

This Week's Friday Report



San Francisco Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

703 Market Street, Suite 609
 San Francisco, CA 94103
 P: 415-278-9611
<http://www.sfhcc.com/>



FRIDAY REPORT: February 20, 2009



Wells Fargo ExpressSend® Service – An economical, convenient and dependable way to send money home.SM

Strengthen your ties at home when you can't be there yourself.SM

Upcoming Events

Feb 23 - Annual February Business Mixer with American Jewish Committee

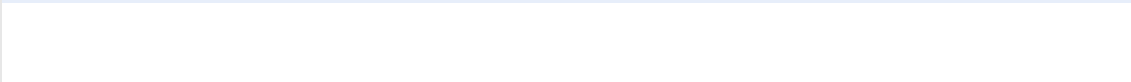
Check the "Mark Your Calendars" Section for more information about these events.

WEATHER

San Francisco Weekend Weather

Saturday ²¹	Sunday ²²
Find New Golf Courses	Flu Outbreak
 Cloudy High 61°F Low 54°F	 Rain High 57°F Low 56°F
Precip: 20%	Precip: 70%

FEATURED CORPORATION





NEWS

Recycling at the Office Makes Dollars and Sense.

Did you know? 2,000 beverage containers are worth about \$100 in California Refund Value at a recycling center. How many bottles and cans does your team go through each month at the office?

So in addition to bottle and can recycling being a good way to reduce office waste and save natural resources, it can also provide a little cash -- for things like office parties, the coffee fund or staff incentives. During these hard economic times, now is the best time to start a recycling program for your used beverage containers and see how going green at the office can help the bottom line.

California Refund Value (CRV) is the amount paid by consumers at the checkout stand and paid back to consumers when they recycle eligible aluminum, plastic, and glass beverage containers at one of California's approximately 2,000 certified recycling centers. Most bottles and cans of things like water, soda, energy drinks and juices are included. How much is a CRV bottle or can worth?

- 5 cents for containers less than 24 ounces
- 10 cents for containers 24 ounces and larger

This can add up. Request someone from your office to be in charge of the collection process. Visit www.bottlesandcans.com to find a recycling center near you and reap the monetary benefits of CRV. Also consider what you can save on your trash bill by diverting the beverage containers from your garbage can.

Start a recycling program today by receiving a free recycling starter kit from 1-800-RECYCLE or www.bottlesandcans.com.

Southwest Airlines: Now Testing Wi-Fi Onboard!

Southwest Airlines is evaluating Wi-Fi internet access onboard four aircraft now through March. With this innovation, we are giving Customers with Wi-Fi enabled devices the freedom to be more productive and to stay entertained while they fly with full access to the Internet, including e-mail, music, shopping, and virtual private networks (VPN).

Internet access will be free during this evaluation period. We will be surveying Customers throughout the evaluation to get input on various aspects of the product and help us determine whether to equip the rest of our fleet with this cutting-edge technology. So if you are on one of our Wi-Fi planes, we'll be asking for your feedback!

For more information, visit <http://www.swabiz.com/wifi/?src=MAILCTMSWBZ000000090219>

San Francisco 311 Customer Service Center-One call does it all

The 311 Customer Service Center provides a prompt, courteous, and professional customer service experience 24 hours a day to San Francisco residents, visitors, and businesses seeking general information and services. 311 sets the benchmark for exceptional customer service through compassionate, helpful and knowledgeable staff, enabling the government to be transparent, responsive, effective, and efficient.

- 311 serves as a single point of entry for and resolution of information and service requests
- 311 continually integrates updated information from across the government
- 311 enables improved government service delivery through performance reporting and analysis

311 supports emergency response for the government and community through information and communication. The City and County of San Francisco established 311 to provide an easy-to-remember telephone number that connects residents, businesses, and visitors to Customer Service Representatives ready to help with general government information and services. Since launching on 3/22/07, we have answered over 4,000,000 calls and counting!

Schwarzenegger: New Budget Is 'Perfect Medicine' For California

(CNN) -- California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said the budget package passed by state lawmakers early Thursday is "the perfect medicine for our ailing economy."

The measure, which awaits the governor's signature, is aimed at closing a \$42 billion state deficit through tax increases, spending cuts, borrowing and increased government efficiency.

"It will boost public confidence in California, reassure the financial community and allow us to resume selling our bonds and rebuilding our state," Schwarzenegger said at a news conference at the Capitol in Sacramento, California.

The plan contains \$14.9 billion in cuts, most of them from the state's most expensive budget items, primarily education, health and human services, the judiciary and state workers and employee compensation, Schwarzenegger said.

Schwarzenegger said all revenue increases are temporary. Among them are new and increased taxes on sales, vehicles and personal income. More revenue will be contributed by the state lottery.

The legislative measure also contains an economic stimulus package that includes plans to use public-private partnerships for state construction projects. That will save money and get projects done more quickly, Schwarzenegger said.

