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Business Update

AWARD-WINNING MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE VISALIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **APRIL 10:**
The Lunch Bunch @ A&W Restaurant-POSTPONED – Date TBD
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Location: 2611 S Mooney Blvd
- **APRIL 15:**
Coffee with the CEO
Facebook Live
Time: 8 a.m.
- **Aug. 25: Rescheduled**
IMPACT Leadership Conference
Time: 7:30 a.m.
Location: Visalia Convention Center



- **Splendor of the Seine River Cruise**
Sept. 2-12, 2020
- **Bluegrass Country & the Smoky Mountains**
Sept. 17-25, 2020
- **Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta**
Oct. 9-14, 2020
- **Thanksgiving in New York City**
Nov. 23-27, 2020
- **Discover Panama-The Land Between Seas**
Feb. 4-12, 2021
- **Irish Discovery**
March 16-23, 2021
- **Heritage of America**
April 11-19, 2021
- **Culinary Italy/13 Day Tour**
April 20-May 3, 2021
- **London & Paris Discovery**
Oct. 19-27, 2021

Collette Vacations, Mayflower Tours, CistInc
For more information, go to
www.visaliachamber.org/travel

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

Visalia Chamber of Commerce Emergency Membership Plan

The world is adjusting to a new set of circumstances and the Visalia Chamber of Commerce is steadfast in supporting the needs of local business. As a Chamber, part of our mission is to champion for local business. At times that can be easy--we live in such a great community that supports one another on so many levels. At times, it can be a challenge as we fight against state and federal regulations that can make it difficult for a small business and its employees to thrive. In our current situation, as we all make sacrifices and fight against the spread of coronavirus, that challenge will be more difficult than ever.

Even as our community hunkers down and spends more time at home, we as a Chamber will remain open for business. While we might have to spend more time working remotely, and less time convening through mixers and other networking events, we will not stop in our effort to champion for local business and to continue to connect our members with the resources they need to get through this troubling time. With that in mind, we are offering a Small Business Emergency Membership plan. This plan will instantly give your business access to the majority of our membership benefits, but will delay any membership payment until the first of May--or later depending on how our current set of circumstances play out. By signing up now, at minimum your company will receive the following...

- Pro-business advocacy on local, state, and national issues
- Listing on the Visalia Chamber website's business directory
- Online portal that gives you control of content and direct access to other Chamber members
- Ability to post events, jobs, and member-to-member deals
- Opportunity to submit content for our monthly newsletter
- Subscription to Chamber publications, including: e-blast, e-news, and monthly newsletter
- Access to the latest business resources
- Discounts on Chamber advertising opportunities
- Updates on your business through our Instagram stories



You can sign up for your membership online by visiting visaliachamber.org/membership, or by calling 559-734-5876. If you have questions about the Small Business Emergency Membership plan, please email charlie@visaliachamber.org.

The Visalia Chamber of Commerce is committed to being a leader for the local business community. We will continue to be a resource of information and a Champion for your business. We are actively encouraging the public to safely patronize local business in any way that they can. Help us spread this message by sharing our social media posts when you can and encouraging your followers to follow the Visalia Chamber social media outlets. We are a resource of information not just for our members, but for the entire community as well.

Thank you to our current members for trusting in us and continuing your support of the Visalia Chamber of Commerce. We look forward to having the opportunity to champion for all new members; we hope that you join us soon. By working together, we will get through these difficult times.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fighting for Visalia

Your Visalia Chamber has been working hard for you, particularly in light of the ever-changing business and community standards. This isn't something a chamber, organization or frankly any business could have anticipated but we are a nibble feisty chamber full of dedicated hard-working people so we're doing what we do best. We are championing your business and fighting for Visalia.

I have received numerous calls from business owners and community members. Frankly, most are heartbreaking. Business owners wanting to take care of staff but worried about cash flow to be able to pay their employees. Community members wanting to do the best for Visalia but knowing canceling events will have a ripple effect that means nonprofits don't get funded and puts their work at risk. Everyone wishes there was better, clearer news. But there are no easy solutions and no "best practices". Frankly, we are writing those best practices and together finding solutions.

