Kim Krantz to Serve as 2006 Chamber President

Kim has been representing Boeing as a Chamber member since October of 2000. She serves on the Board of Directors and has been Chair of the Education Committee. Kim has served as Title Sponsor of the Businesses Supporting Education event for three years and table/event sponsor for the prior two years. She has also overseen the annual Boeing in-kind donations to the Chamber and events.

Kim Krantz is the senior site manager of Communications for Space & Intelligence Systems – El Segundo, the site of the world’s leading builder of commercial communications satellite systems and a major supplier of space systems, satellites, and payloads for national defense, science, and environmental applications. She was selected for this position in December 2002. She is responsible for employee communications and public relations for 6,000 employees located primarily in El Segundo, California, with additional sites across the United States and at customer support locations internationally. In addition, she is responsible for government, education and community relations in the West Los Angeles and South Bay areas and oversees the advertising and marketing, international communications and executive communications for El Segundo.

Kim is looking forward to continuing her service as the 2006 Chamber President.

President’s Message

It’s hard to believe how quickly this year is coming to a close. As we give thanks and continue with the hustle and bustle of the holidays, I’d like to take a moment and reflect on some recent Chamber happenings.

At the “Salute to El Segundo” event held at Mattel, Chris Powell was awarded Citizen of the Year, and the Business Betterment of the Year recipient was the Los Angeles Air Force Base Regional Alliance. My sincere congratulations to these award winners who have made countless contributions to our community—Chris in the arena of improving education for our kids and the Alliance for ensuring that El Segundo’s most significant economic engine, the LA Air Force Base, was not closed during the recent federal base closure process.

We were fortunate to host Assemblymember Ted Lieu for his first Chamber Address on December 7 at the Manhattan Beach Marriott. This event attracted more than 125 community and business leaders from El Segundo and throughout the South Bay. Those in attendance received a first-hand report on the issues important to our new Assemblymember. It was an honor for us to be the first Chamber to host our Assemblyman. I am proud to call Ted a friend and he will be a tireless advocate for the South Bay in Sacramento.

I am also proud to announce our 2006 Chamber President is Kim Krantz from Boeing. Kim is the senior site manager of Communications for Space & Intelligence Systems – El Segundo and has been Boeing’s Chamber representative since 2000. Kim has made great contributions as a member of the Chamber’s Board of Directors and I know she will make a great president. Please join me and your Chamber friends as we install Kim as Chamber President on Friday, January 27, 6 pm, at the Embassy Suites in El Segundo.

Finally, as this is my last President’s Message, I want to thank the Chamber’s Board of Directors and volunteers. I especially want to thank our Executive Committee members: Holly Branch, Bill Fisher, George Torres, Terry Bilbo, Linda Johnson, Corinne Murat, Martin McCarthy, and Chris Powell.

Together, we have all moved your Chamber ahead over the last year. We have hosted sold-out events, put on the Richmond Street Fair and Holiday Parade as well as countless mixers and committee meetings and other opportunities for our members. We’ve done all this while improving the Chamber’s bottom line and ensuring a strong future.

A special thanks also goes to your Chamber’s Administrator, Liz West and her team at West Enterprises. They have continually gone above and beyond the call of duty in making our Chamber better. I also want to acknowledge the contributions of Arlys Wyant who has spent seven years working at the Chamber and in January will be moving on to other opportunities. We wish Arlys well and thank her for her service.

On January 27th, as my “last act” as your President, I will have the opportunity to present awards to those individuals who have worked so hard to make your Chamber one of the best business organizations in the South Bay. I hope you will join me on January 27th to acknowledge these fine individuals.

Happy Holidays and I wish you a prosperous (and profitable) 2006.
South Bay Business Outlook Seminar

The South Bay Business Resource Network invites El Segundo businesses to attend a South Bay Business Outlook Seminar on February 2, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Featuring Dr. Christopher Thornberg, economist with the UCLA Anderson Forecast, the seminar will include an outlook on the 2006 business climate in Los Angeles County and the South Bay. The seminar will also include a presentation by Brad Kemp, Labor Market Consultant for the California Employment Development Department, on Los Angeles County labor market trends, and discussion on the South Bay’s growing reliance on knowledge workers.

Business owners and representatives who attend the seminar will receive an overview of business resources and services offered by members of the South Bay Business Resource Network at little or no cost such as staffing assistance, business and entrepreneurial development services, disability services for employers and more.

Sponsors for the event include the City of El Segundo, the South Bay Business Resource Network, the El Segundo Chamber of Commerce, the California Employment Development Department, and the South Bay Workforce Investment Board.

The South Bay Business Outlook seminar will be held in the El Segundo City Council Chamber located at 350 Main Street in El Segundo. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Please R.S.V.P. by January 25, 2006 to Karmen White or LaToya Herman @ (310) 970-7700 or e-mail your name, title, company name, address, phone, fax and e-mail with RSVP to kwhite@sbwib.org. Seating is limited to 75.

Parking is available on Main Street and around City Hall.

Santa Stops in El Segundo

El Segundo business and community members came together on Sunday, December, 11 to participate in the 42nd Annual Holiday Parade. This year’s theme was “Holiday in Paradise.” Loyola Marymount University’s Head Men’s Basketball Coach, Rodney Tention, served as Grand Marshal and was joined by his family.

