

# COVINA BUSINESS

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 2

MARCH 2011

## STATE OF THE CITY LUNCHEON

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2011**

**12:00 NOON**

**South Hills Country Club**

2655 South Citrus Avenue, West Covina

**Cost: \$10.00 per person Dress Code: No Jeans**

**Reservations Required by March 4th**

**Call Covina Chamber of Commerce 626.967.4191**

### **SPEAKERS**

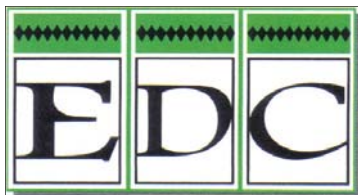
**Peggy Delach, Mayor; City of Covina**

**Catherine Nichols, Superintendent; Covina Valley Unified School District**

**Mike Hendricks, Superintendent; Charter Oak Unified School District**

**Dr. Chris Carlos, Chairman, Covina Chamber of Commerce**

### **SPONSORED BY**



### **CHAIRMAN'S CLUB 2011**

#### PLATINUM LEVEL

*The McIntyre Company*

#### GOLD LEVEL

*Athens Services*

*Citizens Business Bank*

*Citrus Valley Health Partners*

*Foothill Transit*

*Forest Lawn*

*SGV Postal Credit Union*

*Stellar Business Bank*

#### SILVER LEVEL

*Taco Bell – Downtown Covina*

#### BRONZE LEVEL

*Mark Anderson & Associates, Inc.*

*Elite Financial Solutions, Inc.*

*Reynolds Buick/Pontiac/GMC*

*Valley Insurance Service, Inc.*

## SAVE THE DATE

**Covina Business Awards**  
**Thursday, April 21, 2011**  
**Hamilton's Steak House**  
**12:00 Noon**

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

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## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE: DON'T OBSESS OVER THE ECONOMY



Photo Courtesy of Strike a Pose

Lately, it's been really tough to get through a day without hearing about the current economic climate. From news stories to e-mails and even every day conversation, our failing economy has

insinuated itself into our lives and robbed many people of their confidence and peace of mind. Here are some things to consider when deciding the extent to which you will allow the economy to impact your sense of well-being:

Understanding economies can be complicated, chocked full of patterns, exceptions to patterns and a host of other nuances. Still, in very simple terms here's the part we play in the economy and how it relates to recession. Anybody producing or consuming something plays a role in our economy. But what makes consumers and producers behave in a way that leads to recession? Well, that could be anything and every recession could have its own immediate cause. The bust of the housing market and the dotcom companies or turmoil in the credit markets- anything could act as a trigger. In the longer term, however, a recession is a cyclical phenomenon. Every boom is followed by

a bust. Once the growth cycle reaches its peak, it starts a downward journey. Likewise, when the bust cycle reaches its lowest ebb, things start looking up. The beginning of a recession is called the peak and its end is called the trough. Most everyone has survived several periods of economic ebb and flow in their lifetime. But how do we keep our sanity through the downside of an economic cycle?

**Bow out of unproductive economic conversations:** Keep up with the news and become knowledgeable about the world around you, but know the economy doesn't need to be the focus of every waking minute. If you're caught in the middle of a conversation involving predictions for the future and start feeling overwhelmed, it's OK to excuse yourself. The fact remains that no one can predict the future, and someone with a dooms day outlook will only make you more aware of that and more uneasy. The same thing goes for turning off the TV when the experts begin talking in circles.

**Relinquish control by accepting the economy's ups and downs,** but take control of yourself at the same time. Revisit your goals and establish a plan to accomplish them. Just because the economy seems to be falling apart doesn't mean you should give up on yourself — take whatever steps you can toward making your goals happen, even if the final result may not be realized for some time.

**Enjoy the cheaper things in life** and remember that fresh air is free! Have fun doing things you might have skipped in a steadier economy, like going to the park more often, taking walks around the neighborhood, and enjoying local sightseeing. Spend more time with family members and friends who have a particularly positive outlook on life.

Consumer confidence is fundamental to thriving economies. So put the economy in proper perspective, accept it for what it currently is and, most importantly, know that in due time it will once again be strong! In the meantime, as your personal confidence strengthens, I urge you to go out of your way to patronize businesses that are members of the Covina Chamber of Commerce. We are a Chamber comprised chiefly of small businesses that rely on the support of local consumers. The next time you are in need of any goods or services, please look through the Chamber directory or visit [www.covina.org](http://www.covina.org) to find a vendor who is a Chamber member and give them a call or pay them a visit. Tell them you saw their contact information in the Chamber directory. Please do your personal part to strengthen the economy by buying from within the local business community.

