

Aringtonian vol. xciv. NO. 1 JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022



97th Annual Arlington Business Gala

special thanks to ARLINGTONIAN GRAND SPONSOR



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11 Chamber Scene

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MEMBER: U.S. Chamber of Commerce & Virginia Chamber of Commerce

The Arlingtonian (USPS 534030) is published bi-monthly by the Arlington Chamber of Commerce. A subscription rate of \$4 per Chamber representative is collected as part of annual membership dues. Periodicals postage paid at Arlington, VA.

Visit the Chamber calendar to stay updated on the latest events. Register online at www.arlingtonchamber.org or call (703) 525-2400.

chamber calendar Please check arlingtonchamber.org/events for format and meeting locations.

JANUARY New Year's Day Observed **Government Affairs & Economic** 3 Monday 19 Wednesdav Office Closed **Development Committee** 9:00-10:00 a.m. LeadShare Networking Group 4 Tuesdav 8:45-10:00 a.m. LeadShare Networking Group 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **Government Affairs & Economic** 5 Wednesday **Development Committee** LeadShare Networking Group 20 Thursday 9:00-10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. LeadShare Networking Group **Board Orientation for New Directors** 21 Friday 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. 10:30-11:30 a.m. **Board of Directors Meeting** Women in Business Networking 5:00-7:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Membership Engagement Committee LeadShare Networking Group 25 Tuesday 6 Thursday 4:15-4:45 p.m 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Small Business Roundtable: Income 26 Wednesday Chamber 101 **Tax Basics for Sole Proprietors** 4:00-5:15 p.m. 11:45-1:00 p.m. Ambassador Committee 10 Monday **Business After Business** 27 Thursday 4:00-5:00 p.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m. **Membership Development Committee** 11 Tuesday 2:00-3:00 p.m. **Executive Committee** 12 Wednesday 8:00-9:30 a.m. **Breakfast Connection** 13 Thursday 7:30-9:00 a.m. LeadShare Networking Group **18 Tuesday** 8:45-10:00 a.m.

FEBRUARY

- LeadShare Networking Group 1 Tuesday 8:45-10:00 a.m. Women in Business Master Class Series 12:45-2:30 p.m. Government Affairs & Economic 2 Wednesday **Development Committee** 9:00-10:00 a.m. LeadShare Networking Group 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. LeadShare Networking Group 3 Thursday 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Chamber 101 4:00-5:15 p.m. Women in Business Summit **4 Friday** 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Ambassador Committee 7 Monday 4:00-5:00 p.m.
 - 8 Tuesday Membership Development Committee 2:00-3:00 p.m.
 - 9 Wednesday Executive Committee 8:00-9:30 a.m.
 - **10 Thursday** Breakfast Connection 7:30-9:00 a.m.

LeadShare Networking Group 15 Tuesday 8:45-10:00 a.m. **Government Affairs & Economic** 16 Wednesday **Development Committee** 9:00-10:00 a.m. LeadShare Networking Group 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. LeadShare Networking Group 17 Thursday 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Membership Engagement Committee 22 Tuesdav 4:15-4:45 p.m. **Small Business Roundtable** 27 Wednesdav 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **Business After Business** 28 Thursday 5:00-7:00 p.m.

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Get Involved in Your Chamber

I could not be more honored and excited to serve as Chair of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for 2022. I look forward to supporting Kate Bates, our Chamber President and CEO, and her talented staff, and leading the Chamber Board of Directors in our efforts to support the Arlington business community.

If you've been involved with the Arlington Chamber you know how relevant the Chamber is to the business community. During the past two years the Chamber has continued to prove its value and has not skipped a beat throughout the pandemic, providing services and adding new benefits to impacted businesses. If you haven't been involved with

the Chamber and are not aware of the many benefits, I encourage you to get involved and see for yourself. As with anything, the more you put into it, the more you'll get out of it.

