

The Hawthorne HOTLINE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE HAWTHORNE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

June 2005

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT WANTS LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE TO STAY

(Excerpted from a South Bay Economic Development Partnership News Release and Hawthorne Chamber Sources)

Appreciating the military value of keeping the Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC) at Los Angeles Air Force Base, the Department of Defense announced May 13th that it would not include the Hawthorne-El Segundo based facility in its proposed list of facilities nationwide that will be realigned or closed. The department's recommendations will now be reviewed by a Presidential-appointed Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) that has until September to accept or amend the list before passing it on to the President for approval or disapproval.

"I am very proud of the Hawthorne Chamber's involvement over the past 18

months as an active member of the LAAFB Regional Alliance effort," noted Don Harris, Chamber President. Harris along with Executive Director Susan Lanfre', Directors Tom Boren and Patricia Feldman-Donaldson, and chamber member Tom Quintana, participated in various forums, planning sessions and information gathering projects that were coordinated by the Alliance that was comprised of a broad coalition of business, civic, and government leaders.

Alliance Co-chairman John Parsons noted, "This is a significant development for national security, and great news for California's economic health and well-being...We will continue to be vigilant in our efforts to ensure that the members of the BRAC understand the strategic military value of...SMC remaining..."



Mission of the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce

Act as a spokesperson for the business and professional community and translate into action the group thinking of its members

Render specific services to its members and to the community as a whole

All businesses within and around the City of Hawthorne are invited to join the Chamber and participate in its various community events

Location and Hours of Operation

4444 W. El Segundo Blvd.
Hawthorne
310.676.1163
info@hawthorne-chamber.com

Monday and Wednesday
9:30 am—2:30 pm
Friday
10 am—3 pm

All Chamber members are welcome to attend the General Board meetings held the first Wednesday of every month, 8 am at the Chamber office.

June 16th Mixer at Qdoba Mexican Grill!
5221 W. Rosecrans Avenue, Hawthorne, 5:30 pm
Food, Drawings, Networking
Be There!

President's Message

Act VIII

The World Comes to Hawthorne.....
And Loves us!

After months of planning and anticipation, one of the biggest events in Hawthorne's history happened last Friday, May 20th with the dedication of the Beach Boys California Historical Landmark at the site of the former Wilson family home. Fans came from all around the world to experience this event and judging from their comments as they stopped at the Chamber booth, they loved our town! We had visitors from England, Scotland, Australia and France to name a few countries. There were also former neighbors of the Wilson family telling stories of childhood memories of Brian Wilson. Thanks to Rick Carver and the Hawthorne Public Works Department for freshly paved streets and fixing up the surrounding areas. The Hawthorne Parks and Recreation Foundation worked with the committee so the monument could be built for the Historical Landmark. Thanks to Chamber members Mike Bell of Bell Event Services for the sound system and Nelson Rios of Advanced Party Rentals for setting up the VIP seating and stage.

The security was provided by Chamber member Abacus Security and our own Hawthorne PD was there to make sure the peace was kept. The Airport Neighborhood Watch was also there providing much needed water and drinks on this hot day. The Chamber of Commerce and Post Office collaborated to offer Postal Commemorative envelopes and post cards. We also sold a beautiful badge honoring the event designed by Joe Simone of Menace Studios – Thank You Joe!

This was a real team effort among many different community organizations and City departments and the results were fantastic. I want to thank every one involved in this project for their efforts and especially let them know how good this event made Hawthorne – the “City of Good Neighbors”- look. This is something I believe is unique to our city. We have a strong alliance of citizens, small business owners, industry, civic groups and local government which work together on a regular basis and make events like this possible. Like last week when we had a community BBQ to raise money for the Police K-9 team with over 300 in attendance! Or the week before, another community event

to raise money for the Leslie Zepeda Memorial fund. Teamwork like this *really gets things done!*

Likewise, our team of directors, officers and employees at the Chamber have done an outstanding job this past year! Not only have we grown by close to 50 new members, but we have had numerous ribbon cuttings, mixers, fund raisers, workshops, seminars and special events such as State of the City luncheon. I want to thank every member of the Chamber team for their *outstanding* efforts this past year. By the time you read this, we will have elected a new group of directors to the board for the coming 2 year term. I know these new directors will bring great energy to this Chamber so we can continue our growth and leadership to the business community of Hawthorne.

