

Conejo BUSINESS TIMES



The official publication of the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce

November 2011

Members Say



I have been a Chamber Member for well over six years. Having been a member of other chambers, I can say without any hesitation that I have made more contacts and

have increased my customer base to a degree that I would not have been able to had it not been for the activities and the associations that I have made with the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber. This Chamber is very supportive and offers me many opportunities to promote my business.

Alan Cohen
Computer Pro

Events

Breakfast: Fri., Nov. 4, 6:45-9 a.m., Sheraton Agoura Hills Hotel.

Mixer: Wed., Nov. 16, 5:30-7 p.m., Capstone Direct, Newbury Park.

Breakfast: Fri., Dec. 2, 6:45-9 a.m., Sheraton Agoura Hills Hotel.

State of The City: Tue., Dec. 13, 11:15 a.m.-2 p.m., CLU.

Mixer: Wed., Dec. 14, 5:30-7 p.m., Thousand Oaks Inn, T.O.

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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

Thousand Oaks Mayor to Give Address at December 13 State of the City Luncheon

The Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce will host Mayor Andrew Fox at the annual Thousand Oaks State of the City Address and Luncheon on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, at California Lutheran University, 60 West Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks.

Mayor Fox will address the current state of the city of Thousand Oaks, discuss the accomplishments that have been made under his leadership during the past year and offer highlights of what is on



Mayor Andrew Fox

Mayor Fox will address the current state of the city of Thousand Oaks

the horizon for 2011.

A networking reception will begin at 11:15 a.m., with a luncheon at 12 p.m. followed by the mayor's address at approximately 1 p.m.

The cost to attend this event is \$45 per person. Paid reservations must be received in the Chamber office no lat-

er than 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 8, 2011.

For more information on sponsorship or tickets, call the Chamber of Commerce at 805.370.0035, or visit the Chamber website at www.conejochamber.org to purchase reservations or to download a sponsorship form.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

T.O. Community Development Director Gives Report to GRC

John Prescott, Community Development Director for the city of Thousand Oaks, briefed the Governmental Relations Committee (GRC) on the current and proposed status of projects in the city.

Prescott brought the committee up to date on the proposed Thousand Oaks Boulevard Specific Plan, which

was recently heard by the Planning Commission. The Thousand Oaks Boulevard business owners have been working for several years to revitalize and beautify the corridor and create a pedestrian friendly destination between Duesenberg Drive and Moorpark Road. Several concerns regarding building heights and parking ratios have been ironed out. The plan was scheduled to go to City Council in late October. The final EIR for the proposed project is available through a link on the city of Thousand Oaks website.

On the status of the current court case on the retention of the city's redevelopment agency, the Supreme Court is in the process of reviewing the case and should render a verdict sometime in

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John Prescott, Community Development, Thousand Oaks

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY

Invest in the Conejo Valley: Chamber Begins Advertising Drive for 2012-13 Directory

Be a part of the Chamber's 2012-13 community guide and membership directory.

As one of the largest accredited chambers in southern California, you will want to be



sure your business is a part of the new, upcoming directory, which reaches the membership and thousands in the business community through-

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BUSINESSES

Taste of Conejo Wows the Crowd



Total Wine and More poured champagne for VIP sponsor receptions.

The Chamber's Taste of Conejo was a resounding success with more than 1,300 guests gathered at the Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village on September 27.

More than 120 business, food and beverage vendors presented their best of the best to guests who arrived to partake in the fine wines, foods and services provided by Conejo Valley businesses. More than 40 volunteers made the event possible by unloading vehicles and boxes, escorting vendors, welcoming guests and keeping the event operating smoothly.

Thanks to the generous sponsors who made this unforgettable event possible.

Lead Sponsor: Silver Star Automotive Group
Premium Sponsor: First California Bank
Host Sponsor: Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village
Major Sponsors: MOGL, Ventura County Star

Event Sponsors

BOGOPOD
California Lutheran University
Calvary Community Church
Capital Source Bank
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Costco Wholesale
First Bank
Fitness Movement
Mirman, Bubman & Nahmias
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Oaks Christian School
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Playlist 92.7 FM
Power of Home
Sheraton Agoura Hills Hotel
Sherwood Development Company/Sherwood Real Estate
Society Social Magazine Calendar
TOI Tapas Bar & Lounge
Waste Management
Welcome to the Neighborhood Magazine

Many thanks to the event vendor participants for providing guests with a true taste of the Conejo Valley. Please remember these generous local establishments when dining out, shopping or planning your next event.

Food tastings featured by:

Avocado Diva
Bogart's Bar & Grill@Muvico 14 Thousand Oaks
Casa Escobar
Champagne French Bakery Café
Chef Richard's Private Parties & Catering
Crunchies Food Company
Famous Dave's BBQ
Fresh Brothers
Fresh Success
Hamptons
I Would Rather Be Baking Co.
Italia Deli
Jersey Mike's Subs
Lazy Dog Café
Let's Get Cookin'
Maddy's Market

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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

Phillip A. Koonce, Chairman
PAK Financial Group

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

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CR Print

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Silver Star Automotive

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Director of Community Relations & Events

Barbara Brown

Community Coordinator

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your Chamber Leads the Way

As we draw to the close of another challenging year for our economy, the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce has been strategically planning ways to continue our focus on business retention and expansion, new business formation and attraction of desirable businesses to our area.

Our Chamber's true north is economic growth for our businesses and leading the way for companies of all sizes by operating not out of the box but as if there is no box. We help build the strong businesses that will adapt in a global society.

The pure energy of our Chamber members inspires us every single day to enhance your membership experience by bringing you new programs such as the free-to-our-members Buy Conejo website and the free and discounted advertising program with the Ventura County Star for new and renewing members.

Our Governmental Relations Committee will be featuring such speakers as County Chief Executive Officer Michael Powers and



Jill Lederer
President, CEO

our Thousand Oaks State-of-the-City luncheon will be held this year at California Lutheran University to accommodate the people we've had to regretfully turn away the last two years due to space limitations.

We are also enjoying working with a sub-committee of the city of Thousand Oaks Business Round Table to bring a Small Business Symposium to the community in March, providing speakers and breakout sessions to educate our smaller

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION

Pertinent State Business Legislation Goes Before the Governor

Governor Jerry Brown completed this year's legislation on October 9, by either signing or vetoing pertinent legislation that the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce has been following.

AB 29 was signed by the Governor, which formally establishes an office in statute as the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) As most of you know, the Governor's Office of Economic Development was originally established in April 2010 via executive order, but the Governor's recent action rescinds that office and replaces it with GO-Biz, which ensures that California has a permanent and highly visible single point of contact for economic development and job creation efforts.

