

# CHAMBER CHAT

November 2024

## Things for You to Consider

**Election:** It has been hard to ignore the elephant (and the donkey) in the room for the past few months. By the time you read this, the election may or may not be over. It could take a while, on every level. But no matter how it turns out I believe that we can all move forward together to make our communities better and our businesses prosper. That's the goal of the Chamber and what I hear you want when you share your hopes and dreams. In this area we have a history of rolling up our sleeves and getting it done, made stronger by including a variety of perspectives. As we finish this year and roll into next, the Chamber will lead those efforts where we can, bring you together as we do, and keep you informed along the way. Meanwhile, for a take on what the election means for you, AWB is presenting **"2024 Election Results: What does it mean for employers?"** on Thursday, the 7th, at 9:00 a.m. Register for this meeting [here](#).

**Beneficial Owners Information Report:** Take a look at the article on page 4, about the report that many of you will have to file with the federal government. Thanks to Tony Cook for explaining what has been under the radar and confusing too. AWB has a program explaining it as well on November 8, details next page.

**Texts:** We all rely on texts to easily communicate, keep our schedules straight, and to pay our bills. To help you in those ways, the Chamber is now offering text notifications: You can choose to subscribe to any of the listed groups below:

**Events** – Reminders of upcoming events for which you registered

**Invoices** – Chamber membership and other invoices to easily pay online

**Newsletters** – "Chamber Chat" monthly newsletter straight to your phone

To join a group text mvchamber "groupname" to (218) 229-8880.

**Holidays:** As we enter the holiday season, it's a good time to reflect on all we have to be thankful for and the value of family and friends. Finally, shop locally whenever you can. Special and unique businesses depend on your business, just as they have been supporting yours.



**GOLD**



**SILVER**



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

## Calendar of Events

### Grassroots Alliance webinar: Beneficial Ownership Reporting Requirements

Friday, November 8  
11 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
via Zoom  
[Join meeting here](#)

### Multi-Chamber After Hours at WECU

Thursday, November 14  
5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
1835 Riverside Dr Ste 104  
Mount Vernon

### Speaking of Women Coffee Chat

Wednesday, November 13  
9 a.m.  
Blue Taco  
301 Pine St  
Mount Vernon  
[Register here](#)



### Latino Business Leaders – Aplicación para Permisos Especiales



(in Spanish)  
Wednesday, November 20  
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Skagit Valley College - Multi purpose room  
[Register here](#)

## Thank You Renewing Members

### 35+ Years

Cascade Natural Gas  
Fix Auto Mount Vernon Operated by Dally's Auto Body  
Skagit Valley College

### 25+ Years

Dimensional Communications, Inc.  
Mount Vernon School District

### 20+ Years

Edward Jones - Timothy U. Price  
Heritage Bank  
North Coast Credit Union

### 15+ Years

Anderson Podiatry  
Ideal Rent-All

### 10+ Years

Bay Baby Produce, Inc.  
Children of the Valley After School Program  
Fisher Construction Group  
Ode To Learning

### 10+ Years

State Farm Insurance- Carol Lawson  
Washington Vocational Services  
Waste Management  
Coastal Farm & Ranch

### 5+ Years

Allstate - DeVries & Schlagel Insurance  
Law Office of George T. Freeman  
RET Physical Therapy & Healthcare Specialists, Mt. Vernon  
SERVPRO  
Skagit Gleaners

### Less than 5 Years

Adobe Acrobat  
Bloodworks Northwest  
Julia Phillip Realty  
Kona Ice of Skagit County  
McPherson Pest Control  
ReLuTy.com Real Estate  
SCORE Bellingham

# Secure Marketing Opportunities for 2025

Do you have plans to increase your marketing presence or support the Chamber? Now is the time to act on marketing and sponsorship opportunities.