Our installation banquet on June 30th promises to be a hit. Titled “Beach Bash” we will build on the Beach Boys theme – so put on your best Hawaiian shirt and join us as we celebrate the completion of a great year and the beginning of an even better one! C ya there!

Don Harris, Chamber President

Hawthorne Chamber Board Members

Executive Director

Susan Lanfre

Board of Directors

President

Don Harris, Farmers Insurance Group

Treasurer

Larry Franklin, Commercial Capital Bank

Committees

Communications

Candy Cargill-Fuller, Behavioral Health Services

Economic Development

Don Harris, Farmers Insurance Group

Government Affairs

Pam Fees, El Camino College

Member Services/Women in Business

Pat Feldman-Donaldson, Abacus Security Services

Special Events

Mike Bell, Bell Event Services

Elected Board Members

Tom Boren, Marriott International

Betty Patterson, LV Travel & Tours

Nelson Rios, Advanced Party Rentals

Meg Roi, California Crusader News

Bill Salfity, G & S Printing

Joseph Simone, Menace Studios

Rev. Al Wise, Del Aire Assembly of God Church

At Large Directors

Steve Bradford, Southern California Edison

Candy Cargill-Fuller, Behavioral Health Services

Ken Carson, Vought Aircraft Industries Inc.

Lily Craig, Chevron Products Company

Jeff Lyman, South Bay Ford

Terri Ownes, South Bay Workforce Investment Board

Shelley Rose, Hawthorne School District

**Contact Any
Board Member
And Get
Involved Today!**

The **South Bay Business Resource Network (Network)** is a brand new business services program of the **South Bay Workforce Investment Board**. The Network is an association of organizations, which are dedicated to providing resources of value and benefit to South Bay businesses. Our *mission* is to promote and support a vibrant economy by helping businesses reduce their costs, increase productivity, and increase the potential for profitability. Our *goal* is to create an enhanced economic environment in which businesses are more likely to remain healthy, competitive and successful. The **Network** provides a range of resources and services, which can help firms meet many of today's business challenges. Our resources can help businesses reduce and avoid unnecessary costs, and plan and improve their operations. According to the needs of the customer, we offer the following services at no-cost, at cost, and on a discounted fee-basis:



- Staffing Assistance**
- Business and Entrepreneurial Development Services**
- Labor Exchange Services**
- Disability Services for Employers**
- Workplace Performance Improvement Services**
- Human Resource Solutions**
- Corporate (Large Employer) Services**

"Let the Network help you meet today's business challenges." Call our automated number at (310) 970-7799 or our Resource Desk at (310) 970-7700. You can also visit us at www.southbayresource.net



Upcoming Events

June Events

- 6/1 Monthly Board of Directors Mtg, 8 am, Chamber Office
- 6/16 June Mixer, 5:30 pm, Qdoba Mexican Grill, 5221 W. Rosecrans Ave.
- 6/21 Women in Business Mtg, 12 noon, Cherise Vallas, abovedove2003@yahoo.com
- 6/30 Chamber Installation, 5:30 pm, Chevron Employee Park

July Events

- 7/6 Monthly Board of Directors Mtg, 8 am, Chamber Office
- 7/19 Women in Business Mtg, 12 noon, Cherise Vallas, abovedove2003@yahoo.com

7/21 July Mixer, 5:30 pm, 405 Storage, 12714 S. La Cienega Blvd.

August Events

- 8/3 Monthly Board of Directors Mtg, 8 am, Chamber Office
- 8/16 Women in Business Mtg, 12 noon, Cherise Vallas, abovedove2003@yahoo.com
- 8/18 August Mixer, 5:30 pm, Ramada Inn, 5250 W. El Segundo Blvd.

