Mark your calendars for the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Community Leadership Awards on Sunday, April 7, 2019. The daytime event will be held at The Commons at Fort Worden in Port Townsend.

For the first time, awards will be presented in five categories: Business Leader of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Rising Entrepreneur, Young Professional of the Year, and Future Business Leader.

Nominations are open to individuals participating in a business or organization in Jefferson County — Chamber membership is not a requirement — and will be accepted from Jan. 1-31, 2019. Nominations must be submitted by nomination form. Letters of support or other attachments will not be accepted. Nomination forms, which include complete award category descriptions, will be available for download on the Chamber’s website at www.jeffcountychamber.org and at the Chamber Office, 2409 Jefferson St. in Port Townsend.

New to this year’s event are two additional award categories – Rising Entrepreneur and Future Business Leader. The Rising Entrepreneur Award will be presented to an individual who embodies the entrepreneurial spirit and innovative thinking that will lead Jefferson County to sustained economic prosperity, and who demonstrates a commitment to business and economic development.

“The growth of new market sectors in Jefferson County has been on the rise for some time and we are proud of the entrepreneurs growing business, manufacturing and jobs in our community,” JCCC Executive Director Arlene Alen said. “The time has come to recognize them.”

The new Future Business Leader Award will be given to a high school senior who displays leadership qualities every day, serves as a role model to their peers, and succeeds in academics as well as community service.

“We are excited at the growth of our community and our commitment to recognizing the individuals who now and will in the future lead Jefferson County,” Alen added.

From the nominations received, the Nominating Committee will select three individuals per category for formal nomination. Award winners will be announced at the April 7 event.

Additional information about the JCCC Community Leadership Awards is available at www.jeffcountychamber.org and by contacting the Chamber at 360-385-7869 or admin@jeffcountychamber.org.
**CHAMBER NEWS**

**New Year – New Opportunities**

by Executive Director Arlene Alen, CPM, IOM

Here’s hoping you had a wonderful holiday and, like the staff at the Chamber, are excited about 2019 and the opportunities it brings to us all. New Chamber volunteers have begun sharing their knowledge of our community with our visitors, the Chamber is developing a new marketing campaign for the City of Port Townsend, exciting plans are in the works for our JCCC Community Leadership Awards event, and so much more.

I have been honored that several organizations have asked me to join them at their regularly scheduled meetings to talk about Chamber 2019 and our JCCC Community Leadership Awards that are expanding greatly this year. If you would like me to visit your organization, please contact me at director@jeffcountychamber.org.

**Membership Information Center – The MIC**

It is now possible to obtain a link to the MIC and start using this important member benefit right away. Just reach out to director@jeffcountychamber.org and we’ll send a link to get you started.

Through the MIC, our members can update staff and contact information, post jobs and businesses for sale, and, with some levels of membership, post photos and videos along with a business logo. Special “Hot Deals” and member-to-member discounts, and opportunities to include a business or organization’s event on the Chamber Calendar are also available. If you are not yet using this exciting tool or need assistance doing so, reach out to us!

As a current member, you might want to check your files to be certain you are using all the benefits of membership that you have available to you. We have observed that some members aren’t aware of the new enhanced benefits – with no increase to their investment! – available in their membership packages. Reach out to our Membership Experience Manager Beth Juran at membership@jeffcountychamber.org or 360-385-7869 ext. 201 if you have any questions.

**Online Payments**

If you have not yet joined or renewed your Chamber membership, now is a good time to jump into 2019 and partner with the Chamber to build your business and our community.

For our continuing members, did you know that beginning this month you can pay your membership investment renewal online? Upon receiving your electronic invoice, you can now “click to pay online” and will never need to write a check or find a postage stamp again! We’ve made it simple, easy and fast. We are setting up online payments for the Community Leadership Awards as well, so you will be able to purchase event tickets and even pay for sponsorships through our website at www.jeffcountychamber.org.

