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Business Update

AWARD-WINNING MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE VISALIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



UPCOMING EVENTS

- JUNE 11:**
Government Affairs Committee Meeting
Time: 7:00 am
Location: Buckman-Mitchell Office
- JUNE 13:**
YPN Meet Up
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: Barrelhouse Brewing
- JUNE 13:**
66th Annual Awards Celebration
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Visalia Convention Center
- JUNE 25:**
Business After Hours Mixer
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: Planing Mill Pizza
- JUNE 27:**
Ambassador Breakfast
Time: 8:00 am
Location: Visalia First Assembly



- Shades of Ireland**
July 22 – August 3, 2019
- Greece: In the Footsteps of Paul the Apostle:**
October 2 – 12, 2019
- Tropical Costa Rica:**
November 9 – 17, 2019
- Southern Charm Holiday:**
December 8 – 13, 2019
- Treasures of Egypt:**
February 18 – March 2, 2020
- Taste of Vietnam:**
March 6 – 19, 2020
- Discover Croatia, Slovenia & the Adriatic Coast:**
April 23 – May 4, 2020
- Oberammergau, Germany & Austria**
June 9 – 18, 2020
- Splendor of the Seine River Cruise**
September 2 – 12, 2020
- Bluegrass Country & the Smoky Mountains:**
September 17 – 25, 2020
- Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta:**
October 9 – 14, 2020
- Israel: A Journey of Faith:**
November 2 – 10, 2020

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Visalia Chamber of Commerce
222 N. Garden St., Suite 300
Visalia, CA 93291

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Even After 130 Years of History, Visalia Chamber Still Solves Business Challenges

One hundred and thirty years ago businessmen gathered to form the Board of Trade, later renamed the Visalia Chamber of Commerce. As visionaries wanting to improve our community and knowing the important role business must play in that improvement, they set forth determined with a big vision in mind. However, even with their grand vision, it is doubtful they could imagine the growth, development, and vitality their course would chart for Visalia.

In 1889 two issues plagued Visalia, transportation and water. Forming the Board of Trade, with 21 charter members, businessmen gathered to tackle these issues directly. Developing rail lines was key not only to improving commerce channels but also to improve mail delivery. Raising local capital, members provided rail lines from Visalia to Goshen to Tulare and ultimately to connect with Santa Fe and Southern Pacific lines. A year after forming, members welcomed the first Santa Fe train into Visalia.

As vehicle travel increased, the newly renamed Visalia Chamber of Commerce advocated for roads to be graded and highways built. The Chamber presented a plan to the California State Highway Commission for a highway to be built that connected Dinuba, Orsi, Exeter, and Visalia. The Commission did not approve their plan and instead built a highway between Tulare and Kingsburg now known as Highway 99. The loss was initially seen as devastating with court battles ensuing. Years later Visalia would come to embrace being a non-highway 99 city. Locally the Chamber partnered with the Tulare County Planning Commission, and later the City of Visalia Planning Commission to support master plans where highways would be protected from encroachment.

The Visalia Chamber of Commerce also played a critical role in the development of aviation. The Chamber saw the value air travel played in distribution and tourism. With donations from members and hosting an aerial circus, the Chamber raised funds to purchase five acres and airplane hangars to develop a Visalia airport. In 1928, the Chamber sold the airport to the City of Visalia creating the beginnings of our current municipal airport.

The Chamber's influence extended beyond the airport to create important local agencies, initiatives, and institutions. In 1889, the Chamber sent delegates to the state irrigation convention. Concerned about water, its access, and availability, the Chamber was key supporters in creating the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District and the Terminus Dam. The Chamber also supported the development of a municipal hospital, library and the development and expansion of public schools.

From the Visalia Chamber's 1950 Business Progress Review, the

Visalia Chamber was happy to report the growth and development the members had encouraged within our school system. "Realizing that the standard of living in any area is closely related to the degree of education enjoyed by its citizens, local school officials backed by an understanding in the business community, laid plans for an extraordinary school plant expansion. Three modern grammar schools and a senior high school plant were completed and put into operation in 1950. Four additional classrooms were constructed at another elementary school. Two more elementary schools were started and construction completed in early 1951." The Business Progress Review reports successfully lobbying the city to develop a "pay-as-you-go" system that ultimately leads to the reduction of the local tax rate from \$1.46 to \$1.30 per \$100 assessed valuation.

In 1968, the development of a group that provided the financing necessary for the initial development of the Visalia Industrial Park was spurred by the Chamber. The Chamber then took the lead role in not only supporting existing businesses but recruiting new industries to the newfound Visalia Industrial Park. On at least three separate occasions, the Chamber also helped recruit professional baseball to locate farm teams within our city. In 1975, the Visalia Chamber named Mae Hover its first woman President.

"Visalia is fortunate to have people, who care, involved in its planning and direction. Many of these people belong to the Visalia Chamber of Commerce, an organization of business and people dedicated to helping make Visalia a better community," stated a 1977 advertisement from a local business saluting the work of the Chamber.

The advertisement and much of the history is reminiscent of the modern-day work of the Visalia Chamber. Connecting business leaders and serving as a catalyst for change, the Chamber is still active in many of the same conversations of the past. As an active voice in business concerns, the Chamber currently partners with local municipalities to ensure smart growth can support the needs of our community while ensuring business can thrive. Understanding the need for a strong stable workforce, the Visalia Chamber supports the development and growth of our future workforce through programs at the primary, vocational, and secondary educational arenas. The Board of Trade's originally 21 charter members are still represented in a 21 member diverse board that actively works to ensure the Visalia Chamber is at the forefront, developing Visalia into a strong vibrant community. While the original 21 could not image Visalia's growth and success, the Chamber is confident their legacy of an innovative drive would be recognized even 130 years later.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Reflecting Allows a Forward Vision

June is a wonderful time at the Chamber. Later this month at the Annual Awards celebration dinner, we celebrate those businesses that go above and beyond to make Visalia the special place we call home. The evening of the dinner, something special always happens. Beyond the awards and celebrations, someone in the audience is always surprised how the event touches them. Each of the business nominees is introduced to the audience through a one minute video. The video tells a story deeper than the service or product the business sells, it tells their story, the story of how and why that business is a part of this community. Often neighbors, colleagues, and/or customers of the business have no idea the service, involvement or real value these businesses and their employees bring to our community. We're a humble bunch of businesses and even the most loyal customers learn something from these videos. But larger than that, the videos give business leaders a chance to step back and appreciate all they've accomplished. It's that opportunity they rarely take to appreciate the mountains they've climbed.

