## February 2025



# Our monthly news & updates

Visit our Website!

#### SSF Chamber Board Strengthens Governance with Fiduciary Training

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce is committed to strong leadership and sound governance to better serve our business community. To reinforce this commitment, the Chamber engaged Kimberly Cluff, a distinguished attorney with extensive experience in nonprofit governance and economic development, to train our Board on their fiduciary duties and responsibilities.

A special thank you to Chamber Board Member **Suzanne Lee** and **Genentech** for providing world-class meeting space for this critical training session. With a career spanning over two decades, **Kimberly Cluff** guided the Board through an in-depth review of key governance documents, policy updates, and best practices to ensure transparency, accountability, and effectiveness in Chamber operations.

Following the training, Board members gathered for a networking social at **The Camber**, a fantastic addition to **The Hangar** in South San Francisco, where they had the opportunity to reflect and discuss the next steps in implementing these enhanced governance practices.

By investing in strong leadership and responsible governance, the Chamber is building a solid foundation for long-term success, ensuring we continue to advocate for and support our members and the broader business community. This training marks another step in elevating the Chamber's role as a trusted partner for businesses in South San Francisco and beyond.







#### A Message from the Desk of Mary Prem

#### **CEO of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce**

Dear Chamber Members,

As we step into February, a month celebrating **love** and **history**, I want to take a moment to highlight some key updates and opportunities for our business community.

First, an important reminder about **business license renewals**. Due to the passage of Measure W, the deadline for 2025 business license renewals has been extended to February 28, 2025. If you own rental properties, please note that new regulations now require all rental units to be licensed, with a \$50 per-unit tax. If you have questions about how this impacts you, please refer to the city's guidelines or reach out for support.

February is also a time to showcase and support our local businesses. We encourage you to send us your specials and promotions, whether it's Valentine's Day offers, Black History Month tributes, or simply a great deal you want to share with the community. We'll help spread the word through our Chamber channels!

Additionally, we understand that business owners need to be informed and prepared in today's regulatory landscape. The Chamber does not take a political stance on **immigration policies**, but we are committed to providing businesses with the tools and resources they need to operate smoothly. To support our members, we have distributed a checklist with best practices on how to handle an immigration enforcement visit in a way that protects both your business and your employees. If you haven't received it or need further guidance, please contact us.



As always, we appreciate your continued partnership and engagement. Let's make this a strong and successful month together!

With appreciation, Mary Prem

# **Business License Renewal Deadline Extended & Important Updates**

Due to the passage of Measure W, the deadline for 2025 business license renewals has been extended to February 28, 2025. Renewal notices was sent out in early January, and penalties will not be applied until March 1, 2025.

### **Key Updates for 2025:**

- Construction Contractors A new 0.18% tax on permit valuation will apply to all permits submitted starting January 1, 2025. Contractors must also file annually with the City to maintain an active license.
- Residential Property Rentals All rental property owners (not just multi-family units) must now have a valid business license, with a new fee of \$50 per unit.
- Late Payment Penalties The penalty for nonpayment has changed to 10% per month, capping at 100% of the original tax (previously capped at 25%).

For more details, visit the South San Francisco Municipal Code:https://www.ssf.net/Departments/Finance/Business-License-Information



#### Business Owners' Rights & Responsibilities During an Immigration Raid

As a business owner, it's important to understand your rights and responsibilities when dealing with an immigration raid or enforcement action. Use this checklist to prepare and respond appropriately.

Disclaimer: This document is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Consult an attorney for specific legal guidance.

#### Before a Raid: Preparation

- Ensure I-9 Compliance Maintain properly completed I-9 forms for all employees.
- Train Staff Educate managers and employees on their rights and protocols.
- Designate a Response Team Assign key staff to handle legal matters and interact with authorities.
- Consult an Attorney Have an immigration or employment attorney available.
- Develop a Workplace Raid Plan Establish written procedures for handling enforcement actions.
- Know the Types of ICE Actions Be aware of administrative audits, site visits, and enforcement raids.