At publication, the Chamber Board of Directors and Staff have taken several steps to support our members, support local businesses and do everything we can to fight for Visalia.

1. We got the SBA Disaster Loan Assistance Declaration to be amended to include Tulare County. Originally our county wasn't included. When your chamber was made aware of this, we pulled business leaders together, started a calling campaign and got Tulare County included. Talk about the power of the Visalia Chamber! Thank you to those that called. Thank you to Congressman Nunes and Assemblyman Mathis for pushing on their sides too

2. We have been tireless in updating our community about business and community news. Through our COVID-19 Updates page, Facebook and Instagram, we are sharing member news, encouraging our community to support local businesses, and providing community updates. Additionally, we have been on local radio and in touch with local papers providing relevant business news. When we say we serve as the voice of business, it is never



Gail Zurek
Visalia Chamber
President & CEO

more true than it has been during this crisis.

3. Beginning immediately, we have created a Small Business Emergency Chamber Membership. Having Chamber resources at your fingertips is valuable, particularly now. We want our local business to have access to information, upcoming webinars, be able to share relevant business news and benefit from Chamber membership. Small Business Emergency Chamber Membership allows local businesses access to these tools and delay payment until community standards are returned. If you know a business that could benefit, more information and registration can be found on our website.

4. We hosted a Facebook Live Coffee with the CEO event. I always say the best part of my job is connecting with all of you. I do not want that to change. We are a powerful organization because we hear your needs, respond to those needs and work towards community solutions. I anticipate many more of these chats and look forward to the day when we can sit across the table at a local coffee shop.

If you want to connect with me, please don't think you have to wait for a virtual event. Reach out. I'm here for you.

5. We have gathered information from local businesses about how they are being affected. While some challenges are unique, many challenges are community-wide.

Hearing from business has allowed us to drive how we support members. Please check out our website for many resources for local businesses.

Visalia is a pioneer town. We lure visitors here with our wild west history and bootstrap approach to accomplishing your wildest dreams. This crisis will only highlight the true strength of this community. The only way we will all succeed is doing what Visalia does best - help, encourage and support each other. Your Visalia Chamber is here for you.

VISALIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION ICONS



Catalyst for Change



Community Convener



Champion for Business

Ambassador Spotlight



Name: Melissa Neeley
Company: Image 2000
Title: Sales Account Executive

1. How has the Chamber and the Ambassador Program helped you or your business to grow?

My success as a Copier Sales Account Executive with Image 2000 has grown through the relationships I have built with people at organizations, churches and businesses that are members of the Visalia Chamber. As an Ambassador I attend mixers, ribbon cuttings and events where I get to meet and network with people in the community. Relationships are built through these connections, which often lead to business opportunities for myself and others. I network with people and refer business to them and they, in turn, refer business to me so it's a win-win for all of us.

2. Why is it important to employees to get involved in the Visalia Chamber programs and events?

It is vital for employees and companies to be involved with the Visalia Chamber programs and events because it will help them interact with more people in the community, which, in turn, draws business or members to their facility. The Chamber advocates for local businesses, churches and organizations on local and state issues that improve how their businesses operate and helps them thrive and be successful. Employees can attend events, classes and training programs that will help them with everything from customer service to leadership skills aiding them to become more successful in their job positions. We are all working hard on being productive members in our community, and by supporting each other and discussing current matters at events we help each other and learn valuable bits of information.

