

Members Say



"Leadership Conejo was so much more than I expected. Not only did we develop great relationships within our core group but we really saw the inside workings of our amazing cities. I can clearly say that I leave

Leadership Conejo with a much better understanding of the Conejo Valley and the people who make this a great community. It's also been a real privilege to work with the Chamber's Education Committee and the Teacher of the Month Program. The committee supports all aspects of education in so many ways and recognizes our outstanding teachers who work so hard. If you haven't participated, you need to."

Tania Garcia
Dir. of Development, Alumni Relations
Cal State University Channel Islands

Events

Breakfast: Fri., August 5, 6:45-9 a.m. Los Robles Greens, Thousand Oaks.

Mixer: Wed., August 17, 5:30-7 p.m., Thousand Oaks Fireside & Design.

Breakfast: Fri., Sept. 9, 6:45-9 a.m., School to Career, Los Robles Greens, Thousand Oaks.

Mixer: Wed., Sept. 21, 5:30-7 p.m., The Oaks Shopping Center.

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Online at www.conejochamber.org

We Create Opportunities for Business Success by

- Creating a strong local economy
- Promoting community
- Providing networking opportunities
- Representing the interests of business with government
- Taking political action
- Supporting a sustainable future



GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION

Law Enforcement and Fire Protection Representatives Brief Chamber's Governmental Relations Committee

Representatives from law enforcement and fire protection reported to Chamber members on crime statistics, fire season preparedness and the freeway closure at the June Governmental Relations Committee meeting.

Thousand Oaks Police Chief Jeff Matson spoke to the committee regarding budget issues; with a gap in

... a (Sheriff's Department) Citizen's Academy is held at the Olsen Road office ...



Lieutenant Steve Smith, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Lost Hills/Malibu Station; Thousand Oaks Fire Chief Ted Smith; Thousand Oaks Police Chief Jeff Matson and GRC Chairman Ryan Van Ommeren.

the county budget of approximately \$6 million, the Sheriff's Department is working to ensure no loss of personnel or programs.

When questioned about the upcoming release of state prisoners, he replied that the Sheriff's Department has been

reviewing how to accept these prisoners within the local level, but there are still many unanswered questions to provide an accurate statement. He also

reported that a Citizen's Academy is held at the Olsen Road office for those

—See GRC, cont. on page 6

ADVOCATING BUSINESS

Two-Dimensional Bar Codes to be Part of Taste of Conejo Promotions

In the past few months, you probably have begun to notice these black and white postage stamps on magazine articles, newspapers, marketing tools, business cards (O.K., everywhere). And your natural thought process would first lead you to think, "Why am I seeing these things everywhere? Hmmm, must be the next big thing."

After someone or some article explains that these postage stamps are two-dimensional bar codes, your natural response might be, "Oh, I see what two-dimensional bar codes are, but how can they help my business?"

With smartphones projected to outsell desktop and laptop PCs combined by 2012, two-dimensional (or 2D) codes are expected to achieve widespread use for the next few years to come—and for very good reason.

Today's consumers want quick, direct and immediate access to all relevant information pertaining to a particular company and 2D bar



codes make that possible.

If you are not familiar with 2D bar codes and how they work, they are similar to the barcodes (UPC) used by retailers to track inventory and price products at the point of sale. The key difference between the two is the amount of data they can hold or share.

UPC bar codes are linear one-dimensional codes and can only hold up to 20 numerical digits, whereas 2D bar codes can hold thousands of alphanumeric characters of information. Their ability to hold more information and their ease of use makes

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PROMOTING ECONOMY

Chamber to Bring Taste of Conejo Back to the Valley in September

The Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce invites you to the Taste of Conejo to experience a true taste of the Conejo Valley at the Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village on Tuesday, September 27, from 4:30-8 p.m.

Experience the Conejo Valley through an unforgettable evening of exceptional food and spirits, fashion, live music and more. More than 1,000 local profession-

als and residents are expected to attend. Chamber members and non-members alike are encouraged to participate as vendors.

This is a unique opportunity for guests to experience your business value, quality and customer service in person, in the beautiful surroundings of the Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village.

Download an application to host a booth at www.conejochamber.org

—Cont. on page 3

BUY LOCAL

Free Ads Available for Chamber Members on Buy Conejo Website

The Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce announces a new added value for Chamber members—a dynamic Buy Conejo website sponsored by The Oaks Shopping Center, Southern California Gas and the cities of Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village and Agoura Hills.

This is a new platform to

market your business to the public and Chamber members may advertise for free (non-members are welcome for an added fee). You must provide camera-ready artwork; should you need help designing the ad, there is a small charge.

Contact Brian Lampkins at Brian.Lampkins@universalwebsystems.com.



Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce

600 Hampshire Road, Suite 200
Westlake Village, CA 91361
805.370.0035 • Fax 805.370.1083
www.conejochamber.org

(Formerly the Thousand Oaks-Westlake Village Regional Chamber of Commerce)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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PAK Financial Group

Jill Lederer, President/CEO
Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce

Pete Turpel, Chairman-Emeritus
Phone On-Hold Marketing Systems

John LaRocca, Chairman-Elect
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CR Print

Susan Murata, Director-at-Large
Silver Star Automotive

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Tracy Chudoba-Wood, Caruso Affiliated

George Cogswell III, Ventura County Star

Betsy Friedman, NAI Capital, Inc.

Mary Guy, First California Bank

Tammie Helmuth, Conejo Awards

Peggy Hinz

Matthew Huss
Renaissance Agoura Hills Hotel

Greg Kaapuni, Attorney at Law

Paul Long, Oaks Christian School

Matthew Midura, Pepperdine University

Jacqueline Pick, Doctor of Chiropractic

Yavar A. Rafieha
Power of Home—Agoura Design Center

Angel Robertson, Dallas Capital

Lisa Safaeinili, Westminster Free Clinic

Candice Shehorn, Key Pointe Coaching

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Barbara Brown
Community Coordinator

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Mid-Year Update on Your Chamber

I hope everyone reading this has had a wonderful summer so far. It's been a busy and productive summer for your Chamber as we completed our projects for the first half of the year and shift into overdrive to achieve our goals for the second half of the year.

We are happy to report that we have already powered through our Strategic Plan for 2010-2012, so we were excited to create a brand new rigorous five-year Strategic Plan including both short and long term goals, so that we always have a clear-eyed strategy to best serve our members.

While the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber has been referred to recently as a "natural powerhouse for business" and a "most exceptional Chamber," we do not take that for granted. It is as important for us to stay cutting edge and achievement-oriented as it is for every business of every size and sector.

The Chamber's intention, both explicitly and implicitly, is always to support business growth and expansion. Whatever the priorities are of individual businesses,



Jill Lederer
President, CEO

we all share the future and the Chamber serves to connect and summon everyone to meet the challenge with a united, collaborative spirit.

The Chamber is here to help clear the way for opportunity to thrive, achievements to accumulate and aspirations to become reality. We want you and your business to have a fulfilling experience as you navigate your career to the destination you have chosen for it.

One management tip I will share with you is one we all know but can be difficult to implement: give your

Bar Codes

—Cont. from page 1

them very practical for small businesses.

With the proper code-scanning application, the user can scan or read a 2D bar code with their iPhone, Android or other camera-enabled smartphone. The 2D bar code will instruct the phone to complete one of many tasks the phone is able to carry out such as link to digital content on the web; make a call; send an email, SMS text or video; or display directions in your phone's GPS, to name a few.

To get started on your 2D bar code scanning adventures, simply follow these three easy steps:

1) Download any 2D bar code scanner/reader app on your smartphone. You will find them in your app store and most are free. A few suggestions would be *3GVision* (i-nigma) or, for AT&T smartphones, *AT&T Code Scanner*.

