

**MOUNT VERNON  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

Vol. No. 10 • Issue No. 2 • August 2011

**Chamber NEWS  
CHAT**

**IN THIS ISSUE**

- Book of the Month .....2
- New & Renewing Members .....4
- Announcements .....5
- Events Calendar .....6

**THE MOUNT VERNON  
CHAMBER  
of COMMERCE**

Phone: (360) 428-8547  
Fax: (360) 424-6237

www.mountvernonchamber.com  
chamber@mountvernonchamber.com  
PO Box 1007, 105 East Kincaid Street  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-1007

Chamber Chat News is designed by  
Guy D. Corp of grafixCORP • grafixCORP.com

**Mission:**

As a regional Chamber we serve and promote our members and proactively encourage economic growth. We support members by providing information, training, networking opportunities and advocacy.

**Increase new customers by harnessing a mixture of face to face and social networking**

Business is about people - which makes networking essential to any successful business. Today, networking means meeting people in-person and online. Here are some benefits of using a mix of social networking and good old fashioned face to face networking:

- Before going to any business meeting, you can take a quick look on Facebook or LinkedIn to find out a bit about the person you will be meeting.
- You can expand your network of referrals and acquaintances which will lead to more sales leads
- You can regularly connect with your customers - keeping you at the "top of their mind".
- People are visiting online networking sites more than any other place on the Internet. It is no longer sufficient for a business to just have a web-

site; they must be visible on social media sites.

At the same time: meeting people face to face is always the best, and attending Chamber of Commerce meetings, joining trade associations or other organizations is a great way to meet those people. Next time you're on Facebook or LinkedIn, try to make a connection with those people and continue to build the relationship by simply friend requesting them or sending a quick "nice to meet you message". Remember the more connections you make online the faster word can spread about your business. For more tips on networking and social media you can visit our Tools for Business Success website listed under the Business Resources tab on our website. Once you on the site click on networking on the right hand side. For social media help, enlist the help of chamber member marketing consultants and web developers.

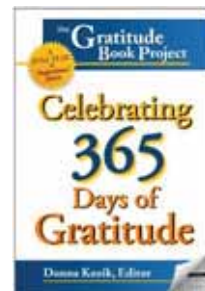
**Gratitude as an attitude, now there's a concept**

At the August 24th Monthly Membership Luncheon you can learn to refocus and reframe your outlook into one that is buoyed by gratitude. Gratitude creates an environment that envelops you in appreciation and thankfulness, and attracts like minded people into your life using the Law of Attraction. Please join us as speaker, author, and local business person David Brooke teaches you to understand the power of living with an attitude of gratitude. David will also be offering his steps to change your life in 7-1/2 minutes a day from the book he contributed to 365 Days of Gratitude.

The August 24th Monthly Membership Luncheon is sponsored by Express Employment Professionals. Give your business extra exposure by bringing a door prize. The event starts at 11:30am, lasts until 1:00pm, and is located at the Best Western CottonTree Inn Convention Center at 2300 Market

St. in Mount Vernon. To RSVP go to MountVernonChamber.com or call (360) 428-8547.

Luncheon Sponsor



**LEGACY MEMBERS**

Gold Members:



Silver Members:



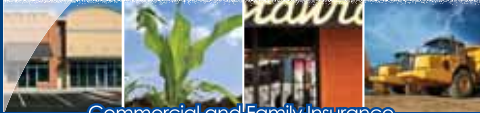
Bronze Members:



Here to help you mind your Business Insurance Needs

# WYCOFF

Auto • Home • Life • Business • Bonds



Commercial and Family Insurance

501 S. 2nd St., Mount Vernon • 360.336.2112 • www.wycoffinsurance.com



Providing  
Exceptional Care



Skagit Regional Clinics  
A department of Skagit Valley Hospital

Call 360-428-2500, or visit [srclinics.org](http://srclinics.org)