The Governor also acted regarding the Workers' Compensation system by vetoing AB 947, which would have increased costs to employers by broadening the definition of the types of injuries that qualify for an extended time-frame to receive temporary disability benefits from 104

weeks to 230 weeks. The Chamber wishes to thank Senators Strickland and Pavley for their NO votes on the Senate floor. Brown did sign five California Chamber supported bills including AB 335, AB 378, AB 397, AB 1168 and AB 1426. (To view additional information visit the California Chamber of Commerce website at www.calchamber.com).

Signed and chaptered into law was AB 22, which was opposed by the California Chamber of Commerce. This law will unfairly limit private employers' ability to use consumer credit reports for legitimate employment purposes, such as those positions that have direct and unsupervised access to any amount of cash and/or valuable non-financial assets. Job applicants must be informed that there will be a credit check and they will be able to request a copy of the report from the reporting agency. The opponents stated that due to the economic times, many people who have lost their jobs may have ended up with bad credit.

Our Chamber's true north is economic growth for our businesses...

and medium sized businesses about how to access business opportunities with government, military and university neighbors.

Taste of Conejo just finished its wildly successful second year at the Four Seasons, hosting over 1,300 guests, 120 vendors and with the addition of a full fashion show that brought down the house!

You've been reading in the local newspapers that your Chamber has partnered with the cities of Agoura Hills, Thousand Oaks and Westlake Village to form the Conejo Valley Tourism Council.

Our mission statement reads, "It is the mission of the Tourism Council to enhance the economic well-being of the region by taking a leadership role in promoting, marketing and facilitating the use of the entire Conejo Val-

ley region as a viable visitor destination while preserving the unique quality of life and environment."

We will be reaching out to members of the hotel and restaurant sector to help us build this successfully and to educate all community stakeholders fully.

As our membership climbs and attendance at our committees, Lunch and Learns and special events balloons, we are once again grateful to those individuals and businesses who choose to serve on our 30-member Board of Directors. The Chamber Board is a diverse, talented, caring group of individuals representing companies of all sizes and sectors from all of our cities. Your Chamber places a high value on the impact of the Chamber on your career and business and I always welcome your thoughts and feedback.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

Members Discover Chamber Benefits at the September New Member Luncheon



More than 20 new members were introduced to the many features and benefits of Chamber membership at the September 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 for the group was

provided courtesy of Nate 'n Al of Beverly Hills, located at The Lakes, 2200 East Thousand Oaks Boulevard #150, Thousand Oaks, 805.494.3354.

Nate 'n Al has a long history of nearly 65 years serving the finest deli favorites prepared with the best ingredients.

They offer catering for all sizes of groups, whether it be a birthday party, family reunion, wedding shower, Bar/Bat Mitzvah or office meeting. No celebration is complete without Nate 'n Al—perfect for a sit-down meal or a buffet. And they deliver it right to your door.



PROMOTING EDUCATION

Superintendent Speaks at Education Committee

Conejo Valley Unified School District Superintendent Jeffrey Baarstad, Ph.D. was the recent guest speaker at the September Education Committee meeting. This is Dr. Baarstad's second year as superintendent with the district, which serves approximately 21,000 students at 27 campuses.

Dr. Baarstad believes in "skinny plans" which include: world class academic outcome for students; maintaining the advantage of co-curricular and athletic events; and ensuring that the school campuses are physically and emotionally safe.

He also discussed the state of the recent budget cuts with a large reduction in funding in the school year of 2008-09. Another 10 percent cut in funding occurred during the following year. He believes firmly that "education happens in the classrooms" and administration resists cuts to that area.

Dr. Baarstad also reported on the current status of the No Child Left Behind Program. The purpose originally intended to ensure that all children have a fair, equal and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education and reach proficiency on challenging State academic achievement standards and assessments. Recently the White House



Jeffrey Baarstad, Ph.D.
CVUSD Superintendent

outlined how states can get relief from provisions of the program in exchange for state-led efforts to close achievement gaps, promote accountability and ensure that all students are on track to graduate college and are career ready.

When the program was first adopted, many No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements unintentionally became barriers to implementation of the reforms. Due to the federal standards set, the majority of schools in the United States will be considered a "failing school." The CVUSD has been working diligently on the program and the goal is 85 percent achievement over a five to seven year period.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Businesses Can Save With Cloud Computing

At the September Technology Committee, Andreas Raab, from 4Service Inc., presented to the audience the advantages of cloud computing.

Cloud computing can transition small- and medium-sized businesses and organizations from running their own expensive IT departments into a more cost-effective and efficient cloud computing system.

Businesses can

use online software programs and file storage that is faster than running on their office computers. This means that even older, less efficient computers can operate newer software that is faster, without having to upgrade hardware.

And there is increased performance—no more downtime from viruses, spyware or workstation issues.

There is also added security



Andreas Raab
4Service Inc.

when data that is saved online instead of on computers in the office. Staff can also access work from outside the office, increasing productivity.

The purpose of the Technology Committee is to bring the business community and interested chamber members up-to-date on the latest technology and computer issues that clearly affect a business's bottom line as well as day-to-day operations. The focus is to educate, be educated, and to discuss myriad options and challenges that business owners and managers face as decision makers.

SUPPORTING EDUCATION

Teacher of the Month Hails from Westlake High School



Diane Blackburn, an instructor at Westlake High School, was named September Teacher of the Month for the Conejo Valley Unified School District.

Each month throughout the school year, the Greater Conejo Valley Community Foundation recognizes a Teacher of the Month. A total of 10 teachers from the Conejo Valley Unified School District and three teachers from the Las Virgenes Unified School District are honored each school year.

Thank you to the participating businesses that so generously donate to this program: Sinclair Company, SAGE Publications and Corwin Press, Congressman Elton Gallegly, Senator Tony Strickland, Assemblymember Jeff Gorell, Mediation

by Bernard, California State University—Channel Islands, Mathnasium of Thousand Oaks, United Blood Services, Ventura County Star, First California Bank, Sylvan Learning Center, Carington Insurance Agency, Huntington Learning Center, Stonefire Grill, Pacific Oaks Federal Credit Union, The Non-profit Agency, LLC, Touro University Worldwide and World Financial Group.

If you are interested in becoming a Teacher of the Month sponsor, contact Jan Smith at the Chamber, 805.370.0035 or jsmith@conejochamber.org.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Leadership Conejo Class Visits Westlake City Hall and T.O. Public Works



The Leadership Conejo class listens to Chuck Rogers, Superintendent of the Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The 2011-12 Leadership Conejo class spent their October morning session with Westlake Village city staff and representatives of elected officials learning about local government. Many thanks to Mayor Ned Davis, City Manager Ray Taylor and Westlake Village city staff.

