

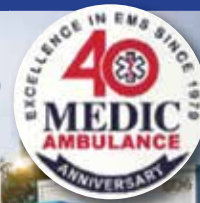
THE Voice of Business



WHY JOIN THE CHAMBER?
Leaders Look Back



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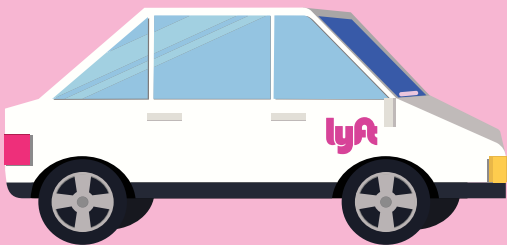
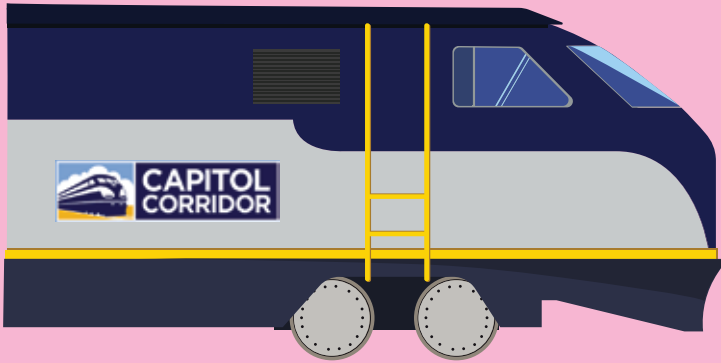
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Spotlight on Your Chamber

The Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce leaders talk about benefits of joining the Chamber.

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The Voice of Business for Fairfield and Suisun City, California

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Chamber membership opens many doors

It was just about eight years ago when I started working at Touro University California on Mare Island in Vallejo, a graduate institution producing health care and education leaders of our future.

I started as Director of External Communications with the goal of creating partnerships among local leaders and businesses. Outside of Vallejo, however, some were unfamiliar at the time with our graduate programs or the countless hours we put into helping Solano County communities. “Touro what?” they would say, “Mare Island? Where is that? Are you really on an island?”

Our mission, “to serve, to lead, to teach,” truly creates a platform to collaborate with organizations that, together, can provide an array of health care services and education to underserved and underrepresented populations. But how do you fulfill this mission when people are unaware of your business? Enter the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce.

Attending monthly mixers hosted by the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce provided me with many opportunities to meet business leaders and elected officials. It offered venues to generate conversations and create leads that fostered long-lasting relationships, such as those we have with NorthBay Healthcare, Kaiser Permanente and Sutter Health.

It gave me the chance to meet elected officials and business leaders like Jelly Belly, PG&E and Medic Ambulance, all of whom support our communities through their commitment to advance and build stronger communities.

There is no doubt that these relationships helped build

bridges from Mare Island to beyond. And it was all because we became members of the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce. And this is just one reason to join a chamber.

Our Chamber offers a variety of benefits that help business owners become aware of important issues and trends within our community.

The Chamber’s Advocacy Council, led by Dawn LaBar, works to bring a variety of topics to the forefront through its inspiring collaborations with other organizations and insightful guest speakers. Sen. Bill Dodd, for example, presented information during the August meeting at NorthBay Healthcare regarding the relevance of chambers and the impact their voice has on legislation.

The Advocacy Council has also featured Suisun City Mayor Lori Wilson, Alert Solano, PG&E’s Energy Watch program and Solano County’s Behavioral Health Department, to name a few, all of whom are impacting our city and county.

Membership also brings credibility to your business, increases your visibility through various Chamber vehicles, and creates an array of networking opportunities.