I'd like to say, even as I help others celebrate what they've accomplished, I am great at taking stock in what the Chamber has done. But, I'm not. I value the pursuit of the next and rarely take time to look back at where we've been or how much we've accomplished. I, the Chamber staff, the board of directors and committee chairs spend our time thinking about the next big goal, how together we can accomplish "this" next big thing. For me, it seems there is always more work to be done, more businesses to help, more goals to accomplish.



Gail Zurek
Visalia Chamber
President & CEO

Looking back has seemed like a luxury. Boy, have I been wrong. As I prepared the spotlight article for this month's newsletter, I got to spend some time reflecting on the work the Chamber has done. Reading the Visalia Chamber of Commerce's history is exciting, comforting and feels a bit like déjà vu. Twenty-one men (same size as our current more, diverse board) gathered to tackle transportation and water issues while supporting education, training, business development, and recruitment. Frankly, it could be a description written about today's Chamber.

As I look over old documents, I'm struck at how much we've accomplished. We have an airport, railroad lines, and water districts because business leaders said we can do this. Those aren't small feats! Think about the lasting impact those leaders through the Chamber have made in Visalia. How often do we take for granted those successes?

Today as we tackle what seems to be tough problems: homelessness, taxes, minimum wage increases, and workforce housing, just to name a few, I am more confident than ever that those can only be solved by business and community leaders coming together. We gather leaders for bold conversations about tough problems. These are big challenges that need even bigger solutions. And while I don't know what the conclusion will be, I am confident that in a 100 years from now, we'll look back and say Visalia is the wonderful place it is because of business leaders investing through the Chamber to solve big challenges.

VISALIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION ICONS



Catalyst for Change



Community Convener



Champion for Business

Visalia Welcomes Newest Luxury Senior Living Development

Living Care Lifestyles, Kaweah Delta Health Care District, Shannon Senior Care, LLC, and BTV Senior Housing, LLC, proudly announce the opening of Quail Park at Shannon Ranch, scheduled for October, 2019. This new community closes a gap in the Visalia seniors housing continuum, offering luxury apartments for active adults as well as dignified memory care services for those with Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias. The philosophy behind Quail Park at Shannon Ranch is – *Live Healthy! Live Passionately! Live Brilliantly!*

Live Healthy!
Located at 3440 W. Flagstaff Avenue, this three-story, one hundred apartment community will focus on promoting better health outcomes for its residents. Featuring a fully loaded fitness center powered by HUR SmartTouch technology, residents will be able to automatically load their personalized strength training program, adjust their seat, and set their resistance level with a simple swipe of their HUR SmartTouch wristband. If lower impact, aquatic therapy is needed, a Hydrowork therapy pool with built-in treadmills is also available!

Live Passionately!
Quail Park at Shannon Ranch offers a truly active lifestyle for active older adults. Residents will be afforded opportunities for regional and international travel, local philanthropy and community service, youth mentoring programs, as well as community partnerships focused on the creative and performing arts.

Live Brilliantly!
To delight the senses, the community boasts three restaurant-style dining options, including a full-service bar and a coffee shop. Other amenities include an in-house beauty salon, on-site spa, fitness coaching and concierge services, as well as a twenty-four seat movie theater.

"We are extremely excited to bring this new style of senior living to the Central Valley!" said Living Care Lifestyles CEO Denis Bryant. "People have changed the way they look at getting older, so we have created a Quail Park community specifically designed for a more active and dynamic lifestyle."

About this publication ...

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COMMUNITY LOYAL MEMBERS

A thriving community starts here!



New

The Visalia Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome our newest members. We encourage individuals and businesses to support Chamber Member businesses.

Business Builder Member:

- CHRISTINA JOY PHOTOGRAPHY
- TIDBITS OF VISALIA

Business Connector Members:

- JENNY MADRID & ASSOCIATES
- ELITE MEDICAL - RTO SYSTEMS INCORPORATED*
- ERA VALLEY PRO REALTY

Business Connector Nonprofit Member:

- SISTERHOOD OF GRACE

Small Business Members:

- KAWATO CHIROPRACTIC
- TERRY STAFFORD ENTERPRISES
- SPRAYING DEVICES, INC.

Renewing

The Visalia Chamber of Commerce thanks the following companies for renewing their commitment to the community of Visalia.

Regional Leader Member:

- San Joaquin Valley College*

Cornerstone Member:

- Naked Nut, LLC*

Community Investor Member:

- College of the Sequoias*

Business Connector Members:

- Casa Grande Senior Care Home
- Mama K's
- Miller Memorial Chapel*
- Nelson Ace Hardware
- Pacific Treasures
- Roller Towne
- Valley Oak Credit Union

Business Connector Nonprofit Members:

- Habitat for Humanity of Tulare & Kings Counties
- ImagineU Interactive Children's Museum*
- Spirit 88.9*

Small Business Members:

- A&W Restaurants*
- Barrelhouse Visalia
- Bastrire Edwards, CPAs
- Carroll's Tire Warehouse*
- Colima's Mexican Restaurant*
- Dr. Fukushima
- Edelman Financial Engines*
- EMD Networking Service
- Farm Credit West
- Four Seasons Handy Market*
- Frazer, LLP
- McAuliff & Wood Orthodontic Specialists
- Sherwood Law Offices
- Southside Plaza Visalia #1*

Small Business Nonprofit Members:

- Genesis House*
- Sequoia Symphony Orchestra*
- Visalia Fox Theatre

Friend of the Chamber Member:

- Lyle B Stillwater, M.D. F.A.C.S

*Indicates membership in the Visalia Chamber 110% Club.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS JULY 31, 2019

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VISALIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LEADERSHIP VISALIA WILL PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES IN NETWORKING, LEADERSHIP STYLE, MENTORING, PROBLEM SOLVING TECHNIQUES, INSIGHT INTO LOCAL, COUNTY AND STATE GOVERNMENT

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2019
ANNUAL AWARDS

PRESENTED BY THE VISALIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

JUNE 13 | 6-9PM
VISALIA CONVENTION CENTER

\$75 PER TICKET

CALL THE CHAMBER OFFICE FOR SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS OR TICKET INFORMATION
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Congratulations to **Kaweah Delta Health Care District's Rehabilitation Hospital** celebrating 25 years of helping our community.

