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(February 26, 2009) California Secretary of State Debra Bowen recently released proposition numbers for the seven measures that will appear on the May 19 statewide special election ballot.

The next regular state election was scheduled for June 8, 2010. However the Legislature and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger last week called a special election and approved six measures for that ballot. A seventh legislative measure, which had qualified in 2008 for the next statewide ballot, will also be included.

The California Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will review the measures and take positions on the propositions during its next quarterly board meeting.

The seven propositions for the May 19 ballot are listed below.

Proposition 1A: Creates a special “rainy day” fund and puts new limits on state spending.

Proposition 1B: Alters repayment schedule for schools and community colleges owed Proposition 98 funds by the state, to protect their funding after state revenues rebound.

Proposition 1C: Allows the state to borrow money for the General Fund based on future profits from the state lottery.

Proposition 1D: Temporarily shifts cigarette taxes away from California Children and Families Program and into the General Fund. The measure also eliminates the state’s First 5 Commission and uses money for the General Fund.

Proposition 1E: Amends the added tax on higher incomes for mental health services from 2004’s Proposition 63 to change which mental health programs the money funds.

Proposition 1F: Forbids the California Citizens Compensation Commission to increase legislators’ and state officers’ salaries when the state is running a deficit.

Proposition 13: Bars property tax increases on construction for seismic retrofits.

For more information and to view all of the special election ballot measures, visit the Secretary of State website, www.ss.ca.gov.

PLANNING VACATION... THINK CHAMBER SPONSORED TOURS SCHEDULE YOUR TRIP NOW!!

2009 TRAVEL TO THE FOLLOWING DESTINATIONS:



Trains of the Colorado Rockies -- July 25 - August 2, 2009

New England Back Roads --- October 7 - 14, 2009

There’s still time to make your reservation before the deadline dates. Call Jacki Flanagan at 559-665-5603.

Don’t miss an opportunity to experience a Collette Vacation. 10 or more persons per destination are picked up in Chowchilla and taken to Fresno airport. Have friends in another location inter-

ABOUT CITY and COUNTY... (check City Calendar for details, www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us/calendar)

March:

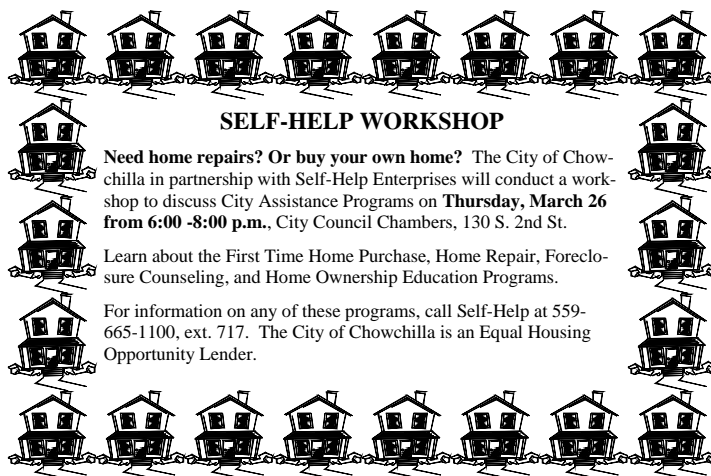
- 18 - State of the County Luncheon, Madera Golf Course, 11:30a - 1:30p, reservations call 675-7768
- Hi Speed Rail Public Scoping Meeting, Merced Senior Center, 3:00-7:00 pm
- Planning Commission Meeting, Civic Center Plaza, 7:00p
- 19 - Hi Speed Rail Public Scoping Meeting, Madera Fairgrounds 3:00-7:00 pm
- Heritage Pres. Commission, Civic Center Plaza 7:00 p
- 21 - Soroptimist Prize Bingo, O'Laughlin Hall, 3:00p
- Spring Fling Dinner, Cornerstone Community Church, 5:00 pm, Tickets call Crossroads Christian School. 662-1624
- Lions Club 4th Annual Scholarship Dinner, Clark Auditorium 6:00 pm, Tickets 665-2652
- 22 - Chowchilla Speedway **Season Opener** presented by Coors Light, 12:00 noon (free ticket if attend Madera Speedway Friday Night)
- 23 - City Council Mtg., Civic Center Plaza, 7:00p
- 28 - Relay for Life Pancake Breakfast, Faith Hall, 7:00a-11:00a
- Dairyland BBQ Chicken Dinner, 5:00p-7:30p, Tickets 665-2394

April:

