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## Free Workshops to Benefit Small Businesses

Are you an existing small business owner wanting to take your business to the next performance level or perhaps a budding entrepreneur hoping to start-up a new business? Would you benefit from a full day (9am-4pm) of hands-on instruction from proven successful business service professionals capable of helping you with your marketing, customer, partner and vendor relationship management, financial management and planning, access to capital and workforce development?

If so, don't hesitate to register now for one of five upcoming Sierra Economic Development Corporation (SEDCorp) Business Owner Survival Strategies (BOSS) workshops targeted for Placer and El Dorado County small business communities and funded by the Golden Sierra Workforce Investment Board (GSWIB). Each workshop is also co-sponsored by the County, City and local Chambers of Commerce, and they're available at no cost to local business owners. Did we mention lunch is included at no cost?

SEDCorp, a 501c4 non-profit federally approved Economic Development District, routinely offers this unique "no-cost" training experience to target mostly rural and sometimes urban business communities within our member jurisdiction.

Space is limited for these very

popular learning opportunities so act quickly to register. The SEDCorp office is available for registration by calling 530.823.4703 Monday through Fridays from 8am-4:30pm. The five workshops are schedule as followed.

### Placer County Workshops

- City of Auburn, Thursday, May 8th – The Ridge Golf Club & Events Center, 2020 Golf Course Road, Auburn, CA 95602

- City of Roseville, Tuesday, May 13th – Brandman University, 3001 Lava Ridge Court Suite 250 Room 136 (2nd Floor), Roseville, CA 95661

- City of Lincoln, Thursday, June 12th – Lincoln City Hall 600 Sixth Street (1st Floor Meeting Room), Lincoln, CA 95648

- El Dorado County Workshops  
• El Dorado Hills Community, Thursday, June 19th – El Dorado Hills Community Service District, Oak Knoll Club House, 3371 Alyssum Court, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

- Shingle Springs Community, Thursday, June 26th – El Dorado County Department of Child Support Services, 3883 Ponderosa Road, Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Again, don't delay registering! These workshops are quite popular, fill up quickly and always manage to produce a wait-list. If you have questions, again please call SEDCorp at 530.823.4703.

## Tourism Pays

### Hitchin' a Ride — The El Dorado Stay & Play Shuttle

Planning an event? Inviting out of town guests? Looking for lodging? The El Dorado Stay & Play Shuttle program was designed with you in mind! The El Dorado County Visitors Authority is unveiling a new program to encourage group transportation, overnight stays in El Dorado County, reduce motor vehicle emissions and introduce new visitors to the area. If this sounds like a tall order, than you are correct. In fact it can only be achieved with a variety of new and exciting partnerships.

Recognizing the loss of important hotel/motel tax dollars to neighboring city of Folsom, representatives from Visitors Authority, lodging and event venues came together to address the concern. A small pilot program was created last year that funded eight wedding shuttles, resulting in 186 room nights valued at \$26,790.00.

In early 2014, the program was modified to include a cost share with the applicant, elements of public education with regard to emissions, public behaviors and the benefits of public and group transportation to the community as well as ride share options.

Grant funding provided by El Dorado County Air Quality Management District Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction Projects (AB2766) has allowed the El Dorado Stay & Play Shuttle to expand over the next 2 years. This is great news for organizers of weddings, company retreats, class Reunions and more!

The El Dorado Stay & Play Shuttle program provides funding for transportation from one or more El Dorado County lodgings to regional wedding and event venues. The level of funding is based upon the number of rooms nights booked.

20 room nights = \$500.00 contribution to shuttle cost

30 room nights = \$750.00 contribution to shuttle cost

40 room nights = \$1000.00 max contribution to shuttle cost

Welcome kits will include EDC Visitors & Farm Trails Guide, discounts and incentives for EDC businesses, materials highlighting the El Dorado Wine Country, Apple Hill Growers, things to do in the communities of Coloma, Fair Play and Divide, information on ride share options, emissions, other small gifts. To find out more about the El Dorado County Stay & Play Shuttle go to [VisitElDorado.com](http://VisitElDorado.com) or email [stayand-play@eldoradocounty.org](mailto:stayand-play@eldoradocounty.org).