The afternoon session, facilitated by Thousand Oaks Interim Public Works Director Jay Spurgin and WWTP Superintendent Chuck Rogers, was spent visiting city of

Thousand Oaks public works departments including Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant. An excellent tour of the Thousand Oaks Library rounded out the day.

Leadership Conejo is a program of the Greater Conejo Valley Community Foundation, created to identify and promote the skills of participants as current or future leaders, enhance their knowledge of the Conejo Valley, and expand their involvement in community affairs.

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.



Marcia Sutton

Marcia Sutton is a native of Ventura County and was raised in Oxnard until she was 10 and then spent 10 years in Nebraska. She returned to

California in 1982 and to Ventura County in 1992. Sutton's career has been spent in the human resources field with over 23 years of experience.

Most recently, she has been at Dole Food Company in Westlake Village for over nine years. Sutton has a bachelor of arts degree from the American College for the Applied Arts and certificate in personnel and industrial relations from Loyola Marymount University.

Sutton has a great love of animals and enjoys her free time horseback riding with her husband Jim and tending to their three horses, two dogs and two cats. They have homes in Simi Valley and Tehachapi.

Westlake Village Business Recognition Program

Now Accepting Nominations for City of Westlake Village Businesses

Deadline:
Friday, November 18, 2011

Nominees must:

- be a Chamber member and must be located in the city of Westlake Village, but anyone may make a nomination,
- do business in a location that enhances the community aesthetically,
- demonstrate community involvement in the city of Westlake Village, and
- have current or future plans for the greening of their business.

Forms available online
www.conejochamber.org/government.aspx
or call 805.370.0035

Co-sponsored by the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce and the City of Westlake Village



Thank You for Renewing

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| 32 Years
Conejo Valley Unified School District | 9 Years
Grand Vista Hotel Pacific Aire, Inc. |
| Michael's Travel Centre, Inc. | Primary & Excess Insurance Services, Inc. |
| 29 Years
YMCA, Conejo Valley | Union Bank of California |
| 25 Years
Frames By You | 8 Years
Huntington Healthcare Solutions |
| 24 Years
Unified Association of Conejo Teachers | 6 Years
Inside Auto |
| 22 Years
Ablon, Lewis, Bass & Gale, LLP | St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School |
| 21 Years
Emmons Company, The | Super Shuttle |
| | 5 Years
Community West Bank |
| | Limoneira Co. |
| 19 Years
Office Depot # 886 | 4 Years
East Oaks / Thousand Oaks Dental Group |
| 18 Years
Baxter Healthcare | Keller Williams Realty / K. Woods |
| Lockheed Federal Credit Union - Westlake Village | 3 Years
Chili's Grill & Bar - Newbury Park |
| 17 Years
Barger Harley Davidson | Martin J. Wolff & Co. |
| Law Offices of Mark T. Jessee | Sheraton Agoura Hills Hotel |
| Mayerson Marketing & P.R. | 2 Years
Alister A. George, M.D. |
| 15 Years
Alliance Financial Group, Inc. | Americomm Systems |
| Culhane, Dr. Jamie M., Family Chiropractor | Caulfield Consulting Group, L.L.C. |
| Distinctive Signs | Consumer's Title Company |
| | U-PIC Insurance Services |
| 14 Years
Bianchi, Teri, DDS | 1 Year
Aviara Real Estate / Michael Haupt |
| | Conejo Free Clinic |
| 13 Years
Money Mailer of Conejo | Fireside BBQ & Appliances |
| | Lockheed Federal Credit Union - Burbank |
| 11 Years
BEST WESTERN PLUS Posada Royale Hotel & Suites | MATES Foundation |
| Better Business Bureau of the Tri-Counties | Regional Art Museum |
| Freedom Wealth Management | Theiss Institute |
| West Coast Tree & Property Maintenance | Ventura County Bar Assn. Lawyer Referral & Information Service |
| | VomFass Westlake Village |
| 10 Years
Hub International Insurance Services | |
| Lantern Masters, Inc. | |

PROMOTING BUSINESS

Business Briefs: Announcements

Job & Career Center Hosts November Career Shops

Tuesday, November 8 - Power of VOS (Virtual OneStop), 9 a.m. – noon, learn about the VOS 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. This career shop requires basic computer skills.

Thursday, November 10 - Resumes that Sell, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., hands-on workshop providing assistance in completing a resume and cover letters.

Thursday, November 17 - 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 in Simi Valley.

SAGE Supports Paws Reading Programs

Ventura County kids will have the support of a four-legged friend as they work on their reading skills thanks to support from SAGE Publications, Inc. SAGE and Corwin, a division of SAGE, provided four \$2,000 grants to local public libraries to support their Paws Reading programs.

The Paws program uses certified therapy dogs as a captive audience for kids just beginning to read. Studies have shown that beginning readers have more confidence when they read out loud to a non-judgmental audience.

The grant was provided by SAGE to two libraries in the Conejo Valley; Moorpark Public Library and Simi Valley Public Library.

The grants are designated to purchase books for each reader to take home, as well as funds for the libraries to promote their program. SAGE also donated a container of dog biscuits to reward the therapy dogs.

For more information on SAGE Publications, visit www.sagepub.com.

Relieve and Control Your Stress to Enjoy the Holidays

If you are experiencing stress and want relief, try the natural solution of hypnotherapy. With stress being the number one cause of most diseases, learning techniques to relieve stress can literally save your life.

Stress is our reaction to everyday situations. By learning to control your reactions, you can control your stress.

Rosanne MacDonald, a Certified Hypnotherapist since 1999, has taken a personal and passionate interest in helping people release and control stress so they can live healthier, happier lives.

Join MacDonald in the upcoming workshop, and she will guide you on a journey that will help you relieve stress and master the skills you need to do what you want in your life.

To register for this event, please call Rosanne MacDonald, C.Ht. at 818.262.1246 or contact her through her website at www.hypnovitality.com.

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PROMOTING BUSINESS

Welcome New Members

Fourteen Businesses Invest in Their Success

We welcome 14 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!

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Aviara Real Estate / Tracee Alender | Dimensional Computer Solution | G4S Secure Solutions | Montessori of the Village | RTR Consulting Inc. |
| Babies Beginning California Neurological Specialists | Edward Jones / Tom Yoon | JL Executive Solutions | Primary Residential Mortgage, Inc. | Stella & Dot |
| | First Bank | | Revmor Adaptive Inc. | The Elder Nanny |



Networking at Night Mixer

Together for the Holidays in Thousand Oaks


Wednesday Dec. 14, 2011 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Hosted by:
TOI Tapas Bar & Lounge and
Best Western Plus Thousand Oaks Inn
75 W. Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks

Visit Best Western Plus Thousand Oaks Inn, a true Thousand Oaks landmark, and the new and exciting dining locale, TOI Tapas Bar & Lounge, for an unforgettable, delicious night of networking with fellow professionals!

