

September 2025



Our monthly news & updates

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**An Evening Not to be Missed:
Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala
Thursday October 16th**

Save the date for Thursday, October 16, 2025, when the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce hosts our Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala and Installation at the South San Francisco Conference Center. This is the gala of the year in our city and you are invited to be part of it.

The evening begins with a cocktail reception featuring hors d'oeuvres and fine wine, followed by a seated dinner, live performances and dancing. It is the perfect night out if you enjoy good food, wine, entertainment and celebrating our community.

We will honor extraordinary milestones including **Cal Water's 100 years of service, Kaiser Permanente's 80 years,** and **Genentech's 50 years**. We will also recognize the retirement of City Manager **Sharon Ranals** who has served our city with dedication for 42 years. In addition, the evening will include the installation of our new board of directors and ambassadors.

Guiding us through the night will be **Supervisor Jackie Speier**, who has graciously emceed this gala for the past 30 years, along with our awards emcee, former Chamber President **Tony Clifford**. Their presence and experience will make the evening even more memorable.

This is more than an awards ceremony. It is a chance to support the Chamber's work promoting merchants, providing training, offering scholarships, and keeping our local economy strong. The Chamber represents more than 400 businesses, and your attendance helps sustain programs that benefit the entire community.

Here are a few ways you can be part of this special night:

- Become a sponsor and put your business in front of community and business leaders
[2025 Business Awards Sponsorship.pdf](#)
- Reserve a table of ten and invite colleagues, friends or family
[2024 Business Excellence](#)
- Purchase individual tickets and enjoy a memorable evening out
[2024 Business Excellence](#)
- Share the event with your network and encourage others to attend
[Gala Invitation.pdf](#)

Event Details

Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala and Installation
Thursday, October 16, 2025 | 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM
South San Francisco Conference Center

Tickets and information are available through the Chamber's Calendar of Events. For questions, please call 650 588 1911 or email info@ssfchamber.com.

Join us for a night of celebration, recognition and community pride. This is an evening you will not want to miss.

A Message from the Desk of Mary Prem

CEO of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce



Dear Members and Friends,

September is always a busy and exciting month for the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. Right now, we are deep in planning for the Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala on October 16 at the South San Francisco Conference Center. This is our biggest celebration of the year and I hope you will join us. The evening will feature a cocktail reception, a sit-down dinner with fine wine, live performances, and the chance to honor milestone achievements and outstanding businesses in our community.

Voting for the Business Excellence Awards is now open. This is your opportunity to help shine a spotlight on the businesses that make South San Francisco such a vibrant place to live and work. Be sure to cast your vote here:

<https://forms.gle/nks5eAmn9aEzH2ct5>

I also want to recognize the work of our Chamber Ambassadors, who serve as our welcoming team under the leadership of our Chief Ambassador and Board Vice President, Cesar Dominguez. Our ambassadors have been out in the community visiting businesses, building connections, and lending a hand wherever needed. Most recently, they joined us in delivering prize checks to winners of the Best Decorated Windows contest during Cultura Fest. Their energy and enthusiasm remind us how important it is to keep our members connected and supported.

