

January 2024



Our monthly news & updates

[Visit our Website!](#)

A message from Olga Garcia,
President of the SSF Chamber Board of Directors



Dear Members and Friends of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce,

As we bid farewell to 2023, a year brimming with challenges and triumphs, I reflect on the resilience and determination that have defined us. The past year was a testament to our collective strength; in the face of adversity, some battles were won, while others tested our resolve. Throughout it all, my guiding principle has been to remain hopeful, even during the most trying times.

With 2024 upon us, saying that I am excited for the plans we have in store would be an understatement. The year ahead promises new opportunities and achievements!

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated Board of Directors. Their voluntary service and commitment to our chamber and the greater South San Francisco business community are nothing short of remarkable. Representing a diverse array of small, medium, and large-sized businesses, their contributions have been invaluable in steering our chamber towards success.

A special thanks goes out to our chamber collaborators, including the new volunteers who joined us this past year. Your involvement, particularly in events like the Taste of SSF, has been instrumental in our success. These events not only showcase the vibrancy of our community but also strengthen our connections.

I cannot praise our office staff enough for their exceptional work this year. We were fortunate to welcome Mary Prem as our CEO, whose dynamic presence has revitalized our chamber. Her efforts in re-engaging past members and welcoming new ones have been pivotal in expanding our network. Mary's enthusiasm and innovative ideas for business development have made a significant impact. If you haven't had the chance to meet her yet, I encourage you to do so in 2024. She is eager to discuss the best membership options for your business or organization. To learn more, please visit our membership page: <https://www.ssfchamber.com/membership.htm>.

A special mention to Arlene and Annie for their unwavering administrative support – your contributions are greatly appreciated.

I also want to acknowledge the City Council of South San Francisco, the City, and their staff for their ongoing support and partnership. Collaborating with you has been instrumental in our chamber's achievements and community impact.

To those who are not yet members of our chamber, I invite you to join us in this new year. We have an exciting array of ideas and plans for 2024, including monthly themed events. Hosting an event with us is a fantastic opportunity to showcase your business, products, and services.

On a personal note, at CG Moving Company, we are committed to providing top-notch professional moving services. For any inquiries or assistance, feel free to email me at olga@cgmovingcompany.com or visit our website at <https://cgmovingcompany.com/>.

In closing, I hope the holiday season was a time of joy and tranquility for you and your loved ones. May the new year bring peace, prosperity, and success to all.

Warm regards,

Olga Garcia
President, Board of Directors
South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
olga@cgmovingcompany.com
<https://cgmovingcompany.com/>

A Message from the CEO of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce



Dear Members of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce,

Happy New Year!

I hope this message finds you well and that you had a joyous and restful holiday season. As we step into 2024, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your continued support and dedication to our thriving business community.

A special thanks goes to **Thai Satay**, **Chico Marx**, and **California Water Service** for their invaluable assistance in our holiday drive. Your contributions not only enriched the event but also reinforced the spirit of community that is so vital to our success.

Looking ahead, 2024 promises to be an exhilarating year for the Chamber and, by extension, for all our members. We're dedicated to fostering a dynamic environment where your businesses can flourish and connect.

Here's how you can engage more deeply with the Chamber this year:

Join the Board of Directors: Play a pivotal role in shaping the future of our business community. Your insights and leadership can make a significant difference.

Host a Mixer: Showcase your business by hosting a mixer. It's a fantastic opportunity to highlight what makes your business unique and to network with fellow business leaders.

Sponsor a Student: Invest in our future by contributing to the SSF Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Foundation. Your support helps empower the next generation of leaders.

Share Your News: Got a special promotion or an upcoming event? Let us know! We're here to amplify your message through our newsletter, reaching a wider audience.

At the Chamber, we see ourselves as more than just a network; we are your personal business concierge. Our goal is to connect the dots, bringing together potential clients and partners who can help expand and elevate your business.

Your engagement and participation are the lifeblood of the Chamber. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant business community.

Here's to a prosperous and successful 2024!

Warm regards,

Mary Prem
CEO, South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce



Exclusive Invitation: **Sunset Soiree at Skyline!**

Dear Chamber Members,

We are thrilled to invite you to an exclusive collaborative mixer hosted by the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Skyline College. This special event will be a wonderful opportunity to connect and network with fellow chamber members, key stakeholders, and government leaders in a breathtaking setting.

