



# Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

June 2006 • Volume 1 • Issue 3

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## *Join the Chamber!*

Want to make a difference in your business community? Then become a member of Sylmar Chamber of Commerce! Annual membership includes a subscription to our monthly printed newsletter, which features news on community affairs, important business information and upcoming events. Call our Chamber office to learn more on how you can be active in enhancing our community.

## *Valley Business Leader Ackerman to Speak at Chamber Lunch Thursday, June 22, 11:30 a.m.*

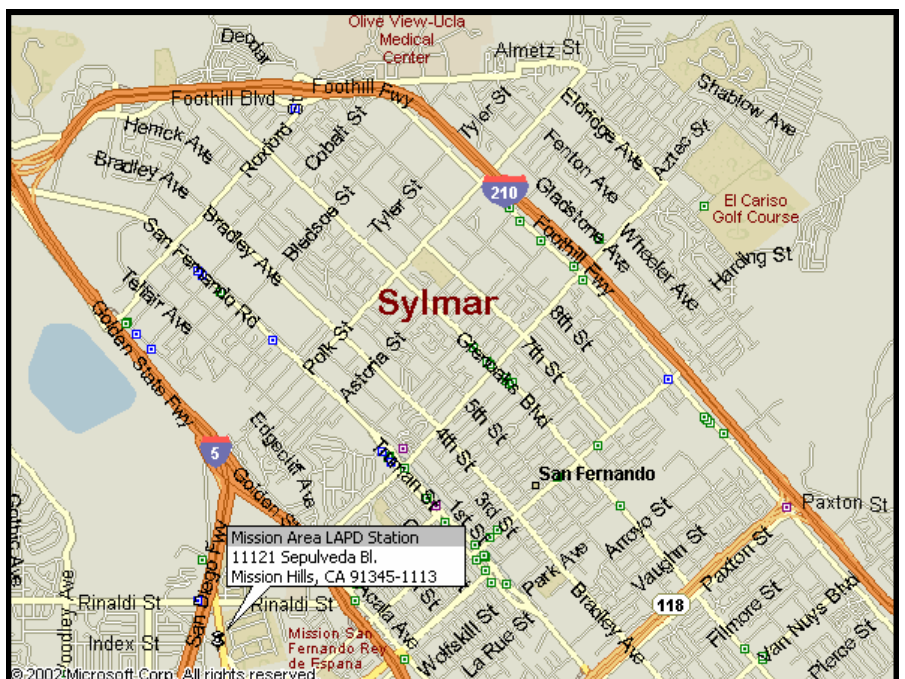
The Sylmar Chamber of Commerce will host a luncheon featuring Valley business leader Bruce D. Ackerman as the speaker on Thursday, June 22 at 11:30 a.m. at the LAPD Mission Station Community Room, 11121 Sepulveda Bl., Mission Hills. The topic will be titled, "How a Chamber Can Benefit You". Put this important meeting on your calendar.

As the President and CEO for the Economic Alliance, Ackerman is in charge of one of the most effective regional economic development corporations in Southern California. He directs their efforts in the development and implementation of programs focused on regional marketing, business retention, growth and recruitment, and education reform. Ackerman is credited with reviving the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership. While at the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, Ackerman helped organ-

ize the "Old Pasadena Business & Improvement Association" and assisted with development and implementation of the highly successful Business Improvement District in Old Pasadena. Ackerman holds the highest professional designation that can be attained by a chamber of commerce executive - that of "Certified Chamber Executive." He is a graduate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute Program, and the U.S. Chamber's prestigious Academy of Organization Management at the Univ. of Notre Dame.



Tickets for the event are \$20 for Chamber members and \$25 for non-members and guests at the door. If you RSVP to (818) 367-1177 by noon on Wednesday, June 21, deduct \$5, as you have earned the RSVP discount. Those that reserve who do not cancel will be billed.



Chamber Luncheon to be held Thurs., Jun. 22, 11:30 a.m. at Mission LAPD Comm. Rm.



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Mission Statement

The mission of the Sylmar Chamber of Commerce is to resolutely foster, promote and ensure progressive and orderly economic, industrial, commercial and agricultural development, to proactively address civic issues, and support social interests in order to make the community a better place in which to live and work.

*Nuestra oficina emplea una plantilla bilingüe para servir la comunidad hispana.*

"It All Comes Together in Sylmar!"