#### During a Raid: Your Rights & Actions

- Ask for Proper Identification ICE agents must present a judicial warrant to enter non-public areas.
- Review the Warrant Carefully Ensure it includes the correct business name, address, and search scope.
- Do Not Provide Additional Information Only provide what the warrant specifically requests.
- Limit ICE's Access ICE cannot enter employee-only areas without a judicial warrant.
- Do Not Consent to a Search If ICE lacks a valid warrant, politely state, "I do not consent to a search."
- ✓ Notify Legal Counsel Immediately Contact your attorney and ask ICE to wait until legal representation arrives.
- ☑ Do Not Obstruct the Investigation Comply with legal requests but do not voluntarily provide extra information.
- ✓ Protect Employee Rights Employees have the right to remain silent and are not required to answer immigration status questions.

#### After a Raid: Next Steps

- Document Everything Record details including agents' names, badge numbers, and any documents taken.
- Contact Your Attorney Seek legal advice, especially if employees are detained.
- Provide Support for Employees Share resources for legal aid and worker protection.
- Communicate with Staff & Customers Maintain transparency while ensuring compliance with the law.
- Review & Strengthen Workplace Policies Improve legal protections for future incidents.



The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce has your Friday evening planned!

Join us on Friday, February 7, 2025, for a FREE community event filled with celebration, networking, and local fun!



## Start the Evening with a Ribbon Cutting & Chamber Mixer!

🕈 A Secret Wine Bar – San Francisco Wine School

¶ 415 Grand Ave, #301

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Kick off the night by celebrating the grand opening of The Secret Wine Bar at the renowned SF Wine School! Enjoy a curated wine tasting while mingling with fellow professionals in an elegant, inviting space. A South San Francisco Chamber event is always a great time—don't miss out on the connections, conversations, and, of course, the wine!



## Then, Experience the Lunar New Year Night Market!

Grand Avenue Breezeway (Next to the Economic Advancement Center)

9 346 Grand Ave

After the mixer, keep the festivities going as you step into the magic of Lunar New Year with Mayor Eddie and the South San Francisco City Council! Experience breathtaking cultural performances, indulge in delicious festive foods, and explore an array of unique vendors with handcrafted treasures. This is a true community event—a night full of celebration, culture, and local pride!

RSVP Now!

Email: info@ssfchamber.com

Call: 650-588-1911













Welcome to The Hangar! South San Francisco's newest culinary destination offers a vibrant market hall with four restaurant concepts, artisanal coffee from Peak Provisions, and quick bites. For a full dining experience, head upstairs to Camber, where handcrafted cocktails and a California-French menu await.

#### The Hangar

460 Forbes Blvd. South San Francisco CA 94080 (650)452-6642

https://www.thehangarssf.com/



Experience Riposo! Where Italian flavors meet fresh California ingredients in the heart of South San Francisco. More than just a restaurant, Riposo is a warm and inviting space to unwind and savor every bite.

#### Riposo

256 E. Grand Ave South San Francisco, CA 94080 (650)763-1619

https://www.riposossf.com/





AC Hotel SFO Oyster Point Waterfront (April 2017) **Al-Tone Overhead Door, Inc.** (January 2000) Dimerco Express (U.S.A.) Corp. (April 2009) E Plus Studio Inc. (September 2011) Foundry & Lux (October 2023) **GNS South Tower, LP** (February 2016) Hawi Hawaiian BBQ (September 2020) Hemi's Plumbing Service (December 2023) Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (USA) (March 2008) **J&T Advanced Collision Center Corp.** (December 2019) Luminous Day Spa Inc. (December 2007) Morrow Service, Inc. (February 1995) Monterra Credit Union (February 1988) San Bruno Mountain Watch (January 2020) San Mateo Economic Development Association (February 1997) Sonesta Select SFO Airport Oyster Point Waterfront (June 2000) South San Francisco Host Lions Club (July 2008) WAYMO (December 2023)

#### **Member Highlights – February 2025**

#### Bob Jr's Towing, Inc. (April 2000)

At Bob Jr's Towing Inc., We are a family-owned and operated business with deep roots in South San Francisco. For more than three decades, we've been dedicated to providing reliable, professional towing and roadside assistance services to our community. Our commitment goes beyond just business - we've built lasting relationships with local companies and agencies to ensure we're always here when you need us most. Whether you're a long-time partner or a new neighbor, we treat every customer with the same care and dedication that has defined us for generations. We look forward to continuing to serve you with the same trusted service our community has relied on for years.

