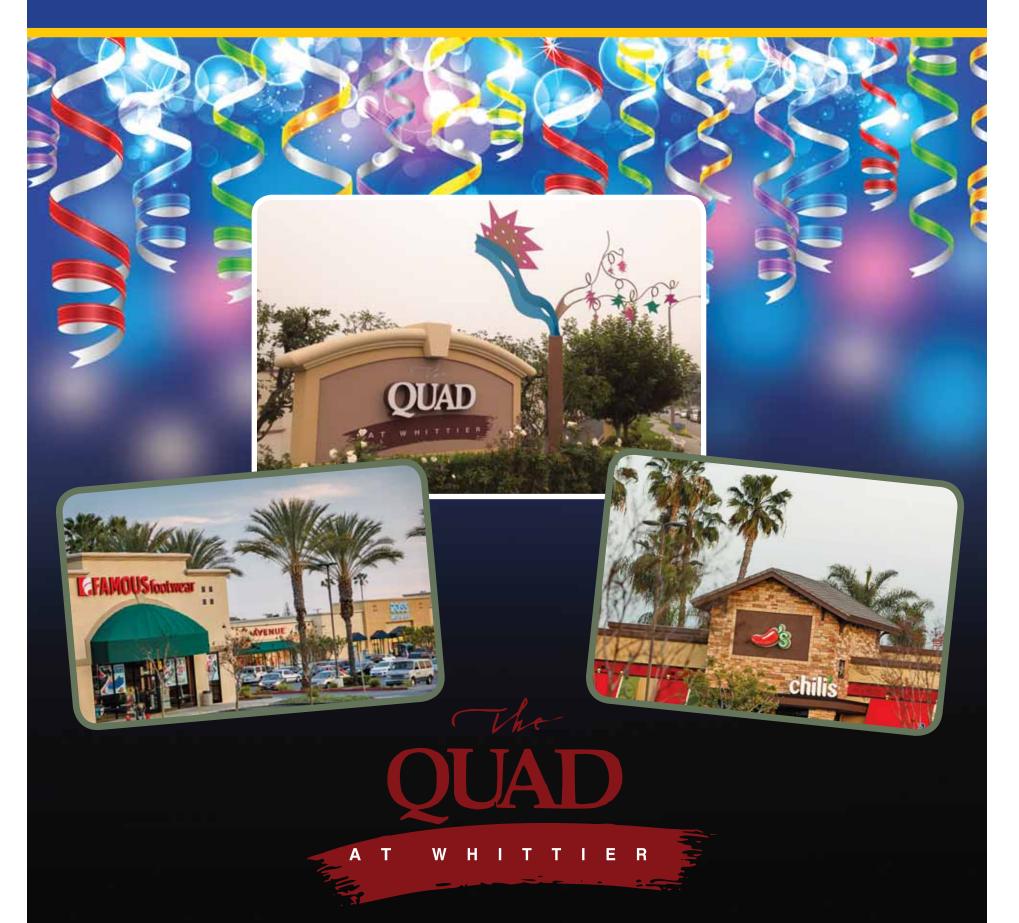
Cindy Birt Civic member

Chick-fil-A (562) 902-1550

County Line Animal Hospital (562) 697-6725

Garber's Independent BMW (562) 941-9545

Shop Local in the New Year



Big 5 • Blaze Fast Fire'd Pizza • Boost Mobile • Burlington • Chili's • China Wok Dollar Tree • Don Roberto's Jewelers • Famous Footwear • Fantastic Sam's • Fashion Q GameStop • GNC • G-Stage • H&R Block • Hawaiian Island BBQ • HeaRx Maki Yaki Japanese Grill • Marshalls • Maya Threading and Beauty • Michaels • N2 (Gelato) Petco • Quad Dental • Rite Aid • Ross Dress for Less • Rubi's Frosty Freeze Sally Beauty Supply • Sprint • Staples • Subway • T-Mobile • The Avenue • The Olive Garden The Quad Cleaners • The UPS Store • TJ Maxx • Vallarta Supermarkets Weight Watchers • Yogurtland

Whittier Boulevard & Painter Avenue • Whittier