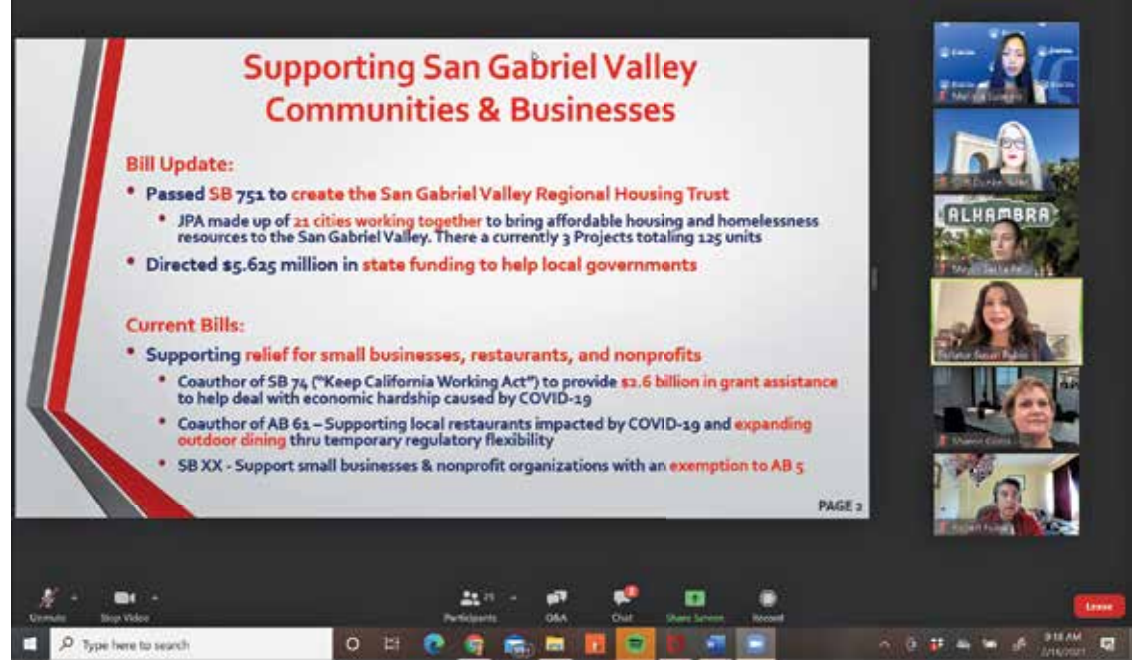




Hundreds of people receive free flu shots during a drive-thru clinic at Cal State LA in November 2020. The flu shot clinic and Cal State LA's participation in the COVID-19 vaccination effort are part of the university's We Are Healthy LA initiative, a collaboration with community partners to provide basic needs and help ensure health and safety during the pandemic. (Photo credit: J. Emilio Flores/Cal State LA)



Alhambra Chamber of Commerce presents 'Back to Work Alhambra' webinar

Joining the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce for its ongoing "Back to Work Alhambra" webinar series were State Sen. Susan Rubio; Alhambra Mayor Sasha Renée Pérez; Melissa Eusebio, health educator, County of L.A. Dept. of Public Health; and Anders Covey, public health deputy, office of County of Los Angeles Supervisor Kathryn Barger. Presentations and updates were made with time for Q&A.

The event was hosted on Zoom and Facebook Live.

Sen. Rubio updated on several pieces of legislation aimed at assisting businesses and individuals hit hard by the COVID pandemic. Mayor Pérez reported on how Alhambra is helping its businesses and residents during this challenging time. Ms. Eusebio gave an in-depth overview on how the COVID vaccine works, with an update on the next phase of vaccine availability. Mr. Covey gave an update on changes to COVID

The next Back to Work Alhambra webinar is scheduled for March 16.

