

CHAMBER CHAT

October 2022

What Hits Home for You?

By Andy Mayer/President & CEO

There have been many natural disasters that have led to the loss of life and property lately. So many that we feel bad for the people affected but tend to tune the event and aftermath out rather quickly. It takes a direct connection for something to hit home to us. If it is our community, our family, or our friends, we pay attention and stay engaged. I have such a connection with Sanibel Island in Florida. It has been devastated by Hurricane Ian and I have friends who live there.

It is inspiring to see how individuals step up in a crisis. In the case of Sanibel Island and surrounding areas, first responders got right to work, or more accurately never stopped working. Volunteers such as the "Cajun Navy" also immediately and courageously jumped into action. That's just the first step. The recovery will be long and difficult. In her message to the community Sanibel Mayor Holly Smith said "I am struggling to find the words to convey my feelings, as I am sure most of us are as we look to the past four days. All our lives and our island have been forever changed. What we do tomorrow and the days and months ahead will redefine and strengthen our community."

I can't even imagine what it feels like to experience an event of such magnitude or the strength it takes to get through it and to recover. And I hope our community never has to do so. But we have had events over the years and will unfortunately have more. So besides feeling concerned for my Sanibel friends and their community, I feel grateful for ours. We truly care for the people and place that we call home. It is evident in how we look out for each other's needs and constantly look for ways to make our area even better. That spirit that I know you have is a guiding force in regular times and will carry us through difficult ones when needed. Speaking of need, please support the relief effort in Florida if you can.



GOLD



SILVER



Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce
(360) 428-8547
mountvernonchamber.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Motivation & Marketing Mastermind The Eight Social Media Sites You Should Prioritize

Thursday, October 6 at 10 a.m.
In-person or Zoom
[Register here](#)
301 W Kincaid St
Mount Vernon

Multi-Chamber After Hours at Helping Hands Food Bank

Thursday, October 13
4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Helping Hands Food Bank
9386 Fruitdale Rd
Sedro-Woolley

Latino Business Leaders - Business Licenses and Permits

Presentation in Spanish

Presented by: Claire Kamak,
City of Mount Vernon
Wednesday, October 19
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
[Register here](#)
301 W Kincaid St
Mount Vernon



Shawn Steffens, ChFC, RICP
(360) 707-7677

Biz Buzz Networking Luncheon

Wednesday, October 26
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
[Register here](#)
Hillcrest Lodge
1717 S 13th St
Mount Vernon



Chamber Connections Social and Open House

Tuesday, October 25
4:30 - 6:00 PM
Il Granaio
[Register here](#)

This event is for members of the Chamber's
Connections referral groups as well as those
Chamber members interested in joining
Connections. Interested members should speak
with Silvia Reed to determine if their
business/industry category is available.

BRONZE LEGACY



Get to Know Loving Farms

Located on Old Hwy 99 in Mount Vernon, locally owned cannabis retailer Loving Farms started in 2014 with Nate and Tatiana Loving as their owners. With a background in construction, Nate decided to start their family business when the future of the industry was still uncertain since the many regulations could potentially impact the operations and business revenue. Loving Farms opened doors in September 2014 and has navigated the many challenges of a small business in a relatively new industry.

The business has grown over the past few years and today Loving Farms' inventory includes flower, concentrates, edibles, cartridges, pre-rolls, topicals and accessories. The cannabis retailer currently employs 6 staff members including Nate and Tatiana and is open 7 days a week.

Born in Costa Rica, Loving Farms' co-owner Tatiana Loving and some of their staff members are also able to serve Spanish speaking customers. Often times their staff refers to Loving Farms as a true family business where they feel welcome and included. Beyond their employment, their employees have felt the support of the company during difficult times.

Owners Nate and Tatiana enjoy spending time with their dog Lola, a beautiful blue healer that visits with vendors in the back office and welcomes all who want to play with her. Their travel abroad also takes the couple to beautiful Costa Rica where they spend time with Tatiana's part of the family.