3. The best part of working for your company is?

Image 2000 is a great company that has been around for about 25 years. My office serves Tulare, Kings, Madera and Fresno Counties. Image 2000 has 8 offices and we've achieved the award of Pros Elite 100, a top award in the copier industry. We have the Kyocera and Copystar product line, which has been awarded the Most Reliable Color Copier series on the market. As a Copier Sales Account Executive I'm able to solve problems and provide solutions for my customers; whether it be to help them save money with new Copier equipment, streamline document workflows, and/or increase office efficiency and productivity. I'm also able to help them with projects they are working on, which will draw more business to their store or company. I'm currently assisting the Chamber with getting donations from local stores, businesses and companies for a Mystery Box that will be sold at the Annual Awards Banquet in June to raise funds to help cover the cost of the event. I'm able to visit companies and organizations that I would talk to anyway in my course of daily business. I'm meeting new people every day, building relationships and helping them with increased business which will be generated when consumers utilize the gift certificates, gift cards and coupons that will be in their Mystery Box. The consumers will be getting free items and will save money on places they like to visit. I have the freedom with my position at Image 2000 to really make a difference in my community in so many positive ways. People do business with people they know, like and trust. Getting to know people, being involved and giving back to the community are ways for me to get to know others.

4. Where is your favorite place to go in Visalia with friends and family?

There are so many wonderful places to go in Visalia that it's hard to just pick one. I love to go out and eat at various restaurants, especially new ones that have opened up recently, so I can taste different menu options. I really enjoy attending various events in Visalia. We have so many fantastic non-profit organizations that have a variety of fundraising events to help members in the community. Local dance lessons are a favorite recreational activity that my husband James and I like to participate in. My husband and I enjoy hiking at the Kaweah Oaks Preserve and walk the many trails throughout Visalia. Attending events like the County Center Rotary, "Taste of the Wine Country," my club's fundraiser coming up in April at the Country Club and the Visalia Chamber's Annual Awards and Christmas Tree Auction are annual favorite events that you will find myself attending with my husband, family members and friends.

About this publication ...

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BOARD SPOTLIGHT



Name: Catty Meader
Company: Family Services of Tulare County
Title: Chief Executive Officer

Why do you serve on the Chamber Board of Directors?

I am proud to come from a family of deeply committed "learners." Education and community service are highly valued and when I returned to Tulare County, I really wanted to develop a strong professional network while contributing to an innovative organization that is strengthening our local business community.

What has the Chamber done in the last 12 months that has helped your business?

Family Services was fortunate to participate in the Christmas Tree Auction this past December thanks to the Indian Women's Association. We were able to leverage this opportunity to work alongside other wonderful businesses, including The Cruise Experts, The Vintage Press, and Suncrest Bank. We have also appreciated the opportunity to learn about what is going on in our area through the recent candidate forum and by having our Chief Program Officer Edgardo Monroy participating in Leadership Visalia.

What's your favorite family tradition?

I'm a sucker for a Christmas Stocking! I

love finding sweet little gifts that my family members can treasure. Spending Christmas morning opening them around a fire are some of my best childhood memories that I am trying to carry on with my kids.

Does your family have a "motto" – spoken or unspoken?

We talk with our kids a lot about "taking care of business." We emphasize that we move our goals forward through consistent hard work and that it is important to put effort into the things that matter.

What was your first job?

I worked for my Dad's flower shop "Wildflower" as a shop assistant. I learned to make bows, take orders, run the cash register, and water plants.

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 Connector Members:

- IMAGE 2000
- MIDDLESTATE
- SEQUOIA FINANCIAL, LLC
- THE SORESEN AGENCY - AMERICAN NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY

Small Business Members:

- NOLEN CROZIER PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY
- VALHALLA RESTAURANT & GIFT SHOP

Small Business Members Non-Profit:

- HELPING ONE WOMAN
- SALT + LIGHT WORKS
- VISALIA FERAL CAT COALITION

RENEWING

Regional Leader Member:

- *Kawneer

Keystone Member:

- *CALIFORNIA DAIRIES, INC. (CDI)
- TACHI PALACE CASINO RESORT)

Business Connector Members:

