

The Tulare Chamber of Commerce exists to serve its members and citizens by advocating for, and engaging in, efforts to encourage economic opportunity and business prosperity.

Save the Date:

APRIL 4, 2015
Cars in the Park
Zumwalt Park, Tulare
10 am - 3 pm

APRIL 10, 2015
Last day to submit
May Newsletter content

APRIL 13, 2015
Governmental Affairs Meeting
Apple Anniess, 12-1 pm

APRIL 14, 2015
Employee Policies Seminar,
Equal Employment Fundamentals
Tulare Chamber, 10-11:30 am

APRIL 21, 2015
Ambassador Meeting
Tulare Chamber
8 am

APRIL 23, 2015
Hancock A/C & Heating
25th Anniversary Mixer
Tulare Chamber Trade Room
5:30-7:30 pm

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Future home of Educational Employees Credit Union in Tulare

Educational Employees Credit Union

By Michelle Hernandez, EECU Communication Director

Educational Employees Credit Union will be opening a branch in Tulare later this year. Our members who live in Tulare have always supported EECU and we are so excited to open our doors in this growing community and serve our members where they live and work. We're looking forward to welcoming many new members into our family. EECU is actively involved in many events, organizations, and activities in Tulare. We've been members of the Tulare Chamber of Commerce for 10 years and our Visalia branch manager, Kelsey Jones, serves as a member of the chamber board. Kelsey is also on the board of the Tulare High School Foundation. Our business development director, Lisa Franks, is a COS Foundation board member. Kelsey and the entire Visalia branch staff are actively involved in many Tulare community events.

EECU has strong partnerships with the Tulare County Office of Education as well as groups and organizations that benefit Tulare schools. EECU is the sole sponsor of the Tulare County Excellence in Education awards program, which was formed in 1995. The event honors Tulare County's finest teachers, school employees and administrators. The nominees, their family members and special guests are invited to attend a special breakfast and awards ceremony, funded by EECU. The winners of the Excellence in Education award receive a small bronze sculpture. All nominees receive a framed, signed, and numbered limited-edition print of the life-size "Graduation Day" sculpture, which is located in front of the Tulare County Office of Education.

EECU was founded in 1934 during the Great Depression when a small group of educators pooled their resources with the common goal of helping one another make a better life. From those humble beginnings more than 80 years ago, we have prospered and are now the largest credit union based in the central San Joaquin Valley, with over \$2.2 billion in assets, 15 branches, and more than 238,000 members in 10 Central California counties.

EECU is a not-for-profit financial cooperative. Unlike banks, we don't have stockholders. That is an important distinction, because it means that our members are the ones who reap the benefits of our investments. Benefits like lower loan rates, higher savings rates, low-to-no fees, free financial education to students and community organizations, and generous donations to events and programs in the communities we serve.

While we're known as the credit union that serves educators, our membership has changed over the years. When we first opened our doors, you had to be a teacher in order to join. When we expanded our field of membership back in 2002, it allowed us to provide affordable products and services to even more people in our community. Today, we serve a broad spectrum of the educational community. Our members are teachers, school employees, students, members of school organizations, and their family members.

Being a member of the chamber allows us to learn more about other businesses in the community. We also enjoy the networking opportunities and getting to know more about all of the great things the city of Tulare has to offer.

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE

Tulare Chamber of Commerce
220 E. Tulare Ave., Tulare
170-208 sq. ft.

Happy 25th Anniversary

Hancock A/C & Heating
Serving Tulare & Kings Counties for 25 Years!
559-688-3843
25th Anniversary Mixer
Thursday, April 23rd
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Tulare Chamber Trade Room



Travel with the Tulare Chamber in 2015

- **Discover Panama: The Land Between the Seas**
Sept. 24 - Oct. 2, 2015
- **America's Music Cities: Featuring New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville**
Oct. 11-18, 2015

For more information, contact:
Jill Worley, Sea Bound Travel, Inc.
559-686-8085
seaboundtravel@sbcglobal.net

Valov named Tulare Farmer of the Year

Jimi Valov was recognized as Kiwanis Club of Tulare 55th Farmer of the Year at a luncheon on March 25th at the Heritage Complex in Tulare. Many attended the event to recognize and support Jimi Valov. Jimi has been farming since he was young, but formed Valov and Sons Farming in 1983 with his Father and two brothers. Valov and Sons has been a valued Chamber Member since 2007. Valov serves on the Tulare Christian School Board of Trustees, is the current vice chair of the American Pistachio Growers Association, and has farmed pistachios and almonds in Tulare and Kings Counties. He has been very involved in the community of Tulare and volunteers frequently. Volunteerism and community involvement is the basis for selection for who will be the recipient of the award each year. Valov is involved with many organizations.