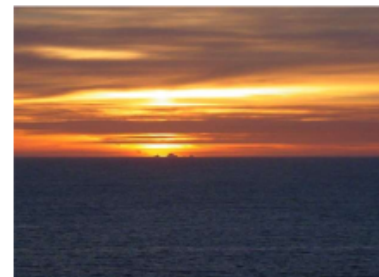
Date: Thursday February 8th, 2024
Location: **Farallon Room**, Skyline College, 3300 College Drive, San Bruno, CA
Time: Sunset Session 4:30pm to 7:00pm

Enjoy a Sunset Over the Pacific Ocean! This mixer is not just an event; it's an experience. Imagine engaging in meaningful conversations with influential community members, all while witnessing the magnificent sunset over the Pacific Ocean. It's the perfect backdrop to foster connections and build lasting relationships.

Limited Space – RSVP Today! Due to the exclusive nature of this event, space is limited. We encourage you to secure your spot as soon as possible by RSVPing via email to info@ssfchamber.com. Don't miss your chance to be part of this unique gathering – register today!

We look forward to seeing you there for an evening of networking, collaboration, and scenic beauty.

Warm regards,
SSF Chamber of Commerce Team



PURE STRATEGY

NO FLUFF, ONLY RESULTS

THE #1 DIGITAL AGENCY IN 2023

We've partnered with the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce to offer you some amazing deals for 2024



OFFICIAL PARTNER



WHY WE ARE THE BEST?

We've built most of the sites and apps you use on the internet. Google, Meta, Tiktok, Microsoft, and Samsung are our partners. We are the preferred vendor for their website updates, automations, research, and content. You'll find comfort in an experienced team handling your website and content.

OUR PACKAGES

"Everything you need" - 3 Page Website (\$900)

Home Page - Menu - Contact us

This offering is perfect for restaurants or small businesses that need something sharp to generate business

"Let's Go Viral" - Instagram Content (\$1000/month)

We'll create 30 posts a month and schedule them to your instagram.

*This is ideal if you want to bring attention to your restaurant. We've created viral posts for brands that have brought in over **1 billion** in impressions. To put it into perspective, 1 viral video = 100,000 impressions, if just 5% of those people visit your restaurant you just gained 5,000 new customers.*

OUR CLIENTS



TikTok



Instagram



EMAIL US

BUSINESS@TAPFORINSIGHT.COM

PURESTRATEGY.ONLINE

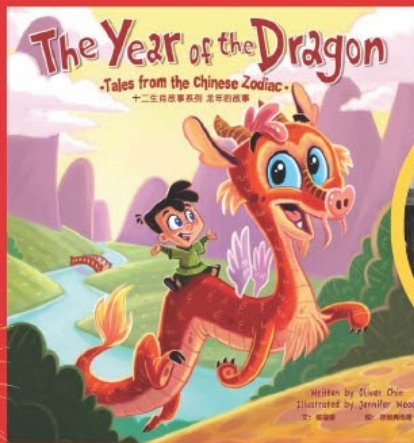
2024

Celebrate Lunar New Year with

**LUNAR NEW YEAR
STORYTIME
WITH
OLIVER CHIN**

Saturday | January 20, 2024 | 2:00 PM

**Grand Library
306 Walnut Ave**



Chico Marx

2 Tower Place South San Francisco

[Chico Marx \(chicomarxssf.com\)](http://ChicoMarx.chicomarxssf.com)

Tel: (650) 731-9146

Chico Marx Hosts a Remarkable Reception for South City's Youngest Mayor

The vibrant and ever-evolving culinary landscape of South San Francisco recently played host to a prestigious gathering at **Chico Marx**, celebrating the inauguration of the city's youngest Mayor, **James Coleman**, and Vice-Mayor, **Eddie Flores**. The pre-inaugural reception, an exclusive affair with 120 invited guests, showcased the finest in Spanish and Latin-inspired cuisine, spotlighting locally sourced ingredients.

Guests at the event were treated to an array of delicious bites and delightful cocktails, compliments of **The Wine Vault**. The modern décor of Chico Marx, combined with its elevated elegance dining room, impressed many newcomers to South City, setting a new benchmark for sophisticated dining experiences.