So, how do you get involved? The Chamber offers a wide range of opportunities to foster networking and business development, from large signature events such as the Arlington Business Gala, to smaller, more frequent events such as our Breakfast Connections and Business After Business (BAB). These networking events, as well as many others throughout the year, offer excellent opportunities to meet and network with fellow members of the Arlington business community.

You may also choose to get involved by joining a committee. Committees are a great way to broaden your network while learning about issues that impact your business and our community. Try participating on a committee that aligns with your goals and interests; new members are always welcome. Most committees meet once a month, and participation is free for all employees of member organizations. Check out the Chamber's website for a complete list.

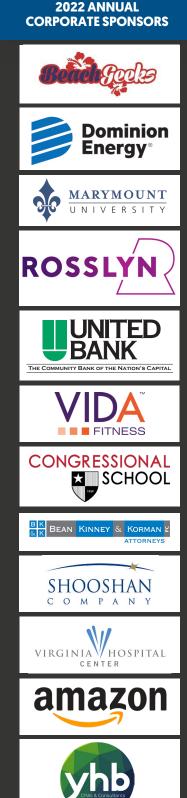
Community engagement programs are another way to get involved. For example, coming up in April is the Arlington Chamber Volunteer Day. This annual event pairs members of the business community with rewarding half-day service projects throughout Arlington County.

There are many reasons to take a more active role in the Arlington Chamber of Commerce. I've just mentioned a few. I encourage you to visit the Chamber website at www.arlingtonchamber.org to see for yourself how you might take advantage of all the Chamber has to offer and get involved!

Becch KBoronch

Beth Borowski

Beth Borowski CNA





can't-miss

ENTS

Maximize your membership at this free info and networking session on meeting new clients and utilizing your member benefits.

MONUMENT

HOME LOANS

GRAND SPONSOR Michael Garcia RICP*, Agent

🙈 State Farm

BREAKFAST CONNECTION

Bring your business to the table. Through roundtable power networking, attendees will exchange business cards, develop prospects, and share an elevator pitch.



SMALL BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

This monthly event offers an educational opportunity to smaller businesses, and members have the opportunity to present on a topic relevant to the business community.

RAND SPONSOF



business advocacy

Chamber's Policy Positions Outline Advocacy Efforts for 2022

The Arlington Chamber has released our policy position recommendations for 2022, both for the Virginia General Assembly's 2022 session, and on local issues within the purview of Arlington County's government

The Chamber's top priorities include building and maintaining strong partnerships between government and the business community, with a disposition toward leading with "yes," continuing to prioritize economic development for businesses of all sizes, and removing barriers for members of the community who are underrepresented in business creation. The Chamber will continue expanding efforts to increase safe housing opportunities for Members can be involved in shaping policy positions through the Government Affairs & Economic Development Committee, which typically meets twice a month.

To be added to the committee distribution list, email chamber@arlingtonchamber.org.

ARLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2022

Policy Positions

Virginians, advocating for building a robust infrastructure, supporting our workforce through education and training opportunities, and maintaining the longstanding policy framework which has made Virginia the best state in the nation in which to do business.

The Chamber Board of Directors adopted the public policy positions at the conclusion of a drafting process led by the Chamber's membership. The Government Affairs & Economic Development Committee wrote the initial public policy position drafts. The Chamber's Executive Committee reviewed the drafts and then sent them to the full Board of Directors for adoption. To view the policy positions, please visit www.arlingtonchamber.org/public-policy-positions.

Arlington County Board Denies Grants for Hotel Industry

The Arlington County Board declined to provide a grant for hotels when it allocated most of Arlington County's funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The Chamber, along with our member hotels, had been advocating since last spring for Arlington County to provide a grant, similar to grants in neighboring jurisdictions. Arlington has lost about half of its hospitality workforce during the pandemic. Arlington hotels have identified employee pay and benefits as their top spending priority, and Chamber members testified to the County Board about the impact that a hospitality grant would have on their workforce.