Written by: Dr. Chris Carlos  
Athens Services

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Covina Business (USPS 708-150) is published monthly (with the exception of combined July/Aug and Dec/Jan issues) for \$10.00 of the membership yearly investments by the Covina Chamber of Commerce, 935 W. Badillo Street, Suite 100, Covina, CA 91722. Second class postage rates paid at Covina, CA Postmaster. Advertisements in the Covina Business newsletter in any form, does not indicate endorsement by the Covina Chamber of Commerce.

### Officers

Chairperson 2011: Dr. Chris Carlos  
Immediate Past Chair: Sally Ervolina  
Chief Financial Officer: Laura Montgomery  
Chairman Elect: Amanda Gonzalez

### Board of Directors

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Dr. Chris Carlos, Covina Disposal Co.  
Roland Cordero, Foothill Transit  
Dawn Cychner, C&S California Capital  
Garry Dyson, Dyson Motors  
Amanda Gonzalez, San Gabriel  
Children's Center, Inc.  
Charles Gustafson, MFT

Bill Hammett, Grand Printing & Design  
Bill Harris, Elite Financial Solutions, Inc.  
Lavonne Hillhouse, Associate Member  
Andrew McIntyre, The McIntyre Co.  
Laura Montgomery, Citibank  
Doris Sappenfield, The Hair'em Beauty Salon  
Joe Sorace, Sunland Tires  
Tricia Vagt, Covina Escrow

### Committee Chairs

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Cuisines of Covina, Diane Fonseca & Laura Montgomery  
Economic Development Council, Ron Capotosto  
Education, Bob Cruz

Golf Tournament, Robert Gillespie  
Marketing, Laura Montgomery

### Chamber Staff

Dawn Nelson, President/CEO  
Angelina Fierro, Membership Director  
Dawn Lifosjoe, Office Assistant

### Newsletter Coordination

Writing and Layout, Dorri Satchell  
Printing, Pro Printing

**GAS COMPANY NEWS**

Helping to take the chill out of winter bills.

Are your constituents having a tough time paying their natural gas bills? If so, please let them know that Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas®) offers bill assistance programs that can help.

Here's what we offer:

- Our CARE program provides a 20 percent discount on the monthly gas bill for eligible households. In addition, those who qualify and are approved within 90 days of starting new gas service will also receive a \$15 discount on the Service Establishment Charge.
- The Gas Assistance Fund provides a one-time grant of up to \$100 to qualified customers experiencing difficulty with paying their gas bills. Grants are available between February 8, 2011 and April 2011 (or until funds are no longer available) on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Under our Medical Baseline program, customers may qualify for an additional allowance of gas at lower rates if someone in their household has a life-threatening illness, is seriously disabled, or requires more heat in winter due to a qualifying health condition. There are no income qualification guidelines for this program. SoCalGas also has helped secure increased federal energy assistance funding, on behalf of our customers. Federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds are distributed through local community-based organizations, assistance agencies and certain government agencies. Priority is given to families who spend a high percentage of their income on energy and/or have elderly or disabled members, and to families with children under three years of age.

SoCalGas is committed to assisting our customers, many of whom continue to feel the effects of the economy. We hope you will share our assistance program information to help those in need.



**Make sure you have the right dates!  
There are a few changes!!  
2011 Calendar**

**Networking Breakfast - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month**  
7:00 a.m. @ Hamilton's Steak House, 1211 E. Garvey St. , Covina, CA

March 9	June 8	September 14
April 13	July 13	October 12
May 11	August 10	November 9
		December 14

**Special Events**

<b>Friday</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>State of the City Luncheon</b>
<b>Fri-Sat</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>15-16</b>	<b>E-Waste Event</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Cuisines of the Foothills</b>
<b>Sat-Sun</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>16-17</b>	<b>E-Waste Event</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>L.A.'s Largest Mixer</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Police &amp; Fire Luncheon</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Thunderfest Car Show &amp; Music Festival</b>
<b>Fri-Sat</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>14-15</b>	<b>E-Waste Event</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Inland Empire's Largest Mixer</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Mixer-Reynolds Buick/GMC/Isuzu</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Mixer-Custer Christiansen Mortuary</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Golf Tournament</b>

