

Mark West Area Chamber of Commerce and VISITORS CENTER



BRINGING BUSINESS & THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

4787 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 101, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
 Visitors Center: Mon. - Fri. 9 am - 4 pm www.markwest.org

707-578-7975
office@markwest.org

The Lark

June 2017
 Volume XXXI Issue 6

BRINGING YOUR GOVERNMENT TO YOU

A Community Engagement Summit hosted by
 4th District County Supervisor James Gore & the
 Mark West Area Citizens Advisory Council

Serving the Mark West, Larkfield, Wikiup, Fulton & Surrounding Areas

LARKFIELD/WIKIUP TOWN HALL MEETING JUNE 28

The flyer at left promotes an important public event for planning the future of the Larkfield/Wikiup area.

Put this on your calendar for sure. Supervisor James Gore's Town Hall Meeting is set for Wednesday, June 28 at 5:30 p.m. It will be held at the Riebli School multi-purpose room, 315 Mark West Springs Road.

This will not be your everyday town hall meeting. It will be a "civic trade show" with different departments and civic partners set up at tables around the gymnasium for locals to ask questions and interact with their representatives on everything from permits and road maintenance to law enforcement and human rights.

At 6:00, everyone will gather inside for the meeting. Gore's plan is to have it be as interactive as possible. He will be encouraging public input and feedback.

Contributed by Aggie Maggio, Realtor @ Coldwell Banker

Wednesday,
 June 28th
 5:30-7:00pm
 Riebli
 Elementary

315 Mark West
 Springs Rd,
 Santa Rosa

With more than 12,000 residents, the Mark West Area is one of the largest unincorporated communities in Sonoma County. This means that the county, not a city, is responsible for land use, development, roads and traffic management, public safety, and all other forms of local governance.

Supervisor James Gore is looking forward to enhancing public engagement opportunities in the area, and introducing you to the new Mark West Citizens Advisory Council.

Representatives from the following government and non-profit groups will be at this meeting to share information and answer your questions:

Permit Sonoma (Permitting and Resource Management Department)	Human Services	Family Violence Prevention
Transportation and Public Works (Roads and Traffic Management)	School Board	Clean Energy Rebate Programs
Sheriff's Office	Regional Parks	Luther Burbank Center for the Arts
Planning Commission	Immigration Services	Veterans Services
Health Services	Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District	Mark West Area Citizens Advisory Council
	Water Agency	County Supervisor and District Staff

June Social hosted by
 Mark West Lodge
 See p3

UPCOMING EVENTS: next AFTER HOURS BUSINESS SOCIAL

Hosted by
Cloverleaf Ranch
 3892 Old Redwood Hwy., Santa Rosa

Thursday July 13, 2017
 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM



Steve Plamann
Aaction Rents
President

Our Mission:

The Mark West Area Chamber of Commerce is organized to advance the economic well-being and uniqueness of the Mark West Area so that its citizens and all areas of its business community shall prosper.

CHAMBER MEETINGS

Board of Directors

Second Tuesday
Of Each Month
11:30 am - 1:00 pm at
Best Western Plus Wine
Country Inn & Suites
870 Hopper Av. S.R.

Ambassadors Mtg.

Second Thursday
Of Each Month
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
At the Chamber offices

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Yes, summer is here and the heat has arrived. Not that long ago, the ground was wet and soggy. Now I am outside every night watering my garden. I can't believe how big my tomatoes and pepper plants are. This sunny and dry weather also means the tourist and construction seasons are in full swing. A lot of activity and changes mean that stores, restaurants and roads are bustling with customers. The local farmer's markets are stocked with fruits and veggies. We do have it all here. It sure makes shopping locally easy. So go out and enjoy Sonoma County.

We had a fantastic opportunity to enjoy a local historic landmark at our June social. The Mark West Lodge hosted the event and treated us to gourmet food and great wines. The Lodge is beautiful inside and out and is over 150 years old. Thanks to owners Marina and Steve Nojima for inviting us into their timeless treasure. Over 50 guests came for networking, refreshments and many chances to win money and prizes. The Lodge does catering, weddings and other events.

Our upcoming social will be July 13th from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at Cloverleaf Ranch. We have had several amazing events there over the last few years. Cloverleaf Ranch was opened in 1947 by Shawna's grandfather. This 160 acre ranch is a summer camp for boys and girls and a year-round horse riding center. You will have a chance to win \$380 in our Pot of Gold drawing. We will be surrounded by beautiful rolling hills, perfect for some after work relaxing with many networking opportunities.

