

August 2025



Our monthly news & updates

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Cultura Fest

CELEBRATING SALVADORAN AND
LATIN AMERICAN HERITAGE,
CREATIVITY, AND COMMUNITY

LIVE MUSIC • DANCE • ART • FOOD • CULTURE

AUGUST 23, 2025. 11AM-5PM
400 GRAND AVE, DOWNTOWN SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

Performances by:
Tito Mira
Cathia
Crooked Stilo
Bayonics
Grupo Maiz
DJ Discodelica

Hosted by:
Amazon prime comedian,
Hoozay and Tony from
Bayuncos



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Celebrate With Us at Cultura Fest - Saturday, August 23

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce is proud to be part of the team bringing Cultura Fest to life. This free, family-friendly celebration is all about culture, creativity, and community, and we hope to see you there.

This year, we're shining a well-deserved spotlight on Salvadoran traditions in honor of South San Francisco's first Salvadoran mayor. From food and music to dance and art, it will be a beautiful showcase of Salvadoran heritage. But Cultura Fest is for everyone. No matter your background, this is your chance to share your culture, connect with others, and celebrate everything that makes our community unique.

There will be live performances, food vendors, art, activities for all ages, and plenty of opportunities to support local businesses and nonprofits focused on youth mental health, family services, and the arts.

Want to Be Part of the Action? Here's How

Walk with the Chamber in the Parade

The festival kicks off with our first-ever Multicultural Parade, and the Chamber is putting together a group to march together. We are inviting all of our members to join us.

Wear your business's t-shirts, bring your signs, wave your flags, and walk alongside other Chamber members as we show just how strong and united our business community really is. You can represent your own culture and your brand at the same time. It's a great way to be seen and to connect with the crowd.

Calling All Grand Avenue and Nearby Businesses

If you are located along Grand Avenue or on the side streets, this is your time to shine. Let's turn the neighborhood into a celebration that draws people in.

Here are some easy and fun ways to take part:

- Decorate your windows and storefront
- Offer samples to bring people inside
- Create a grab-and-go menu for festival-goers
- Feature a special "Cultura Menu" with limited-time pricing
- Play music, blow bubbles, invite dancers, make it lively
- Set up a fun photo area with your logo so people can snap pictures and tag your business online

The goal is simple. Make people stop, smile, and walk through your doors. This is a chance to market your business, make new connections, and be part of something joyful and meaningful.

Let's show the heart and soul of South San Francisco together!

If you want to join the parade or need help with ideas, reach out to the Chamber team. We would love to have you involved. See you at Cultura Fest!

A Message from the Desk of Mary Prem

CEO of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce



Dear Chamber Members and Friends,

August is here, and with it comes a fresh wave of momentum for our Chamber and the incredible community we serve.

This summer has been full of meaningful moments. We've celebrated grand openings with ribbon cuttings, built new relationships at mixers, and continued to strengthen our network of businesses and partners. From spotlighting local entrepreneurs to riding alongside Waymo to explore smart transportation solutions, it is clear that South San Francisco is a city that leads with purpose and heart.

I am especially proud of our growing team of Chamber Ambassadors. These individuals volunteer their time to welcome new members, represent the Chamber at events, and help build a sense of community across the board. They bring energy, professionalism, and a genuine passion for supporting others. We look forward to officially swearing them in at our Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner in October, where we will also recognize outstanding contributions from our members and leaders.

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to be part of Cultura Fest later this month. This celebration not only honors Salvadoran culture but invites every community to share their heritage and join in the spirit of connection. It is a reminder that South San Francisco's strength lies in its diversity and unity.

To our members, thank you. Your ideas, feedback, and dedication continue to shape our work. If you are new to the Chamber, welcome. If you have been with us over the years, know that the best is still to come.

Let's keep this energy going and finish the summer strong. I am excited for what lies ahead and grateful to be on this journey with all of you.

Regards,
Mary



Welcome to Our Newest Chamber Ambassadors

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce is excited to welcome a fantastic group of new ambassadors, joining under the leadership of our Chief Ambassador, **Cesar Dominguez** of ProColor Collision.