**2019 Mixers Scheduled**

Thank you to our 2018 Chamber Luncheon sponsors and Business after Business Mixer hosts for their support and hospitality last year, and those now stepping up in 2019 for what promises to be an even greater year! Mixer hosts for 2019 will include Avamere at Port Townsend, Bishop Victorian Hotel, Dove House Advocacy Services, Old Alcohol Plant, Pourhouse with Vietnamese restaurant Pho Thao, Jefferson Land Trust, Port Townsend Vineyards, The Food Co-Op, 1st Security Bank-Hadlock Branch, Dailey Computer Consulting, Fort Worden, and Coldwell Banker Best Homes.

Many of these organizations have committed to adding a “fun factor” into their Business after Business Mixer, ranging from live music and food tastings to themed events and other surprises! Watch your e-mail inbox, future editions of the Business Insider, and our website at www.jeffcountychamber.org for updates and details. We hope you plan on joining the party and building your business in this new year – and be sure to save the dates! Our Business after Business Mixers are held the second Tuesday of every month from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

**Membership Survey**

We will be sending out a Membership Survey in a few weeks and I hope you will take just five minutes to answer a few questions to help improve your return on investment in the Chamber and our community. While we can’t be everything to everyone, we value and want your input – this is YOUR association!

Reach JCCC Executive Director Arlene Alen at director@jeffcountychamber.org and 360-385-7869.

**Digital or Print?**

In this new year, the Jefferson County Chamber will be increasing our digital distribution of the Business Insider and decreasing our printed distribution. Our newsletter will still be distributed through The Leader, but we are seeking to reduce the number of printed copies we then mail directly to our members.

We know many Chamber members like to read paper-based copy and we will continue to honor that upon request. If you’d like to continue receiving the printed newsletter in the mail as part of your Chamber membership, please contact Administrative Assistant Renée Mizar at admin@jeffcountychamber.org or 360-385-7869 to be placed on our USPS distribution list.

**Save the Date!**

Join us for the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Community Leadership Awards on Sunday, April 7, 2019, at Fort Worden!

Award nominations will be accepted from Jan. 1-31, 2019, for the following categories: Business Leader of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Rising Entrepreneur, Young Professional of the Year, and Future Business Leader (high school seniors only).

Nominations are open to all individuals participating in a business or organization in Jefferson County – Chamber membership is not a requirement. Visit the Jefferson County Chamber’s website for details and downloadable nomination forms: www.jeffcountychamber.org.
Amid the ever-growing popularity of breweries, wineries and cideries now dotting the Jefferson County landscape and beyond, one local microbrewery has been steadily building its business pint-by-pint for more than two decades.

Since its founding in 1997, the Port Townsend Brewing Company has grown from bottling just two of its signature beers to more than 10 for a market that extends across the Puget Sound region from Bellingham to Olympia.

“We are very proud of the amazing local support for the brewery not just by patrons but by the local bars, restaurants and stores who purchase our product,” brewery co-owner Kim Sands said. “We have also collaborated with the local cideries, wineries and breweries to encourage locals and tourists alike to visit all of our establishments.”

Mixing Music & Microbrews
Located in the Port of Port Townsend Boat Haven, the Port Townsend Brewing Company’s tasting room is open seven days a week and features live music year-round. Local and regionally-known musicians can be heard on Saturday nights during the winter months, while the brewery’s expanded outdoor beer garden plays host to live music four nights a week in the summertime. Visit www.porttownsend-brewing.com/events for the brewery’s upcoming events schedule.

The brewery’s microbrews can also be enjoyed at weddings and special events, as the brewery offers its kegs, glassware and taps for event rentals, including for those held out of town. Event planners are encouraged to visit the brewery for a free consultation and tasting to ensure the right style and amount of beer is chosen for their event.

Pints of Support
As the company has grown over the years, so, too, has it evolved into being a major sponsor of events in Port Townsend. Kim estimates the brewery has donated more than $10,000 worth of beer per year over the past 21 years through beer gardens at community events, which include the Northwest Maritime Center, Centrum Blues, Jazz and Fiddle Tunes, Port Townsend Film Festival, and Edensaw Community Cancer Foundation.

“One of the things we have been very proud of is to be able to participate with the local non-profits by helping them raise money for their organizations by providing donated beer to them,” Kim said. “Helping the community is important to us.”

