

Union City Chamber of Commerce, 3939 Smith Street, Union City, CA (510) 952-9637

The Union City Chamber is dedicated to support the vitality and growth of Union City's business environment.



Member Spotlight - The Arc of Alameda County

The City of Union City is playing an important role in the evolution of a non-profit agency that is relentless in its effort to give people with developmental disabilities a chance to lead more productive and satisfying lives.

The Arc –Alameda County works with some 400 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities at four campuses in the county – one is in Union City on Seventh Street. The organization offers its clients a wide range of skill-building activities: from visiting a park, to learning how to order a pizza, to the proper way to shake hands; from learning to ride BART

to hitting a golf ball to finding a job.

It was on the jobs front that Union City stepped up to the plate in 1997. Like most places, The City of Union City had a graffiti challenge. The Public Works Department contracted with The Arc to have a 3-person crew remove the “artwork” left by the taggers.

The Governor Tells Union City: “Fire Them!”

For some 15 years, funds to pay the Arc workers – and a non-disabled job coach - came from the local Redevelopment Agency. In 2012, Governor Brown decided to eliminate those agencies and his finance department ordered Union City to cancel the Arc

contract. The Arc and the city lobbied the state to continue funding but the Governor’s finance department was unmoved.

City Council Members to the Rescue!

But then the Union City City Council directed the Public Works staff to keep the crew working. Public Works had to rearrange its own budget - but they did it!

Today the Arc crew controls graffiti in 14 parks. When they see graffiti, the Arc team “traces” it with white primer. The city's Public Works people come later with a paint truck to give the wall a new coat of gray paint which covers the primer.

“Someday is not a day of the week.”

-Denise Brennan-Nelson



The Arc cont'd

About The Arc

The Arc – Alameda County traces its roots to 1950 when parents having children with Down syndrome, cerebral palsy and other developmental disabilities refused to send their children off to an institution which was the

normal procedure back then. The parents instead began lobbying for services in their local communities. The groups providing those local services merged into what is known as The Arc in the mid 1960's.

Officials in Union City are

very complementary of the work The Arc's clients are doing. If your business can use some help from a dedicated group of people who really want to work, contact Cecilia Chau Connolly at ceciliaconnolly@arcalameda.org.

New Members

INTERO REAL ESTATE is the largest real estate company in Union City. **Intero** began in 2002 and is now internationally known in Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Asia-Pacific region. Their environmentally friendly real estate practices have been noted with awards, but they base their success in doing right by people: Customers, Employees, and Neighbors – that's their formula.

Cara Milgate is VP/Sales Manager, and can be reached at 510.910.2410 if you have a need to sell or purchase residential or commercial property.

ASCEND REHAB SERVICES, INC., provides occupational and speech therapy for special needs children. Their experienced staff provides home-based, school-based, and center-based services which focus on each child's goals,

strengths, and accelerate his/her performance. They also provide services to further develop their specific skills from socialization, handwriting, feeding and more. **Ascend** not only focuses on the children but strongly believes in providing support to the family and caregivers. Contact Swati Shah at 510.441.8240 for further information on their services.



"Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

-Will Rogers

NEWPARK



What's Happening?

Union City Mayoral (7:00pm) and Council Candidates Forum (8:00pm) Wed, Oct 5– Ruggieri Senior Center

Meet your local city candidates, co-hosted with the League of Women Voters, It is intended to provide the community an opportunity to meet and talk with the candidates.

Mayoral: Carol Dutra-Vernaci, Jim Navarro
Council: Jaime Patino, Gary Singh, Lee Guio

Manufacturing Day - Thu, Oct 6 – various times and locations in Union City

Manufacturing Day is a nationwide initiative to expand knowledge about manufacturing and improve general public perception of manufacturing careers. Students, Parents, and Teachers are all invited to tour Union City businesses. For more info: Denisse Anzoategui, 510-675-5392

Arts and Wine Festival Sat, Oct 8 – 11:00-6:00pm Old Alvarado Park

The Chamber is co-sponsor, along with the Alvarado Merchants Association, for this enjoyable event. Last year this event was so well-received by the community,

There will be food and wine, crafts, activities for the kiddies and lots of other fun stuff! Set this date on your calendar!