Chamber Members: \$5 Non-Members: \$15
Sorry, no refunds. 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

A 2011 Finale Round of Speed Networking

Friday, December 2, 2011 · 6:45 - 9 a.m.

Wrapping up 2011 with holidays right around the corner, we know you have a lot going on! There's so much to do, and so little time to do it in. We are bringing you a Speed Networking breakfast to help you get connected in a short amount of time and in fun fashion! Meet other professionals quickly and arrange a later time to meet at length.

Sheraton Agoura Hills Hotel
30100 Agoura Rd., Agoura Hills, CA 91301

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

Emcee: Dave Burns, Cover2Cover Music	Special thank you to breakfast sponsor: Omega Rehab & Sport
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Pay by 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, & save!
Members: \$20 · Non-Members: \$30
Pre-registered members included on Hot Sheet!
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 Chamber Members

Financial Advisor Joins Edward Jones

Financial Advisor Tom Yoon recently joined Edward Jones in the Westlake Village office located at 2629 Townsgate Road.

Yoon will be working with Financial Advisor Chris Hardt and his staff of experienced Branch Office Administrators.

With more than 20 years experience at the Edward Jones headquarters in St. Louis, Yoon developed the International Fixed Income Department focusing on ex-

panding the retail bond markets in Canada and the UK.

"With Tom's vision, Edward Jones Financial Advisors were able to provide individual bonds to investors in both countries," says Hardt.

A graduate of Notre Dame and an MBA from St. Louis University, Yoon is excited in helping people find ways to increase their incomes.

"We are fortunate to have him as part of our team," says Hardt.

To find out more about Edward Jones / Tom Yoon, call 805.496.6891 or visit www.EdwardJones.com.

Full-Service Dance Studio Provides Quality Instruction

Academy of Dance Westlake Village is a full-service dance studio dedicated to providing the Conejo Valley with top quality instruction in a fun and nurturing environment.

As a family-run business, they believe that everyone should have the chance to experience all that dance has to offer in an atmosphere free of judgment or negativity.

The resumes and professional accolades of our faculty are unmatched; and their commitment to teaching students in a compre-

hensive and positive manner is what makes them truly exceptional.

Celebrating its 34th year, Academy of Dance offers classes in jazz, ballet, tap, hip hop, contemporary, lyrical, musical theater, leaps and turns, dance fitness, Pilates fusion, yoga fusion, and Zumba for dancers of all levels from pre-school to adult.

For more information, call 818.889.1515. Academy of Dance Westlake Village is located at 5700 Corsa Avenue, Suite 106 in Westlake Village.

Visit www.academyof-dancewestlake.com.

Buddha's Belly Opens at The Oaks

Buddha's Belly is a locally-owned, upscale casual, full-service restaurant featuring a Pan-Asian menu boasting wholesome noodle dishes, fresh salads, tantalizing appetizers, savory entrees, and sweet desserts, all offered at a reasonable price.

They invite their guests to take a culinary tour of Asia, with authentic flavors from Japan, China, Thailand, Korea, and Vietnam.

Buddha's Belly offers a

variety of beverages such as exotic teas, sodas, Asian beers, sakes, international wines, and a full bar.

Buddha's Belly is a restaurant for culinary tourists of all ages and backgrounds. They are "kid-friendly" and can accommodate both large parties and single diners.

Call 805.557.1212 to make a reservation or stop by their location at 446 W. Hillcrest Drive in Thousand Oaks, located at The Oaks Shopping Center.

Visit www.bbfood.com for more information.

G4S Offers Integrated Strategies

G4S is recognized for providing total integrated strategies that include the highest caliber of security personnel, state of the art technology and nationally accredited training programs.

Reasons why industry leaders partner with G4S: 57-year history of service excellence; Safety Act Designation and Certification from the U.S. Department

of Homeland Security; a 98 percent client retention rate; Human Resources Department and National Accounts Group have received ISO 9001:2000 registration; the only corporate university in the U.S. to receive ISO 9001:2000 registration; largest geographical footprint operating in 155 countries with 150 offices across the U.S.; and local area office in Westlake Village.

G4S is here to serve your needs. To learn more, visit www.g4s.com/us or call 818.889.1113.

Sheila Kelly MA, IMF
Neurofeedback, Marriage and Family Therapy
28310 Roadside Drive, Suite 222
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
(310) 406-4035

Full-Service Nutrition Club Comes to T.O.

Looking to make a healthy change? To The Max Nutrition & Smoothies is a full-service nutrition club. It features a nutritious three-part meal consisting of a mango flavored aloe vera shooter, an herbal tea concentrate and a delicious meal replacement smoothie, all for only \$7.

They also offer free wellness profiles, weight-loss consulting, and a 12-week healthy body challenge. Patrons can purchase nutrition products to make the smoothies at home and also choose from gluten, soy, dairy and peanut free options.

To the Max is located at 2685 East Thousand Oaks Blvd. For more information email tothemaxnutrition@gmail.com.

Sweet CherryIt: A Personalized Ice Cream Truck

Remember when you were a kid and an ice cream truck came around your neighborhood?

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The Sweet CherryIt is a family-owned and operated business and offers a wide selection of treats (not just ice cream) and even includes a few gluten-free and sugar-free choices.

To learn more, visit www.thesweetcherryit.com or call 805.480.0890.

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Babies Beginning is a 3D/4D ultrasound studio unlike any other.

They cater to families that want the highest quality 3D and 4D ultrasounds, performed only by registered diagnostic sonographers who are experts in the art of fetal imaging. They leave nothing to chance when it comes to these precious first images.

Call to make your appointment today and let them help you create the memories of a lifetime.

To discover more about Babies Beginning, visit www.babiesbeginning.com or contact them at 805.628.3911.

Ambassador Spotlight



Tina Dickinson
World Group Securities

Tina Dickinson's enthusiasm for life and helping people placed her perfectly in her profession. She has been in the insurance business for 28 years and has volunteered extensively in the community during that time, thus making her job a passion being able to assist people on a daily basis.

She not only assists people in life insurance matters, but also comprehensively in money matters as well. She can help place people on a budget and help to get them out of credit card debt to avoid bankruptcy. She also works with individuals on retirement packages like 401K rollovers, setting up IRAs, college planning, investments and more. With the baby boomers reaching retirement, she is setting up many long term care plans as well as assisting with estate planning.