- 4 - Relay for Life Yard Sale, Countrywood Shopping Center, 7:00a
- 8 - Chowchilla Western Stampede, 10 a.m. Robertson Blvd.
- 9 - Chowchilla Western Stampede events, Fairgrounds through April 12
- 11 - Parks & Recreation Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Sports & Leisure Park, 10:00a - 12:00p
- 13 - City Council Meeting, Civic Center, 7:00p
- 15 - Planning Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7:00p
- 16 - Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7:00 p
- 25 - American Cancer Society Relay For Life, Chowchilla Union High School, starts 9:00 a.m. through Sunday, 26th.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS FOR BUSINESS FROM THE CITY OF CHOWCHILLA, SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, & IRS

- Free SBA Workshop on ECONOMIC CHANGE IS HERE WHERE ARE YOU & Strategic Planning for a GREENER Business, Friday, 3/20/09, 2719 N. Air Fresno Dr., Fresno, CA. To register or reserve a seat email: William.hori@sba.gov or call William Hori at 559-487-5791.
- Free Small Business Tax Forum "Getting It Right", Thursday, 3/26/09, 8:00am - 12:00 pm, Citrus Heights, CA. To register email: SBEDSacramento@irs.gov. Questions: Christella Sanchez, 916-974-5117
- Free Fresno 4 County SCORE Information & Benefits workshop, 3rd Thursdays of the month at 12:00 pm beginning 3/19 thru 12/17/09, approximately 1 hour in length. To register or reserve a seat email: William.hori@sba.gov or call William Hori at 559-487-5791.
- March Web Chat will Highlight the Recovery Act, March 19. To join the live Web chat go to www.sba.gov, click *Online Business Chat*.



SELF-HELP WORKSHOP

Need home repairs? Or buy your own home? The City of Chowchilla in partnership with Self-Help Enterprises will conduct a workshop to discuss City Assistance Programs on **Thursday, March 26 from 6:00 -8:00 p.m.**, City Council Chambers, 130 S. 2nd St.

Learn about the First Time Home Purchase, Home Repair, Foreclosure Counseling, and Home Ownership Education Programs.

For information on any of these programs, call Self-Help at 559-665-1100, ext. 717. The City of Chowchilla is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender.

Zak Zacharia

Zaks Security One

Chief of Security

1906 Howard Road
Madera, CA 93637



Office: 559-673-1010
Fax: 559-673-4898
Cell: 559-974-4600
E-Mail: Zak@Zaksenterprises.com



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Highlights of Board of Directors Meeting

The monthly Board of Directors meeting of the Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce was held on February 11, 2009. At the February meeting the Board of Directors discussed the various working committees for 2009 as well as community and fund raising events. The Board is pursuing new city maps and the committee will work with the City on this project. The new Fossil Discovery Center ground breaking was noted and the benefits it will bring the community were highlighted. Additional information regarding the February meeting minutes can be found on the Chamber's website at http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us/chamber/chamber_main.htm.

Message from the Manager:

There is not a day that we do not hear or receive information about the state of the economy, the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act, water issues, etc. Below I have listed a number of websites and/or telephone numbers to help you search for clear, understandable information to manage your business in this changing world:

Internal Revenue Service: www.irs.gov/newsroom

Small Business Administration: hwww.sba.gov/news

California Chamber: www.calchamber.com/NewsEvents/Pages/Default.aspx

SCORE® Counselors to America's Small Business: call 559-487-5791:

www.sba.gov/ca/fresno

Secretary of State: www.sos.ca.gov/business

California Department of Industrial Relations: www.dir.ca.gov

Department of Occupational Health: www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh1.html

California Department of Water Resources: www.water.ca.gov

Better Business Bureau: www.bbb.org

This is not a complete list but should get you started in finding information you need to operate your business during these times of opportunities and challenges.

Jacki flanagan



Shirlee Jones

REALTOR®
Broker

ERA Land Company

336 Robertson Blvd, Suite B
Chowchilla, CA 93610

Office: (559) 665-1306

Fax: (559) 665-1304

Cell: (559) 283-1307

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Mon-Fri 7am to 6pm

Proprietor

Fax: 559-665-7409

Sat 9am to 1pm

CHOWCHILLA 40-BANGERS VERSUS MADERA HORNETS TWO TRACK CHALLENGE SERIES

The 4-Bangers and the Hornets will face off in a two track challenge series to find out who is king of the class. The series will compete in a total of six races for the entire 2009 season, with three races on the Chowchilla dirt track, and three races on the Madera pavement track.

The two track challenge kicks off at Chowchilla Speedway on April 18 as an under card class in the big Western All Stars event, then May 16th at the Fair race, and then the final dirt race on June 20th. Then the series moves to Madera for July 4th, September 5th, and September 18th.

Come out and watch the challenges take place. For ticket information, race times, and general information go to www.racechowchilla.com.

CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL EXPORT TRAINING CERTIFICATE EXECUTIVE SERIES 2009

California Centers for International Trade Development Merced College is the *CalAgX Executive Series* training. Learn from trade finance and logistic experts; access international trade representatives around the world; gain knowledge from the experience of other exporters; and develop an International Marketing Plan with implementation tactics.

