



GOLETA CHAMBER NEWS & EVENTS

1

A PUBLICATION OF THE GOLETA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Vision for 2006

2005 was a fantastically successful year for the Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce, but rather than being sated, our appetite has been wetted. By continuing the programs that members and the community value, and adding new programs that enhance our ability to represent business we will serve you even better.



TIM MAHONEY
Board Chairman

and with other organizations.

The IPR will be especially busy this year, because 2006 is an election year for Goleta City Council, County Board of Supervisors, Sheriff, school and water districts as well as Measure D renewal (on the ballot as Measure A)

and the County split. We need you to share your opinions.

We will also continue our involvement in the Regional Legislative Alliance, a collaboration with other chambers in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties to impact state and regional legislation and issues.

What else in 2006... there is the Goleta Magazine, the Goleta and Isla Vista maps, the Economic Forecast event and publication, our Goleta's Finest dinner gala, and the California Lemon Festival. This year we are also commissioning an agricultural viability study within Goleta's urban boundary.

Ours is an open door chamber. We are the marketplace of ideas and the birth place of action. We want to hear your, and your employees' point of view, your success stories and concerns. We are interested in your families as well; your quality of life; your prosperity; our schools and public safety.

The Chamber has a new gorgeous office in the Fairview Center. Please come by for a visit. Take a look at the fabulous work of all the members who contributed to this project, and join me in thanking them.

I encourage you all to take advantage of the Chamber. I want to see more of you in 2006.

Many people have expressed great excitement over the Chamber's:

- Grass roots business advocacy,
- Creativity when it comes to making opportunities to promote your goods and services,
- Proficiency as the clearing house for issues and solutions; the place to go for hot topics, and
- Facilitating meeting people and making a positive impact in our community.

A perfect example of where these four traits converge is our Issues and Policy Roundtable (IPR) lunch forum on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month where members gather to have an open discussion on key issues, meet interesting speakers, and take action on policy items that concern them.

Formerly known as the Government Relations Committee or GRC, the IPR has become so much more. Interested members can weigh in on the Chamber's stance on general plans, transportation, environmental protection, air quality, infrastructure, housing, job creation and work space, and other relevant issues before government

Getting Ready for Goleta's Greatest Gala

The Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce will celebrate the 58th Annual Goleta's Finest Awards on Saturday April 15, 2006. Nominations for honorees are due by March 17th. Goleta's Finest celebrates remarkable individuals and businesses whose contributions have enhanced our community.

Once again, the black-tie affair will be held at the luxurious Bacara Resort & Spa. Goleta's Finest is regularly attended by nearly 300 community members, including local business leaders as well as state and local officials.

Festivities for the evening include a Silent Auction benefiting the Goleta Education Fund, cocktails, dinner, the awards ceremony



Presenters and recipients gather for a group photo after the 2005 Goleta's Finest Awards held at Bacara Resort & Spa.

STORY CONTINUED ON BACK

ONTHE SIDE

EDD OFFERS TAX SEMINAR

You are invited to a no-charge Federal/State Basic Payroll Tax Seminar. The potential consequences of not knowing the law could be costly to your business.

You will learn:

- How and when to report and pay state and federal payroll taxes.
- The basics of how to distinguish between an employee and an independent contractor.
- About independent contractor reporting.
- Ways to get assistance.

The seminar is on Friday March 17, 2006 from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at the Southern California Edison Building at 103 David Love Place in Goleta. Reservations are recommended due to seating being limited. Use the Internet: www.edd.ca.gov/taxsem, or telephone (866) 873-6086 in advance to make a reservation.

For additional seminar dates, times, locations, and subjects, please check EDD's Internet site: www.edd.ca.gov/taxsem, or telephone (866) 873-6086.

FEDERAL COURT OVERTURNS STATE FAX LAW

The US District Court for the Eastern District of California struck down a 2005 state ban on certain fax communications on the grounds that it would undermine uniform application of federal law and interfere with interstate commerce.

The lack of a provision in the California law that is present in the Federal law - providing an exemption for existing business relationships - provided the grounds for the lawsuit.



Goleta's Finest Community Awards Seeks Nominations

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

ny, live music, and dancing. In 2005, the Silent Auction as well as private donations raised \$28,000 for local music and art programs.

Nomination forms are available at the Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce office at 271 N. Fairview, Ste. 104, or online at the Chamber's website at www.GoletaValley.com. All nominations should include a thorough biography stating why the nominee(s) best fits the category. The Chamber must receive all nominations by Friday, March 17.

The Chamber invites any and all members of the community to nominate an exceptional candidate for this year's Goleta's Finest Awards.

Nominees should exhibit a strong commitment to community activism and improvement, as we wish to acknowledge those individuals and businesses whose contributions and efforts have enhanced the Goleta community at large.