County Board members offered several reasons for not offering a local grant, including believing that Virginia's support for Arlington Convention and Visitor Services (ACVS) would be sufficient, to preferring help for workers through training and job seeking support after they lost jobs. The Chamber will work with ACVS to promote the best outcomes for Arlington's hotels from its marketing, and will continue to encourage Arlington County to support hotels and hotel workers directly through the continuing travel slowdown.

Virginia General Assembly to Convene 2022 Session

The Virginia General Assembly convenes on January 12 for its annual session. This year sees changes both in the Governor's Mansion, as Glenn Youngkin begins his term, and in the House of Delegates, with Republicans taking a 52-48 seat majority. The Virginia Senate was not up for election, and Democrats retain their 21-19 seat majority in that body. This session is also the resumption of full, in-person meetings, after the House met virtually and both chambers held virtual committee hearings in 2021. It is expected that some aspects of virtual public engagement will be retained.

This year's session is a longer, 60-day session, the highlight of which will be the adoption of the Commonwealth's budget for July 2022-June 2024. Part of that action will include allocating approximately \$1 billion in American Rescue Plan Act funding that the General Assembly reserved during their special session in August 2021. The Chamber will engage with legislation to advance our General Assembly Policy Positions to support Arlington and Virginia's business community.

signature event review

Arlington Chamber Celebrates 2021 Accomplishments at 97th Annual Meeting

The 97th Annual Meeting embodied the resilient and dedicated spirit of the Chamber and our members whose service and support made 2021 a huge success for our organization and the Arlington business community. More than 250 business leaders were in attendance for this special event at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel

Kate Bates, Chamber President & CEO, began the meeting by highlighting some of the Chamber's top achievements from the past year, including our robust business advocacy efforts, strong membership retention, and successful execution of numerous new programs. Incoming 2022 Chair Beth Borowski of **CNA** then spoke about continuing the Chamber's growth and successes in the new year, and also introduced the 2022 Board of Directors. Beth also announced that Tina Leone of the Ballston BID will serve as the 2023 Chair of the Board of Directors.

Dr. Gregory Washington, President of **George Mason University**, delivered a powerful keynote speech, which demonstrated how a focus on inclusion can set our community up for success. The university is a leader in the region with its high acceptance rate and consistently strong graduation rate across students of all racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds.

Congratulations to the event's award recipients. VIDA Fitness received the Chair's Award for their outstanding contributions to the Chamber and the business community. For her phenomenal volunteer assistance, Flavia Sampaio of the Residence Inn by Marriott - Rosslyn received the President's Award. Last, but certainly not least, the Committee of the Year Award was given to our Gala Committee. This award was bestowed upon them for their amazing work preparing for the 97th Annual Arlington Business Gala.



Dr. Washington delivers his keynote speech about his success with inclusive initiatives at George Mason University.



Chair's Award winner VIDA Fitness with 2021 Chair Todd Ihrig and Kate Bates.

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Award Sponsors

Committee of the Year Award · George Mason University Chair's Award • Rosslyn Business Improvement District President's Award • Odin, Feldman & Pittleman, P.C.

Premier Sponsors

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signature event review

97th Annual Arlington Business Gala

POST-EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

The 97th Annual Arlington Business Gala marked the triumphant return to in-person galas. We enjoyed seeing everyone dressed up and enjoying Arlington's Best Night Out again. The event was held on Saturday, November 13 at The Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City and included a silent auction, The Very Best Raffle, live auction, and an exciting game of Heads or Tails. Guests enjoyed a decadent three-course meal during the program. Thank you to our 2021 Board of Directors Chair Todd Ihrig, Avantax **Investment Services**, for hosting this spectacular event.

Arlington's Best Night Out was truly magical, filled with exciting anticipation and climactic victories. Congratulations to Kevin Broadhurst of Comcast Cable **Communications** on winning The Very Best Raffle, he claimed a tropical vacation to the luxurious St. James Morgan Bay in St. Lucia. We also want to congratulate our Heads or Tails game winner and silent and live auction winners.



