

# CHAMBER CHAT

October 2023

## What Makes Fall Special to You?

**By Andy Mayer President/CEO**

Is it the crisp clear days and beautiful leaves? Maybe you enjoy corn mazes and pumpkin patches with your kids. How about the aroma of a good soup simmering on the stove? My favorite is an apple pie fresh out of the oven. I'm getting hungry just thinking about it! Whatever the essence of the season is for you, I hope you are taking some time to appreciate it.

Speaking of fall activities, sipping and savoring comes to mind. The Chamber's Skagit Wine & Beer Festival is all about that. It's on November 18, at the Heritage Flight Museum. It features local and regional wine, beer, spirits, cider, and even hard seltzer. There will also be gourmet appetizers from our finest local restaurants. And if you've been to the Heritage Flight Museum you know what an awesome vibe it has. It gives you a unique view into our history of flight and space exploration. When you're done exploring, tasting, and having a fun evening, you can buy your favorite wine, beer, spirits, and cider at discounted prices, which will get you prepared for the holidays.

Another perfect way to prepare for the holidays is to participate in our Shop Local campaign starting on November 25. It shows off all the wonderful things that we have in our area. Join us, as a retailer or as someone who understands the value of shopping locally. The campaign has been very successful. The total purchases documented last year was \$86,150!

Happy fall to you!  
Andy



## LEGACY MEMBERS

### GOLD



### SILVER



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

## Thank You Renewing Members

### 35+ Years

Cascade Natural Gas  
Draper Valley Farms  
Kern Funeral Home  
Land Title and Escrow  
Skagit Farmers Supply & Country Store  
Skagit Public Utility District  
Washington Federal

### 30+ Years

Louis Auto Glass  
Riverside Health Club  
The Bony Pony

### 15+ Years

Ideal Rent-All  
SaviBank - College Way  
Sign Pro of Skagit Valley

### 10+ Years

Anderson Podiatry  
Fisher Construction Group

### 5+ Years

BYK Construction Inc.  
Law Office of George T. Freeman

### Less than 5 Years

Alpha Home Health and Hospice  
DSHS- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Garden Rosalyn  
SCORE Bellingham Chapter

## Welcome New Members

### Bank of the Pacific

Jesse Sturgis  
(360) 757-1618  
[www.bankofthepacific.com](http://www.bankofthepacific.com)  
404 N Burlington Blvd  
Burlington



Today, Bank of the Pacific has achieved many of its original goals and mission, "To be the best bank for our employees, customers, investors and communities". There are fifteen branch locations in Western Washington and Northern Oregon. The words "neighbor" and "hometown" are not just words to everyone at the bank, they are the cornerstones of a committed and proud tradition.

### EA Painting - Esclavo y Amo Painting

Mario Padilla  
(360) 503-8831  
Sedro-Woolley



Interior and exterior painting. Commercial and residential. Serving Skagit, Whatcom, Snohomish and neighboring areas.  
Hablamos español.

### Morganization

Mojdan Myers  
(206) 751-3035  
[www.morganizationllc.com](http://www.morganizationllc.com)  
Mount Vernon

One stop shop for home beautification. With our passion for orderliness and an eye for detail, we are committed to helping individuals and families reclaim control over their living environments.

### North West Custom Construction LLC

Carmelo Garcia  
(360) 420-8659  
Mount Vernon



Construction company with more than 10 years of experience in drywall and painting. Focused in best quality and experience.

## Calendar of Events

### Chamber Connections Social and Open House

Tuesday, October 10

4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Il Granaio

100 E Montgomery St Ste 110

Mount Vernon

[Register here](#)

### Coffee Chat, A “Speaking of Women” event

Powered by Amelia Cook, Goodwinds Composites

Wednesday October 11 at 9:00 AM

Pegasus Pie Co.

[Register here](#)



### Latino Business Leaders – Licencias de Negocios / Business Licenses (in Spanish)

Wednesday, October 11

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Skagit Valley College—Lewis Hall Classroom 311

[Register here](#)



### Multi-Chamber After Hours at SaviBank Sedro-Woolley Branch

Thursday, October 12

4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

203 Ball Street

Sedro-Woolley

### Ribbon Cutting at Global Credit Union

Tuesday, October 24

11 a.m.