Chico Marx is not only celebrated for its stunning ambience but also for its ample private parking, a contemporary bar led by master mixologist Courtney, and private meeting and dining rooms. The lounge atmosphere and beautifully crafted bar make it an ideal spot for a casual cocktail, while the dining experience is equally commendable.

The ambience of the restaurant, stylish and contemporary, adds to its charm. Despite being described as a hidden gem with surprisingly quiet evenings, Chico Marx is a culinary treasure waiting to be discovered by more patrons. Chico Marx is an experience that combines exquisite food, superb drinks, outstanding service, and a chic atmosphere. It's a testament to the growing and diversifying culinary scene in South San Francisco, offering a unique dining experience for both locals and visitors alike.

In closing, heartfelt thanks are extended to Chico Marx, a **Bonappetit** restaurant, and their exceptional team led by **Tessa Vitale**. Their collaboration with the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce in hosting this prestigious event was instrumental in its success. The combination of their exquisite culinary offerings, impeccable service, and elegant atmosphere contributed significantly to creating an unforgettable evening. The Chamber of Commerce deeply appreciates their partnership and looks forward to future collaborations that showcase the vibrant and diverse culinary talent of South San Francisco.



National Blood Donor Month

January is typically a period of critical blood shortages. People stop donating blood during the holidays and when they get sick during cold and flu season. Blood drives also get snowed out during the winter months.

Donating blood helps people who have lost blood in an accident, and helps people who have an illness such as [cancer](#), [anemia](#), [sickle cell disease](#), or [hemophilia](#).

If you donate blood before you have surgery, your own blood will be stored for you in case you need a blood transfusion. If you don't need it, your blood may be donated to someone else. Donated blood includes red blood cells, [platelets](#) and [plasma](#).

You can donate blood at American Red Cross clinics or at other clinics or blood banks. You may also be able to donate during blood drives at your workplace.

When you donate whole blood, you give about 1 pint (473 mL). It takes about 10 minutes; however, the whole process – including answering questions and having a brief exam – takes up to an hour.

To donate blood, you must:

- Be at least 17 years old. In some states, you can donate if you are 16 years old if you get permission from a parent.
- Weigh at least 110 pounds. If you are under 18 years old, you may need to meet a certain height and weight measurement.
- Be in good health.
- Donated blood is tested to ensure it is safe to use. It's also checked for its type. This ensures that the person who needs blood gets the right type.

If you would like to make a difference and wish to donate, the following link provides locations: [find your closest blood collector](#).

Edward Kao, MD
Physician-in-Chief
Kaiser Permanente South San Francisco

FREE CLASS!



Ready to start your business?

START SMART

4-WEEK IN PERSON CLASS



WEDNESDAYS
JAN 24 - FEB 14



6 pm -
9 pm



ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT CENTER
366 GRAND AVE, SSF, CA 94080

- DEFINE YOUR VISION
- CREATE A MISSION STATEMENT
- ASSESS YOUR SKILLS, PASSION AND RESOURCES
- CRAFT A BUSINESS STRATEGY TO MATCH YOUR REALITY
- TEST THE VIABILITY OF YOUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

JOIN US

RENCENTER.ORG/CALENDAR
BRC@RENCENTER.ORG
650-829-4652



Instructor
Gisel Martin



South San Francisco Chamber & Women's Club: A Festive December Mixer

In December, the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce teamed up with the historic South San Francisco Women's Club for a delightful mixer. This event highlighted the strength of our community through collaboration and social connection.

The mixer, held at the Women's Club's charming clubhouse, was more than just an evening of mingling. Guests enjoyed a spread of delicious food and wine, while also participating in a meaningful toy and gift

drive. This drive, in collaboration with the South San Francisco Fire and Police Departments, was a heartwarming way to spread holiday cheer to those less fortunate.

We are incredibly thankful to everyone who participated, helping to showcase the unity and spirit of giving in our community. Events like these are crucial in nurturing a connected and flourishing South San Francisco.

About the South San Francisco Women's Club

Established in 1914, the South San Francisco Women's Club has been a bedrock of service and empowerment in our community for 109 years. The clubhouse, steeped in history, is more than a venue; it's a symbol of our collective heritage. Available for various events, from meetings and classes to private functions, it accommodates up to 100 people, making it an ideal spot for both small and large gatherings. It stands proudly as a treasured venue in the heart of our city.

