

December 2024



## Our monthly news & updates

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A Message from the Desk of Mary Prem,

CEO of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce



Dear Chamber Members and Friends,

As 2024 comes to a close, I can't help but reflect on how special this year has been for our Chamber and our community. South San Francisco is a city like no other—rich in diversity, innovation, and a strong sense of pride that ties us all together. We are truly **South City Proud**, and that spirit shines brightest during the holiday season.

One of the highlights this year was the ***Santa Comes to Town*** event. Working alongside our partners, the Chamber helped bring this holiday tradition to City Hall on Grand Avenue, ensuring that our downtown merchants benefit from the energy of holiday shoppers and diners. It's just one of the many ways we're focused on lifting up our local businesses while creating moments of joy and connection for the whole community.

As we look ahead to 2025, I invite you to take some time to reflect and plan. Whether you're a seasoned business owner, just starting out, or even a community member wanting to get more involved, the Chamber is here to support you. Here's a quick End-of-Year Checklist to guide you:

- **Organize Your Finances:** Pull together receipts, expenses, and documents to prepare for tax season.
- **Plan Ahead:** Learn about new laws or regulations that will take effect in January to stay ahead of the curve.
- **Set New Goals:** Celebrate what you accomplished this year and set your sights on even greater things for next year.
- **Assess and Refresh:** Update your marketing, operations, and processes to position your business for success in 2025.

- **Renew Memberships:** Don't miss out on another year of Chamber resources, events, and support.

If you're looking for a little extra help, reach out to the Chamber! We're happy to connect you with trusted professionals—whether it's a marketing expert, bookkeeper, tax pro, or insurance agent—to help take your business to the next level.

On behalf of **Arlene Dozier**, our trusted office manager, and our committed **Board of Directors**, we thank you for your membership and continued support. We also want to hear from you! Let us know how we can do better for you and the community—we're always looking for input and suggestions. Feel free to drop us an email anytime at [info@ssfchamber.com](mailto:info@ssfchamber.com).

And for those who aren't business owners—did you know you can still join the Chamber as part of our “**family**”? By becoming a member, you gain access to networking opportunities and play an important role in investing in South City's vibrant future. We'd love to have you join us!

Thank you for making this community so unique and inspiring. Together, let's finish 2024 strong and step into 2025 ready to make even greater strides. Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a bright, successful new year!

Warmly,  
Mary Prem

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## Chamber Attends Appreciation Reception at Skyline College



The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, along with friends and community partners, was honored to attend the Appreciation Reception hosted by Skyline College. The event celebrated the strong connections between the college and its community supporters, highlighting shared accomplishments and future opportunities for collaboration.

The reception offered a fantastic networking opportunity, bringing together business leaders, educators, and community advocates to forge stronger partnerships. Guests were also treated to a captivating performance by the talented **Pepe Malani**, adding a special touch of artistry to the evening.

We are proud to support Skyline College and look forward to continued collaboration in empowering South San Francisco's future leaders!



### Chamber Attends OUTBio Networking Event at Genentech

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce was honored to attend the recent OUTBio Networking Event at Genentech, celebrating diversity and inclusion within the biotech industry. OUTBio, a community for LGBTQ+ professionals in the life sciences, provides a vital platform for networking, collaboration, and advocacy.

The event brought together professionals from across the biotech sector, fostering meaningful connections and shared experiences. Chamber representatives were proud to engage with industry leaders, highlight the Chamber's commitment to supporting diversity, and explore opportunities for collaboration in South San Francisco—the biotech capital of the world.



Thank you to Genentech and OUTBio for hosting such an impactful event. We look forward to continuing to champion inclusivity and innovation within our thriving community!



**South City Celebrates Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day**

South City came together to honor Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day, celebrating the bravery of Ruby Bridges, who at six years old became a civil rights icon by integrating an all-white school in 1960. This meaningful event highlighted the importance of diversity, inclusion, and courage in shaping our communities.

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce joined the celebration by rallying merchants along Grand Avenue to cheer on local school kids as they walked to mark this significant day.

Thank you to all who participated in making it an inspiring event for our students!





**Extended**

**Holiday**

**Hours**

South City's very own Historical House and Gift Shop will be open with extended Saturday hours:

**Saturday, November 30  
through  
Saturday, December 21  
12:00 - 4:00**

Shop our recently restocked Boutique loaded with amazing treasures at unbelievable prices.