It also provides you with a voice. The Fairfield-Suisun Chamber, through its CEO and Advocacy Council, takes on tough issues and opposes regulations that directly impact small businesses. It protects free enterprise and ensures businesses are being treated fairly. In fact, the Chamber’s mission is to improve the local economic base through active advocacy and programs to assist members!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

chairman investors





California
Fairfield-Suisun
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAIRWOMAN



Andrea Garcia

Touro University of California
1310 Club Drive
Vallejo CA 94592
707-638-5272
andrea.garcia@tu.edu

CHAIRMAN-ELECT



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Favaro, Lavezzo, Gill,
Caretti & Heppell

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR



Charles McCullar

Front2Back Designs
Fairfield, CA 94533
707-421-1831
charles@front2backdesigns.com

VICE CHAIR



Kevin Flanagan

Republic Services

VICE CHAIR



Dawn La Bar

City of Fairfield

VICE CHAIR



Terrence Strong

MV Transportation

DIRECTOR



John Caladim

Travis Credit Union

DIRECTOR



Michael Coan

Favaro, Lavezzo, Gill,
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DIRECTOR



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Kaiser Permanente

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Gillespie's Abbey
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Jared Neumayr

Solano First Federal
Credit Union

DIRECTOR



Darelynn Pazdel

Pride Industries

DIRECTOR



Peter Prieto

nDataStor, Inc.

calendar

new chamber members

NOVEMBER

5
TUE

AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING
8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce,
1111 Webster St.

6
WED

CHAMBER LUNCH MOB
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Niche Café, 2460 Hilbord Road, Fairfield.
All are welcome, no RSVP required.

12
TUE

LUNCH AND LEARN SMALL BUSINESS INSURANCE EDUCATION
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce,
1111 Webster St.

14
THU

CHAMBER MIXER
5:30 to 7 p.m., Jelly Belly Candy Company,
1 Jelly Belly Lane, Fairfield

19
TUE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8:30 to 9:30 a.m., check website for details.

22
FRI

BLACK & WHITE BALL
6 to 11 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn,
2200 Gateway Court, Fairfield

DECEMBER

3
TUE

AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING
8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce,
1111 Webster St.

4
WED

GOOD MORNING FAIRFIELD-SUISUN BREAKFAST
7:30 to 9 a.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 2200 Gateway Court, Fairfield

6
FRI

2019 CHAMBER ANNUAL WINE TOUR
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

12
THU

CHRISTMAS MIXER
5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Mandarin Restaurant, 219 Texas St., Suite C,
Fairfield.

JANUARY

7
TUE

AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE MEETING
8 to 9 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce,
1111 Webster St.

15
WED

CHAMBER LUNCH MOB
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Check website for details.
All are welcome, no RSVP required.

16
THU

JOINT MIXER
5:30 to 7 p.m., check website for details.

28
TUE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce,
1111 Webster St.

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ICS Restoration**
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Suisun City, CA 94585
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Boutique, Restoration

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Partners, LLC**
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Suite G
Del Mar, CA 92014
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Commercial Real
Estate*

**Doelcher
Lighting
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Contractors - Electric

**Leavitt United
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Martin Chavez
4219 Solano Ave.
Napa, CA 94558
707-429-1252
*Insurance Employee
Benefit,
Communication,
Insurance - Brokers*

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Attorneys, Law Firm

**UCP Thrift
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Angelica Martinez
649 Beck Ave.
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707-423-9350
Retail, Nonprofit

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of Vacaville**
Jo Lynch
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Road
Vacaville, CA 95687
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**Solano Pride
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**Operating
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Union No.3**
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Fairfield, CA 94533
707-429-5008
Union



WHY JOIN THE CHAMBER?

Leaders Look Back



SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR CHAMBER

These days, just about everyone within the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce knows Monte Hoover.

As president of his family's company, Gillespie's Abbey Carpet & Floor, a four-term chamber board member, a past board chair and a KI Jones Award recipient, Hoover is a familiar face at just about every chamber function and event.

But 40 years ago, as a young man fresh out of school, he knew very few people in the local business community – and wasn't even sure he wanted to follow in the family business – when his parents joined the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce.

They still have the photo from the 1978 ribbon

cutting in their Fairfield showroom. All these years later, Hoover remembers some of the first community leaders he met through the chamber of commerce.

"When I was younger, there were a lot of people, whether they knew it or not at the time, who were my mentors," he said. "They helped me to become a better person, a better professional. They had a lot of wisdom, both in life and in business, that they were able to share and pass on to younger entrepreneurs like me."

He has always remembered that and over the past 15 years, as his involvement in the chamber has increased, he has gladly stepped in to mentor and guide emerging leaders.

"It happened overnight," he said with a laugh. "All of a sudden people began telling me they appreciated my wisdom and knowledge! It was

BY
BRIANNA
BOYD



Monte Hoover

at a Lunch Mob hosted by Legends at Rancho Solano.

humbling. You remember how you used to search for those mentors and now people search me out.”