## CalChamber Makes Available New Employee Handbook Creator

No matter how large or small an organization might be, businesses can derive significant benefit from having a well-crafted employee handbook that spells out their policies. In December, the California Chamber of Commerce made available an employee handbook online tool that complies with state and federal laws and helps protect California employers from lawsuits.

Employers can use CalChamber's new Employee Handbook Creator, an online tool, to clearly communicate company policies and set expectations in an employee handbook.

An employee handbook is one of the best ways to avoid misunderstandings and ensure fair, consistent treatment of employees. Purchase Employee Handbook Creator separately in English or Spanish.

### Key features of the Employee Handbook Creator:

- Access the Employee Handbook Creator online tool from desktop or tablet (PC/Mac compatible)
- Comprehensive wizard simplifies building your handbook and identifies mandatory policies.
- Helpful explanations and tips assist you throughout the process.
- Stop and start anytime—progress bar shows where you left off.
- Customize handbook with your logo and company-specific content.
- Copy and paste company-specific text from a previous handbook.
- Export a completed handbook into a PDF or RTF and then print.
- Revise and export a new handbook at any time.
- Notification feature alerts users of employment law or regulation changes affecting the handbook.

## Summer 2014 Whitewater Rafting!

By **Christie Pugliese, Coloma-Lotus Chamber of Commerce**  
Membership Coordinator, Chapter Manager

We are finally getting the rain we so desperately need, but drought still seems to be the word on everyone's tongues. Even though the drought is very serious, there is some good news concerning the South Fork American River and Whitewater Rafting for the Summer 2014 Season. Splish, splash! We've got water!!!

Due to a long term water lease that was negotiated with Sacramento Municipal Utility District, the South Fork American

River will have six hours of guaranteed flow for whitewater rafting, kayaking and recreation from Memorial Day to Labor Day from Thursday to Monday, all Summer long! The low flow days with no rafting options will be Tuesday and Wednesday.

Banish those fears of a waterless Summer and start planning your next Whitewater Rafting vacation in the Coloma-Lotus Valley! Please visit the business directories on either [www.coloma.com](http://www.coloma.com) or [www.theamericanriver.com](http://www.theamericanriver.com) to see all the fantastic options for whitewater rafting, lodging, camping, restaurants and other recreational opportunities! Cheers!

## May Business Luncheon

Our guest speaker, Sheriff John D'Agostini, will update us on what's happening in El Dorado County law enforcement, as well as answering questions from those in attendance.

Wednesday, May 14th  
11:30am - 1:00pm  
Red Hawk Casino / HENRY'S STEAKHOUSE

\$15.00 - members or \$20.00 - Non-Members

Register by May 13th. Email to [members@eldoradocounty.org](mailto:members@eldoradocounty.org) or call 530-621-5885.

Our Luncheon Sponsor is Eskaton Village Placerville

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## Welcome New Members



**Jeffrey Lubenko and Dan Eriksson with Comstock Johnson Architects; Jennifer Bassett with Hands4Hope; and Michael Ranalli with Ranalli Vineyard at Lands End Ranch. All were welcomed into the Chamber family by Christa Campbell, EDC Chamber, President Elect.**

# El Dorado County Economic Development

El Dorado County strives to strike the delicate balance between an exceptional quality of life and the appropriate business climate for the professionals and industries who serve its citizens. El Dorado County offers the business community a variety of business development and retention services including:

- Community promotion and industry marketing resources
- Small business ombudsman services that include, but are not limited to:
  - Permit assistance
  - Procurement assistance
  - Site selection
  - Loans
  - Assistance with Human Resource issues
  - Layoff aversion strategies

- Small business counseling
- Demographic data
- Labor market information
- Tax credit information
- Connections to resources
- Workshops and seminars
- Assistance with employee recruitment and hiring

And other supports to help businesses start, grow, locate, and prosper!