The night may be over, but the fun isn't done. Check out photos from the Gala in our Facebook album at www.facebook.com/ArlingtonChamberVA and search #ARLBusinessGala on social media to see some of the night's highlights. Registration is open for our 98th Annual Arlington Business Gala, visit www.arlingtonchamber.org/events for more information and to register.



and Joan Ritter take a picture of Jules nd Rosalie Tamo during the dinner.



Nick Billy bids on one of the live auction items.



Karen Bate and Christine Dolan greet each other during the silent auction.

Saturday, April 23

The Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City

Join us for the 98th Annual Arlington Business Gala

Thank You to Our Sponsors

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Live Auction Sponsor



Beverage Sponsor



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Gala Auction Donors

The Gala auction was made possible thanks to the generous contributions from our members and local businesses.

30-Minute Hit Arlington A Main Event Caterers AlphaGraphics American Ultimate Disc League Animal Welfare League of Arlington Arlington Arts Center Arlington Community Federal Credit Union Arlington Magazine Arlington Promotional Products, LLC Arlington Strategy Army Navy Country Club Artz & Framing Ballston BID Ballston CrossFit Barrel Oak Winery Bartaco Bond's Escape Room Br Colab **Bright Horizons** Cabi Cava Mezze Clerk of the Circuit Court Paul Ferguson Columbia Pike Partnership Commissioner of Revenue Ingrid Morroy Company Flowers & Gifts Congressman Don Beyer County Board Member Katie Cristol County Board Member Libby Garvey County Board Member Matt de Ferranti County Board Member Takis Karantonis County Manager Mark Schwartz Crystal City Marriott at Ronald Reagan Áirport

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Mercedes-Benz of Arlington MGI Corporate Gifts, LLC Mila Lynne Floro - Edward Jones Investments Monumental Sports and Entertainment Museum of the Shenandoah Valley National Landing BID NextUp Solutions Nielsen Auto Group Northern Virginia Apartment Association Nothing Bundt Cakes at Arlington/ Seven Corners Nova Optique & Eyecare Office Evolution Outdoor Lifestyles Landscape Design Pentagon MMÅ Planet Fitness Potomac River Running Company Praline Bakery and Bistro Pretty Glam Privé Roses Punch Bowl Social RadiantYou **ROCKLANDS Barbeque and Grilling** Company Recover Program Solutions of Virginia (RPSV) Seasons 52 Senator Adam Ebbin Senator Barbara Favola Senator Janet Howell Sheriff Elizabeth "Beth" Arthur [solidcore]

Sonesta Select Arlington Rosslyn Hotel Sonic Car Wash SPENGA Ballston Synetic Theater Taylors of Falls Church in In Honor of CSM Clarence B. and Theresia Taylor The Conditioning Room The Kensington The Kreeger Museum The Lotus & The Light Metaphysical Center The National Capital Bank of Washington The Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City The ROX, Rapid Overland Express The Tower Club Training Ground Arlington Tranquility by Design Two the Moon Union Kitchen Untold Research Venture X Arlington-Courthouse Metro Veritas Academy Vino Virginia Washington Nationals Washington Workplace WellNest Professional Cleaning WFTA Will Reintzell Photography Windows Catering Your Best Style

january & february

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Chamber Membership

85 Years B.M. Smith & Associates, Inc.

65 Years Murphy Funeral Homes

50 years Comcast Cable Communications Guernsey, Inc. Washington Golf & Country Club

40 Years Crystal Gateway Marriott Northern Virginia Community College The IDI Group Companies

25 Years Destination Sales & Marketing Group

15 Years Clarendon Home Services Focus Data Solutions Northern Virginia Association of Realtors

10 Years Ballston BID Leadership Center for Excellence

5 Years

American Pest Atlantic Union Bank Cindy Martin Yeatts - Neighborhood Real Estate The National Capital Bank of Washington University of Phoenix

Have news to share?

Let us know! Members in the News article submissions must be emailed to the Communications Coordinator and received by the first of the month prior to the publication month (i.e., April 1 for consideration in the May/June issue of the *Arlingtonian*), in order to be considered for inclusion.