Our 36th annual Installation Dinner will be at Charlie's Grill on Windsor Golf Course on July 28th. The starting time is 6:00pm. Bring your date or office staff and have a fun and entertaining time. This is a once-a-year event that you shouldn't miss. Sonoma County 4th District Supervisor James Gore and Miss Sonoma County Kristina Schmuhl will be our guest speakers. Don't miss this very special event!

Our next scheduled luncheon will be on August 2nd at the Best Western Plus Wine Country Inn and Suites. Our speaker is State Senator Mike McGuire (Second District, representing one million people in the North Coast / North Bay). Mike will give us an update of what's been happening and what's in the works since he took office. The start time is 11:30. Sign up online and order your food at the same time. The sandwiches are from Molsberry's Market and they come with a drink. We have limited seating, so sign up early. Tickets are \$20.00 for members or \$30.00 for non-members, and that includes the sandwich.

The Mark West Area Chamber's 28th Annual Wine Country Harvest Faire & Business Showcase will be at the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts at 50 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa on Tuesday October 24th, from 4:00pm-7:00pm. Booths are still available at very good prices. Don't miss this great opportunity to get your business in front of hundreds of local residents and share in an evening of good old local fun and community togetherness. It is well worth the time and investment. This free event for the public showcases your business while everyone enjoys complimentary food and Sonoma County wines and other beverages.

Steve Plamann, President



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JUNE 8 SOCIAL SPONSORED BY MARK WEST LODGE

Our June Business After Hours Social was hosted by Mark West Lodge, the classic and historic gathering place on scenic Mark West Road. You've seen it many times; it's the cozy looking group of buildings under the enormous old grape arbor that spans the road. The Lodge has a storied history going back to the 1840s when it was founded as a roadhouse. It later became a spa (capitalizing on the property's hot spring) and later an event center. It's been owned and managed by Marina and Steve Nojima for the past two years as a venue for weddings and private events on Saturdays and Sundays. Marina and Steve are locals who were high school sweethearts and are now putting their efforts back in to the community through stewardship of this casually elegant piece of local lore.

This Social was a multi-Chamber event, with plenty of members of the Windsor Chamber of Commerce present. There was a great turnout, and plenty of opportunity to meet and talk with business owners and operators from neighboring towns. This is part of efforts by local chambers of commerce to reach out to each other and encourage greater communication between businesses in nearby towns. Each chamber's social events are open to the members of other chambers. A large multi-chamber event is in the works for November. Watch for announcements about that.

Jenny Chamberlain, President of the Sonoma County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, announced that in August the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce will be holding their annual convention in Rohnert Park. See our announcement on page 5 for further information.

Donors & Winners

The pot of gold was \$360 and the winning business was not present. So next month it will be \$380, which may be an all-time high. You must be present to win so come on out!

The 50/50 drawing was won by Pete Lescure of Lescure Engineers. He went home with \$66.00.

Henry and Gloria Moravec of A Plus Locksmith in Healdsburg won the business card drawing. Their prize was a bottle of pinot noir wine from Dry Creek Vineyards. Henry and Gloria are members of the Windsor Chamber.

Please join us for our next month's Social on July 13, to be hosted by Cloverleaf Ranch, 3892 Old Redwood Highway, Santa Rosa. Come out and enjoy networking and refreshments. You are always welcome to bring a guest interested in joining our Chamber, or just bring a friend.

Contributed by Peter Loughlin, Loughlin Marketing



The Mark West Lodge is remarkably inviting and comfortable. It's a fine mix of elegant, casual, and historic. Here, host Marina Nojima welcomes members from the Windsor Chamber and the Mark West Chamber, and explains a little about the Lodge. As you can see, we had quite the good turnout.



Indoors or outdoors, the Mark West Lodge is a great place to mingle. Here, guests at the social enjoy wine beneath the famous 150 year-old grape arbor that spans Mark West Springs Road.



Left to right: Laura Buhrer (Exchange Bank, Larkfield Branch) Aggie Maggio (Realtor @ Coldwell Banker), Judy Mikeska (past member, Rodan+Fields), and Lori Surdyka Rooney (NorthBay biz Magazine).



At right, Mark West Area Chamber President Steve Plamann welcomes our newest member, Dave Skarr of Coldwell Banker.