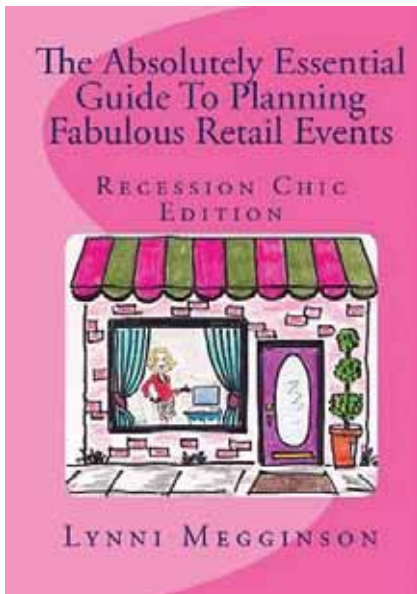
Anacortes • Arlington • Camano Island • Mount Vernon • Sedro-Woolley • Stanwood

## FUN FACT of THE MONTH

Skagit County's population grew 13.5% between 2000 and 2010.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

Each Month the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce calls on *The Tattered Page* to scout a book to help you improve your business and work life. This month's book is available at the *Tattered Page* at 514 S. 1st St. in Downtown Mount Vernon.



# Who's that Member?

## MEMBER PROFILE

Each month, the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce will randomly select a member to feature. This is a great way to get to know some of the diverse and interesting businesses in our community.

### Draper Valley Farms

It's not every day that we get to interview a business that's been in Skagit Valley over 75 years, so interviewing Jeff Power of Draper Valley Farms was a special treat. They process natural and organic poultry products available at grocery stores all around the Pacific Northwest. The business has been in Skagit Valley since 1935 with the mission of feeding families quality poultry products.

Jeff states the biggest success Draper Valley Farms has seen in his time there is achieving organic certification in 2010. They are now the largest local organic chicken supplier in the state as well as the largest vegetarian fed, antibiotic free



chicken producer in the state. Draper Valley is also Salmon Safe certified on their organic farms.

When asked about which business Jeff most admires in Skagit Valley he stated the Mount Vernon Chamber for their ability to pull together a diverse group of people and businesses to promote community awareness. Jeff says they are members of the Chamber in order to get to know people better and because they believe it's their duty to be an involved part of the community. To find out more about Draper Valley Farms visit [www.drapervalleyfarms.com](http://www.drapervalleyfarms.com).

### The Absolutely Essential Guide To Planning Fabulous Retail Events: Recession Chic Edition, Lynni Megginson and Susan Jeffress

A must have manual for today's independent retailer. Written by well-known industry expert, Lynni Megginson, this guide will take you step-by-step in planning retail events for fun and profit. The Guide comes complete with worksheet, checklists, marketing ideas and even inspirations for a year's worth of fabulous retail events.

As you know, in-store events help retailers like you by encouraging repeat visits among customers and attracting new shoppers. You can drive sales, build loyalty, and establish your store as a fun place and even a valuable resource, says Lynni Megginson. Spring and summer months are an ideal time for retail events. "People have been cooped up in their homes all winter, and all of a sudden they want to be outside and surround themselves with family and friends," says Megginson. Many people are planning casual get-togethers, while

others are preparing for more formal events such as bridal and baby showers, graduations, and religious celebrations like confirmations and communions. If you are looking for an event idea, "entertaining is the number one word," says Megginson.

Megginson practices what she preaches. Possibly one of the most popular events she holds at her interior design studio and home accents and accessories store in Gaithersburg, MD, L&M Designs, is Fast Flower Arranging For Mom's on the Go. Megginson makes sure she has lots of pretty containers like vases and bowls for her in-store demonstrations. Even if you and your staff don't have the personal expertise to provide demonstrations, you can bring in an expert such as a local florist, chef or closet organizer. When their expertise is tied to one of your product categories, you can easily boost sales.