- ACCLAIM CREDIT TECHNOLOGIES
- CLASSIC CHARTER
- ERA VALLEY PRO REALTY
- FRESNO YOSEMITE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
- *GIANT CHEVROLET CADILLAC
- *NELSON'S ACE HARDWARE
- *OAK VIEW APARTMENT HOMES
- *PACIFIC TREASURES & GOURMET
- QUAIL PARK ON CYPRESS

Small Business Members:

- CARROLL'S TIRE WAREHOUSE
- *FOUR SEASONS HANDY MARKET

- GOWIN GREEN
- HAULAWAY STORAGE CONTAINERS
- *MONTECITO APARTMENT HOMES
- *SEALS CONSTRUCTION
- SEVEN OAKS CHURCH
- *SUNPOWER BY SUN SOLAR
- *VISALIA ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE | MAGNETECH INDUSTRIAL SERVICES, INC.

Business Connector Member Non-Profit:

- NAMI TULARE COUNTY
- PIPELINE.CHURCH VISALIA

Small Business Nonprofit Member:

- HANDS IN THE COMMUNITY
- *READ FOR LIFE
- *SAINT ANTHONY'RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTER
- *VISALIA FOX THEATRE

*Indicates membership in the Visalia Chamber 110% Club.

FACEBOOK LIVE

COFFEE WITH THE CEO

3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
8:15-9 AM

THE LUNCHBUNCH

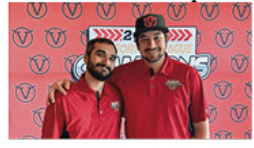
COMMUNITY • GREAT FOOD • CONNECTION

cellar door

Friday, May 8th
11:30AM-1:00PM
101 W. Main Street

CONNECT WITH FELLOW CHAMBER MEMBERS WHILE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

Kaweah Delta Medical Center for the second consecutive year was named one of Healthgrades 2020 America's 250 Best Hospitals. The distinction places the Hospital in the top 5 percent of 4,500 hospitals assessed nationwide for superior clinical performance.



Visalia Rawhide announced the promotion of Mike Candela and Julian Rifkind to co-General Managers. Rifkind has been with Rawhide since 2015 and Candela since 2008.

Congratulations to Fresno Yosemite International Airport, who reached an all-time record with 1.96 million passengers served in 2019! The milestone year included an 11 percent increase generated by new destinations and added flights.

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group recently announced that Parrish Hansen Structural Engineers will join as a division of Provost & Pritchard. In addition, they announced two new employees to the firm: Phillip Slater, a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Specialist and Lindsay Batty, Human Resources Coordinator.

Tulare County Sheriff's Department named Deputy



John Haro as Office of the Year at the Porterville Exchange Club's Public Safety Recognition dinner.



Century 21 Jordan-Link & Company agent Vincent Arbizo received the President's Producer Award for commitment to quality service and productivity. Congratulations!

Bank of the Sierra awarded \$31K in grants to 10 Central Valley nonprofits during their fourth quarter, including ImagineU Children's Museum. Grant money will be used to enhance the museum's 2020 programs and events, with the goal of providing interactive and enriching opportunities to children throughout the Valley. Bank of the Sierra also joined forces with Read for Life to host a book drive at select Tulare County branches.

Congratulations to Kawneer who was recognized by Visalia Unified School District as Outstanding Community partner!

Wyndham Visalia was recently selected as a 2020 winner of The Knot Best of Weddings and celebrated their



45th anniversary as the Chamber's first 2020 Business After Hours Mixer host!

Tachi Palace Hotel & Casino recently announced a name change to Tachi Palace Casino Resort to reflect the property upgrades, recent expansions and the formation of an enterprise group.

Congratulations to Visit Visalia who celebrated their one-year anniversary at their newest location on Main Street.

Forty Assistance League of Visalia volunteers filled 300 Hygiene Kits ('Le Bag') for distribution to children participating in their Operation School Bell program. Kits contained shampoo/body wash, wash cloths, deodorant, hairbrushes and toothbrushes, toothpaste and dental floss donated by the Tulare-Kings Dental Society.