Leadership Visalia participants acted when they saw a need to help families spay and neuter their pets. The class used their community project to raise \$10,500 for **Valley Oak SPCA**.

4Creeks, Inc. hosted a business after hours and created a mini nonprofit fair highlighting deserving area nonprofits including **Visalia Rescue Mission, Assistance League and Visalia Arts Consortium**.

Kaweah Container has been recognized as one of only three manufacturers of paper straws in the United States.

Pita Kabob & Grill won the Taco Truck Challenge hosted at the **Visalia Mall** on April 27th. The winning taco, a fried artichoke heart taco, will hopefully become a mainstay on their regular menu. The Taco Truck Challenge will become an annual event and kicks off the start of Food Truck Friday's at the Visalia Mall.

Tony Carillo from **Community Services Employment Training - CSET** was recognized as the 2018-2019 Visalia Chamber Epic Ambassador of the Year during the Chamber's Annual Member Meeting. Tony is a consistent force of positive energy connecting businesses and helping them thrive. Look for more information about Tony in the July Newsletter.



Sharon Allison-Crook from **AmVets Department of California** was named the 2019-2020 Chair of the Visalia Ambassador Committee.

Visalia Adventure Park is putting the final touches on Sequoia Springs waterslide, its new interactive water feature. This 42-foot "megastructure" features three large slides and a smaller play area for younger guests. Additionally, the area will have eight cabanas for those wanting to lounge.



The **Sequoia Shuttle** is currently operating round-trip transportation to and from Sequoia National Park from Visalia for only \$20. Reservations can be made online at sequoiashuttle.com.



Visit Visalia has moved onto Main Street. They are a great resource as you discover things to do in Visalia or the National Parks. Visit Visalia has resources available if your business or trade group wants to host a convention here in town. Stop by and say hi.

Doyle Sewell will serve as the **City of Visalia** as Fire Chief on an interim basis as Visalia Fire Chief Doug McBee retired mid May.

Visalia Unified School District's own Parker Boswell has been named the 2019 CIF Male Scholar - Athlete of the Year for the entire state of California! Way to represent Visalia Parker!

Officer Daniel Roberts and Xero from the **Visalia Police Department** participated in the 34th Annual Sierra K-9 Trials. The team placed 1st in the article search, 1st in area search, 4th in obedience, 5th in protection and 2nd overall in the open division.

INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS

Andrea Castro



Castro

Having been raised in this great community, Andrea Castro is proud to call Visalia her home. Upon receiving her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Riverside, she moved back to Visalia to pursue teaching. Shortly after, she married her best friend Michael Castro in 2004 and became heavily involved with KRC Safety Co., Inc. as the Human Resources Manager. Working at a company that is committed to partnering with its community has fostered her passion for Visalia's local businesses as well as the incredible local nonprofits. She is currently the Vice President of the St. Paul's School Parents' Guild and an active member of the St. Paul's School Board of Trustees.

Samuel Ingram



Ingram

Samuel Ingram is the Co-Owner of TechCare360, a computer service company based in Visalia. TechCare360 helps businesses grow by taking the worry of technology off their plate. His mission is to provide fulfilling jobs, empower other small businesses, and to leave a positive impact with everything he does. Aside from being a business owner, Samuel is a husband, Rotarian, rocket enthusiast, and an audio/visual technology geek.

"I am incredibly honored to be selected as a board member and am looking forward to helping our community. I will focus on empowering and helping other small businesses to thrive." - Samuel Ingram

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

It's Commencement Season!



Commencement week is my favorite time of year. When I was a high school principal, the three best days of the year were the first day of school, homecoming, and graduation. Each is special for its own reason, but my favorite was always

graduation night. Few things are as rewarding as seeing students and families celebrate this achievement, thirteen years in the making.

High school graduation is a rite of passage. It is a time that marks the end of compulsory public education and the transition from student to adult. Few things in our lives have as lengthy a buildup as graduation. From kindergarten through twelfth grade, students come to school for 180 days a year to engage in learning the curriculum established by the State and our Board of Trustees. The only parallel to the scale of this process is raising a child or perhaps engaging in a career.

As school people, our work has a cycle to it. We start in the fall, and end in the spring. We do our work with kids, and then at the end of the year, we hand them gently over to the folks in the next grade so they can do their work. School has many patterns of beginning and ending that are familiar

and affirming. And that pattern is reflected in the beginning and ending of a student's public school career: Parents escort their child, oversized backpack strapped in place, to his or her classroom on the first day of kindergarten, and,

in what seems like just a few blinks later, those same parents see their child walk across the field or stage in cap and gown to shake the hand of the person who hands him or her a diploma.

Every school has a unique culture, and this is particularly true at a high school. Graduation is the fullest reflection of the traditions of a school. The color of the graduation regalia, the way students march into the stadium, how staff members honor students, the sequence of events, and type of music and speakers all mirror things that the school values and has established over time. Commencement is a time when our community comes together to recognize the transition of a cohort of students from the world of youth and school into the world of adults and opportunities. We are proud of the work that we do with and for the kids we serve, and if you saw one of our nearly 2,000 seniors graduate this year, I know that you were proud of the achievement of that young adult.



Todd Oto, Ed.D.

Superintendent, Visalia Unified School District

Final Draft of Indoor Heat Illness Standard Released

The Division of Occupational Safety and Health has issued its latest - and final - draft of proposed new standards for heat illness prevention in indoor workplaces. This standard would apply to workplaces when the indoor temperature reaches 82 degrees in work areas. Additionally, assessment and control measures must be taken in the following situations: when the temperature reaches 87 degrees, the heat index reaches 87 degrees, employees wear clothing that restricts heat removal, or employees work in high-radiant-heat areas. Employers will be required to provide water on the same basis as outdoor workplaces.

This draft revises the definition of a "cool-down area" as an indoor or outdoor area that is blocked from sunlight and shielded from high-radiant-heat sources, that is either open to the air or ventilated or cooled. It adds that blockage will be considered sufficient when "objects do not cast a shadow in the area of blocked sunlight."

In the assessment and control section, DOSH added an exception to a requirement that employers measure and record the temperature or heat index, whichever is greater, and identify/evaluate all environmental risk factors for heat illness. The exception gives employers the option of assuming a work area is subject to the need for controlling the temperature, thus forgoing the requirement to assess and record specific heat-related information.