Economic Development Division  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667  
Local Number:  
(530) 621-5595  
From El Dorado Hills:  
(916) 358-3555 x5595  
economic.development@edcgov.us

## CalChamber Backs Prop 65 Lawsuit Relief

The California Chamber of Commerce is supporting a bill that will protect small businesses from Proposition 65 lawsuits and has labeled it a job creator.

AB2361 provides needed relief to small businesses by prohibiting a person from bringing a Proposition 65 lawsuit against a business employing fewer than 25 employees. Prop 65, "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986" was designed to protect California's drinking water from chemicals known to cause cancer or birth defects, and to warn members of the public about the presence of those chemicals in their environment to help them avoid exposure.

Prop 65 requires, among other things, that private businesses with more than 10 employees post warnings, which can take the form of placards, when they knowingly expose workers or the public to listed chemicals. There are more than 770 chemicals on the list.

The law provides government enforcement and private civil enforcement. Unfortunately, due to lucrative awards of penalties and attorneys fees, a limited number of plaintiffs have engaged in shakedown lawsuits against small businesses over a lack of a sign.

These lawsuits can easily coast several thousand dollars to litigate, causing many small businesses to settle out of court whether or not they actually needed to have signage posted, or if due to a good faith mistake they failed to realize signage was necessary.

Last year, recognizing the impact of these lawsuits on businesses, the Legislature passed CalChamber-supported AB227, which provides businesses with fewer than 25 employees a 14-day window to cure a Prop 65 signage violation relating only to specific situations, including exposure to alcoholic beverages, exposure to chemicals created through food preparation at a restaurant, environmental tobacco smoke or engine exhaust in a noncommercial parking structure.

AB2361, however, would apply more broadly than AB227, allowing businesses with fewer than 25 employees to cure any type of signage violation.

With so many chemicals on the Prop 65 list, including everyday products, it's easy to understand why business owners sometimes fail to realize a warning sign is required. Further, many business owners determine that signage is not warranted given the exposure levels of a particular chemical at their business establishment, but attorneys will still make an allegation in a demand letter in order to pressure the business into handing over a small settlement or risk ruinous litigation.

AB2361 will help eliminate the inappropriate use of litigation against these small businesses who can least afford these drive-by lawsuits, while ensuring that the public does receive Prop 65 warnings when appropriate.

A hearing on AB2361 is scheduled for April 29 in the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee.

## MAY 2014 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Community Observatory

Folsom Lake College-El Dorado Center, Campus Dr. Free. (530) 642-5621 or communityobservatory.com

### Family Fun Night at Round Table Pizza

Every Tuesday evening, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Food and other activities for the family. Round Table Pizza at 512 Main Street, Placerville. 530-622-2259

### Tuesday Evenings Men's Chorus in Placerville

May 3 - Championship Points Race #4; May 10 - Championship Points Race #5; May 17 - Championship Points Race #6; May 31 - Civil War Sprint Car Series, www.placervillespeedway.com

### UCCE/El Dorado County Master Gardener Classes

May 3 - Mini Series - 3 classes in one. Classes at Veterans Memorial Bldg. 130 Placerville Dr., Placerville, 530-621-5512. ceeldorado.ucdavis.edu

### Apple Jacks & Jills Square Dance Club

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. at the Hangtown Grange, 2020 Smith Flat Road, Placerville. 916.933.2790 or 530.344.7447. szymuski@sbcglobal.net

### Main Street Strollers Square Dance Club

Thursdays, 6:45 p.m. at I.O.O.F Hall, 467 Main Street., Placerville. 530-647-0852. main.st.strollers@gmail.com

### Certified Farmers Markets

Beginning May 03, Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - noon, Placerville: Ivy Street Parking Lot  
Beginning May 14, Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. - noon, Cameron Park: Burke's Junction  
Beginning May 18, Sundays 9:00 a.m. - noon, El Dorado Hills Town Center

### Art on the Divide Gallery

10:00a.m. - 5:00p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday only. Local glass/jewelry artist Victoria Perez Mott. Georgetown's historical buildings at 6295 Main Street. 530-333-ARTS or www.artonthedivide.