To learn more or to book the clubhouse for your event, please contact:

South San Francisco Women's Club

470 Grand Ave, South San Francisco, CA 94080

www.ssfwomensclub.com

(650) 873-8030





renaissance
entrepreneurship center



UP TO \$5K GRANT FOR SSF BUSINESSES

About This Grant

The City of South San Francisco's Small Business Post-Pandemic Recovery Grant Program is provided by American Rescue Plan economic recovery funds and is made available by San Mateo County.



LEARN MORE

- Qualifications
- Requirements
- Deadlines
- Apply for Funding



Register



THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024

ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT CENTER

366 Grand Ave, SSF, CA 94080

6PM - 7PM

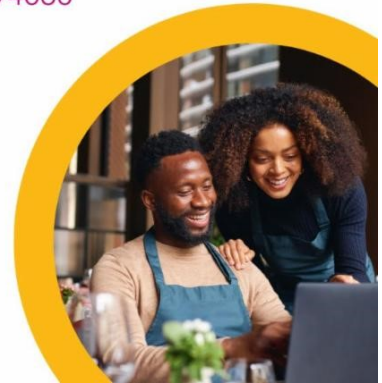


Contact

650-829-4652

brc@rencenter.org

366 Grand Ave, SSF, CA 94080



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

FUNDRAISER GFWC South San Francisco Women's Club



When

Friday, January 12, 2024

Place your order for pickup or delivery on Friday, January 12!

Where

Available at Panda Express locations nationwide
www.pandaexpress.com

How

Online orders only

Apply code 920134 in the Fundraiser Code box during online checkout at www.pandaexpress.com or via App

28% of sales will be donated to: GFWC South San Francisco Women's Club We are a non-profit 501 (c) 3, community service organization, serving our community since 1914.

Order Now



Announcing the 10th Annual South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation Scholarship Awards

It's a time of celebration and pride for the South San Francisco community!

Marking a decade of commitment to educational excellence, the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the 10th Annual Scholarship Awards through its Education Foundation. The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation (EIN: 85-2930060), a 501(c)(3) entity, continues its mission to enhance and support educational programs and opportunities within the boundaries of the South San Francisco Unified School District.

Our Foundation's Board and officers are dedicated to selecting "qualified" students for these scholarships, providing a stepping stone for those pursuing university, college, or vocational education. This initiative is a reality thanks to the unwavering support and generosity of our local business sponsors. Your contribution of \$1,000.00 or more not only offers financial assistance to deserving high school students but also encourages them to bring their newfound skills back to the community that fostered their growth.

This year, we're focusing on high school seniors residing in South San Francisco, embarking on their journey to higher education. The rigorous application process ensures that the scholarships are awarded to the most deserving students. Last year, we were proud to support 30 ambitious students, and this was possible because of contributions from businesses like yours.

A highlight of this program is our 10th Annual Scholarship Luncheon, where we celebrate the achievements of our scholars. We cordially invite all our scholarship sponsors to this event to present the awards to the students personally. It's also a fantastic opportunity for your business to gain visibility through media and printed materials related to the scholarship program.

To participate in this landmark initiative, please make your check payable to the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation, noting "Scholarship Fund 501(c)(3)," and send it to us at 213 Linden Avenue, South San Francisco, CA 94080.

Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce at (650) 588-1911. We are grateful for your consideration and support.

Warm regards,
Kevin Williams
Chairman, Education Scholarship Committee



renaissance
entrepreneurship center



Skyline College
Bay Area Entrepreneur Center

UP TO \$5K GRANT FOR SAN BRUNO BUSINESSES



About This Grant

The City of San Bruno's Small Business Post-Pandemic Recovery Grant Program is provided by American Rescue Plan economic recovery funds and is made available by San Mateo County.

