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Business in Brief

Sign Up for the 4th Annual Tri-Valley Restaurant Month



It's not too late to join the **4th Annual Tri-Valley Restaurant Month!** Organized by Visit Tri-Valley, the January promotion is designed to raise awareness of the many dining opportunities throughout Dublin and the Tri-Valley region.

Several Dublin restaurants have already joined Restaurant Month, including:

- Ballybunion Bar & Grille
- BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse
- Caps & Taps
- Casa Orozco Mexican Restaurant
- Coldstone Creamery / Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory
- Dublin Fish 'n' Chips
- Fuddruckers
- Johnny Garlic's
- Vito's Express Pizza

There are a variety of ways restaurants can take part in Restaurant Month, including offering a prix-fixe menu, a percentage off, buy one, get one or a free appetizer or dessert. Visit Tri-Valley is also encouraging participating restaurants to waive corkage fees on Livermore Valley wine varietals during the month of January. There is no participation fee to join Restaurant Month.

This year the sign-up process has been simplified - **an application can be completed online** in a matter of minutes.

2014 Dublin Business Expo and Flavor of Dublin

The 2014 Business Expo and Flavor of Dublin returns to the City on Thursday, February 20! The annual event is co-sponsored by the City of Dublin and the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, showcasing Dublin-based businesses and the many great dining opportunities

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The Dublin **Business News Update** is a monthly publication from the City of Dublin, highlighting the latest news and events affecting the business community.

For more information or assistance, please contact Erin Steffen or Linda Smith in the Economic Development Office at (925) 833-6650. For other information, please use the contact list below:

CONTACTS:

General Information
(925) 833-6600

City Council
(925) 833-6600

City Manager
(925) 833-6650

Community

offered in Dublin. This year's expo has moved to the Shannon Community Center to accommodate the growing number of participating businesses and eateries. The Business Expo will take place from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. There is no charge to attend.

Although space is limited, there are still booths available for businesses who wish to promote their products and services while networking at the event. **Contact the Dublin Chamber of Commerce** for more information.

St. Patrick's Day Preparations Underway

Plans are now underway for the **31st annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration** on Saturday and Sunday, March 15 - 16 at the Dublin Civic Center. Attendance at last year's event was a record-breaking 73,000! Featured this year will be three stages of authentic Irish entertainment, plenty of Irish food and beverage, over 250 craft and commercial vendors (including an Irish Marketplace), carnival rides for all ages, and an authentic Irish Tea Cottage serving freshly brewed tea with scones and shortbread. Admission and parking are free!



Local businesses are encouraged to participate and to take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity. Applications are now being accepted for **Festival Sponsors**, for **Shamrock 5K Race Sponsors**, for **Dublin Business Booths** and for **Parade Entries**. Applications and more information can be found **on the event website**. For questions or other information, please contact Stephanie Mein in the Parks and Community Services Department at (925) 556-4508.

Business Tip of the Month

Register for Upcoming Local Business Seminars

The City of Dublin has partnered with the Dublin Chamber of Commerce and the Alameda County Small Business Development Center to continue the **series of businesses seminars** offered to local businesses. Currently, two upcoming business seminars are open for registration:

Development
(925) 833-6620

Environmental Services
(925) 833-6650

Finance &
Administrative Services
(925) 833-6640

Fire Prevention
(925) 833-6606

Human Resources
(925) 833-6605

Parks and Community
Services
(925) 556-4500

Police (non-emergency)
(925) 833-6670

Public Works
(925) 833-6630

City of Dublin
100 Civic Plaza
Dublin, CA 94568

www.dublin.ca.gov



THE IMPACT OF HEALTH CARE REFORM ON YOUR BUSINESS

Wednesday, January 22: 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM
Dublin Library

This seminar provides a general overview of the Affordable Healthcare Act, generally known as Health Care Reform, and how it impacts small businesses. During this session you will learn about:

- Key provisions of the Act
- Individual Mandates
- Employer-Shared Responsibility
- Reporting Requirements
- Penalties, Costs, Taxes and Fees
- State Exchanges

Participation is free for Dublin Chamber of Commerce members, \$25 for non-Chamber members. **Register online** or call (925) 828-6200.