2) When you see a 2D bar code, open your app. Hold the phone over the bar code and center the bar code on your screen. The scanner will focus and read the barcode.

3) Contents are delivered right in the palm of your hands. The ability of 2D bar codes to connect people with businesses, each other and to multimedia digital content in a quick, precise and direct way is extremely useful for businesses and consumers alike.

Two-dimensional barcodes will be one of the new features at Taste of Conejo, coming September 27. Sponsor vendors will be working with Tim Fontenette from The BarPages to create their own 2D barcode and content so attendees with smartphones can immediately access more information about their company.

To learn even more about 2D barcodes and their uses for businesses, attend the Chamber's August 18 Technology Committee, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Janet Levett Chamber Conference Center, 600 Hampshire Road, Suite 202. Go to www.conejochamber.org in the calendar section for more information regarding Taste of Conejo and the Technology Committee.

Tim Fontenette, from The Bar Pages, contributed to this article.

The Chamber's intention, both explicitly and implicitly, is always to support business growth and expansion.

staff the freedom to delight you. If you've hired well and they've proven themselves to consistently meet your expectations in the past, then they are ready to prove their expertise in ways you may not have even considered. Let them! The impressive results you will see will more than make up for any dropped balls you have to retrieve.

Several months ago, I'd mentioned in this column that our Board member from the Four Seasons – Westlake Village, suggested that you share your own success stories with us. I've received several from you and would love to hear even more. Any format is just fine.

And speaking of Board members, please consider taking a leadership roll here at the Chamber and running for election for our dynamic 30-member Board of Direc-

tors. You will find more information and a link to the application on the Chamber website. You may also want to consider joining our energetic Ambassadors, a group of 35 accomplished business owners and executives, who represent the Chamber out in the community.

Finally, should you want to refer a new member to the Chamber, just call or e-mail our two terrific membership representatives, Suzanne Sommer at ssommer@conejochamber.org and Loree Bussard at lbussard@conejochamber.org and you will receive Chamber bucks to spend on many different Chamber events and services.

On behalf of the whole Chamber staff, we are here to serve you and look forward to seeing or hearing from you any time you need us.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY

Members Learn About Chamber Benefits at the June New Member Luncheon



More than 20 new members were introduced to the many features and benefits of Chamber membership at the June New Member Luncheon.

A panel of Chamber employees and member representatives presented promotional and networking options, Chamber committees, and a variety of extras that are afforded to all Chamber members, such as Lunch and Learn classes and free *Conejo Business Times* articles.

The group also took advantage of the networking opportunities available amongst themselves.

Lunch was provided

courtesy of Fresh Brothers Pizza, Westlake Promenade, 805.777.8448.

With six Southern California locations, Fresh Brothers was voted first place in the Best of the *LA Hotlist* for Best Pizza in the Los Angeles area.

Yes, they truly are brothers! Adam, Michael and Scott grew up in the Chicago suburbs in the 1970s. Every Sunday, they ordered pies from two old-style local pizzerias.

Now, Fresh Brothers gives Chicago pizza a fresh new California twist. They offer a gluten-free pizza and catering.



SUPPORTING EDUCATION

Greater Conejo Valley Community Foundation Awards Scholarships

The Greater Conejo Valley Community Foundation, under the auspices of the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce, awarded four \$1,000 scholarships this spring to graduating area high school seniors to assist with their future college financial needs.

Qualified students are required to attend an accredited vocational/trade school or a two-year or four-year college and have a grade point average of 2.8 or above. A letter of recommendation from a high school counselor and an employer, plus their essay on, "What lessons have you learned from being an employee and what do you enjoy most about your work experience," were also included for consideration.

This year's winners were

presented a recognition certificate at their schools' individual awards presentations. The actual check is sent directly to the school they will be attending.

This year's winners are Andrea Martinez of Westlake High School; Veronica Lin of Thousand Oaks High School; Alexandra Rasmussen of Agoura High School and Alexandra Kiefer of La Reina High School.

The Foundation would also like to recognize the supporters of the education scholarship fund drive. Those who provided \$1,000 are Sinclair Co., Waste Management and Sage Publications. Also contributing to the fundraising effort were the Business Breakfast Network Group, Jane Carlson and Colleen Briner-Schmidt.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Chamber Completes Special City Projects

The Chamber conducts special projects for the cities of Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village and Agoura Hills. These projects are part of contracts that the Chamber holds with each of the three cities. The various contracts designate when each project must be performed. This year all three projects were due at the end of June.

The city of Thousand Oaks and the city of Agoura Hills require extensive retail center reports, which inform the cities where new retail businesses and vacancies exist. Sarah Ekeberg, Communication and Special Projects Manager, has es-

entially walked retail centers throughout these cities, visiting every retail business in all of Thousand Oaks (including Newbury Park) and Agoura Hills.

Additionally, Ekeberg conducted a comprehensive business census for the city of Westlake Village. The data from this census is necessary for future economic planning and for monitoring the sales tax allocations made to Westlake Village by the state of California. The census necessitated that the Chamber mailed and called all retail and non-retail businesses in Westlake Village to obtain census data.

Taste of Conejo

—Cont. from page 1

TasteOfConejo.org. Submit completed vendor applications to Director of Community Relations and Events, Kelli Lighthizer. You won't want to miss this one-of-a-kind exposure opportunity! Vendor and sponsor applications are due September 1.

Pre-register online to attend the event at the discounted rate of \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members. Tickets will be available at the door as well, \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members. Only those guests over the age of 21 will be allowed admittance. Go to TasteOfConejo.org to register online before September 21.

Take advantage of being showcased as a key player in the Conejo Valley. Par-

ticipants already registered (as of print deadline) include: Silver Star Automotive Group, First California Bank, Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village, Waste Management, California Lutheran University, Montecito Bank & Trust, Costco Wholesale, Nothing Bundt Cakes, The Olive Vineyard, Crunchies Food Company, Togo's-Westlake Village, Marmalade Café, Sunset Hills Country Club, Anheuser-Busch InBev, Cantara Cellars, Ladyface Alehouse & Brasserie, AB Caffe Services, Ventura Limoncello Company, Riverbench Winery, The Acorn, Bogopod.com, Kiwanis Club of Thousand Oaks, American Vision Solar, East Oaks Dental Group, Dr. Jacqueline Pick, *Welcome to the Neighborhood Magazine*, Oaks Christian School and Calvary Community Church.

SUPPORTING BUSINESS

Technology Committee: Attorney Summarizes New Media Risks for Employers

What electronic communication in the workplace belongs to the employer, and what belongs to the employee? What rights do employers and employees have regarding that communication?

Shane Loomis, of the Loomis Law Firm and part of the Ventura County Bar Association affinity program, outlined those issues at the June Technology Committee meeting.

Loomis, who has a background in information technology in addition to a law degree, spoke about privacy rights of California employees and highlighted steps employers can take to control the dissemination of confidential information, analyze employee conduct, and prevent unintended consequences in using modern communication technologies.



Shane Loomis, Loomis Law Firm

He also summarized trends and issues in technology use in the workplace, how use is regulated, how the privacy interest is balanced against the needs of employers, and how employers can implement policies and procedures to protect themselves.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Chamber Now Accepting Nominations for Board of Directors Elections

The Chamber is currently seeking a limited number of nominations for candidates representing businesses in Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village and Agoura Hills for the 2012 Board of Directors.