In 1997, Valov met the love of his life, Tammy. He and his wife started a family in Waukena. They have four kids: Shyannah, Jimi J., Jade, and Journey. They moved from Waukena to Tulare and the family enjoys aiding organizations and families that need help. He currently supports and/or belongs to 4-H, Tulare Public Library Foundation, Tulare Historical Society, 2016 President of APG and WPA President of the President's Club Washington D.C.



Valov

Happy Trails riders participate in state horse show for the disabled

The 27th Annual CALNET Horse Show for riders with disabilities will take place May 1 to 3 at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Happy Trails Riding Academy will be represented by five riders: M.E. Van Huss, Jenny Wong, Nikki Evans, Amanda Bane and Clifford Evans all of Visalia. Happy Trails riders will compete in an obstacle course, pole bending, equitation and showmanship classes. The riders will be assisted by Program Director Lisa Cotta-Meek, Instructors Amber Preheim and Beth Sphuler, Executive Director Leslie Gardner and a host of volunteers.

Therapeutic riding is horseback riding for the disabled — it combines equestrian techniques with concepts of physical therapy to teach the disabled rider traditional horsemanship skills and improve his physical ability. Each step a horse takes



LOYAL CHAMBER MEMBERS

Renewing

The Tulare Chamber would like to thank the following businesses for renewing their membership:

- Fairfield Inn & Suites
- Goodwill Industries
- Six Generations Farm Co.
- The Orosco Group
- Tulare County Symphony Association
- Tulare Seventh Day Adventist Church
- LaLanne's Paint
- State Farm Insurance - Renee Soto
- Storland of Tulare
- Tulare Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
- Central Valley Refrigeration, Inc.
- Farmer Boys Tulare
- High Sierra Lumber & Supply Inc.
- Joe & Marie Pinto
- Tulare Polaris
- B & E Ranches
- Carmen Pinheiro
- Lampe Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram of Visalia
- Masonic Lodge - Olive Branch Lodge No. 269
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- Knight's Pumping & Portable Services
- Thiesen Dueker Financial Consulting Group
- Tulare Voice
- Fugazzis California Bistro
- Res-Com Pest Control
- Smiles by Sullivan
- Will & Clarice Tiesiera
- Tulare County Sheriff's Department
- Auto Oil Changers
- Bob & Bobbi Moore
- Craftsman Construction
- Craig Smith & Associates, Inc.
- Derrel's Mini Storage, Inc.
- Walter & Ellen Gorelick
- Joe & Inez Simoes
- Cathy Mederos
- Bruce Potter O.D.
- S. S. Shirts
- Smith Sign & Decal, Inc.
- Steven J. Lessley, O.D.
- Sturgeon & Beck, Inc.
- Tulare Golf Course
- Tulare Host Lions Club

Thank you to the following businesses for celebrating five years of membership

- Union Bank of California

New

The Tulare Chamber would like to welcome our newest members:

- Tulare Republican Women Federated
- Bob's Drive-In
- Boris Shnyder, D.D.S.



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Tulare Regional Medical Center: What a difference a year makes

Less than a year after entering an agreement to manage the Tulare Regional Medical Center, the turnaround team with Healthcare Conglomerate Associates started to show some impressive financial and operational progress:

- Hospital finances went from operating in the red to black,
- Monthly profits were posted and continue to increase,
- Fitch Ratings upgraded the hospital from a "negative" outlook to a "stable" outlook, and
- A DNV Accreditation survey was successfully completed.

But that was only the beginning. Now, just over a year later, and comfortable that the hospital will thrive and not just survive, the team is now able to turn its attention to the nuts and bolts of community health care. It is laying the foundation of an "integrated health delivery system" with the goal of creating a healthier community with first steps to include:

- Focusing on completing the hospital tower expansion,
- Performing a "needs analysis" for physician recruitment and retention, and
- Introducing and expanding its network of community health centers.