Meet the Lenders

Wednesday, February 26: 8 AM - 11:30 AM
Dublin Library

Learn how to obtain financing for your start-up or existing small business and begin forming critical relationships with dozens of banks, community lenders and other investors. Participation in this seminar is free; **register online** or call (925) 833-6650.

Business News Around Dublin

City Wins Award for Business Incentive Programs

On December 13, the City of Dublin was one of seven local agencies selected to receive a "Turning Red Tape in Red Carpet" award from Silicon Valley Leadership Group for its work helping to build the economy and grow jobs through innovative government services.

Dublin received the small city award in the Business Retention and Expansion category for the City's Toolkit for Revitalization and Job Growth. The City received accolades for its series of incentive programs that helped to address specific community needs, including the Sales Tax Incentive Program, Commercial Façade Improvement Program, Small Business Assistance Program, and the Sewer Capacity Assistance Program. Dublin's efforts resulted in the

creation of several hundred new jobs and anticipated more than \$1.5 million of new revenues from these efforts.

To learn more about the City's Toolkit for Revitalization and Job Growth, **visit the City website.**

Read more...

Dublin Seeks Input on Business Watch Program

The City of Dublin is currently exploring whether a Business Watch program would be useful to (and used by) the local business community. Modeled after Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch takes the 'neighbors looking out for neighbors' concept to the commercial level and creates a partnership between the City of Dublin and local businesses, encouraging members to prevent crime through communication, cooperation, and education. (www.usaonwatch.org)

The City requests that you take **this Business Watch survey**, which has been created to gauge the general interest of local Dublin business stakeholders in a Business Watch program as well as to inform City Staff on the types of Business Watch-related resources which would be most useful. Information gathered from this survey will help inform the City's next steps for Business Watch in Dublin. Thank you for helping the City to better serve you!

Dublin Business Spotlight

Snowflake

Nestled in the heart of Ulfert's Center since 2011, **Snowflake** is "a cozy little restaurant known for its perfectly prepared hot meals, artisan desserts, savory and sweet crepes that make your mouth water, and one-of-a-kind snowflake shaved ice." (www.snowflakecafedessert.com)

Snowflake 's signature dish, shaved ice "snowflakes," is a popular specialty originating from Hong Kong and Taiwan, consisting of flavored ice shaved into ribbons and decorated with toppings that appeal to palates ranging from traditional to adventurous.

With approximately 350 Yelp reviews and a 4-star average rating, Snowflake has established itself as a destination spot in Dublin for lunch and dinner, as well as a comfortable place for people to hang out in between meals.

Snowflake is located at 4288 Dublin Blvd, Suite 105, and is open Tuesday through Thursday and Sunday, 11:30 AM to 9 PM, with extended hours on Friday and Saturday, 11:30 Am to 10:30 PM.

Business Seminars & Events

- 1/16: Dublin Chamber of Commerce Business Referral Group Kickoff Event (Dublin Chamber of Commerce)
- 1/22: The Impact of Health Care Reform on Your Business (Dublin Library)
- 1/22: Successful Business Plans Seminar (Berkeley Public Library)
- 1/31: Website Development Seminar (Fremont Public Library)
- 2/5: Grow Your Business with Email and Social Media Seminar (Berkeley Public Library)
- 2/20: Dublin Chamber of Commerce 2014 Business Expo

- and Flavor of Dublin (Shannon Community Center)
- 2/26: Meet the Lenders (Dublin Library)

For more information on any of these events listed above, or for a full listing of events, please visit the [Business calendar](#) or subscribe to [Notify Me](#) alerts on the [City's website](#).