Interested members who would like to donate their time and provide leadership to a premier organization with an outstanding reputation should contact the Chamber at 805.370.0035 for a form, or download an online version from the Chamber's website at www.conejochamber.org under

the *About the Chamber* tab. Selected candidates will serve a three-year term of office and only those members who have a history of good standing in the Chamber and have been a member for more than 90 days prior to the election are eligible for nomination as a director. The nominating committee is in the process of developing a slate of candidates to run for the 2012 Board of Directors. Applications must be returned to the Chamber office by Friday, August 26, 2011.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

Calling for Recognition Award Nominations

The Chamber Board of Directors is seeking nominations from the Chamber membership for the following prestigious awards to be presented at their annual recognition dinner in 2012:

Business of the Year – This distinguished award is presented to a local business that is a member of the Chamber of Commerce who demonstrates good business practices and customer service, and exemplifies outstanding service to the community.

Man of the Year – This distinguished award is presented to an outstanding gentleman who demonstrates high standards, ethics and service to the Chamber of Commerce and the community.

Woman of the Year – This

distinguished award is presented to an outstanding woman who demonstrates high standards, ethics and service to the Chamber of Commerce and the community.

Volunteer of the Year – This distinguished award is presented to an individual who has given his/her time and talents to the Chamber of Commerce and the community.

Deadline for Nominations is Friday, September 30, 2011. Nominations will only be accepted on the nomination form. Forms are available at www.conejochamber.org.

Please join us for the 2012 Recognition Dinner and Gala on Friday, January 27, 2012, at the Four Seasons Hotel, Westlake Village.

Meet the Chamber Board Members

The Chamber continues in this and subsequent issues of the Conejo Business Times, to introduce readers to members of the Chamber's Board of Directors. Board members devote significant time to the Chamber, attending monthly meetings and Chamber functions.



Leonard Greenlee

Leonard Greenlee is the Facilities Management Director for Baxter Healthcare in Westlake Village. In his position Greenlee oversees facilities planning and provides administrative support to Baxter facilities in Irvine, Los Angeles, Thousand Oaks, Van Nuys and Westlake Village.

Greenlee began his career with Baxter Healthcare in 1984 in Information Technology where he served in various capacities providing computer systems and telecommunication support and leadership to Baxter's Hyland Division in Glendale. In 2001 Greenlee transferred to Baxter's facilities organization to lead the project of moving the newly formed Baxter BioScience Division into a new headquarters in Westlake Village. Prior to joining Baxter, Greenlee proudly served eight years in the United States Marine Corps.

Greenlee holds an associate in arts degree from Glendale Community College, a bachelor of science degree in computer information systems from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and a master of science degree in telecommunications management from Golden Gate University.

Greenlee is in his fourth year as a member of the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, has previously served as the Chamber representative to the Thousand Oaks Business Roundtable, and this year is serving as a member of the Chamber's Executive Committee in the role of Treasurer, as well as board member for the Greater Conejo Valley Community Foundation. Greenlee also serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the United Way of Ventura County.

Originally from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, he currently resides in Moorpark with his wife Karla.



Thank You for Renewing

Exceptional businesses invest in the Chamber because they recognize the value of membership.

44 Years Janss Marketplace	7 Years Agoura Sash & Door, Inc.
34 Years Employment Development Department	Cabrillo Economic Development Corp. True North Leadership, Inc.
27 Years Playlist 92.7 FM	6 Years The Coughlin Group
26 Years Grover-Hollingsworth & Assoc., Inc. Pierce Brothers Valley Oaks Griffin Mortuary	5 Years Al Collins Handyman Conejo Valley Masonic Center Assoc.
23 Years Kohlbrand Law Office	4 Years Advanced Prosthodontic Specialists Fisher & Associates, Inc.
22 Years Steele, St. John & Cohen, LLP	Mastro's Steakhouse Sage Bankcard
19 Years Town & Country Travel Truog-Ryding Company, Inc. dba The Ryding Company	3 Years A Rental Connection AIM Resources Catalyst 4 You Ventura Limoncello Company, LLC
17 Years JRP Productions	2 Years California HR Rescue / A Division of TalentWealth Cantara Cellars Express Employment Professionals Hampton Inn & Suites - Thousand Oaks Integra Design Services Merchant Rewards Network Power of Home The Edge World Group Securities
16 Years Chatsworth Products, Inc.	
14 Years Hang, William M., DDS, MSD The Simpson Co., Inc.	
12 Years McClave Jewelers	
11 Years AXICOM, Inc. Mark Anthony / Pianist	
10 Years HOEFFLIN BURROWS, A Law Corporation	1 Year Air System Solutions, Inc. Applied AxioMetrics Cal-State Site Services Conejo Valley Electric Corrigan's Steakhouse EMS Training Institute, Inc. IT Crafters Sign Solutions Sylvan Learning Center, Westlake The Barkley Pet Hotel & Day Spa Training Solutions
9 Years Emerald Coast Landscapes, Inc. Street Scene Limousine	
8 Years SoCal Self Storage - Westlake Westside Remodeling, Inc.	

PROMOTING BUSINESS

Business Briefs: Announcements

Nightlite Networkers Donate to Charitable Cause

Nightlite Networkers (NLN) turned their monthly social on the fourth week of the month into a fundraiser with the help of guidance from John La Rocca, who connected the group with TOI Tapas Bar.

The owner of TOI Tapas Bar was more than willing to donate to one of NLN's charitable organizations.

NLN Member, and Realtor, Joel Reznick suggested that they contribute the proceeds to the CSMAR Public Benefit, which gives money to the Japanese Earthquake Relief and gets matched by the California Association of Realtors, earning NLN a donation of just shy of three hundred dollars.

More than 40 people attended and enjoyed great food, wine and company, all while supporting a great cause.

To check out Nightlite Networkers please go to www.nightlitenetworking.com or call Sarah Shirazi Reznick at 805.630.7402.

Conejo Free Clinic Invites Community to Visit

The Conejo Free Clinic (CFC) in Thousand Oaks is hosting summer gathering that is free to the community: Coffee with the Conejo Free Clinic on Friday, August 19, 8 to 9 a.m.

A light lunch, clinic update and tour will be hosted. Learn about the 80-plus all-volunteer doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners and others who ensure that 5,000 underserved people receive medical care without charge every year.

CFC's medical staff are top professionals from Los Robles Hospital, Amgen, Kaiser Permanente, UCLA and private practices.

Learn about the CFC mission and how it works; how to join the circle of donors who help make it possible; and how to volunteer.

There is no charge, but reservations are required to 805.379.1918 or 805.444.6746. Visit online at www.conejofreeclinic.org.

BetterMen Sponsors Men's Networking Event

BetterMen.org, a life coaching resource for men and their families, is sponsoring a Men's Only Networking Happy Hour on Thursday, August 11 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Adobe Cantina at 29100 Agoura Road in Agoura Hills.

BetterMen.org director Wayne M. Levine said, "This is a great opportunity to be with only men to talk about business, and whatever else comes up. Our last event was a great success and we're looking forward to another terrific event."

Ten dollars at the door buys you appetizers, no host-bar, a networking table for promotional literature, and a crowd of great men.

Download a flyer at www.BetterMen.org/adobe.jpg for additional details or call 818.879.1600.

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PROMOTING BUSINESS

Welcome New Members

Twenty Businesses Invest in Their Success

We welcome 20 new members. Be sure to check out their services and products, and use them whenever possible. Learn more about them at www.conejochamber.org. There's strength in our numbers!