And with all the new hype with health insurance she is extremely busy with new and renewal business trying to help everyone save a buck. She services the extremely wealthy down to the \$8 an hour workers. Dickinson takes her business personally and wants no family to be left behind.

Dickinson has lived and volunteered in the community for 13 years and wants to give back even more. She does not charge a fee for her services and is more than happy to reevaluate what you already have in place to make sure it is sufficient, even if it is with another company. She will come to you or meet you where ever convenient. Her hours of operation are dependent on her customers needs.

She works with World Group Securities, an affiliate of Aegon. It is one of the largest providers of life insurance, pensions, long-term savings and investment products and has been around for over 160 years. To contact Dickinson, please call 818.642.2650, visit her website at www.tinadickinson.com or email dreamscometolife@aol.com.

Interested in becoming an ambassador? Please contact

Jan Smith at jsmith@conejochamber.org for an application. She or Kim Woods, Consul General, KimWoods@verizon.net, will address additional questions you may have.



BUSINESS EDUCATION

Free Lunch and Learn Business Seminars Slated for November

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., Nov. 2, 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., Nov. 9, 12-1:30 p.m.

Real Estate Transactions: Do's and Don'ts of Buying, Selling or Leasing Real Estate (Including Short Sales and Bank Owned Property)

Kim Woods,
Keller Williams Realty



Erin Tenner,
Tenner Johnson, LLP



Spend your lunch with two seasoned professionals who will walk you through the do's and don'ts of buying, selling or leasing real estate.

Avoid making costly mistakes or missteps! This is valuable free advice you can't afford to miss.

—Cont. on page 7

BREAKFAST NETWORKING

Breakfast Features Local Nonprofit Organizations

The October Jump Start Networking Breakfast was a celebration of local nonprofit organizations, as well as a chance for guests to give 30-second commercials for their businesses with a Pass the Mic session.

The breakfast was held at the Sheraton Agoura Hills Hotel.

Featured nonprofits included: American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Many Mansions, MilitaryFamilies.org, Villa Esperanza Services, Hospice of the Conejo, FOOD Share, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Ventura County, SCORE Ventura, and The Wellness Community Valley/Ventura.

The emcee was Dave Burns of Cover 2 Cover Music. Breakfast sponsor was Smith & Wooton LLP, a certified public accounting firm

in Westlake Village dedicated to helping small owner-operated businesses.

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*, plus free half-hour coaching session, donated by author Wayne M. Levine, BetterMen.org,
- Tickets for two to the October Networking at Night Mixer, donated by Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce,
- First month free rent, free use of move-in truck and

free lock, donated by So Cal Self Storage,

- Two hours of complimentary tutoring, donated by Sylvan Learning Center of Westlake Village,
- One hour of complimentary scholarship coaching, donated by Three Wishes Scholarships,

- Tickets for two to the Smooth Jazz Network Concerts performance by Cindy Bradley & Freddie Fox at the Canyon Club, donated by Smooth Jazz Network Concerts, and
- Taste of Conejo voucher book with savings of more than \$300, donated by BO-GOPOD.com.



New Chamber members were introduced to the breakfast guests.



Andy Smith
Smith & Wooton LLP



Tadd Wooton
Smith & Wooton LLP



Breakfast guests were given time to promote themselves to fellow table guests and talk about volunteerism.

Directory

—Cont. from page 1

out the Conejo Valley.

The directory includes:

- Housing and Real Estate
- Accommodations and Travel
- Shopping and Retail
- Professional Businesses
- Area Demographics
- Recreation and Entertainment

The directory is used by:

- Residents and visitors throughout the year
- Real estate offices
- Banks
- City halls
- Schools
- Professional offices
- Shopping centers
- Hotels
- Businesses considering relocation

Five-thousand copies of the guide will be printed, with scores of distribution sites throughout the Conejo Valley.

Call today to reserve your space: Jeanne Garrison at Siena Publishing 310.317.0841, or email info@sienapublishing.com.

Invest in your business; invest in yourself; invest in the Conejo Valley by advertising in the annual Conejo Valley Community Guide and Membership Directory.

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

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www.lynchinteractive.com/conejo-referrals to learn more!



NETWORKING AT NIGHT

Mixer at The Oaks Brings a Fine End to the Summer

Mixer guests celebrated the end of summer with an outdoor patio Networking at Night Mixer at The Oaks shopping center in Thou-

sand Oaks on September 21. Business representatives enjoyed live jazz music, delicious food, and a warm sunset along with fantastic door priz-

es and valuable networking opportunities at the mixer.

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:

- \$50 gift certificate, donated by Cisco's Mexican Restaurant,
- Set of two stainless steel table top torches, donated by Thousand Oaks Fire-side & Design,
- \$50 gift card to Buddha's Belly, donated by Buddha's Belly & The Oaks Shopping Center,
- \$50 gift card to Red Robin,
- \$50 American Express gift card, donated by The Oaks Shopping Center,
- Bottle of wine and a wine pumping kit, donated by Beverlee's Bartending & Party,
- Share the Hope bracelet, donated by United Cancer Advocacy Action Network (UCAAN),
- Two tickets to Taste of Conejo, donated by Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce, and
- First month free rent, free use of move-in truck and free lock at So Cal Self Storage, donated by So Cal Self Storage.

donated by Red Robin & The Oaks Shopping Center,



Fine cuisine from Merlin's Kitchen and Buddha's Belly added a flair of elegance to the evening.



The Oaks shopping center provided a welcoming atmosphere for mixer guests.



Mixer guests gathered for networking in the courtyard patio outside of the food court.

Lunch and Learn

—Cont. from page 6

Wed., Nov. 16, 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,
Edward Jones



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.

Choose Belmont Village Thousand Oaks

NOW OPEN! TOUR TODAY 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

- Private apartments with no buy-in
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belmontvillage.com



Belmont Village resident Dorothy W. with her daughter Marilyn.

RCFE Lic. 565801746 Above: Artist's Illustration

The Community Built for Life®



Business Briefs

—Cont. from page 4

Does Your Child Need a Tutor?

It's important for parents to heed both academic and non-academic warning signs that their child needs supplemental education.

"Grades are an obvious measure of a student's school progress, but there are a number of other clues to help you recognize problems," says co-founder of Huntington Learning Centers Eileen Huntington.

"Your child isn't likely to come to you asking for tutoring help, so as a parent, it's important to be aware of the red flags that may indicate your child could ben-

efit from one-on-one tutoring."

If your child's grades on homework and tests have steadily gone down since the beginning of the school year, it could be a sign of something more serious than a tough unit or one difficult class.