Chamber ambassadors play a key role in strengthening our community. They help welcome new members, support ribbon cuttings and events, and serve as a vital link between the Chamber and local businesses. We are proud to introduce the newest members of this dedicated team:

- **Luis Almendarez, Cetera Investors**
- **Kris Brown, Cintas**
- **Claudia and Mario Canseco, Chula SF**
- **Lydia Pomposo, South San Francisco Women's Club**
- **Astrid Rivera, Retired**
- **Yamel Rodriguez, North West Waterproofing Inc.**
- **John Sanna, Friends of Parks and Recreation**
- **Brad Smith, Incline Insurance Services, Inc.**
- **Florida Ventura, Realtor**
- **Yesika Wong, YSIPIX Photography**

These ambassadors bring a wide range of experience, energy, and passion to the Chamber. We are grateful for their commitment and excited for the connections and contributions they will make in the months ahead.

Be sure to say hello when you see them at upcoming Chamber events. We will officially recognize and swear in our new ambassadors at the Chamber's Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner on Thursday, October 16.

Welcome to the team. We are thrilled to have you representing the Chamber and our incredible South City business community.

It's Official: South City Training Center Day Was a Knockout

Saturday, July 12 was one to remember as we celebrated the grand opening of **South City Training Center** with a packed house, high energy, and lots of community spirit.

Mayor Eddie Flores presented a special proclamation naming it *South City Training Center Day in South San Francisco*, recognizing the center's positive impact. Chamber Vice President **Cesar Dominguez** welcomed guests, and our newest Chamber Ambassador **Lydia Pomposo** joined the celebration along with city leaders, chamber members, and more than 100 attendees.

The big surprise? Boxing legend **James "Lights Out" Toney** showed up in person. The three-time world champion shared words of encouragement, took photos, and made time for the kids and families who were thrilled to meet him. He was warm, humble, and inspiring to everyone there.

More than just a gym, South City Training Center is a space for growth, mentorship, and building community. The energy and excitement made it clear this place will become a home for young athletes and anyone looking to better themselves in a supportive environment.

A huge congratulations to the owners and their family for creating something truly special. Stop by and visit them at 298 Lawrence Avenue and follow along on Instagram at [@south_city_training_center](https://www.instagram.com/south_city_training_center). This is just the beginning.



Mayor Eddie Flores and Chamber CEO Mary Prem Ride with Waymo

Mayor Eddie Flores and Chamber CEO Mary Prem recently joined **Dan Pritchell**, who leads Local Government Affairs and Community Engagement at Waymo, for a one-of-a-kind meeting inside a Waymo autonomous vehicle.

As they rode through the Bay Area, the conversation focused on Waymo's upcoming expansion into the Peninsula and how it could benefit South San Francisco. One key idea was how Waymo might help solve the challenge of the last mile for people who rely on public transit. Getting from a bus or train stop to work, school, or home can be a barrier for many, and Waymo could be part of the solution.

They also talked about future partnerships between Waymo and the Chamber of Commerce. Ideas included community outreach, education efforts, and exploring ways to support both residents and local businesses.

Waymo already has a connection to South San Francisco. The company received the Green Business Award at last year's Chamber Business Excellence Awards, recognized for its innovative and sustainable approach to transportation.

As Waymo continues to grow in the region, the Chamber looks forward to keeping the conversation going and finding new ways to bring smart, accessible mobility to our community.



Curry Pizza House Celebrates One-Year Anniversary in South City

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce congratulates **Curry Pizza House** on celebrating one year of business in our community. A proud Chamber member, Curry Pizza House has quickly become a favorite spot for locals with its bold flavors and welcoming atmosphere.

Chamber Board President **Dani Fandino** joined the celebration to recognize owner Ajay and Manager Roopi for their commitment to South City. Their passion for food, community, and hospitality shines through in everything they do.

Guests enjoyed delicious bites, raffle prizes, and a fun, festive atmosphere. If you have not had a chance to visit yet, be sure to stop by and try their fan-favorite cauliflower pizza or a refreshing mango beer.

Looking for something to do midweek? **Trivia Night** happens every Tuesday from 6 to 8 PM and is a great way to enjoy the space with friends and neighbors.

Curry Pizza House, 415 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco



Bill Benavides' Birthday Celebration!