Business Builder Seminars - TBD

**For additional information contact the  
Covina Chamber of Commerce**

935 W. Badillo St., Suite 100, Covina, CA 91722 - Phone 626-967-4191\* Fax 626-966-9660  
www.covina.org - email: chamber@covina.org  
Office Hours 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

**WHERE IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
CERTIFICATE AND DECAL?**

Membership in the Covina Chamber of Commerce sends a message to your customers, employees and friends that your business is actively involved in and concerned with the community. **Florence Larney of Curves** recognizes this and displays their Covina Chamber of Commerce Membership Certificate and the new Membership Decal with great pride for all to see. Each month the Chamber staff will be stopping by businesses at random and if your certificate and decal are on display you will receive a small gift from the Chamber of Commerce and recognition in our newsletter. If you have not received your Certificate and your Decal, contact the Chamber office or stop by and pick one up. (For certificates please call ahead).



**Phone: 626-967-4191**

*Labor Law Corner***Uncashed Payroll Checks Remain Employee's Property or Escheat to State**

*Our payroll checks are no longer negotiable after six months. May I have a policy in our employee handbook warning that after six months any un-cashed paychecks will be cancelled and not reissued?*

No, the employer may not take possession of un-cashed payroll checks. Although the employee did not cash the check, the wages remain the employee's property and the employer may not refuse to reissue the check. Also, the employee may file a claim for unpaid wages according to the applicable statute of limitations.

**Unclaimed Paycheck**

If the employer is unable to locate the employee, the property escheats to the state pursuant to provisions of the Unclaimed Property Law, Code of Civil Procedure, Section 1500 et seq. The rules established by these sections are administered by the State Controller's Office.

In listing property that escheats to the state, Code of Civil Procedure, Section 1513(a)(7) includes "Any wages or salaries that have remained unclaimed by the owner for more than one year after the wages or salaries become payable."

Sections 1510 and 1511 of the Code of Civil Procedure contain inclusions and exclusions to Section 1513.

In addition, the Labor Commissioner's office is authorized to collect unclaimed wages if employees cannot be located. After the Labor Commissioner makes a diligent effort to locate employees, the wages are remitted to the Industrial Relations Unpaid Wage Fund and escheat to the state.

This law was enacted to prevent holders of unclaimed property from placing the funds back into their business accounts and to provide a method of retrieval for the property owners.

**Recovering Wages**

In both funds, the property submitted does not become the property of the state permanently. The owner/employee may recover the wages by submitting a claim to the State Controller's Office. Instructions are provided on the controller's website.

Reporting rules are found in Code of Civil Procedures, Section 1530, and on the website of the State Controller's Office, [www.sco.ca.gov](http://www.sco.ca.gov).

*The Labor Law Helpline is a service to California Chamber of Commerce preferred and executive members. For expert explanations of labor laws and Cal/OSHA regulations, not legal counsel for specific situations, call (800) 348-2262 or submit your question at [www.hrcalifornia.com](http://www.hrcalifornia.com).*

## NEW MEMBERS—WELCOME!



Anita Ron  
**BriteWorks, Inc.**  
 642 S. Sunset Ave.  
 West Covina, CA 91790-2806  
 (626) 337-0099  
[www.briteworks.com](http://www.briteworks.com)

“Customer Service is Our Priority” We provide a high quality janitorial service that consistently meets the cleaning needs of our clients. BriteWorks has over 20 years of experience and knowledge to get the job done. BriteWorks is there for your cleaning needs 24 hours-a-day. Services provided are carpet cleaning, floor waxing, graffiti abatement, construction, windows. Fully insured.



Faith Mellinger  
**Pomona Valley Habitat for Humanity**  
 2111 Bonita Ave.  
 La Verne, CA 91750  
 (909) 596-7098  
[www.habitatpv.org](http://www.habitatpv.org)

Pomona Valley Habitat for Humanity (PVHfH) is a nonprofit, interfaith housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Locally we help to provide decent, safe and affordable housing for low-income residents in the East San Gabriel Valley and West Inland Empire thereby promoting a healthy neighborhood environment for community residents.



Lori Tellez  
**Servpro of W. Covina**  
 1578 W. San Bernardino Rd.  
 Suite G  
 Covina, CA 91722  
 (626) 960-9145  
[www.servproofwestcovina.com](http://www.servproofwestcovina.com)

Servpro offers 24 hour emergency service with a full line of fire, water, trauma and crime scene cleanup and restoration services helping home and business owners regain control of their lives faster following a loss. Servpro has established relationships with major insurance companies, commercial clients as well as individual homeowners.