There are many Fairfield-Suisun chamber members whose own experiences in the organization started off similarly to Hoover’s. The chamber is proud to have so many members, both individuals and businesses, who have been involved in the organization for 20, 30, 40 or even 50 years. And those members have gone on to become incredible mentors and leaders to the next generation of community and business leaders

“I’ve been a chamber member and ambassador since 1995,” said Sandy Stelter, who owns her own business, Strategic Organizing Solutions. “It’s given me the opportunity to know and work with so many exciting business owners and employees in the local business community.”

Over the past 25 years, Stelter has had multiple stints as chief ambassador and has been honored by her peers with the Ambassador of the Year award several times. She continues to volunteer at every mixer, often greeting people at the registration or raffle tables.

“I find that working together toward common goals is fun and rewarding,” Stelter said. “Together, we are better!”

Another longtime member and ambassador is Pat Holzwarth from Delta Graphics. She and her family have owned Delta Graphics for close to 30 years. Holzwarth joined the chamber and ambassador committee right after Delta Graphics opened.

“I’ve always enjoyed it, all these years,” she said. “I love the people the most. I haven’t been able to be as active recently and I’ve missed the people so much.”



Sandy Stelter

Holzwarth is a vocal advocate for small businesses, shopping local and keeping business within Fairfield and Suisun City. Being a part of the chamber is a way to know other small business owners and support them in their endeavors.

“What goes around comes around,” she said. “We need to pay it forward.”

Steve Lessler has spent the better part of 30 years active within the chamber, first as a Fairfield councilman in the 1990s and then through his work at a law firm and his own business, the Lessler Group. One of the first things he did when he started his business was join the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber.



Harry Price

at a ribbon cutting for the Workforce Development Board of Solano County.

Get Involved!

“Had I not been a member of the chamber, probably a lot of the connections I’ve made over the last 18 years I’ve been in business would not have happened,” said Lessler, a past board member and board chair and a recipient of the KI Jones Award. “I have a goal. Every mixer I go to, every event, I want to leave with at least one new connection, someone I can have a meeting with or have coffee with. That goal has always helped me to be efficient.”

As much as he encourages people to be a part of the Chamber, Lessler is also quick to point out that success in the organization does not happen “passively.” Joining the chamber and “just sitting back” will not bring people the results an individual or business is looking for, he said. They need to invest their time in going to mixers and events and networking with other members to see results.

For the people and businesses who do devote the time and energy, the payback is immeasurable.

“I’ve been involved in a lot of networking groups but none of them have provided that same level of connectivity to all assets of the community as the chamber of commerce,” Hoover said. “The chamber has opened more doors for creating those relationships with organizations and individuals. Being a part of the chamber also gives you credibility, as long as you’re a member who is involved.”

Through his many years of public service, Fairfield Mayor Harry Price has always valued the partnership between the city and the chamber of commerce. He has been able to watch this organization grow for over 30 years. When he looks back at some of Fairfield’s most recognizable leaders, all have been connected to the chamber.

“The chamber is truly the voice of the community,” Price said. “When I look back on the chamber, I’m reminded of so many critical community leaders over the years. The chamber has always attracted people who really care about the financial health of our community and it is a fantastic training ground for our business owners and leaders.”

The chamber’s ambassador program in particular is especially important to Price. He sees the ambassadors often at mixers and ribbon cuttings. Many of them are not much older than Hoover was when he first became active in the organization.

“Those ambassadors are our emerging business leaders,” Price said. “They are the ones who will help to shape this community we all live in.”

Join a Chamber committee, attend a monthly mixer or Lunch MOB or support a fellow business owner at a ribbon cutting. Whether you’re interested in networking, advocacy or growing your business, the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce is here for you!

NETWORKING

The Fairfield-Suisun Chamber’s monthly business mixers are from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month. Mixers are hosted by businesses in Fairfield and Suisun City and locations vary month to month. Enjoy an evening of networking with food, wine, beer and raffle prizes.

Mixers are organized by the chamber’s dedicated Ambassador Committee. Now more than 20 members strong, the Ambassador Committee is the largest it has been in years. New members are welcome year-round. This is a fantastic way to network because ambassadors, through their volunteer work at mixers, are able to meet and interact with a wide range of people, many they may otherwise never have the chance to know.