A heartfelt thank you to **Bill Benavides**, a long-time Chamber member and former board member, for inviting us to his annual birthday party in July! Nearly 100 people celebrated with live music, dancing, and great conversation. It was a wonderful time for our community to connect and celebrate a man who has contributed so much. Happy birthday, Bill!

Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc



Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc., is proud to celebrate over 50 years of designing spaces that bring communities together from our home base in South San Francisco. Since 1974, our collaborative, low-ego approach has shaped award-winning civic buildings, libraries, and community centers throughout the Bay Area and across the country.

Even if we haven't had the chance to work or collaborate with you directly, Group 4 has been engrained in the South San Francisco community for decades, working on projects that have improved the lives of our neighbors and strengthened our civic infrastructure. From the South San Francisco Conference Center and Grand Avenue Library to the Magnolia Senior Center and Alice Bulos Community Center, plus ongoing work with SamTrans, our roots in South City continue to shape the people-first design values we bring to communities nationwide.

As a majority women-owned firm, we remain committed to inclusive, community-centered design. We look forward to the next 50 years of creating places where people gather, imagine, and grow, from our home here in South San Francisco.

Group 4 Architecture has been a proud Chamber member since 1986 and is located at 211 Linden Avenue in South San Francisco.

(Pictured: The recently completed San Bruno Recreation & Aquatic Center and the Group 4 Office), photographer credit Cesar Rubio

Spotlight on Evolve Training Center

At Evolve Training Center, we believe the most important thing we teach isn't just martial arts - it's confidence, discipline, and character. Founded by Coaches J and Mark, both raised locally, Evolve was built as a way to give back to the community that helped shape them. Since 2011, we've proudly served local families with a strong focus on youth development through Jiu Jitsu and Muay Thai.

Our kids' programs are rooted in structure, accountability, and life skills. We work with students to help them build self-esteem, respect for others, and the ability to defend themselves — both mentally and physically. Whether a child is shy, spirited, or somewhere in between, our coaches meet them where they are and help them grow.

We also offer adult programs that build strength, skill, and community, whether you're looking for a new challenge, self-defense skills, or just a supportive environment to grow.

Beyond the mat, we host a variety of community-based events to strengthen connection and confidence outside the academy:

- Monthly "Bring a Friend" days
- Community bike rides
- Free FriDate events every 3rd Friday
- In-house tournaments and youth scholarship awards At Evolve, we don't just train athletes — we're raising strong, respectful, and resilient people of all ages.

Learn more: www.evolvevtrainingcenter.com



Baden Coin Laundry

Theresa Ruiz Fong
405 Baden Ave
South San Francisco, CA 94080

Kimby Accessories

Erika Tomayo
217 Maple Ave
South San Francisco, CA 94080
(650)273-1211
Money Transfers, Cashier's Checks

North West Waterproofing, Inc.

Sergio Rodriguez

858 Commercial Ave

(650)222-7613

<https://www.nwestwaterproofing.com/>

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(650)438-4394



**THANK YOU
FOR RENEWING!**



ADA's Clinica (February 2023)

Bitters & Bottles (August 2013)

Bronstein Music (April 1946)

Commute.org (August 2002)

Hilton Garden Inn SFO North (April 1999)

Historical Society of South San Francisco (July 2005)

ProColor Collision SSF (Previously Royalty Auto) (July 1998)

Ryan & Ryan Construction (April 2012)

Samaritan House (February 2002)

SM8 (June 2021)
South San Francisco Host Lions Club (July 2008)
SplashFix Plumbing (February 2024)
Summerhill Apartment Communities (August 2017)
Studio T-SQ Inc. (August 2024)
The Anecdote (September 2022)



Kiwanis
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

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\$50 PER PERSON

INCLUDES 3 BOCCE GAMES, CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST & LUNCH
- TEAMS & INDIVIDUALS WELCOME -

COURT SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
GOLD \$250 - SILVER \$200 - BRONZE \$150
YOUR NAME OR COMPANY NAME
PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025

