

UCAN Chamber leaders meet with Legislators to advance 2019 State Policy Agenda

On February 25, over 60 local chamber leaders presented UCAN's 2019 State Policy Agenda to state legislators: Assemblymembers Frank Bigelow, Ken Cooley and Kevin Kiley and Senator Jim Nielsen, all of whom expressed support for UCAN's efforts and appreciation of UCAN's policy positions.

With gains by Democrats in both the Assembly and the Senate, it is increasingly important for business-oriented interests like UCAN to engage with relatively pro-business Moderate Democrats. To gain greater insights into the "Mod Dem" caucus, UCAN invited Sacramento political consultant David Townsend to speak to the assembled business leaders. Townsend has advised the Mod Dem Caucus for several years and informed UCAN chamber leaders that many of the new legislators must establish relationships with their constituents in their local districts and, as a result, local chambers of commerce have a unique opportunity to amplify the voice of small business in the legislature.

Elk Grove Chamber leaders met a few weeks later with State Senator Richard Pan and his staff at his State Capitol office. Mr. Townsend, among others indicated the Senate may be the more moderate of the two legislative houses during 2019-20 legislature so establishing relationships with moderate Democrats like Sen. Pan are crucial. Sen. Pan appreciated the visit and he and his staff were especially interested to hear from UCAN members' their positions with respect to the Dynamex decision.

At the recommendation of Assemblyman Ken Cooley, leaders from UCAN chambers also met with Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis at her office in the State Capitol.. Local chamber leaders presented the Lt. Governor with the 2019 UCAN State Policy Agenda and reviewed early bill positions on taxes, economic development and Dynamex. Kounalakis, a Sacramento area resident, encouraged UCAN leaders to continue to engage members of the legislature and shared her priorities relative to economic development and small business – which include working with Governor Newsom to open California to additional foreign capital investment.

UCAN Chambers focused efforts on Water Tax and AB 5

While the UCAN Chambers engaged on a host of bills, we chose to focus our efforts on two priority bills:

Water Tax/SB 200 (Monning) Do we need both sentences? Instead of a surcharge on water bills, the final version of the bill tapped carbon tax/cap and trade funds to create the California Safe Drinking Water Fund. The UCAN Chambers were the only local chamber of commerce group included in a coalition organized by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) to oppose the water tax.

Dynamex/AB 5 (Gonzalez), sought to codify the California Supreme Court's ruling narrowing the definition of independent contractors, dominated much of the 2019 legislative session and occupied a big chunk of the news cycle. The Dynamex decision concerned a complaint filed by truck drivers against a trucking company that miscategorized the drivers as independent contractors rather than employees. Unfortunately, the court chose to apply the ruling to all businesses in the state and significantly narrowed the definition of an independent contractor.

Many individual groups – such as physicians and insurance agents – lobbied Assemblymember Gonzalez for special "carve outs" and the big prize for organized labor, sponsors of the bill, were those independent contractors engaged in the so called "gig" economy – Uber, Lyft and other on-demand "app-based" services. Meanwhile, small businesses dependent upon independent contractors to provide a flexible workforce were not well represented in the debate.



Kings Meats Butcher Shop



Located in the old Scalise Meats building at 787 Pleasant Valley Rd, Diamond Springs. Casey King has expanded on his Butchers Kitchen Food trailer success by providing fresh cut meats, dry aged beef, sausages, cheeses, local produce, sauces, marinades, rubs, pellet smokers and supplies, local beer & wine.

Shingle Springs Tribal TANF Celebration



The EDC Chamber was there to help celebrate the opening of the Tribal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families' (TANF) new El Dorado County location at 532 Main Street, Placerville. In addition to brief remarks by TANF Executive Director, Daniel Delgado, a traditional Native American Blessing was given.

Welcome New Members



Avis Jolly & Tracy Pearson, Ponderosa High School Foundation; Shannon & Ricky Durgan, Under the Arbor; and Bryon Boswell, National Food Equipment LLC. For information on these members, visit [www. Eldoradocounty.org](http://www.Eldoradocounty.org)

Spotlight on a Gold Member Sol Nisbet Home Loans

My time as a Mortgage Loan Officer, Community Leader/Advocate and Director of the Divide Chamber of Commerce has shown me the importance of showing up for all people needing support within our community!