#### Comerica Bank (January 2024)

Comerica recently celebrated 175 Year Anniversary and is becoming the best bank for businesses and as part of that investment, the bank has built a nationwide team of specialists in our Banking centers. We work with small businesses to ensure you are getting the absolute best out of your relationship with Comerica. At Comerica we are like one stop shop, so you don't have to go to multiple Banks. Comerica continues to build new solution exclusively for small business We have been empowered to help each of our small business customer navigate the options to find the best vale for you specifically. We will work hand in hand with you to ensure you get as much as possible while never spending more than what you have should.

#### Luis Chem Dry (October 1996)

Luis Alvarenga, owner of Luis' Chem-Dry. Luis' Chem-Dry is your trusted partner for exceptional cleaning services. We specialize in revitalizing carpets, including area rugs, upholstery (fabric and leather), and hard surfaces such as tile, natural stone, hardwood floors, LVT floors, and linoleum floors. We can also clean, seal and polish granite kitchen counters. I was born and raised in El Salvador and moved to the United States in 1983. I attended Elk Grove High School and graduated in 1985. In 1986 I moved to the San Francisco Bay Area and started working as a carpet technician at a Chem-Dry franchise in Belmont and attended San Mateo College during the evenings. In 1995 I decided to buy my own Chem-Dry franchise and moved to South San Francisco. As an immigrant to the United States, I am proud to say I have been living the American Dream.

I have owned and operated my own business for 30 years with a total of 39 years of experience in the carpet and upholstery cleaning industry. I was able to become a homeowner in 2001, and was fortunate enough to afford a private education for my son. He attended All Souls Catholic School, Junipero Serra High School and Saint Mary's College of California. I have been involved in helping the community of South San Francisco through different organizations such as the Young Men's Institute (The YMI) and Knight of Columbus at All Souls Catholic Church as well as the South San Francisco Host Lions Club. NEXT TIME YOU ARE IN NEED OF ANY TYPE OF FLOOR CLEANING OR UPHOLSTERY JUST CALL 650-875-3636 or visit our website at <a href="https://chem-dry.net/luisca">https://chem-dry.net/luisca</a>

### Mark A. Barradas, D.D.S. (October 2002)

Mark A. Barradas grew up in Daly City, just north of San Francisco. He graduated from Westmoor High School in 1978 and went on to study at the University of San Francisco, where he graduated in 1982 with a Bachelor's Degree of Science in Biology. He went onto receive his Doctor of Dental Surgery at Marquette University, 1986. Not long after, Dr. Barradas opened his practice in South San Francisco and had been practicing dentistry for over 39 years.

Mark truly enjoys serving the people of San Mateo County. In fact, he married one of them. Dr. Barradas has been married to his wife, Hilda for 43 years. They have two sons and two daughters-in-law and two grandchildren. Mark and his wife are very involved in their community as well. They are active members of St. Robert Church in San Bruno. Dr Barradas is also involved with South San Francisco Rotary Club, serving as president (2009-2020).

He is a member of CERT, which stand for Community Emergency Response Team and PAL, which stands for Police Activities League. He is also a member of the South San Francisco Chamber. He enjoys spending time with grandchildren family and friends, camping, playing guitar and traveling to Hawaii.

In-N-Out Burger staff and consultants hosted a community town hall at the Library Parks and Recreation facility to discuss plans for a new location at 932 & 972 El Camino Real, the former Burger King site. The meeting brought together the Chamber of Commerce, city staff from Planning and Economic Development, local business owners, stakeholders, and residents for an engaging discussion.