BrightStar of Thousand Oaks	Crane Technology	Fitness Movement	LightGabler LLP	Peggy Hinz
Chef Richard's Private Parties and Catering	Creative One Billing Solution	Global Guidance, LLC	Loud Voice	State Restoration, Inc.
Cornerstone Law Center, Inc.	Elizabeth Ribbons' Dzyn Ur Lyf	Gumm & Green Attorneys at Law	Paradise Capital Group LLC	Topa Management Company
	Elliot Sturman	Jefferson Caverly	Peak Technical Staffing USA	Westlake Risk & Insurance Services, Inc.
		Language Web		



Networking at Night Mixer

Glam It Up... Escape to The Oaks


**Wednesday
September 21, 2011
5:30 - 7 p.m.**

Hosted by:
The Oaks Shopping Center
350 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Treat yourself to an evening at The Oaks, our charming local escape with the best of everything... great retail, great dining, and great fun! Join fellow professionals for a night of networking that will leave you craving more.

Chamber Members: \$5 Non-Members: \$15
For more information, call or visit:
805.370.0035 • www.conejochamber.org
Join us on Facebook

NETWORKING · FOOD · PRIZES · MUSIC · NETWORKING



JUMP START Networking Breakfast


Hire, Inspire, Retire or Fire: Managing the Employee Life Cycle

**Friday, August 5, 2011
6:45 - 9 a.m.**

California HR Rescue's **Kay Diamond** joins forces with **Lou Klein**, employment law attorney with Jackson DeMarco Tidus & Peckenpaugh, and **Leo Costantino**, Risk Management Inspector General, Los Angeles County, to lead a dynamic discussion about a strategic approach to managing employees.

Los Robles Greens Banquet Center
299 S. Moorpark Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

Registration and networking begin at 6:45 a.m.
Program starts at 7 a.m.

Special thank you to breakfast sponsor: 

Emcee: Dave Burns, Cover2Cover Music

Pay by 10 a.m. Thursday, August 4, & save!
Members: \$20, and listing on the Networking HOT SHEET!
Non-Members: \$30
Walk-In Members: \$27 · Non-Members/Guests: \$37
No refunds or transfers

Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce
600 Hampshire Road, Suite 200, Westlake Village, CA 91361
805.370.0035 FAX 805.370.1083 www.conejochamber.org



PROMOTING BUSINESS

Meet the New Members

Paradise Capital Group Acquires Paraiso Town Center in Thousand Oaks

Real estate investment firm Cardinal Equities, through its affiliate Paradise Capital Group, has acquired the 50,000 square-foot retail and office complex *Paraiso Town Center* in Dos Vientos Ranch, Thousand Oaks.

The Mediterranean style complex features a children's playground and landscaped common areas with fountains. The centerpiece is an outdoor amphitheater with a performance stage and movie screen.

Retail tenants include

Boney Mountain Coffee, Red Coral Restaurant, Fitness Together, The Art Box and Paraiso Cleaners. Office tenants include ETF Portfolio Management and Paraiso Family Dental and Orthodontics.

"This is a wonderfully designed and well thought out retail center, and we view it as one of the retail jewels in our portfolio," said Peter Cohen, President of Paradise Capital Group. "We are in a position to aggressively market the office and retail space, in order to attract the best possible tenant mix to serve Dos Vientos and the surrounding area."

For lease information, contact Paradise Capital Group at 310.271.7273.

Organic Pizzeria Offers Healthier Options

A family's commitment to eating healthy gave birth to PizzaSalad. America's first truly organic pizzeria, PizzaSalad offers a menu made only with certified organic ingredients including low-fat cheeses, lean meats and fresh vegetables.

Gourmet pizzas and salads are made fresh with every order and gluten-free and vegan options are plentiful. Conveniently located on Thousand Oaks Blvd, PizzaSalad offers dine-in, take-out, online ordering, catering and delivery.

Celebrating

their third anniversary, PizzaSalad pledged a portion of July's sales to The Wellness Community, helping those with cancer.

"Eating pure, nutrient-rich organic foods is important for everyone, especially cancer patients. Organic is a philosophy of respecting our bodies and environment," explains a PizzaSalad Manager.

For more, visit PizzaSalad.com or stop by at 1655 East Thousand Oaks Blvd. in Thousand Oaks.



Roschke & Wall Roots for Clients' Success

While there are numerous CPA firms, Roschke & Wall, Business Advisors and CPAs, Inc. believes they are better than their competition.

Roschke & Wall, Business Advisors and CPAs, Inc. bring more to the table than just how to prepare a tax return or crunch the numbers.

They root for their clients' success and care about how their clients are achieving their goals.

They proactively work with their clients to plan ahead, keep the lines of communication open and answer questions as they come up.

Their success is determined by their clients' trust in knowing they are there for them every step of the way.

Kristine Vail, CPA has been focusing on making clients happy for over 15 years. She is a member of the AICPA and California Society of CPAs.

To find out more, call 818.222.0707 or visit www.calabasacpa.com.



Kristine Vail

Cornerstone Law Provides Innovative, Personalized Service

At Cornerstone Law Center, their focus is on providing innovative and personal service to their clients with both their estate planning and business services.

With their estate services they assist you with legal and personal advice that enhances your ability to transfer wealth to future generations in a constructive manner that avoids unnecessary costs, taxes and family strife.

They help you make effective plans for life events including gifting, business transfers, and health care goals. Their services include the design of your estate

plan; its implementation, review and maintenance; and ultimately the administration of your estate.

Cornerstone's business services can assist you in structuring your business from its creation, contracts, risk management, entity maintenance, general consultation, and transfers, buy-sell agreements, gifting, buy-out or sale.

Because your business is a complex undertaking they work closely with your advisors to avoid unintended consequences and to let you focus on managing your company.

Visit www.cornerstonelaw.com or contact Cornerstone at 888.686.7526 to find out more.

Ambassador Spotlight



Kathy Travis
AFLAC

Being an ambassador has been a privilege for Kathy Travis. She finds the Am-

bassadors are a group of professionals that understand what it takes to have their own business. At the mixers, they are happy to introduce and refer new business owners to others in the community.

Travis and her husband raised their sons (now 25 and 29) in the Conejo Valley. Her husband is a retired physician, and she is an independent agent with AFLAC.

After a family member had cancer, it was discovered all the out of pocket expenses that were not covered by medical insurance. In addition to what the medical insurance paid, an AFLAC cancer plan would have paid the family over \$25,000.

AFLAC has supplemental plans that pay cash when you or a family member gets hurt or sick. They have over 10 plans to choose from, so Travis is able to tailor a plan to fit their needs. Do they have an active family with kids in sports, are they planning a family, do they want disability insurance or are they concerned about catastrophic illnesses?

Employers are surprised that it does not cost them to add AFLAC to their existing benefit package, and their employees appreciate the very affordable rates. You may reach Travis at 805.241.1639 or kathy_travis@us.aflac.com.

Have You Ever Considered Becoming an Ambassador?

Would you like to become a member of the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber's Ambassadors? This highly visible welcoming arm of the Chamber is now accepting applications.

Qualifications include: you must be a Chamber member in good standing for 90 days; you must attend mandatory meetings, which are the last Tuesday of every month at noon; and you must attend at least 50 percent of new member ribbon cuttings that occur approximately three afternoons (at 4:30 p.m.) per week.

An Ambassador also participates and welcomes guests at the Networking at Night Mixers, held from 5:30-7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month.

If you would like to apply, please respond to Jan Smith at jsmith@conejochamber.org for an application. She or Kim Woods, Consul General, Kim-Woods@verizon.net, will address additional questions you may have.

EXTRAORDINARY CARE & CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

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Reach more than 5,000 readers throughout the Conejo Valley.

Call the Chamber for details.
805.370.0035

College Counselors Ease College Application Stress

Global Guidance, LLC was founded with a passion to serve high school students in their quest of higher education and global citizenry. School counselors, Kelley Springer and Laree Henning deliver cutting-edge, virtual counseling services to address the needs of high school students in the college admission process.