To that end, the Lindsay Healthcare



Nearly 200 people attended the grand re-opening March 19 of the Lindsay Healthcare Center at 845 N. Sequoia Ave., in Lindsay. The center is now open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and boasts the services of a registered dietician on site.

Center, located at 845 N. Sequoia Ave. in Lindsay, expanded its hours to 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in February. The full-service community health center has 10 examination rooms and provides a broad array of primary and on-site specialty care services to meet Lindsay's growing health-care needs.

Partnering with long-time community provider Dr. Togrol Saljoughy for obstetrics and gynecological services, Dr. Joshua Trujillo for family medicine and Physician Assistant Karla Stein, the center

now also boasts the services of Registered Dietician Kerri Bell on site. The new, on-site dietary services will now be available throughout the health-care district's network of clinics. To schedule an appointment with any of the providers, call the center at 562-6391.

On March 19, the health-care center held a wellness fair and grand opening to acquaint the community with its many expanded services. A full range of activity stations allowed visitors to check their body mass index, blood pressure and glu-

cose levels, learn ways to prepare healthy snacks and take a tour of the center.

"We are building a system," Dr. Benny Benzeevi, Chairman of HCCA, said about the new offerings at the Lindsay center and throughout the hospital district. "Our ultimate goal is not just to build clinics, but to provide nutritional education, prevention education and to begin to lay the foundation of a plan for a total community health center that will extend from north of Visalia to north of Bakersfield."

More is on the horizon for HCCA

Next up will be a new school-based health-care center in Earlimart at 192 Church St., on the campus of Earlimart Elementary School, as well as the 10-year anniversary and celebration in April of Evolutions Fitness & Wellness Center, the hospital's state-of-the-art, medically integrated fitness center. Also in April, Home Care Services will mark its own 20-year milestone of providing first-in-class care within a home setting.

Tulare Regional Medical Center operated by Healthcare Conglomerate Associates is turning the corner to provide cost-effective, best-in-class service, thanks to the commitment of its medical and support staff – and thanks to the support of a caring community!

COS Architecture Department encourages students' creativity

Come to the Tulare College Center morning and night, particularly at the end of the semester, and you will see some of the most creative, innovative, hard-working students in Tulare County. They are working day and night painting, designing, drafting, building models, gluing together projects, working together in teams and even designing "real-world" projects for real clients. They are learning how to meet deadlines and work together, all necessary skills to prepare them for a career in ARCHITECTURE!

The College of the Sequoias Architecture Department, located at the new Tulare College Center in Tulare on East Bardsley Avenue, houses the Architecture program which is one of the "anchor programs" of the new Center that opened in spring 2013.

"Our department offers programs in architectural education that allow students to successfully gain employment in architecture and/or transfer to a 4-year university to pursue a Bachelors Degree," said Rolando Gonzalez, faculty member for the program. "Individuals who gravitate to our program are the "creative" types. In fact, when we recruit at the high schools we



stress "creativity" as the most important trait necessary to become an architect," he said.

Prospective students are reminded that creativity takes many forms including design, drawing, drafting, construction, painting, sculpture, sewing, rebuilding cars, arts & crafts, jewelry making, photography, computer graphics, and more. According to Professor Gonzalez, any student who engages in these activities is a prime candidate for architecture school. "We encourage them to allow us the opportunity to help them express and enhance their creativity. We also ask them to imagine a lifestyle where they are paid to be creative," he says.

Gonzalez indicates there is a technical side to architecture which requires some mathematics and structures courses, but students do NOT have to be a

math wizard. Some universities are more "design" oriented while others are more "technical" in nature. COS works together with the student to find a "good fit." Louann Waldner, Dean of Career Technical Education who is also over the Architecture program added, "Mr. Gonzalez really cares about his students and spends an incredible amount of time ensuring they have the skills to be successful. I not only recommend this program as a Dean, but I am interested in my very creative son to start thinking about this discipline and COS would be an incredible start for him."

