



★ ★ ★ The Hawthorne ★ ★ ★ HOTLINE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE HAWTHORNE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

January 2007

Happy New Year!



JOIN US FOR
THE 2007 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS LUNCHEON
FEATURING
HAWTHORNE MAYOR LARRY GUIDI
PRESENTED BY
THE HAWTHORNE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FEBRUARY 14TH, 2007
AT HAWTHORNE MEMORIAL CENTER
3901 W. EL SEGUNDO BOULEVARD
HAWTHORNE, CA 90250



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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
www.hawthorne-chamber.com
info@hawthorne-chamber.com

Monday, Wed., Thurs., and Fri
9:30 am—4:30 pm

Tuesday
10 am—4pm

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

The January Mixer will be held at the Hometown Buffet, on Thursday the 18th, at 5:00 p.m.

12139 Hawthorne Blvd., Hawthorne

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This has been a very good year! New Businesses opening in Hawthorne, the Christmas Parade and a "New Chief of Police" Chief Mike Heffner, what more could you ask for.

I wish everyone a day of ordinary miracles, a fresh pot of coffee that you didn't have to make yourself, an unexpected phone call from an old friend, green lights on your way to work or shop. I wish you a day of little things to rejoice in, the fastest line in the grocery store, a good sing-along-song on the radio, and your keys right where you look. I wish you a day of happiness and perfection-little bite size pieces of perfection that give you the funny feeling that the Lord is smiling on you, holding you so gentle, because you are someone special and rare. I wish you a day of Peace, Happiness and Joy!

They say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but then an entire life to forget them.

May God Shower you with all of His Blessings!

Wishing you the very best for 2007.

Patricia Feldman-Donaldson,
 Chamber President



Chamber Ambassadors

The Hawthorne Chamber's Ambassadors are the goodwill arm of the Chamber. The Ambassadors are a great way to meet Chamber members (currently ~285 business are members) as well as an excellent way to meet and talk with businesses that are joining the Chamber.

The Ambassadors are charged with extending the hand of friendship to new and current members alike. Welcoming new members, making goodwill calls, assisting with ribbon cuttings and attending (and helping with) other Chamber events are all part of an Ambassadors duties. Meeting new people, visiting new businesses and having fun is a wonderful side benefit of being an Ambassador for the Hawthorne Chamber.

Interested in becoming a Hawthorne Chamber Ambassador? Contact Manuel E. Cadena Jr. at 310-308-2532.



HAWTHORNE CHAMBER BOARD MEMBERS

2006/2007 Board of Directors

President Pat Feldman-Donaldson
 Abacus Security Services

Treasurer Larry Franklin
 Commercial Capital Bank

Past President Don Harris
 Farmers Insurance Group

Committees

Ambassadors- Manuel Cadena

Communications- Candy Cargill-Fuller
 Behavioral Health Services

Economic Development- Don Harris
 Farmers Insurance Group

Government Affairs- David Greene
 South Bay Workforce Investment Board

Member Services/Women in Business-

Pat Feldman-Donaldson
 Abacus Security Services

Special Events- Nelson Rios
 Advanced Party Rentals

Elected Board Members

Brenda Lacy-Roberts
 Century 21 Union Realty

Pastor Tyrone Partee
 Olivet Lutheran Church

Betty Patterson, LV Travel & Tours

Nelson Rios, Advanced Party Rentals

Bill Salfity, G & S Printing

Joseph Simone, Menace Studios

Brian Mugford (for Steve Tavera)
 Gold's Gym

Tad Teodoro, Century Aviation

At Large Directors

Candy Cargill-Fuller, Behavioral Health Services

Randy Jacobs, Vought Aircraft Industries Inc.

Lily Craig, Chevron Products Company

Shelley Rose, Hawthorne School District

Steve Bradford, Southern California Edison

David Greene, South Bay Workforce Investment Board

Candace Epperson, Wescom Credit Union

Administrative Staff

Sherice Fernandez

Melanie Love

**CONTACT ANY BOARD MEMBER AND
 GET INVOLVED TODAY!**

YESTERYEAR

Well the holiday season is over and we can all get back to our normal life. In the 'GOOD OLD DAYS' there was no advertising or displays until the day after Thanksgiving, but now it starts three or four months before Christmas and I for one do not like it

Everything is so commercial now, you can even buy a tree that already has lights on it. In the old days it would take hours to trim a tree. We would take popcorn and thread it onto string and then hang it around the tree. We put a string of lights on the tree, but first we had to test it to make sure all of the lights were working.