New Haven Board of Trustees and Alameda County Water District Board Candidates Forum Wed, Oct 12 – 7:00pm & 8:00pm, 34200 Alvarado-Niles Rd.

Meet your School Board and Water District Board candidates. co-hosted with the League of Women voters, it is intended to provide the community an opportunity to meet and get more information

What's Happening? Cont'd

about the candidates.

Water Board: Marty Koller, Aziz Akbari, James Gunther, John Weed.

New Haven Board: Lance Nishihira, Sharan Kaur, Michael Ritchie, Jeff Wang, Jonas Dino

Small Business Forum Thu, Oct 20, 12:00-1:30pm, Kennedy Community Center, 1333 Decoto St.

The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) is partnering with Assemblyman Quirk, wherein GO-Biz will present the various programs and resources the Governor's office offers to small businesses. Union City

Chamber of Commerce along with the Castro Valley/Eden Area Chamber and Hayward Chamber and the City of Union City will co-sponsor the event held here in Union City. Light lunch will be offered.

Masonic Home Renovation Ribbon Cutting Tue, Oct 25, 5:00pm – 7:30pm, 34400 Mission Blvd.

Another Tri-City Mixer/Ribbon Cutting! Join us at the 'place on the hill', the Masonic Home as they celebrate the renovation of Transitions – their short term rehab facility. Stop by and meet city officials of Fremont, Union City, and

Newark and the members of their Chambers.

State of the City Wed, Oct 26, 11:00- 1:30pm, 34400 Mission Blvd.

This yearly event highlights the presentation by the Mayor and the City Manager of their annual report on the latest developments in Union City. This event is an opportunity to come together and learn about the issues that impact our city and a great chance to meet your City Officials.

For more info on Events, visit:
www.unioncitychamber.com



*"I find the harder I work
the less I call it work."*

-Thomas Jefferson



Businesses Need to Invest in Future Talent

In an article written by Mike Foley, CEO of Zurich North America, for the Dept. of Commerce, he expounds on the need for businesses to get involved in training new workers for their organizations. Mr. Foley cites a study conducted by workforce specialists ManPower-Group where they found that a percentage of employers are having difficulty filling jobs with skilled workers

He goes on to say that a skills gap has persisted despite a general rise in education; which would suggest that there is a mismatch between education programs and

the needs of business.

His company, Zurich Insurance has begun an apprenticeship program in Switzerland, and has recently launched it in the US. The program is an adaptation from trade work, and it draws heavily on Switzerland's educational model. Switzerland has the lowest youth unemployment rate among European countries, in part because two-thirds of their students receive vocation education and training through apprenticeship programs.

While the government in Switzerland pays for some of the costs of these

training programs, most businesses pay for a higher percent of the program because they believe that those programs will create a very high return on investment. That is, a guarantee of well-trained workers when the program ends. Zurich Insurance is working to inspire other companies to do the same, not just for their own benefit, but to positively impact the economy.

The article written by Mr. Foley was to provide information purposes only.

To see what other businesses are doing with regard to training workers: <http://www.aspenwsi.org/communities-that->



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(510) 952.9637

Fax
(510) 952.9647

E-mail
info@unioncitychamber.com

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New Website Additions

Have you been on our website lately? You may have noticed a few new things. We have recently installed a new software (we are still in the learning stage) which will allow you to sign up for events, pay for event tickets or membership, join the Chamber, post job openings and a few other

things. In the near future, we will contact each member with information about a login and password that will allow each member to do the above as well as communicate with other Chamber members.

Stay tuned as we learn...



About Our Organization

Our Board: Tim Conde, Mark Butler, Sarah Lantimo, Carlene Voss, Michelle Powell, Marty Ankenbauer, Emily Phillips, Maria Gallo, Kelly Klug, Gloria Gutierrez, Kitty Hu, Bonnie Rankin. Missing: Larry Bowen



UNION CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
3939 SMITH STREET
UNION CITY, CA 94587



CUSTOMER NAME
STREET ADDRESS
ADDRESS 2
CITY, ST ZIP CODE



We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.unioncitychamber.com