**Volume 1 • Issue 3 • June 2006**

## Sylmar Chamber Community News

### *Neighborhood Council Elections Near the Finish Line*

Want to know what is going on regarding the upcoming Sylmar Neighborhood Council Elections? Then come to the Sylmar Neighborhood Council Elections on Saturday, July 22, 2006 at 11 a.m. at the LA Lutheran Middle and Senior High School, 13570 Eldridge Av. Sylmar. If you wish to be a candidate, fill out a form available at [www.sylmarnc.org](http://www.sylmarnc.org) and either mail it to Jerry Kvasnicka, IEA, PO Box 41048, Los Angeles, CA 90041, or e-mail to

[jkvas@earthlink.net](mailto:jkvas@earthlink.net). The form must be received by Thursday, June 22, at 5 p.m. in order for your name to be on the ballot. The "write-in" candidates have until Friday, July 21 to register. To learn more about candidacy, call (323) 256-6330. For general information on the election, call the SNC offices at (818) 833-8737, Election Committee Chair Cat Bartik-Sweeney at (818) 362-7080, or visit their website at [www.sylmarnc.org](http://www.sylmarnc.org).

### *Business Colleagues Forge New Ties at May 24 Mixer*

Over 25 members of the business community took advantage of the first Chamber mixer of the year held on Wednesday, May 24, at Denny's Restaurant in Sylmar. Local entrepreneurs met each other over refreshments to learn about other area businesses and see how they in turn could benefit their own ventures. **Farooq Ghias**, owner of

the Sylmar Denny's Restaurant, hosted the event. In true mixer interaction, **Irma Murillo** of the Gonzalez Gallery met **Younes Younes** of Keep It Self Storage. **Becky Bascom** spoke to **Barry Sylvan** and **Lisa Pierce** about mortgages. **Michelle McNaughton** spoke to Sylvan about her travel services.

### *May 12 Chamber Luncheon A Stunning Success*

Over 50 community members attended the Wednesday, May 12 Chamber Luncheon with high expectations of hearing accomplishments and proposals of two State Senate District 20 candidates, Assemblymember Cindy Montañez and LA City Councilmember Alex Padilla. Assemblymember Montañez gave an excellent and motivating talk. Despite numerous reassurances of his

attendance, Councilmember Padilla declined his obligation to the community without any notification and sent a surrogate. The event proved to be one of the most successful Chamber luncheons in recent history, with guests filling every available seat and asking questions to Assemblymember Montañez and the surrogate. Food was from The Bear Pit.



Photograph by Bart Reed

Attendees give their attention to State Senate candidates at the May 12 Luncheon.

## Chamber Selects Business for UCC Awards Breakfast

The United Chambers of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley will host the Annual Small Business Awards Breakfast on Friday, June 9, 2006, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Odyssey Restaurant in Granada Hills. The Sylmar Chamber of Commerce has selected Barry Sylvan Company as the local business that best struck a cord with the business community through involvement with various organizations while maintaining a successful enterprise. If interested in participating in this breakfast, individual tickets are \$30. A 10-person table costs \$300. To RSVP, call (818) 981-4491.

## LAPD Opens Doors for June 10 Open House

The Los Angeles Police Department, Mission Area Police Station, will host its first annual open house on Saturday, June 10, 2006, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 11121 N. Sepulveda Bl., Mission Hills. Parking is available at the Facey hospital parking lot north of the station.

## Laura Chick to Speak at July 18 Chamber Lunch

The Sylmar Chamber of Commerce will host a luncheon that will feature Los Angeles City Controller Laura Chick as the speaker on Tuesday, July 18, 2006, 11:30 a.m. at the China Town Buffet, 13760 Foothill Bl. near Sayre, in Sylmar.

## Guide Dogs of America to Host Silent Auction for Good Cause

The Guide Dogs of America is hosting a silent auction and open house on Saturday, June 10, 2006, 11 a.m. at 13445 Glenoaks Bl., Sylmar. Numerous items will be auctioned. Proceeds will benefit

the Guide Dogs of America, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing guide dogs free of charge. To donate an auction item, call Judy Reilly at (818) 249-3869.

### Member Spotlight:

## Barry Sylvan Company

The Barry Sylvan Company offers a vast reservoir of sales and marketing expertise throughout the Los Angeles area. This includes significant success in the selling and marketing of newly constructed planned communities, houses, condominiums and town homes. The firm also offers a wide range of sales and marketing experience for apartment complexes, office buildings and shopping centers. Barry Sylvan, the company principal, has been a real estate agent since 1977. When you also consider that Sylvan has operated as a licensed general contractor, you can see how he can provide significant value to any real estate endeavor. Quite simply, there is no substitute for versatility such as this.

Sylvan has known the real estate business for almost as long as he can remember. His father started Sylvan Construction Company in 1959 and he quickly learned its many different facets at a young age. Today, the Barry Sylvan Company puts that expertise to use in a wide variety of ways, for a long and varied list of clients.