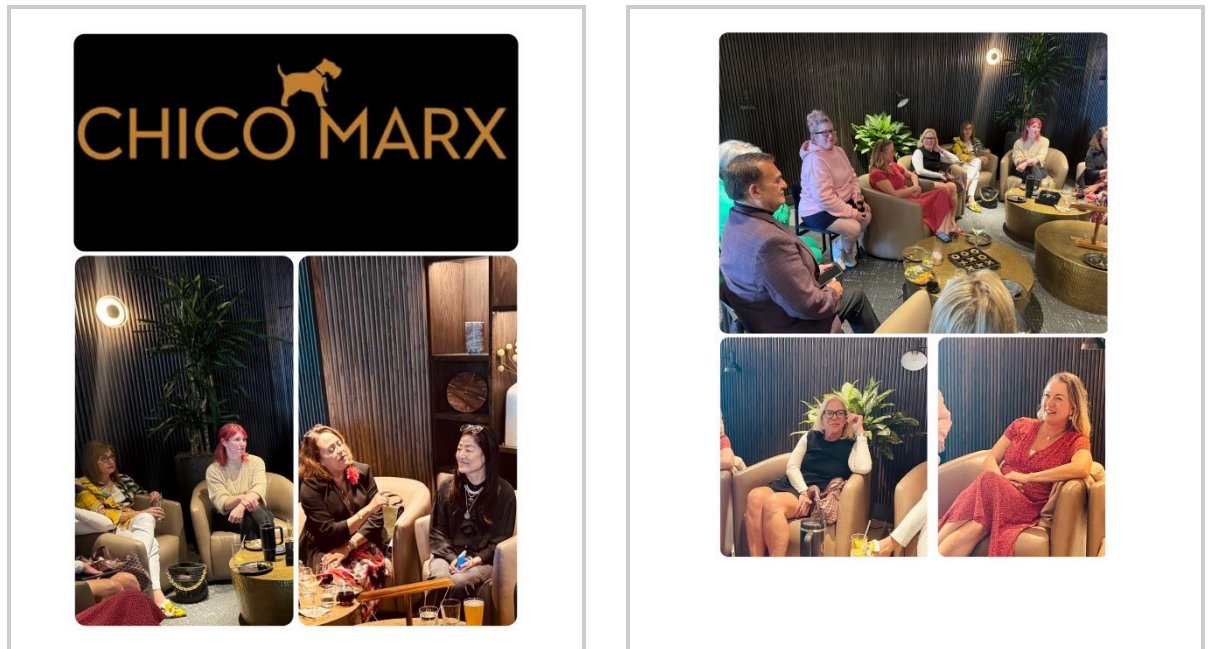
Alongside these efforts, the Chamber continues to strengthen partnerships with local leaders and businesses of all sizes. From Circle Chair Members like Genentech, AbbVie, Kaiser Permanente, and Cal Water to our classic members who form the backbone of South City's business community, every member plays a role in keeping our local economy strong. Genentech Goes to Town is also underway, bringing added support to our local merchants and helping drive business downtown.

If you have driven by our office recently, you may have noticed the scaffolding. Our building is getting a facelift with fresh paint, a new door, and interior improvements. We are excited to share these changes with you soon, so stay tuned.

This year has also been about listening to our members. We have expanded our social media presence, explored new ways to promote local businesses, and created events that bring people together. We know our members are working hard, and the Chamber is committed to working just as hard to support you.

As we move into the fall season, I invite you to stay connected. Join us at the Gala, cast your vote, attend a mixer, or simply stop by and share what matters most to your business. Together we are shaping the future of South San Francisco with innovation, resilience, and community spirit.

With gratitude,
Mary



Chambers of Commerce Unite for Countywide Collaboration at South City's Chico Marx

Chico Marx recently hosted the latest meeting of San Mateo County chamber executives, part of an ongoing initiative to strengthen collaboration across the region. This series of gatherings brings together leaders who share a commitment to supporting local businesses, amplifying advocacy efforts, and creating new opportunities for growth throughout the county.

Attendees included South San Francisco Chamber CEO Mary Prem, Board President Dani Fandino, and Vice President Cesar Dominguez; Burlingame Chamber CEO Susan Baker; Daly City Chamber CEO Felicia Leong; Foster City Chamber CEO Crystal Tilton; San Mateo Area Chamber CEO Erica Wood; San Mateo County Chamber CEO Amy Buckmaster; Half Moon Bay Chamber CEO Krystalyn; SAMCEDA CEO Rosann Foust; and The San Francisco Peninsula CEO John Hutar.

Together, these leaders are exploring ways to share resources, co-host events, and collectively advocate on issues that matter to their members. By working in partnership, the chambers and countywide organizations are creating a dynamic network that not only supports individual communities but also strengthens San Mateo County as a whole.