**The Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce has the following opportunities available:**

- Monthly Luncheons
- Skagit Chili & Chowder Cook-Off
- Riverwalk Summer Concert Series
- BrewFest on the Skagit
- Your Chamber This Week
- Chamber Chat Newsletter Inserts
- Chamber Chat Newsletter Ads
- Visit Mount Vernon Emails

These events and publications are a great way to increase exposure to fellow Chamber members and the community at large, and the Chamber makes it easy to participate. See the marketing opportunities in this newsletter for details on each sponsorship, as well as other opportunities available with the Chamber.

Contact Jeremy Kindlund, Operations Director to reserve your chance to gain exposure at (360) 428-8547 or [Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com).

**BECOME A LATINO BUSINESS YOUTH MENTOR OR EMPLOYER**



For information:  
**Silvia Reed**  
(360) 395-2944 | (360) 305-0895  
[Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com)



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN OUR AMBASSADOR TEAM?**



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



## Partner Members

Anderson Podiatry, Bank of the Pacific, Birch Equipment Co., Coastal Farm & Ranch, Chikara PR, LLC, Foothills Toyota, Haggen Food & Pharmacy, Hampton Inn & Suites, Kern Funeral Home, Landed Gentry Homes & Communities, Loving Farms, Mount Vernon School District, North Coast Credit Union, Northwest Escrow, LLC, PogoZone, Port of Skagit, Puget Sound Energy, Quality Gutters, Skagit Public Utility District 1, Skagit Valley Casino Resort, Skagit Regional Health, Skagit Speedway, Skagit Valley Food Co-op, Testing and Commissioning Services, LLC, WECU, White Branches, Williams & Nulle, PLLC, CPAs, Wingate by Wyndham

## Welcome New Members

**All Serv LLC**

Melissa Hixon  
(360) 341-3383

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

224 E Sharon Ave Ste E-6-B  
Burlington

**La Raza**

Bibiana Cruz Salgado  
(360) 755-9401

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

628 E Fairhaven Ave  
Burlington

**Skow Tax & Bookkeeping**

Angelica Guerrero  
(360) 661-8633

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

1310 E College Way Ste 201  
Mount Vernon

## Federal Requirement Alert: “Beneficial Owners Information Report”

**Provided by Tony Cook, Cook CPAs & Consultants, PLLC**

Before the end of 2024, most small businesses will need to file a Beneficial Ownership Information Report reporting their “beneficial owners”—the individuals who ultimately own or control the company, with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). This law was passed in 2021 to assist in investigating and prosecuting money laundering. There has been a meaningful amount of litigation on the matter, but no legislative action to remove or delay this deadline has been passed as of November 1, 2024, and none is anticipated.

This is not a tax return and there is no cost to file. Because this is not a tax return, your tax advisor may not be willing or able to file. Initially, doing so was potentially considered to be the Unauthorized Practice of Law, which can be a felony in some states. There are now a number of third-party organizations that can assist in the process for a fee, but I would encourage most businesses to attempt to file directly on the FinCEN website before contracting a service provider to do so.

Exemptions to the filing do exist, but these exemptions exist only for large businesses, which is backwards from most filing exemptions. If your business has a complex ownership structure or non-owners who exercise substantial control over your business, you may need to consult with an attorney to determine which individuals are required to be included in this filing. The best resource available to answer your questions is the FinCEN website: <https://www.fincen.gov/boi>.

## 2024 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, Radio ads on KAPS Radio 660 AM & 102.1 FM and KBRC 1430 AM & 102.9 FM 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 30 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.**