Many of the community’s youth showed off their talents, including the Torrance Torrettes, The El Segundo Youth Cheer Program and of course the talented El Segundo High School band. Also participating in this year’s parade were several dignitaries including Senator Debra Bowen, Los Angeles Air Force Base’s Colonel Codospoti and El Segundo’s Mayor Kelly McDowell. The star of the day was Santa, who rode atop an El Segundo fire truck, coordinated by Chevron Products Company.

This year’s parade was a great success thanks to our generous sponsors; Chevron Products Company, Los Angeles World Airports, Manhattan Village Shopping Center, S&S Hardware Co., Inc., Southern California Edison and the City of El Segundo. Also special thanks go to Parade committee chair, Julie Warner, for her hard work and dedication to making this event a success, as well as the rest of her team.

For Information on Chamber Membership Call (310) 322-1220

Membership Anniversaries
December 2005

The El Segundo Chamber of Commerce wants to acknowledge and send its appreciation to the following Chamber members for their commitment to the community and region through their membership. We are proud of them and appreciate the business you, our readers, give them.

13 YEARS
Expeditors International
Friends of the Library

6 YEARS
Union Bank of California
United Methodist Church of El Segundo

5 YEARS
Image Solutions, Print & Mail, Inc.

2 YEARS
Beadtopia
El Segundo Family Chiropractic
Latitude 33 at the Marriott Los Angeles Airport
Manhattan Beach Marriott
Mr. D’s Home Repair Services

1 YEAR
DaVita, Inc.
The Original Rinaldi’s Italian Deli
December 7 marked the first Chamber of Commerce Address of our new Assemblymember Ted Lieu hosted by the El Segundo Chamber and Chevron, El Segundo Refinery. Approximately 125 business leaders and community members joined him at the Manhattan Beach Marriott to discuss the priorities he believes we need to work on in Sacramento.

Another priority he will be working on is transportation. Lieu said, “I believe this should be a non-partisan issue. There are no such things as a Democratic or Republican highway, or a Democratic or Republican road.”

“Currently, our transportation infrastructure is crumbling,” Lieu stated. He believes we need to fix our highways, add additional carpool lanes, add more left turn signals, and better synchronize our stoplights. Improving our infrastructure will also improve our goods movement, which is one of California’s comparative advantages. He believes that the Green Line should be taken into LAX and then run north to connect with the eventual Exposition Line in Santa Monica.

The third issue he discussed is the environment. “I believe this is an area in which businesses and environmentalists can find common ground” says Lieu. He commended Chevron for being one of the first to recognize the dangers of global warming. Chevron has created a separate entity dedicated to energy efficiency that has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 1.5 million tons. One of their corporate level priorities is to help people use less energy and to conserve, which means there will be fewer greenhouse gas emissions.

Lieu went on to state that over 30 percent of all energy usage stems from office buildings. Lieu is confident the implementation of more “green building” measures will go a long way to increase energy conservation.

In conclusion, he believes we must continue the history of success in this district by supporting measures that retain and build upon the synergy between government, academia, and business. We need to better prepare our children for the challenges of tomorrow, give our businesses the workforce they need for success, fix our crumbling infrastructure, and preserve and protect our environment.

They include education, transportation, the environment, public safety, and health care. The common theme running through these priorities he summed up in three words: quality of life. As we know, one of the fastest ways to lose businesses is if the quality of life deteriorates for their employees. He highlighted three of these priorities: education, transportation, and the environment.

In terms of education, the quality of the educational system affects all of us. If the educational system goes down, your property values will go down. Depending on which study is used, California ranks between 40 and 44th in terms of per pupil funding among the fifty states. That is unacceptable.

But education is more than just a quality of life issue. It is vitally important to business. For many of the companies in this district, a well-educated workforce has been the key to their innovation and success. Many of the technological advancements that changed the world took place just a few miles from here.

In terms of per pupil funding in California, annual per pupil funding is used, California ranks between 40 and 44th among the fifty states. That is unacceptable.

The Boeing Company hosted the 6th Annual Salute to Businesses Supporting Education Event on November 17 at the Flight Path Learning Center. This event provided teachers and the businesses that provided mini grants and additional support throughout the year an opportunity to meet each other.

In conclusion, he believes we must continue the history of success in this district by supporting measures that retain and build upon the synergy between government, academia, and business. We need to better prepare our children for the challenges of tomorrow, give our businesses the workforce they need for success, fix our crumbling infrastructure, and preserve and protect our environment.

The El Segundo Chamber is honored to host the Installation Dinner for returning and newly elected board members. Assemblymember Ted Lieu will perform the official swearing in ceremony on Friday, January 27, 2006 at the Embassy Suite’s hotel in El Segundo.

Many awards will be presented including; Volunteer of the Year, Ambassador of the Year, Beautification award, Corporate Citizen of the Year, Business Person of the Year and Business of the Year.

This event will be held from 6-9 pm. Sponsorships are available from $2,500 to $1,000 and individual seats are $50 per person. For more information please contact West Enterprises at 310) 227-8100 or the Chamber office at (310) 322-1220.