*The Tattered Page*  
used bookstore, movie & book repair  
Book of the Month Sponsor

# 9/11's 10 year anniversary to be commemorated by "Remembering 9/11" Program & Concert

Burlington Rotary Foundation invites you to join them for a special Program and Concert commemorating the 10th Anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001 tragedies in New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania. The Program will be held at McIntyre Hall on Saturday, September 10th and 11th with show times at 1:00pm, 4:00pm & 7:30pm each day. Ticket prices range from \$9.11 to \$29.11.

## Remembering 9/11

Premier commissioned music piece "September Requiem" performed by a 60-piece orchestra and 112-voice choir; bagpipes and brass ensemble; children's choir. The program will feature Graham Kerr (Galloping Gourmet) talking about Peace & Conflict Resolution. Proceeds will benefit "Peace & Conflict Resolution Studies" Scholarship and "First Responders" Scholarships. To learn more visit [www.remembering911.com](http://www.remembering911.com).

The concert will consist of a World

Future Leaders of Skagit County!

Join Today!  
Ryan Schols  
360.428.8547



MOUNT VERNON  
**CHAMBER**  
OF COMMERCE

Become a Member, Reap the Benefits

Networking, Training, Government Advocacy, Economic Development, and Community Promotion await you.

[www.MountVernonChamber.com](http://www.MountVernonChamber.com) • 360-428-8547

# CONGRATULATIONS

## Leadership Skagit Class of 2011



THANK YOU TO OUR 2011 SPONSORS

"Developing Leaders Today to Shape Our Tomorrow"

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT...

- Row 1:** Becky Taft, Skagit State Bank  
Kristian Atkins, Group Health Cooperative  
Cynthia Eichner, United Way of Skagit County  
Ann Leason, NW Agricultural Business Center  
Kelli Tolf, Skagit Valley College Foundation  
Deb Bundy, Skagit Publishing
- Row 2:** Jim Gordon, Freedom Wireless Media  
Melissa Beaton, Skagit County Superior Court  
Jennifer Fix, Skagit Valley College Foundation  
Julie Speck, Junior Achievement  
Diane Bobko, Life Church Skagit Valley  
Susan Lange, Skagit County Community Action Agency  
Philip Prud'homme, Barrett Financial Ltd.
- Row 3:** Debbie Allen, City of Sedro Woolley  
Karen Kipling, Volunteers of America  
Pola Kelly, Sedro-Woolley Chamber  
Nida Tautvydas, McIntyre Hall  
Joseph Stewart, Burlington Edison School District
- Row 4:** Larry West, North Coast Credit Union  
Kristen Whitener, Mount Vernon Chamber  
Richard Delaney, Skagit Valley Hospital/Skagit Regional Health
- Row 5:** Kristen Ekstran, Volunteers of America  
Mediation Services  
Billie Stormont, Cascade Crickets  
Lindsey Dostart, Dostart Design  
Henry Van, Frontier Communications  
Cynthia Doussard, Doussard Financial  
Tyler Steinman, Foothills Toyota  
Jessica Gigot, WSU Northwest Research & Extension Center  
Parrish Miller, Shell Puget Sound Refinery

The Leadership Skagit Board and Volunteers recognize the following businesses, individuals and partner organizations for their ongoing, generous support of the Leadership Skagit program:

**PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT**  
Economic Development Association of Skagit County  
Skagit Valley College  
Washington State University Extension

**FINANCIAL SPONSORS**  
**Skagit County**  
Brownatoes, LLC  
Concrete Nor'West  
Island Hospital  
North Coast Credit Union  
Puget Sound Energy  
Port of Skagit  
Rick Bennett/Broker/  
John L. Scott/Anacortes  
Shell Puget Sound Refinery  
Skagit State Bank  
Skagit Valley Hospital and Regional Health  
Steam Interactive LLC  
Swinomish Tribal Community  
Transpac Marinas, Inc.  
United General Hospital

