

Business Report



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Moffitt Elementary School Visits Outback Steakhouse



On-the-job training starts early over at the Norwalk Outback Steakhouse - students from Thomas B. Moffitt Elementary School went down under for a behind-the-scenes look at the eatery and tried their hand at making Bloomin' Onions, french fries and even learned a thing or two about the Australian Outback thanks to proprietor Rob Cazares.

Teacher Tim Pelonis brings his students every year to tour the facility, which is in walking distance from the school. Outback staff breaks the students into groups, shows them the different areas of the restaurant committed to community organizations, Australian history and to customer service. Each tour ends with a tour of the kitchen and lunch from the kitchen crew.

Outback Steakhouse opened in 1998 and has since grown into one of the cornerstones of casual dining in the city. It serves as an anchor to the city's entertainment center near Norwalk City Hall.

Rob Cazares is a former president of the Chamber of Commerce and his restaurant has participated in the City of Norwalk Sheriffs, Firefighters, CHP Officers and Public Safety Appreciation Luncheon. He has been a consistently strong supporter of the Night of a Thousand Stars Library fundraiser and has helped nearly every Little League and softball program in the city.

It's only fitting that Rob takes on this new challenge giving our youngsters the opportunity to see how restaurants operate behind the scenes. Restaurant field trips are some of the most popular trips among the youngsters.

Our thanks goes out to Tim Pelonis for the extra work he contributes to this field trip. Sometimes taking this many youngsters on a trip and keeping them focused can be a challenge. Somehow Mr. Pelonis makes it look easy and gives this extra effort with no expectation other than to give his students the best education possible.



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Employment Development Department Hosts Job Fair

On November 2, a Veterans' Health and Employment Expo opened to the public at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex.

Job seekers brought résumés and interviewed with employers on the spot. There was also a tremendous amount of literature about obtaining benefits, and career training.

Anna Hernandez, at Norwalk Employment Development Department, (562) 929-9107, is a wealth of information if you should have questions about future events or programs.



The event was hosted by the California Employment Development Department in conjunction with the Norwalk Office and Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, City of Norwalk, Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board (SELACO WIB), Southeast Area Social Services Funding Authority (SASSFA), California Army National Guard, Veterans' Affairs, the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce and the National Tooling Machining Association Training Center.

The event was supported financially and in-kind by the City of Norwalk, Gordon Stefenhagen, Luigi Vernola, Rodger's Catering, Norwalk/La Mirada Plumbing and Heating, Starbucks and the City of Montebello.



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