District launches virtual afterschool clubs

Most Alhambra Unified School District (AUSD) TK-8 schools have an After School Education and Safety (ASES) program to provide afterschool support and enrichment to eligible students. Like all other district programs, ASES has had to pivot to a virtual format this year. Under the leadership of Duane Russell, director of school operations and programs, and Linda Nakagawa, instructional specialist, ASES has supported more than 600 students this year through a variety of online enrichment lessons.

To reach even more students, the ASES is launching ASES Adventures Club this month to help students who miss socializing with other students. These clubs are offered free to any TK-8 AUSD student and include the supplies necessary for the activities. Options include art, crafts, science, literature, music, world culture, and technology. Each class will be limited to 25 students per



Marguerita Youth Specialist Edward Zha will lead the Music Fun club where students will explore the basics of music through string instruments and the keyboard.

>> see **VIRTUAL AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS** Page 14

Cal State LA named as COVID-19 community vaccination center

Cal State LA is the site of a new federal community COVID-19 vaccination center.

The federal government partnered with the state of California to launch two new community vaccination centers: East Oakland at the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum and on Cal State LA's campus. The centers are part of the Biden administration's effort to scale up COVID-19 vaccine distribution nationally.

"In the Eastside of Los Angeles, we launched a large site on the campus of California State University, Los Angeles," White House COVID-19 coordinator Jeff Zients said during a Feb. 3 briefing. "This is one of the most diverse public universities in the country, serving a large Latino community."

>> see **VACCINATION CENTER** Page 9

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'Alhambra Chamber Tools to Help Your Business' features Cal Savers Update

The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce's monthly Tools to Help Your Business Zoom seminar featured a presentation by Alhambra Chamber member and Ambassador Sam Yue. Sam updated attendees on the state's CalSavers program.

CalSavers is a law that requires any business in California with five or more W-2 employees to provide a retirement plan for their employees. Businesses can choose between enrolling their employees in CalSavers or set up their own plan.

Businesses that choose CalSavers will automatically enroll all their employees in a Roth IRA with a default contribution of 5% and an automatic 1% annual increase until reaching 8%. Employees may change the contribution amount or even opt out of the program. Employers are responsible in monitoring which employee is enrolled and the contribution amount per pay cycle.

The other option is to set up your own plan such as a 401(k), SEP IRA, SIMPLE IRA or a qualified pension program. This will allow the business to be exempt from CalSavers and provide your employees with

better benefits. Regardless of the company choosing CalSavers or setting up their own plan, they must still go to www.calsavers.com and register their company.

The deadline to be compliant with this law is June 30, 2021, for any business with 50-99 employees and June 30, 2022, for any business with five to 49 employees. Failure to comply with this law can potentially cause businesses to be penalized up to \$750 per employees per year.

For more information about CalSavers or to register your company, go to www.calsavers.com.

Tools to Help Your Business is presented at noon on the third Wednesday of each month on a variety of topics to help business owners in these challenging times. For more information on Tools to Help Your Business, contact the Chamber at 626-282-8481.

Sam Yue
Investment Adviser Representative with
Primerica Advisors
626-230-7192
828-656-1168



Dear Neighbor,

Nearly \$10 billion in state emergency relief for Californians is on its way. Our proposal, highlighted below, was crafted in collaboration with Gov. Newsom and will provide emergency relief for workers, their families, small businesses, students, and childcare providers. In addition, it will restore funding for public universities and colleges as well as the state's courts system. As a classroom teacher, I know this relief will also help our students from falling further behind. Information will soon be available at COVID19.CA.GOV

Next, we have to figure out how to open schools safely while protecting teachers. I will continue to work with Gov. Newsom and my colleagues to do whatever it takes to alleviate the pain felt by so many in my Senate District and the state.

The package will offer assistance to families and businesses facing devastating economic hardship because of COVID-19 and will include:

- Business tax deductions and fee relief;
- Stimulus payments for low income population;
- Child care subsidies;
- And Student aid.

*Families who previously qualified for state programs and federal relief such as CalEITC, CalWORKs, and CalFresh should read the highlights below for more information.

*Businesses that previously qualified for state small business grants, and federal PPP business loans should read the highlights below to see how this package may help.

