



The Hard Hat

National Association of Women in Construction **San Diego Chapter 21 Newsletter**

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 4 JANUARY 2012

The NAWIC Calendar

January 10

NAWIC SD Monthly Meeting
Hilton—Mission Valley

February 21*

NAWIC SD Monthly Meeting
Hilton—Mission Valley

**Please note date change.*

February 25

Block Kids Competition
Construction Tech Academy

March 3

NAWIC Scholarship
Submission Deadline



San Diego Skyline

Message from the President

Happy New Year!

I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season. Mine was full of family and friends that were from near and far. It was even more special because my mom was able to come here from Kansas City. Brandon was certainly very happy! (It was also fun sprinkling the magic dust in the front yard to guide the reindeer with Santa to our home on Christmas Eve!)

Is everyone ready for 2012? I feel that the first quarter of our 2011-2012 year has gone well. We are starting the 2012 portion of our year with 62 members! Thank you to everyone that has helped our membership increase and to keep our renewing members involved. Speaking of being involved, I wanted to thank everyone who donated to the Promises2Kids Polinsky Center program last month. They were very pleased with all of the donations that were brought into our holiday party. Also, the holiday party was a big success! Almost everyone participated in our "white elephant" gift exchange. I think everyone received a gift that they wanted to use and/or keep. It was a fun party!

If there is anyone in our chapter that is interested in joining a committee, many of our committees are gearing up for the planning of their events this year! Our Block Kids committee has a confirmed date of February 25th at Construction Tech Academy. Please remember to spread the word about our NAWIC Scholarship; this year's submission deadline is on March 3rd. The Anniversary committee is meeting this month to plan their big event in April. The CAD drafting committee is looking for both volunteers and sponsors. Please be thinking of ways to participate in WIC week which will be held in March. The Ways & Means committee is planning an event to be held in March as well as our Membership committee. Next, we will have our golf tournament and MAGIC camp in the summer. Volunteers will be needed for these events so please sign up for these committees if you are interested. If you are not sure of who to contact for any of these committees, please let me know and I will point you in the right direction.

Please do not forget about our Forum that will be held at Lake Arrowhead on May 4-5, 2012. This will be a very informative and fun event. Please stay tuned for more details. We should be receiving more details from our Region Director in the very near future.

I hope that all of you will be attending our much anticipated meeting on January 10th! We will be hearing from Jon Greulich and Pam Legge from John Burnham Insurance about the planning of our retirement and changes to health care. Please send your RSVP to Isabel Marocco by Noon on January 6th at izmarocco@caspercompany.com.

Also, please be aware that we changed our February meeting date from February 14th to the 21st due to the holiday on the 14th.

Now remember everyone, you will never win if you never begin! See you soon!

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Pat Brown

NAWIC President
San Diego Chapter #21





INDUSTRY ISSUES ...that impact Women in Construction

Submitted by Melinda Dicharry

Forecast predicts 1.8% growth for S.D. in 2012

By ANDREW KEATTS, The Daily Transcript Thursday, December 15, 2011

San Diego's economy will grow at its fastest rate in six years in 2012, according to a new forecast from the National University System Institute for Policy Research.

Growth of 1.8 percent in 2012 for the county would still qualify as sluggish, according to the forecast.

The 21,000 new jobs that will be created in the next year, the forecast says, will bring the county halfway to the 102,400 jobs lost between 2007 and 2009, when combined with the 36,000 jobs already added in 2010 and 2011.

Continuing high unemployment actually understates labor market woes and the enduring hole in the employment market. Based upon U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' "alternative measurement of labor underutilization" for the state of California and Los Angeles, the institute projects San Diego's 2011 labor underutilization rate to be nearly 20 percent, meaning one in five working-age adults in the county are unable to find full-time employment.

Despite employment rising, San Diego's unemployment rate is projected to only slightly decline from 10 percent in 2011 to 9.8 percent in 2012. With additional job seekers and "re-entrants" — those who fell out of the labor force because they were too discouraged to actively seek employment — employment gains will be nearly matched by increases in the total labor force.

San Diego will continue to see challenges in the kinds of jobs being created and the wages that San Diegans receive. Most jobs being created are relatively low-skilled (and low-paid) that cannot be replaced either by machines or easily sent overseas — such as home nursing and landscape gardening. Jobs are also being created for the highly skilled, notably in science, engineering and management. This is particularly true for high-cost areas of California, such as San Diego, where job growth prospects are also limited by the state's onerous taxes and draconian regulatory environment.

Professional and business services, health care, and hospitality industries lead San Diego's job recovery. Wholesale trade (not retail), transportation, warehousing and utilities, and even some manufacturing are also adding workers at slower paces.

Lagging employment sectors include construction, all levels of government (other than military and public education), information, retail trade, and real estate. As the military winds down troop numbers in 2012, government employment locally is expected to decline.

Population growth slowed, according to revised estimates based upon the 2010 census. The 1 percent rate of growth per year for the last decade was the lowest in San Diego over the past 100 years. Lower birth rates and international migration, as well as higher out-migration, caused the slower growth rates and are significantly changing local population identity and demographics.