119 E College Way

Mount Vernon

### Membership Orientation - Charla de Orientacion (in Spanish)

Monday, October 23

6:00 PM

Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce

[Register here](#)

### Membership Orientation and Social Mixer

Tuesday, October 24

5:00 PM

COA Mexican Eatery

[Register here](#)

### Biz Buzz Networking Luncheon

Wednesday, October 25

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hillcrest Lodge

1717 S 13th St, Mount Vernon

[Register here](#)



### 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

## Members Reveal Positive Return on Investment



Lance Calloway  
Associated General  
Contractors of  
Washington – AGC  
Northern District Manager

My involvement with the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce is invaluable to myself, our members, and organization. As AGC of Washington represents commercial, industrial, and civil contractors in Mount Vernon and Skagit County, the Mount Vernon Chamber is a great source to gather relevant information about local and state governmental issues and how they may impact not only our members but the community as a whole.

I have greatly appreciated the opportunities to engage in the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee as the group addresses the issues local and state legislative impacts on the business community and its employees. Another key component, which I view as especially critical to our industry, along with many other business sectors in the community, is the Chamber is continually engaged in efforts to further develop and enhance our workforce. The Chamber's efforts to spotlight opportunities to bring the business community to work alongside our educational community as to how to help students and future workforce develop the skills to be successful in our communities' businesses. In my opinion, the Chamber, day in and day out, brings a tremendous value to Mount Vernon's business community.

## 2023 Skagit Wine & Beer Festival



We are pleased to announce the 2023 Skagit Wine & Beer Festival. The event will take place on Saturday, November 18 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. More information [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](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com) for more information. **Sponsorships must be reserved by Tuesday, October 17 to guarantee all benefits.**

## Shop Local Campaign

We are looking for partners to promote shopping locally. Involvement includes fantastic marketing opportunities for your business such as an ad in the Skagit Valley Herald, online and social media promotion, a consumer incentive punch card program, and more. Please return the application at the end of the newsletter with your business information, \$25 and a raffle prize valued at \$25 or more to Jeremy Kindlund at 301 W Kincaid St Mount Vernon, WA 98273. The campaign will launch November 24 and continue through January 31 with the grand prize drawing on February 1. Please contact Jeremy Kindlund, Operations Director at [Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com) for more information. **Applications must be received by November 15.**

# New opportunities to network and expand your business relationships

Business relationships that have a meaningful impact are essential to the growth and success of your business. That is why this quarter we are offering a myriad of opportunities for you to transform your networking efforts into long-lasting and valuable business relationships.

## Joining one of our Referral Programs

Currently the chamber hosts three different referral groups offering bi-monthly meetings.

- Second and Fourth Tuesday at 9:00 AM
- First and Third Wednesday at 9:00 AM
- First and Third Thursday at 5:00 PM

On October 10 at 4:30 PM our three referral groups are having an open house at Il Granaio. This is your opportunity to check out what each of these groups has to offer and how they can help your referral efforts.

## New Membership Orientations in Spanish

We appreciate and value the diverse nature of our membership. In order to ensure that all members have equal opportunity to fully use their membership benefits; we are hosting two membership orientations this month, including one in Spanish, on October 24th. This orientation will not only cover membership benefits but will feature key elements in networking and relationship building in the Latino and Non-Latino markets.

The chamber will host our regular membership orientation on October 25th. In addition to learning how to make the most of their membership investment, members and those who are looking into joining the chamber will be able to participate in a social time to continue building business relationships.

These opportunities are in addition to our always well attended events like the multi-chamber after hours or the Biz Buzz. We only have two more Biz Buzzes before the end of the year (October – December).

For exact locations and dates, please refer to our calendar of events on page 3 in this newsletter.

Questions about membership? Contact Business Development and Foundation Director Silvia Reed at (360) 395-2944 | (360) 305-0895 | [Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com).



## 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

**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

Celebrate 30th Anniversary of Skagit Transit



**SKAGIT TRANSIT**

INVITES YOU TO THE  
CELEBRATION OF OUR  
**30<sup>TH</sup>**  
Year of Service

NOVEMBER 1, 2023  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
SKAGIT STATION  
105 E KINCAID ST  
MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273

### Cooking Classes at The Skagit Table

October 11th Winter Soup Cooking Class

October 14th Afrodisiac Date Night Cooking Class

Pick from one of three differently structured classes to elevate your cooking skills and open your taste buds! Private cooking classes available too!