Independent counselors are in demand due to the increasingly competitive and complex process of applying to colleges.

As California public schools continue to face severe cuts to their counseling staffs, more families are retaining independent counselors.

By equipping students with the necessary skills and confidence to pursue their higher educational goals, Springer and Henning assist students in gaining admission to their best fit college where they will experience the greatest academic, social, and personal fulfillment.

For more information call 805.765.1485 or visit www.myglobalguidance.com.

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BUSINESS EDUCATION

Free Lunch and Learn Business Seminars Slated for August

Learn from peers and pros at the Chamber's free lunchtime education series. Bring your own brown-bag lunch and join fellow Chamber members at the Janet Levett Chamber Conference Center, 600 Hampshire Rd., Suite 202, Westlake Village.

This series is open to the first 20 respondents and advance reservations are suggested.

Lunch and Learn is free to Chamber members. Non-member cost is \$10. Pre-register online at www.conejochamber.org to reserve your place. Call the Chamber at 805.370.0035 for further information.

Wed., August 3, 12-1:30 p.m.

Online Social Networking for Business: Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn

Moriah Scoble, Symbiocracy.com



Online social networking provides a simple and affordable method to facilitate small business marketing. This presentation will briefly cover strategies, with an open forum for questions from the audience.

Wed., August 17, 12-1:30 p.m.

Be the Best Networker You Can Be: Learn the Art of Business Networking

Same day as the Mixer. Learn at lunch, practice that evening at the Networking at Night Mixer.

John LaRocca, Sage Bankcard



Sarah Shirazi Reznick, Merrill Lynch



Nicole Winner, Winner Quotes Insurance



Discuss how to meet, greet, network and get qualified leads at the evening's mixer.

- Five biggest networking mistakes.
- How to feel comfortable with cold introductions.
- How to manage leads.
- Choosing your power partners.
- Critiquing your result.

NETWORKING AT NIGHT

Local Eateries Triple Team for Stupendous Summer Mixer at Westlake Promenade

Three eateries at the Westlake Promenade teamed up for the Chamber's June mixer: Champagne French Bakery Café, Fresh Brothers Pizza and Menchie's Frozen Yogurt.

Located adjacent to one another, the three establishments turned the evening into a beautiful summer sidewalk gathering, with samples from all three restaurants.

Guests enjoyed great food and desserts, along with fantastic door prizes and valuable networking opportunities.

Chamber mixers are a great way to make new contacts to enhance your business. For information on future events visit www.conejochamber.org.

A multitude of terrific raffle prizes were donated, including:

- \$25 gift certificate, donated by Champagne French Bakery Café,
- Family style meal, donated by Fresh Brothers,
- \$10 gift card plus a

Menchie's T-Shirt, donated by Menchie's,

- Gift certificate for a comprehensive evaluation of a desktop computer or laptop, donated by Computer Power Unlimited,
- \$60 gift certificate for a deluxe studio business portrait session, donated by Photography by Joel,
- Deluxe family portrait session plus an 8" x 10" custom portrait, donated by Photography by Joel,

- Two hours of tutoring (to prevent summer learning loss), donated by Sylvan Learning Center Westlake Village,
- First month free rent with free use of move-in truck and free lock, donated by So Cal Self Storage Westlake,
- \$50 gift certificate, donated by Nite Nite Moon, and
- \$50 gift certificate, donated by BPL Design Group.



Menchie's Frozen Yogurt



Champagne French Bakery Café



Fresh Brothers Pizza

Call 760-729-1390 Today Overhaul your Business in our One-Stop Marketing Shop!

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At LYNCH INTERACTIVE We Build Online Solutions that Build Profitable Online Businesses!



Ask about our referral rewards program! Visit www.lynchinteractive.com/conejo-referrals to learn more!

GRC

—Cont. from page 1

who wish to learn more about the organization and to recruit volunteers.

Lieutenant Steve Smith with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Lost Hills/Malibu Station provided information on the July weekend closure of the 405 freeway. He also reported that the department was doing fairly well financially and that all five contract cities have signed new agreements with no reductions in service. When asked a question regarding the release of state prisoners, he replied that their system already dealt with a large number and they are working on the process that will be involved.

Both Matson and Smith stressed to the members that, in order to reduce property crime, keep their vehicles locked and not to leave items of value in view.

Thousand Oaks Fire Chief Ted Smith reminded everyone that fire season was definitely here and discussed ways to protect property. He also reminded the group that fireworks are illegal in Ventura County. Chief Smith reported on the status of the Fire Department budget and reported it was fiscally sound for this year with no planned service reductions. He listed the fire stations in the city and their locations and stated negotiations were under way for the possible relocation of Station 35 in Newbury Park.

Omission:

All photo credits for the Spirit of Community story in the July edition of Conejo Business Times are attributed to Marvin Steindler Photography.



BREAKFAST NETWORKING

Executive Director of CLU Center for Economic Research Presents Update at Breakfast

Bill Watkins, Ph.D., Executive Director for California Lutheran University Center for Economic Research and Forecasting, presented an economic update at the Chamber's Jump Start Networking Breakfast on July 8, at the

Los Robles Greens Banquet Center. Dr. Watkins revisits the Chamber with updated U.S. and California economic reports, including an in-depth review of the newly released California state budget. He led an informative dis-

cussion on the latest job figures (not so good, but expected) and the short-term outlook for California and how it compares to other states that are doing better in the jobs category.

Dr. Watkins slide presentation is available on the Chamber's website at www.conejochamber.org; click the left hand bar for seminars.

Sponsor was Lockheed Federal Credit Union, and audio courtesy of Dave Burns of Cover 2 Cover Music.

For future Chamber events, visit the calendar section of the Chamber's website.

A multitude of terrific raffle prizes were donated for the breakfast, including:

- *Hold On to Your N.U.T.s (non-negotiable, unalterable terms) The Relationship Manual for Men* and free half-hour coaching session, donated by author Wayne M. Levine, BetterMen.org,
- Silver ring with customized fit, donated by Diamonds & Champagne (Grandma Sharon Rose),
- Set of two eco-friendly reusable water bottles, donated by Conejo Awards,
- Set of two CountryWare traditions handcrafted pewter mugs, donated by Specialized Marketing Solutions,
- Two hours of tutoring (to prevent summer learning loss), donated by Sylvan Learning Center Westlake Village, and
- First month free rent with free use of move-in truck and free lock, donated by So Cal Self Storage Westlake.



New members introduced themselves and their businesses to the breakfast guests.



Tibor Marton, Lockheed Federal Credit Union



Bill Watkins, Ph.D., CLU

Technology Committee is Open to All Chamber Member Businesses

Keep Up With The Changes; Join the Tech Committee

Thurs., Aug. 18, 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.

How to Promote Your Business Using QR Barcodes

Speaker: Tim Fontenette, The Bar Pages

What are those squares? How can you use them to promote your business?

QR-codes (Quick Response code, a.k.a. matrix code, 2D barcode, etc.) are a type of barcode. You commonly see them on movie posters at the theater and product tags at the store.



With the proper software application, you can aim a cellphone camera at a QR-code and the web-enabled phone will open directly to a specific webpage (like a hyperlink).

Smartphones account for more than 30 percent of cellphones in use and are projected to outsell desktop and laptop PCs combined by 2012.

Learn how you can leverage marketing possibilities using this affordable technology.

Tech Committee is held at the Levett Chamber Conference Center. Go to www.conejochamber.org to pre-register, or call 805.370.0035.