The proposed project includes transforming the blighted lot into a modern restaurant with climate-friendly landscaping, a six-foot noise barrier wall, a drive-through lane, and a 40-foot landscaped buffer zone to minimize impact on neighboring residents. The development is expected to create 45 jobs and generate significant tax revenue for the city.

Attendees raised questions about traffic management, noise mitigation, and extended operating hours. In-N-Out representatives addressed these concerns with details about their operational strategies, including efficient drive-through queue management, noise-reducing infrastructure, and after-hours deliveries.

The Chamber appreciates the opportunity to be part of this important discussion and encourages continued community involvement as this project progresses.





# SSF Chamber Works to Bring Emerging Biotech Companies to South San Francisco

The J.P. Morgan Healthcare Conference brought together top biotech, pharma, and med-tech leaders, creating a key opportunity to showcase South San Francisco as the Biotech Capital of the World. Thanks to an invitation from Pamela Gardner, CEO of BVS, the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce engaged with emerging life science companies, actively encouraging them to make South City their home.

At the Women of Influence in Life Sciences, we connected with groundbreaking startups and industry leaders looking for the right environment to grow. Pink Day was another highlight, reinforcing the industry's commitment to innovation in cancer research and healthcare.

Attracting these companies to South San Francisco fuels our local economy, creates jobs, and benefits our legacy businesses—from restaurants and retail to professional services. By expanding our reach beyond our zip code, the Chamber is working to bring the next wave of biotech innovation to our city.





# **Exclusive Tour of Kilroy Oyster Point Phase 2**

The South San Francisco Chamber Board kicked off the year with a productive January meeting at **The Anecdote Restaurant**, hosted by **Natalia Morales** from **Kilroy Realty**. Following the meeting, attendees had the opportunity to tour the impressive Kilroy Oyster Point Phase 2, gaining insight into the exciting developments transforming South San Francisco's biotech hub.

Phase 2 of Kilroy Oyster Point will introduce state-of-the-art life science facilities, modern office spaces, and vibrant public amenities. This expansion includes a new restaurant and rooftop lounge, a scenic Bay Trail, and a community amphitheater, all designed to enhance the area's accessibility and appeal.

Additionally, Kilroy Oyster Point will feature a private marina, which will eventually offer Water Uber taxi services, providing a unique and convenient transportation option for the area.

A huge thank you to Kilroy Realty for hosting us and sharing this exciting vision. We look forward to seeing this transformative project unfold and bring new opportunities for both businesses and the local community!

















# **Cafecito with Mayor Eddie**

On January 18, 2025, the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce attended the inaugural "Cafecito with Mayor Eddie" at Antigua Coffee Shop on Grand Avenue. This event featured discussions with Mayor Eddie Flores, City Manager Sharon Ranals, and local stakeholders, including Chamber board member and local business owner Dani Fandino of Flowers and Events by Dani. Community members had the opportunity to ask questions and share their perspectives, fostering a stronger community.



## **Skyline College Presidents Council Breakfast**

The Chamber had the delicious privilege of participating in a taste-testing session for the upcoming Skyline College President's Council Breakfast, scheduled for **March 21st.** Save the date and get ready to savor scrumptious breakfast delights while networking with local leaders, all in support of the President's Innovation Fund.

This annual breakfast not only offers a fantastic meal but also highlights the incredible work being done to foster innovation and excellence at Skyline College. As co-chair of this worthwhile cause, I am honored to be part of such meaningful efforts that benefit our community.

For more information, please visit: <a href="https://skylinecollege.edu/presidentscouncil/presidentsbreakfast.php">https://skylinecollege.edu/presidentscouncil/presidentsbreakfast.php</a>

#### **Business Leaders Take a Stand Against Domestic Violence & Human Trafficking**

On January 30th, business and community leaders gathered at the **South San Francisco Conference Center** for "*Business Leaders Against Domestic Violence & Human Trafficking: Going from Bystander to Upstander.*" Organized by **Jim McGuire** of the South San Francisco Conference Center, in partnership with **South San Francisco Police Sergeant Sean Curmi**, the event aimed to educate and empower businesses to recognize, respond to, and help prevent these critical issues.