Employers will also be required to use control measures to minimize the risk of heat illness, including isolation of thermal processes, isolating employees from heat sources, using air conditioning, cooling fans, cooling mist fans, and natural ventilation if the outdoor temperature is lower than

inside. Finally, the draft standards will require supervisors to closely observe workers during heat waves, which are defined as any day when the predicted high outdoor temperature will be at least 80 degrees and at least 10 degrees warmer than the daily temperature during the preceding five days.

To view the draft standard in its entirety, please visit: <https://www.cal-osha.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Indoor-Heat-Draft-revisions-Apr-22-2019.pdf>

DOSH does not anticipate making any further changes before the draft is assessed for economic impact and then sent to the Standards Board for the formal rulemaking process.

What This Means for Employers

Now is the time to begin evaluating the workplace to determine how these proposed standards will impact the workplace. Preparing in advance is critical to ensure proper compliance with these detailed requirements. As soon as the regulations are implemented, Cal/OSHA inspections will likely target agricultural employers, as well as construction, manufacturing and industrial kitchens and laundries. Contact Barsamian & Moody for help in drafting compliant policies and procedures to prevent violations and expensive penalties.

The goal of this article is to provide employers with current labor and employment law information. The contents should neither be interpreted as, nor construed as legal advice or opinion. The reader should consult with Barsamian & Moody at (559) 248-2360, for individual responses to questions or concerns regarding any given situation.

Federal Judge Dismisses Western States Trucking Association's Challenge of Dynamex's ABC Test

Last year the California Supreme Court issued its controversial Dynamex decision, which completely redefined the standard for determining if workers are employees or independent contractors. Since then countless groups have challenged Dynamex in an attempt to limit its application. As a quick refresher, in Dynamex, the California Supreme Court announced that the "ABC" test was the new standard for analyzing independent contractor status. Under the "ABC" test courts will presume an employee and employer relationship. For many industries, this new test has brought about major changes to the way that workers are classified. For example, prior to Dynamex, it was common for trucking companies to classify truck drivers as independent contractors. However, in order to pass the new "ABC" test, the hiring entity must now be able to show that the worker is free from control and direction of the hiring entity, is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, or business of the same nature as the work performed, and performs work that is "outside of the usual course of the hiring entity's business." In other words, for a trucking company to legally classify a truck driver as an independent contractor, the truck driver must do work "outside of the usual course" of the trucking company's business. Not surprisingly, this poses a huge problem for many in the trucking industry.

In *Western States Trucking Association v. School*, a trucking association brought a lawsuit against the California Department of Industrial Relations and the state Attorney General seeking to make truckers exempt from the "ABC" test. The trucking association argued that the Dynamex decision is preempted by federal law, specifically the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act, federal safety regulations, and the commerce clause of the United States Constitution. More specifically, WSTA claims that

Dynamex invalidates the use of independent contractors and that its thousands of members could be forced to raise prices, reduce services, and limit available routes, and that the "ABC" test discriminates against out-of-state and interstate trucking companies. However, the court dismissed each of these arguments and ultimately held that the "ABC" test is not preempted by federal law because Dynamex does not preclude "a motor carrier from hiring an independent contractor for individual jobs or assignments," but simply requires that the wage order's requirements be satisfied. The court further held that "the mere fact that increased costs may result does not trigger preemption."

What This Means for Employers

As of today, the "ABC" test is still very much applicable to the trucking industry. While WSTA has stated that it will seek appeal of the dismissal all the way up to the United States Supreme Court if necessary, it is yet to be seen whether the higher courts will carve out an exception for industries such as the trucking industry. In the meantime, it is critical for trucking companies to understand that the once standard practice for trucking companies to hire drivers as independent contractors now puts the trucking industry at high risk for misclassification suits due to the fact that these drivers are performing work that is directly in the usual course of the entity's business. For questions or concerns regarding classification of workers as employees or independent contractors contact Barsamian & Moody.

The goal of this article is to provide employers with current labor and employment law information. The contents should neither be interpreted as, nor construed as legal advice or opinion. The reader should consult with Barsamian & Moody at (559) 248-2360 for individual responses to questions or concerns regarding any given situation.

5 Self Care Practices for 2019

By Kelsey Low

Self Care is becoming more socially acceptable and respected because of the open discussions around anxiety and depression. If you have ever experienced either of those, listen up. Self Care has transcended from being only a bubble bath or facemask. Living with self-love and self-care is an intentional, active practice. We live in a world filled with instant gratification, technology, alerts, endless to do lists, ladders to clime, and so many other things distracting us and putting our mind into a fight or flight mode.

But what really matters at the end of the day? What is actually important? Our emotional, mental & spiritual & physical health is more important than any to do list or societal norm. We have become masters at speeding things up or procrastinating the shit out of things- to create sustainable satisfaction in life, these are practices and tools that have personally changed my life.

- 1. Tech Boundaries:** create cell phone and technology boundaries. This one is more important than any of the other practices listed on this article. Create an hour schedule of when you are done scrolling. I create a system of 30 minutes before bed and 30 minutes when waking up is a non-cell phone time for me. I give myself time to collect my own thoughts, set my own goals for the day, and clear my head space before checking emails and the gram.
- 2. Practice Forgiveness:** There is an ancient Hawaiian practice called O'ho'oponopono. It is the practice of forgiving others, yourself and anyone who has come into your path that is consuming your mental, emotional and physical space. It has been helping people for years. If you google O'ho'oponopono you will find lot's of information of this practice. Even a morning practice of self-forgiveness helps clear doubt, guilt or regret. Those feelings are keeping you from feeling satisfied with life. Forgiveness creates freedom for everyone involved. Also, forgiveness is a one-person event.
- 3. Manage your mind:** Everything is a choice. If you are choosing emotions that are messing with your mental health-choose a new thought. If you feel like you physically cant, the only thing that truly works is some state of meditation. Meditative states can be achieved in so many ways! It can be with working out, traditional meditation, meditation music and deep breathing (try binaural beats on youtube), journaling, there are so many options!! The goal is to decide how you

continued on pg. 5



UnitedAg awards \$20,500 to Twenty-One Students in the Central Valley and neighboring Counties



VISALIA, Calif., May 10, 2019 - Twenty-one students in the Central Valley and neighboring counties have received scholarship awards totaling \$20,500.

UnitedAg awarded the scholarships after reviewing 82 submitted applications. Applicants submitted in addition to detailed information, an essay focused on California's current economy and what percentage is represented by agriculture.