Choose Belmont Village Thousand Oaks

OPENING SOON
ACT NOW FOR BEST SELECTION

Choosing a Senior Living community is one of the most important decisions you'll make for your family. There's a lot to consider. Care and safety are top priorities, but lifestyle and independence are important too. At Belmont Village, we don't think you should have to choose one or the other. As a leader in assisted living and memory care, we're known for our high operating standards, cutting edge enrichment programs, beautiful communities, and exceptional hospitality. When it comes to Senior Living, you should only have to make one choice.

Belmont Village Thousand Oaks Discover the Difference

- Licensed nurse on-site 24/7
- Medication management
- Assistance with daily living
- Award-winning Circle of Friends® memory program
- Dedicated Alzheimer's care
- Chef-prepared dining with 24 daily menu choices
- Free scheduled transportation daily
- On-site fitness center and wellness programs
- Technology center with wi-fi access
- Social activities and events
- Housekeeping and laundry
- Private apartments with no buy-in



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805.496.9301
belmontvillage.com



Belmont Village resident Dorothy W. with her daughter Marilyn.

RCFE Lic. 565801746 pending Above: Artist's Illustration

The Community Built for Life®



Business Briefs

—Cont. from page 4

Society Social Calendar Magazine Promotes Rhonnie Curt

Society Social Calendar Magazine announced that the magazine's Director of Marketing, Rhonnie Curt, has been named Publisher. Curt succeeds Society Magazine's Founder and well-loved Publisher Holly Mitchell, following her recent death.

During her two years as Director of Marketing, Curt expanded the magazine's scope and philanthropic liaisons in the community.

She also oversaw the launch of the electronic version of the magazine and expanded its on-line visibility overall.

Prior to joining Society Magazine, Curt worked for several Los Angeles advertising agencies and specialized in

entertainment industry clients.

"I am honored to assume the role of publisher of this dynamic publication that Holly Mitchell created," Curt explains.

"The opportunity to highlight the many wonderful people who give of their time, talent and resources to make the society in which we live a better place is both humbling and exciting."

Society Social Calendar Magazine is a bi-monthly magazine focusing on and celebrating philanthropic organizations and the people who support them.



For more information, visit www.societysocialcalendar.com.

Comedy in the Conejo Kiwanis Fundraiser Returns on August 14

The Kiwanis Club of Thousand Oaks Foundation presents Comedy in the Conejo V on Sunday, August 14, at the Canyon, 28912 Roadside Drive, Agoura Hills.

Registration, social hour and silent auction begin at 6 p.m., a live auction at 7:15 p.m., and the show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Cost is \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door, and \$15 per person minimum for drinks, appetizers or dinner.

For information and to register, go to www.TOKiwanis.org, or call 805.496.1904.

The Master of Ceremonies is Frazer Smith. The evening features five great comedians who have performed in Las Vegas, the Tonight Show, Improv, The Laugh Factory and more.

The fundraiser will benefit children, schools, seniors and others in need.

Nordman Cormany Hair & Compton LLP Elects Managing Partner

Partners at Ventura County's leading law firm, Nordman Cormany Hair & Compton LLP, recently elected veteran litigator Joel Mark to oversee the firm as Managing Partner.

The election comes as the firm enters its 71st year as a full-service law firm.

Mark is a noted expert on ethics, former chair of the State Bar committee on attorney fee arbitration, past member of its ethics committee and currently serves as the State Bar's Presiding Arbitrator. He has extensive law practice management experience, hav-

ing served on the executive teams of his former firms.

Serving with Mark on the management team are long-time NCHC leaders including George, former managing partner Michael O'Brien and Tamiann Cook, part of the firm's senior management team for 20 years and its Chief Executive Officer since 2002.

Mark received his undergraduate degree at the University of California, Berkeley and his juris doctorate at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. He has held leadership positions with several professional associations and the California State Bar.

For more information, visit www.nhc.com.

VCEDA Receives Grant To Develop Disaster Recovery Program

The Ventura County Economic Development Association (VCEDA) received a State Homeland Security sub-grant for \$66,821 to develop a business disaster recovery program for the county.

VCEDA is taking a lead role in bringing together business, government and local resources to develop a program and plan to improve businesses' ability to prepare, respond and recover from disasters.

VCEDA's Ventura County Ready Business Campaign will develop programs to engage and educate the Ventura County business community about disaster preparedness. Planning includes preparation for natural disasters

as well as made-made disasters including terrorist attacks.

The campaign will also identify and recruit business leaders to train and serve at the Ventura County Emergency Operation Center.

Another part of the campaign will be to compile a database and create a website with private sector emergency and response resources available for businesses.

VCEDA has already established the Ventura County Ready Business Advisory Council, made up of local business leaders, to help execute the plan. The council will be working with the Ventura County Emergency Planning Council (EPC), an advisory body whose mission is to lead a unified effort in improving disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery countywide.

Mediation: Ancient History for Modern Times

People have always been in conflict with one another over one issue or another. But thousands of years before attorneys got into the act, mediation was being used to effectively resolve disputes, saving people time, money, and aggravation.

According to Bernard Goodman, a Pepperdine University Certified Mediator, "Unlike litigation, which can be very divisive, mediation tends to be more cost effective and less time consuming and emotionally draining for participants in the process.

"Mediation has ancient beginnings, going back some 3,500 years, but the principles of finding solutions to conflicts through compromise remain today a formidable tool in bringing people together to settle disputed matters."

The key to moving everyone to

amenable resolution is greatly dependent upon the skill of the mediator, who should be trained in conflict resolution and use problem solving techniques to help guide disputants to find common ground.

Unlike public court hearings, mediation is a private, confidential process.

Attorneys and mediators work hand in hand in some situations. Often, to save the court time, judges will order mediation to help resolve domestic relations disputes (divorce, child custody, visitation) and, more frequently, in contract and civil damage cases.

Goodman suggested that when someone is thinking about hiring a mediator, he or she should check out the history of success of the mediators being considered.

Questions on mediation to Goodman at 805.222.5459 or by email at Bernard@mediation.com.

—Cont. on page 9

Showcase your business in a fresh new light!

At VCStar.com we produce web videos to tell your story and set your business apart.

Find out how VCStar videos can showcase your business in a fresh new light. Call video product specialist, Matt Gray at 805.437.0316 today.

To be included in Business Briefs or Meet the New Members, Chamber members can submit 100-word articles by the first working day of the month preceding the publication date (i.e., deadline for the October issue is September 1). Insertion is at the discretion of the Chamber and articles may be edited or held for future editions. Call the Chamber for details.

NAWBO-VC Invites You to a Summertime Mixer

Don't miss this opportunity to make connections and let others know what a great business you have.

Thursday, August 25th, 2011

LOS ROBLES GREENS GOLF CLUBHOUSE

5:30 pm Networking

6:30 pm – 8 pm Dinner and Program

Join us for a fun-filled, summer evening on Thursday, August 25th.

Register today and save with Early Bird Registration.

Register Now: Visit www.nawbovc.org

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION thru August 19th

MEMBERS \$35; NON-MEMBERS \$40

AFTER August 19th and at the door: \$45 for everyone.

Los Robles Greens Golf Course

299 S. Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

Phone: 805-495-6421



National Association of Women Business Owners – Ventura County
www.NAWBOVC.org 877.NAWBOVC

Register today at www.nawbovc.org





Business Briefs —Cont. from page 8

Norman Tentet Opens Gardens of the World's Ninth Jazz Concert Series

The Gardens of the World, located across from the Thousand Oaks Civic Center, will open its ninth annual jazz concert series with the Phil Norman Tentet on Sunday, August 7 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

The Phil Norman Tentet is a jazz ensemble comprised of some of Los Angeles's finest jazz musicians and arrangers.

