



Small business — the core of our community

Nursery, Landscaping Company Owner Fights for Business

Scott Miller emphasizes the difference business owners can make by getting involved.

For more than 10 years, Scott Miller has worked with the Fresno Chamber of Commerce to give the small business perspective on local and state issues.

Miller, a recipient of the 2014 California Chamber of Commerce Small Business Advocate of the Year Award, said he is consistently amazed at the difference small business owners can make simply by attending chamber meetings.

"In our community [Fresno], it certainly works that way, but even at a state or federal level, having a small business owner show up at the capitol to talk to electeds face-to-face seems to make a difference because it puts a face on the issues that the legislators deal with, as opposed to emails," he said.

Advocacy Makes a Difference

As owner of Miller-Clark Landscaping and Gazebo Gardens Nursery, Miller fully understands the challenges facing small business owners working in

California.

"The state seems to be hell-bent on making it more difficult for us to do every simple task," Miller said. "It's a real disincentive sometimes to be here, or to hire people, or to do any of the simple things that we might want to do."

He sees first-hand how positive the benefits of advocacy can be toward his enterprises and the word of mouth that comes with it.

"[Advocacy] has done nothing but good for my business, both in terms of understanding issues before they happen to us, but even as simple as networking," Miller said.

Volunteering with a Purpose

In addition to serving with the Fresno Chamber the past decade, Miller also has been active in the chamber's various programs. He was the founding director of the Junior Board, a nine-month program which promotes civic activity to high school students, and a founder of the Small Business University program, which offers busi-

ness and advocacy seminars for small businesses.

Miller also proposed and created a prime-time televised special, "Public Safety Forum," that featured the Fresno mayor, supervisors, police chief and sheriff on the impact of crime on business and the community.

This volunteering has had Miller representing small business interests before the California Legislature, the Fresno City Council, and the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

"Scott Miller has served his community and this chamber for many years in injecting and helping formulate supportive governmental policies that benefit businesses and the free enterprise system," said Fresno Chamber President and CEO Al Smith in nominating Miller for the Small Business Advocate Award.

Chamber, Business Responsibility

Miller currently serves as a board member for the San Joaquin Political Academy, an arm of the Fresno Chamber. He was a member of the chamber's governmental affairs coun-

cil, serves on the chamber's executive committee and chairs the political action committee.

With all these endeavors, Miller stresses that a chamber's responsibility to the collective businesses that comprise it is to be supportive and forward thinking.

"Our chamber's responsibility to our business community is to support it," he said. "To make our business owners aware of events that are coming down the pike from a legislative point of view that are going to either be good for us or potentially cause us some damage. And, to get in front of those instead of reacting to them."

He also sees that it is business members' responsibility to support their local chambers as well.

"I think all of our businesses have the responsibility to support our chamber in some way, at a minimum through membership," Miller said. "Because the chamber is the only organization, in many communities, that is always there for business and always advocating for us as business people."

January 9, 2015, CalChamberSmall Business Advocate



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Business Showcase

We have a full house! We're sold out of Exhibitor space for the 2015 Business Showcase! Come visit the following businesses on Friday, March 13th, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds. Entry is Free.

Quality In Home Care
Vintage Photography
Divide Chamber of Commerce
Dollins & Thorene Photography
California Film Foundation
CFAA
El Dorado Tahoe Film & Media Office
Toni Staniewicz Casting
Moviestardogs.com
Saccasting.com
Studio 24
Media3Sixty
Capitol Indi Collective
Media Casting

Access El Dorado
Sierra Community Access TV
CASA El Dorado
Snowline Hospice
Wilkinson Catering
Mother Lode Rehabilitation Ent.
Placerville Natural Foods Co-op
All Star Que
Crystal Basin Cellars
Gold Mountain Winery/
Fitzpatrick Lodge
Nello Olivo Wines
Sierra Vista Winery
Habitat for Humanity
David Girard Vineyards
Sierra Rizing
Brickhouse Wood Fired Pizza
Smith Flat House
Valley Vision
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Old Hangtown Beerworks
Holly's Hill Vineyards
The Windfall

2nd 50 Years SMUD
Mountain Democrat
AdsUp
Apple Hill Growers
Elder Options
Friends of the El Dorado Trail
El Dorado Irrigation
Gold County Retirement
Highway 50 Assn. / Wagon Train
Spot On Signs and Graphics
Women's Fund El Dorado
Hart to Hart Winery
Home Care Assistance
AirTech
The Clipper
Knoblauch Insurance
All About Equine
Arnolds for Awards
Jeep Rubicon
Images of Hope
Wells Fargo Bank
Caffé Santoro
Dedrick's Cheese
Candy Strike



A Helping Hand
El Dorado Naturopathic
Cameron Park Community Services District
Harlow's Help at Home
Lofty Lou's
LeTip
A Power Team Lending

At this time, there are still seats available for the Business Awards Luncheon, but time is running short. Call today to reserve! 530-621-5885.