Highlights:

Direct Relief to Individuals and Families

If you qualified for California EITC in 2020, have an Individual Tax Identification Number and were precluded from the federal stimulus, make less than \$30,000 as an individual or \$75,000 as a household, you may be eligible for a one time, \$600 stimulus payment.

In addition, if you are enrolled in CalWORKs or receive SSI/SSP and Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) you may be eligible for a one-time \$600 grant.

Immediate Relief for Small Businesses

The package extends the Small Business Relief grant program from \$500 million to more than \$2 billion. If you are Small Business owner who already applied for a loan, don't worry about reapplying. If you have not applied, please visit for more information when the application period will open again <https://www.grants.ca.gov/grants/california-small-business-covid-19-relief-grant-program/>

In addition, California small businesses who received federal PPP loans could be eligible for state tax deductions up to \$150,000.

Fee Waivers and License Relief

The package provides for two years of fee relief for roughly 59,000 restaurants and bars as well as relief for more than 600,000 barbering and cosmetology businesses.

More Resources for Critical Child Care

The package adds over \$400 million in new federal funds that will provide stipends of \$525 per enrolled child for all state-subsidized child care and preschool providers.

The new federal resources will extend care for children of essential workers through June of 2022, and increase access to subsidized childcare for 8,000 additional children of essential workers and at-risk children during this time period.

Additional Aid for Individuals and Families

The package provides an additional \$24 million for Housing for the Harvest ? a program providing support for agricultural workers who have had to quarantine due to COVID-19.

The package also provides a combined \$35 million for food banks and diapers.

Emergency Financial Relief to Support Community College Students

The package provides an additional \$100 million in emergency financial aid for qualifying community college students who are enrolled in six or more units.

CalFresh Student Outreach and Application Assistance

The package provides roughly \$16 million to support outreach and application assistance to income eligible higher education students for CalFresh food assistance.

Restoration of Reductions

The package restores previously enacted reductions, effective July 1st, for the UC, CSU, the Judicial Branch, Child Support Services, and for moderate-income housing.

This relief and stimulus package is intended to help as many families and businesses as possible with immediate relief. As more specifics are released, it will be available at COVID19.CA.GOV. I will also post additional information to my website at <https://sd22.senate.ca.gov/> and my Facebook page at @SenSusanRubio

Sincerely,



Senator Susan Rubio
Senate District 22

Capitol Office
State Capitol, Room 5035
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 651-4022
Fax: (916) 651-4922

West Covina District Office
100 S. Vincent Ave.
Suite 401
West Covina, CA 91790
Phone: (626) 430-2499

VACCINATION CENTER From Page 1A

The new centers are operated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the State of California through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

"Cal State LA is ready to work with President Joe Biden, Gov. Gavin Newsom, and their administrations to provide badly needed vaccinations," said Cal State LA Provost and Executive Vice President José A. Gómez. "Our students and alumni live in communities with some of the highest COVID-19 infection rates per capita in Los Angeles County."

Cal State LA President William A. Covino noted the vaccination site aligns with the university's mission.

"Cal State LA has a long history of collaborating with and serving in the community," Mr. Covino said. "We are dedicated to engagement, service, and the public good. Our role as a vaccination center is another example of that dedication. We are grateful to President Biden and Gov. Newsom for this opportunity."

Registration for vaccination appoint-

ments is available through the state's MyTurn scheduling system.

The new vaccination centers are paired with two mobile vaccination clinics that can be deployed to multiple locations to increase distribution to areas that otherwise lack sufficient support, the governor's office said.

Cal State LA's participation in the COVID-19 vaccination effort is part of the university's We Are Healthy LA initiative, a collaboration with community partners to provide basic needs and help ensure health and safety during the pandemic.

Under the initiative, Cal State LA has worked with federal, state, and local governments and organizations including the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles, QueensCare Health Centers, the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, and the Southeast Los Angeles Collaborative to provide influenza vaccinations and distribute more than 120 tons of food to approximately 5,000 families in the Los Angeles area.