I have been able to be a part of our amazing small community for 20 years. In that time, I have learned that relationships & trust are key and valuable.

My experience in the world of finance started in 2007, when I started working for a small bank, Placer Sierra Bank. An eventual merger with Wells Fargo Bank provided me with the opportunity to eventually become the Manager of the Cool branch. A position I held for six years. Looking to further opportunities and help people achieve the "American Dream of Homeownership", I made my move into the Mortgage world in 2013.

I have made a commitment to continue to help my community thrive, as a Loan Officer helping those first time home buyers, to the couple who is now able to save money for their kids college because we've saved enough thru a refinance. As a community leader, I hope to instill that as professional woman, I can volunteer, have a career and raise a family. Balancing life is an important skill to master. Chase what matters to you in life. Never stop growing and learning how to be & do better.

I am honored to have the support of many clients who I get the opportunity to now call friends. If you have a need for a mortgage loan, please feel free to reach out anytime, I am here to serve.



Sol Nisbet

Sol Nisbet
Home Loans

sol@homeloansbysol.com
Divide Chamber of
Commerce - Treasurer
Community Leader/
Youth Advocate
Long time Divide
Resident



Mortgage Loan Officer
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MARCH 2020

Chamber
Champions:



MARCH 2020 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Observatory

Folsom Lake College-El Dorado Center, Campus Dr. \$2 parking fee.
(530) 642-5621 or communityobservatory.com

Bingo

Weekly on Tuesdays, Pollock Pines/Camino Community Center. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., gaming starts at 6:15. \$10 for first 14 games. Dinners are available for purchase. 530-647-8005

Line & Square Dancing with Apple Jacks & Jill's

Weekly on Wednesdays. Hang Town Grange, 2020 Smith Flat Road. Classes are \$5 per person per class. 916-817-9691 for more info.

Main Street Strollers Square Dancing

Weekly on Thursday. 100F Hall - 467 Main Street, Placerville. 6:30pm-7:30pm - Full PLUS dancing, 7:30pm - 9:00pm - Plus class and workshop. 530.748.7756 or visit mainstreetstrollers.org for more info.

After Hours at Via Romano

Weekly on Saturday. 5 – 7 p.m., Live music, great wine, good friends. 530-269-9463 or visit www.vrv.vin/Visit-Us/Winery-Events for more info.

Wild Immersion Spring Series

Weekly on Saturdays. Members/\$25, Non-members/\$30 per session. Drop-ins welcome. Register online at ARConservancy.org/events.

Haunted Hangtown Ghost Tours

Friday and Saturday. (530) 748-0435 or visit hauntedhangtownghost-tours.com

Placerville Speedway

Mar 03 Lucas Oil ASCS 360 Sprint Cars National Tour, NCDCA Dwarf Cars, Gold Strike Stampede

Mar 14 Test & Tune 2pm - 6pm Pit Gate Opens at noon. Grandstands closed

Mar 21 Points #1: 360 Sprint Cars, Pure Stocks, Ltd. Late Models, BCRA Midget Lites, Tribute to Al Hinds

www.placervillespeedway.com

Mar 7 Wakamatsu Open Farm Days

\$10 per vehicle. Buses and large vans are \$5 per person. For private tours, please call 530-621-1224. www.ARConservancy.org/wakamatsu. Located at: 941 Cold Springs Rd.

Mar 7 Cell Phone Artistry

Contact ARC to sign up and for meeting location (Coloma area). \$65/ members, \$75/non-members. Contact julie@ARConservancy.org or 530-621-1224 for more info.

Mar 07 Union Mine Football Boosters Crab Feed

El Dorado County Fairgrounds. For tickets and information call 530-919-4847

Mar 8 Sunset/Moonlight Hike

3+ miles, fit 10+-year-olds welcome. Well-behaved dogs on leash OK. Contact ARC to sign up and for meeting location (Pilot Hill area). Suggested donation: \$5/members, \$10/non-members. julie@ARConservancy.org or 530-621-1224.

Mar 14 Community Breakfast

From 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Pollock Pines Community Center on

Sanders Drive. Prepared by the Sierra Ridge Interact Club. www.pollockpines-caminorotary.org.