This collaborative initiative reflects a shared vision: when chambers work together, businesses benefit from stronger connections, a louder collective voice, and greater opportunities to succeed.

A heartfelt thank you to Chico Marx for welcoming us into your beautiful space and for helping set the tone for such a productive and inspiring conversation.

Recovery Happens 2025: Recovery is REAL

Every September, people across the nation join together to celebrate **National Recovery Month**—a time to honor the strength and resilience of individuals and families in recovery from substance use and mental health challenges. This year's theme, Recovery is REAL: Restoring Every Aspect of Life, reminds us that recovery is not just about overcoming struggles—it's about reclaiming health, rebuilding connections, and restoring hope.

The **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** highlights four major dimensions of recovery that form the foundation of a healthy, fulfilling life:

- **Health** – Overcoming or managing one's condition and making informed, healthy choices that support physical and emotional well-being.
- **Home** – Having a safe, stable, and supportive place to live.
- **Community** – Building relationships and social networks that provide support, friendship, love, and hope.
- **Purpose** – Engaging in meaningful daily activities, such as work, school, volunteerism, or creative pursuits, and having the independence and resources to participate fully in society.

In **San Mateo County, Voices of Recovery** leads the way in bringing Recovery Happens Month to life, and we are proud to partner with them. The events throughout September honor the power of recovery, strengthen community, and remind us that healing is possible. At **Sitike Counseling Center**, we stand with advocates locally and nationwide to affirm that **Recovery is REAL—it restores every aspect of life.**

Sitike Counseling Center

306 Spruce Ave, South San Francisco, CA 94080

Tel: 650-589-9305

Building a Stronger Future: Chamber Board Retreat at Genentech

The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce held its annual Board Retreat at Genentech, an inspiring setting to reflect, learn, and plan for the future. With attorney and governance expert Kimberly Cluff leading the training, our board members spent the day focused on strengthening

their roles, deepening their understanding of fiduciary duties, and preparing to guide the Chamber into its next chapter.

By investing this time in training, we are building a stronger Chamber, one that is better equipped to support our members, champion local businesses, and continue serving as a voice for our community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our dedicated board members for taking part in this important retreat, to Genentech for graciously hosting us, and to Kimberly Cluff for traveling from Southern California to share her expertise and guidance. Together, we are laying the foundation for a vibrant and resilient Chamber of Commerce.



THANK YOU FOR RENEWING!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Bay Area Legal Ally, APC

Joseph Chan

333 Gellert Blvd., #142

Daly City, CA 94015

(650)273-3910

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

California Couples Counseling

Daniel Moultrie

490 Post St., Suite 939

San Francisco, CA 94102

admin@californiacouplescounseling.com

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

Cintas

Kristoffer Brown

370 Shaw Road

South San Francisco, CA 94080

(650)918-7909

Kristoffer.brown@cintas.com

https://www.cintas.com/local/usa/ca/san-francisco/work-uniforms-rental?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=Profiles_Uniform_Rental

Joyeria Latina

Ramiro Castillo

319 Grand Ave

South San Francisco, CA 94080

(650)624-9622

<https://joyeria-latina.edan.io/>

Juarez Tire Service
Natali Juarez
445 Grand Ave
South San Francisco, CA 94080
(650)615-9292
<https://www.juareztiresandbrakes.com/>

K-bellos Hair Salon
Maribel Cid
442 Grand Ave
South San Francisco, CA 94080
(650)588-8960

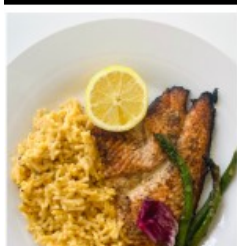
THANK YOU FOR RENEWING!

