



February 2008 Newsletter



Tax Time—Sponsored by Larry Jordan, CPA

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HOW WILL THE NEW ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX RULES AFFECT YOU?

This year, some early filers may have to wait a few extra weeks for their refunds. The delay is due to the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) legislation enacted in December. Although a delay may become a burden to the early filers, the new legislation saved about 25 million tax filers from paying an average of \$2,000 more in income tax for 2007. This makes the inconvenience of delayed processing of returns for some well worth it for the majority of taxpayers.

Many tax filers will not be affected by the AMT legislation. The delays in processing and refunds will be experienced only by those who include any of the following five forms with their 2007 individual income tax return:

- Form 8863, Education Credits.
- Form 5695, Residential Energy Credits.
- Schedule 2 (Form 1040A filers), Child and Dependent Care Expenses.
- Form 8396, Mortgage Interest Credit.
- Form 8859, District of Columbia First-Time Homebuyer Credit

If you are filing using one of the five affected forms you won't be able to send your return to the IRS for a few weeks until the IRS computers are reprogrammed for the late tax law change. The IRS expects to be ready for these returns by February 11.

Even if you are affected, you should remember that it is always a good idea to start working on your tax return sooner rather than later.

Filing electronically is the best option for everyone, including people impacted by the AMT changes. Whether or not your return claims an AMT related credit, filing electronically results in faster refunds and fewer errors. When you e-file combined with direct deposit you can expect your refund in as little as 10 days. Refunds from paper returns typically take four to six weeks.

For the latest information on the AMT, e-file, direct deposit and other tax matters call my office at 805-434-5095 or visit my website at www.ljordancpa.com for helpful tax hints, tax forms and tax planning ideas.

Larry M. Jordan, CPA
65 S. Main Street, Suite 104
Templeton, CA 93465
larryjcpa@sbcglobal.net

What is Happening—

2008 Templeton Chamber of Commerce Events

Below is a tentative schedule of the events that the Templeton Chamber will host in the coming year. These events provide a means of promoting our business community in a way that also expresses our support of the community in general. It is only with the assistance of our membership that these events can continue to grow. For each event, the Chamber will ask our members to participate, either by monetary sponsorships, in-kind donations, and/or volunteering time.

Many of our members have expressed an interest in sponsoring events and having their business promoted at the events. However, their annual budgets are adopted at the beginning of the year and, in order to participate, these members have requested that we provide a list of our events at this time. Sponsorships range from \$1,500 corporate level to \$100 per event, depending on the event itself. Please review the tentative schedule below. We hope that you realize the value of hosting these events and that you will participate in the coming year.

May 10th - Day in the Shade

A celebration of the Arts held in the Templeton Community Park on Mother's Day weekend. Enjoy the ambiance of a fine arts and crafts festival while sampling local wines.

June 14th - Templeton Outdoor Quilt Show

Main Street is the backdrop for hundreds of handmade quilts displayed along roofs, balconies, fences, and porches of downtown businesses. A truly remarkable sight!

October 18th - Wine & Roses Bike Ride

Cyclists of all levels will enjoy rides of 50, 75, and 100 miles through our countryside. This is followed by a BBQ lunch at Templeton Community Park.

November 16th - Founder's Day

Celebrate Templeton's past and agricultural heritage at the Templeton Historical Museum. There will be a display of vintage tractors and engines, as well as music, food, and activities including the traditional old-fashioned pie social.

December 6th - Cowboy Christmas

Templeton Community Park provides the setting for this community Holiday gathering. There is a toboggan run, snow play areas, an arts & crafts festival, music, food, plenty of activities for the children and, of course, Santa Claus.

We also will be publishing the annual Templeton Visitor's Guide, which is another excellent means of promoting your business (approx. \$200 - \$1,000 per ad) and we are considering hosting a Business Expo in 2008. For more information, visit our website www.templetonchamber.com, or send an email to info@templetonchamber.com

Advertising

Templeton Chamber of Commerce Advertising Options

Place your ad today!

TABS (Flyer Inserts for newsletters mailed in December, March, June, September)

New Members - one set free (within 3 months of joining)

Members - \$45

Non-members - \$65

Non-profit / Community - \$15

Paper thicker than 24#, additional fee of \$45

200 copies of your flyer must be dropped off with payment by the 15th of the month prior to publication. (Example: For December newsletter, the deadline would be November 15th.) Flyers can be dropped off at: Rabobank, 1025 Las Tablas, Attn: Cindy Warren or to Laurie Ion at TCSD.