TidBits of Visalia has expanded their publication reach with 250 locations throughout the Valley. Congratulations!

LEADERSHIP VISALIA

Visalia Leadership Day Session: Quality of Life

The next time somebody says Visalia is no fun, you need to set them straight! Visalia Leadership class of 2020 had their 'Quality of Life' themed day session on Friday, March 6, 2020. The cohort studied, you guessed it, the quality of life in Visalia. The day session was masterfully facilitated by Ivanhoe Elementary principal George Rodriguez and CSET Assistant Director Lola Balandran. They reviewed issues facing Tulare county residents in terms of health and wellness, and how we deal with these issues.

Fitness and wellness coach Justin Levine kicked off the day with a presentation on his work. Justin's presentation shows how he strives to live his life to the fullest everyday. He is passionate about helping others meet their fitness goals. He says, "I really believe many things are possible for everyone." He frames a lot of his coaching in terms of perspective: "the mindset is really the weapon." Reaching one's fitness goals takes time, consistency, moderation, mindset conditioning, sustainable habits, and dietary awareness. His advice for leaders is, "eliminate your ego; bigger is not always better."

The cohort then proceeded to have a smoothie competition with food donated from Abe-EI Produce.

The second speaker was Sonia Duran-Aguilar, Population Health Manager with Kaweah Delta Hospital. The topic was health wellness and quality of life in Tulare county. Sonia described the health obstacles that Tulare county residents face. She noted that compared to the rest of California, Tulare



county is a fast growing county with high unemployment, high poverty levels, and a low ratio of medical providers to patients. She noted that 5% of our population consume 50% of our medical resources. To transform our residents' healthcare, Kaweah Delta is participating in a program called PRIME. To give you an example, here are two of their 7 PRIME goals: outpatient delivery and ambulatory care improvement, and screening for high risk and high cost patients. Sonia reminds us that "we are like cars, which need upkeep such as oil changes and such- but there are no replacement of our parts. We have to take care of ourselves".

The cohort then visited the recreation center and heard a presentation from Holly Ellis of Visalia Parks and Recreation Department. Holly described some of the many offerings

her department manages. There are youth and adult sports, activities for families and infants, fishing derbies, an ice rink, father-daughter dance, eggstravaganza egg hunt, other dances, teen idol, senior and corporate games, wine and beer tours, and more. She's spot on when she says "we try to include everybody." Her parting words are "get out, get active, and get involved in our community." Keep an eye out for the live and play magazine!

The cohort then had a fantastic lunch together at Stacked. Following lunch the group crossed the street to participate in a world-class aerial yoga class at The Space, taught by owner Kristen McQuaide. The Space has 14 teachers and offers a huge variety of classes. Check out their website for more information.

The cohort's final visit was to Visalia Senior Center. They learned more about the offerings there from Senior Center Program Assistant, John Franco. He gave the cohort a tour of the facility and the impressive garden. John also explained that a lot of seniors know about bingo and lunch, but they don't know about all the many other activities available. Then he unleashed the senior table tennis athletes upon us. Hands down, those seniors destroyed leadership cohort's best athletes. Licking our wounds, we returned to the VECC center for our day's wrap up.

In closing, Visalia is a small city with a lot to offer. Make sure you're making the most of it!

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Name: Geoff Howard

Company: Kuubix Energy

Title: Vice President of Operations



Kuubix Energy is a premier solar installer that was founded in the Visalia community three years ago. Pulling from local talent, Kuubix has been able to grow substantially during that time and will expand to 2 satellite locations in California by April 1st. Kuubix brings people and technology together to shape the future of home, business, and agriculture needs by creating unmatched value for customers with all-in-one resources and innovative products. Kuubix installs premium products including Tesla Powerwall batteries.

Tell us something interesting about your business or product(s).