"When a child has problems in school, his or her grades aren't the only things that suffer, children experience a lot of frustration, sadness and even anger when they struggle in school," Huntington says. "Seek help early. Problems like these don't go away on their own."

Contact James Holmes, Huntington Learning Center of Westlake Village, 805.494.3044.

Belmont Village Celebrates Its Grand Opening

Senior living community Belmont Village recently celebrated its grand opening in Thousand Oaks.

To learn more about their and services, go to www.belmontvillage.com, call 805.496.9301, or visit them at 3680 N. Moorpark Rd.



PizzaSalad Offers Catering

Are you hosting a special event, office party or holiday gathering? Treat your guests to healthy fresh fare from PizzaSalad.

Conveniently located in Thousand Oaks, PizzaSalad offers a menu made with certified organic ingredients.

Gourmet pizzas and crisp salads are made fresh with every order with gluten-

free and vegan options are plentiful.

PizzaSalad also proudly supports regional farms, purchasing organic cheeses and meats from family-owned organic farms.

Starting October 15, 10 percent off orders of \$100 or more and 20 percent off orders of \$200 or more.

Deliveries, take-out, dine-in and online orders available.

Order ahead at 805.371.7878 or www.pizzasalad.com.

Sunset Room is Newest Agoura Hills Restaurant

The Sunset Room restaurant in Agoura Hills hosted a pre-opening celebration with its Global Party on Sept 16. Pictured are Lyn Perry, Wilshire Home Entertainment, with Sunset Room co-owner Chris Breed.

Sunset Room is located at 29020 Agoura Rd., Agoura Hills, 818.991.4007.



Center for Spiritual Living Announces Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Nov. 2: Wisdom Wednesday Service, 7 p.m. Paulette Jones transforms seemingly complex and highly technical information into magical stories that touch hearts and change lives.

Saturday, Nov. 12: Stress Management Workshop with Rosanne MacDonald, C.Ht., 10 a.m. – 12 noon. \$20 per person. De-stress prior to the holidays and learn how to make this the best holiday season ever.

Thursday, Nov. 17: Lifeline Screening, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Medical screening service. Learn more at www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners. RSVP to 800.324.1851, priority code HSC7331.

Wednesday, Nov. 23: Thanksgiving

Eve Service, 7 p.m. Usher in a prayerful Thanksgiving with music, prayer, testimony and fellowship.

Friday, Dec. 2: Teresa Turdury House Concert, 7 p.m. Turdury takes you on a musical journey of wild and powerful songs and stories. Tickets are \$20, go to www.cslwestlake.org.

Friday, Dec. 9: An Evening with Byron Katie, The Work, 7 p.m. \$30 for a two-hour interactive seminar followed by a book signing. The work of Byron Katie is a way of identifying and questioning the thoughts that cause all the fear, violence, depression, frustration and suffering in the world.

Center for Spiritual Living-Westlake Village is located at 880 Hampshire Road, #V, Westlake Village. Visit www.cslwestlake.org, call 805.495.0105, ext. 3, or email csl@csllwestlake.org.

Gorrell Announces Waste Watchers Website

Assemblyman Jeff Gorell's office has added a link to his official website called *Waste Watchers*.

If you want to see examples of outrageous government spending, click on the link. While on the site, feel free to e-mail us example of waste you and your family have come across in your experience with government.

As custodians of the taxpayer's money, Assemblyman Gorell believes that the legislature has a responsibility to shine a spotlight on government waste and to do everything possible to eliminate that waste.

When he returns from Afghanistan, this will be one of his top priorities.

Visit www.assembly.ca.gov/Gorell to find out more.

—Cont. on page 9

GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATION

CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS

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Green Business Certification

Separates your business from the competition and increases your market share. The program provides an easy-to-use framework that helps your business identify and quantify its sustainability efforts. The program is free and 100% online.

City of Thousand Oaks Businesses ONLY

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- Free business promotion/advertising by the City
- Become a 'green business' leader
- Expert staff assistance
- Green business logo to use in advertising materials

For more details, visit
www.toaks.org/GoGreenBiz
or call 805-449-2400



FUND YOUR DREAMS WITH YOUR BUSINESS SUCCESS

CREATE A FINANCIAL PLAN THAT WORKS

Thursday November 17, 2011

LOS ROBLES GREENS GOLF CLUBHOUSE

299 Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

5:30 pm Networking 6:30 pm Dinner & Program

If you don't know where your business is today financially, you can't plan for tomorrow. Our guest speaker, Justin Krane is a Certified Financial Planner and the founder of Krane Financial Solutions. He is known for his simple, savvy, holistic approach to financial planning and has the unique ability to advise his clients on how to merge their money with their life and business.

Justin will show you how to gain a realistic picture of your current business finances. From here, you'll learn how to create a goal-based financial plan that sets up a roadmap for attaining long term financial goals in your business. Then it's down to brass tacks with strategies to help grow your business revenue.

Opportunity Drawing for Members: Bring a \$25.00 gift for our drawing and get a chance to speak about your business.

Early Bird Registration: By Friday, November 11th
Members: \$35 Non-Members: \$40

After November 11th and at the door: \$45.00 for everyone

TO REGISTER, visit www.nawbovc.org
or call **877.NAWBO-VC (629-2682) or 805-777-1000**



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





Business Briefs —Cont. from page 8

Sylvan Announces Screener to Help Parents

As the new school year gets underway, a just-released survey finds that most eighth and ninth graders consider algebra to be their toughest subject.

The same goes for parents who say advanced math tops the subjects they struggle with when helping their children with homework.

Sylvan Learning located in Westlake Village seeks to address this with the launch of "Fit 4 Algebra: Take the Algebra Fitness Challenge," a free interactive online "screener" that parents can use to assess their children's algebra readiness.

It consists of a 21-question algebra readiness check-up, which tests the key

skills identified by the National Mathematics Advisory Panel as providing the basic foundation for algebra.

After their child completes the screener, parents will receive diagnostic results that highlight areas of strength as well as areas that are in need of further skill development.

Additionally, parents will have immediate access to valuable free resources, including video-based math tutorials aligned to the skill areas where students need additional development.

Sylvan's free screener is available on www.Fit4Algebra.org.

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

VCCU Sees Mid-Year Success and Accolades

Ventura County Credit Union (VCCU), the largest credit union headquartered in Ventura County, saw record financial growth in the second quarter of 2011.

In addition, readers of local publications, Ventura County Star and Ventura County Reporter, have named the Credit Union *Best Financial Institution*.