Loving Farms also offers daily deals for those interested in trying different menu items with many of their products being locally grown. A 20% discount is available to seniors 55 and older, veterans, active military spouses and students.

For more information on Loving Farms, please visit their [website](#).



**Nate and Tatiana Loving, Owners
Loving Farms**

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Board of Directors

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Community Action of Skagit County

Vice Chair - Brian Ivie

Skagit Regional Health

Past Chair - David Lukov

Kern Funeral Home

Treasurer - Rhonda Tingley

SaviBank

Member at Large - Duby Petit

Skagit Publishing

Viry Delgado

COA Mexican Eatery

Peter Donovan

City of Mount Vernon

Diane Fox

All About Hearing

Robert Knoll

Puget Sound Energy

Jesse Lopez

Infinity Painting & Renovations

Flora Lucatero

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Andrew Miller

Tulip Town

Todd Owsley

Farmstrong Brewing Company

Tammy Reim-Ledbetter

Alaska USA

Dr. Amanda Rentschler

Roosevelt Dental Center

Jon Ronngren

Mount Vernon School District

Tony White

Skagit Valley Food Co-op

STAFF

Andy Mayer President/CEO

Silvia Reed Business Development and
Foundation Director

Jeremy Kindlund Operations Director

Marinus Rouw & Emeleah Magaña

Visitor Information Services

Member Announcements

Camp Korey supporters raise \$1.5 million at Grow Dinner & Auction

On September 10th, 2022, more than 170 supporters, camp families, volunteers, and staff gathered "Around the Campfire," for Camp Korey's signature Grow Auction and Dinner. Throughout the evening, generosity flowed, raising \$1,500,000, and warming the hearts of campers with life-altering medical conditions and ensuring they have a place to experience adaptive programming designed to meet their needs and enjoy the adventure of camp all year long.

Lincoln Theatre Honored with Governor's Heritage Award

It is with great pleasure that the Lincoln Theatre Center Foundation announces that The Historic Lincoln Theatre has been selected to receive the Governor's Heritage Award in the category of "Heritage Organization." The Governor's Heritage Awards, established in 1989, "honor outstanding individuals and organizations whose dedication to preserving and promoting traditions and cultural heritage is worthy of state recognition."

EDASC Job Board opening to all Skagit County businesses

EDASC's Skagit Job Board soon will be available FREE to all Skagit County businesses for one year. The only requirement is that your business must be located in Skagit County. Previously, the Skagit Job Board was only open to current EDASC Investors. Visit www.skagit.org for more information.



For more member announcements, visit
mountvernonchamber.com/member-announcements

Send your announcements to
Jeremy@mountvernonchamber.com

Member Reveals Positive Return on Investment

“Being part of the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce has brought several benefits to our company and has been a great opportunity to connect and get involved with the business community. As part of the Latino Business Leaders program I have also been able to provide needed support to our Latino businesses.”



Armando Fuentes
(360) 391-9410
La Zeta 103.3 FM – Bustos Media LLC

Ambassadors

Chair - Liz Theaker

Camp Korey

Betsy Anorbe

Betsy Anorbe Real Estate

Antonia Bush

Peoples Bank

Susan Cooper

Susan Cooper

Ector DeLeon

Tulip Valley Winery

Joley Garner

WAFD Insurance Group, Inc.

Carol Harris

PrimeLending

Jaime Huss

WaFd Bank

Crystal King

NW Technology

Blake Rawlins

Guardian Northwest Title &

Escrow

Tammy Reim-Ledbetter

Alaska USA

Tony Salas

Eden Home Health

Looking for a new way to attract
more referrals for your business?