225 S 1st St in downtown Mount Vernon. Visit [theskagittable.com](http://theskagittable.com) for more information.



**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)

# September in Pictures



Ribbon Cutting at Pegasus Pie Co.



Speaking of Women Event



Multi-Chamber After Hours at  
Country Meadow Village



Ribbon Cutting at Mystical Wares



Latino Business Leaders Group



Membership Luncheon  
Candidates Forum

## Ambassadors

- Chair - Tammy Reim-Ledbetter**  
Global Credit Union
- 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
- Julia Phillip**  
Julia Phillip Realty
- Blake Rawlins**  
Guardian Northwest Title &  
Escrow
- Clarissa Wong**  
CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC

## BRONZE LEGACY



# Sponsorship Opportunities



*Saturday, November 18, 2023*  
*Heritage Flight Museum*

## **Presenting - \$5,000**

- 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](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com) to reserve your spot!



360-428-8547

[MountVernonChamber.com](http://MountVernonChamber.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.

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## LBL Presenting Partner

**\$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

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### **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**



# MOUNT VERNON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HAVE YOU  
CONSIDERED?

## MEMBERSHIP UPGRADE



## These are just some additional benefits

- ✓ Enhanced website listing
- ✓ Prominent exposure of your logo in our marketing material
- ✓ Free Insertion of business flier into chamber chat
- ✓ Complimentary Admission to membership meetings

Benefits based on membership levels

## For information

- 👤 Silvia Reed
- ☎ 360-395-2944 | 360-305-0895
- 🏠 [Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com)



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



## 2023 Holiday Shop Local Campaign

Dear Chamber member,

We are looking for partners to promote shopping locally. Involvement includes fantastic marketing opportunities for your business such as an ad in the Skagit Valley Herald, online and social media promotion, a consumer incentive punch card program, and more. Please return this flyer with your business information, \$25 and a raffle prize valued at \$25 or more to Jeremy Kindlund at the address listed below. The campaign will launch **November 24 and continue through January 31 with the grand prize drawing on February 1.**

Not a member of the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce? You are still able to participate in this great program and promote your business.

**For more information, please contact Jeremy Kindlund, Operations Director**

Via email: [Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com)

Phone: (360) 428-8547

301 W Kincaid St.

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

### Participation requirements -

- \$25 payment
- Raffle Prize (Value of \$25 or more)

### Participation benefits -

- Consumer incentive punch card program: customers receive a punch for every \$5 spent at participating businesses. When the punch card is full (10 Punches at \$5 each, \$50) they can be used as an entry into weekly & grand prize drawings for fantastic raffle prizes. Each partnering business will be listed on back of the punch cards, poster, and ads.
- Shop Local Poster
- PDF copy of flier with partnering businesses listed can be distributed to your customers via email or print off to put in bags, etc.

**Please provide the information below, \$25 and the raffle prize to Jeremy Kindlund at the Chamber office no later than November 15.**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Raffle Prize: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Raffle Prize Value: \_\_\_\_\_



## Diventa Solutions LLC

Organizational Development Consultants

FRESH FOR  
FALL  
SPECIAL

10%  
OFF

### HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

If your organization and teams have been struggling with ongoing challenges and need fresh perspectives and expert support to realign your path, we invite you to get in touch with us. Together let's embark on a transformative dialogue that unlocks new possibilities and paves the way towards your successful journey.



### OUR SERVICES

- Change Management Consulting
- Diversity Equity & Inclusion Planning & Training
- Leadership & Team Development
- Coaching
- Corporate Workshops
- Keynote Speaking
- Meeting Facilitation

### OUR EXPERIENCE

With over 2 decades of experience working with businesses of all sizes, we excel in creating custom designed organizational development solutions. We will work together with you and your teams to champion more inclusivity, foster more cohesion and elevate your corporate culture to new heights!