In the second quarter of 2011, VCCU's financial growth included the net income jumping from \$1.8 million to \$5.2 million, the rise of the ROA ratio

from .26 percent to 1.06 percent, the increase of the total assets to \$542 million (reflecting a gain of 50 million in 2010) and the increase of net worth/assets ratio from 7.70 to 8.10.

Joe Schroeder, President and CEO of VCCU, attributes the financial growth to modifications in loans.

"2011 has been another year of great financial growth for VCCU," says Schroeder.

"We're honored to have been recognized as a top financial institution by the readers of local publications."

For more information about your local, award-winning credit union, please visit www.vccuonline.net.

Preparing for Turbulence: While investors cannot predict future market instability, they can prepare, says Edward Jones

Recent volatility in the global markets may cause even the most seasoned investors to feel shaken up. But, according to Edward Jones, short-term market turbulence can serve as a reminder that like flying, investing is not always a smooth ride.

"It's natural to feel nervous when your investments look like they're losing altitude, but it's important to stay the course," said Kate Warne, investment strategist at Edward Jones. "The best response to market fluctuations is to keep your emotions and your investment strategy steady."

Warne offers some perspective on how to keep white knuckles at bay in turbulent times:

Turbulence is normal

Stock market declines are a normal part of investing. According to recent research, the Dow Jones Industrial Average has dipped by five percent on average 3.4 times a year. Bigger drops occur less frequently, with corrections (10 percent or more) once a year, and bear markets (20 percent or more) every 3.5 years. Volatility happens regularly and is no reason to sell a quality investment.

Fasten your seatbelt, not your parachute. Bailing out at 30,000 feet isn't the best reaction to turbulence.

Similarly, some investors might react by jumping in and out of the market, which can significantly impact investment performance. Historically, the best days often follow the worst days. While no one can predict what will happen in the future, getting out of the markets after the drops may mean

missing any potential recoveries.

Your destination determines how you travel. If you're traveling from the east coast to the west coast, turbulence shouldn't cause you to land in the Midwest and walk the rest of the way.

With investing, switching to the relative stability of a short-term investment can place your long-term goals at risk. Volatility in the markets should not change your goal of retiring at a specific age or providing for your child's education.

Take the long view

Some passengers react to turbulence better than others. Some ignore it, and others simply sleep through it. Successful long-term investors take the same approach to volatility, focusing on their long-term plans instead of day-to-day fluctuations.

"A solid financial strategy is key to riding out these short-term ups and downs," says Warne. "You can make small adjustments along the way, but unless you experience a significant life change, it's essential not to veer off course."

For more information about Edward Jones in the local area, please contact:

Bryce G Wallington, Edward Jones in Westlake Village, 32129 Lindero Canyon Rd., 818.707.6122,

Kyle W Lundberg, Edward Jones in Thousand Oaks, 2667 N Moorpark Rd. #102, 805.241.4140,

Christ Hardt, and Tom Yoon, Edward Jones in Westlake Village, 2629 Townsgate Rd., # 135, 805.496.6891,

Sarah S Reznick, Edward Jones in Camarillo, 2360 E. Ventura Blvd., #B, 805.389.6699,

Stuart M Laba, Edward Jones in Thousand Oaks, El Cid Plaza, 805.495.7762.

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 January issue is December 1). Insertion is at the discretion of the Chamber and articles may be edited or held for future editions. Call the Chamber for details.



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Times change.
People change.

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remains unchanged...

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November 2011 Calendar of Chamber Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Conejo Professional Alliance Nightlite Networkers	2 Lunch & Learn Online Networking 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. Education Committee 3:45 - 5 p.m.	3 Business Breakfast Network Preferred Referral Alliance Westlake Leaders Synergy Bus. Connections	4 SCORE Counseling Jump Start Networking Breakfast, 6:45 - 9 a.m. Sheraton Agoura Hills Hotel
7 New Referral Group (NRG) Conejo Connectors	8 Conejo Professional Alliance	9 Lunch & Learn Real Estate 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.	10 Business Breakfast Network Preferred Referral Alliance Westlake Leaders	11 SCORE Counseling
14 New Referral Group (NRG)	15 Conejo Professional Alliance Nightlite Networkers Manufacturing Committee, No Meeting this Month	16 Lunch & Learn Art of Networking 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. Networking at Night Mixer 5:30 - 7 p.m., Capstone Direct Inc.	17 Business Breakfast Network Preferred Referral Alliance Westlake Leaders Synergy Bus. Connections Technology Committee, No Meeting this Month	18 SCORE Counseling
21 New Referral Group (NRG) Monthly Mailer Flyers Due by 12 Noon Conejo Connectors	22 Conejo Professional Alliance	23 Governmental Relations Committee - dark	24 Closed for Thanksgiving	25 Closed for Holiday
28 New Referral Group (NRG)	29 Conejo Professional Alliance	30		

Networking at Night Mixer

Network this November Night Away

Wednesday
November 16, 2011
5:30 - 7 p.m.

Hosted by:

Capstone Direct, Inc. & First California Bank

3285 Old Conejo Rd., Newbury Park, CA 91320

Take an evening to enjoy yourself while simultaneously growing your business network! Visit with fellow Conejo Valley professionals at the new offices in Newbury Park—one of which Capstone Direct, Inc. calls home. Bring plenty of business cards!

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 · NETWORKING · MUSIC · NETWORKING

Thousand Oaks State of the City Address

Tuesday, December 13, 2011
 California Lutheran University
 Gilbert Sports & Fitness Center
 60 W. Olsen Rd., Thousand Oaks

\$45 per person

Reception begins at 11:15 a.m.
 Luncheon will follow at 12 noon

You are invited to join city officials, locally elected government representatives, business and community leaders for the 2011 Thousand Oaks State of the City Address. The honorable Mayor Andrew Fox will address the city of Thousand Oaks, highlighting recent city accomplishments and discussing the exciting endeavors that lie ahead. Plus, enjoy private tours of the new William Rolland Stadium and Gallery of Fine Art, led by CLU's athletic coaches.

Pre-registration is required. Payment deadline is Thursday, December 8, 2011.

Online registration is available at www.conejochamber.org.
Contact the Chamber for more information: 805-370-0035.



Chamber Promotes New Member Businesses at Ribbon Cuttings



Lazy Dog Café welcomed Chamber Ambassadors to their restaurant at 172 West Hillcrest Drive in Thousand Oaks to celebrate their ribbon cutting. For reservations dial 805.449.5206 or visit them at www.lazydogcafe.com.



Global Guidance LLC came together with Chamber Ambassadors at the Chamber to honor its ribbon cutting. For college guidance please call 805.765.1485 or visit www.myglobalguidance.com.



