

# CHAMBER CHAT

August 2023

## Honoring the Great Ones

*By Andy Mayer President/CEO*

The Chamber lost two of our biggest supporters, volunteers, and friends recently. Susan Cooper and Marinus Rouw have given so much to us for such a long time that the loss is significant and heartfelt. And although the pain of not having them with us is still great, what they have left behind will long endure and stands as an example for all of us.

Susan and Marinus were both committed to the Chamber. They spent untold hours, planning events, helping us put them on, and in Marinus' case, putting away all the stuff when the event was done. They also kept our Visitors Center functioning well. They each had parts of the operation in which they specialized. Susan was outstanding in organizing information, and people. Marinus used his exceptional ability to connect with people to recruit volunteers for the Visitors Center. What is amazing is that both of them were just as committed to other organizations and activities. Marinus was very active with the Tulip Festival from its inception to this year's event. Susan was similarly involved with the Realtors association and her church. Susan and Marinus certainly had lives well lived. In addition to long and diverse careers they were deeply passionate about our community, contributing tirelessly to make a difference. They weren't looking for personal recognition or awards, although they both deserved and received many of them.

We may not all be able to devote the time that Susan and Marinus gave to our community. But all of us can remember the commitment they demonstrated and the impact they made. The community and each of us personally will benefit greatly if we follow their example. They will be missed, but certainly not forgotten.



## LEGACY MEMBERS

### GOLD



### SILVER



Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce  
(360) 428-8547  
[mountvernonchamber.com](http://mountvernonchamber.com)

## Thank You Renewing Members

### 30+ Years

Windermere Real Estate/Skagit Valley

### 25+ Years

La Conner Inn

The Skagit Casino Resort

### 15+ Years

Sundance Energy Services, Inc

United Way of Skagit County

### 10+ Years

Cory Kiehn, Realtor Windermere RE Skagit Valley

Smiley Insurance

### 5+ Years

Allstate - DeVries & Schlagel Insurance

Berg Vault Company of Washington, Inc.

### 5+ Years

Blue Lake Property Management

Burmater Homes

HomePlace Memory Care

Indulge Bakery

La Catrina Tacos & Tequila

Rainy Day Basement Systems

Sierra Pacific Industries

VSH Certified Public Accountants

### Less than 5 Years

Absolute Plumbing

C.A.R.E. Medical Center

Julia Phillip Realty

Minuteman Press

Todd's Monuments

Walton Law A.P.C.

Whidbey Tech Solutions

## Battle of the Bridge Golf Tournament August 25



It's time to fine tune your golf game, or at least dust off your clubs, for the fifth annual Battle of the Bridge Golf Tournament, pitting the Mount Vernon and Burlington chambers against each other for bragging rights and a nice trophy!

The 2023 tournament takes place Friday, August 25, at the Avalon Golf Links, with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Sign up a four-player team for \$700 or as a single player for \$175. Registration includes green fees, a golf cart, lunch from Applebee's, dinner from Avalon Golf Links, and a whole lot of fun! Find the registration sheet on page 9 of this newsletter.

We have limited sponsorship opportunities available below. Contact Jeremy Kindlund, Operations Director with any questions at 360- 428-8547 or [Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com).

### Hole Sponsors - Set up at a Hole:

\$350

Set up a tent at the hole of your choice (based on availability)

Sign at hole (provided by the chamber)

Company name on printed and digital marketing materials

Logo with a link to your website on Burlington-Chamber.com and MountVernonChamber.com

**REGISTER YOUR  
TEAM HERE**



### Tee Sponsors:

\$200

Sign (provided by the chamber) at a tee of your choice (based on availability)

Company name on printed and digital marketing materials

Logo with a link to your website on Burlington-Chamber.com and MountVernonChamber.com

# Calendar of Events

## Multi-Chamber After Hours at Dyberg Aviation at Skagit Regional Airport

Thursday, August 10  
4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
15400 Airport Dr  
Burlington, WA 98233

## Battle of the Bridge Golf Tournament

Friday, August 25  
Shotgun start at 1 p.m.  
Avalon Golf Links  
19345 Kelleher Rd  
Burlington  
[Register here](#)