The **City of South San Francisco** played a key role in supporting this initiative, with **Mayor Eddie Flores** delivering a warm welcome to attendees. **San Mateo County Supervisor Noelia Corzo** gave the keynote address, emphasizing the importance of local leadership in fostering safer communities.

Attendees also heard from expert speakers representing **CORA** (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse), the **San Mateo County District Attorney's Office**, victim advocates, and law enforcement professionals, who shared insights on prevention, intervention, and available support resources.

This powerful event reinforced the vital role that businesses and individuals can play in creating a safer, more informed community. Thank you to all who participated in this essential conversation!







# VALENTINE'S DAY MENU

\$75 PER PERSON



### STARTER

Tomato and Roasted Red Bell Pepper Soup,
Parmesan Crouton

OR

SLICED BEET SALAD WITH ROCKET TOSSED IN AGAVE-CITRUS DRESSING, CRUMBLED WHITE CHEDDAR, BALSAMIC SYRUP

#### ENTREE

Waterfront Risotto with Cod, Clams, Mussels, Calamari, Chorizo, Sweet Peas and Roasted Peppers

OF

SLICED FILET OF BEEF CHEF MIXED MUSHROOMS WITH MASHED POTATOES, BROCCOLINI AND BABY CARROTS, RED WINE DEMI

OR

Butter Basted Pacific Salmon, Whipped Potatoes, Sautéed Spinach, Balsamic Reduction

#### DESSERT

Dark Chocolate Cake with Chantilly Cream Or Mixed Fruit Tart with Creamy Custard

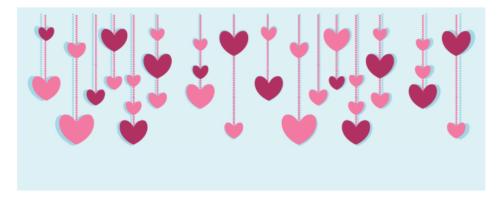
**Naterfront** 

AC LOUNGE™ South San Francisco 1333 Veterans Boulevard, South San Francisco, California, 9408 650-742-9211

# Interested in a free tree?

Help grow the urban forest of South San Francisco!
The Parks and Recreation Department and Rise South City are giving away free trees to residents to plant in their front yards to help bolster the urban forest and combat climate change.





# **Hearts & Connections Mixer**

# SSF Chamber of Commerce Mixer

Hosted by Rotary Club of South San Francisco

Rotary Terrace | 319 Miller Ave February 13, 2025 34:30 PM

Join us for an exclusive **tour** of the **Rotary Terrace Senior Apartments** while savoring **delicious appetizers** and **fabulous libations!**  $\bigcirc$  **Celebrating Community Giving**  $\bigcirc$ 

The Rotary Club of SSF will proudly present donations to:

- ✓ SSF CERT
- ✓ SSF Kiwanis Club
- ✓ Boys & Girls Club of Pacifica
- ✓ SSF Sister Cities
- ✓ SSF PAL
- ✓ JFK Elementary School, Daly City

Let's mix, mingle, and make a difference—it's going to be one sweet experience!

♦ RSVP Today!



February is American Heart Month, a time to raise awareness about heart disease and how to prevent it

Almost 80% of heart attacks are preventable - the following tips will help keep your heart healthy.

While heart attacks are common and incredibly alarming, many are preventable. If you practice healthy habits, you are much more likely to keep your heart healthy and avoid the number one worldwide cause of death for adults. Here are four areas that are the most important to maintaining heart health.

**Don't smoke.** People who smoke are 2-4 times more likely to experience heart disease than people who don't smoke. Smoking can damage the lining of your arteries, which can ultimately result in chest pain, arrhythmias, heart attacks and heart failure.

Maintain a healthy and balanced diet. There are many healthy choices available, especially if you make the time to plan your meals in advance. Ensure that you're eating plenty of fruit, vegetables, whole grains, low-fat dairy, skinless poultry and fish, nuts and beans. Moderation is key when it comes to saturated fats, sodium and sugar.