The governor, a former actor, said his favorite part of the stimulus package are incentives for movie and television production to remain in California.

The state Senate approved the budget package during a grueling overnight session after lawmakers agreed to demands from a holdout Republican senator. It was then passed speedily by the state Assembly. Watch how the deadlock was broken ?

A stalemate over the budget during negotiations had caused Schwarzenegger to declare a fiscal emergency and send layoff notices to 10,000 state workers.

Lawmakers said that without a new budget, 276 public works projects would have been halted Thursday, an additional 10,000 state workers could have received layoff notices and California might not have benefited from

parts of the federal economic stimulus package.

Some items in the budget package will be put before Californians for their approval, including a proposal that the state hold more open primaries. Under that system, people wouldn't be required to register with a political party to vote in its primary.

Schwarzenegger lauded Republicans and Democrats who came together to pass the measure. [iReport.com: What you'd fix first](#)

"I know how difficult it was. Our budget crisis required Democrats to compromise on the opposition to spending cuts, it required Republicans to compromise on their fierce opposition to tax increases," the governor said.

Democrats in the Senate needed one Republican vote for passage. Sen. Abel Maldonado, a Republican, agreed to vote for the measure in exchange for various demands, including that the open-primary plan be included. Lawmakers worked to meet the demands to get his support.

Speaking on the Senate floor, Maldonado said the passage of the budget was imperative for people across the state, even if it would imperil his political career.

"This might be the end for me, but this vote ensures that it's not the end for the state of California," he said before the Senate vote.

Both sides resisted pressure from special interest groups, Schwarzenegger said.

"There was tremendous pressure on the legislators from the special interests who care only about one thing: what is best for them, not what is best for California," he said.

In a statement released earlier Thursday, Schwarzenegger said, "Rather than approaching this unprecedented crisis with gimmicks and temporary solutions, we took the difficult but responsible steps to address our entire \$42 billion budget deficit and pass historic bipartisan reform measures."

Schwarzenegger said he is pleased that his budget proposal served as a blueprint for this spending plan.

"This is a very difficult budget, but we have turned this crisis into an opportunity to make real, lasting reforms for California," he said.

U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-California, was there Wednesday morning, reminding lawmakers that Democrats in the U.S. Senate were able to get just enough Republican votes to pass President Obama's \$787 billion stimulus plan. [Interactive: See where the stimulus money is going ?](#)

"We have to put aside all this ego and put the people of California first," Boxer said. "The people of California do not deserve the fate they will receive if it is not passed."

The California Legislature was one of several to meet this week to address budget concerns in a time when 43 states are starting the year short on funds, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. [Map: See projected state budget gaps ?](#)

"This is an equal-opportunity recession. States in virtually every part of the country are suffering. ... Even the energy states are starting to report problems," Corina Eckl of the National Conference of State Legislatures said.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Feb 23 - Annual February Business Mixer with American Jewish Committee

Date: Monday, February 23, 2009

Time: 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Place: Zazil (845 Market Street, #400, S.F. - in Westfield San Francisco Center)

Join us at our FIRST business mixer of 2009!! Come network with other Latino professionals and members of the [American Jewish Committee](#) while enjoying delicious appetizers and no host bar at Zazil's, one of San Francisco's hottest restaurants. We will also release a sneak preview of 2009 programming for the Chamber.

Fees:

Pre-Registration (by Feb 19) - FREE to SFHCC and AJC Members [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Registration at Door (After Feb 19) - Members \$10, Non-Members \$15 [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

FEATURED MEMBERS

Chiropractors

California Spinal Rehab Clinic

703 Market St, Suite 1214

San Francisco CA, 94103

P: 415-546-1461

F: 415-546-3136

www.infinitebodyhealth.com

NEW MEMBERS

Chamber members have access to exclusive benefits that build relationships, increase visibility, and generate business leads. They're the first to learn about economic trends and developments that shape the City's business environment and their own companies' growth. And they influence decision makers in San Francisco and beyond, helping ensure that San Francisco means business-in every sense. Welcome additions to the San Francisco Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Memberships can be purchased online using the following link:

<https://sfhccregistration.chamberbusinesssuite.com/>

Claudia Thorn

2149 Arroyo Ct
Pleasanton, CA 94588
Individual Member

P: 925-426-6947

Kerosky & Associates

785 Market St #1500
San Francisco, CA 94103
Small Business Membership

Wilson Purves

P: 415-777-4445
F: 415-778-8123
www.youradvocate.net

Yulissa Zulaica

1 Bush Street, Suite 1150
San Francisco, CA 94104
Associate Membership

P: 415-557-3013

F: 415-557-3015

Palomino Productions

P.O. Box 8565
Berkeley, CA 94707
Small Business Membership

Eve A. Ma

P: 510-236-3257
F: 510-232-2356
www.palominopro.com