## Chamber Membership Luncheon - Mount Vernon School District Challenges and Opportunities

Wednesday, August 23  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Hillcrest Lodge  
1717 S 13th St, Mount Vernon  
[Register here](#)



## Latino Business Leaders Summer Social and Kick-Off Event

Wednesday August 30 at 6:00 PM  
Blue Taco  
2300 Market St, Mount Vernon  
[Register here](#)



## Solar Panel Ribbon Cutting at Community Action of Skagit County

Thursday, August 31 at 4 p.m.  
330 Pacific Place  
Mount Vernon

# 2023 Riverwalk Summer Concert Series

Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Skagit Riverwalk Plaza  
August 10 – Eden  
August 17 - Pacific Twang  
August 24 - Chris Eger Band and the Powerhouse Horns  
August 31 - Mama Dirty Skirt

## Thank you sponsors!

Presented by:  **DWAYNE LANE'S**  
SKAGIT SUBARU



## Welcome New Members

### Greenwood Tree Educational Cooperative

Shanna DeLeon

(360) 488-3410

[www.greenwoodtreecoop.org](http://www.greenwoodtreecoop.org)

1551 E Rio Vista Ave

Burlington

GWT offers child-centered educational experiences grounded in rhythmic, seasonally driven curricula. Our homeschool Waldorf inspired enrichment program ranges from Pre-school through Grade 5.

### The Grand Adventures Travel

Albert LeFebvre

(360) 218-4195

[www.thegrandadventures.com](http://www.thegrandadventures.com)

We are a family operated concierge travel agency specializing in carefree, luxury travel for busy professionals and families. Love to travel and have no time, energy, and patience we are here to help.

### Triumph Teen Life Center

Sylvia Alvarez

(360) 755-3267

[www.triumphtlc.org](http://www.triumphtlc.org)

2121 E College Way

Mount Vernon

Triumph strives to empower at-risk teens to overcome obstacles to their academic and personal achievement by providing them with the tools, resources, and after school guidance necessary to flourish.



### Valley Montessori

Sylvia Alvarez

(360) 419-6756

[www.valleypreschoolmv.com](http://www.valleypreschoolmv.com)

331 Pacific Place

Mount Vernon

We are a year-round preschool that also offers a summer program. Our mission is to provide quality academic as well as personal support.

### West Coast Reduction USA Inc.

Ryan Sagan

(360) 333-5396

[www.wcrl.com](http://www.wcrl.com)

14662 Ovenell Rd

Mount Vernon

At West Coast Reduction, 'nothing' is important to us. Because when there's nothing left - that's when we've done our job. We collect food waste and by-products from food producers, like farms, restaurants and supermarkets, transforming them in ingredients used in renewable energy, animal feed, and thousands of other products we use every day. Our efforts contribute to a sustainable local food supply, and help us all live in cleaner and healthier communities.



## Members Reveal Positive Return on Investment



I love our Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce – we have enjoyed the monthly meetings and monthly after hour events. We get to meet with local business, support our local businesses all while we are promoting our business and growing our networks. We are learning to put ourselves out there which isn't always easy but knowing we are in a supportive environment where it's all about how we can help each other. It's amazing to meet people we would not normally have the opportunity to meet.

Becki Bell  
WaFd Bank



## Board of Directors

**Chair - Brian Ivie**

Skagit Regional Health

**Vice Chair - Flora Lucatero**

Children of the Valley

**Past Chair - Bill Henkel**

Community Action of Skagit County

**Treasurer - Tammy Reim-Ledbetter**

Global Credit Union

**Member at-large - Diane Fox**

All About Hearing

**Viry Delgado**

COA Mexican Eatery

**Mike Distelhorst**

Skagit Publishing

**Peter Donovan**

City of Mount Vernon

**Matt Gill**

Marathon Petroleum Corporation

**Robert Knoll**

Puget Sound Energy

**David Lukov**

Kern Funeral Home

**Andrew Miller**

Tulip Valley Farms

**Julia Phillip**

Julia Phillip Realty

**Dr. Amanda Rentschler**

Roosevelt Dental Center

**Jon Ronngren**

Mount Vernon School District

**Liz Theaker**

Camp Korey

**Tony White**

Skagit Valley Food Co-op

**STAFF**

**Andy Mayer** President/CEO

**Silvia Reed** Business Development and Foundation Director

**Jeremy Kindlund** Operations Director

**Bob Johnson & Julie Newkirk**

Visitor Information Services

## Member Announcements

### Brewfest on the Skagit Saturday, August 12



### HKP Architects Welcomes Chelsea Lankford as Office Manager/Marketing Coordinator

With an administrative background in commercial property management, Chelsea is responsible for the day-to-day operations and logistics of HKP Architects. She also manages all aspects of marketing and branding, supporting the team in business development. Chelsea brings over 10 years of experience in freelance social media consulting to HKP and previously worked for a local retail business and the city library.

