



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR INTERIM CEO

### What we are...and what we are not

Susan Gillespie  
Interim CEO

It happens every few days, we're contacted by someone in the community who believes we have boundless access to information on all things business and we're staffed and ready to work on their issues. From utility billing complaints, to who owned a particular building in 1963, to why isn't a local business's website working, the varied requests for assistance (and complaints) are routine. In actuality our available data is primarily information on current member businesses. When faced with these appeals for information or help, we turn to the Internet for answers. If we're lucky that works, but sometimes we just have to tell them that unfortunately we cannot be of assistance. The interesting take-away from this interaction is how common it is to be confused about the structure and scope of work of a Chamber of Commerce.



Many people are surprised to learn that a Chamber of Commerce is a stand alone, non-profit entity and that we are not a part of local government. Chambers fall under the IRS tax code as a 501 c 6 organization; we are an association formed to promote business. We are not a charitable organization and we don't generate a profit or pay shares or dividends. Every Chamber is a separate business with its own Board of Directors, policies and mission.

To make the situation more complicated, the Eureka Chamber no longer operates the Eureka Visitor Center, when after decades of operation, the Board of Directors made the decision to free up the funding and staffing resources and concentrate on services that benefit you, our membership, and the community as a whole. We no longer have the staff or materials to assist those needing relocation information or travel planning. While we can offer referrals to member business, we do not mail maps and brochures on things to see and do in the area, or spend quality time with someone planning out a week long trip to the redwoods. This can be disappointing to the caller or visitor to the office, but we do have wonderful resources for tourist information in town and we are happy to refer the visitor to them.

So what is it that we are providing? Our business is to provide you with the tools and resources to help your business and our area thrive. The past few years have seen the Chamber hyper-focused on providing promotion for your business and increasing your exposure while encouraging member engagement and networking. We advocate on behalf of local business at the local, state and federal levels, and work with government entities to keep the voice of business at the forefront in the conversation. The Chamber offers business services from HR products to our popular Elevate program, and meeting and co-work space for your use. It is indeed a privilege to work with you and for you, to keep the local economy strong. Together we are the voice of the Greater Eureka business community.

And speaking of what we are, our new CEO, Nancy Olson will take the helm at the Chamber on August 1<sup>st</sup>. We are excited to begin a new journey with Nancy, who will be bringing a plethora of skills and experience to the position. On my part, it has been an honor to serve as the Interim CEO while the Personnel Committee sought our new Chamber Executive. And I would like to offer a huge thank you to our membership, your compassion and support of the Chamber staff as we have navigated the past few months has been greatly appreciated.





## June Mixer was So Much Fun!

Mendenhall Studios' parties are always a blast and the June Mixer was no exception! Co-sponsored by the Ink People and Dark Staffing Solutions, this very well attended mixer had something for everyone.

[Read More](#)

[Photos](#)

## Host a 2023 Mixer



Chamber after-hours networking events are a perfect way to gain exposure for your company. Would you like more visibility for your business? Showcase what you do and how you do it by bringing area professionals into your business for an enjoyable evening of networking, fun and camaraderie.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2023 Eureka Chamber Mixer Hosts. Hosting a mixer is an excellent opportunity to share your business with your fellow chamber members! Call 442- 3738 now for more information.

[Registration Form](#)

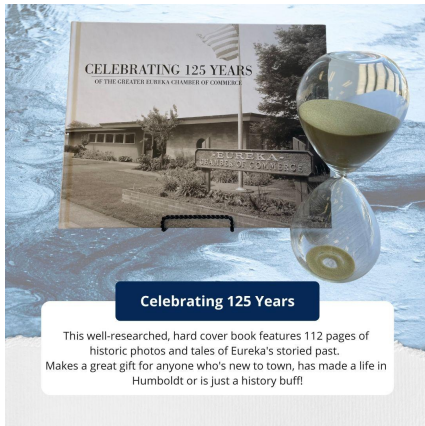
## Help Your Chamber Staff Win a Bet!

You read that right! Your Chamber staff, Jessie and Heather are in a bet against our fearless leader Susan to sell 25 of the books, "125 Years of the Eureka Chamber of Commerce." When we win this shameless promotion, Susan must take us out to a nice lunch!

\$25 each or 2 for \$40

We're half way there already...

[Buy Now \(buy 5!\)](#)







## Coastal Business Systems 2022 Summer Luau Tech Show

Join us at the Wharfinger Building on July 20th, from 9am to 5pm, at the 2022 Summer Luau Tech Show by Coastal Business Systems.

The Chamber is excited to co-sponsor this free event that brings together leading partners in Smart Office Technology and ECM Software Solutions so you can see what's new and find out how they can help with your business challenges.