Our historic jewel is fully decorated for the Holidays.

Come and tour an important bit of our City's history.

**Admission is \*FREE\***

Co-Sponsored by South San Francisco Department of Parks & Recreation

South San Francisco Historical Society  
**PLYMIRE-SCHWARZ HOUSE**  
519 Grand Avenue  
[www.plymirehouse.org](http://www.plymirehouse.org)

## Nation's Giant Hamburgers Celebrates Ribbon Cutting in South City



### Nation's Giant Hamburgers and Pies

925 El Camino Real, South San Francisco

415-907-0108

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

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce was thrilled to celebrate the grand opening of Nation's Giant Hamburgers with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at their new location in South San Francisco. This exciting event brought together Chamber members, local leaders, and community supporters to welcome Nation's to the neighborhood.

Known for their iconic giant hamburgers, hearty breakfasts, and famous pies, Nation's promises to be a delicious addition to the city's dining scene. Attendees enjoyed the warm hospitality and the chance to sample some of Nation's classic menu items.

We're excited to see Nation's Giant Hamburgers become a favorite spot for South City residents and visitors alike. Be sure to stop by and experience their legendary flavors for yourself!

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EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT  
**LIVE KARAOKE**  
*night*

AC PATIO | 5-10PM  
*FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE*



AC HOTEL SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT/OYSTER POINT WATERFRONT  
1333 VETERANS BLVD, SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94080



### **Cesar Dominguez with ProColor Collision Sworn in as SSF Chamber's Newest Board Member**

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce proudly welcomed its newest board member, Cesar Dominguez, in a special swearing-in ceremony held right on vibrant Grand Avenue.

Board President Sailesh Mehra officiated the ceremony, with Chamber member and local favorite Chico's Pizza serving as a witness to this exciting milestone. The ceremony marked a meaningful addition to the Chamber's leadership team, further strengthening its mission to support local businesses and the community.

Cesar brings valuable insights and dedication to his role, and we are thrilled to have him join our board. Please join us in congratulating Cesar on this new chapter!

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**CURRY PIZZA HOUSE®**

**DECEMBER 1ST - 25TH, 2024**

ALL SPECIALTY PIZZAS

**25% OFF**



**FOR 25 DAYS OF**

**Christmas**

**CODE: XMAS25**

VALID ONLY AT CURRY PIZZA HOUSE SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO. DEAL EXPIRES 12/25/24  
NOT VALID ON SIDES, BEERS, OR LUNCH SPECIALS.

RSVP to [info@ssfchamber.com](mailto:info@ssfchamber.com)



## Grand Opening Event Your New Health Center is Here!

We are celebrating the new Solidaritus Health Center – serving the South San Francisco area. Join us for an afternoon of fun and facts. Meet your doctor and tour your new health center!

The event will take place on Wednesday, December 4, at 2 pm. **RSVP** below!

**RSVP NOW**

[solidaritus.com/ssf-event-sign-up](https://solidaritus.com/ssf-event-sign-up)



Solidaritus • 988 El Camino Real, Suite 8

## Camber Restaurant Opens at The Hangar: A New Culinary Gem in South City

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and friends were delighted to attend the grand opening of Camber Restaurant at The Hangar, located at **460 Forbes Blvd**, South San Francisco, CA 94080. The event highlighted Camber's exceptional offerings and inviting atmosphere, promising to become a must-visit destination.

Camber boasts handcrafted cocktails and a California French-inspired menu that marries locally sourced ingredients with classic French techniques. Guests were treated to a menu featuring dishes such as lamb chops, smoked salmon, a charcuterie board du jour, wild mushroom toast with caviar, chicken liver mousse, and beef tartare—each showcasing the restaurant's dedication to culinary excellence. Adding to the experience, Camber offers a variety of dining spaces tailored to different moods and occasions. From the jewel-box bar to the spacious lounge and the charming outdoor terrace, there's a perfect spot for every guest to enjoy.

Camber is open **Monday through Friday from 4 PM to 8 PM**. Visit soon to experience the vibrant energy, innovative cuisine, and handcrafted cocktails that are setting a new standard in South San Francisco dining!