### American River Conservancy Activities

**May 03** Mountain Bike Clinic & Ride  
9:00 a.m. Ages 10+ welcome.  
**May 03 & 17** Wakamatsu Historical Tour  
10:00 a.m.  
**May 04** North Folk Cosumnes River Wildflower Hike  
10:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.  
**May 04** Slithering Snakes and such ...  
meet native reptiles & amphibians  
1:00 p.m.-2:30p.m.  
**May 06** Fishing on the Farm  
5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
**May 10** Family Fishing Event  
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**May 10** Taiko: Japanese Drumming  
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**May 15** Discovering & Mapping Emigrant Trails of  
Northern California & Nevada  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
**May 17** KDD- Outdoor Play & Exploration  
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**May 18** Jenkinson Lake Hike  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00p.m.  
**May 31** Let's Make a Gourd Birdhouse  
10:00a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Please call for meeting location, cost and to sign up. 530-621-1224. julie@arconservancy.org or www.arconservancy.org

### May 02, 09, 16, 23 & 30 Karaoke & Komed

7:00 pm - 11:00pm. It's Personal, 250 Main Street scot@itspersonalwine.com, www.itspersonalwine.com or 530.303.3792

### May 02, 03 & 04 34th El Dorado Home & Garden Show

Friday Noon - 5:00, Sat & Sun: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., El Dorado County Fairgrounds. Entry \$2.00 or two canned food items. PARKING \$5.00. edhomeshow.com, 530-622-7166

### Old Coloma Theater presents "The Misfortune of the Trio McBride or Whose Gold is it Anyway?"

530-626-5282 or www.oldcolomatheater.org

### May 03 Hands Across Pollock Clean Up Day

8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Pollock Pines-Camino Community Center Pony Express Center, 530-419-3957, www.pollockpines.biz, CEDAPP@PollockPines.biz

### May 03 4th Annual Spaghetti Western All You Can Eat

5:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Fundraiser for 65th Annual Wagon Train, Pollock Pines Community Center, \$10. No host Beer & Wine, raffle prizes, live music. www.hwy50wagontrain.com

### May 09 & 10 Annual Spring Rummage Sale & Annual Plant Sale

9:00 a.m. Placerville Shakespeare Club, 2940 Bedford Ave. www.placerville-shakespeare.com

### May 03 Spring Antique, Craft & Garden Show

8:00 - 3:00 p.m. Cameron Park's NEW Community Center. cpscd@cameronpark.org, www.cameronpark.org or (530) 677-2231

### May 02 & 03 Gardens of the Hills

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Seven unique gardens in El Dorado Hills. Adults: \$20, Children under 12: \$10. 916.549-3869

### May 04 & 18 El Dorado Depot Train

Noon - 4:00 p.m. \$5.00 ages 9 and up, \$3.00 ages 3 to 8. El Dorado Western Railway Foundation. 530-621-5865. eldoradowestern.blogspot.com

### May 06, 13, 20 & 27 Bingo

5:00 p.m. Pollock Pines/Camino Community Center, 2675 Sanders Drive. \$10 for first 14 games. 530-647-8005

### May 09 Ducks Unlimited - Banquet, Auction and Raffle

6:00 - Midnight. El Dorado County Fairgrounds. 530-676-1288 or todreyolds24@comcast.net for tickets.