In the old days, all of the lights were in series, which means if one bulb was burned out none of the lights would work. Oh, that was fun. It might take an hour to find the one that was no good. After the lights the balls and other things went on, then the arguments started. My father insisted that the icicles be put on one at a time, and not just thrown on in bunches. It was always an honor to be the one that got to put the angel on top of the tree.

I remember there was a house that had a very large window in front. Every year the people would buy a large tree, split it down the middle, and put half the tree on the inside of the house and

the other half outside with it decorated on both sides of the window. People would drive by just to look at it.

The cars would be strung at least a block down the street; it was impressive. Of course things haven't changed a whole lot on Christmas day. Even then when there was little money to spend, The kids would be outside showing off their new gifts such as roller skates, a used bicycle and the girls with their home made dolls and, ribbons for their hair. Of course it was the same then as now with the big dinner for family and friends. There was no television then, so we couldn't loosen our belts and watch sports the rest of the day. Come New Years Eve things were a lot more quiet. There were no gun shots in the air. There were horns that were blown by your mouth and other noise makers and people would gather in neighbor's houses much like today but on a more somber scale.

We all wished each other a better year than the one we just finished. We hoped all of our neighbors would find jobs in the new year, and hope those jobs would pay at least 30 cents an hour.

Bread was 10 cents a loaf, eggs 10 to 15 cents a dozen, and rent was any-

where from ten to twenty-five dollars a month.



We all helped each other with our backyard gardens. There was a lot of sharing then and of course we knew all of our neighbors for blocks around. In those days, we never passed a neighbor or anybody without waving or saying hello. The whole neighborhood helped each other with many things.

I don't know if we will ever see those days again, but it sure would be nice to know your neighbors like that.



Of course those were THE GOOD OLD DAYS'

Till next time,

Walt



UPCOMING EVENTS

January Events

- 1/3/2007– First board meeting of the year!
- 1/15/2007– Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 1/18/2007- Mixer will be held at Hometown Buffet at 5:00 p.m.

February Events

- 2/7/2007– Board meeting at 8:00 a.m.
- 2/14/2007 State of the City held at the Hawthorne Memorial Center at 11:00 a.m.

- 2/15/2007– Mixer to be announced!

March Events

- 3/7/06– Board meeting at 8:00 a.m.-

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

THREE SIXTY AT SOUTH BAY

Many people drive by the old Air Force site at Aviation and El Segundo Blvd and wonder what is being built and when is it going to be ready. This is the site of a new gated housing development called Three Sixty at South Bay. This project by William Lyon homes will consist of 625 homes with a community/recreation center, swimming pool and some open park space. This gated community will be a premier location for home ownership on Hawthorne's Westside.

William Lyon Homes closed escrow on the property in September '06. Currently they are doing the street improvements within the tract. And plan to start construction on the model homes in the first quarter of 2007, with completion of the first phase by fall 2007. The first homes for sale will be delivered in the first half of 2008. Widening of Aviation Blvd. will begin in the first half of 2007 as well.

If you are interested in being on their mailing list, you can go to www.findoutwhatscoming.com and register.