Kuubix operates as a debt-free company. Solar customers have access to various financing options; whether a customer is interested in ownership or leasing, commercial or residential, Kuubix can provide a personal plan to meet energy commitments at a price that is competitive.

How does your company get involved in the local community?

Kuubix supports local students with donations to their sports teams, bands, choirs, and other extra-curricular activities. Kuubix provided an inspiring float in the Candy Cane Lane Parade this past season and is proud to be a Visalia Chamber of Commerce ambassador.

The best part of working for your company is?

Kuubix is owned by 3 friends who built a company with a foundation of a strong work ethic, financial frugality, and fun in the workplace. They hire people with integrity and want Kuubix to be the "best place to work in Visalia". From a ping pong table to snack time in the workplace, Kuubix

wants to retain the best employees as they continue to expand throughout the state and the rest of the country.

How has the Chamber and/or the Ambassador Program helped you and/or your business?

The Chamber allows us to network and learn about other viable businesses in the community along with the ability to promote our business. We feel that the relationships that are forming along with the advertising opportunity with the business community allows Kuubix to place a ray of sunshine on our expanding solar business!

Top thing you wish Visalia knew about your business?

Kuubix was started locally and will retain its corporate office here as it continues aggressive expansion. Giving back to the community is a priority along with hiring local talent. Kuubix is proud to be a part of the Visalia community that has done so much to support its growing business.

CITY UPDATE

Citizen Involvement and the City of Visalia



Are you looking at ways to give back and help shape the future of Visalia? We're accepting applications for City of Visalia committees and commissions, and we invite you to apply.

City of Visalia committees and commissions serve in an advisory capacity for the City Council. Each is different, but they all receive public concerns, review policies and regulations, provide valuable insight and are instrumental to the public process. By serving on a committee or commission, you can help plan our city's future, as they both make recommendations that affect life right here in Visalia.

The City's multiple committees and commissions aim to reflect the community's geographic, ethnic, gender and age composition. Appointees to committees and commissions should be 18 years of age or older, and live or work within the urban area of Visalia as defined by Visalia

Unified School District's boundary map. However, first consideration will be given to residents of the City.

The City Clerk's office is accepting applications now and invites interested citizens to apply. Once received, applications are submitted to the respective committees for interviews & recommendation, then to the Citizens Advisory Committee for final review. Final selections are then presented to the Visalia City Council for approval. Those appointed to a spot can serve up to three two-year terms for committees or four two-year terms for commissions.

Our committees and commissions are comprised of individuals who have come together to help make a difference and keep Visalia thriving. If that interests you, we welcome you to learn more about the process and encourage you to apply.

For more information on City of Visalia Committees and Commissions, visit www.visalia.city or contact the office of the City Clerk by calling 713-4512 for more information, or email us at communityfeedback@visalia.city.

THE LAW AT WORK

Keep or Shred? What to do with employment document

BY Brett T. Abbott



Every year it seems we get closer and closer to a paperless society. But we aren't there yet. As such, employers are faced with decision of what to do with employee records. What should be kept? How long should documents be kept? Where should the records be kept?

For simplicity and practicality's sake, many employers keep the bulk of an employee's personnel file and other records for the duration of employment plus an additional four years. This covers most records, with a few exceptions (pension and welfare documents must be kept for six years; records of job injuries should be kept for five years; and safety and toxic/chemical exposure records must be kept for 30 years).

What about electronic data like emails or other business records that not technically part of an employee's personnel file? A good idea is to implement policies that describe how long these records will be kept and at what schedule they will be deleted. As outlined above, a good rule of thumb is to keep these records for the duration of employment plus four years.

Employment records should be kept in individual personnel files, restricting access to the files, as they usually contain private and sensitive information. The ideal place for such records is a locked cabinet with

access by one person or one department, from whom authorization must be sought before others can view the files.