“Being part of the chamber ambassador program is a chance to be active in the community,” said Stephanie



Beer 30 hosted by Heretic Brewing Company.

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR CHAMBER

Knight of SK Creative Arts, the chair of the ambassador committee. "The chamber has a real culture of service and it shows in the ambassador program. Being an ambassador gives amazing exposure to all those involved. Companies both big and small benefit."

The ambassadors meet at the chamber office on the first Tuesday of every month at 8 a.m. In addition to planning the mixers, the ambassadors also attend ribbon cuttings and other events and are instrumental to the success of the organization.

"As ambassadors, we are the face of our chamber," said Corina Marler of State Farm, the committee's chair-elect. "We represent the chamber, we attend ribbon cuttings and we work the mixers. Anything the chamber is involved in, we are there to support them."

"The chamber does so much for the community that for me, to be a part of and support such a wonderful organization that is doing so many amazing things, is very fulfilling," Marler added.

The Chamber Lunch MOBS are on the second



Lunch MOBs hosted by Sukhothai Cuisine.

Wednesday of every month, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at various chamber member restaurant establishments in Fairfield and Suisun City. Everyone eats lunch during the workday – enjoy your meal with friends from the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce! Lunch MOBS are traditionally more casual than business mixers. Order lunch, join a table and have great conversation. Remember to bring your business cards.



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ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

Are you interested in many of the important issues impacting Fairfield and Suisun City at the local, regional and state levels? The chamber's Advocacy Council meets the second Tuesday of every month at 8 a.m. to hear from key "movers and shakers" on these important issues. The Advocacy Council also studies, analyzes and recommends support or opposition to the board of directors on government issues, ballot measures or legislation that could impact businesses and consumers.

Dawn LaBar, the chair of the committee, said the group has great success bringing in community leaders and stakeholders who are experts in their field to share their knowledge with the group.

"Part of being a successful advocate for our businesses and members is ensuring they are up to date on issues that affect their business and our community," LaBar said. "That means doing our very best to make sure they have the opportunity to hear first-hand information in a timely manner, ask questions and establish ongoing dialogue with our stakeholders. The more informed we are, the better for all of us."

While seats on the council are limited, the group has opened its meetings to the public.

Another great way to learn about local and regional "hot topics" is to attend a Good Morning Fairfield-Suisun

Breakfast, held quarterly at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fairfield. This includes the "State of the Cities" address that the chamber hosts every February.

Many Fairfield-Suisun Chamber members are involved in the Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee (TRAFC), a group of more than 100 community leaders from Solano County who meet once a month to recognize the accomplishments and offer their support to Travis Air Force Base. Their respect for Travis Air Force Base is what brings them all together as one, and they serve proudly as ambassadors between the base and the local communities, supporting projects, events, and mission support activities that enrich the lives of military members and their families.

TRAFC membership is open to any chamber member in good standing and is \$135 a year.

EVENTS


Black & White Ball, Nov. 22 at the Hilton Garden Inn: This formal gala event will include dinner, live music, dancing, a silent and live auction and a dessert auction.

The Buzz Awards, June 2020: An evening where the Chamber recognizes and honors individuals, businesses and organizations who are making noteworthy accomplishments and striving to create a better community.

Inspire: Dreams Start Now, September 2020: Inspire motivates students to find their passion and pursue their occupational dreams within their own community, and you can be part of that vision! Inspire provides an opportunity for our local businesses and community members to play a strong role in shaping the future workforce in Solano County.

Wine, Food & Brew, August 2020: This event showcases the best Fairfield and Suisun City restaurants, breweries and wineries have to offer.