September Events

List your community or business events. Contact Candy Cargill-Fuller at candy@bhs-inc.org

Community and Member News

Schnierow Dental Care offers **FREE** Dental Screenings at the Rodium Swap Meet every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday!

New Member Century 21 Union Reality Real Estate is my full time business and I am fanatical about providing top quality services to my clients. The sale of your home or

business is an important and tedious process that requires a professional, such as me, with the knowledge, negotiation skills, and time to get the job done without risks to you. I am available to provide a free market analysis of your home or other real estate within 24 hours of your call. I am a graduate of the University of Redlands, an active member of my

church and I look forward to working with, your family and friends in meeting your real estate needs. My name is Brenda Lacy-Roberts and you can reach me at (310) 508-3448 and my email address is lacyrobert@aol.com Let's keep Hawthorne growing!

YesterYear by Walt Dixon

Hello again. I thought I would talk about the depression in this issue.

It was very bad times financially but great for family and friends. There was no Social Security, or unemployment benefits. People helped other people; for instance almost everyone had a little garden in their back yard and one person would grow corn while another would grow beans etc. then these people would trade their produce back and forth. Also a lot of people raised chickens in their back yards for the eggs and the meat. When they had a surplus of eggs or chickens they would sell or trade with their neighbors.

They would sell the eggs for about 15 cents a dozen.

All of the kids would gather in the vacant lots and there were a lot of them around town. Some of them would have weeds very tall, sometimes as high as three feet which was good for hiding out and ambushing our friends by jumping out at them when they least expected it. Of course in the fall when the grass had dried out we would take a while just pulling foxtails out of our socks. Our favorite games were Cops and Rob-

bers and Cowboys and Indians or we would make up games on the spur of the moment. When we would play Cops and Robbers or Cowboys and Indians we would take an old broom handle and pretend it was a rifle and for a pistol we would use our index finger and our thumb. In the fields that didn't have tall weeds we would build forts out of cardboard boxes for war games. There were a lot of trees all over town so another past time was tree climbing especially if there was a Loquat tree in the neighborhood. What pleasure it was to sit up in the tree and eat Loquats until we were stuffed!

There were very few bicycles around then, for a new bike might cost 10 or 12 dollars and no one had that kind of money, and a pair of roller skates would cost maybe 1 to 3 dollars. These skates came in one size and one size fit all for they were in two pieces joined in the middle with a bolt and nut so we could extend the length to fit our shoe. They came with a skate key in order for us to clamp the front onto the front part of the shoe and then there was a strap that went around the ankle. Nothing was wasted then for when one

of the skates broke or got lost we would take the good one and undo the bolt and nut then we had two halves. We would find an old 2 x 4 maybe 3 or 4 feet long and fasten one half of the skate to one end of the 2 x 4 and the other half to the other end. We would scrounge up some bent nails in order to fasten the two halves to the 2 x 4, then we would find an old orange crate and nail it to one end of the 2 x 4, this gave us a skate coaster, a forerunner of the scooters of today! Enough for now, will continue next month. Remember "THOSE WERE THE GOOD OLD DAYS"



Government Affairs

Throughout the year bills are introduced during California's legislative session. The following is information on two bills that may have an impact on area businesses.

A bill was introduced in the Assembly that would increase the state minimum wage from the current \$6.75 per hour to \$7.25 in 2006. This bill, AB 48, was introduced by democratic assemblywoman Sally Lieber from the Mountain View/San Jose area. It is quickly moving through the committees.

AB 48 will incrementally increase the minimum wage and then index it to inflation, meaning it would have an automatic cost index that would increase the wage every year. The minimum wage in 2007 would be increased to \$7.75. The new legislation would require the state's minimum wage to be adjusted annually for a cost-of-living increase beginning in 2008 based on the Consumer Price Index.