UnitedAg is proud to announce the following winners:

- Ashlyn Geiger; McCorkle Farms; Glenn.
- Madelyn Reed; Mountain View Cold Storage; Reedley.
- Brandon Harden; Green Rubber-Kennedy Ag, LP; Salinas.
- Justin Rentfro; Associated Feed & Supply; Tulare.
- Denver Noell; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Sandy Rubio; Neil Jones Food Company / Toma-Tek; Firebaugh.
- Jazmin Rios Martinez; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Michele Noell; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Juan Jose Chairez Jr.; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Venissia Garcia; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Brian Valencia; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Jonah Nester; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Julie Edwards; Pacific Ag Consulting; Visalia.
- Dane Marrione; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Jonah Lascano; Associated Feed & Supply; Tulare.
- Adriana Gamino; Neil Jones Food Company / Toma-Tek;
- Oscar Garcia; Dover Dairy Farms; Hanford.
- Celeste Argueta; Nichols Farms, Inc.; Hanford.
- Savannah Riddle; Associated Feed & Supply; Tulare.
- Miranda Devan; Braga Fresh Family Farms; Soledad.
- Ben Lascano; Associated Feed & Supply; Tulare.

The Scholarship Awards Ceremony luncheon was held Tuesday May 7th at 11:30 am 2019 at Tommy's located at: 130 N Encina Visalia, CA 93291.

For further information, contact Maribel Ochoa at 949.471.3206.

mochoa@unitedag.org

HEALTHCARE NOTE

Partnerships Are Key to Success

This is an exciting time as we create partnerships and plan for the future. Let me explain how partnerships are helping us achieve outstanding community health outcomes for you.

In 2017, we created a series of groups of approximately 250 people, to better engage with our community following the 2016 defeat of Measure H. The general obligation bond was intended to help fund our initial proposal for a "new acute care hospital" to replace a sizeable number of acute care hospital beds housed in an area that does not meet earthquake standards. We found unexpected silver linings in the defeat and know the end result will be a better solution. Our Hospital of the Future group has learned that other hospitals have built bed towers as alternatives to replacement hospitals. We like the approach; it would allow us to incrementally replace these beds and it would be more affordable, lessening the financial impact to Kaweah Delta and the community that supports it. Our master planning process, which we have just completed the first part of, will help us determine what we need to do in the next five, 10 and 20 years to support the community. Through this process, we will come up with solutions to replace the beds in question and to propose new facilities that we will need to care for our community, including ways to add new services, increase access, and improve areas that are currently a challenge, such as parking. We will need the community to be involved. Working alongside you has helped transform Kaweah Delta into a more transparent, interactive organization.

Partnerships are also helping us elevate services and drive down costs. One is our affiliation with the Cleveland Clinic's Heart & Vascular Institute, the No. 1 ranked heart program by U.S. News & World Report



Gary Herbst

since 1995. As the second of three planned affiliates in California, both organizations remain independent and physicians and staff of Kaweah Delta's heart program remain the same. While our reputation as an independent cardiovascular program for 34 years helps support a successful program, our affiliation sets us apart. By affiliating, we work together on education, training, and developing best practices. Cleveland Clinic physicians and staff come on site to help us improve operations, become more efficient, and give us access to the finest cardiovascular supplies and products at the lowest price because of their reputation and purchasing power. Our new partnership with Sierra View Medical Center will also lower the cost of care for both hospitals and help us better care for the region. We are looking for things we both offer independently to come together and provide the same service at a lower cost to each hospital.

Finally, we have developed a nonprofit public benefit corporation, Sequoia Health and Wellness Centers, and applied to become a federally qualified health center (FQHC). Our Family Medicine Center and Urgent Care (Court Street) would become these centers, offering primary and specialty care, and they would be open to the entire community, regardless of its ability to pay. They would be owned by Kaweah Delta, but governed by a separately-appointed, 11-member Board, more than half of which are patients of our Family Medicine Center or Urgent Care. As FQHCs, these existing clinics would have access to benefits that none of our clinics have, the majority of which will help us bring more doctors to the area.

There will be more to come as these initiatives take shape and help us further our goals of doing what is right for you, our patients.

CITY UPDATE

GIS Maps Create Opportunity

With a new online mapping tool, the City of Visalia is making it easier to identify eligible investment opportunities and drive community development.

"Our Geographic Information System (GIS) Division has created a new, user friendly online tool to identify eligible Opportunity Zones within the City," shares Devon Jones, Economic Development Manager, City of Visalia. "The tool gives users the ability to identify eligible parcels, zoning, specific APNs, location of storm and sewer infrastructure, major streets and other pertinent GIS data."

Opportunity Zones are a new tool for community development. Established in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, Opportunity Zones provide tax incentives for investment in designated census tracts through qualified Opportunity Funds.

Visalia's Opportunity Zones offer a variety of possible investment opportunities, including the entirety of both the Visalia Industrial Park and Business Research Park, and numerous residential, commercial, and office development opportunities across the northwestern and historic Oval Park area.

"With our close proximity to both State Highways 99 and 198, Visalia is nearly equal distance from the ports of San Francisco and Oakland to the north, as it is to Long Beach and San Pedro to the south. Visalia is the ideal location for corporations who do a large amount of business between these ports or serve the California market. Plus, it's a great place to live and raise a family!" adds Jones.

To view the new Visalia Opportunity Zones site, visit www.visalia.city/opzones. If you represent, own property or a proposed development in the Opportunity Zones, please add this information to Opp Sites (<https://oppsites.com/cities/visalia-ca>) an online marketplace constructed for Opportunity Zones. For more information on Opportunity Zones and Visalia, contact Devon Jones, City of Visalia Economic Development Manager, at devon.jones@visalia.city.

For more information on City of Visalia, visit www.visalia.city or visit them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @CityofVisalia.

THE LAW AT WORK

New Legislation on the Horizon Regarding Independent Contractors



One of the more complicated legal questions in employment law is how to properly determine whether a worker is an employee or an independent contractor. Generally, California has a presumption that workers are employees, unless it can be shown by various factors that the worker is in fact an independent contractor. Courts used to incorporate a myriad of factors in considering the question. The analysis has been simplified (somewhat) in a recent case.

Under the recent California Supreme Court decision in *Dynamex Operations West v. Superior Court*, which now applies retroactively, a worker must meet all three prongs of what is called the ABC Test. Specifically, a worker will be deemed to have been "suffered or permitted to work," and thus, an employee for wage order purposes, unless the employer proves all the following:

- A. That the worker is free from the control and direction of the hiring entity in connection with the performance of the work
- B. That the worker performs work that is outside the usual course of the hiring entity's business

For example, if a worker is a delivery person for a delivery service or a seamstress for a clothing company, the worker cannot be an independent contractor, no matter how little control the company has over the worker.