Mar 14 UCCE Master Gardeners

Sherwood Demonstration Garden, 6699 Campus Drive. Master Gardener Barry Wold will explain various planting, thinking, and pest control needs for the success of your vegetable garden. Free. (530) 621-5512 or visit http://ucanr.edu/edmg for more info.

Mar 14 & 28 Live Music - Spencer, Vogel & Cain

Located at Apple Bistro, amazing views during your meal, with panoramic sights of the El Dorado County. (209) 327-5233 or go to spencerandvogel.com for more info.

Mar 14 - 15 Madrona Vineyards Quintet Blending

Madrona Vineyards at winery@madronavineyards.com or go to madronavineyards.com/comingsoon/ for more info.

Mar 19 Newcomers Luncheon

Cold Springs Golf and Country Club. \$20.00 membership. Join us for lunch and meet other women in the community. 11:00 Social Hour, 12:00 Lunch, 1:00 Program. Cost: \$13.00 (includes tax & tip). Contact Marge 530-344-1291/ Jennifer at 530-676-3058 for more information.

Mar 19 Girl Scout Informational Meeting

Free meeting located at 2675 Sanders Drive Pollock Pines. Meeting 6 p.m. Helping girls in the community answer questions about Girl Scouts, guide them through the process, find or start new troops in the community. Contact Deliah Martin-Perez // Girl Scout Council Employee at 916-453-5251 or deliah.martinperez@girlscoutshcc.org for more info.

Mar 20 Business Showcase and I Love Film Mixer

El Dorado County Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Dr. 4 – 8 p.m. This unique opportunity to talk one on one with more than 90 of the county's best businesses in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Many of these businesses offer show specials or sales. There will be complimentary food, wine and beer tastings, and free drawings. There is no better place to learn more about Film making in El Dorado County than the I Love Film Mixer. This event attracts film lovers and industry specialists which gives this event a fast paced high energy feel that you will only find at the El Dorado County Business Showcase. If you are interested in learning about the local film industry, this is a once-a-year event! Admission is free.

Mar 20 Ponderosa High School Foundation Green & Gray Gathering

Raising funds to enable the mission of enriching the education of every Bruin through mini-grants and scholarships. \$50 Individual, \$350 for Reserved Table of 6. Contact Kris Fuchs at pondofoundation@gmail.com or 530-213-3103 or visit pondofoundation.com/events.

Mar 21 Wakamatsu Historical Public Tour

\$10/Adults, \$5/Children 10-17 years old. All proceeds directly benefit Wakamatsu Farm. julie@ARConservancy.org or 530-621-1224 or visit www.ARConservancy.org/wakamatsu for more info.

Mar 21 Stagecoach Rides (Davey Wiser & Crew)

Historic Main Street, Placerville. PDA at (530) 672-3436, (530) 295-3496 or visit www.placerville-downtown.org.

Mar 21 Ikebana Spring Demonstration & Workshop

Japanese art of flower arrangement influenced by Buddhist philosophy. \$15/members, \$20/non-members. Contact: julie@ARConservancy.org or 530-621-1224 to sign up and for meeting location (Gold Hill area).

Mar 25 Let's Make A Deal Annual Bridge Party

The Placerville Shakespeare Club, 2940 Bedford Ave. clubhouse. The doors will open at 9:30 a.m. and games will begin at 10:00 a.m. \$40 a pair. Call Kathy 530-622-4039 for reservations/information or visit https://placerville-shakespeare.com.

Mar 25 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

Marshall Hospital 2 - 3:30 p.m. Free event designed for family members and caregivers to help inform them of the warning signs to look and to learn more about Alzheimer's disease. Contact Ingrid Villeda at 800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/norcal for more info.

Mar 26 Hear My Voice

Show will run ONE DAY ONLY -6:00 p.m and 8:00 p.m. Imagination Theater. Tickets are on sale now through our website: www.ImaginationTheater.net or by calling the Box Office at 530-642-0404. Imagination Theater is located inside the El Dorado County Fair Grounds.

Mar 29 Open Space Easy Tai Chi

10 – 11 a.m. No prior experience is required. Suggested Donation: \$5/ members, \$10/non-members. Contact ARC to sign up, and for meeting location (Placerville/Gold Hill area. Rain may change location). julie@ARConservancy.org or 530-621-1224.