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EL DORADO COUNTY
Voice of Business



Folsom Lake College-El Dorado Center Expansion



The EDC Chamber mixer was off to a great start with the El Dorado Center Student Services Expansion dedication and ribbon cutting. Pictured from left to right are: Folsom Lake College (FLC) President Rachel Rosenthal, FLC Vice President Kathleen Kirklin, Los Rios Board of Trustees President Dustin Johnson, Los Rios Board of Trustees Member Pamela Haynes, Los Rios Chancellor Brian King, FLC Student Michaela Liest, FLC Faculty member Deanne Repetto, El Dorado Center dean Dale van Dam, Los Rios Board of Trustees Member John Knight.

Vintage Photography



Left to right: 2015 Chamber President, Christa Campbell, Melissa Calvert and Cathy Zuber, Member Services Manager. Call Melissa to create a lasting memory you'll cherish. She photographs Belly's, Babies, Senior Teens, Families, Weddings, and more. www.vs3photography.com

2015 Study Mission

Plans are underway for the Annual Study Mission. This year's destination is Nashville, Tennessee. One of the greatest benefits of being an El Dorado County Chamber member is the business insight gained from exclusive chamber events.

The Study Mission Series is a business immersion program, dedicated to broadening the chamber members' horizon while promoting business and political relations between regions. Each El Dorado County Study Mission is focused on key topics such as agri-tourism, sustainability, economic development, transportation, education, and government issues. Each Study Mission selects a destination region with similar experience to share, their past solutions and best-known methods to address key challenges.

The trip will include how collaboration has showcased this region to become a leader in Economic

Development and Tourism. Study Mission participants will learn firsthand how the region creates a sustainable culture in the business community and how they promote their message for the benefit of the area, its residents and its visitors. The region's many assets, including its agriculture, abundant recreation all in close proximity to a thriving town center, offer many parallels to Folsom and El Dorado County.

The Study Mission will explore the regional model that promotes a sustainable future through influencing decisions related to:

- Transportation
- Waterfront Development
- Education
- Park Development
- Mixed Use Development
- Culinary Tourism

For more information, call the El Dorado County Chamber at 530-621-5885.

2015 Employment Posters Available

No matter how many employees you have in California, your business is required by law to post a current California and Federal Employment Poster in a central location.

In partnership with the CalChamber, the El Dorado County Chamber has available for sale the updated 2015

California and Federal Employment Poster. CalChamber is a trusted source for California and federal compliance products, with more than 120 years of experience helping California business do business.

Please call (530) 621-5885 and order your poster today.

MARCH 2015 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Observatory

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

Men's Chorus in Placerville

Tuesday Evenings, 7:15 p.m. First Christian Church of Placerville, 2687 Andler Rd, Placerville. 530-344-9209 or 530-644-4151 or www.goldrushchorus.org

Dance with Apple Jacks & Jills Square Dance Club

Wednesday Evenings, 7 p.m. at the Hangtown Grange, 2020 Smith Flat Road, Placerville. 530-622-8550 or 530-642-2787

Main Street Strollers Square Dance Club

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

Soup Sundays at Miraflores Winery

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sundays through March 29. Enjoy a hot cup of homemade soup, slice of crusty bread and a cup of wine. 2120 Four Springs Trail, Placerville. 530-647-8505 www.mirafloreswinery.com

Mar 03, 10, 17 & 24 Bingo

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

Salsa Dancing

Every Wednesday at Kobe Surf N Turf in Cameron Park. No dance experience or partner needed. Beginning Lesson 7:15-7:45 p.m. Intermediate Lesson 7:45-8:15 p.m. Music & Open Dancing till 10 p.m. \$5 Food & drink minimum for this event. Lesson is free with donations gladly accepted. www.SalsaDorado.com, www.facebook.com/SalsaDorado

Mar 07 16th Annual Snowshoe Thompson Celebration

Cross Country Ski and Snowshoe Tour. Registration 8:30 - 9 off Hwy 89 (Hope Valley) North of the river, parking on Hwy 89, look for the flags and the "Snowshoe" Banner. Lunch at Sorensen's - no host beverages - 14255 Highway 88. Music and tales of "Snowshoe". A "Snowshoe" Quiz - prizes. In the event of "no snow" there will be a "Snowshoe" hike. Donations \$15 (children under 12 free!). A benefit for the Friends of Snowshoe Thompson to promote awareness of Snowshoe Thompson and maintain his statue in Genoa. 530-573-8940 or 775-315-7777. www.snowshoethompson.org

Mar 07 Color Me Green 5K

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Provides youth and community members a learning opportunity for improving their health. Participants will run 5 kilometers and will be showered along the way with green dye to mark every mile marker they pass, leaving them colored in all green by the end of the run! 9 a.m. at Shingle Springs Rancheria. Benefitting 4-H Positive Youth Development Program. \$25 per runner ages 5-99 for 5K Includes: Race t-shirt, green color dye, race packet, parking and after race fun. Toddler fun run: \$5 for 1K, Youth ages 0-5 can put on their lucky green and ride bikes, trikes or wagons in celebration of good health! 530-621-5507, tbcelio@ucanr.edu, ucanr.edu/cm