Exercise regularly. Try to get 150 minutes of moderate physical activity (i.e. brisk walking) each week (which is a little over 21 minutes a day). If you're able, rotate in some vigorous activity such as swimming, biking or hiking uphill.

Maintain a healthy weight. If you eat a healthy diet, exercise regularly, and avoid smoking, you're more likely to maintain a healthy weight which contributes to your overall health and wellness.

<u>Wellness coaching is available</u> at no charge for Kaiser Permanente members to manage their weight, quit tobacco, reduce stress, get more active, or make healthier food choices.

Some additional tips for preventing heart disease are:

- · Maintain a healthy blood pressure and blood sugar, cholesterol and triglyceride levels
- · Limit alcohol intake (one drink a day or less)
- · Manage stress with helpful tools like meditation, yoga, massage, or breathing exercises
- · Seek help for concerns with depression or mental health

Making healthy choices, managing your risk factors, and taking preventive measures will help keep your heart healthy,

#### Edward Kao, MD

Physician-in-Chief

Kaiser Permanente South San Francisco Medical Center

#### **Friendly reminder to Chamber Members:**

Have you changed your contact information, email address, or phone numbers?

Please provide the SSF Chamber of Commerce with your information to keep our website up to date.

You can email any changes to info@ssfchamber.com





You can RSVP and pay for our events by going to the calendar section and clicking on the event you want to attend. Registration is for SSF Chamber members.

> Not a Chamber member yet? Contact the Chamber at info@ssfchamber.com or visit www.ssfchamber.com

Follow us on <u>Facebook</u> & Instagram for the latest Chamber news.

## Calendar of Events

## **February**

February is here—a month of reflection, celebration, and connection. As we honor Black History Month and share love on Valentine's Day, let's continue striving toward our goals, strengthening our community, and making 2025 a year of impact and success!

2/7 Ribbon Cutting-San Francisco Wine School 3:30pm

2/7 Lunar New Year Night Market 5pm

2/12 City Council Meeting 6:30pm

2/12 Know your Immigration Rights Workshop 6pm

2/13 Chamber & Rotary Mixer - 4:30pm

2/14 Happy Valentine's Day

2/17 President's Day Holiday

2/18 Board Meeting 8:30am

2/20 Sunset Soiree Mixer at Skyline College 4pm

2/26 City Council Meeting 6:30pm

## South San Francisco Chamber Member Benefit

Did you know as one of the many benefits of being our member that you can submit your events for Chamber approval through our monthly newsletter, or social media outlets? Once approved, it will be listed on our event calendar!

# **Legislative Watch List**

We take care of politics so you can take care of your business

# **Chairman Circle Members**

Chairman's Circle members receive benefits above and beyond typical membership, with the highest visibility at Chamber events and in publications

Chairman Circle - GOLD MEMBER



Chairman Circle - SILVER MEMBERS



Chairman Circle - BRONZE MEMBERS





## 2023-24 Board Officers

President Sailesh Mehra SM8

Vice President
Daniela Jonguitud
Chajinel Home Care Services

Treasurer
Michael Formosa
SSF Scavenger Company

Ex-Officio City Manager Sharon Ranals

Ex-Officio City Economic Mgr Ernesto Lucero

#### **Board of Directors**

Cesar Dominguez ProColor Collision

Dani Fandino Events & Flowers by Dani

> Kamal Hyder SF Bay ADU

Miju Kim AC Marriott

Suzanne Lee Genentech

Natalia Morales Kilroy Realty Corporation

Pravin Punjiya
Fairfield Inn by Marriott SFO

Roger Rodgriguez
Rockoto Peruvian Restaurant

#### **Chamber Personnel**

Mary Prem CEO

Arlene Dozier Administrative Assistant

## Kevin Williams California Water Service

## Kevin Worth Kaiser Permanente

South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce | 213 Linden Avenue | South San Francisco, CA  $94080\ \mathrm{US}$ 

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