The Chamber Ambassadors joined **MOGL** at the Chamber for their ribbon cutting ceremony. To find more about MOGL call 888.664.5669 or visit them at www.mogl.com.



Chamber Ambassadors joined **Cornwall Security Services** at 3657 Thousand Oaks Blvd. in Thousand Oaks for their ribbon cutting. For more information about their service call 805.676.1828 or visit them at www.cornwallsecurity.com.



Language Web celebrated their ribbon cutting with the Chamber Ambassador at the Chamber office. For additional information contact Language Web at 818.735.0565 or visit their website www.language-web.net.



Chamber Ambassadors and the people of **BrightStar** of Thousand Oaks commemorated its ribbon cutting at the Chamber. To learn more about BrightStar, call 805.363.2533.



White House Black Market graciously hosted a ribbon cutting at their location at 2200 Thousand Oaks Blvd. in Thousand Oaks. For more information call 805.449.1192 or stop by their store.



At Your Service celebrated their ribbon cutting with Chamber Ambassadors at the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce. For more information call 805.208.4234 or visit www.atyourservicevc.com.



Chamber Ambassadors visited **Topa Management Company** at its location at 2801 Townsgate Road, Suite 139 in Westlake Village to commemorate its ribbon cutting. Call 805.495.1961 or visit www.topa-management.com for more information about Topa Management Company.

GRC —Cont. from page 1

January 2012. The state, due to the budget deficit, proposed to abolish redevelopment agencies unless each city paid an exorbitant fee to continue. The additional issue of the dissolution and taking of funding goes against the will of the voters of California who expressed clearly their opposition of taking local tax dollars to fix state budgetary issues (Propo-

sitions 1A and 22.) Prescott provided the latest information on the recently amended Mobile Home Rent Stabilization Ordinance. Park owners filed application for rent increases that resulted in costly hearings and lawsuits as well as providing uncertainty regarding the magnitude of future rent increases. Park owners from most of the mobile home parks, as well as delegates chosen by mobile home residents, participated in a voluntary

mediation process with Mayor Fox which culminated in an agreement on modifications to the ordinance. Several projects that have been completed or close to completion include the new stadium at California Lutheran University and the KCLU building. Los Robles Hospital and Medical Center is in the process of adding a new level to their facility plus a new parking structure. A portion of the rebuild and addition

is necessary due to earthquake retrofit requirements. Also coming, new restaurants—including Red Robin, Olive Garden and Red Lobster—at the Oaks Mall. There are also several residential projects currently in stages of completion. The Governmental Relations Committee is open to all chamber members. The committee does not meet in November or December due to the legislature being out of session.

Taste —Cont. from page 1

- Marmalade Café
- Mastro's Steakhouse
- Missy's Cupcakes
- Monrose Catering
- Nate 'n Al
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Onyx
- Petit Pois Personal Chefs
- Pierre's Catering & Rentals
- Qdoba
- Saddle Peak Lodge
- Secret Garden
- Sheraton Agoura Hills Hotel
- Stonefire Grill
- Sunset Hills Country Club
- Sushi Planet
- Sweet Arleen's
- The Alamo Bar & Grill

- The Olive Vineyard
 - The Sunset Room
 - Togo's Westlake Village
 - TOI Tapas Bar & Lounge
 - Trader Joe's - Agoura Hills
 - Valley Bakery
 - Vitello's Italian Trattoria
 - Vivoli Café & Trattoria
 - Vom Fass
 - Whole Foods Market
 - Wolf Creek Restaurant & Brewing Co.
 - Zin Bistro Americana
- Beverage tastings provided by:
- AB Caffe Services
 - Anheuser-Busch InBev
 - Cantara Cellars
 - Design the Vine

—Cont. on page 12



Photographs Courtesy of Photography by Marvin Steindler



Lead sponsor Silver Star Automotive Group



Premium sponsor First California Bank



Luis Villegas Trio



Hessam and Kaven Abrishami, ABRA Gallery



Gorgeous appetizers greeted guests.



Ladyface Alehouse and Brasserie



Wades Wines



Togo's, Westlake Village



Signature Hand Engraving by Tom Bwarie



Montecito Bank and Trust



Major sponsor MOGL



Vitello's Italian Trattoria



Fashion show, Twyla K



Ventura Limoncello Company



First Bank



Nothing Bundt Cakes

Taste

—Cont. from page 11

- Herzog Wine Cellars
- Ladyface Alehouse & Brasserie
- Lucas & Lewellen Vineyards
- Malibu Sundowner
- Mulholland Wines
- North Ranch Vineyard
- Palm Cellars
- Riverbench Winery
- San Vicente Cellars
- To The Max Nutrition and Smoothies
- Total Wine & More
- Ventura Limoncello Company

- Vom Fass
- Wades Wines
- WineShop at Home
- Businesses Represented:
- ABRA Gallery
- American Vision Solar
- Anna's Platinum Residences
- At Your Service
- California Health & Longevity Institute
- Cleopatra's Jewels
- Creative Canyon
- Dr. Jacqueline Pick
- Dressbarn
- East Oaks Dental Group
- Eastwind Screenprint

- Gourmet Travel Club / Town & Country Travel
- Jack's Shoes of Westlake
- Kiwanis Club of Thousand Oaks
- Lockheed Federal Credit Union
- Massage Envy Spa - T.O.
- NAWBO-VC
- Remedy Skin + Body
- Signature Hand Engraving
- State Farm Insurance
- Stella & Dot Jewelry by Independent Stylist Traci Nahmias
- The Canyon Salon

- The Wine Bottle Tree by Sun Welding
- Thousand Oaks Police Charitable Foundation
- Tiger Woods Foundation
- Tommy Bahama
- Total Woman Gym & Day Spa
- Tupperware Lady
- Twyla K
- Ventura County Restaurant Assoc.
- Westlake Yacht Club
- YogaWorks
- Special thanks to:**
- Buster Lighting
- Conejo Valley Guide

- Cover 2 Cover Music
- Creative Canyon
- Dreams America
- Green Jeep Transport
- Hot Dinosaur Video Services
- KVTA 1520 News Talk
- Money Mailer
- Photography by Ed Haas
- Photography by Marvin Steindler
- Roadrunner Shuttle
- Smooth Jazz Network
- Concerts
- The Bar Pages
- TNT Signs
- Waste Management

- Entertainment provided by:**
- Mark Anthony, pianist
- Sonny Mone, guitarist/vocalist
- Playlist 92.7 FM, broadcasting live
- Fashion Show, featuring Dressbarn, Tommy Bahama, Twyla K, Jack's Shoes of Westlake and The Canyon Salon
- Luis Villegas Trio, smooth jazz
- Mark Monreal, live sax player

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