## OTHER NEWS



### Eureka Street Art Festival Gears Up for Fifth Annual Event

The fifth annual Festival is focusing on the Bridge District - from the Samoa Bridge on the Waterfront to the 101 on the north end of town. For this year's festival, you can expect to see the creation of 11 new murals on some of Eureka's most central structures (including the underside of the Samoa Bridge!).

[Read More](#)

### Local Blood Shortage Critical, First Time Donors Needed Today

The Northern California Community Blood Bank today announced that a number of factors, including low collections, have combined to create a situation considered critical in the care of patients on the Northcoast.

Blood Bank CEO Kate Witthaus said that "this year, some trauma centers across the country actually had to close their



doors due to a lack of available blood. We don't ever want to see that happen here. But the national blood shortage continues, and our local supply is critically low. If you've never given blood before, now is the time to help save patient lives."

[Read More](#)



## Nordic Aquafarms Announces Leadership Transition

Brenda Chandler, who has served as Nordic's Chief Financial Officer for the past three and a half years, has been appointed interim president. Chandler assumed her new position over the weekend and will split her time between Humboldt, California and the Nordic corporate office in Portland, Maine. Erik Heim and Marianne Naess have left the company to pursue other opportunities.

[Read More](#)

## Waterfront Eureka Area Plan



The City of Eureka is working to prepare the Waterfront Eureka Plan which will guide and regulate land uses, design, circulation and, infrastructure in the Waterfront Eureka Plan Area (Plan Area).

There's still time to participate in the survey!

[Learn More](#)

## Alzheimer's Association Classes



The Alzheimer's Association is offering several classes for support and learning.

Additionally, research participants are needed for a UCSF study on memory loss for older adults in Humboldt and other underserved areas.

[Classes](#)

[Research Study](#)

## Back to Camp with OLLI at Cal Poly Humboldt



Join Back to Camp with OLLI at Cal Poly Humboldt! Enjoy discovering the many facets of the vast North Coast at the Wolf Creek Education Center. Between classes there will be time for exploring nearby trails along the beach and into the redwoods. Activities may include walking in Fern Canyon, visiting waterfalls, viewing rock formations, and possible Roosevelt Elk sightings.

OLLI members can go “back to camp” for the full week or choose a day to spend in the redwoods. Sign up and register on the Olli website today!

[Visit Website](#)

## Two Feathers Sponsors Pride in the Park for Rainbow Extravaganza



The Rainbow Extravaganza is an event held during Pride month that aims to acknowledge the existence and resistance of our 2SLGBTQIA+ community and to learn more about resources and language, to foster community, and to experience queer joy.

Tai Parker, Two Feathers Mental Health Clinician expressed, “the event was attended by approximately 50 participants and provided a wide array of resources and education.”

[Learn More](#)



## How to Handle Vacation, Sick Leave, Paid Time Off, Holidays

In this episode of The Workplace Podcast, CalChamber employment law expert Matthew Roberts and CalChamber HR Adviser Ellen Savage answer common questions that employers are asking regarding vacation policies.

[Podcast](#)

## State Change in COVID-19 Definition of ‘Close Contact’ Leaves Questions for California Employers



One of the most well-known elements of COVID-19 workplace safety was changed last month — to relatively little fanfare — and it has left California employers with many questions. The long-standing definition of a “close contact” — someone within 6 feet of an infected person for 15 minutes during their infectious period — has become a household term due to COVID-19 safety precautions over the last few years.

[Read More](#)

# NEW MEMBERS



Landscaping Ventures Inc



# PREMIER MEMBERS



# PREMIER INVESTORS

We recognize and thank all our Premier Members for their commitment to our organization and their investment in the North Coast Business Community.

## DIAMOND



**COASTAL  
BUSINESS  
SYSTEMS**  
*Imagine the Possibilities.*

**SHARP**



## PLATINUM



**Redwood  
Capital Bank**



**Coast Central**  
Credit Union

## GOLD



Providence  
St. Joseph Health

CITY OF  
**EUREKA**  
CALIFORNIA

Western  
Health  
Advantage



**R**  
Recology  
Humboldt County  
WASTE ZERO

VALLEY PACIFIC



**PAPA  
&  
BARKLEY**

## SILVER

**Express**  
EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS

**NORDIC  
AQUAFARMS**  
SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE

**Afiac**

**BEAR RIVER**  
CASINO & RESORT

**HUMBOLDT  
SOCIAL**



**Nylex.net**  
Your Connection to New Technology

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PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

**CR**  
COLLEGE OF  
REDWOODS

**JITTER BEAN**  
COFFEE CO.

**Premier Financial Group**  
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LACO



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