For more information about the Port Townsend Brewing Company, including its online store, visit www.porttownsend-brewing.com.
Of all the places one could launch a new business specializing in healing and overall wellbeing, perhaps it is kismet that Healing Tree Acupuncture owner Melissa Yaden chose the beauty and serenity of the Olympic Peninsula.

A Northwest native, Melissa began training as an acupuncturist more than a decade ago to offer an alternative to those in pain and help those who suffered from addiction. After working in Seattle hospitals and community clinics, she said she knew this medicine had endless potential, and her desire to learn and share it has continued to grow – including having grown into her new Port Townsend-based business.

“I am excited to be here on the Olympic Peninsula to share what I have learned, continue my research and offer alternatives for those in pain as well as those who wish to optimize their health,” Melissa said.

**Holistic Healthcare**

A graduate of Bastyr University for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, Melissa’s training included extensive clinic internships, working in community-style acupuncture settings and an East Asian herbal medicine dispensary, and completing treatment training with the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association. She also served on the board of directors for the Washington East Asian Medicine Association for six years and has completed additional training from the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, earning her doctorate.

In addition to offering acupuncture and massage services, Healing Tree Acupuncture provides holistic healing through Ayurvedic treatments, Nepalese Sound Healing, and herbal medicine. Melissa said her curiosity for alternative healing modalities led her to the study of Ayurvedic medicine, craniosacral and Nepalese Sound Healing, which has woven itself throughout all of the treatments she offers.

“I never presume how the singing bowls will affect any one individual but am always astonished by its ability to be a catalyst for instant transformational healing,” she said.

The complete list of Healing Tree Acupuncture services, including the noted health benefits of each treatment, is available on its website: healingtreeacupuncture.com.

“Having an understanding of multiple modalities has allowed me to gain more insight into my clients and their well-being and to offer a wider perspective of possibilities for their unique healing path,” Melissa said. “I am thankful for being able to practice amongst the backdrop of mountains, trees and the Salish Sea, and look forward to a long-standing practice here in Port Townsend.”

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**With Thanks to Our Generous Members**

On behalf of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and staff, we extend our sincere appreciation to Port Townsend Vineyards for hosting our Volunteer Holiday Celebration in late November. A special thank you also goes to Rob Birman and Karen Best for emceeing the event, and to Jesse Best and Liz Coker for assisting Chamber staff in dishing out pizza, prizes and cake that evening!

We also would like to thank the following Chamber member businesses and organizations for so generously donating gifts that were given to our wonderful volunteers at the event:

- Centrum
- Coldwell Banker Best Homes
- EDC Team Jefferson
- Jefferson County Historical Society
- Jefferson County Home Builders Association
- Key City Public Theatre
- Olympic Music Festival
- Puget Sound Express
- Raviyah Training and Consulting
- Rose Theatre
- The Old Whiskey Mill
- The Resort at Port Ludlow
- The Washington Hotel

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**Healing Tree Acupuncture**

Melissa Yaden, EAMP, LMP, AP
1233 Lawrence St., Suite 102, Port Townsend
healingtreeacupuncture.com
northwesthealingtree@gmail.com
360-434-0670

Holistic healing services offered by Port Townsend-based Healing Tree Acupuncture include acupuncture, massage, Ayurvedic treatments, Nepalese Sound Healing, and herbal medicine. Courtesy of Healing Tree Acupuncture.
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Avamere at Port Townsend

Many people say home is where your heart is. At Avamere at Port Townsend, an assisted and independent living community, this is just as true for the employees as it is for the residents.

The team works hard to provide a caring environment for all their residents. Director of Community Relations Carlie Robertson feels lucky to be a part of such a caring team. They gather together each morning to discuss residents’ wants and needs.

“Our team members truly care about residents on an individual level,” Carlie states. “If someone needs a little extra attention, we make sure they get it.”

Their efforts center around Avamere’s mission: “To enhance the life of every person we serve.” One of the ways they uphold this is by listening to their residents’ needs. They encourage residents to share their voice during their monthly resident town hall meetings.

To meet recent wants and needs, they now provide fresh local vegetables in their dining rooms – something the residents love!