Students typically work towards a 2 year Associate of Science Degree. The degree includes courses in design, visual communication (tactile & digital drawing), architectural history, and construction technology. One-year certificates are also available as the student works towards their degree. Students also have excellent success in transferring to other 4-year schools with over 48 students having made successful transition to a variety of universities, while nearly 100 students have been placed in jobs.

Student Design Competitions, Scholarships, and Awards are another important part of the program. Under the leadership of Professor Gonzalez, the

program has received 60 design competition awards totaling over \$15,000. Student scholarships total more than \$41,000.

As a new facility, the Architecture classroom and laboratory is cutting edge. There are 9 separate software programs available to the students. The classroom equipment includes 25 drafting / computer stations with parallel bars, 2d plotter and printer, 3d printer, small and large format scanner, binding and lamination machine, small and large light box, model making room, and paint room. Students run sophisticated building information modeling and animation software and have access on most days from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

"Our faculty is top notch," said Dean Waldner. "Mr. Gonzalez is an architect by training and an outstanding instructor. He does a fantastic job of coordinating our adjunct faculty who are mostly architects practicing within the community as well as our Advisory Board of architects who assist us in ensuring we provide a quality architectural education," she concluded.

For more information on the COS Architecture program, visit the website at www.cos.edu/architecture or contact Rolando L. Gonzalez, M. Arch., Professor of Architecture/Architect AIA, Chair of Industry & Technology at 559-688-3120 or rolandog@cos.edu.

Happy 10th Anniversary to the Donut Factory

How long have you been in business?
We have been owners of Donut Factory for 12 years. We opened a second location in October of 2012. The second location is located at 1051 E. Prosperity Avenue in Tulare.

What do you like about having a business in Tulare?

We enjoy the nice people and the small town atmosphere where everybody knows each other. We love Tulare!

What do you enjoy about being a Member at the Chamber?

What we enjoy about being a Chamber Member is the community involvement.
1363 E. Tulare Avenue, Tulare
559-685-0461



Tulare United Methodist Church
228 W Kern Avenue • 559-686-8523

Every Sunday

- Breakfast before Church 8:00 am - provides free breakfast for all.
- Sunday School - all ages 9:00 am - 9:50 am
- Church Service - 10:00 am

Every Wednesday

- Prayer Group, 10:00 am
- Reaching Higher 4:00 pm -6:00 pm (after school program for children ages 6-12) Involves help with homework, teaching good study habits, Bible stories and games. A meal is served before the children go home.

Interested in Energy Savings for Your Business?

We invite all small and medium size businesses to join us for lunch and learn about our current energy challenge and saving opportunities.

April 8, 2015

11:00AM to 1:00PM

SoCal Edison Energy Education Center

4175 S. Laspina St., Tulare, CA

We will be covering

- ⇒ Energy Efficiency Basics
- ⇒ Kill-A-Watt Crackdown Energy Challenge
- ⇒ Rebates and Incentives
- ⇒ What Help is Available to YOU

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Tulare United Methodist JUBILEE DINNER

Saturday, April 18 • 6-9 pm
Chinese Cultural Center
500 S. Akers St. • Visalia, CA

Prime Rib Dinner
Entertainment • Silent Auction

Proceeds to benefit Tulare West Side Ministries

Tickets: \$40 each

50% of the ticket price is tax deductible. The ticket is your receipt.

For more information, please call the church office:

559-686-8523

Educational day for Leadership Tulare

By Sabrina Mendoza & Erika Zamorano

Leadership Tulare spent an extremely foggy day in February learning about our Education system within Tulare. The morning was spent at the College of the Sequoias Campus in Tulare with a number of great speakers.



Mendoza



Zamorano

Larry Dutto, Ph.D, Provost for College of the Sequoias got us started with very good information regarding College of the Sequoias followed by a tour of the State of the Art campus. We learned that Tulare Campus was approved to Center Status and how the Tulare location will become the largest of the 3 campus locations. They are able to provide an easier learning accessibility to the rural areas of Tulare, as the campus is closer to the surrounding areas. They are able to provide a transit system between the Tulare and Visalia campuses to ease the commute.