**Tune In**  
Chamber Chat  
Wednesday Mornings

**102.1 KAPS** Country  
8:05 a.m.

**KBRC** CLASSIC ROCK  
8:20 a.m.

For more member announcements, visit [mountvernonchamber.com/member-announcements](http://mountvernonchamber.com/member-announcements)  
Send your announcements to [Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com)

# July in Pictures



Ribbon Cutting at WECU  
Picture from June



Ribbon Cutting at  
Sahara Pizza



Ribbon Cutting at  
CrossCountry Mortgage



Ambassador Meeting at  
Conway Pub and Eatery



Biz Buzz Networking Luncheon



Riverwalk Summer Concert Series

## Ambassadors

- Chair - Liz Theaker**  
Camp Korey
- Betsy Anorbe**  
Betsy Anorbe Real Estate
- Marla Chapa**  
Skagit Social
- Rick Donovan**  
Kona Ice of Skagit County
- Ector DeLeon**  
Tulip Valley Winery
- Joley Garner**  
WAFD Insurance Group, Inc.
- Carol Harris**  
PrimeLending
- Jaime Huss**  
Washington Federal
- Crystal King**  
NW Technology
- Blake Rawlins**  
Guardian Northwest Title & Escrow
- Tammy Reim-Ledbetter**  
Global Credit Union
- Tony Salas**  
Eden Home Health
- Clarissa Wong**  
CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC

## BRONZE LEGACY

A grid of logos for Bronze Legacy members, including: BCC Directories, Blue Taco, Caliber Home Loans, Consejo, Custom, Cascades Job Corps College & Career Academy, CPI Plumbing & Heating, Dwayne Lane's Auto Family, Gonzalez Gigi's Lawn Care, Heritage Wealth Advisors, Hilltop Pharmacy, HomePlace Memory Care, Law Office of Hector Leal, Tires Les Schwab, NextHome, Northwest NaturalCare, Northwest Physical Therapy, PeaceHealth, Peoples Bank, Roosevelt Dental Center, Sakura Japanese Steak House & Sushi Bar, SaviBank, Skagit County, Sound Beverage Distributors, Spero, Strong Family Insurance, The Bridge at Mount Vernon, West Coast Reduction Ltd., Where the Heart is, and Wycoff Commercial and Family Insurance.





# Latino Business Leaders Summer Social August 30

**thrivent**<sup>®</sup>

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

## 2023-2024 Program Kick Off Event

The Latino Business Leaders 2023-2024 Program is ready to start this August with its annual summer social on Wednesday August 30 at 6:00 PM at Blue Taco Mount Vernon. Hosted by the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce and presented by Thrivent Financial - Shawn Steffens, the summer social is open to Latino startups and established businesses. Attendees will be able to network with other Latino entrepreneurs, learn about the program and enjoy delicious appetizers by Blue Taco.

The 2023-2024 program includes monthly business training, networking events and one-on-one mentorship. All services are free and in Spanish. As a regional chamber of commerce, our services are available for all Latino entrepreneurs in Skagit as well as neighboring counties. In 2022 some of our Latino entrepreneurs came from as far as King and Pierce County.

Sponsorship and partnership opportunities for the Latino Business Leaders program are available. Please contact Business Development and Foundation Director Silvia Reed at (360) 395-2944 or [Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com) for more information.