8:30 AM CHECK-IN

ORANGE MEMORIAL PARK
BOCCE COURTS, SSF

REGISTER NOW



FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT LOCAL
YOUTH & FAMILY CHARITIES
WWW.SSFKIWANIS.ORG

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SSF, CA 94083

- OR -

PAY BY CC VIA PHONE
AFTER RSVP

REG. DEADLINE: 8/18

INFO@SSFKIWANIS.ORG

⚓ **END OF SUMMER BBQ**

FEATURING
ELVIS
IMPERSONATOR
SHAWN
HUGHES

AUGUST 22, 2025

6:00PM TO 11:00PM

**OYSTER POINT
YACHT CLUB**



ALSO FEATURING
COMMODORE RICO'S
60TH BIRTHDAY

**\$20 INCLUDES MUSIC, BBQ RIBS, MAC SALAD,
POTATO SALAD & DESSERTS**

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4TH ANNUAL **GOLF** TOURNAMENT



MONDAY
OCTOBER 27

AT GREEN HILLS
COUNTRY CLUB

Check-in: 10:00am
Shotgun starts 11:00am

\$325- Per Player
\$1200- Foursome

.....
Early Bird Specials
\$300 - Per Player
\$1100 -Foursome
.....

Register now at:
charitygolftoday.com/ssfk9pa





COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE
PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT

VENDOR FAIR

Wednesday, September 17th | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

555 County Center, Redwood City
County Center Courtyard

Come learn about business opportunities with the County!
Join us at the Vendor Fair to learn about:

- County's eProcurement platform – OpenGov
- County departments' solicitations – visit their booths
- Navigating the procurement process
- And more!



**Event registration
instructions are below:**



Scan me!

[Click Here to Register](#)



August is National Immunization Awareness Month

Vaccines are a lifesaving breakthrough of modern medicine. Because of vaccination efforts, smallpox was eradicated from the United States in 1949. Other serious diseases like polio are also nearing elimination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has estimated that vaccinations will prevent more than **21 million** hospitalizations and **732,000** deaths among children born in the last 20 years. We've also seen high vaccination rates in the U.S. for decades.

Vaccines have become a hot-button topic because misinformation has wrongly associated vaccines with conditions like autism, disabilities, or other medical concerns. Research overwhelmingly shows that vaccine safety is very high, while providing protection against serious illness. Misleading information shared by online skeptics can cause significant harm to people who opt out of getting their vaccines.

It's important to understand how vaccines work. They are used to help prevent serious diseases or illnesses from happening or spreading. The vaccine itself is a safe substance that contains a small amount of a weakened or dead virus or bacteria.

Some common vaccines include chickenpox, COVID-19, flu (influenza), hepatitis (A & B), human papillomavirus (HPV), measles, mumps and rubella, polio, shingles, tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough).

Immunization is the process of becoming protected — or immune — to a disease or illness. When your body is exposed to a vaccine, your immune system will produce antibodies that protect you against that disease. Your body will then be able to recognize and fight the disease if you're ever exposed to it.

Vaccines help prevent serious illness, and it's important to stay up to date on all vaccines. Kaiser Permanente offers walk-in seasonal vaccine clinics for our members beginning in September. [Learn more about vaccines at kp.org.](https://www.kp.org)

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 [Facebook](#) & Instagram for the latest Chamber news.

Calendar of Events

8/13 City Council Meeting 6:30pm

8/19 Board Meeting 8:30am

8/23 Cultura Festival 11am

8/27 City Council Meeting 6:30pm

9/8 - 9/21 Genentech Goes to Town

10/16 - Installation and Awards Dinner

11/6 - Taste of South San Francisco

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





2025-26 Board Officers

President
Dani Fandino
Events & Flowers by Dani

Vice President
Cesar Dominguez
ProColor Collision

Treasurer
Michael Formosa
SSF Scavenger Company

Ex-Officio City Manager
Sharon Ranals

Ex-Officio City Economic Mgr
Ernesto Lucero

Board of Directors

Kamal Hyder
SF Bay ADU

Daniela Jonguitud
Chajinel Home Care Services

Suzanne Lee
Genentech

Sailesh Mehra
SM8

Natalia Morales
Kilroy Realty Corporation

Pravin Punjiya
Fairfield Inn by Marriott SFO

Roger Rodriguez
Rockoto Peruvian Restaurant

Kevin Williams
California Water Service

Kevin Worth
Kaiser Permanente

Chamber Personnel

Mary Prem
CEO

Arlene Dozier
Administrative Assistant

Keilani Mejia
Staff Intern

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