Business Card Ads

Members - \$35/month

Non-members - \$45/month

Non-profit / Community - \$15/month



Membership Fee Schedule

Associate Membership: \$50
(Private individuals, not conducting business)

Non-profit Organizations: \$50
(Service clubs, churches, etc.)

Businesses with up to 3 persons: \$75
(Full-time employees or the part-time equivalent)

Businesses with 4 or more persons: \$125
(Full-time employees or equivalent)

*Templeton Chamber of Commerce
Board of Trade
P.O. Box 701
Templeton, CA 93465
Phone: (805) 434-1789
E-mail: info@templetonchamber.com
www.templetonchamber.com*

Templeton Business of the Month—Joebella Coffee Roasters

Joebella Coffee Roasters, the new, state of the art, independently-owned Coffee and Espresso bar has opened-- next to Trader Joe's in Templeton. Joseph



and Isabel Gerardis, owners of Joebella Coffee Roasters, are now able to brew and serve their own locally roasted, certified Organic and Fair Trade coffees, from around the world. The specialty coffees they carefully choose are artfully roasted in small batches, in their Atascadero roastery, to guarantee that every brew is fresh.

The pursuit of real quality is born of passion and that is what continues to inspire Joebella Coffee Roasters. Joebella first introduced their socially and environmentally conscious grown coffees to San Luis Obispo County just a few years ago. Now, they have created a unique and very special place for you to enjoy their marvelous coffees, beautiful

loose-leaf teas, as well as, pastries and light lunches that include organic and vegetarian selections. It's the Central Coast coffee house you've been waiting for to relax, meet a friend, check your email or grab and go!" You can even order a "Joe-to-Go" box of a ready to serve, steaming fresh brew and something munchable for your next meeting or social gathering. Make it special!

Open daily from 6 am to 6 pm M-F, Saturday 7am to 6 pm and Sunday 8am to 6 pm, come visit Joebella Coffee Roasters 1121 Rossi Road, just off Vineyard Drive Exit in Templeton. 805-434-2479 the Joy of JOEBELLA ~ Have the Day You Want! Email: joebellacoffee@calinet.com or contact us at:

Joebella Coffee Roasters
1121 Rossi Road
Templeton, CA 93465
805-434-2479
www.joebellacoffee.com

Thank You—Active Medical and Safety

A very special thank you to Cliff Lewis, Owner, of Active Medical & Safety for donating the first aid kits for the 2007 Wine & Roses Bike Ride. The event was a great success thanks to contributors like Cliff Lewis. His company, Active Medical & Safety, "help companies select and maintain effective first aid and safety programs which save them both time and money." Active Medical & Safety is the only first aid and safety home-based company in San Luis Obispo County and all of their products meet or exceed ANSI and OSHA standards. They also distribute bio-based hand sanitizers and soaps. Contact Cliff for more information on how they can be of service to your business.



Cliff Lewis
PO Box 233
Templeton, CA 93465
Phone: (805) 610-6649
Email: mrbandaid@hotmail.com

Real Estate Corner: North County Real Estate Review—

Sponsored by Stacie Ormonde, REALTOR® and Laurie Baldwin, REALTOR®

The New Year always turns thoughts to the new tax season and when it comes to taxes there's no place like home to find shelter. Your home offers a score of tax deductions and credits designed to help offset the cost of housing and to keep the housing market fueled with new buyers. Here's a look at the Top 10 Tax Breaks.

Mortgage Loan Interest: The Mother Of All Tax Breaks, because interest payments comprises a large portion of your mortgage payment in the early years of the loan's term, mortgage interest on a maximum of \$1 million in mortgage debt secured by a first and second home is deductible. Deductions reduce your taxable income against which your taxes due are calculated. The \$1 million level applies to married tax filers who file jointly and single taxpayers. Married taxpayers who file separately split the maximum 50-50. Likewise, home equity loan interest is deductible, but limited to the smaller of \$100,000 (half as much for each member of a married couple if they file separately), or the total of your home's fair market value as determined by a complicated formula.