The 2005 Goleta's Finest Award winners were as follows: Small Business of the Year: Wilson Printing, presented by Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce; Large Business of the Year: Ralphs Grocery, presented by Global Brand Marketing, Inc.; Educator of the Year (K-6): Dr. Susan Whisenand, presented by Santa Barbara News-Press; Educator of the Year (7-12): Ike Jenkins, presented by Goleta Valley Voice; Educator of the Year (University): Mark French, pre-

sented by Bacara Resort & Spa; Student of the Year: Jacob Elliott, presented by Camino Real Marketplace; Human Services Professional of the Year: Ranell Hansen, presented by Business First National Bank; Volunteer of the Year: Goleta Noontime Rotary, presented by Cox Communications; Man of the Year: Patrick O'Malley, presented by Sares • Regis Group; Woman of the Year: Ida Rickborn, presented by Venoco, Inc. and Special Recognition for Humanitarian Efforts: Direct Relief International, presented by Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce.

For more information regarding Goleta's Finest Awards, contact the Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce at 805.967.2500

ONTHE SIDE

ENTREPRENEUR GROUP OFFERS ASSISTANCE

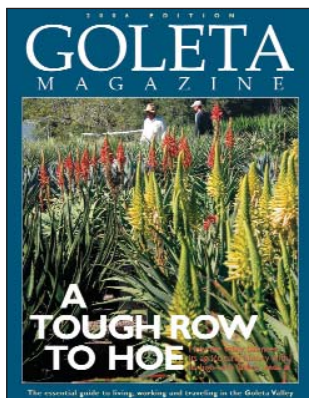
The Small Business Entrepreneurship Center (SBEC) is a newly formed organization designed to meet the challenge of encouraging sustainable economic development in Santa Barbara County through the creation of New Enterprise Incubators.

National Business Incubation Association (NBIA) statistics show an 87% success rate for new enterprises that go through business incubators. SBEC, a non-profit organization, is part of a countywide effort to foster entrepreneurship, providing resources, training, mentorship, and access to debt and equity capital for start-ups.

The SBEC conducts, in partnership with several other institutions, monthly workshops in Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, and Ventura County. The SBEC location also hosts the Santa Barbara SCORE (Service Corp of Retired Executives), which provides free monthly open counseling each Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. On the first Wednesday of every month at 6:00 P.M., SBEC presents a free public expert business resources panel at the Eastside branch of the Santa Barbara Public Library, 1100 E. Montecito, which is a joint meeting sponsored by SCORE, SBEC & Inventors Workshop International. SBEC also has included a program for funding resources, financing options, SBA guaranteed loans and other debt funding titled "The Loan Guru™". In addition, SBEC has access to equity or private "angel" and venture capital resources.

Entrepreneurs wishing to take advantage of any of these opportunities should contact 805-879-1729 or alan@smallbizentrepnr.org. SBEC and SCORE operate at the Santa Barbara Tech Ventures, 402 E. Gutierrez Street in Santa Barbara.

2006 Goleta Magazine Hits the Streets



The Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce unveiled its 2006 Edition of the Goleta Magazine on February 17th. The enhanced magazine, which provides an intimate look into the heart of the Goleta Valley, has 40 percent more pages and close to 300 percent more content, truly making it the essential guide to living, working and traveling in the Goleta Valley.

In addition to a new design and more space, the Goleta Magazine, for the first time, also takes an in-depth look at some of the characteristics that shape the com-

munity - education, agriculture, and housing. "Our goal was to not only make this the most informative Goleta Magazine ever, but to also make that information accessible and easy to read," said Communications Director and Goleta Magazine editor Lance Johnson. "I think this is a publication the Chamber can be proud of."

Pick up your copy at the Goleta Valley Chamber office, or phone 805.967.2500 to arrange for delivery of magazines in quantity.

ON THE CHAMBER CALENDAR

Chamber Office Closed March 10th

The Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce office will be closed all day on March 10th for the Annual Board Retreat hosted by Bacara Resort & Spa. Each year the retreat allows members of the Chamber Board to gather, set priorities and give Chamber staff a clear direction for their efforts over the next year.

Join a Chamber Committee

To transform the Board's ideas into action we are asking members to get involved on a committee and take an active role in the organization. We are looking for volunteers to work on the following: Fundraising, Events, Membership Relations, Ambassadors, Government Relations & Community Issues, Transportation, Marketing, Website Redesign, and Membership Surveys. Please contact Kristen Amyx at 805.967.2500 to participate and take an active role in improving the Chamber.

Mar.

14 - Issue & Policy Roundtable
Chamber Conference Room
271 N. Fairview, Ste. 104
12 - 1:15 pm

22 - Business After Hours Mixer
Mid-State Bank
5956 Calle Real
5 - 7:00 p.m.

28 - Issue & Policy Roundtable
Chamber Conference Room
271 N. Fairview, Ste. 104
12 - 1:15 pm

31 - Executive Board Meeting
Chamber Conference Room
271 N. Fairview, Ste. 104
noon

Save the Date

April 15 - Goleta's Finest

April 24, 25 - Business Legislative Summit,
Sacramento

July 12 - Goleta Economic Forecast

October 21, 22 - Lemon Festival

December 13th - Holiday Expo