When the time arrives for disposing of old records, employers need to make sure it's done the right way. Documents containing personal information (Social Security numbers, addresses, phone numbers, etc.) must be shredded. If this information is stored digitally, the hard drives must be destroyed before disposing of them (a hammer usually does the trick). If computers or servers are sold, the data must be deleted in a way that makes it unrecoverable.

We live in a world where the accumulation of documents and data, electronic and otherwise, is accelerating. Electronic storage of employment records has reduced some headaches, but created others. Safeguarding employee information and complying with the rules and regulations regarding employment documents is worth whatever effort it takes.

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).

HEALTHCARE NOTE

Kaweah Delta focuses on community, puts safety first



Kaweah Delta is committed to the health and safety of this community. As our team works to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus locally, we are working tremendously hard to put the safety of our patients and the team caring for them, first.

We regularly practice for occurrences such as these, events that by their nature are unpredictable, to ensure that in the event of a disaster we would be able to care for our community. At the heart of it all, we are continuously elevating the quality and safety of the care we provide to our patients.

We have implemented a number of changes recently to ensure that we are protecting our patients, our healthcare team and this community. These are decisions that we have really grappled with because I will tell you, first and foremost, we remain a very compassionate organization. We are balancing compassion with the desire to protect

our community from contracting the virus and stop the spread.

Here is a look at some of the newest developments in our work to protect our patients, our team and this community:

No-Visitor Policy: Kaweah Delta's no-visitor policy was implemented on Wednesday, March 18. Exceptions are made for:

- End of Life patients
- Labor & Delivery/NICU/Pediatric patients
- Dementia/developmentally delayed patients

If an exception is made for a visitor (must be the same visitor throughout the patient's stay), they must pass a temperature and respiratory infection screening. Family and loved ones looking for patients can call 559-624-2000 for patient updates.

iPads to Connect Loved Ones: We are determined to connect patients with their loved ones despite our temporary no-visitor policy. We are issuing iPads to patients who do not have devices capable of live-streaming technology so that they can "virtually visit"



Gary K. Herbst,
Chief Executive Officer

with loved ones during their hospital stay.

Isolation of Patients: We are isolating patients with respiratory symptoms inside and outside of our Medical Center. We are using two tents outside to isolate patients coming to the hospital's Emergency Department with respiratory symptoms. We have also established a unit inside the hospital to isolate patients with respiratory symptoms. We are also working with the State of California to expedite the opening of our two new Acequia Wing floors, one of which could be used as a dedicated floor for COVID-19 patients.

Testing: We are working to set up a hotline that will help people in Tulare County get free COVID-19 assessments by phone. Look for more information on this program soon.

We have been overwhelmed by the level of community support we have received as we work to care for and protect our community. Thank you for your wonderful concern and compassion for our healthcare workers. Community support is what keeps us going.

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 MilliporeSigma Southern California Edison

MEDIA PARTNERS:



VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Moving forward Measure A facility improvements



Tamara Ravalin,
Ed.D.,
Interim Superintendent
Visalia Unified School District

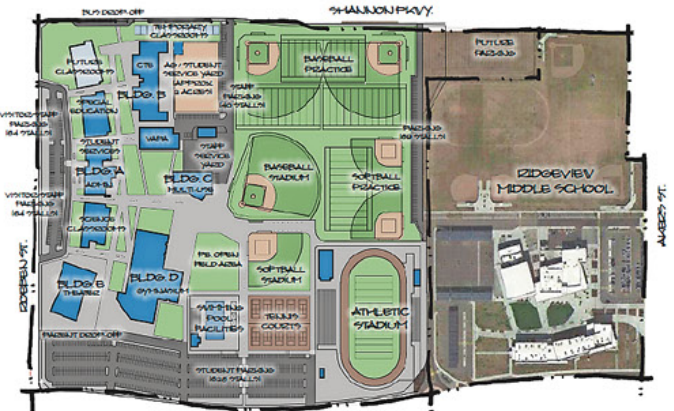


Measure A is a general obligation bond passed by more than 60 percent of Visalia voters in November 2018. It authorized the VUSD Board of Education to issue up to \$105.3M in bonds that can be used for a wide variety of facility projects to support our students.