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**“Santa Comes to Town” Brings Holiday Magic to South San Francisco on Saturday, December 7th**

This holiday season, join us for a magical day of family fun and stress-free holiday preparation at “Santa Comes to Town” on Saturday, December 7th, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Presented by the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the City of South San Francisco Parks and Recreation, The Renaissance Center, Flowers and Events by Dani and Skyline College Bay Area Entrepreneur Center, this event is designed to delight attendees of all ages.

The celebration kicks off at City Hall (400 Grand Avenue) at 10:00 AM with Santa's grand arrival aboard a fire engine! Don't miss the chance to snap memorable photos in a winter wonderland setting while enjoying live music and festive activities that embody the holiday spirit.

### **Shop, Stroll, and Celebrate**

Downtown merchants will add to the festive cheer with complimentary treats and special discounts. Highlights include:

- Antigua Coffee Shop: Free hot chocolate
- Downtown Liquor: Free coffee and cookies
- Cochinita: Free churro bites and small taco
- Curry Pizza: Free cookie and discounted pizza
- Bitters and Bottles: Free brandy tasting and alcohol-free spritzers
- Cuneo Bakery: Free biscotti

As you explore Grand Avenue, visit the Elves Winter Market at the Economic Advancement Center (366 Grand Avenue). This charming market features local food, craft, and fashion vendors, providing the perfect opportunity to find unique gifts for everyone on your list. Take advantage of free gift-wrapping services while enjoying live music by the GX Band.

### **Soak in the Holiday Spirit**

Take in the festive ambiance with beautifully decorated storefronts as you stroll through downtown. The holiday-themed window displays from participating businesses are sure to spark joy and inspiration.

### **Save the Date!**

With festive activities, treats, shopping, and live entertainment, “Santa Comes to Town” is your one-stop destination for holiday fun and celebration. Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 7th, and join us for an unforgettable holiday experience!

For more details, visit Santa Comes to Town - City of South San Francisco or contact the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce at **650-588-1911** or [info@ssfchamber.com](mailto:info@ssfchamber.com).

Happy Holidays from all of us at the **South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, City of South San Francisco Parks and Recreation, The Renaissance Center, Flowers and Events by Dani, and Skyline College Bay Area Entrepreneur Center!**



SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO  
PARKS & RECREATION

# Santa Comes to Town

SATURDAY	DECEMBER	10:00 A.M.
	7	-
	2024	2:00 P.M.

Free Admission

Santa is scheduled to arrive by fire truck at 10:00 a.m.  
The line for photos with Santa will close at 1:00 p.m.

CITY HALL

400 Grand Ave., SSF

For more information, please visit [www.ssf.net/PandREvents](http://www.ssf.net/PandREvents) or call (650) 829-3800

Presented by:



With support from:







# Elves' Winter Market



*Shop local, eat local this Holiday Season!*

**Saturday, December 7, 2024**

**10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**Economic Advancement Center**

**366 Grand Ave, SSF, CA**

## *Featuring*

Local food, craft, and fashion vendors and  
LIVE MUSIC from the GX Band



**If you are interested in participating as a vendor, please contact us!**

[brc@rencenter.org](mailto:brc@rencenter.org)

[rencenter.org](http://rencenter.org)

(650) 829-4652



# Cheers to the Holidays

WITH AC HOTEL SFO



16 ~ 35 Room Nights In Total – Select 1 Concession Below  
36 ~ 55 Room Nights In Total – Select 2 Concessions Below  
56 ~ 75 Room Nights In Total – Select 3 Concessions Below  
76 Room Nights And More In Total – Select 4 Concessions Below

## BOOK NOW AND RECEIVE

- ✓ 100\$ Dining Credit (cannot combine with 10% discount on F&B)
- ✓ Welcome drink upon arrival (up to 30 guests)
- ✓ 50% Off Meeting Room Rental Fee
- ✓ Triple Marriott Bonvoy Points Rewarded
- ✓ 50% off Self-Parking Fees
- ✓ 50% off on discounted group rate for one (1) staff room
- ✓ Receive one complimentary arrival amenity up to one (1) room – hotels selection
- ✓ Complimentary Daily European Breakfast Buffet For Up To 2 Persons per Room per Day
- ✓ 10% Discount on F&B (Excluding Alcoholic Beverages) At On-site Restaurants and Bars (cannot combine with \$100 Dining Credit)