Mar 29 Beginning Birding

A photographic take-home handout will be provided showing bird species we'll be likely to see! Responsible teens+ welcome. Suggested donation: \$10/members, \$15/non-members. Contact ARC to sign up and for meeting location (Coloma area). julie@ARConservancy.org or 530-621-1224.

Mar 29 Poppy Walk

1 – 4 p.m. \$40/adults, \$20/child under 16. Contact: julie@ARConservancy.org or 530-621-1224. Donations aid the Bill Center Memorial Fund supporting river frontage and trails.

Mar 31 Blue Oak Ecology & Restoration Workshop

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Workshop led by Alissa Fogg of Point Blue Conservation Science on blue oak ecology and restoration techniques in the Sierra Foothills. Contact ARC to sign up and for meeting location (Placerville area). \$10/members /\$15 non-members. julie@ARConservancy.org or 530-621-1224.

For more information on these and other events, visit www.visiteldorado.com Event date, time, cost or locations are subject to change. Prior to attending an event please confirm the information.

Meetings:

Mar 05	Diplomats, noon, Chamber Conf. Room, 11 a.m.
Mar 05	Board Meeting, 5 p.m. EDCOE
Mar 12	Joint Chambers, 7:30 a.m., EDCOE
Mar 12	Visitor's Authority, 3 p.m., Chamber Conf. Room
Mar 20	Business Awards & State of the County, 11 a.m.
Mar 20	Business Showcase & I Love Film Mixer, 4 p.m.

Leadership El Dorado Class 13 Helping to create learning space at Wakamatsu Farms

Garrett Gust, the lead person on developing the outdoor learning space at Wakamatsu Farms, is the Education and Stewardship Coordinator for American River Conservancy which owns Wakamatsu Farms. Garrett's passion and dedication to this special piece of land was very apparent to all of us that day. He has big plans to make Wakamatsu a learning and Japanese cultural center over the next couple years. It was very moving to me when he took us on a little tour of the grounds, including Okei-San's grave (<https://www.amazon.com/Okei-san-Girls-Journey-California-1868-1871/dp/0981818846>), in particular his unique perspective that "the history of the Gold Rush era was all about people taking things out of the ground, but the original 1860s farming community of Wakamatsu was about people putting things into the ground." Food for thought (no pun intended).

The sense of accomplishment the five of us felt upon completing a small part of the overall vision, installing one section of rock-lined pathway, was awesome! I am honestly looking forward to completing more tasks at our next work session, to see the actual progress we are making. Next time we will probably prep the ground for the food lab work stations with DG and rocks, a large square area that Garret is working on getting leveled out for us, and also focus more on the garden itself, weeding, planting, repairing mulch rows, etc.

Tracy Pearson, District Secretary
Latrobe School District
Leadership El Dorado Class 13



L to R: Cathey Cort, Lisa Ennis, Tracy Pearson, Lance Bryant, and David Seabury

Coronavirus and Flu: Managing Illnesses in the Workplace

HR Watchdog, Matthew J. Roberts, Esq.


Lately, the coronavirus has been a hot topic of conversation, social media and the news; earlier this month, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar declared it a national public health emergency. However, while the coronavirus has grabbed our national attention, an estimated 26 million Americans have suffered from the flu within the last four months and at least 10,000 have died from complications related to the flu. Both the flu and the coronavirus are a strong reminder for employers to create or review their communicable disease policies and practices in the workplace.

California requires all employers to maintain an Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP), and an effective IIPP includes policies and procedures for addressing communicable diseases. Ensuring adequate communication about workplace safety between employers and their workforce is another important IIPP aspect.

Employers can start providing information to employees using resources available from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This toolkit provide action steps that business owners, managers and employees can take to minimize the effect of flu in the workplace. The CDC also offers up-to-date coronavirus information. Communication and education are important first steps towards managing communicable illnesses in the workplace.

Additionally, the California Department of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) has released guidance on protecting health care workers from the coronavirus. The guidance covers the safety requirements when providing care for suspected or confirmed patients of the respiratory disease or when handling pathogens in laboratory settings in California.

Other important policies and procedures to consider when managing illnesses in the workplace are flu shots, health screenings, maintaining privacy and employee relocation. However, various employment laws complicate implementing these policies so legal counsel should review them prior to implementing them in your workplace.



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