**IN-KIND SUPPORT**  
Bayside Specialties, Inc.  
City of Sedro-Woolley  
Maureen Harlan and Jim Frey  
Duane Knapp - BrandStrategy, Inc.  
North Cascades Institute  
Jan Levy, Leadership Tomorrow  
Peggy Flynn - pflynn+associates  
Pransky and Associates  
Puget Sound Energy  
Sakuma Farms  
Skagit Public Utility District  
Skagit Publishing  
Skagit Valley Gardens  
Smith-Vallee Gallery  
Steam Interactive LLC  
Swinomish Tribal Community

**SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT**  
Anacortes Chamber Scholarship  
Mount Vernon Rotary  
"Bonnie Anderson" Scholarship  
Leadership Skagit Alumni Scholarship



[www.LeadershipSkagit.org](http://www.LeadershipSkagit.org)  
(360) 395-8727



# TUNE IN

Chamber President/CEO Kristen Whitener addresses the Skagit Valley every Wednesday morning with Chamber activity updates.



8:20 AM



8:40 AM



## Tulip INN

- FREE Cont'l Breakfast
- FREE Local Calls/Voice-mail
- In-room Coffee
- Hi-Speed Internet
- Kitchenettes
- Air-conditioned

**RESERVATIONS: 800.599.5969**  
2200 Freeway Dr., Mount Vernon

www.TulipInn.net • 360.428.5969

## DID YOU KNOW?

Respondents were more likely to want to purchase goods or services from a small business that is a chamber member.

**63%**

**44%**

were more likely to rate it favorably than study respondents who were not told of the chamber affiliation.

*Credit: The Schapiro Group*



Skagit Young Professionals

## Quarterly After Hours

FRIDAYS @ 4

Every Friday at Max Dale's

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### New Members

**Beaches Tanning Salon**  
Jill Partridge  
(360) 424-TANS (8267)  
2025 Riverside Drive, Unit A  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
www.BeachesTanningMV.com  
Tanning Salon

**Dilly Dally Antiques & Collectables**  
Kathryn Tellesbo  
(360) 336-8930  
501 S. 1st St.  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
Antiques & Collectables

**Hot Shots & Dogs**  
Laura Kaestner  
(360) 848-9699  
1901 B Freeway Drive  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
Coffee & Hot Dog Stand

**Patron Mexican Restaurant**  
Veronica Preciado  
(360) 848-6260  
2009 Riverside Dr.  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
www.patronmexicanrestaurant.net  
Restaurants & Dining

**Skagit Building Salvage**  
Brandon Cardinal  
(360) 416-3399  
17994 State Route 536  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
www.skagitbuildingsalvage.com  
Building Material Sales & Recycling

**Tario & Associates**  
Jessica Eno  
413 S. 1st St.  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
(360) 336-6666  
www.tariolaw.com  
Legal Service

## RENEWING MEMBERS

### Thank you to these Members who have continued their Membership Support.

A big thank you goes out to these members who know the true value of chamber membership and renew each year. We value your support and acknowledge that we wouldn't be able to provide all of the services we do without you.

### Bronze Legacy Membership Renewal



**20+ Years**  
Blade Chevrolet, Inc.  
Foothills Toyota  
Skagit County Fairgrounds  
Washington Federal Savings

**15+ Years**  
Geiger's Custom Cleaning, Inc.

Mount Vernon Towing & Auto Repair  
Padgett & Padgett PLLC

**10+ Years**  
Costco Wholesale Burlington #662  
Skagit Wild Bird Supply

**5+ Years**  
Hampton Inn & Suites  
Sierra Pacific Industries

**Under 5 Years**  
Allstate- Dailey Insurance Agency  
Mount Vernon Dairy Queen  
Smiley Insurance  
The Conway Muse  
The Shop

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Skagit Farmers Supply mails over \$805k in Patronage Dividends

In June, Skagit Farmers Supply mailed out over \$805,000.00 in patronage dividends to its members. The dividends are based on 2010 business earnings and represent 30% of the total patronage of \$2,683,570. The remaining 70% is issued in stock and retired at a later date. Because they shopped locally in 2010, over 15,249 local households, farms and businesses received cash back from the cooperative.