## MORE INFO

- 📍 1333 Veterans Boulevard, SSF, CA 94080
- 📞 650.238.2954
- 🌐 [Rudy.Abalos@marriott.com](mailto:Rudy.Abalos@marriott.com)

BOOK YOUR GROUP STAY  
BY DECEMBER 31, 2024  
FOR TRAVEL NOW TO  
JANUARY 7, 2025





# A BUILT-IN RATE FOR YOUR CREWS



At **Sonesta Select**, we are proud to offer our unique brand of hospitality in the communities we call home. We're so proud in fact, that we're offering a special rate to get you to experience Sonesta Select for yourself.

## Our Select Hotel Features Include:

- We offer exclusive rates tailored for construction crews.
- Conveniently located within walking distance of restaurants!
- Grab-and-Go Breakfast to start your day right!
- On-site Laundry to keep you fresh throughout your stay.
- 24/7 Market for quick snacks and essentials, anytime you need!
- Fitness Center for a quick workout to your energy up!
- Need space for a meeting or materials? We got you!

# CONTACT JANE *Today*

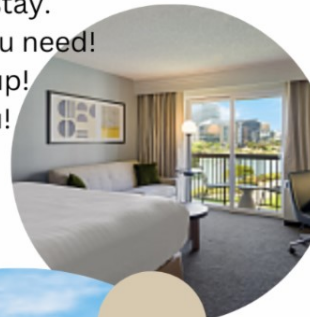
**Jane C. Sanchez**

Sales and Catering Manager

1300 Veterans Blvd. South San Francisco CA 94080

Phone: 650-871-4100 x649

E: [jane.sanchez@sonesta.com](mailto:jane.sanchez@sonesta.com)





# Parking Enforcement Update



## ENGLISH:

Starting Monday, November 4, 2024, the South San Francisco Police Department has contracted LAZ Parking, a private company, to handle parking enforcement. LAZ will be the main enforcement entity, with police personnel providing support as needed.

## SPANISH:

A partir del lunes 4 de noviembre de 2024, el Departamento de Policía de South San Francisco ha contratado a LAZ Parking, una empresa privada, para encargarse de la aplicación de las normas de estacionamiento. LAZ será la principal entidad ejecutora, y el personal policial de la Ciudad brindará apoyo según sea necesario. Lea los detalles a continuación.

## Key Dates / Fechas Clave :

**Nov. 11:** Enforcement Begins

**Nov. 11 – Dec. 1:** LAZ Parking will issue warnings for metered parking violations

**Dec. 2:** Full enforcement for all violations with citation issuance

**Nov. 11:** Comienza la aplicación

**Nov. 11 – Dec. 1:** LAZ Parking emitirá advertencias por violaciones de estacionamiento medido

**Dec. 2:** Aplicación completa para todas las violaciones con emisión de citaciones

# black @ renaissance

This Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center program serves Black-Owned Businesses by providing technical assistance in an effort to restore economic justice for historically social and economically disadvantaged groups of people.

THE NEXT COHORT BEGINS JANUARY 2025

## Why join the program:

- Business Workshops
- Expert Consulting
- Stipend upon Completion
- Black Business Summit Access

## Requirements to join:

- Have an Existing Business
  - Be a Renaissance/SBDC Client
- (If you are a new business and/or not yet a client, email us for more info.)



If you are interested in joining the next cohort, fill out the Client Assessment by October 31, 2024.

[tinyurl.com/black-renaissance-from](https://tinyurl.com/black-renaissance-from)

For questions email: [supportblackbiz@rencenter.org](mailto:supportblackbiz@rencenter.org)







## Reducing Holiday Stress

The holidays are a busy time. They can demand extra attention for cooking, cleaning, party planning, hosting, and talking with family members we might not always agree with. It's no wonder that stress during the holidays is common. These tips can help reduce holiday stress:

### Share holiday tasks

Let everyone help with shopping, cooking, cleaning, and event planning. If you really dislike doing dishes, help with cooking instead. Sharing tasks lets everyone be part of making the holidays special.