A52 Signs & Graphics, LLC (August 2023)
Andiamo In Banca (January 2019)
ASF Electric, Inc. (September 1984)
Café Bunn Mi (June 2017)
<https://bunnmi.com/>
Cheung Hing BBQ Restaurant (October 2013)
Cuneo Bakery, Inc. (August 2024)
Dubon Consulting (February 2024)
Dumpling Empire (August 2011)
Focus Day Program (May 2021)
www.focusdayprogram.com
Hampton Inn San Francisco Airport (April 1999)
Ocean Star International, Inc. (September 2006)
Otis McAllister, Inc. (September 2021)
Izanami (Sushi & Ramen) (June 2013)
Kimberly A. Liao, DDS (September 2017)
<https://www.kimliaodds.com/>
Los Metates Taqueria (September 2006)
Redwood Roofing Co. (August 2020)
SamTrans (September 2023)
San Mateo County Transportation Authority (September 2023)
Sharp Business Systems (December 2023)
Thai Satay Restaurant (May 2006)
The Garden Club Restaurant & Bar (June 2024)
Skyline College (July 2000)
SSF Adult Education (April 2000)
Ultragenyx (July 2020)



TASTE OF SSF

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6TH
LIBRARY PARKS & RECREATION CENTER
901 CIVIC CAMPUS WAY, SSF
12:00 PM-2:00 PM
\$65 PER PERSON





Scan to pay



renaissance
entrepreneurship center



FUNDING YOUR FUTURE: EXPLORING CAPITAL OPTIONS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Unlock the funding your business needs with this Access to Capital Training. This session equips entrepreneurs and small business owners with the knowledge to navigate financing options, prepare strong loan applications, and connect with lenders. Learn how to secure the capital essential for starting, growing, or scaling your business with expert guidance tailored to your needs.

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025
5:30 - 7:30 PM



IN PERSON

MILLBRAE RECREATION CENTER
477 LINCOLN CIR
MILLBRAE, CA 94030



REGISTER HERE
rencenter.org/events



GABRIELA SAPP

BUSINESS CONSULTANT &
FOUNDER OF EQUITABLE
GROWTH SOLUTIONS

Contact Us
north-smc@rencenter.org
(650) 829-4652

Transforming Lives through entrepreneurship
Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO POLICE
ASSOCIATION & K9 UNIT

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





Help prevent the flu

You can help prevent the flu by getting vaccinated every year. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone aged 6 months and older receive a flu vaccine annually. It's best to get your flu shot as soon as it becomes available.

Throughout the flu season, Kaiser Permanente members can get a flu shot at no additional cost during any doctor visit or at one of our walk-in vaccine clinics. Flu vaccines will be available starting the second week of September. Learn more at kp.org/flu.

If you do get sick

Flu symptoms tend to be more severe than those of a cold and come on more suddenly. Sneezing, coughing, body aches, fatigue, and fever — having the flu can be miserable.

Most people can manage flu symptoms at home with rest, over-the-counter medications, and plenty of fluids. Your doctor may prescribe antiviral medication to help reduce the severity and duration of your symptoms, so contact your health care provider right away if you think you have the flu.

Some individuals may require hospital care, especially if they develop complications like pneumonia or if the flu worsens due to a pre-existing health condition.

Yours in good health,

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

9/8 - 9/21 Genentech Goes to Town

9/10 City Council Meeting 6:30pm

9/16 Board Meeting 8:30am

9/20 Concert in the Park 11am

9/24 City Council Meeting 6:30pm

10/11 Chamber Mixer with ABC Senior Care at Riposo

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



Board of Directors

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

Suzanne Lee
Genentech

Sailesh Mehra
SM8

Natalia Morales
Kilroy Realty Corporation

Pravin Punjiya
Fairfield Inn by Marriott SFO

Judy Reyes
California Catering at
SSF Conference Center

Roger Rodriguez
Rockoto Peruvian Restaurant

Kevin Williams
California Water Service

Kevin Worth
Kaiser Permanente

Chamber Personnel

Mary Prem
CEO

Arlene Dozier
Administrative Assistant