The current federal minimum wage is \$5.15 per hour. Employers in the state of Washington paid the highest minimum wage in 2005 at \$7.35 an hour.

AB 48 also affects managerial and other exempt worker salaries due to the 1999 enactment of AB 60 (Chapter 134). That statute recast California overtime law and permanently linked the threshold for classifying salaried executive, administrative, and professional employees as exempt to the state minimum wage. As a result, AB 48 also mandates a wage increase for 1.6 million exempt workers.

To be exempt from state overtime requirements, executive, administrative, and professional employees must earn at least two times the state minimum wage for full time employment, as well as meet a detailed duties test.

Any salaried employee who makes less than \$28,080 per year today

must be classified as a nonexempt salaried employee. AB 48 proposes to increase the exempt worker annual base salary requirement to no less than \$32,240 per year.

Another bill of interest to businesses is SB 833 introduced by Debra Bowen, a democratic senator from the Redondo Beach area.

This bill prohibits unsolicited advertisement faxes, including faxes to individuals with existing business relationships with the sender. Civil fines and penalties could be imposed.

"Unsolicited advertisement" is defined as any material advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services that is transmitted to any person without that person's prior express invitation or permission. Federal law now includes similar "opt-in" language, but may be amended to provide an "opt-out" exception for existing business relationships. Bowen wants to maintain California's stricter standard.

THE HAWTHORNE HOTLINE is mailed and emailed directly to 230+ members and published on the chamber's website at www.hawthorne-chamber.com.

Advertising Rates

Ad Size	One Time	3x or More
Business Card	\$ 25	\$ 20
Quarter Page	\$ 45	\$ 40
Half Page	\$ 90	\$ 85
Full Page	\$ 180	\$ 170

Newsletter Insert Rates (Advertiser Provides Copies)

Members	\$ 35	Non-members	\$ 50
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don@donharrisagency.com

Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce Beach Bash

35th Annual Installation of Officers and Civic Awards Presentation

Thursday, June 30, 2005 5:30 p.m.

Chevron Employees Park
324 W. El Segundo Blvd.
El Segundo, California

Social Hour at 5:30 p.m. • Dinner, Entertainment and Program at 6:30 p.m.

\$30 Individual Seats

\$300 Table Sponsor: includes acknowledgement in the program, newsletter and web-site

\$500 Event Sponsor: includes acknowledgement in the program, newsletter, website, banner and a table for 10

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsor: includes acknowledgement in the program, newsletter, website, banner, table for 10 and plaque presented at event. Acknowledged as Presenting Sponsor in all publicity and at Event.

		QTY.		TOTAL
COMPANY NAME _____	CONTACT NAME _____	Individual Seats \$30 each	_____	\$ _____
ADDRESS / BILLING ADDRESS _____		Sponsoring Tables \$300	_____	\$ _____
CITY _____	STATE _____ ZP CODE _____	Event Sponsor \$500	_____	\$ _____
E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____		Presenting Sponsor \$1,000	_____	\$ _____
Credit Card Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MASTER CARD <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN EXPRESS		Amount Enclosed	_____	\$ _____
CARD NUMBER _____		Make check payable to: Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce 4444 El Segundo Blvd. Hawthorne, CA 90250		
SECURITY NUMBER _____	EXPIRATION DATE _____	SIGNATURE _____	DATE _____	

For Information call the Hawthorne Chamber at: 310.676.1163



**Contact The Chamber Office
To Get Your Button Today!**



*Thanks to Behavioral Health Services for
publishing our newsletter.*

Tell us what you would like to hear!

The HAWTHORNE HOTLINE is the official newsletter of the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce. It is published monthly, sent by mail, email, and is posted on our website at www.hawthorne-chamber.com

Send requests to:
Candy Cargill-Fuller at
candy@bhs-inc.org.

The HAWTHORNE HOTLINE welcomes your comments, suggestions and story ideas!



The Hawthorne

HOTLINE

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Hawthorne, CA 90250

<http://www.hawthorne-chamber.com>