### "The Grape Escape" benefit to aid two local nonprofit organizations

"The Grape Escape," a late-summer evening of local wines, craft beers, artisan foods, music and more – with proceeds benefitting two nonprofit human-services agencies in Skagit County. Proceeds will benefit Skagit Habitat for Humanity and the Skagit County Children's Hospital Ann Carlson Guild, which support Seattle Children's Hospital. Tickets to the event at Juntunen Gardens are \$50, which covers admission, food and beverage scrip, and a commemorative glass. For more information call Creative Celebrations at 360-428-5972 or [info@cceventplanning.com](mailto:info@cceventplanning.com) or visit [skagithabitat.com](http://skagithabitat.com) to buy your tickets now!

### Business Bank Hires Rhonda Tingley, Frank Jeretzky and Dick Blomberg

Business Bank, a locally-owned community bank, based in Skagit & Whatcom Counties has hired Rhonda Tingley as Vice President, Commercial Lending. Ms. Tingley has worked in Skagit County for her entire banking career, which began in 1989 after graduating from Skagit Valley College.

Frank Jeretzky has been hired by Business Bank as their new Real Estate Lender. Frank has over 32 yrs experience in Real Estate Lending, specializing in Commercial and Residential Construction in the Northwest.

Dick Blomberg has been hired for Business Development at the Burlington based Business Bank. Dick brings over 33 yrs in the banking industry, primarily in Skagit County with a focus in Commercial Lending and Commercial Real Estate Lending.

### Guild Mortgage has expanded its Burlington Office!

Guild Mortgage Company has hired Amy Senff as a Loan Officer in their Burlington location. Amy has been in the banking industry since 2007, specializing in residential mortgages. She has built a

high level of trust and respect from past clients with her loan knowledge, dedication, and attention to detail. A life-long resident of Northwest Washington, Amy graduated from Western Washington University with a B.A. in Business Administration – emphasis in Finance. Guild Mortgage has been in business since 1960. With over four decades of experience in providing loans, service, and expertise to homebuyers.

### Airporter Shuttle Now Has Wi-Fi

Airporter Shuttle has unveiled a new mobile Wi-Fi system for their I-5 corridor bus service between Bellingham and SeaTac Airport. The new system allows passengers to seamlessly connect to the internet during their ride to and from SeaTac. The new system uses custom-built mobile wi-fi units and the Verizon wireless network, to give riders the finest service available. "It's all about having the choice to stay connected," said Johnson. "and enjoying the ride just a little bit more." More information available at [www.airporter.com](http://www.airporter.com).

### American Veterans Traveling Tribute & Traveling Wall Coming to Swinomish Casino

The American Veterans Traveling Tribute and Traveling Wall will visit Swinomish Casino from August 25 through August 28, 2011. Swinomish Casino is located west off I-5 on highway 20 in Anacortes, Washington. The mission of the project is to travel the nation to honor, respect, and remember men and women who served, and to pay specific tribute to those who gave all in that service.

### Local American Family Insurance Agent Paul Genest earns Distinguished Insurance Agency distinction from J.D. Power and Associates

Paul Genest, an American Family Insurance agent in Burlington, WA has been recognized for customer satisfaction excellence under the J.D. Power and Associates Distinguished Insurance Agency Program. SM Paul Genest joins other American Family agents who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to outstanding customer service. Only agencies that perform in the top 20 percent of all insurance agencies nationwide based on customer satisfaction surveys are eligible to become a Distinguished Insurance Agency by J.D. Power and Associates.