Brett T. Abbott
Gubler & Abbott LLP

- C. That the worker is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, or business of the same nature as the work performed.

It isn't enough that the company doesn't prohibit the worker from having his or her own business or working for others. Instead, the court will look at factors such as whether the business is incorporated or licensed, whether it's advertised, and whether it offers services to the public or other potential customers.

The *Dynamex* decision has had wide-ranging effects. Thousands of workers in California which were at one time considered independent contractors are now classified as employees. California's Legislature is currently in the process of drafting a bill (Assembly Bill 5) which would codify the *Dynamex* decision. Much like the *Dynamex* case, the resulting legislation will have a significant impact on how companies do business in California.

This article is for education and information purposes only; it should not be construed as legal advice. If you have an employment law question for inclusion in a future article, contact Brett T. Abbott at Gubler & Abbott (brett@thecalifornialawyers.com). For specific employment law advice or other legal assistance, contact Gubler & Abbott (559) 625-9600, 1110 N. Chinoweth St., Visalia, CA 93291 (www.thecalifornialawyers.com).



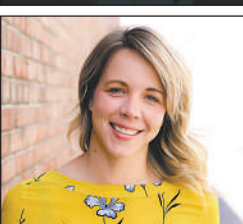
William Martin
Man of the Year



Susan Mathews
Woman of the Year



Zach Green
YP of the Year



Shelley Ellis
YP of the Year

Chamber Announces 2019 Man, Woman and Young Professional of the Year

2019 marks the 66th year that the Visalia Chamber of Commerce will honor individuals and businesses who consistently go above and beyond to support and give back to our community. This year, more than a dozen individuals were nominated by the community for these prestigious awards. Each of this year's winners was announced earlier in a surprise appearance from the Chamber CEO in front of family, friends, and colleagues. "Watching individuals who have given so much to our community be genuinely surprised and moved by this honor is confirmation the committee has chosen deserving award winners," stated Gail Zurek, Visalia Chamber President/CEO.

The following individuals have been selected as the 2019 Man, Woman and Young Professional of the Year.

Man of the Year: William Martin

Woman of the Year: Susan Mathews

Young Professional of the Year: Shelley Ellis & Zach Green

In addition to the above mentioned awards, the Visalia Chamber will announce the winner of the Business of the year awards at the Annual Award Celebration.

Small Business Nominees

- Component Coffee Lab
- Momentum Broadcasting
- Quesadilla Gorilla
- Zeltmacher Structural Engineering

Medium Business Nominees

- 4 Creeks Inc.
- M. Green and Company LLP
- Suncrest Bank

Large Business Nominees

- California Dairies Inc.
- Eagle Mountain Casino
- Wyndham Visalia

Non-Profit of the Year Nominees

- Assistance League of Visalia
- CSET
- Habitat for Humanity
- DF Tulare/Kings Counties
- ImagineU Interactive Children's Museum

The Visalia Chamber will host the 66th Annual Awards Celebration June 13, 2019 at the Visalia Convention Center. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by a formal dinner at 7:00 p.m. with the program beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for the Annual Awards Celebration are \$75 or you may reserve a table for \$600. Tickets may be purchased online at www.visaliachamber.org/awards or by calling the Chamber at (559) 734-5876.

For more information about the Annual Awards Celebration go to www.visaliachamber.org/awards.



LEADERSHIP VISALIA

Leadership Visalia Graduates Strong Class



Congratulations to the 2018-2019 Leadership Visalia Class. These graduates through Leadership Visalia have developed skills for effective and visionary leadership that will benefit each participant, their workplace, and the community of Visalia. Their work began in September at an overnight leadership retreat where they analyzed and understood various leadership styles. They began developing skills and approaches for improving their effectiveness. Through 9 different day sessions, leaders identified, examined, and confronted key local and regional issues from a variety of perspectives. Through evening leadership sessions and a group community project, participants learned first hand their role in impacting their workplace and our community.

Leadership Visalia Class Participants Include:

- Amanda Arreola
- Carrie Wilson William
- Cate Fisher
- Cortland Vaughn
- Daisy Guzman
- Jake Sorensen

- Jorge Franco
- Kelly Pierce
- Mike Andrada
- Nick Havard
- Stacy Heaton
- Vanessa Alvarado
- Josh Banda
- Lisa Alvarado
- Mona Whaley
- Nicole Payne
- Stephanie Burrage

Recruitment

The Leadership Visalia Program is now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 class. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn how to better yourself as an employee or employer and become a better citizen in the community. We invite you to learn how you can be a part of the next Leadership Visalia class by visiting www.visaliachamber.org/leadership and downloading an application.



Current leaders and those who aspire to leadership roles are perfect candidates for this program. Up to 20 class members will be selected for the 2018-2019 Leadership Visalia class. The deadline for applications is July 31st.

IRS Highlights Credits and Deductions for Businesses During Small Business Week

WASHINGTON — During Small Business Week, the Internal Revenue Service reminds small business owners and self-employed individuals to take deductions and credits that will help their bottom line.

This year, National Small Business Week was May 5-11. For more than 50 years, the week has recognized the important contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Reviewing options and eligibility now can help business owners better estimate their tax situation and plan ahead. Here are just a few key deductions and credits that can benefit small business taxpayers.

DEDUCTIONS

Qualified business income deduction. Many individuals, including owners of businesses operated through sole proprietorships, partnerships, S corporations, trusts and estates may be eligible for a qualified business income deduction, also called the section 199A deduction. Some trusts and estates may also claim the deduction directly.

The deduction allows them to deduct up to 20 percent of their qualified business income (QBI), plus 20 percent of qualified real estate investment trust (REIT) dividends and qualified publicly traded partnership (PTP) income. Income earned by a C corporation or by providing services as an employee isn't eligible for the deduction.

The deduction is available for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2017. Eligible taxpayers can claim it for the first time on their 2018 federal income tax returns filed in 2019.

Business losses. The TCJA also made changes to losses. Under TCJA, losses from a trade or business are now limited to \$250,000 or \$500,000 for a joint return. This includes activities reported on Schedule C by a self-employed individual and farming activities reported on Schedule F. It also includes being an employee and certain activities reported on Schedule E. Excess business losses that are no longer allowed are treated as a net operating loss (NOL) and carried forward to the following tax year.