Mark West Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center

Cordially Invites You to Attend

Our 36th Annual Installation Dinner

Friday, July 28, 2017

6:00 p.m. Reception

6:45 p.m. Dinner

Charlie's Restaurant at the Windsor Golf Club

1320 19th Hole Drive, Windsor

Buffet Menu

*Brandy Peppercorn Tri Tip ~ Chef's Choice Vegetarian Pasta
 Baby Spinach & Arugula w/Mango, Candied Walnuts, Ricotta Salata
 & Mango Raspberry Vinaigrette
 Roasted Red Potatoes ~ Fresh Vegetables ~ Rolls ~ Dessert
 Red & White Wines ~ Coffee, Tea*

Presentations 7:30 p.m.

*James Gore, 4th District Supervisor
 Kristina Schmuhl, Miss Sonoma County 2017
 Installation of Officers ~ Annual Achievement Awards*

Please RSVP and Pay by July 26, 2017
Cost is \$50 per person (includes gratuity and tax)

Business Name _____ Total Number in Party _____

Make checks payable to: MWACC Mail to: 4787 Old Redwood Hwy, Ste. 101, Santa Rosa, CA 95408

Visa __ MC __ Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Billing Address _____ Security Code _____

Email Address _____ Telephone # _____

Signature _____ Name on Card _____

or pay online at www.markwest.org

Below: images from the 2016 Installation Dinner



UPCOMING BUSINESS SOCIALS

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

Larkfield/Wikiup Town Hall Meeting

5:30-7:30pm

Riebli School multi-purpose room
315 Mark West Springs Road

Thursday, July 13, 2017

Chamber Business After Hours Social 5:30-7:30pm

Hosted by **Cloverleaf Ranch**

3892 Old Redwood Hwy., Santa Rosa

Friday, July 28, 2017

Chamber 36th Annual Installation Dinner

6:00-9:00pm

Hosted at Charlie's Restaurant at the Windsor Golf Club
1320 19th Hole Drive, Windsor

Wednesday August 2, 2017

Chamber Business Luncheon 11:30am-1:00pm

Topic: Legislative Update

Speaker: State Senator Mike McGuire

Hosted at Best Western Plus Wine Country Inn & Suites
870 Hopper Ave, Santa Rosa

Thursday, August 10, 2017

Chamber Business After Hours Social 5:30-7:30pm

Hosted by Safari West

3115 Porter Creek Rd., Santa Rosa

Thursday, August 10, 2017

Chamber Business After Hours Social 5:30-7:30pm

Hosted by **Safari West**

3115 Porter Creek Rd., Santa Rosa

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Chamber Business After Hours Social 5:30-7:30pm

Hosted by **Extended Child Care Coalition**

1745 Copperhill Pkwy #5, Santa Rosa

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Chamber Business After Hours Social 5:30-7:30pm

Hosted by **Mark West Union School District**

305 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

28th Annual Wine Country Harvest

Faire & Business Showcase

4:00pm-7:00pm

This free event showcases businesses while you enjoy complimentary food and Sonoma County wines and beverages.

For information call the Chamber: 707 578-7975

<http://www.markwest.org/contactus.cfm>



Thursday, November 9, 2017

Chamber Business After Hours Social 5:30-7:30pm

Hosted by Anytime Fitness (at Epicenter)

3215 Coffey Lane, Santa Rosa

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

Holiday Tree Lighting - Community Event

Hosted by Molsberry's Market

522 Larkfield Center, Santa Rosa

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Chamber Business After Hours Social 5:30-7:30pm

Hosted by **Larkfield Exchange Bank and**

Molsberry's Market

500 Larkfield Center, Santa Rosa

**CALIFORNIA HISPANIC STATE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE CONVENTION
AUGUST 24-25, IN ROHNERT PARK**

Rohnert Park will be hosting the 38th Annual Statewide Convention of the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce. The theme is Building Bridges for a Stronger Tomorrow, and the entire event will serve as the foundation for continued progress and the basis for solutions that will unite communities and reinforce a prosperous future for small business across California.

The convention will be held from August 24-25 at the Double Tree Hotel Sonoma Wine County in Rohnert Park. Special events will be hosted by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Sonoma County both prior to and after the convention. Check the convention website for further information, including registration and hotel bookings. www.chccconvention.com.



CALIFORNIA HISPANIC
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Interested in joining our Ambassador Club?