### CEO of the National Association of Home Builders to Speak about housing issues and their impact on the local economy

The Skagit/Island Counties Builders Association (SICBA) is proud to announce the opportunity to hear the CEO of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) talk about the Building Industry in our area; how it affects our economy; how we can help to stimulate construction and what we can do locally to help our economy rebound from the current recession. Come hear Mr. Jerry Howard talk about housing issues at McIntyre Hall on the Skagit Valley College Campus at 6:00 PM, Thursday, August 11th. For more information or to RSVP, please contact the SICBA office at 360-757-6916 or via e-mail at [info@sicba.org](mailto:info@sicba.org).

### Valley Cabinets, Kitchens & More transitions to consolidated showroom, office & production facility

At the end of May, Valley Cabinets Showroom and Offices joined our Production facility in one location. What a new and exciting transformation and transition for us! The services of Valley Cabinets will remain unchanged as well as the quality and expectations of our work. The Shop crew will remain unchanged. Our office phone will remain unchanged. What will change is the physical location of our Showroom, our FAX number, and our office staff. We will continue to meet with clients at our Production facility or at their jobsite, by appointment only as before. Same great crew. Same great service. Visit [www.valleycabinets.com](http://www.valleycabinets.com) or call (360) 428-0916.

Putts & Pints  
Million \$ Golf  
Tournament

Friday August 19, 2011  
AVALON GOLF COURSE

To sign up call (360) 428-8547

## Sponsorship Opportunities

- Newsletter Inserts - \$75 - 550 businesses per month.
- Newsletter Sponsorship - \$500 - \$1,500 - 6,600 copy annual distribution.
- E-Chat Sponsorship - \$75 - Over 900 weekly e-mail distribution
- Website Sponsorship - \$25-\$100 monthly- Over 300 website pageviews daily.
- Membership Luncheon Sponsor - \$250 - Logo visibility, 5-min. presentation, banner, distribute flyers.
- Breakfast Biz-Buzz Sponsor - \$150 - Logo visibility, 5-min presentation, banner
- Skagit Young Professionals Event Sponsor - \$150 - Logo visibility, 5-10 min presentation, distribute flyers.
- Million \$ Putts & Pints Tournament - \$50 - \$2,500 annually - Summertime networking with over 150 golfers and attendees.

Call (360) 428-8547 or e-mail  
Karenm@mountvernonchamber.com  
for more info

## MacGregor

"The Plaid Books"



"Say Yellow to the Future"

17869 SR 536 • Mount Vernon, WA 98273 USA  
(360) 336-6171 • Fax (360) 428-3052  
[www.yellowbook.com](http://www.yellowbook.com)

## Williams & Nulle

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS • EST. 1952

A Professional Limited Liability Company

**Preserve Your Earnings  
through Planning**

### Service Profile

- Tax Services
- Individual Tax Planning
- Estate Planning
- Business Startup Services
- Continuing Business Tax Services and Planning
- Special Tax Expertise
- Accounting and Auditing Services
- Management Advisory and Decision Assistance
- Specialized Industry Expertise
- Computer Consulting

407 Pine Street - Mount Vernon  
360-336-6611 • Fax 360-336-6581

1101 8th St, Suite D - Anacortes  
360-293-6913 • Fax 360-293-9084

# There's nothing like networking in the sunshine with the Mount Vernon and Burlington Chambers

Join us next week on Friday, August 19th at Avalon Golf Course for the Putts & Pints Million \$ Golf Tournament. The tournament is a 4 person shotgun scramble tournament that includes a catered lunch provided by Skagit River Brewery and dinner provided by Carino's Italian along with many awards and prizes. To spice things up a little bit last year we added the Putts & Pints Brewfest at the end of the tournament featuring live music and beer from several local breweries. The shotgun start is at 1:00pm, and the dinner and brewfest starts at 6:00pm. Call (360) 428-8547 or visit [www.mountvernonchamber.com](http://www.mountvernonchamber.com) to play in the tournament or have a trade show style booth on one of the holes.