## Chamber Mixer At 5:30 p.m. Wed., June 14 at Denny's

The Chamber invites you and your guests to attend a business mixer on Wednesday, June 14, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Denny's Restaurant, 13201 Gladstone Ave., on Hubbard St. near the I-210, in Sylmar. This is an opportunity to meet local entrepreneurs and business leaders in the area. The restaurant will offer light snacks from the menu. Attendees are encouraged to bring business cards as a means to network with other business and community members. This no-cost-to-attend mixer will feature a raffle as well. To RSVP or if you want to donate a prize, call the Chamber office.

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Chamber of Commerce

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## Upcoming Events

**June 8:** Sylmar Neighborhood Council, 6:30 p.m., Hubbard Street Elementary School Auditorium, 13325 Hubbard St., Sylmar.

**June 9:** United Chambers of Commerce Awards Breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Odyssey Restaurant, 15600 Odyssey Dr., Granada Hills.

**June 10:** LAPD Mission Area Police Station Open House, 10 a.m., 11121 N. Sepulveda Bl., Mission Hills.

**June 10:** Guide Dogs of America Silent Auction, 11 a.m., 13445 Glenoaks Bl., Sylmar.

**June 13:** ETI Corral 12 Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Chamber Office, Sylmar.

**June 14:** Sylmar Chamber Mixer, 5:30 p.m., Denny's Restaurant, 13201 Gladstone Av. (On Hubbard St. near the I-210), Sylmar.

**June 15:** Kiwanis Club Meeting, 12 noon, Denny's Hubbard at Gladstone, Sylmar. Call: (818) 367-9310.

**June 15:** Sylmar Block Captain's LAPD Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Sylmar Chamber of Commerce Office, 13867 Foothill Bl. #104, Sylmar, CA.

**June 22:** Sylmar Chamber Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. Mission Area LAPD Station, Community Room.

**June 26:** Sylmar Civic Association Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Chamber Office.

**July 11:** Sylmar Chamber Board Meeting, 6 p.m., Chamber Office, Sylmar.

**July 11:** ETI Corral 12 Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Chamber Office, Sylmar.

**July 12:** Sylmar Women's Club Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Odyssey Restaurant, 15600 Odyssey Dr., Granada Hills. Call (818) 833-8033.

**July 13:** Sylmar Neighborhood Council, 6:30 p.m., Hubbard St. Elementary School Auditorium.

**July 18:** Sylmar Chamber Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Speaker: Laura Chick, Controller of the City of LA.

**July 22:** Sylmar Neighborhood Council Elections. 11 a.m. LA Lutheran Middle and Senior High School, 13570 Eldridge Av., Sylmar.

## A Message from the President

Things are heating up at the Chamber as we enter summer with a bang. There is no better way to enjoy the summer warmth than with friends, family and neighbors. The Chamber is just as warm when it comes to encouraging Sylmar businesses to interact with each other and make their businesses grow through networking.

The May 12 Chamber luncheon at the LAPD Mission Station Community Room was an outstanding success, as was our first mixer of the year at the Sylmar Denny's on May 24. Both events introduced local entrepreneurs to each other and forged new ties that will strengthen our community. We cannot help but anticipate that the success of these two events translates to growth for our businesses. In the conviction that such activities can only improve our bonds, we have prepared another round of get-togethers so that we can refresh ourselves with news and information you can use.

Our upcoming mixer on June 14 will prove to have lasting benefits for those who attend. Business members and guests are encouraged to come and meet others, discuss what they need and share what they

can offer. I would like to personally thank Farooq Ghias, the owner of Sylmar Denny's that hosted the event in May and who will kindly host our mixer again in June.

Our Thursday, June 22 luncheon will feature Bruce Ackerman, a key San Fernando Valley business leader. Ackerman will provide attendees with incalculable wisdom about maintaining ties with local chambers and fostering growth within our enterprises.

The Sylmar Chamber wishes you the best in what promises to be a sizzling summer season!



*Con el verano a la vuelta de la esquina, la cámara de comercio en Sylmar se prepara para un evento muy importante. Le invito a reunir con nosotros en nuestro próximo almuerzo el 22 de junio. Aprovechese de esta oportunidad de conocer Bruce Ackerman, destacado líder de la comunidad de negocios en el valle de San Fernando, quien nos dará un discurso sobre la importancia de participar con una cámara de comercio. Si usted tiene preguntas, por favor no dude en llamarnos. ¡Que usted disfrute de este caluroso verano!*

-Cheri Blose, President