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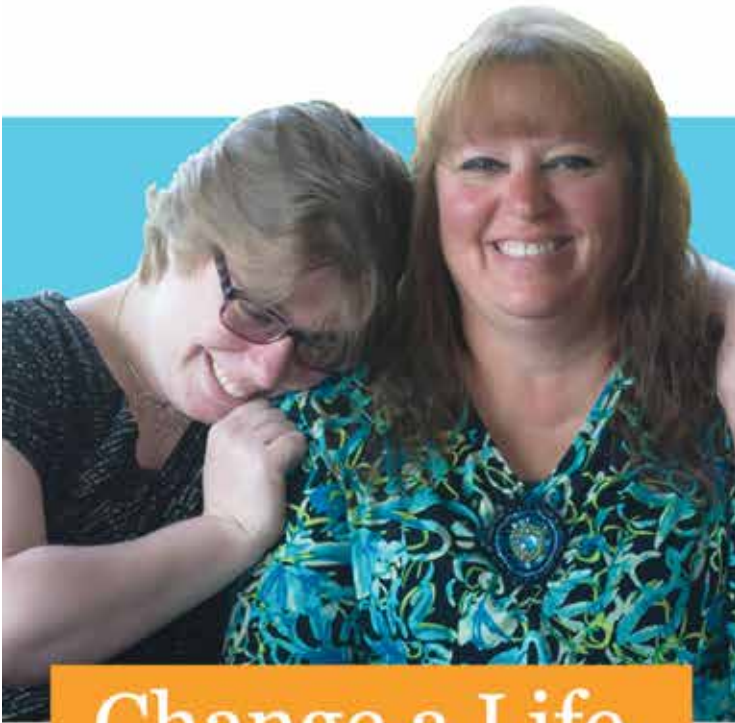
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Be Inspired!

On one fall day every year, 1,600 eighth-graders from schools in Fairfield and Suisun City arrive by the busloads at the Suisun City KROC Center for the Inspire: Dreams Start Now career fair.

They all come from different backgrounds and schools but one thing ties them all together – on this day, the focus is on their future and the job opportunities available to them in their own community. And it is our own business leaders, many of them members of the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber, who guide them on this journey.

It has been five years now since the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, the KROC Center and a dedicated group of community volunteers all came together to create this career fair, where dozens of local businesses offer hands-on, interactive experiences for the teens.

“Inspire is designed to not only help students find their passion but also pursue those dreams in their own community,” said Fairfield-Suisun Chamber President/CEO Debi Tavey. “Too often, after finishing high school or college, students leave their hometowns for careers elsewhere. Inspire shows them that they can live, work,



Students pet a dog while veterinarian clinic representatives watch during the Inspire: Dreams Start Now career fair.

Students learn about sea lions from Six Flags Discovery Kingdom representatives during the Inspire: Dreams Start Now career fair.



play and contribute in their own community. The response we've received from our business community is, 'wow, you are really investing in our future,' and that's our goal and mission."

The event at the KROC Center has become so successful that Vacaville Unified School District implemented its own Inspire program almost four years ago that now also includes Dixon Unified and Travis Unified. Both Benicia and Vallejo's school districts are also interested in being involved.

In 2018, Inspire received the prestigious Golden Bell Award from the California School Board Association.

"Over the last few years, we've had a number of school districts from around the state approach us to talk about Inspire," said Tim Goree, the executive director of administrative services and community engagement for Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District. "We know we have something good going on when there is that much interest from people from outside the area who hear about it and then call and say, 'I want to know more.'"

Meanwhile, following the success of the first Inspire: Dreams Start Now at the KROC Center, the key partners, including the chamber and school district, began looking at how they could expand the program and impact students as they transitioned into high school.

Since then, Inspire has picked up two additional components. Inspire: Dreams Move Forward, is a one-day job shadow for tenth-graders launched in 2018. Around 800 sophomores from Fairfield-Suisun and Vacaville are divided into groups that tour some of the major companies in the area, including Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, Jelly Belly, Kaiser Permanente and NorthBay Healthcare.

A third component to Inspire, individual job opportunities and internships for seniors, is still a few years away, but planning has already started.

"You always have those kids, and I was one of them, in junior high and high school, where school loses that luster and they wonder, 'how am I going to use this in the world

outside of school?'" Goree said. "Inspire helps them connect math and English and social studies to the real world and future possibilities and careers. It rings true to them."

Over the past five years, representatives from the chamber and school district have been invited to speak at conferences and special events around the state about the success of Inspire.

"We always say Inspire should be everywhere," Tavey said. "In just a few short years, this program and its growth has had such a profound impact on our community. We're so proud of its success." ♦

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CHAIRWOMAN

FROM PAGE 5

More than 250 years ago, the first chamber of commerce was created in New York City. Its objectives encompassed “encouraging commerce, supporting industry, adjusting disputes relative to trade and navigation, and producing such laws and regulations as may be found necessary for the benefit of trade in general.”