Rolando Gonzalez, M. Arch. Professor/Architect AIA, spoke to us regarding the Architecture Program offered at the Tulare Campus. The degree in architecture provides the basis for further study and employment in all aspects of environment design and enables students to transfer with credit in their major to University programs of architecture, interior design, planning, landscape architecture product design and civil engineering. It also provides the skills necessary for immediate employment in a technical capacity in architecture and allied professions as achievement and skills certificates are given upon completion of qualifying courses. As a class, we all were impressed that he records his classes and posts online so students can go online and re-listen to his teachings for review.

Alexandria Elliot of Brandman University spoke to us regarding their undergraduate and graduate programs offered. Their online and evening classes blended with online coursework makes it easier for working adults to return to school and maintain working at the same time. They have six 8-week sessions that are offered year round. Scholarships (a per credit reduction in price) are available for both undergraduate and graduate degree programs to make it financially easier to return to school.

Vicki Porter, Principal of VTEC High School, was next to impress us with their educational system. Visalia Technical Early College (VTEC) is a career based high school. Students who attend this school earn high school credit along with college credits while in attendance. Students benefit from attending classes as well as hands-on learning to aid in work experience. The students have had a 32% increase in English passing rate and a 41% increase in Math passing rate.

For lunch, we headed over to Tulare Adult School, where the Culinary Arts Program class prepared us with a very delicious lunch. Chef Jeff Riggs spoke to us regarding the Culinary Arts Program and what they offer students. It is a year-long certificate program that is designed for students who desire to learn the concepts needed to develop a career in the food service industry. Students are exposed to a broad range of topics including basic cooking, safety, sanitation, knife skills, food preparation, food production, baking and pastry. Students participate in an on-site externship program working at various positions to gain hands on training needed to enter the food service industry. After we gorged ourselves with the tantalizing food that was prepared for us, we headed over to the Tulare City School District boardroom



to learn some more.

Marie Pinto, Director of State & Federal Programs for Tulare Joint Union High School District (TJUHSD) filled us in on the TJUHSD's Priorities and Pathways on how to improve student outcomes and performance. Their first goal is to develop plans for student's growth by continuing to analyze facility Master Plan projects for future growth planning and finalize decisions on future expansion of Farm/Ag facility. They strive to maintain fiscal Integrity of the District and Fund the Boards Priorities, maintain safe schools and continue to strengthen internal and external communication systems.

Tricia Grissom, TCSD Head Nurse, shed some light to us regarding the roles school nurses and Health Aides play within the school district. They do not just put Band-Aids on scrapes and cuts, as many of us previously thought. School nurses and health aides must monitor medications that need to be given to children with insulin dependent diabetes, asthma, seizures, heart conditions, many allergies and so many more health issues. Nurses must also keep track of student vaccinations, various student health screenings like vision, dental and hearing as well.

Debbie Thompson, TCSD Director of Food Services, spoke to us regarding meals that are provided to our children at school for breakfast and lunch. School district started allowing children to have a few entrée choices of vegetables, fruits and beverages to eliminate food waste. They are finding children are eating more food and wasting a lot less. They must also prepare special lunches for students with certain food allergies as well as sack lunches for students attending field trips.

Next we headed off over to Kohn School where we met up with Denise Cifuentez as she gave us a tour of a few classrooms for the Choices after school program. We learned that this program is in place for children to attend, free of charge, right after school dismissal for 3 hours. In this program children have time to work on homework assignments, get physical fitness time, and youth developmental projects.

Tulare Leadership would like to thank everyone who volunteered their valuable time to educate us in our great educational system we have in place here in our community of Tulare.

BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Tony Cota

Tony Cota is on his second year as a Board Member at the Tulare Chamber of Commerce. He is the General Manager of Best Western Town & Country Lodge in Tulare.



Cota

Why is it important to be a Chamber Member?

The Chamber advocates for and promotes the local business community. Members can take part of Chamber events, training seminars, leadership programs, ribbon cuttings and mixers- all with the aim of helping local businesses network and grow.

What is your favorite thing about your job/company? At the Best Western Tulare we have a staff of 24 members from the following departments Front Desk, Housekeeping, Maintenance, Cocktail Lounge, Kitchen, and Sales. I enjoy working with my co-workers as we collectively strive to deliver on quality, service and price for each of our guests. We function as a team; it begins with the leadership of the

See Cota / 4

AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

Terry A. Sayre

I Taught school for forty years in Fresno and Tulare. Raised five children and now enjoy being a "Nana" to sixteen grandchildren.