Avamere at Port Townsend is proud of their strong clinical teams and devoted leadership who work to make the community a better place.

“Our dedicated leaders have created a strong culture at Avamere at Port Townsend,” affirms Alex McVay, Regional Director of Operations.

It’s the residents and the great team that gets them excited to come to work. Executive Director Jynell Williams arrives each day with the goal to make Avamere at Port Townsend a great place to work and call home.

“As you walk down the hallway, you see residents smiling,” Jynell notes. “You see the employees engaged in helping our residents.”

A full activities calendar keeps the residents involved. They can join clubs, like book club and bingo. Especially popular are the visits from performing groups on “Wine Wednesdays.” Avamere at Port Townsend also takes their residents on day trips to the beach, zoo, or other local areas.

The team is truly involved in the residents’ lives and enjoys getting to know each one of them.

“They have amazing stories to tell,” Carlie says. “Every day is a new story.”

Learn more about Avamere at Port of Townsend at AvamereAtPortTownsend.com.

Avamere at Port Townsend, an independent and assisted senior living facility, includes 54 independent living apartments that are available in both one and two bedrooms, as well as studio and one bedroom assisted living apartments. Courtesy of Avamere at Port Townsend.

With Our Thanks

The Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce extends its appreciation to

Kristin Manwaring Insurance

for sponsoring our Chamber Luncheons in November and

Port Townsend Vineyards

for hosting our Volunteer Holiday Celebration on November 29.
Making 2019 the Chamber’s Best Year Yet

by Karen Best, 2019 JCCC Board President

As the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce busily ushers in the new year, its Board of Directors has also welcomed new board leadership. I am proud to take the helm as Board President from the very capable hands of outgoing President Rob Birman (thank you for your service, Rob!), and look forward to an exciting, productive and synergistic year ahead.

By working together – the Chamber Board, staff, volunteers, Ambassadors, and members – we can create something that is bigger and greater than the sum of our individual efforts. This synergy is made possible and achievable through the work of our Executive Director Arlene Alen and staff who bring vision and deep experience to the Chamber, volunteers and Ambassadors who generously continue to give their time and talents, a forward-thinking Board that works well together, and an engaged and participatory membership - YOU! We are all continually working toward supporting, growing and advocating for our beautiful communities in Jefferson County, and together we can make this the Jefferson County Chamber’s best year yet.

While our growing membership is a diverse group of businesses, nonprofit organizations, and individual members, we all share a common need – each other. The Chamber can be a valuable team member of your business, all you have to do is help us help you! The Chamber can offer business-to-business exposure and idea-sharing in ways that you cannot do on your own through our luncheons, mixers, meet-ups, cafés and other networking opportunities. The Chamber can offer you online and social media exposure that perhaps you do not know how to do, or you don’t have the time to do. The Chamber can advocate supports, encourages and promotes tourism across Jefferson County and the Olympic Peninsula.

The more members who join the Chamber, the more resources we can employ on your behalf. The larger our volunteer and Ambassador groups, the deeper and more engaged our community support becomes. This year, the Chamber is also expanding our support of Port Ludlow and the Tri-Area with Chamber County Cafés, Business after Business Mixers, and marketing support for community events such as Port Hadlock Days and Port Ludlow Movie Night. We are also creating new programs for YPN (Young Professionals Network).

Whether you are a small home-based business or a large company with many employees, I invite you to explore how the Chamber can benefit your business. Please call Executive Director Arlene Alen or Membership Experience Manager Beth Juran at 360-385-7869 and they can suggest a membership level based on your needs.

Have you seen the Chamber’s new website? Bookmark www.jeffcountychamber.org. There, you will find area business and organization information, an interactive map to show their locations, and other useful Jefferson County information. And Hot Deals from participating businesses are also coming soon on our website.

We want to be responsive to your needs, accountable to your concerns and open to your ideas. Let’s work together to build a thriving community of diversified businesses, inspired by innovation and collaboration. Feel free to reach out to me as the 2019 Chamber Board President by e-mailing Karen@karenbest.com.