Home Improvement Loan Interest: The interest on a home improvement loan is also deductible, but calculated differently. You can deduct all the interest on a home improvement loan provided the work is a "capital improvement" rather than repairs, maintenance or cosmetic upgrades. Capital improvements typically increase your home's value, or prolong it's life.

Points: Points, each equal to 1 percent of the loan principal, are charged by lenders as part of the cost of the loan. You can fully deduct points associated with a home purchase mortgage, but not a mortgage broker's commission. Refinanced mortgage points are deductible too, but only when they are amortized over the life of the loan. Once you refinance a second time, the balance of the old points from a refinanced loan offer an immediate write off, as you begin to amortize the new points.

Property Taxes: Property taxes or real estate taxes are fully deductible. Any local city or state property tax refunds reduces your federal property tax deduction by the same amount.

Capital Gains Exclusion: Home buying investors' best tax shelter comes from provisions in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 which allows married taxpayers who file jointly to keep, tax free, up to \$500,000 in profit on the sale of a home used as a principal residence for two of the prior five years. The amount is halved for those filing single or separately.

Home-Based Business Deduction: Home offices that use a portion of your home exclusively for business could qualify you to deduct a percentage of costs related to that portion. Included are a percentage of your insurance and repair costs, utility bills and depreciation.

Selling Costs and Capital Improvements: When you sell your home, you can reduce your taxable capital gain by the amount of your selling costs, which include real estate commissions, title insurance, legal fees, advertising and inspection fees. Cost typically stemming from decorating or repairs -- painting, wallpapering, maintenance, and the like -- are also selling costs if you complete them within 90 days of your sale and with the intention of making the home more saleable.

Moving Costs: A move triggered by a new job comes with some deductible moving costs. To qualify, you must meet certain requirements including, moving within one year of starting your new job, moving 50 miles farther from your old home than your old job was and working full-time at the new job for 39 of 52 weeks following the move. Deductions include travel or transportation costs and expenses for lodging and storing your belongings.

Mortgage Tax Credit: Mortgage Credit Certificates (MCCs) allow qualifying low-income, first-time home buyers to take a mortgage interest tax credit of up to 20 percent (the amount varies by jurisdiction) of the mortgage interest payments made on a home. This credit is available every year you keep the loan and live in the house purchased with the certificate. Unlike a deduction that reduces your income, the credit is subtracted, dollar for dollar, from the income tax owed.

Energy Tax Credits: The newest home-based tax credits were made possible by the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Tax credits of up to \$500 in 2006 and 2007 are available for upgrading heating and air conditioning systems, insulations, windows, doors and thermostats, caulking leaks, installing pigmented metal roofs and for otherwise putting the bite on energy waste in your home.

Article Provided By: *Broderick Perkins*



Your *Templeton* REALTORS®

Stacie Ormonde, REALTOR®

(805) 235-5529 cell

(805) 462-3310 Office

stacie@stacieormonde.com

Laurie Baldwin, REALTOR®

RE/MAX Parkside Real Estate

(805) 610-7115 cell

(805) 239-3310 Office

lauriebaldwin@charter.net

February 21st Mixer—5:30 to 7:30 Joebella Coffee Roasters

Joebella Coffee Roasters, the new, state of the art, independently-owned Coffee and Espresso bar has opened-- next to Trader Joe's in Templeton. Joseph and Isabel Gerardis, owners of Joebella Coffee Roasters, are now able to brew and serve their own locally roasted, certified Organic and Fair Trade coffees, from around the world. The specialty coffees they carefully choose are artfully roasted in small batches, in their Atascadero roastery, to guarantee that every brew is fresh.

The Templeton Chamber After Five Mixer will be hosted by Joebella Coffee Roasters from 5:30 to 7:30 on the 21st of the month. Come join all of the local Templeton businesses in another successful networking excursion and enjoy all that Joebella Coffee Roasters has to offer the Central Coast.



6th Annual Day in the Shade— Calling All Artists, Crafters, Oliver Growers, and Wine Makers

A Celebration of the Arts will be held on May 10, 2008, in Templeton Park from 9 am to 5 pm. This well established Mother's Day weekend show has grown by leaps and bounds over the years and we expect this year to be the best yet.