Janelle Copeland  
**The Cake Mamas**  
 865 W. Route 66  
 Suite C  
 Glendora, CA 91740-4126  
 (626) 335-4999  
[www.thecakemamas.com](http://www.thecakemamas.com)

Steven G. Rodriguez  
**Steven G. Rodriguez & Associates**  
 633 W. 5<sup>th</sup> St., 26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Los Angeles, CA 90071  
 (213) 388-8824  
 (800) 788-8557  
[www.lacriminaldefenseattorney.com](http://www.lacriminaldefenseattorney.com)

## CUISINES OF THE FOOTHILLS

It's that time of year again. The 2nd annual Cuisines will be held Monday, May 16th at Glendora Country Club. The event is in the planning stages so don't be left out. If you are interested in being a sponsor or participating as a restaurant, please contact the Covina Chamber at (626) 967-4191.

The following levels of sponsorship are available.

Souxs Chef Sponsor \$1,000.00

Line Cook Sponsor \$500.00

Waiter Sponsor \$300.00

We would like to thank the members that have already agreed to be sponsors of this great event! They are:

Souxs Chef Sponsors

The McIntyre Company

Valley Insurance Services

Line Cook Sponsors

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

Stellar Business Bank

## March 2011 Events

### Networking Breakfast

Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 a.m.

*Hamilton's Steak House*

1211 E. Garvey St., Covina

\$10.00 Members / \$13.00 Non-Members

### State of the City Luncheon

Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

12:00 Noon

*South Hills Country Club*

2655 S. Citrus Ave., West Covina

\$10.00 per person

Dress Code: No Jeans

**Call the Chamber to RSVP**

**by March 4th**



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Covina, California 91722-4164  
WWW.COVINA.ORG  
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## RIBBON CUTTINGS



Prudential California Realty-Mulhern Group



143 S. Citrus Ave.  
Covina, CA 91723  
(626) 331-0551

2161 S. Fullerton Rd.  
Rowland Heights, CA 91748  
(626) 839-3029

1601 S. Grand Ave.  
Glendora, CA 91740  
(626) 963-7511

Now, 3 Locations to serve you!  
[www.citrusvalleyflorist.com](http://www.citrusvalleyflorist.com)

## Special Thanks!!!

Thank you to the businesses listed below, for their continued support of our Networking Breakfasts'. These generous donations of door prizes are recognized and appreciated.

### Networking Breakfast

#### February 9, 2011

3 Vinos

Arbonne – Betty Futter

Artemis Concepts

Balloons by Jenn

C & S California Capital, Inc.

Caskets N More

Dyson Motors

The Hair'em Beauty Salon

Hamilton's Steak House

K & S Snaks

Mario Del Fante Florist

Senior Helpers of Covina

Trinity Foster Care

Ace Pelizon Plumbing – 31

The Advertising Specialists – 9

Mark Andersen & Associates – 5

Artest Design Group – 5

Assistance League of Covina Valley – 30

Atria Senior Living Group – 22

Balloons by Jenn – 4

Bender's Automotive – 4

C & S California Capital, Inc. – 6

Citizens Business Bank – 25

Citrus Valley Hospice – 4

Covina Rehabilitation Center – 2

Covina Vikings Youth Football & Cheer Org. – 3

Crowell Weedon & Company – 32

Bryan Davis, D.D.S. – 3

Peggy Delach – 8

Duncan, Hom, Horibe & Gutierrez, Optometrists – 31

Enoch Sons Co. – 2

Forest Lawn Memorial Park – 42

Glesener Pharmacy, Inc. – 5

Ivory Beads, Inc. – 8

La Puente Optometry Center – 8

OneWest Bank, FSB – 40

Partee Insurance Associates, Inc. – 39

Powell Camera Shop – 41

R. Jett & Company, Inc. – 9

Rayne Water Conditioning – 31

Republican Center – 2

Reynolds Buick/GMC/Isuzu – 89

Salon Lavish – 1

San Gabriel Valley Postal Credit Union – 22

Santa Anita Family Services – 7

Southern California Gas Company – 42

Stellar Business Bank – 5

Strike A Pose Photography – 5

Taco Bell #367 – 15

Valley Insurance Service, Inc. – 29

Via Verde Travel – 4

YWCA San Gabriel Valley—????

## JAN 2011 RENEWING MEMBERS & YEARS