## Board of Directors

### Chair - Flora Lucatero

Children of the Valley

### Vice Chair - Tony White

Skagit Valley Food Co-op

### Past Chair - Brian Ivie

Skagit Regional Health

### Treasurer - Tammy Reim-Ledbetter

Global Credit Union

### Tony Cook

Cook CPAs and Consultants, PLLC

### Viry Delgado

COA Mexican Eatery

### Matt Gill

Marathon Petroleum Corporation

### Katie Hayton

La Conner Inn

### Elizabeth Jennings

Community Action of Skagit County

### Crystal King

NW Technology

### Robert Knoll

Puget Sound Energy

### Andrew Miller

Tulip Valley Farms

### Julia Phillip

Julia Phillip Realty

### Stacie J. Pratschner

City of Mount Vernon

### Dr. Amanda Rentschler

Roosevelt Dental Center

### Jon Ronngren

Mount Vernon School District

### Dr. Chris Villa

Skagit Valley College

### STAFF

**Andy Mayer** President/CEO

**Silvia Reed** Business Development and  
Foundation Director

**Jeremy Kindlund** Operations Director

**Susana Ipanaque**

Admin Assistant Chamber Foundation

**Bob Johnson & Julie Newkirk**

Visitor Information Services

## Member Announcements

### Holiday Bazaar & Thanksgiving Buffet at Country Meadow Village

*Shop, Eat & Be Merry!*

## Holiday Bazaar & Thanksgiving Buffet

Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>



Bazaar & Bake Sale  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Admission is **FREE!**

We're so excited for our annual Holiday Bazaar! Join us in welcoming some long time vendors, enjoy some treats, and celebrate the start of the holiday season!



Thanksgiving Buffet  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
\$15 per person

- Roasted Turkey with Traditional Stuffing
- Carved Black Oak Ham
- Homemade Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Cranberry Waldorf Salad
- Salad Bar & Assorted Holiday Pies



Proceeds will benefit Skagit Domestic Violence  
and Assault Services



Please RSVP to 360-856-0404 • 1501 Collins Rd, Sedro-Woolley  
Independent Living • Assisted Living  
Creating a Village That Feels Like Family • [villageconcepts.com](http://villageconcepts.com)

### Cooking Classes at The Skagit Table

Our cooking classes are posted as they become available. A good way to stay on top of upcoming classes is to sign up to our newsletter as we will send their release via the newsletter once they are posted! We offer a variety of classes but if there's something specific you want to learn, please let us know! Upcoming classes are Whole Hog Butchery Class and Christmas Cookie Decorating Class. [Click here](#) for more information.



## Tune In

Chamber Chat  
Wednesday Mornings



8:05 a.m.



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)

# October in Pictures



**Biz Buzz Networking Luncheon**



**Multi-Chamber After Hours  
at HF Sinclair**



**Global Credit Union 10th  
Anniversary Celebration**



**Chamber Connections Social**



**Perla's Insurance Services  
Ribbon Cutting**



**Skow Tax & Bookkeeping  
Ribbon Cutting**

## Ambassadors

- Chair - Betsy Anorbe**  
Betsy Anorbe Real Estate
- Silvia Alvarez**  
Triumph Teen Life Center
- Clarissa De Vries**  
CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC
- Morgan Elton**  
Country Financial - The Elton  
Group
- Jaime Huss**  
Washington Federal
- Karla Nelson**  
U.S. Bank - Riverside Dr
- Crystal King**  
NW Technology
- Blake Rawlins**  
Guardian Northwest Title &  
Escrow
- Jessica Rodriguez**  
Children of the Valley After  
School Program
- Tammy Reim-Ledbetter**  
Global Credit Union

## BRONZE LEGACY



THE SKAGIT REGIONAL HEALTH FOUNDATION'S  
36TH ANNUAL



# FESTIVAL of TREES

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH Peoples Bank  
*A higher level of service*

Saint Joseph Center | 215 N 15th Street | Mount Vernon

**Family**  
FESTIVAL DAYS

Saturday  
November 30  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday  
December 1  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sponsored by  
**WHIDBEY COFFEE**

Gingerbread  
House  
CONTEST



Sponsored  
by



Scan for event  
and contest  
information

Benefitting Skagit Regional Health Foundation's  
Family Birth Center Campaign.