### May 10 Mother Lode Century Bike Ride

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. www.motherlodecentury.com, motherlodecentury@live.com or 530.544.8705

### May 10 4-H Round-Up Chili Cook-Off - Youth Variety Show

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. El Dorado County fairgrounds. Chili Cook-Off, Tri-tip BBQ, silent auction and Cake Auction. Event is FREE, Chili tasting tickets are \$5.00 each. (530) 621-5507

### May 10 & 11 11th Annual El Dorado Hills Art and Wine Affaire

9:00 a.m. Town Center Boulevard, El Dorado Hills. Free, or for \$20 purchase wine bracelet for tasting. Wine tasting from Noon - 4:00 p.m. EDAC@eldoradoartsCouncil.org

### May 11 & May 12 Mother's Day Picnic at Lava Cap Winery

10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Lava Cap Winery, 2221 Fruitridge Rd, Placerville. 530-621-017, smitchell@lavacap.com, www.lavacap.com

### May 11 & 25 Shingle Springs Depot Train Rides

Noon - 4:00 p.m. \$5.00 ages 9 and up, \$3.00 ages 3 to 8. El Dorado Western Railway Foundation. 530-621-5865. eldoradowestern.blogspot.com

### May 17 Third Saturday, Placerville Art Walk

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Historic Downtown Placerville. (530) 672-3436 www.placerville-downtown.org

### May 17 Art & Wine Festival - Pollock Pines/Camino

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Fine Arts School in the Pines, 6290 Pony Express Trail, Ste G, Pollock Pines. 530-366-5116

### May 17 Capitol Pops Concert Band

7:00 p.m. - 9:00p.m. Cameron Park Community Center Gym, 2502 County Club Drive. Advance tickets \$10 / \$18 for 2. \$12 at the door. (530)677-2231, www.cameronpark.org

### May 17 All About Equine Presents "Boots & Bling"

5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Golden Hills School, 1060 Suncastr Lane El Dorado Hills. www.allaboutequine.org, elaine@allaboutequine.org

### May 18 Artists Reception, Victoria Mott, Jewelry

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Art on the Divide, Georgetown Historical buildings at 6295 Main Street. 530-333-ARTS or www.artonthedivide.

### May 18 Hangtown Car Show

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 pm. on Historic Hills School, 1060 Suncastr Lane El Dorado Hills. For info and pre-registration to show a car call Mike at 530-622-1731

### May 23 Annual Spring Fling & Fundraiser - Spring Tea Luncheon

Noon. Historic Smith Flat House, 2021 Smith Flat Road, Placerville. Tickets \$25/person Dogwood Garden Club of Pollock Pines, 530.644.0672

### May 24 Welcome to Summer

Noon - 5:00 p.m. Cameron Park Community Day. (530) 677-2231 or visit us online at www.cameronpark.org

### May 24 & 25 Rocks & Rhones Festival

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 4 wineries. \$30 in advance, \$35 walk-ins. tastingroom@hollyhill.com, 530-344-0227 or www.rocksandrhone.com

### May 24 Spring Dinner Fundraiser

5:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. The Vet Hall, 130 Placerville Dr. \$15 per person (kids under 10, \$5 and kids under 3, free) 408.460.2061

### May 26 9th Annual Memorial Day Observation

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. EDC Veterans Monument, County Government Center, 360 Fair Lane at Ray Lawyer Drive, Placerville. Sponsored by Friends of the Veterans Monument Inc. 530-626-7762

### May 27 El Dorado County Chamber Mixer

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. American Legion Hall, 4561 Greenstone Road, Placerville. 530-621-5885 or www.eldoradocountychamber.org

### May 28 Annual Spring Fashion Show "Tinsel Town Homecoming"

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Placerville Shakespeare Club, 2940 Bedford Ave. (530)622-0703

For more information on these and other events, visit www.visiteldorado.com

The event date, time, cost and locations are subject to change. Therefore prior to attending an event please contact the event contact person to confirm the information.

## MEETINGS:

**May 01** Chamber Diplomats, noon, Chamber

**May 08** Joint Chambers, 7:30 a.m., EDCOE

**May 08** Visitor's Authority, MORE, 4 pm

**May 14** Luncheon, Red Hawk Casino, Henry's Steakhouse, 11:30 am

**May 14** Board of Directors, 5:30 p.m., EDCOE

**May 15** Ag Council, 7:30 a.m., Ag Building

**May 21** Senior Ambassadors, 10:00 a.m. MORE

**May 27** Mixer, American Legion Hall, 5:30 p.m.