NEWS AND LEGISLATION

Cited: Cohen & Goldfried.
www.cogolaw.com

Minimum Wage Increase

By now most people know that the California minimum wage is going up. The first increase takes effect January 1, 2007, and raises the minimum wage for California's nonexempt employees from the current \$6.75 an hour to \$7.50 an hour. The second increase to \$8.00 an hour takes effect January 1, 2008. The increase does not only affect low-end wage earners. It will have an impact on exempt executive, administrative and professional employees, whose minimum salary requirements are tied to the minimum wage. The minimum salary required to maintain their exemption will increase from the current \$2340 per month (\$28,080 per year), to \$2,600 per month (\$31,200 per year) on January 1, 2007, and to \$2,773.33 per month (\$33,280 per year) on January 1, 2008. The increase will also affect commissioned salesperson, who are required to earn no less than one and one half times the minimum wage to be exempt (\$11.25 in 2007, and \$12.00 in 2008) Thus, California employers should review the earnings of exempt employees to identify those who fall below the new minimum,

so that an employee who otherwise qualifies as exempt is not made nonexempt simply through inadvertence. Employers are also required to post a new state minimum wage poster, and order, as of January 1, 2007

Administrative Developments

What should an employer do upon receipt of a "No match" letter from the Social Security Administration ("SSA")? Employers must be very careful how they react to letters from the SSA stating that an employee's name and social security number do not match. The mismatch may be perfectly innocent, a result of clerical errors or name changes. However, a no-match letter can also expose an alien who is not authorized to work in the United States. Employers are often unsure what to do after receiving a no match letter, concerned that they may face potential liability for knowingly hiring the employee. However, the no match letters specifically say that employers should not take adverse action against an employee based on the no match letter. The Department of Homeland Security has recently issued proposed regulations giving some guidance. The proposed regulations describe procedures to follow to avoid being charged with

knowledge that the employee was not authorized to work in the United States. An employer who follows the process specified in the regulations may avoid liability for hiring an unauthorized worker. The regulations provide the employer with a maximum of 63 days to resolve the discrepancy. Yet, an employer that is unable to verify an employee's eligibility to work within the 63 days is faced with the unenviable choice of liability for employing an illegal alien, or potential liability for terminating the employees employment. Indeed, in one recent case, an employee who was suspended by an employer following receipt of a no-match letter was permitted to proceed to trial on a discrimination claim, because the employee was a legal immigrant, and the employer had never considered whether there was the possibility of misuse of the employee's social security number by another. Employers must also keep in mind that even illegal aliens may have certain employment rights, including the right to workers' compensation benefits, overtime, back pay, and to sue for workplace harassment and discrimination. Thus, it is critical for employers for first ensure that employees have legal right to work, and, upon receipt of a no-match letter, to exercise caution, and follow the new guidelines.

THE 2007 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS LUNCHEON



INDIVIDUAL TICKETS.....\$50.00

THERE ARE THREE LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

TABLE SPONSOR.....\$500.00

INCLUDES TABLE FOR 10 GUESTS AND A MENTION IN THE EVENT PROGRAM.

EVENT SPONSOR.....\$1000

INCLUDES A TABLE FOR 10 GUESTS, A HALF-PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE EVENT PROGRAM, YOUR COMPANY LOGO ON THE EVENT BANNER.

PREMIER SPONSOR.....\$1500

INCLUDES A TABLE FOR 10 GUESTS, A FULL-PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE EVENT PROGRAM, YOUR COMPANY LOGO ON THE EVENT BANNER, AND A PRIVATE VIP RECEPTION (10:00 A.M) WITH MAYOR GUIDI AND THE CHAMBER BOARD. RECEPTION ALSO INCLUDES AN EXCLUSIVE PHOTO SESSION THAT WILL BE FEATURED IN POST TELEVISION AND PRINT MEDIA COVERAGE.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS REPLY CARD AND MAIL TO:

HAWTHORNE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

4444 W. EL SEGUNDO BLVD, HAWTHORNE, CA 90250

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- VISA
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Reservations must be received by January 31, 2007
 Please make checks payable to: Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce


ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESSES HERE!



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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

Members	Non-members
\$ 35	\$ 50



Behavioral Health Services
BHS
 A Tradition of Caring
 Since 1973
 Thanks to BHS
 for publishing our newsletter.



Tell us what you would like to hear!

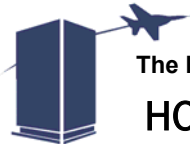
The HAWTHORNE HOTLINE is the official newsletter of the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce. It is published monthly, sent by mail, email, and is posted on our website at www.hawthorne-chamber.com

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

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

Your Hawthorne Chamber

Taking Care of Business!



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HOTLINE**

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