We invite you to participate in Day in the Shade by going to the following website and clicking on ***Events***.

www.templetonchamber.com

For additional information please call:

Pati Coelho at (805) 712-0601.

See you all at Day in the Shade!

Insurance Corner: What Affects the Price of Auto Insurance?— Sponsored by Cary Runnells at State Farm Insurance of Templeton

The price of auto insurance varies by company and by what you buy:

What kind of car you drive

If you are buying or selling a car, you will need to [re-evaluate your auto insurance needs](#). Generally, the more expensive the car, the more you pay.

Where you drive

Generally, due to higher rates of vandalism, theft and accidents, urban drivers pay more for insurance than those in small towns or rural areas.

How much you drive

People who use their car for business and long-distance commuting normally pay more than those who drive less.

Your age, sex and marital status

Accident rates are higher for all drivers under age 25, especially young males and single males. Insurance prices in most states reflect these differences.

Your driving record

Drivers who cause accidents generally must pay more than those who are accident-free for several years.

Your credit history

Studies have shown that credit history is a powerful predictor of future auto insurance losses. Many insurance companies consider certain credit characteristics in addition to many other factors when determining an individual's rate.

What can I do to save money on my auto insurance?

If you're shopping for a car, consider how your choice will affect premiums. Some insurers increase premiums for cars more susceptible to damage or occupant injury, and lower rates for those that fare better than the norm.

Ask about [discounts](#) for good students, insuring more than one vehicle, accident-free driving, and others. Consider joining a car or van pool, or finding other transportation to work. If you reduce your driving mileage enough, you may lower your premiums.



Advertise Now in the Templeton 2008-2009 Visitor's Guide!

The latest version of the Templeton Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Guide is now under construction and we encourage all members to advertise in the soon to come publication. For more information, contact:

Beth Brennan
Access North County Yellow Pages
554 Spring Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446
(805) 226-9890 or
beth@northcountyyellowpages.com

Templeton Chamber of Commerce—New Rule for Social Security Numbers on Paystubs

Employers are reminded that beginning Jan. 1, 2008, only the last four digits of an employee's Social Security number or other personal identification number may be included on an itemized wage statement. Make sure your processes are updated to ensure compliance with this law.

Templeton Chamber of Commerce—After Five Mixers 2007 & 2008

- February 21st Joebella Coffee
- March 13th Herrmann's Chocolate Lab & The 9's - Hair & Skin Lounge
- April 10th Templeton Market & Deli
- May 8th Nature's Touch Nursery & Harvest
- June 12th Miller Drilling
- July 10th Sue Casa Bed & Breakfast/1525 Templeton Rd.
- August 14th Sani Eye Center
- September Casa Blanca Spa & Salon, Anthology, and Skin by Alicia @ 74 Main St.
- October 11th Home & Ranch Realtors (David Crabtree) contact: Nancee

- November Heritage Oaks Bank
- December **Open**

Mixers are typically held on the second Thursday of the month from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Mixers provide Templeton Chamber Members the opportunity to showcase their business to other members in the community. We encourage you to also invite your clients and friends, as mixers provide a great networking opportunity for all involved.

Businesses that sponsor mixers are asked to provide appetizers and beverages. We would also encourage a raffle item or two.

HR Tip Section

DON'T WASTE MONEY BUYING GOVERNMENT FORMS & POSTERS

Several government agencies are alerting business owners that they don't need to pay for most forms and posters they're required to use and post in their work places. Those documents are often available Free on government web sites.

Web sites ending in .gov are the only official government sites. Some private companies try to sell government documents using official-looking web sites.

Advice: You can download most required federal posters free at the U.S. Labor Department's main poster page,

www.dol.gov/osbp/sbrefa/poster. Download mandatory California posters at www.dir.ca.gov/WP.asp.

REVISE POLICY ON CELL-PHONE USAGE TO PREPARE FOR 2008 LAW (effective 7/1/08)

If your employees use cell phones for company business while driving, start the process of revising your policy to require hands-free devices. Then educate employees about the new policy.

Reason: A new California law taking effect on July 1, 2008, will ban the use of hand-held cell phones while driving a motor vehicle. The law carries a \$20 fine for a first offense and \$50 fine for all subsequent offenses. The law does allow hand-held phones to be used to contact police or fire departments.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) plans a PR blitz later this year to publicize the change. CHP stats from 2005 show that many more accidents are tied to the use of hand-held phones while driving than the use of the hands-free variety (1,098 to 102).