### Have realistic expectations

No holiday gathering is perfect. Don't let something like forgetting to defrost the turkey ruin the day. Be flexible, and let it become another holiday memory. View these experiences as chances to practice being resilient.

### Maintain your healthy habits

Staying healthy is your best defense against holiday stress. Try eating a healthy snack before a party. If you don't show up hungry, you'll be less likely to fill up on sweets.

### Practice gratitude

Remember the ways – good and bad – that others show you they care. Choose to be positive.

### Make time for joy

This could be baking, playing games, or volunteering in your community. Maybe take a plate of cookies to a neighbor. Do what feels right for you.

### Take time to unwind

Try taking a few deep breaths or going for a walk. Maybe you need time to yourself after being with family. Even a little break can make a big difference to reduce stress.

### Get professional help if you need it

The holidays can be a big event and stress leading up to them is common. Talking to a friend or family member may help. You may also want to see a counselor before the holidays start. A counselor can help you change the way you handle stress.

On behalf of myself and our team at Kaiser Permanente, we wish you a happy and healthy holiday season,

**Edward Kao, MD**

Physician-in-Chief

Kaiser Permanente South San Francisco Medical Center



South San Francisco Women's Club

# Holiday Toy Drive

Supporting the SSF Fire and Police Departments  
IAFF Local 1507 Charity Foundation

Accepting  
Toys for children ages 1 to 12  
or, If you choose  
a monetary donation  
for children ages 13 to 17

Bring your unwrapped,  
new toy gift or monetary donation to the  
SSF Chamber Mixer  
at the the SSFWC Clubhouse on  
Thursday, December 5th, 5:00-6:30 pm  
455 Grand Ave.  
(no stuffed animals please)

Make checks payable to the South San Francisco Women's Club and  
mail to PO Box 455, SSF, CA 94083 or pay via  
Venmo: @SSFwomensclub  
Zelle: SSFwomensclub@gmail.com

Or bring them to the mixer on Thursday, December 5th.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:info@ssfchamber.com)  
or visit [www.ssfchamber.com](http://www.ssfchamber.com)*

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

## Calendar of Events

### December

December is here, bringing the magic of the season and the promise of a fresh start. It's a time to celebrate what we've accomplished, connect with those who matter, and set the stage for an exciting new year. Let the festive spirit inspire joy, gratitude, and hope—let's finish the year strong!

12/2 Tree Lighting, Library Parks & Rec 5pm

12/4 Solidaritus Ribbon Cutting 2pm

12/5 SSF Women's Club & Chamber Mixer 5pm

12/7 Santa Comes to Town 10am

12/10 City Reorganization 6:30pm Conference Ctr

12/24 Christmas Eve

12/25 Christmas Day

1/1 Happy New Year!

## 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](#)!



### **Nation's Giant Hamburgers**

925 El Camino Real  
South San Francisco, CA 94080  
<https://nationsgianthamburgers.com>

***Giant Hamburgers | Great Pies | Grand Breakfasts***

### **Robert Half**

919 E. Hillsdale Blvd.  
Foster City, CA 94404  
(650)288-0448  
<https://roberthalf.com>

***Anything's possible when you have the right talent!***

### **South San Francisco Education Foundation**

[contact@ssfedfoundation.org](mailto:contact@ssfedfoundation.org)  
[www.ssfedfoundation.org](http://www.ssfedfoundation.org)

***Together We Can - Build a future where all students receive the education and resources they need to achieve their highest potential.***



**Your support is  
truly appreciated!**

BWF Consulting Engineers (December 1986)  
Darby Dan's Sandwich Co. (August 1981)  
El Faro Mexican Food (June 2007)  
Financial Partners Credit Union (November 2016)  
Kaiser Permanente SSF (February 1948)  
Oyster Point Yacht Club (December 2008)  
Samaritan House (February 2002)  
San Francisco Bay Ferry (August 2005)  
South San Francisco Scavenger Company, Inc. (January 1967)  
South San Francisco Women's Club (December 2005)  
The Police Credit Union (November 2020)

## **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

#### **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 Rodriguez  
Rockoto Peruvian Restaurant

Kevin Williams  
California Water Service

Kevin Worth  
Kaiser Permanente

#### **Chamber Personnel**

Mary Prem  
CEO

Arlene Dozier  
Administrative Assistant