LEARN MORE

- QUALIFICATIONS
- REQUIREMENTS
- DEADLINES
- APPLY FOR FUNDING



Register

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024



BAY AREA ENTREPRENEUR CENTER

458 San Mateo Ave, San Bruno, CA 94066

6PM - 7PM

Contact

650-829-4652

brc@rencenter.org

366 Grand Ave, SSF, CA 94080





AC Hotel San Francisco Airport
1333 Veterans Blvd,
South San Francisco, CA 94080
Tel: 650.238.2951

acsanfrancisco.frontdesk@otohotels.com

Valentine's Dinner
\$95 Per Guest

FIRST COURSE
Chilled Curried Lobster and Avocado Cocktail

SECOND COURSE
Roasted Beet Salad, Ricotta Cheese,
Citrus Segments, Curly Endive with
Agave and Honey Dressing

ENTRÉE
Select one of the following:
Pan Seared Halibut Roasted
Shiitake Mushrooms, Brussel Sprout Leaves,
Fingerling Potatoes, Chive-Butter Sauce, Truffle
Essence
or
Tournedos of Beef Tenderloin
Wrapped in Bacon Crème Fraiche Whipped
Potatoes, Maitre d'Hotel Butter,
Buttered Poached Asparagus

DESSERT
Molten Chocolate Cake
with vanilla ice cream, strawberry sauce
or
Red Velvet Cake
with Cream Cheese Anglaise, Chocolate Sauce

For Reservations Please Call: 650 742 9211
or
Book on OpenTable: <https://bit.ly/3HiP77m>

1333 Veterans Blvd, South San Francisco, CA 94080 • acsanfrancisco.frontdesk@otohotels.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.

SSF Chamber Calendar of Events

Please join us for a Chamber Mixer at:

Skyline College, Farallon Room
3300 College Drive, San Bruno

on:
Thursday, February 8th, 2024

Please contact us at info@ssfchamber.com for details!

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](#)!



Hemi's Plumbing Service

Jamal Shouman

Tel: (415) 948-4037

Web: www.hemisplumbing.com/

Email: Hemisplumbingservice@gmail.com

Sharp Business Systems

David Quick & Gene Brooks

5700 Stoneridge Dr, Ste 300, Pleasanton CA 94588

Tel: (925) 417-8400

Email: Eugene.brooks@sharpusa.com

Waymo

Noelle Duong

1600 Amphitheater Park, Mountain View, CA 94043

Web: <https://waymo.com>

Email: noelled@waymo.com



**Your support is truly
appreciated!**

AAA Clifford Consulting (July 2019)
AC Hotel SFO/Oyster Point Waterfront (April 2017)
ASF Electric, Inc. (September 1984)
Cafe' 382 (June 2016)
Clearlite Trophies/Borba Recognition Co. Inc. (January 1956)
E-Plus Studio (September 2011)
Golden Gate Lions Club (September 2022)
Grand Palace Restaurant (September 1998)
Hampton Inn San Francisco Airport (April 1999)
Home 2 Suites by Hilton (January 2018)
Horizon Therapeutics (November 2019)
J&J Bakery Cafe' (August 2017)
JobTrain, Inc. (September 2022)
La Nueva Perla (June 2012)
Los Compadres Taqueria (September 2020)
Nick the Greek (July 2021)
Ocean Star International, Inc. (September 2006)
Paul's Flowers (August 2019)
Project 101 Associates (January 2004)
Prestige Optics, Inc. (October 1989)
Radius Optometry (October 2014)
San Mateo County Harbor District (January 1979)
Sares Regis (December 2015)
School House Grocery Liquor & Deli (April 2000)
Vicent Jones WFG Agent (January 2015)
Zarc Recycling, LLC (July 2010)

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





Board of Directors

2023 Board Officers

President
Olga Garcia
CG Moving Company

Vice President
Sailesh Mehra
SM8

Treasurer
Kevin Williams
California Water Service

Ex-Officio City Manager
Sharon Ranals

Board of Directors

Bill Benavides
BLT Construction

David Huddleston
BWP Grosvenor Hotel

Daniela Jonguitud
Chajinel Home Care Services

Keri Kirby
Sitike Counseling Center

Suzanne Lee
Genentech

Natalia Morales
Kilroy Realty Corporation

Christina Ng
Grand Palace Restaurant

Shetal Patel
Hampton Inn SFO

Pravin Punjiya
Fairfield Inn by Marriott SFO

Kevin Worth
Kaiser Permanente

Chamber Personnel

Mary Prem
CEO

Arlene Dozier
Administrative Assistant

Annie Distefano
Office Assistant

Controller
Ivone Chanu