Centuries later, the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce remains true to these words and offers this commitment to its more than 400 members. It strives to develop and publicize business opportunities and works for the betterment of local schools and other institutions.

I welcome you to join us and experience the great programs and benefits our chamber has to offer your business.

Andrea Garcia

Chairwoman, Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce

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The trail system at the Rockville Trails Preserve will feature almost 12 miles of recreation trails, including an accessible limited-mobility loop, and will add about 2 miles to the Bay Area Ridge Trail system.

Solano Land Trust begins building trail at Rockville Trails Preserve

In its 33-year history, Solano Land Trust has permanently protected more than 22,000 acres of natural areas and agricultural lands in Solano County and cared for more than 12,000 acres of oak woodlands, creeks and streams. The mission of Solano Land Trust is to protect land to ensure a healthy environment, keep ranching and farming families on their properties, and inspire a love of the land.

More than 10,000 visitors each year visit and explore Solano Land Trust's four preserves that showcase Solano County's abundant and diverse natural landscapes.

In February 2012, Rockville Trails Preserve was the largest community conservation campaign ever undertaken by Solano Land Trust. With the help of many, the land trust purchased this special land for our community's newest natural park. Rockville Trails Preserve



epitomizes the beauty, rural character and quiet splendor that is Solano County. Rockville Trail's 1,500 acres provide a connection to our past and vision of our future. Last month, Solano Land Trust officially broke ground on trail building at Rockville Trails Preserve. This trail system will be widely accessible to the local

community – walking distance from southeast Fairfield and just 45 minutes from San Francisco and Sacramento. It will feature almost 12 miles of recreation trails, including an accessible limited-mobility loop, and will add about 2 miles to the Bay Area Ridge Trail system.

While Solano Land Trust anticipates opening this land to the public in 2020, you can still enjoy the property on exclusive docent-led hikes. Check out our activity schedule on our website. For more information, and to make a donation, visit solanolandtrust.org.



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Lunch MOB at Dickey's BBQ



Holiday Inn Express Suisun City Groundbreaking



Rockville Trails Preserve Groundbreaking



Lunch MOB at Amar Indian Cuisine



WHAT MEMBERS SAY



"Membership has its privileges" intoned the voiceover for American Express ads in the '80s. While the go go '80s, yuppies and hairstyles that went with it are now gone (thank God!), the iconic slogan still rings true. A good example is the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce. Since joining the Chamber nine years ago Platinum Party and Event Rental has had the privilege of seeing our business grow, forging great relationships, and exploring new ways to better serve our customers and community. Our Chamber hosts many events, which is a perfect fit for us. The Black & White Ball, Buzz Awards, Wine Food & Brew, and monthly mixers all contribute to our bottom line, and have helped establish our brand, not only in Fairfield and Suisun City, but across the entire wine region that we serve. Thank you to everyone at the Chamber!

CHARLES LaFLEUR
PLATINUM PARTY AND EVENT RENTAL LLC



I am a new member to the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce, and it has been the best decision for my new business. I have been able to use the Chamber Conference Room for my Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. John Moore took great photos that I was able to share on social media and Tonya Dretzka spoke on my behalf to the attendees. Harry Price, who is an experienced Ribbon Cutter, was able to join me on that day as well as a group of ambassadors. Our business is listed in the directory and our Google presence has improved as a result. I am made aware by email of all the local happenings and have had multiple opportunities to Network with other businesses. I mostly enjoy the Lunch MOBs and all the FREE Mixers. My business cards are proudly displayed in the chamber lobby. I am meeting new people and making strong connections. My circle of influence has been greatly enhanced by this new relationship. I look forward to remaining an active member for many years to come.

DEBBIE LINTAO
ASSOCIATE BROKER/BRANCH MANAGER, PACIFIC COMMUNITY LENDER, INC



I have been going to Alpha Avenue Blow Dry Bar since April 2019. I met the owners of this salon at a Fairfield-Suisun Chamber mixer at Northbay Healthcare. They offer many services, are very professional and they deliver a high level of customer service as soon as you walk in the door. I have had the pleasure of getting my hair done by all three owners, and have referred three people that travel from Berkeley, Antioch and Stockton for their services. This is just one of the many businesses I have met by attending the chamber mixers. I live in Suisun City and believe in shopping at local business and supporting the community I live in. The chamber offers many opportunities for me to get to know my local business and keep me abreast of what is going on within the community, it's a chamber I am proud to be a member of!