Article Provided By: HR Specialist California Employment Law newsletter

December 2007 issue

www.templetonchamber.com

Welcome—

New Chamber Members

Paso Robles Children's Museum
Natalie Schaefer, M.S.
PO Box 2526, Paso Robles,
CA 93447

Business Address: 623 13th
Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446
Category: Non-Profit
questions@pasokids.org
www.pasokids.org

Quality Home & Renovation
Allen & Wende Kroger
870 Petersen Ranch Road,
Templeton, CA 93465
Business address same as above
#391-1359 Fax 888-2795
Category: Contractors
Email gokrogers@aol.com
Web: www.725redcloud.com



*Templeton Chamber of Commerce
Board of Trade*

P.O. Box 701

Templeton, CA 93465

Phone: (805) 434-1789

E-mail: info@templetonchamber.com

Templeton Chamber of Commerce Newsletter—9

Templeton Chamber of Commerce

Templeton Chamber of Commerce
Board of Trade
P.O. Box 701
Templeton, CA 93465
Phone: (805) 434-1789



About the Templeton Chamber of Commerce:

The original Templeton Board of Trade was formed in 1913 to promote trade and commerce, for the promotion of work, and for advertising to encourage growth within the community.

In May of 1979, a town meeting was held to determine whether or not to revitalize the Board of Trade. It was overwhelmingly accepted and a new organization known as the Templeton Chamber of Commerce - Board of Trade was formed. This was in keeping with the original historical name, but also realizing the need to be a member of a nationally recognized organization such as the Chamber of Commerce.

The organization consists of local businesses, professionals and individual members who are committed to promoting economic vitality, quality of life, and encouraging cooperation within our community.

We're On the Web:

www.templetonchamber.com

2008 Chamber Board:

Rob Rosales, Chairperson; Laurie Ion, Vice-Chair; Cindy Warren, Treasurer; Larry Jordan, Secretary; Greg Chilina and Stacie Ormonde, Newsletter Creators; Maria Eskandanian; Pati Coelho; Dianna Reed; Cary Runnells; Clark Stevens. *Karen Chilina, Newsletter Contributor.*

Have News?

Do you have something you would like to see in this monthly publication? If so, please contact Greg Chilina at the Templeton Chamber of Commerce by calling 369.5194 or send him information via email at gchilina@heritageoakbank.com. We will do our best to support your up and coming events or spread the news about what you think are important happenings in the Templeton Community.

Development Fees to Increase Drastically in 2008

Pay these fees prior to the date that the increases take effect and save considerably!

The SLO County Board of Supervisors recently approved an increase in the **Road Impact Fees (RIF)** for real estate development projects in the Templeton area. These fees are evaluated each year as part of an annual review of the Templeton Traffic Circulation Plan by County Public Works with the assistance of the Templeton Area Advisory Group (TAAG). The Traffic Circulation Plan provides a guideline for road projects in the Templeton area, both in progress and proposed. The fees help pay for the traffic circulation projects in Templeton and the surrounding area.

In determining these RIF, Templeton is divided into three subareas; Urban, Rural and Ramada Drive. The fees for each area may vary and are calculated depending on the type of development proposed in the subarea - residential, commercial, or other. Last year these fees increase 15 - 23% across the board. **Effective January 27, 2008**, the Road Impact Fees in the Rural and Urban subareas will increase by as much as 40—65%. It was determined by Public Works, and supported by TAAG, that such an increase was necessary to keep up with the increasing costs to make the necessary traffic circulation improvements in the Templeton area. For more information, contact County Public Works at 781-5252.

There are also increases that have been approved for County **Public Facilities Fees** imposed on all residential and non-residential development in the County. The fees are collected by County Dept. of Planning and Building and are used to help provide for fire, general gov't, parks, Sheriff's patrol and libraries. The 3% increase will take **effect in February 2008**. Contact County Planning for more information at 781- 5600.

Another fee that will increase is that approved by the Templeton Community Service District for **water hook-ups**. This fee is set to increase approximately 40% in the coming year, in large part to help fund Templeton's share of the cost for the Nacimiento Water Project. Contact the TCSD office for more information at 434-4900.