Sayre

I first became an ambassador for the Chamber when I retired from full time teaching in 2005. In 2010 I participated in Leadership Tulare which prompted me to be involved with organizations serving Tulare. I have since been on the Kiwanis Board of Directors, Salvation Army Board, the PAL Board, and most recently the Library Advisory Board. Education runs in my blood and I still sit on the Tulare/Kings Reading Council Board and serve as an officer in the Educational Women's Society, Delta Kappa Gamma which promotes women educators throughout the world. Since 2013 I have had the good fortune to be the facilitator of Leadership Tulare for the Chamber. I love working with these highly motivated individuals who desire to become more involved in their community and make a difference for Tulare.

Ambassadors provides the opportunity to be associated with like-minded Tulare citizens who want to promote a positive image for our community and are willing to work together to serve their families, friends and neighbors. If you are interested in networking with other businesses and service representatives, join Ambassadors. It is a great way to start the day on the third Tuesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the Chamber Trade Room. Come join us and get involved with the issues and opportunities to grow and learn in our town, Tulare.

Tulare-Kings Right to Life: Educating the community

Tulare-Kings Right to Life (TKRL) is a community benefit organization dedicated to protecting and fostering the most basic value of our society — LIFE itself. TKRL promotes, upholds, and supports reverence and respect for human life without regard to condition, quality, age, race, religion, creed, or color, whether born or unborn.

With this in mind they seek to educate the community in regard to abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, embryonic stem cell research, fetal experimentation and other actions which deny human dignity and to inform citizens how to effectively make their voices heard in a democracy.

Through an army of volunteers, TKRL sponsors informational booths at the Kings and Tulare County Fairs, festivals, conferences, health fairs, and other public events. They also give presentations to civic and church groups.

TKRL compassionately serves the community through programs like Latinos4Life, a Hispanic outreach that increases education and communication among young people and families on topics such as dating and relationships, sex, pregnancy and abortion.

Voices for Life, a TKRL program committed to educating



teens about the value of life, provides education and support to encourage youth to live a chaste lifestyle to serve as an example for their peers.

See TKRL / 4

SHRM presentation addresses workplace violence prevention

Kevin W. Rowland, vice president of On-Site Violence Prevention, a division of On-Site Security, Inc. and founder of a human resources management consulting and training company, The Kevin W. Rowland Consulting Company (KWRCco.com) will be SHRM's speaker for April.



Since 1989, Rowland has worked as an employee or consultant for several businesses — from family owned and publicly traded to a privately held world leader. It is from that early experience that he discovered the profound need in this competitive world market for small-

medium-size businesses to have access to skilled resources that many large organizations have in house.

Rowland will be bringing his well-rounded on-site violence prevention advisory team to talk about workplace violence and provide resources and programs that can help prevent incidents at the workplace.

- His focus:
- To bring a new awareness
 - Provide tools and resources
 - Create Safe & Secure Neighborhoods, Workplaces and Communities

The seminar will be held from 11 a.m. to 1:10 p.m., Tuesday, April 14, at the Visalia Holiday Inn, 9000 W. Airport Drive in Visalia. The first hour will be reserved for registration, networking and lunch.

To register, go to www.sbrmtularekings.org.

For questions, contact Fran Herr, 559-300-5941 or email member-ship@sbrmtularekings.org.

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Riders

(continued from page 1)

requires the rider to use his muscles to maintain balance and his mind to control the horse. Currently there are 99 therapeutic riding centers in California and Nevada and more than 35,000 disabled equestrians in the United States.

Happy Trails Riding Academy is a non-profit program that enriches the lives of children and adults with physical, mental and emotional disabilities through therapeutic horsemanship, providing a unique opportunity for self-improvement and independence while offering a challenging alternative to traditional therapy.

For more information please contact Leslie Gardner at 559-741-3791.

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Scheduling mandate bill a 'Job Killer' for retailers

Legislation imposing a one-size-fits-all scheduling mandate on retailers has been identified by the California Chamber of Commerce as a "job killer."