KAI WILLIAMS
REALTOR, KW VACA VALLEY

TESTIMONIALS

WHAT MEMBERS SAY



While attending school at The Wedding Institute in Sacramento, to become a wedding and event planner, one of my assignments was to meet my local Chamber of Commerce and consider joining. I spoke with Tonya at the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber and explained to her that I was a student and my goal was to start my own business here in Fairfield. She was excited to hear my business dreams of helping people create a memorable event. I told her my business plan was to help clients create their dream wedding and to help business clients with their special events, taking the stress from them and creating a perfect atmosphere of joy and peace. Tonya told me that they had an associate membership that would be perfect for me to start with. I would be able to attend the Lunch MOBs, mixers and seminars with other business owners to start networking for my future business. I now own my own business for wedding and event planning. I enjoyed being a member with the chamber as a student, so I decided to join now as a business level member. That was one of the best decisions I have made. As a member I was able to use one of the chambers conference rooms for my grand opening/ribbon cutting since I work out of my home. I met some great members of the chamber that have businesses that will help me promote my business. The Chamber can help your small business with advertising, networking and business education. They also referred me to a member of the SBDC, who helped with my business plan. I would definitely recommend anyone that is thinking of starting a business to join the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce. You will receive plenty of encouragement and resources.

MELISSA BENJELLOUN
OWNER, EVERLASTING LOVE WEDDING AND EVENTS

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WINE FOOD & BREW



WINE FOOD & BREW Testimonials

The Food, Wine & Brew event was a fantastic experience. I have worked the event in the past, but this was by far the best one yet. As a hospitality vendor, I got the chance to promote/share The Clubhouse at Rancho Solano Venue's options and food. Tonya, the coordinator for the event made it almost seamless for vendors to be able to promote their business. As I arrived, there was a squadron of volunteers ready to help us move tables and set up accordingly. It was a great chance to get to know other businesses in the area and we will definitely be participating in next year's event!

LAUREN GRAY
GENERAL MANAGER,
CLUBHOUSE AT
RANCHO SOLANO



Year after year the staff at the Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce collaborate to host amazing events that benefit its members, our local communities & businesses. This year's Wine, Brew and Food event was no exception. Great food, numerous wine & beer choices and a network of wonderful people made for a remarkable evening. I continue to be impressed at the number of attendees and the outstanding turnout of support by local businesses. As the Wine Bag sponsor at this year's event, Comfort Keepers has been afforded the opportunity to contribute to a worthy cause, in addition to elevating our relationships with other professionals, obtaining advertising through word of mouth, social media, digital marketing and tangible take-always with our name and logo exclusively applied for each guest. This is a MUST attend event and as always, I look forward to being a part of the sponsorship for next year's event!

JENNIFER HOUSE
SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR, COMFORT KEEPERS IN HOME CARE



Four years ago, I had the opportunity to attend chambers Wine, Food & Brew event as a guest of a wine industry friend. Looking back on that day, I could have never imagined that two years later I would have the opportunity to represent BackRoad Vines Winery and pour their wine here at this wonderful event. The Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce does an amazing job every year pairing local breweries and wineries like BackRoad Vines with food from local restaurants. Guests are treated to an array of multi-cultural foods from a diverse selection of restaurants that make up the Fairfield-Suisun area. I love that guests can move between the wine and beer rooms and are able to speak to representatives from all our valley wineries and breweries. We truly meet some amazing guests, find new foods to love and enjoy sharing our amazing valley with everyone we encounter.

LISA LEWIS
BACKROAD VINES, CLUB MEMBER CONCIERGE



Wine Food & Brew was certainly great for foodies, but personally I was most impressed with the friendly, social vibe. Connecting with old friends and making a few new ones made this event a lot of fun for me. And yes, the eclectic choice of food from local restaurants made it even better. I tasted several local wines I had never tried before and chatted with the vintners. Can't wait until the next Wine Food & Brew!

DAVE MCCALLUM
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE, KUIC/KKIQ/KKDV

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