Mar 8 & 22 Shingle Springs Depot Train Rides

Noon - 4 p.m. \$5 ages 9 and up, \$3 ages 3 to 8. El Dorado Western Railway Foundation. 530-621-5865. eldoradowestern.blogspot.com

Mar 13 Business Showcase & I Love Film Mixer

El Dorado County Fairgrounds, Forni Building. Over 70 community businesses and non-profits. Food, wine, beer tasting. Free Admission. El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce, 530-621-5885, www.eldoradocounty.org

Mar 14 Strikes for Scholarships

Pollock Pines-Camino Rotary Club Benefit for graduating high school seniors, student contest awards, leadership scholarships. 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. www.pollockpines-caminorotary.org jim.maroun@gmail.com, 916-761-1227

Mar 14 Interact Community Breakfast

Second Saturday each month from September to May. Sponsored by the Sierra Ridge Interact Club. Pollock Pines-Camino Community Center 8:30-10:30 a.m. Pancakes, Sausages, Eggs, Orange Juice, Coffee/Hot Chocolate Seniors \$1.00, General \$3 Family \$7 www.pollockpines-caminorotary.org

Mar 15 & 29 El Dorado Depot Train

Noon - 4 p.m. Located next to the El Dorado Community Center in the town of El Dorado. \$5 ages 9 and up, \$3 ages 3 to 8. El Dorado Western Railway Foundation. 530-621-5865. eldoradowestern.blogspot.com

Mar 19 Newcomers Luncheon

Cold Springs Golf and Country Club. Monthly luncheon on third Thursday, except June and July, membership is \$20 Join us for lunch and meet other women in the community. 11 Social Hour 12 Lunch 1 Program Cost: \$13 (includes tax & tip). 530-344-1291, 530-676-3058 ncdoed@hotmail.com

Mar 21 Third Saturday Placerville Art Walk

5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Historic Downtown Placerville. 530-672-3436. www.placerville-downtown.org Stagecoach Rides, Noon to 4 weather permitting

Mar 21 Placerville Rotary Denim & Diamonds Evening

Featuring Grammy Award Nominee Lacy J. Dalton. Come join us for an evening of great music, fabulous food and amazing raffle prizes. Cocktails and appetizers at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the Concert at 8 p.m. This fundraiser will help the Placerville Rotary Club continue to provide for community projects, academic scholarships for high school students and sponsorships for Rotary's youth leadership academy known as RYLA. Tickets for the Concert and BBQ dinner are \$50 per person. www.placivillerotary.org

Mar 25 Let's Make a Deal

Placerville Shakespeare Club Annual Bridge Party at the clubhouse, 2940 Bedford Ave. The community is invited to a day of Brilliant Bridge - Fabulous Food - Delightful Door Prizes. Men and women bridge players are welcome. \$40 a pair includes a morning snack, lunch, cash prizes as well as door prizes. Partners will play together the entire day. 530-622-3740, 530-295-1771, www.placerville-shakespeare.com

Mar 27 To Apr 26 Monty Python's Spamalot

Imagination Theater presents this Tony Award winning production telling the legendary tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table and their quest for the Holy Grail. Rated PG-13. Imagination Theater is located on the El Dorado County Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Drive. Tickets \$15 - \$12 on Thursdays. 1-800-838-3006, 530-642-0404 or www.imaginationtheater.net

Mar 28 A Taste of Main Street

LIVE CONCERT in the Carl Borelli Amphitheater at El Dorado High School, 561 Canal Street, Placerville. Gates open at 12:30 p.m. Special guest performance by the Sac State Latin Jazz Ensemble. El Dorado High School Music Department's annual fund raiser will offer a delicious selection of meals from local restaurants. Silent action, raffle and a fabulous bake sale. Meals are pre-order only and include admission for \$20. Entry is \$10 at the door the day of the event. www.atasteofmainstreet.com or 530-622-7319.

Mar 28 Cameron Park Concert Series: The Random Strangers

This band is made up of seasoned professionals hailing from Placerville. Their years of experience, strong vocal harmonies and instrumental chops make them a force to be reckoned with! Advance tickets \$10 each or (2) for \$18 and are available at C.P. Walgreens and Bel Air, the CSD office, the SS/CP Chamber of Commerce or online at www.showclix.com \$12 at the door. Doors open at 6 p.m., concert starts at 7 p.m. 530-677-2231 cpcsd@cameronpark.org

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:

- Mar 05 Chamber Diplomats, Chamber
- Mar 05 Board of Directors, 5 p.m., EDCOE
- Mar 12 Joint Chambers, 7:30 a.m., EDCOE
- Mar 12 Visitor's Authority, MORE, 4 p.m.
- Mar 13 Business Showcase, Fairgrounds, 4 - 8 p.m.
- Mar 18 Senior Ambassadors, 10 a.m. MORE
- Mar 19 Ag Council, 7:30 a.m., Ag Building