**BOOK NOW**

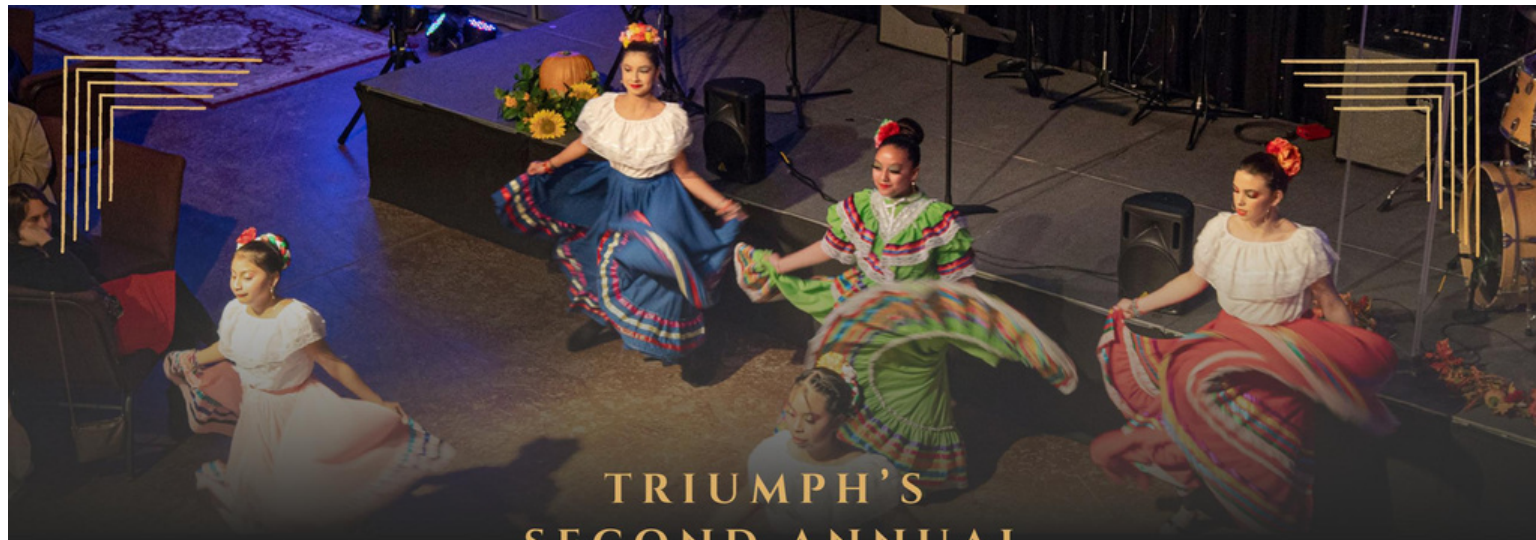
564-209-1503

[info@diventasolutions.com](mailto:info@diventasolutions.com)

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



**Book our consulting services or workshops by  
October 31st and receive an additional "10%" off!**



TRIUMPH'S  
SECOND ANNUAL

# FASHION SHOW

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

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Join us for a glamorous afternoon of fashion,  
philanthropy, and cultural celebration.

FASHION | MUSIC | LUNCH |  
AUCTION

WHERE:

RSVP HERE:

Triumph Teen Life Center  
2121 E College Way Suite B  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273



development@triumphctlc.org | (360) 755-3256  
triumphctlc.org



## Introduce your Business to New Chamber Members

**By providing your company swag or special offer to be included in every welcome bag**

Send your swag to:



301 W. Kincaid Mount Vernon



(360) 428-8547







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**

Includes new members and those who re-join the chamber




For information and to join the chamber  
Silvia Reed (360) 395-2944 | (360) 305-0895  
[Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com)




# Fiber Internet for Condos & Apartments

## City of MOUNT VERNON Washington


- Lower pricing and quality service means Higher Occupancy Rates!
- Elevator phones, Kiosk parcel storage, HVAC are available!
- Common area WiFi
- Turnover is lower when value is High!
- Speeds up to a Gigabit
- Affordable TV
- 24 hour Support
- 100 MBPS Upload
- Telephone Services
- Fiber Optic Speeds
- Friendly help
- Month to Month



High-speed Internet



Locally owned & operated



Unlimited monthly access

1. Get the services you want: Pick your Internet speed, add Phone, Fax, and TV if you like. Our process is seamless for making changes... **That's PogoZone!**
2. If you have older infrastructure and don't know how the owner will consider spending thousands of dollars on new wiring? **Think PogoZone!**
3. Saving time and money while upgrading services for your tenants? **PogoZone!**

AND...

We can make your infrastructure run circles around our competition and usually on your existing wiring! **We are PogoZone!**



**Internet speed 100/100**  
**Starting at**  
**\$49.95/month**

**HD pzTV Service**  
**Starting at**  
**\$34.95/month**

**Phones & Fax Solutions**  
**Starting at**  
**\$24.95/month**

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

Visit PogoZone.com or scan QR code



SCAN ME