Contact the Chamber at

office@markwest.org

707-578-7975



To host a Ribbon Cutting, contact...

Aggie Maggio

aggiemaggio@icloud.com



Keep abreast of important information pertinent to local business issues: <http://edb.sonoma-county.org/>

LUTHER BURBANK CENTER FOR THE ARTS TO GET FACELIFT

Adapted from the North Bay Business Journal website, June 16, 2017

The Luther Burbank Center for the Arts will undergo a \$4.7 million renovation and upgrade beginning this month, it was announced today by the Board of Directors of the non-profit Luther Burbank Memorial Foundation, which owns and operates the center.

Plans for the 43 year-old building include increased ADA accessibility, a new roof, new paint, and construction of two exterior elevator towers and glass vestibule hallways to provide access to the balcony level.

During the construction period, which will take place through December, the 1600-seat Ruth Finley Person Theater, the Carston Cabaret, and the Lytton Rancheria Grand Lobby will be open for all performances. In addition, the Center's on-site summer art, music, and drama camps for children will continue in other spaces within the Center's 140,000 square foot complex.

The changes will provide improved balcony and theater access, and second-floor services to those with mobility impairments for the first time in the Center's history; create opportunities for new gathering and concessions spaces, including on the balcony level; and address some of the much-needed deferred maintenance issues.

Read the full story on the North Bay Business Journal website here: <http://www.northbaybusinessjournal.com/industrynews/hospitality/7104168-181/arts-center-to-undergo-facelift?artslide=0>

SMART TRAIN'S LAST-MILE COMMUTE CHALLENGE

By Cynthia Sweeney. Adapted from the North Bay Business Journal website, June 20, 2017

After many delays, the Sonoma–Marin Area Rail Transit train may start service this summer, and businesses have been looking at ways to help their workers get out of their cars and onto the train for their daily commute.

While some employers have found solutions, others are still scratching their heads.

The SMART train's initial route will be 43 miles from the transit station in downtown San Rafael to the industrial parks near Charles M. Schulz–Sonoma County Airport.

Earlier this year, the county of Marin became the first employer to provide “last-mile” access between the train in San Rafael and four county offices.

The county approved \$200,000 from the general fund to provide no-cost shuttle service for one year, according to Craig Tackabery, chief assistant director, Public Works.

The shuttle will operate in a loop serving eight morning and eight evening trains, and will have a capacity for 30 sitting and 10 standing passengers.

Meanwhile, the city of Santa Rosa has stepped in and revamped its CityBus schedule, so a bus will run every 15 minutes from SMART's Railroad Square station to Third Street downtown by Courtyard Square.

Read the full story on the North Bay Business Journal website here: <http://www.northbaybusinessjournal.com/northbay/sonomacounty/7095160-181/sonoma-marin-rail-transit-employers>



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MARK WEST AREA COMMUNITY INFORMATION

AREA POPULATION - within a 3 mile radius - 20,000
 ELEVATION - 160 feet above sea level
 BOUNDARIES - Area approximately bounded by:
 Shiloh Road - North Piner Road - South
 West Olivet Road - West Lodge on Mark West Springs Rd - East

The Lark Newsletter is published monthly under the direction of:
 The Mark West Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center
 4787 Old Redwood Hiwy, Suite 101, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

ADVERTISING: 6 months \$107.50; 1 year \$200
 FLYER INSERTION: \$35 per issue.
 You supply a .pdf version of your 8.5" x 11" flyer to info@markwest.org
 You can pay online at <http://markwest.org/payment>

The Lark Newsletter is emailed to member businesses each month.
 For more information, contact the Chamber office at 578-7975.

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Deadline for publication is the 3rd Wednesday of the month.
 Please email your materials to info@markwest.org

*Promote your business with
 your flyer in the Chamber newsletter.
 You supply the flyers - We do the work!*

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP DUES

Effective May 1, 2006

Standard Dues		Non-Profit Dues
\$125.00	Business (1-5 Personnel)	\$110.00
\$175.00	Business (6-10 Personnel)	\$155.00
\$245.00	Business (11+ Personnel)	\$215.00
\$625.00	Corporate Sponsor	
\$ 95.00	Individual (no business affiliation)	

You can pay online at <http://markwest.org/payment>

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 Position Open

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Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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Thursday
July 13, 2017
5:30 - 7:30 pm

CLOVERLEAF RANCH
3892 Old Redwood Hwy.,
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THE WINDSOR TIMES



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