**Country Meadow  
Village**

A VILLAGE CONCEPTS  
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY



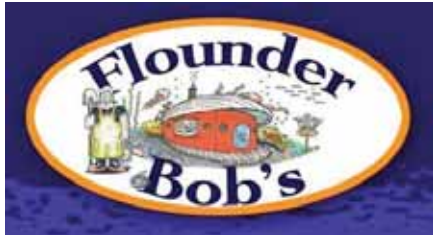
A group of Chinese Exchange Students visit the Mount Vernon Visitor Information Center to learn more about our area and plan their adventures while staying in Skagit County.

## CHAMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

- |               |  |                |   |
|---------------|--|----------------|---|
| August 12 -   | SYP's FRIDAYS @ 4  | September 9 -  | SYP's FRIDAYS @ 4 with Henry Van of Frontier Communications |
| August 19 -   | Putts & Pints Million \$ Golf Tournament at Avalon Golf Course | September 12 - | Ambassador Committee Meeting                                |
| August 24 -   | Chamber Member Monthly Luncheon                                | September 13 - | Chamber Board of Directors Meeting                          |
| August 25 -   | SYP Leadership Committee Meeting                               | September 13 - | SYP After Hours   |
| August 26 -   | SYP's FRIDAYS @ 4  | September 14 - | Business & Industry Division Meeting                        |
| September 8 - | Business Happy Hour & Open House at Eagle Haven Winery         | September 15 - | 3/50 Project event with founder Cinda Baxter                |

# SYP After Hours at Flounder Bob's

The Skagit Young Professionals along with the young professionals from the Anacortes Chamber invite you youngsters out there to join us at the newly opened Flounder Bob's in Skyline Marina in Anacortes on Tuesday, September 13th at 5:30pm. The restaurant features a fantastic seafood menu as well as food for the landlubbers. Flounder Bob's is owned by Robert and Barbara Atterberry who also own Avenue Catering &



Bistro in Burlington and Bob's Chowder Bar in Anacortes. Flounder Bob's is located at 2201 Skyline Way in Anacortes.

SYP meets quarterly at a local location for appetizers, drinks, and good conversation. The group was designed for people 21-40 years old,

although we never check ID's, who are starting out their careers and would like to network, get involved, and meet new people from the local business community.

## UPBEAT AWARD WINNER

### Ector DeLeon of Tulip Valley Vineyard & Orchard

The July Upbeat Award was given to a very familiar face, Ector DeLeon of Tulip Valley Vineyard & Orchard by Mike & Patt Woods of Sound Cedar Company. Actually, the reason Ector was chosen is primarily because of his familiar face. He attends a high number of chamber meetings, brings the chamber new members and donates lots of door prizes. Ector is always willing to host events at his winery and do whatever he can to help the Chamber.

Since Kristen, Karen and Ryan appreciate Ector so much they wanted to give him something extra special. In a recent shopping excursion Karen recently found a very nice stationary wine bottle opener that had seen better days. She purchased it and with the help of her husband Phil's restoration skills and Ryan's woodworking skills restored it back to its original glory. It even has a plaque on the front that says "In appreciation for all you do for the Mount Vernon Chamber. From Kristen, Karen and Ryan". Ector couldn't wait to get back to the winery and give it a try.



*Ector DeLeon proudly displays his new wine opener with Chamber employees Karen Mills and Ryan Schols. The wine opener was given to him in appreciation of his dedication to the Chamber.*



*Ector DeLeon of Tulip Valley Vineyard & Orchard accepts the Upbeat Award from Mike & Patt Woods of Sound Cedar.*



Skagit County's Most Popular Phone Book

3 Years Running!

Ver-A-Fast Corp.  
2010 Usage Survey

360-848-0870  
[www.actionYP.com](http://www.actionYP.com)



AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

Paul Genest Agency

Auto • Home • Business • Life  
All your protection under one roof

Paul Genest  
Owner/Agent

Office: 360.757.1155  
Cell: 360.840.9802  
Fax: 360.757.1156  
[pgenest@amfam.com](mailto:pgenest@amfam.com)  
[www.PaulGenest.com](http://www.PaulGenest.com)



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

1840 S Burlington Blvd, Burlington



SKAGIT VALLEY HOSPITAL



Opening the doors to the future of health care

Call 360-424-4111, or visit [www.skagitvalleyhospital.org](http://www.skagitvalleyhospital.org)

MOUNT VERNON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Become a Member, Reap the Benefits

Networking, Training, Government Advocacy, Economic Development, and Community Promotion await you.