The group was formed in 1996 and is about to release its sixth album titled "Encore." The talented band members have played with such music legends as Tom Jones, Julio Iglesias, Mel Torme, The Beach Boys, Barry Manilow, and many of the top swing bands.

The remaining Gardens of the World

concert schedule will feature the Barry Rillera Blues Band August 14, Open Hands August 21, and The Late Nite Big Band led by Joel Gray August 28.

Each of the free concerts will run from 5 to 6:30 p.m. with lawn seating available in front of the Gardens of the World American Bandstand. Blankets, lawn chairs, and picnic baskets are welcomed; however, smoking, glass containers and pets are not allowed.

The Gardens of the World is located at 2001 Thousand Oaks Boulevard.

Free parking is available along the street. Parking for a fee is available across the street at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Center.

For additional information or sponsorship opportunities, contact Marianne Coulson at 805.557.1135 or Coulson@hoganfoundation.org.

Sylvan Learning Suggests Creative and Memorable Summer Activities for Kids

Ann Zucker of Sylvan Learning located in Westlake Village suggests ways to inspire some memorable fun this summer and keep children learning in the process.

Sylvan Learning is North America's leading provider of in-center and live, online tutoring at home to students of all ages, grades, and skill levels.

Kids can write their own short plays from their favorite books. If your kids are musicians, they can choose their favorite selections or write their own songs.

They'll have an easier time with study buddies if your kids have been

given a summer reading list.

Start a book club and sharpen reading skills. If your kids have been given a summer reading list, they'll have an easier time of it if they work with study buddies. *For a list of recommended summer reading, visit www.Sylvan-Learning.com.*

Do some gardening and learn geometry, botany and working within a budget.

Give them an allowance for seeds and help them design the plot, nurture it, and reap the benefits.

Your main purpose, of course, is to keep your kids' minds and bodies active, their social skills keen, and their summer enjoyment high.

For more information about Sylvan Learning located in Westlake Village, please contact Zucker at 805.497.3216 or sylvanwestlake@yahoo.com.

Job and Career Center Hosts August Career Shops

Tuesday, August 9: Power of VOS (Virtual OneStop), 9 a.m. – noon, learn about the Virtual OneStop website and how you can use the various tools in the system to build your resume and customize your job search to a specific location and occupation. You must have basic computer skills.

Thursday, August 18: Resumes that Sell, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., hands-on workshop providing assistance in completing

a resume, cover and thank-you letters. Thursday, August 25: Winning Interviews, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., supplies the tools to make a lasting first impression when interviewing.

Career Shops are offered at no cost to Job Seekers. Space is limited.

Prior registration required by calling the East County Job & Career Center at 805.955.2282 to enroll.

Visit www.venturacountyjcc.org for a calendar of career shops.

The East County Job & Career Center is located at 980 Enchanted Way, Simi Valley.

T.O Police Foundation Hosts 15th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

The Thousand Oaks Police Charitable Foundation (TOPCF) hosts the 15th Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Monday, October 24 at the exclusive North Ranch Country Club in Thousand Oaks.

The fun-filled day begins at 8:30a.m. with a breakfast buffet and putting contest. Shotgun start at 10 a.m. with lunch and beverages throughout the day, hole-in-ones and other contests.

Helicopter ball drop with a fabulous grand prize of a 5-night Hawaiian vacation at the exclusive Kauai Marriott Resort on Kalapaki Beach courtesy of

Pleasant Holidays will take place. If golf isn't for you, join TOPCF at 5 p.m. for dinner, silent and live auctions.

Raffle tickets are available for \$10 each or three for \$20. Sponsorships start at \$300. Golf packages start at \$400 per player.

Dinner tickets are available for \$35 per person. All proceeds directly benefit Police Youth and Volunteer Programs.

Donations are needed for this event. Receive great publicity for your company and support TOPCF with your tax-deductible donation. Gift certificates, raffle items and auction items are greatly appreciated.

Visit www.SupportTOPCF.org to purchase tickets and information or call 805.373.2302.

T.O. Farmers' Market Reverts Back to Original Hours of Operation

The Thousand Oaks Farmers' Market, located at The Oaks Shopping Center, East end parking lot at Wilbur & Thousand Oaks Boulevard, is returning to its original hours of operation, changing from 2 to 6 p.m. to 1:30 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays.

The Thousand Oaks Certified Farmers' Market offers an array of freshly grown produce including a supply of organic varieties, fresh cut flowers, fresh local seafood and more.

For more information, call the Ventura County Certified Farmers' Market Association at 805.529.6266 or visit www.vccfarmersmarkets.com. Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/vccfm.

A Summer School Alternative: How Tutoring Can Benefit Your Child

Summer is an ideal time to improve skills. The hustle that accompanies the school year can be a great source of stress for many students who must juggle homework, activities and more.

Without the pressure of typical school-year obligations and seven or eight hours more free time each day for three months, students are better able to reap the benefits of tutoring during the summer.

"Many children could use a little extra help in school and summer is a great time to get ahead or address problem areas," says Eileen Huntington, co-founder of Huntington Learning Center.

At the Huntington Learning Cen-

ter, teachers work with students on individualized programs. It's not unfathomable that a child who learns at a different pace or grasps concepts in a different manner might fall behind in a class of 20 or 30 students.

Individualized teaching methods help get to the root of the problem. Teachers perform an academic evaluation of each student before beginning instruction so that they can first understand the child's strengths and weaknesses.

Quality tutoring service providers measure student development at regular intervals and keep parents well-informed of their child's achievement.

For more information about tutoring at Huntington Learning Center in Westlake Village area and to sign up your child, contact 805.494.3044 or visit www.huntingtonlearning.com.

SoCalGas Offers Incentives for Energy Efficiency

Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) announces that more than \$39 million in rebates and incentives are available this year to business customers for qualifying energy-efficiency projects—the largest pool of incentive money in the utility's 140-year history.

SoCalGas made the announcement at the sixth Annual Energy-Efficiency Expo in Downey, where over 300 business representatives learned how they could save money and energy through the utility's programs or the latest technologies.

Local businesses were recognized for their outstanding efforts in energy efficiency and conservation. Because

of their efforts they've reduced emissions and saved on natural gas, equivalent to taking 1,200 cars off the road.

The utility's incentives cover many types of natural gas equipment, as well as energy-saving projects. The incentive payouts are based on the amount of natural gas saved, and they often reach several thousands of dollars per project.

In addition to assessment tools to help business customers identify convenient energy efficiency improvements, rebates are available for more than 100 pieces of qualifying energy-efficient equipment, such as insulation, water heaters, and a variety of food service equipment.

For more information, visit socialgas.com/energyefficiency. Programs are subject to change without notice.



Our Commitment to the Communities We Serve.



THINK GREEN.®

Find out more at KeepingVenturaCountyClean.com or give us a call at (805) 522-9400.



August 2011 Calendar of Chamber Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 New Referral Group (NRG)	2 Conejo Professional Alliance Nightlite Networkers	3 Lunch & Learn <i>Online Networking</i> 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. Education Committee DARK	4 Business Breakfast Network Preferred Referral Alliance Synergy Bus. Connections Westlake Leaders	5 Jump Start Networking Breakfast, 6:45 - 9 a.m. Los Robles Greens SCORE Counseling
8 New Referral Group (NRG) Conejo Connectors	9 Conejo Professional Alliance	10	11 Business Breakfast Network Preferred Referral Alliance Westlake Leaders	12 SCORE Counseling
15 New Referral Group (NRG)	16 Conejo Professional Alliance Manufacturing Committee DARK Nightlite Networkers	17 Lunch & Learn <i>Art of Networking</i> 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. Networking at Night Mixer 5:30 - 7 p.m., Thousand Oaks Fireside Design Ctr.	18 Business Breakfast Network Preferred Referral Alliance Synergy Bus. Connections Technology Committee QR Codes, 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. Westlake Leaders	19 SCORE Counseling
22 New Referral Group (NRG) Conejo Connectors Monthly Mailer Flyers Due by 12 Noon	23 Conejo Professional Alliance	24 Government Relations Committee 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.	25 Business Breakfast Network Preferred Referral Alliance Westlake Leaders	26 SCORE Counseling
29 New Referral Group (NRG)	30 Conejo Professional Alliance	31		



Networking at Night Mixer

Grillin' Up a Good Time

Wednesday
 August 17, 2011
 5:30 - 7 p.m.