Sessions being April 8, 2009 and conclude June 17, 2009.

GET STARTED NOW! Register for CalAgX training (800) 355-5892, application deadline is March 26, 2009.

Central Regional Training Location:

Merced College

Center for International Trade Development

Business Resource Center

630 W. 19th Street, Room 113, Merced

This program is funded by the California Centers for International Trade Development (CITD) through the California Community College Economic Development Program & the U.S. Department of Education Title VI B grant, International Programs, and is presented in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)



Legends Over Madera Air Show 2009 at the Madera Airport. An incredible event...Friday, Saturday, & Sunday May 29-31, 2009. Bring the family to see the Patriots Jet Team, B-25 Bomber, P-38 Lightning, P-40 War Hawk, and many more. Kick Off Friday Night Concert featuring country music legend, avid pilot and aircraft enthusiast Aaron Tippin.

For information on air show schedule, ticket and concert pricing, or general show information go to www.LegendsOverMadera.com. Sponsorship opportunities are still available: call Joe Conway at 559-289-0981.

HAPPY ST. PATRICKS
DAY!!



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS Jan 2009:

The Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce thanks the listed members for renewing their commitment to the Chowchilla community.

Support Chowchilla's businesses and Chamber members!

CalStar Capitol Development

Chowchilla Dist. Memorial Hospital

Chowchilla Union High School Dist.

Hoffman Electronic Systems

Hometown Gifts

John Paskaly, Retiree

Land Company Real Estate Inc.

Madera County Dept. of Social Services

The Lakes RV & Golf Resort

Thiel Air Care, Inc.

Triangle T Ranch

Zaks Security One

CHAMBER IS SEEKING GOOD USABLE SHELVING UNITS, FILE CABINETS & CABINETS

Remodeling your office or have items in storage? The Chamber can put to good use shelving units or storage cabinets (wood or metal) in good condition, and no longer needed. The Chamber also can use metal filing cabinets.

Your donation will be greatly appreciated and will help you free up storage space or items not being used.

Contact Jacki at the Chamber office to arrange pick up, 559-665-5603.



Census Day: April 1, 2010

The first Census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every 10 years since then.

Everyone should participate in the 2010 Census because the Census data shapes the future of our community and defines your voice in Congress.

- Census information helps determine locations for schools, roads, hospitals, child-care & senior citizen centers and more.
- Businesses use census data to locate supermarkets, shopping centers, new housing and other facilities.
- The census determines how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the boundaries of legislative districts.

2010 Census Timeline: Key Dates

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| • Fall 2008 | Recruitment begins for local census jobs for early census operations. |
| • Spring 2009 | Census employees go door-to-door to update address list nationwide. |
| • Fall 2009 | Recruitment begins for census takers needed for peak workload in 2010. |
| • February-March 2010 | Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households. |
| • April 1, 2010 | Census Day |
| • April 0 July 2010 | Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail. |
| • December 2010 | By law, Census Bureau delivers population count to President for apportionment. |
| • March 2011 | By law, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states. |

INFORMATION ON THE AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT NOW IN SPANISH:

English

IRS Information Related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=204335.00.html?portlet=6>

Spanish

Información del IRS Concerniente al Acta de Recuperación y Reinversión Americana del 2009

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=205057.00.html>

English

COBRA Health Insurance Continuation Premium Subsidy

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=204505.00.html>

Spanish

COBRA Subsidio de Prima para la Continuación del Seguro Médico

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=205058.00.html>

Courtesy of the Senior Stakeholder Liaison, Internal Revenue Service Fresno Office, Traci Vollmer

SAVE THE DATES:

MARCH 22, Chowchilla Speedway Opening Race, 12:00 noon, Chowchilla Fairgrounds

APRIL 7, Relay for Life Yard Sale, Countrywood Shopping Center, 7:00a

APRIL 25, Relay for Life, CUSH, Opening Ceremonies, 9:00am; Luminaries Ceremony, 7:00pm

MAY 2, K-9 "Give Back to the Community", Veterans Park (watch for details)

MAY 9, Iron Gate Arts Show, 515 Robertson Blvd., 10:00am - 4:00 pm

JUNE 20, Chamber Motorcycle Fun In The Sun Run benefiting the Good Samaritan Food Pantry, Veterans Park

SEPTEMBER 12, Chowchilla Classic Car Show, Veterans Park, 8:00 am and Special Chowchilla Speedway Race Night

SEPTEMBER 18, Chamber Annual Golf Tournament, Pheasant Run Golf Course, 1:00 pm Shotgun Start

The mission statement of the Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce is to promote the economic, civic, commercial, cultural, industrial and educational welfare of the greater Chowchilla area to improve the quality of the community.

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228 Trinity Avenue
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