A portion of Measure A is planned for facility improvements such as security enhancements, modernization projects at school sites, and upgrades to science labs at middle and high schools. The District is currently working to define site needs and priorities for Valley Oak Middle School, Green Acres Middle School, and Mt. Whitney High School, with teams from those schools. These sites are designated to receive facilities improvements in the first phase of modernization.

In April, the Board of Trustees will study the bond issuance process and timeline for a possible bond sale this summer, which would result in the commencement of campus security projects and modernization projects for Phase I. Examples of our recent modernizations, shown below, included renovations of Ivanhoe Elementary School and science lab upgrades at Redwood High School.

Additionally, the District must continue with the design phase of the new high school and "get in line" with plans in order to be eligible for funding when it is available. Although Proposition 13 was not passed, we expect that another state bond will be on a future ballot. We have a conceptual design of the new high school and we are in the process of developing the architectural plans.



Visalia Unified School District MASTER PLAN CONCEPTUAL DESIGN NEW HIGH SCHOOL VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Have a questions about the Chamber? Send me a message: Jena@visaliachamber.org

Ask Jena

MY BUSINESS JUST OPENED A SECOND LOCATION. HOW DO I SCHEDULE A RIBBON CUTTING?
We love to Champion Good News from our Members. Contact me to schedule a ribbon cutting and visit our website to learn how they typically work: visaliachamber.org/ribbon-cutting.

MY BUSINESS HAS BEEN IMPACTED BY COVID-19, WHERE CAN I GET HELP?
Your Visalia Chamber has worked hard for local businesses during this time. We fought for Tulare County to be included in the SBA Disaster Loan Assistance Declaration. You can apply at disasterloan.sba.gov/ela. Please reach out for further assistance!

WE'VE HAD TO POSTPONE/CANCEL OUR COMMUNITY EVENTS. CAN THE CHAMBER HELP US GET THE WORD OUT?
Yes! Please email us updates at info@visaliachamber.org. We will include updates on our Events Calendar and COVID-19 Updates webpage: visaliachamber.org/updates

HOW CAN I CONTACT ANOTHER MEMBER?
Through your Member Portal, you can connect with other members directly!

Visalia Chamber Announces Board Slate for 2020

On June 30, 2020, three members of the Board of Directors will complete their terms of service to the Chamber of Commerce. We are grateful for the leadership and service that Nathan Halls (Suncrest Bank), Karen Gross (Karen Gross State Farm Insurance), and George Vasquez (Bank of Sierra) have provided.

Pursuant to the bylaws of the Chamber, a nominating committee was appointed by the board to solicit candidates for the board. The opportunity to apply was also promoted through the Chamber newsletter earlier this year. The nominating committee has recommended, and the board has accepted, the following to be candidates for the board: Sam Ramirez, Naxson Hospitality - Robert Atinley, Atinley Alpaz PC -

Robert McKeller, McKeller Family Farms and Judy Silicato, Central Valley Community Bank. The bylaws require that we notify the members of this slate of candidates, as well as the opportunity for members to nominate other candidates by petition.

In order to nominate an alternative candidate for the board, a petition signed by fifteen members of the Chamber must be received by the Chamber within 10 days of this notification (Wednesday, April 15, 2020). If no additional nominees are submitted, the proposed slate listed above will be elected to serve on the Board starting July 1, 2020. If one or more names are submitted by petition, then a ballot will be sent to all Chamber members to elect the new directors for this term.

If you have questions about this notice, or the process for selecting board members, please contact Gail Zurek at the Visalia Chamber of Commerce at 559-734-5876.

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For more information or to purchase an ad please contact Jena: info@visaliachamber.org 559.734.5976

*Sizes may be slightly larger based upon availability Available on a first come first serve basis Must maintain Chamber Membership for duration of ad

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