Members should submit a press release or news article, along with photo options, if available.

For questions, contact Communications Coordinator, Thomas Fitzpatrick, at communications@arlingtonchamber.org or (703) 525-2400.

Article inclusion is available on a limited basis and is not guaranteed. Articles printed in this newsletter submitted by members represent their ideas and beliefs and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

members in the news

ENDEPENDENCE CENTER OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

ECNV's New Partnership Advances Disability Justice

The **ENDependence Center of Northern Virginia (ECNV)** has announced a new partnership with the Ford Foundation. **ECNV** was one of the first recipients of the foundation's new Disability Rights Program, which focuses on disability justice as part of their on-going diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. The key focus of this initiative is to both expand and energize the field of disability coalitions, "building the next generation of disability advocates," said Rebecca Cokely, Program Officer at the Ford Foundation. Thanks in part to this partnership, **ECNV** will help build the next generation of intersectional disability leaders to advance rights, access, and opportunities for people with disabilities.

ARLNOW.COM

ARLnow.com Bids Farewell to Opinion Columns

ARLnow.com's opinion columns started regularly posting in early 2013. The original column eventually expanded into eight different columns. The organization said it must "adapt as the media landscape and reader expectations evolve." They cited a shift in reader perceptions, reactions, and an overall need to evolve.

ARLnow.com said this decision came in light of other recent events in the industry. The publication said goodbye to *Making Room*, *Community Matters, Modern Mobility, Ed Talk, Progressive Voice, Right Note, Peter's Take, and What's Next* this past December. **ARLnow.com** thanked its columnists for their knowledge and interest in "making Arlington a better place."

ARLINGTON COUNTY FAIR

Arlington County Fair to Stay at Community Center Location



The Arlington County Board has decided that the **Arlington County Fair** will not have a change of scenery this fall. The **Arlington County Fair** has resided at its current location at the Thomas Jefferson (TJ) Community Center for 45 years. Many Arlingtonians came forward to protest that the fair

was perfectly placed where it is now, and that it was the ideal place for it. The Department of Parks and Recreation stated the proposed sites for the fair would not accommodate all of the fair's needs, citing the fair would not be able to have the number and variety of rides many Arlingtonians have come to love. The County Board originally cited their plans to move the fair were due to concerns of field damage from the fair.

MULTIPLE MEMBERS

Arlington Branch NAACP Gives Back to Local Nonprofits

The Arlington Branch NAACP has generously donated grants to social-safety-net nonprofit organizations in the Arlington area. Both Bridges to Independence and OAR of Arlington, Alexandria, and Falls Church received grants from the NAACP branch. "It's not about the money; it's about the symbolism. We stand with you, arm in arm, as partners," said Arlington NAACP President Julius "JD" Spain, Sr. Both Sam Kelly, CEO of Bridges to Independence, and Elizabeth Jones Valderrama, Executive Director of OAR, echoed J.D.'s statement saying it validates that their missions and efforts are making a positive impact and serve important needs in the Arlington community.



Bridges to Independence and OAR representatives accept grants from JD Spain and the Arlington NAACP. Photo courtesy of the Sun Gazette

AMAZON, DOORWAYS FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES

Amazon Invites Virginia Leaders to Tour Met Park



will look when the project is finished.

Amazon's Metropolitan Park is set to be finished on track thanks to approximately 800 construction workers completing one floor of the facility every 10 days. **Amazon** welcomed Virginia officials and businesses to tour the facility during their Hard Hat Tour event. The event featured VIP guests such as Virginia Governor Ralph Northam and Arlington County Board Chair Matt de Ferranti. During the event, guests, including Chamber President & CEO Kate Bates, were given an inside look at how the facility was progressing and how it will look come project completion. Met Park will eventually feature two solarpowered, 22-story office buildings and more than 50,000 square feet of retail space, a public park, and a large meeting center free for the community to use. At the end of the tour, **Amazon's** founder

Jeff Bezos's Day 1 Families Fund announced a \$2.5 million grant to **Doorways for Women and Families**, deepening their investment in the Arlington community.

welcome to our NEW MEMBERS!