Join our bi-monthly meetings at

Chamber Connections

Or you can attend our upcoming
Social Hour & Open House

Il Granaio

Wednesday, October 25

4:30 - 6:00 PM

FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER

Silvia Reed

Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com

(360) 395-2944

One representative per industry



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September in pictures



Ribbon Cutting at Cascade Landing



Ambassador Meeting at Skagit Landing



Latino Business Leaders Meet for Training

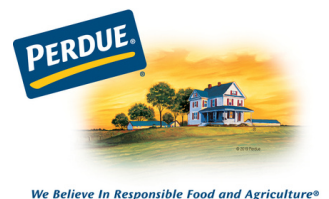


Members Listen Intently at the Candidate Forum

Skagit Wine & Beer Festival Presented by Draper Valley Farms



We are pleased to announce the 2022 Skagit Wine & Beer Festival presented by Draper Valley Farms/Perdue Farms. The event will take place on Saturday, November 12 at the Heritage Flight Museum. You will be delighted with wines, beer and spirits from regions throughout Washington, including local Skagit County wineries, microbrews and spirits, as well as, gourmet appetizers, divine chocolate, and cheese samplings. Purchase tickets [here!](#)



Sponsorship and volunteer opportunities are available. Please see the sponsorship opportunities in this newsletter or contact Jeremy Kindlund, Operations Director at Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com for more information. Sponsorships must be reserved by Tuesday, October 25 to guarantee all benefits.

Thank You Renewing Members

30+ Years

Draper Valley Farms
Land Title and Escrow
Louis Auto Glass
Skagit Farmers Supply & Country Store
The Bony Pony
Washington Federal

25+ Years

Haggen Food & Pharmacy
Handy's Heating
Tulip Inn

20+ Years

Budget Towing & Repair
SBV Tulip Town LLC

15+ Years

KBRC 1430AM
Sign Pro of Skagit Valley
University of Massachusetts Global

10+ Years

Coastal Farm & Ranch
Fisher Construction Group
Harmsen & Associates
HF Sinclair Corporation
McGregor Benefits
Vera Wellness Center

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Permanently Profitable with Dawn Klevesahl
Primerica

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Brian Largent
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Sponsorship Opportunities



Saturday, November 12, 2022
Heritage Flight Museum

Presenting - \$3,500

- Your logo prominently displayed on event poster and program as the Presenting Sponsor
- Recognition in all radio advertisements
- Logo displayed in all print ads as the Presenting Sponsor
- Your logo printed on tickets to the event
- Logo included in social media advertising
- Your company banner displayed at entrance
- Special recognition for your company during event
- Premium location on the event website with logo and link to your website
- Six VIP tickets to the event
- Recognition at membership luncheon
- Logo in the chamber newsletter – print and electronic
- Sponsor table at the event

Imperial - \$1,500

- Your company logo displayed at the event
- Special recognition during event
- Your logo on event poster and program
- Logo on the event website
- Four VIP tickets to the event
- Recognition at membership luncheon
- Mentions in the chamber newsletter – print and electronic
- Sponsor table at event

Royal - \$825

- Sponsorship recognition at the event
- Your company logo on event poster and program
- Logo on the event website
- Two VIP tickets to the event
- Recognition at membership luncheon
- Mentions in the chamber newsletter – print and electronic

Magnum - \$550

- Sponsorship recognition at event
- Your company logo on event poster and program
- Your company logo on event website
- Mentions in the chamber newsletter - print and electronic
- Two regular admission tickets to the event

Supporting - \$325

- Your company logo on event poster and program
- Your company logo on event website
- Mentions in the chamber newsletter – print and electronic

Please contact Jeremy Kindlund at Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com to reserve your spot!



360-428-8547

MountVernonChamber.com



Networking - Referrals - Marketing Opportunities
Professional Development
Government Advocacy - Workforce Development



Join the Chamber This Fall

OCTOBER 1 - DECEMBER 15



Your business in a one-time only ad in the Skagit Valley Herald



Free insert in the Chamber newsletter



Additional features in your business listing

... plus all other membership benefits

Includes new members and those who re-join the chamber



For information and to join the chamber


Silvia Reed | (360) 395-2944 | Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com




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