# SAVE THE DATE



## SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSES BY WOMEN

A SPEAKING OF WOMEN EVENT  
PART 3/3



# SEPTEMBER 13

## 4:30 - 6:00 PM

### Partner Members

Allstate - Mayra Nava Agency, Barron Smith Daugert, PLLC, Best Western PLUS, Skagit Valley Inn, Birch Equipment Co., Budget Towing & Repair, Coastal Farm & Ranch, Costco Wholesale, D&P Electronic Home Monitoring, Farmers Insurance Tory Charette Agency, Foothills Toyota, Fortiphi, Haggen Food & Pharmacy, Hampton Inn & Suites, Infinity Painting & Renovations, Kern Funeral Home, Landed Gentry Homes & Communities, Loving Farms, Max Dale's Steak and Chop House, Mount Vernon School District, North Coast Credit Union, Northwest Escrow, LLC, Pacific Premier Bank, PogoZone, Port of Skagit, Puget Sound Energy, SERVPRO, Skagit Public Utility District 1, Skagit Valley Casino Resort, Skagit Valley College, Skagit Regional Health, Tacos Tecalitlan, Testing and Commissioning Services, LLC, Walmart, WECU, White Branches, Williams & Nulle, PLLC, CPAs



# Battle of the Bridge Golf Tournament

**Avalon Golf Links**

**19345 Kelleher Rd Burlington**

**Friday, August 25**

**Shotgun start at 1pm**

*Battle of the Bridge Golf Tournament benefits the Burlington Chamber of Commerce and the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce Foundation and Experience Work Project. Tournament format will be a four-man scramble. Registration includes a golf cart, lunch from Applebee's, dinner from Avalon Golf Links and a goodie bag.*

*\$20 bundle package available that includes: 5 raffle tickets, 2 mulligans and a "Hit the Skagit Casino Resort Sign" drawing.*

## Registration

Team of Four (\$700)

Single Player (\$175)

Includes company logo on the golf cart

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 1 (Contact): \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 4: \_\_\_\_\_

*Which team are you playing for?*

Burlington Chamber of Commerce

Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce

## Contact Information

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*For more information, contact Jeremy Kindlund at (360) 428-8547, [Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com) or Emily Johnson, (360) 757-0994, [Emily@Burlington-Chamber.com](mailto:Emily@Burlington-Chamber.com)*





# Partnership Opportunities

Latino Business Leaders (LBL) is a Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce Foundation program designed to facilitate the advancement and participation of Latino businesses through entrepreneurship training programs, networking, marketing and mentorship.

## LBL Presenting Partner (Not available)

**\$2500.00**

- ⇒ Company name and/or logo in all LBL marketing including website, social media and newsletter
- ⇒ Company name in all radio announcements
- ⇒ Opportunity to speak in front of the group
- ⇒ Your marketing material available for participants at all sessions
- ⇒ Marketing table (or similar depending on space) at 3 socials

## LBL Partner (3 sessions)

**\$500.00**

- ⇒ Company name and/or logo in LBL marketing including website, social media and newsletter
- ⇒ Opportunity to speak in front of the group
- ⇒ Your marketing material available for participants at 3 sessions

## Latino Initiative Supporter

**\$250.00**

- ⇒ Company name and/or logo in event marketing
- ⇒ Opportunity to speak in front of the group
- ⇒ Your marketing material available for participants

## LBL Social-Networking Event Supporter

**\$250.00**

- ⇒ Company name and/or logo in event marketing including website, social media and newsletter
- ⇒ Opportunity to speak in front of the group
- ⇒ Marketing table at event (or similar depending on space)

## LBL Session Supporter (1 session)

**\$150.00**

- ⇒ Company name and/or logo in LBL marketing
- ⇒ Company logo on the event page and displayed during the sponsored session
- ⇒ Your marketing material available for session participants

### **2023-2024 Schedule**

#### **LBL Social-Networking Events**

Held in August, December and April

#### **Latino Initiatives**

Special sessions designed to support the Latino community and based on specific community needs.

#### **Entrepreneurship Training Program**

Monthly training sessions held in Spanish. Designed for start ups and established Latino businesses.

For information contact Silvia Reed | [Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com) | (360) 395-2944




**MOUNTVERNONCHAMBER.COM**




# Fiber Internet for Condos & Apartments

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- 100 MBPS Upload
- Telephone Services
- Fiber Optic Speeds
- Friendly help
- Month to Month



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Contact us for more information  
 (360) 676-8772 - Option 3 (sales)  
 Sales@Pogozone.com

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