

Think Local First Southern Sierra

Contributed by Admin KRVR
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On Thursday, June 4, Sierra Business Council held an organizing meeting in the Kernville Community Room led by SBC President Steve Frisch and Sahara Saude. 21 people attended the meeting and agreed to take steps to create a local steering committee and set up a Southern Sierra Think Local First Program, much like 4 others set up in other part of the Sierra.

On Monday, July 6, 18 local community members met and set up a steering committee to work toward a Think Local First Southern Sierra Campaign.

Jim Davis reports on that meeting:

This is a grass roots effort to promote businesses and organizations of our community to increase awareness of our citizens in our community to support locally owned businesses and organizations first whenever they can. An 8 person steering committee has been developed for the Think Local First Southern Sierra campaign. In addition to the community members the steering committee will be made up of representatives from Kern River Valley Revitalization (KRVR) and both the Kernville and the Kern River Valley Chambers of Commerce. Next meetings are scheduled for August 3, 2009 and September 8, 2009 at the Kernville Community Room (next to the Kernville Chamber office) at the corner of Sierra Way and Kernville Road. Think Local First Bumper stickers are available at the 2 chamber of commerce locations:

- Kernville Chamber of Commerce

11447 Kernville Road

Kernville, CA 93238

(760) 376-2629

- Kern River Valley Chambers of Commerce

6404 Lake Isabella Blvd., Suite B

Lake Isabella, CA 93240

(760) 379-5236 You can Buy a Local First Retail Kit for \$45 or Invest in a Local First Program Membership

Membership (\$100) at the Sierra Business Council Think Local First webpage. Think Local First Southern Sierra

Steering committee: O. J. Atchison

Atchison Propane

Wofford Heights

Rita D'Angelo KRV Chamber, CENTURY 21

Lake Isabella

Jim Davis KRVR, KRV Art Association Isabella Highlands

Kate DeVries Videographer Kernville Shawn Gilbert www.kernvalleywired.com Wofford Heights

Luz Polcik www.edwardjones.com, KRV Rotary

Kernville/Lake Isabella

Dr. Holly Spohn-Gross

Sienna Wellness Institute Kernville/Mt. Mesa

Jill Thurman Kernville Chamber, Archie's Hardware

Kernville

Next Meeting: 7pm, Wednesday, October 14 Kernville Community Room

(Next to the Kernville Chamber's office)

Sierra Way at Kernville Road, Kernville Click here to watch a quick video about the Think Local First program Add me to

the KRV Think Local First e-mail list Think Local First Program is a Sierra Business Council program that fosters

increased support for local organizations. This program, which SBC is piloting in four other communities throughout the Sierra Nevada, supports locally-owned independent businesses that sustain our communities and give our towns unique character.

Join Sierra Business Council's President Steve Frisch and Sahara Saude to see how you can become a part of this program. This meeting is a follow-up to a workshop held during Living Green in the KRV in March. Co-sponsored by Kern River Valley Revitalization and Sierra Business Council in cooperation with the Kern River Valley & Kernville Chambers of Commerce & the Wofford Heights Community Association.

INFO: Nikki Streegan; SBC Think Local First Coordinator - nstreegan@sbcouncil.org Sierra Business Council's

Think Local First pageKRV Think Local First Forum

The Kern Valley Sun has been doing a series of articles that highlight compelling reasons why all of us in the Kern River Valley should shop locally. Kern Valley Sun Editorial: Top 10 Reasons to Support Locally-Owned Businesses Kern Valley Sun: James Store: Five generations and still going strong Mark Preston, center, is flanked by his sons Cody Preston, left, and Neal Preston, right, in front of the Sierra Gateway Market in Kernville. Kern Valley Sun: Lore's Loft, unique boutique where fashion makes a statement Kern Valley Sun: Golden State Surplus meeting a growing community's needs

Joe Ciriello strikes a familiar pose at the counter of Golden State Surplus, where Ciriello says he has seen an increased demand for more high-end gear and equipment as needs of visitors and locals change. Kern Valley Sun: Local merchants go the extra mile for customers

Steve Spradlin stands proudly in front of the home and garden section of his True Value store on Lake Isabella Blvd.

Kern Valley Sun: L&M Lumber takes pride in quality, service Ryan McCollough, left, and his father, Dell McCollough, owners of L&M Lumber in Lake Isabella proudly display the recognition they've received for an exceptional volume of paint sales. Jim Wyly: Business owner with commitment to community

Jim Wyly, left, with Steve Campbell on May 15, 1977, the day the pair took the reins of Mt. Mesa Market.