Housing construction remains relatively modest after building activity fell to depression-era levels. The National University System Institute for Policy Research projects housing units to be built will increase, but not enough for construction employment to recover. The overhang of foreclosures continues to loom over the housing market, while the spectacle of little new construction in the pipeline leaves little being added to accommodate San Diego's slow but still growing population.

Consumer spending as measured by taxable sales is rising since a bottom reached in 2009. San Diego led the rebound in sales among Southern California counties. Continuing high consumer debt, however, restrains the stronger rebound expected to follow such substantial losses. Higher inflation is also limiting more spending, as energy, food and other commodity prices soar.

UCLA Anderson recently projected California payroll employment will increase 1.2 percent in 2012, while Chapman University projects 1.7 percent growth, which matches the institute's forecast for San Diego of 1.7 percent. Beacon Economics projected slightly stronger employment growth in San Diego at 2.2 percent.

Christmase Eve at Rachel Women's Center

Submitted by Ana A. Márquez

Members from our Chapter had the privilege of volunteering their time at Rachel's Women's Center for their annual Christmas Party on Christmas Eve. The Center assists homeless women with the resources necessary to achieve an improved quality of life, to become healthy, fulfilled and contributing members of the community.

Our members and their families helped with all aspects of the party from donating food, food preparation, decorating and helping the women select from the many gifts available which were donated from the community. All of the women who participated received a new pair of walking shoes.

Thank you Myrna Smith for coordinating our participation.



Inspiration CORNER

Happy New Year Wish

My Happy New Year wish for you
Is for your best year yet,
A year where life is peaceful,
And what you want, you get.

A year in which you cherish
The past year's memories,
And live your life each new day,
Full of bright expectancies.

I wish for you a holiday
With happiness galore;
And when it's done, I wish you
Happy New Year, and many more.

- Joanna Fuchs

Block Kids 2012

Come and share in all the fun building a construction project with interlocking blocks!
Free Food and Prizes for participating students grades 1-6.

Saturday, February 25 , 2012
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Construction Tech Academy at Kearny High
7651 Wellington St., San Diego, CA 92111

Please visit the Block Kids section of our website, www.nawicsd.org for more information and participation forms.

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SD Unified extends its labor agreement to all Prop S projects

By **CARLOS RICO**, The Daily Transcript
Friday, December 16, 2011

The San Diego Unified School District has extended its Proposition S labor agreement to now cover all of the \$2.1 billion in construction work still left to be completed.

The district's board of education voted unanimously to implement the Project Stabilization Agreement (PSA) to the entire Proposition S construction bond projects Tuesday night.

The board all said at its meeting the main reason behind its decision was because of an independent study that said the PSA was meeting local hiring goals. The new PSA rules will go into effect Jan. 1, 2012.

The board's actions will also call for a plan, which will need to be developed, to address the close out of current labor compliance projects before the impact to district staffing can be quantified for the current fiscal year. However, there will be no loss of district staff.

On Dec. 9, the San Diego Unified School District released an independent study conducted by Rea & Parker Research that indicated the PSA's hiring goals are on track; there was no change in project cost between PSA and non PSA projects; the number of bidders is lower on PSA projects versus non PSA projects; and on average PSA projects are completing faster than non PSA projects.

The study was done at the request of the school district's board of education. It is not known whether or not the board is considering additional studies to the PSA.

On July 28, 2009, the district's board of education approved the PSA. It is a legally binding contract between the district, the San Diego Building & Construction Trades Council and Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters, which establishes hiring practices, wages and benefits in exchange for no work stoppages.

The PSA went into effect on Oct. 27, 2009 and had previously only accounted for Proposition S construction projects estimated at \$1 million and above.

In November 2008, San Diego voters approved Propositions S, which calls for repairs and renovations to district campuses.

The PSA has been under heavy scrutiny since it surfaced, by nonunion contractors and open shop associations.

The San Diego chapters of the Associated Builders and Contractors and the Associated General Contractors have been the most vocally opposed group of the PSA. They say this labor agreement forces nonunion contractors to pay into union dues and union health care pension.

Enhancing the Success of Women in the Construction Industry



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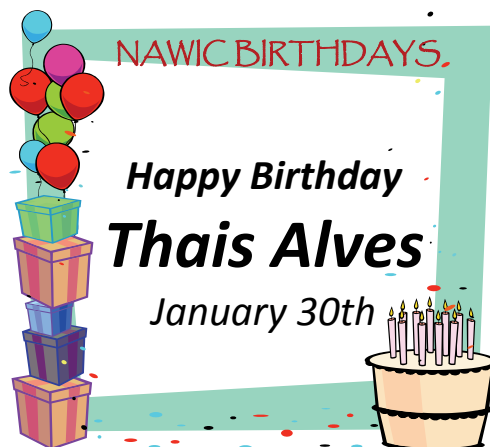
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Introducing Tanner!



Valerie McGuire's son, Tanner, will be 8 months old on the 15th of this month.

For individual contact information, please visit our website.