Hosted by:
Thousand Oaks Fireside & Design
 104 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd.
 Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Network and let your business sparks fly with local professionals in a sophisticated, yet relaxing atmosphere... at Thousand Oaks Fireside & Design. Featuring the latest materials and technology in the industry, you will be captivated by their progressive and fashionable style of retailing fireside, barbeques, mailboxes, and home products.

Chamber Members: \$5 Non-Members: \$15
 For more information, call or visit:
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Amenities Include:

- Private entrance
- 14 changeable classroom tables
- Flat panel monitor for computer and DVD projection
- 30 executive and 15 metal folding chairs
- Kitchenette (sink, microwave, refrigerator, coffee-maker)
- Private restroom

Visit the Chamber Store at
www.conejochamber.org or call 805.370.0035



Chamber Promotes New Member Businesses at Ribbon Cuttings



Chamber Ambassadors joined **CBC Federal Credit Union** to celebrate its ribbon cutting at 2100 East Thousand Oaks Blvd, Suite A, in Thousand Oaks. For more information regarding CBC Federal Credit Union, call 805.278.5817 or check out www.cbfcu.org.



Duben Holistic Chiropractic Care observed its ribbon cutting with Chamber Ambassadors at its location on 3625 East Thousand Oaks Blvd., Suite 172, in Westlake Village. For more details, call 805.494.1339 or visit www.docduben.com.



PizzaSalad, The Organic Choice had a ribbon cutting celebration with Chamber Ambassadors at its restaurant located at 1655 East Thousand Oaks Blvd. in Thousand Oaks. To order a slice, dial 805.371.7878 or visit PizzaSalad online at www.pizzasalad.com.



Homewood Suites - Agoura welcomed Chamber Ambassadors to its ribbon cutting at the hotel located on 28901 Canwood Street in Agoura Hills. To make a reservation or to learn more, call 818.865.1000.



Conejo Free Clinic celebrated its ribbon cutting with Chamber Ambassadors onsite at 80 East Hillcrest Drive, Suite 102, in Thousand Oaks. For more information about Conejo Free Clinic, call 805.379.1918.



The Discovery Center for Science & Technology joined Chamber Ambassadors at its location to celebrate its ribbon cutting. To discover more, call 818.879.2021.



Baja Fresh commemorated its ribbon cutting with Chamber Ambassadors at its location on 1015 Broadbeck Drive in Newbury Park. To find out more, call 805.376.0808 or stop by and try an item from their menu.



Located at 299 West Hillcrest Drive, Suite 214, **The Small Business Law Firm, P.C.** embraced their ribbon cutting ceremony with Chamber Ambassadors. To learn more about The Small business Law Firm, visit www.smallbusinesslaw.org or call 805.778.0206.



Chamber Ambassadors got together with **Sound Environment** for a ribbon cutting at its store front in Westlake Village. You can stop by their place at 960 South Westlake Blvd., Suite 11, or call Sound Environment at 805.409.3966. Don't forget to visit their website at www.soundenvironmentinc.com.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

Chairman's Club Gives Top Promotion for Top Sponsors

What is the Chairman's Club? You can check out the members on the back page of the Conejo Business Times, on the Chamber's website, in the annual *Conejo Valley Business Directory and Community Guide*, the weekly Tuesday Email Update, at the bottom of every email that Chamber staff sends out, and more.

The Chairman's Club represents the top corporate sponsors of the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce. These include sponsorship for Chamber events such as the annual gala, Taste of Conejo, Spirit of Community Awards, and more.

... companies receive valuable benefits and increased publicity.

Participation allows companies to plan Chamber sponsorships for the entire year and be billed with a single invoice.

By planning in advance rather than sporadically throughout the year, companies receive valuable benefits and increased publicity. Many companies easily qualify for Club membership based on their historical Chamber

sponsorships from years past.

Several levels of sponsorship are available. For an investment as small as \$2,500, your company receives advertising, publicity and recognition throughout the year valued at more than \$10,500 (or more, depending on your Club level); this is beyond any publicity directly connected with your chosen events.

To learn more about the Chairman's Club, call the Chamber at 805.370.0035 or download a brochure from the website at www.conejochamber.org, choose Special Events on the left-hand side of the page.

Use the Chamber to Promote Your Business!

- **Conejo Business Times:** Reach more than 5,000 readers throughout the region.
- **Tuesday Email Update:** Reach more than 1,300 readers each week.
- **Monthly Mailer:** Direct mail to 1,300 members for only pennies apiece.
- **Website Advertising:** Reach 30,000 website visitors a month.

Call: 805.370.0035



Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce presents

Taste of Conejo

A true taste of the Conejo Valley

Tuesday, September 27, 2011 4:30 - 8 p.m.
Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village

For information about sponsorship opportunities, hosting a display or tasting space, or for tickets to attend, contact the Chamber at **805.370.0035** www.TasteOfConejo.org or email klighthizer@conejochamber.org

Explore the Conejo Valley business community through an unforgettable evening of exceptional food and spirits, fashion, live music and more.



Wineries Restaurants Networking

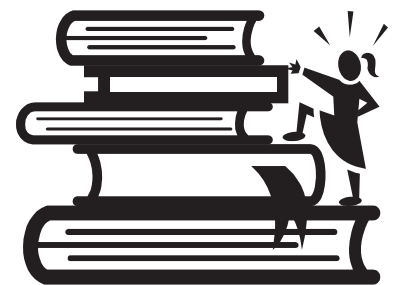
Advance Registration: Chamber members \$35, Non-members \$45
At the Door: Chamber members \$50, Non-members \$60

Sponsored by:
PAK Financial Group
.....
Las Virgenes Educational Foudation
.....
Conejo Schools Fund

Jump Start Networking Breakfast School-to-Career Business/Education Mini Conference

Care about *tomorrow...* Get involved *today!*

September 9, 2011 6:45-9 a.m.
Los Robles Greens Golf Course Banquet Center
299 S. Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks



The Conejo Valley business community recognizes the need to enhance our students' college and career preparation and training. Our objective is to address this need by

establishing an active educational partnership between educators, business, parents and community organizations. Join us in learning how you and your business can make a

difference! The **School-to-Career Program** and the **Regional Occupational Program** are dedicated to creating opportunities for students to see the relevance of their education to

the working world. Partnerships providing career classroom speakers, onsite company tours, internships, job shadows, mentors and advisory groups can help establish such relevance.

Call the Chamber at 805.370.0035 or visit www.ConejoChamber.org to RSVP by 10 a.m. Thurs., September 8!
Pre-Registered: Members \$20, Non-Members \$30. At the Door: Members \$27, Non-Members \$37.

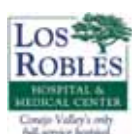


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CHAIRMAN'S CLUB



Club Members as of print deadline. To be a part of the exclusive Chairman's Club, go to www.conejochamber.org and select sponsorships or call the Chamber at 805.370.0035