For most taxpayers, NOLs arising after 2017 can only be carried forward. However, certain farming businesses and insurance companies — other than life insurance — can still use a two-year carryback for certain losses. After Dec. 31, 2017, the net operating loss deduction is limited to 80 percent of taxable income. Rules for existing or pre-2018 NOLs remain the same.

Business expenses. Business expenses are usually deductible if the business operates to make a profit. To be deductible, a business expense must be both ordinary and necessary. An ordinary expense is one that's common and accepted in the trade or business. A necessary expense is one that's helpful and appropriate for the trade or business. An expense doesn't have to be indispensable to be considered necessary. Business expenses include:

- **Business use of a home** — If a taxpayer uses part of their home for business, part of their home expenses may be deductible. These expenses may include mortgage interest, insurance, utilities, repairs and depreciation. Alternatively, a simplified method is available for figuring this deduction. Special rules and limits apply. See Publication 587 for details.
- **Business use of a car** — If a taxpayer uses their car in their business, they can deduct car expenses. If they use it for both business and personal purposes, they must divide expenses based on actual mileage. For details, including special recordkeeping rules,

see Publication 463.

- **Meals and entertainment** — In general, taxpayers can deduct 50 percent of the cost of business meals if the taxpayer -- or an employee of the taxpayer -- is present and the food or beverages aren't lavish or extravagant.
- **Rent expense** — In general, a taxpayer can deduct rent as an expense only if the rent is for property used in their trade or business. If they have or will receive equity in or title to the property, the rent is not deductible.
- **Interest** — Business interest expense is an amount charged for the use of money a taxpayer borrowed for business activities. Limits and special rules may apply. See basic questions and answers about the limitation on the deduction for business interest expense for more information.
- **Taxes** — A taxpayer can deduct various federal, state, local, and foreign taxes directly attributable to their trade or business as business expenses.

Publication 535, Business Expenses, has more information about these and other deductible business expenses, including employee related expenses such as employees' pay, retirement plans and insurance.

CREDITS

General business credits. The general business credit includes about two dozen tax credits for a variety of businesses and business activities. Often, a taxpayer who qualifies for one or more of these credits but is unable to use them for a given tax year can carry them back to a prior year or forward to future years. See Form 3800 and its instructions for details.

Employer credit for paid family and medical leave. TCJA added this new general business credit that qualified employers may claim based on wages paid to qualifying employees on family and medical leave. To claim the credit, eligible employers must have a written policy in place that meets certain requirements, including providing at least 2 weeks of paid leave to full-time employees (prorated for employees who work part time) and the paid leave must be at least 50 percent of the wages normally paid to the employee. For TY 2018, the employee's prior year compensation from the employer must have been \$72,000 or less. See Notice 2018-71 and instructions for Form 8994 for details.

Tax credits can help employers hiring new workers. With many businesses now facing a tight job market, there is another general business credit that may help. The long-standing Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is designed to help employers who hire long-term unemployment recipients, certain veterans, recipients of certain kinds of public assistance and other categories of workers with employment barriers. Certification requirements and other special rules apply. To find out more, visit IRS.gov/WOTC.

- Find more information about business tax credits on IRS.gov.
- More information:
 - Publication 5318, Tax Reform: What's New for Your Business -- English | Spanish
 - Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: A comparison for businesses
 - FS-2019-3, IRS highlights tax reform changes that affect businesses
 - FS-2018-19, What's new for farmers in 2018?
 - FS-2018-17, The Highlights of Tax Reform for Businesses

continued from pg. 3

want to feel after clearing out negative emotions of worry or fear.

4. **Go Earthing:** Take advantage of great weather and get your feet on the earth. Studies show that the connection of human skin to earth has positive benefits that decrease stress and anxiety. I work from home most of the time and in between calls or emails or whatever else going on- I make time to go outside and put my feet in the grass for a couple minutes and take some deep breaths.

5. **Friend Detox:** They say that our character is the sum of the 5 people we spend the most time with. Are you proud to be a reflection of the 5 people you are around the most? Which of your friends are sucking your energy? I call these people energy vampires. We all have experienced these people and creating boundaries and walking away is the hardest, but most liberating thing. Protect your environment. Which of your friends are not truly friends? And are you willing to cut ties with people who do not reflect the best of you or the person you're becoming?

Sequoia Parks Conservancy Announces Crystal Cave Tours for Visitors Who Are Deaf or Have Hearing Loss

Three Rivers, CA — Sequoia Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service are excited to announce the completion of tours for visitors who are deaf or have hearing loss. The Conservancy and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks worked together to create the tour to better serve a wider range of visitors using grant funding from the National Environmental Education Foundation. The tour contains eight videos in American Sign Language and provides safety information and interpretive descriptions at key points throughout the tour. This is the first tour of its kind in a national park cave.

The grant also provided for the purchase of assisted listening devices. These devices amplify and clarify sound by cutting down or eliminating ambient noise. Headsets with induction neckloops are also available for visitors who use hearing aids and cochlear implants with a "T" switch. These devices are distributed free-of-charge on a first-come, first-served basis.

These tours are available to visitors starting on the opening day of Crystal Cave, May 24, 2019.

About the Tour

After passing through the iconic spiderweb gate, visitors are welcomed with a brief history of the cave and given an overview of the unique features and formations within. Progressing deeper on paved, lighted pathways, the tour pauses to listen to the water moving about and observe fantastic rooms and formations formed over the last 1.2 million years. At the deepest point of the tour, visitors gather as the lighting is turned off, and they experience the cave in absolute darkness.

About Crystal Cave

Crystal Cave is the second-largest of 300 known caves in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, and the fourth largest in California. At just over three miles of surveyed passageway, this remarkable marble cave has been open to the public for tours since 1940.

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SEPTEMBER 27, 2019
5:30PM - 9:30PM



VOSSLER FARMS PUMPKIN PATCH
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Successful Derby Fundraiser

Assistance League Visalia's annual "Evening at the Derby," held on May 3, 2019 at the beautiful Koetsier Ranch, was a great success! An evening of fun was had by a spirited crowd as manned wooden horses raced to the finish line in seven exciting races. The silent auction offered 128 chances to win beautiful prizes, donated by many businesses and supporters throughout the community.

This year there were two winners drawn for the Disneyland 10 pack raffle, valued at more than \$1,800.00.