# 2025 MARKETING & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

<p><b>Membership Meeting Sponsor</b></p> <p>Includes your logo in the monthly Chamber Chat, weekly email, website event calendar, newsletter email to over 900 businesses, 5 minute presentation at the meeting, display table and exclusive right to distribute flyers on the tables.</p>	<p>\$300 (Act quickly because these go fast!)</p>	<p><b>Exclusive Sponsor of "Your Chamber This Week" Email</b></p> <p>Your display ad or logo sent to over 900 email addresses each week with an active link to your website. We have a special rate for yearly sponsors.</p>	<p>\$100/week or 12 for \$1,000</p>
<p><b>Skagit Chili &amp; Chowder Cook-Off</b></p> <p>A fantastic way to get exposure as Skagit County's best battle it out. This competition features both amateurs and professionals and is a sure fire hit with the crowd!</p>	<p>\$325-\$1,250  Sponsorships Available</p>	<p><b>Chamber Chat Newsletter Inserts</b></p> <p>You provide the PDF, we do the rest! Perfect for events, sales and announcements; sent to over 900 business professionals in the monthly Chamber Chat Newsletter.</p>	<p>\$100/week or 12 for \$1,000</p>
<p><b>Riverwalk Summer Concert Series</b></p> <p>A family-friendly event on the Riverwalk in downtown Mount Vernon Concert Series featuring an eclectic mix of genres from talented local musicians. Sponsorships include radio promotion, social media, display table and option to announce your business during the concert.</p>	<p>\$350-\$5,000  Sponsorships Available</p>	<p><b>Chamber Chat Newsletter Ad</b></p> <p>Place your ad in the award-winning Chamber Chat newsletter and be seen every month. Reach out to fellow business leaders and potential customers with over 10,000 copies distributed annually.</p>	<p>\$700-\$1,500  Varies by Size</p>
<p><b>BrewFest on the Skagit</b></p> <p>Cold beer, cider, wine, delicious food, fantastic music, leisure games and a view of the Skagit River. BrewFest on the Skagit has it all! A portion of tickets sales is donated to the Lincoln Theatre Foundation.</p>	<p>\$550-\$5,000  Sponsorships Available</p>	<p><b>MountVernonChamber.com Display Ads</b></p> <p>Extend your marketing reach to over 136,000 annual visitors on our website with your display ad linked directly to your website. Three sizes/ styles of display ads available.</p>	<p>Cost varies by size and length of ad run.</p>
<p><b>New Member Welcome Basket</b></p> <p>Be one of the first to introduce your business to new chamber members by providing your company swag or special offer, to be included in every welcome basket.</p>	<p><b>FREE</b>  Just supply us with your promotional items.</p>	<p><b>Door Prizes</b></p> <p>Keep your business name and brand in front of potential customers by donating a door prize during any one of our events.</p>	<p><b>FREE</b>  Provide us your door prize prior to start of event.</p>

**Company Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

For more information contact Jeremy Kindlund - (360) 428-8547, or [Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com).

Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce - PO BOX 1007 Mount Vernon, WA 98273, [www.MountVernonChamber.com](http://www.MountVernonChamber.com).





## 2024 Holiday Shop Local Campaign

Dear Business Owner,

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 30 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 ad.
- Business name on the 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: \_\_\_\_\_



Marketing and Networking  
Referral Programs  
Women's Group  
Bilingual Business Training



# Join the Chamber

**OCT. 1 – DEC. 20, 2024**

**FOR ADDITIONAL BENEFITS**

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

Free insert in the  
Chamber newsletter

Additional social media  
coverage



**FOR INFORMATION AND TO JOIN**  
Silvia Reed (360) 395-2944 | (360) 305-0895  
[Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com](mailto:Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com)






**DO YOU KNOW**

**ABOUT OUR LEGACY MEMBERSHIPS AND HOW THEY SUPPORT OUR MISSION?**



**Let's chat**

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