AB 357 (Chiu; D-San Francisco) will dramatically increase the cost of doing business for any entity that conducts "any type of retail

sales activity" in California and penalizes the employer by requiring "additional pay" for making changes to the schedule with less than two weeks notice.

The author's office has indicated the bill will be amended to limit it to employers with 500 or more employees in the state and at least 10 retail establishments nationwide.

The bill also creates an unlimited

amount of protected leave from work and a broad new protected class of employees—those who are receiving public assistance or have an identified family member receiving such assistance.

In addition, AB 357 subjects employers to litigation under the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA), unfair competition law, and common law wrongful termination statutes.

TKRL

(continued from page 3)

The IRMA (I Regret My Abortion) Network increases awareness of after-abortion issues and offers healing opportunities for post-abortive women and men by providing a network of agencies, organizations and individuals that can help

them work through the trauma related to Post-Abortion Syndrome. Resources include After-Abortion Healing and Recovery Retreats, along with their annual AfterCHOICE symposium.

TKRL's pro-life billboards have been particularly effective in assisting women to reconsider plans to abort their babies and bringing the message of healing and restoration to those wounded by abortion.

In addition to offering a wealth of pro-life resources and in-depth educational material through their extensive website and lending library, the organization also keeps its supporters up-to-date on pro-life happenings through its weekly Pro-Life Update email. To subscribe, visit www.tkrl.org, click on "Be Informed" and then "Sign Up." And be sure to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

Cota

(continued from page 3)

owner, Jackson Tsai, and continues through each of the departments. It's validating to receive favorable reviews from our guest surveys and when our guests return.

What are some of the ways you recommend getting involved with the Chamber? I'd recommend frequenting the training seminars. I recently attended one that introduced the new laws that will affect small businesses within California.

Also, if you wish to volunteer your time, you may want to consider the Ambassador Committee or find out more about Leadership Tulare.

What do you enjoy most about Tulare? Tulare is my hometown. I grew up here, attended school at Roosevelt, Mulcahy, and Tulare Western. I advanced to college in Southern California where I graduated and met my wife. When my wife and I considered starting a family, I knew Tulare would offer us an affordable place to live with the convenience of

suburban life and with accessibility to the most desirable places such as the coast, the mountains and National Parks.

What do you like to do when you aren't at work? When I'm not at work, I'm usually at home with my wife of 15 years, Laura, and my 3 beautiful daughters ages 12, 10, 9 (and soon to be 4th child in September). We enjoy our country life where we spend a lot of time in our yard gardening and tending to our chickens. We also enjoy serving at Tulare Calvary Chapel.



APRIL 2015 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Cars at the Park 10am-3pm, Zumwalt Park, Tulare
5	6	7 Tulare City Council Meeting 7pm regular session Tulare Public Library Council Chambers	8 Energy Saving Challenge Lunch Information meeting – current energy challenge 11am-1pm SoCal Edison Energy Education Center 4175 S. Laspina St., Tulare	9 Oak Valley Open House & Dedication 5:30pm-8pm 24500 Drive 68, Tulare 559-688-2908	10 Last day to submit May Newsletter content	11
12	13 Governmental Affairs Meeting 12-1pm Apple Annies	14 Employee Policies Seminar Equal Employment Fundamentals 10am-11:30am, Tulare Chamber SHRM Luncheon 11am-1:10pm, Visalia Holiday Inn 9000 W. Airport Dr., Visalia	15	16	17 California Antique Farm Equipment Show 8am-5pm, International Agri-Center 4500 S. Laspina St., Tulare	18 California Antique Farm Equipment Show 8am-5pm, International Agri-Center 4500 S. Laspina St., Tulare Tulare United Methodist Jubilee Dinner Prime Rib Dinner, 6pm-9pm Chinese Cultural Center, 500 S. Akers St., Visalia
19 California Antique Farm Equipment Show 8am-3pm, International Agri-Center 4500 S. Laspina St., Tulare	20	21 Ambassador Meeting 8:00 am, Tulare Chamber Tulare City Council Meeting 7pm regular session Tulare Public Library Council Chambers	22 Veterans Opportunity Day 9am-1pm Veterans Memorial Building 1771 E. Tulare Ave., Tulare	23 Hancock A/C & Heating 25th Anniversary Mixer 5pm-7pm Tulare Chamber, Trade Room	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		