Business & Professional Services ACMA Atlantic Parking DCS Business Service Contractors Modev SDM Advisory LLC William Monica - OneDigital

> Communications & IT 321 Web Marketing BINARC, LLC Mastercard P2P Computer Solutions

Health & Fitness Cygma Performance FitDistrict, LLC Learn Me Ortho OIC Orthopaedic Immediate Care Stretch Smart Infrared Therapy Home & Personal Services Yes You by Rachel Boehm

Nonprofit Organizations & Associations Arlington Neighborhood Village CYFA (Center for Youth and Family Advocacy) Tigers of the Future Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas

Real Estate & Construction

Caruthers Properties, LLC Intercoastal Mortgage LLC Kathy Koerner - Long & Foster Real Estate Arlington Matt Cochrane - RLAH Real Estate RLAH Real Estate Berkshire Hathaway Terry Hughes - Buck & Associates

> Retail and Restaurants District Dogs

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE CHAMBER IN 3 EASY WAYS:

1 Follow us on social media
♂ ♥ @ArlVAChamber

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Arlington Chamber of Commerce - Virginia

2 Visit our website: www.arlingtonchamber.org

3 Subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter by visiting our website

Send your new member referrals to Mike Rosenow, Senior Director of Membership, at membership@arlingtonchamber.org or call (703) 525-2400.

is good business.





It's no surprise that employee wellness directly affects your bottom line. As a proud member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network, we are committed to keeping Northern Virginia and its businesses healthy. Virginia Hospital Center provides health assessments and custom programs unique to your organization to keep your business fit. To learn more about our Corporate Health & Wellness Program, visit **virginiahospitalcenter.com/workplace.**

Your Chamber in the Community

The success of the Arlington Chamber is tied to its membership base. This is why the Chamber's Directors, staff, and members are dedicated to supporting community events and programs.



Modev's VOICE 21 Summit on trending topics in the tech industry

chamber SCENE



Below is a sampling of events that Chamber staff participated in:

October 15: Kate Bates, Mike Rosenow, and Scott Pedowitz attended **George Mason University's** President on the Plaza at the Arlington Campus, welcoming Dr. Gregory Washington.

October 15: Kate Bates participated in **Amazon's** communications efforts on the importance of including local businesses their in HQ2 retail space.

October 16: Kate Bates attended the Marymount University Halo Awards.

October 21: Kate Bates attended the GO Virginia Region 7 Council Meeting.

October 21: Kate Bates attended George Mason University's Presidential Investiture.

October 25: Kate Bates was a panelist for the Greater Washington Partnership Capital COVID-19 Snapshot press briefing.

November 9: Kate Bates attended the Virginia Chamber CEO Luncheon & Legislative Update.

November 17: Kate Bates participated in the **Amazon** Hard Hat Tour of construction progress at their HQ2 Metropolitan Park site.

November 18: Kate Bates served as faculty and a speaker for the Leadership Arlington Class of 2022 Economic Development Day.

December 2: Mike Rosenow attended the Northern Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce's Annual Meeting.

December 7: Kate Bates and Cassie Bate Hurley attended **Modev's** VOICE 21 Summit at the **Renaissance Inn Arlington Capital View**.



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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the *Arlingtonian c/o* Arlington Chamber of Commerce, 2009 14th Street, North, Suite 100 Arlington, VA 22201



The mission of the **Arlington Chamber of Commerce** is to strengthen businesses and the economic environment for those who work, live and do business in Arlington.

The vision of the **Arlington Chamber of Commerce** is to be the essential partner for business success.

thank you!

- Bean, Kinney, & Korman P.C. and Industrious for hosting Business After Business
- Nothing Bundt Cakes and Washington Workplace for donating door prizes at Business After Business