2019 JCCC Board President
Karen Best

for your business through our involvement with local and state government. For example, our Executive Director Arlene Alen now serves on the Jefferson County Planning Commission. The Chamber also proactively

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2018 DIRECTORS

Rob Birman
Centrum
Karen Best
Coldwell Banker Best Homes
Sarah Hadlock
The Business Guides
Rebecca Benjamin
North Olympic Salmon Coalition

Kris Nelson
The Old Whiskey Mill, Sirens Pub, Alchemy Bistro
Brian Kuh
EDC Team Jefferson
Lloyd Mullen
The Leader
Aislinn Palmer
Bayside Housing
Stephen Sklar
Edward Jones Financial

Dana Petrick
Dana Pointe Interiors
Richard Tucker
Jefferson Land Trust
Heidi Haney
Tipsy Gypsy
Robert Frank
PT Marine Trades Association

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The content of this publication is prepared by the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce. We welcome submissions from Chamber members. Send articles and photos to director@jeffcountychamber.org.

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Olympic Research Inc.

Yes, you can do big-time research and development on the Olympic Peninsula. With a history of R&D in energy and environment markets, Olympic Research Inc. co-founder and President Bill Lowry decided to leave his corporate management position six years ago to develop something that matters.

His first opportunity was a research grant for the U.S. Department of Energy, funded through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program. The challenge was to develop new sealing technologies for nuclear fuel disposal in deep granite deposits, as an alternative to the shallow geologic storage currently being considered for the nation’s nuclear waste. The solution was to use highly modified energetic thermite materials to form ceramic plugs and seals in place, under water and at great depth.

Out of that seed funding, Olympic Research Inc. is growing and working with other government and commercial customers to apply the technology to decommissioning of wells in oil and gas, geothermal, and carbon sequestration markets. The company is currently in negotiations with a startup providing decommissioning technologies in the North Sea, addressing a critical environmental challenge on a very big scale.

“It is tempting to think we are too remote to support this type of R&D,” Bill said, “but we have such an effective supply network to get equipment and materials, and surprisingly capable local machine shop and technical services, we can do world-class research without having to be in a population center.”

And we live in a place like to live, work, and play. Olympic Research Inc. has three full-time employees (with engineering and science backgrounds) working in its Glen Cove facility and will be growing to support an upcoming commercial opportunity.

Bill is also the president of the Economic Development Council of Jefferson County (EDC Team Jefferson) Board of Directors, bringing his experience in the SBIR programs to help other companies in the area. EDC Team Jefferson supports startups by advising on the various federal small business financial assistance programs. Innovative funding opportunities are also being developed to attract existing small special technology firms to the area, and help existing firms obtain capital for growth. For more information on these initiatives, contact EDC Team Jefferson at 360-379-4693 or visit www.edcteamjefferson.org.

To learn more about the Olympic Research Inc. technologies, visit its website at www.olympic-research.com.
Want to Join Our Team?

Chamber Volunteer Opportunity Meet-up

Saturday, January 5 @ 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Chamber Office, 2409 Jefferson St.,
Port Townsend

Gina Paznava Johnston

Began as JCCC Volunteer: 2018

“Born and raised in a small hard-working community in Romania, I learned early on that the road to success is built on perseverance.

I am a graduate of the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest, Romania, with a degree in metallurgical engineering. Due to the economic conditions of Romania at the time I graduated from the university, I had to switch paths and landed in real estate. I continued with my studies in business management while working as a real estate agent in Romania. I came to the USA in 1999 and have not stopped working ever since. I am a mother, wife, real estate agent, fitness instructor, and an interpreter. Phew.”

Gina works as a real estate broker at Windermere Port Townsend.

The Business GUIDES

Jefferson Healthcare

Kitsap Bank

KMi

TOWNSEND

KCP

SOUND Express

HOPE

HONDA

HSI

Peninsula

HOPE

First Federal

Making a difference, Together.

DAILEY

COMPUTER CONSULTING, INC.

THE BUSINESS GUIDES

Jefferson Healthcare

AVAMERE

1ST SECURITY BANK

AVAMERE

THE BUSINESS GUIDES

Port Townsend

THE BUSINESS GUIDES

Port Townsend

THE BUSINESS GUIDES

Port Townsend