[www.MountVernonChamber.com](http://www.MountVernonChamber.com) • 360-428-8547



**MOUNT VERNON  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

PO Box 1007  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-1007

Phn: 360.428.8547

Fax: 360.424.6237

www.mountvernonchamber.com

PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
MOUNT VERNON, WA  
PERMIT No. 47

Or Current Resident

Creative architects building custom  
graphic design solutions.

Brochures • Catalogs • Logo Design • Newsletters • Sales Flyers

**grafixCORP**  
PRINT • ILLUSTRATION • WEB

Guy D. Corp, CCO Chief Creative Officer

360.424.5268 | www.grafixCORP.com

Can't escape the same  
old mousetrap?



**Printwise** has built a totally new one.

360-424-5945 (office) • 2226 Market Street • Mount Vernon, WA 98273 • www.printwiseinc.com

**President/CEO**

Kristen Whitener, IOM

**Membership & Tourism  
Director**

Karen Mills

**Administration &  
Communication**

Ryan Schols

**VIC**

Keith Ridgley  
Marinus Rouw  
Bud Whitney

**Thank You VIC Volunteers**

Arliss Abbott  
Ron Eerkes  
Bob Johnson  
Michael B. King  
Florrie Reep

*We Appreciate You!*

**Board of Directors**

**Chair**

Paul Pickering  
*Max Dale's Steak & Chop  
House*

**Past Chair**

Mark Hulst  
*Bavarian Autohaus*

**Vice Chair**

April Axthelm  
*Axthelm Construction ACI*

**Treasurer**

Rob Martin  
*Chinook Enterprises*

**Assistant Treasurer**

Frank Tuzzolino  
*Geiger's Custom Cleaning*

**Legal Counsel**

Rachelle Eason  
*The Eason Law Firm, P.S.*

Laura McDaniel  
*Best Western Cottontree Inn*

Kelly Schols  
*CPI Plumbing & Heating*

Jeff Harris  
*Anderson Appliance*

Dr. Carl Bruner,  
Superintendent  
*Mount Vernon School District*

Bob Lama  
*PROForma Creative Printing  
Solutions*

Brian Soneda  
*Mount Vernon City Library*

Darlene Mindrum  
*Think Solutions Consulting*

Pamela McNaughton  
*The Tattered Page  
Bookstore*

Dr. John Jarolimek D.C.  
*Town & Country  
Chiropractic*

Jeff Power  
*Draper Valley Farms*

David Cope  
*Union Bank*

Patt Woods  
*Sound Cedar*

Tammy Custer  
*Liberty Tax*

**Ambassador Committee**

David Cope, Chair *Union Bank*

Jeff Harris *Anderson Appliance*

Donna Backman *Backman Marketing, Inc.*

Joel Pemberton *Edward Jones*

Steve Brown *Group Benefits Northwest*

Julie Speck *Junior Achievement*

Mike Yeoman *KAPS Radio 660*

Tammy Custer *Liberty Tax Service*

Debbie Snow *Manpower*

Dawn Latimer *Mister T's Awards & Embroidery*

Paul Tinnon *Skagit Publishing*

Tammi Wells *Skagit Valley Gardens*

Jake Dey *The Dey Company*

Kimberly Self *Therapeutic Massage*

Susan Trenary *Valpak of Western Washington NW*

Barb Lowery *Whidbey Island Bank*

Kelly Kutchick *Whidbey Island Bank*

OFFICE STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS