### **BUSINESS NEWS**

service bar and a banquet room that can accommodate business groups and family gatherings of up to 50 people.

#### WWU UPGRADES SBDC WEBSITE

Western Washington University's College of Business and Economics' Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has upgraded its Web site at www.cbe.wwu.edu/sbdc.

Information can now be found on the site about successful marketing ideas, the creation of business plans, financial management best practices, startup resources and financing programs for area businesses.

## SEABEAR ACQUIRES GD SEAFOODS

SeaBear Company, a leading national purveyor of smoked salmon and other specialty seafood, has acquired 100 percent of GD Seafoods, which does business under the Gerard & Dominique brand.

SeaBear and Gerard & Dominique are both Northwest-based seafood brands, which compete in the category's premier, specialty niche. With this acquisition, the combined company enjoys the leverage of a broad line of high-quality products, two highly respected consumer brands and strength across multiple distribution channels, positioning it for significant growth in the high-end niche of the seafood business. Perhaps the most significant complementary area of this partnership is in channels of distribution. SeaBear brings a long-standing leadership in direct-to-consumer distribution, marketed via catalog and Web. G&D has a strong foodservice business, serving a host of high-end restaurants and hotels across the United States and other countries as well. Both brands have strong relationships with premier retailers such as Whole Foods and QFC, among others.

Mike Mondello is president and CEO of SeaBear, which will continue to operate its brand out of Anacortes. Dominique Place and his wife ChouChou, who together were sole owners of G&D, will remain with the company as president and vice president of sales, respectively. The Gerard & Dominique brand, with its 20 employees, will continue to operate out of Woodinville.

#### LOCAL SOROPTIMIST GROUP EARNS RECOGNITION

Soroptimist International (SI) of Burlington has been selected by Soroptimist International of the Americas as a semi-finalist in the Human Rights of Women and Girls category for its commitment to STOP TRAFFICKING and Raise Awareness.

SI of Burlington accepted the lead role, in collaboration with Skagit Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services, to put together an awareness event at the Skagit Transit Station on Jan. 11 – the National Day of Human Trafficking and Awareness. Other area clubs also participated in the event. SI of Burlington's program demonstrated a high level of innovation and inspiration over the nearly 400 program entries.

#### BROADWAY CHIROPRACTIC CELEBRATES SEVEN YEARS, ADDS STAFF



Theresa Murry & Staff

Chiropractor Theresa Murry is celebrating the seventh anniversary of her Broadway Chiropractic practice in Bellingham with Patient Appreciation days June 11-13. She also has added four massage therapists, specializing in wellness and injury care.

The public is invited to drop in to enjoy free chair massages and catered food, and to take advantage of new patient discounts on exams and X-rays. Murry focuses on preventative wellness care for children and adults, as well as injury management for motor vehicle collisions and work-related injuries. She incorporates healthy lifestyle guidance and takes a multi-disciplinary approach that draws on the expertise of competent healthcare professionals to co-manage patients' health.

#### SPIE VOLUNTEERS VISIT CONGRESS

The message carried to Congress on March 5 by volunteers from SPIE and other science and technology societies was clear: Invest today in federal funding for research and education in order to remain viable and competitive tomorrow.

Thirteen volunteers representing SPIE, headquartered in Bellingham, were among more than 250 who participated in the annual Congressional Visits Day sponsored by the Science-Education-Technology (SET) Working Group. Volunteers included Marilyn Gorsuch of Bellingham.

The volunteers illustrated the message with firsthand stories of aging federal labs, grants that fund projects only partially through the life of the project and are not renewed, and other funding shortfalls that combine to reduce the country's ability to be a world leader in innovation. SET visitors also urged Congressional support of math and science education programs, pointing to recent studies that show a serious decline in proficiency in both areas among students in America's schools.

#### CREDO CONSTRUCTION WINS MERIT AWARD

Credo Construction Inc., headquartered in Bellingham, won an Award of Merit from the Metallic Building Company's Design Build Competition at the 2008 Metallic National Sales Meeting in Las Vegas.

The award was given for Credo Construction's innovative use of a steel-building system in the construction of the Maple Fuels General Store in Maple Falls. By changing the design of the building from a traditional wood frame to a structural steel frame, Credo Construction was able to meet the budgetary requirements of the client and was able to move forward with the project.

The building, designed by architect Kerry Garrett, is modeled after a Swiss Chalet. Highlights of the building include a clock tower, a wood and stone exterior and seamless integration with the existing store.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN FABRICATORS ALUMINUM WELDING SCHOOL OPENS

The Native American Fabricators (NAF) Aluminum Welding Schools opened April 11 in Bellingham.

The opening of the school is in response to an overwhelming need in the manufacturing and marine industries for skilled, experienced and certified aluminum welders.

"It is a 'hands-on' program with more than 80 percent of the time spent in actual welding practice," said Art George, NAF director. "Graduates will be very prepared to enter manufacturing and marine industries with practical experience and certified training."

Upon passing final examinations, students will become certified aluminum welders corresponding with U.S. Coast Guard standards.

Encouraged by a variety of groups, including the State of Washington Workforce Training & Education Coordination Board, and Northwest Center of Excellence for Marine Manufacturing and Technology, NAF Aluminum Welding School is a partnership between Bellingham's Aluminum Chambered Boats Inc. and George, a former Nooksack Tribal chairman.

#### 7-ELEVEN CONTRACTS WITH LOCAL DAIRY

Dallas-based 7-Eleven Inc. has contracted with Edaleen Dairy, one of the few remaining family owned dairies in Washington state, to supply fresh dairy products to its stores in Washington and Oregon.

The Holstein dairy farm began

shipping fresh milk and other dairy items in April from its Lynden facility to nearly 300 7-Eleven stores in the Pacific Northwest.

"Edaleen Farms is a well-respected dairy that still produces their own milk from cow to bottle," said David Huey, 7-Eleven vice president for the North Pacific division. "Its reputation for producing top-quality products with no added hormones, combined with our daily delivery system, gives 7-Eleven an advantage other conve-

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nience retailers can't claim."

The Edaleen Dairy started as a small family business in 1975 by Ed and Aileen Brandsma with just 80 cows. Today, Edaleen boasts a herd of more than 6,000 cows, with less than 3,000 of those milked daily. Milk is produced without the need of any added-growth hormones, like rBST.

# COMPUTER SOURCE CELEBRATES EXPANSION WITH OPEN HOUSE

Computer Source will celebrate the

We immediately fell in love with Barkley Village. There are lots of people who are always shopping here. While other places are focused on leasing to national chains only, the folks at Barkley Company were able to see our vision for our new business.

Terri & Miykal Owners *Our Kitchen is Your Kitchen* 