Thanks to the Chamber and its members who helped us exceed our goal of \$60,000.00. These monies will help throughout the year as we provide new clothes, backpacks, school supplies, books, puppet shows, and US maps for hundreds of Visalia school children.

Assistance League Visalia is a nonprofit, philanthropic organization dedicated to enriching the lives of children in our communities through volunteerism, education and service. All donations stay in this community and are tax deductible.

Please consider joining us again next year for this vital and enjoyable fundraising party.

CLIP & SAVE

CALENDAR - JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1					1
2	3 Visalia City Council Meeting City Hall, 7:00pm	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Chamber Government Affairs Committee Meeting Buckman-Mitchell Building, 7:00 am	12	13 YPN Meet Up Barrelhouse Brewing, 5:30pm 60th Annual Awards Celebration Visalia Convention Center, 6:00 pm	14	15
16	17 Visalia City Council Meeting City Hall, 7:00pm	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25 Business After Hours Mixer Planing Mill Pizza, 5:30pm	26	27 Chamber Ambassador Breakfast Visalia First Assembly, 8:00 am	28	29

Traveling the World – Planning Ahead Made Easy

One of the most difficult aspects of traveling is planning far enough in advance to make sure that you can get good rates on hotels, airfare, and that destination sites have tickets available at times that work into your schedule. The Chamber would like to help make advanced planning easier by offering group tours to 8 different amazing destinations in 2020. Each tour is full of amazing sites, and memorable experiences, and all you have to do now is plan put down a deposit and let the tour companies handle everything else.

Each tour is managed by reputable travel companies with many years of experience and proven results. Each tour includes roundtrip airfare from the Fresno Airport, transportation to and from each airport and a dedicated English-speaking tour guide. The Chamber will be hosting travel presentations for each tour where community members can learn about tour details and ask questions before making a final decision to travel with the Chamber.

2020 TOURS:

Treasures of Egypt: with an optional 3-night Jordan Post Tour Extension. This tour will run February 18 – March 2, 2020 and includes 23 meals. Step back in time and explore thousands of years of history, legend and lore as you view Egypt's timeless wonders. The trip highlights include; Giza, Pyramids, Sphinx, Memphis, Museum of Egyptian Antiquities, Luxor, Valley of the Kings, 4-Night Nile River Cruise, Old Cairo and more.



Taste of Vietnam: with an optional 3-night Bangkok Pre Tour Extension. This tour will run March 6 – 19, 2020 and includes 21 meals. Set out on a journey that reveals the best of Vietnam. Inside the lush valleys and verdant fields of a rural paradise, discover a beautiful country with a long and rich history. Trip highlights include: Hanoi, a walking food tour, Halong Bay, a Cooking class, Hu Imperial City, Mekong Delta, a walking food tour, and Reunification Palace.



Discover Croatia, Slovenia and the Adriatic Coast: Featuring Dubrovnik, Dalmatian Coast, Istrian Peninsula and Lake Bled. This tour will depart April 23, 2020 returning on May 4, 2020 and includes 16 meals. Join us and explore Croatia and the countries of the Adriatic. This is a "must see" region filled with ancient cities, medieval architecture, intriguing cultures, rolling hills and stunning coastal scenery. This tour includes; Dubrovnik, Cilipi Family-Style Dinner, Split, Ciecletian's Palace, Plitvice Lakes National Park, Istrian Peninsula, Ljubljana, Lake Bled and a Plenta Boat Ride.

Splendor of the Seine River Cruise: Featuring two nights in Paris. This tour will run September 2-12, 2020 and includes 22 meals. The

Seine River flows through the center of Paris and is the main artery of the "city of Light". Cruise down one of Europe's most enchanting rivers through storybook landscapes of vineyards, historic abbeys, Norman castles, tranquil orchards and medieval towns. This trip includes: 2 nights in Paris, 7 night cruise, Vincent van Gogh home, Chantilly Castle, Normandy, Notre Dame, Honfleur, Benedictine Palace, self-guided bike tour, Giverny and much more.

Bluegrass Country & the Smoky Mountains: featuring Louisville, Gatlinburg and Asheville. This trip will depart September 17th and return on September 25th, 2020 and includes 12 meals. Enjoy a visit to a private horse farm in Lexington Kentucky, stop in Berea the arts and crafts capital of Kentucky, enjoy a walking tour of artistic Asheville, North Carolina, visit Churchill Downs, Explore the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, walk the Biltmore Estate, sip away at the Buffalo Trace Bourbon Distillery, eat southern food and watch the Dolly Parton's Stampede & Dinner show.

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta:

will run October 9-14, 2020 and includes 7 meals. Welcome to a true "land of enchantment." As we explore Albuquerque and Santa Fe, a rich blend of multiculturalism, natural beauty and profound history await. Highlights include: Balloon Fiesta, Old Town Albuquerque, National Museum of Nuclear Science & History, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Turquoise Trail, Santa Fe, Open-Air Tram Tour, Santa Fe School of Cooking.



Israel: A Journey of Faith

with an optional 3-night Jordan Post Tour extension. This tour will run November 2-10, 2020 and includes 15 meals. Travel to the Holy Land on an inspirational journey that visits some of the most ancient sites in the world. This trip will include visits to Jaffa, Caesarea, Nazareth, Cana, Tiberias, Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Golan Heights, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Mount of Olives, Mount Zion, Via Dolorosa, Western Wall and the Garden Tomb.



Thanksgiving in New York City: This tour will depart on November 23rd and return on November 27, 2020 and includes 4 meals. There is so much to see in this amazing city. Enjoy a sightseeing tour including views of the famous museums of history and art, Wall Street, Trump Tower, Battery Park, Carnegie Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and of course Rockefeller Center. This tour also includes a cruise around Manhattan Island, the Statue of Liberty and a visit to Radio City Music Hall. Finally the trip includes the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

For more information about traveling with the Chamber and upcoming tours go to www.visaliachamber.org/travel or call the Chamber at 559-734-5876.

THANK YOU TO OUR PREMIER MEMBERS:

CHAMPION:



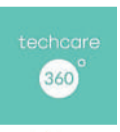
VISIONARY:



REGIONAL LEADERS:



KEYSTONE:



CORNERSTONE:

CIGNA, CSET, E.D.I.S., Lamp Litter Inn, M. Green and Company, Naked Nut Southern California Edison

MEDIA PARTNERS:





We took a trip...

Nowhere exotic, but we're happier than a kid on a flying suitcase about our new office. So update our info in your contacts and pay us a visit!

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