

Calendar of Events

January 6, 2026

2026 East King Chamber Coalition Legislative Breakfast

Hyatt Regency Bellevue
900 Bellevue Way Northeast
Bellevue, WA 98004

07:00 AM - 09:00 AM PST

Jen,

jen@mercerislandchamber.com

Join the East King Chambers Coalition — a group of eleven Eastside chambers of commerce — and our state elected as we kick off the new year & session.

Please note: This program will begin at 7:30, with registration, coffee, and networking opening at 7 a.m.

Participating Legislators Include ...

Rep. Brian Burnett
Sen. Manka Dhingra
Rep. Roger Goodman
Rep. Zach Hall
Rep. Drew Stokesbary
Rep. Larry Springer

Rep. Amy Walen
Rep. Janice Zahn
Rep. Debra Entenman
Rep. Osman Salahuddin
Rep. David Hackney

Register here: 2026 East King Chambers Coalition Legislative Kick Off - Bellevue Chamber

January 22, 2026

Mercer Island Connect: Networking Luncheon

11:30 AM - 01:00 PM PST

Mercer Island Connect: Networking Luncheon

Thursday, January 22nd
11:30am - 1:00pm
Location TBA

January 28, 2026

Business Workshop: Events, Sponsorship & Collaborations

11:30 AM - 01:00 PM PST

events@mercerislandchamber.com

Business Workshop: Events, Sponsorships, & Collaborations

First Business Workshop of 2026 will be Wednesday, January 28th from 11:30am - 1:00pm with MI Chamber CEO, Jen Dean.

By the end of this session, attendees will:

Understand how to plan events that align with their business mission.

Learn how to structure sponsorship asks that attract partners and add value.

Discover strategies to collaborate with other businesses for mutual benefit.

Wednesday, January 28th

11:30am - 1:00pm

Location TBA

Registration opens Jan 1st.

February 11, 2026

Business Workshop: The Power of Storytelling for Your Brand with Seattle Times

11:30 AM - 01:00 PM PST

events@mercerislandchamber.com

Business Workshop: The Power of Storytelling for Your Brand

Join Lucia Blackwell, Manager, ST Content Studio and Gail Kim, Account Director, Content Studio Services, Seattle Times Media Solutions as they unpack the power of storytelling for your brand.

Discover how the power of storytelling can elevate your brand. This workshop introduces the fundamentals of Branded Content and shows why it has become an effective tool for businesses of all sizes. We will highlight key benefits, share case studies from SeattleTimes.com, and illustrate how strong narratives drive engagement and build customer trust. The session concludes with an interactive exercise where attendees share their business goals and work with our team to turn those objectives into compelling Branded Content topics.

Wednesday, Feb. 11th

11:30am - 1:00pm

Location TBA

Lucia Blackwell, Manager, ST Content Studio:

Lucia manages ST Content Studio, the branded content arm of The Seattle Times. She oversees the development of partner campaigns that run on The Seattle Times, produces content for off-site partner channels, and leads strategy for The Ticket, the company's events-focused subdomain.

Before joining The Seattle Times, Lucia spent 17 years as a copy editor, digital editor, and engagement editor in a Gannett newsroom in Delaware. Over the past decade, she has applied that editorial expertise to creating impactful, audience-driven content solutions for ST Content Studio's partners.

Gail Kim, Account Director, Content Studio Services, Seattle Times Media Solutions:

Gail focuses on custom content partnership sales for ST Content Studio and Seattle Times Media Solutions, the advertising and marketing solutions arm of The Seattle Times. She collaborates with ST Content Studio on creative ideation and partnership growth opportunities, utilizing the creative and content production resources of the Content Studio with the omni-channel marketing capabilities of Seattle Times Media Solutions.

Before joining The Seattle Times, Gail spent over 15 years in national media sales in New York City, working for lifestyle magazine brands such as Condé Nast Traveler, Glamour and Marie Claire, as well as digital-only brands such as Livestrong.com. She has leveraged her multi-platform experience to develop integrated, out-of-the-box solutions for Seattle Times' clients.

February 27, 2026

Champions of Change Women's Brunch

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

8236 SE 24th St

Mercer Island, WA 98034

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM PST

Jen Dean, 6149403687

events@merceraislandchamber.com

We are thrilled to have Loretta Soffee as a guest speaker!

Loretta is a powerhouse in retail and brand strategy with 25+ years of experience leading growth and innovation. As a former EVP at Nordstrom, she doubled e-commerce sales and led \$2B+ in revenue. Now, she advises top brands and startups through her consulting firm, serves on multiple boards, and champions women in leadership, and just released her first book on life, leadership, and reinvention.

Mark your calendars to join us Friday, February 27th for a morning of connections and inspiration.

Tickets go live January 2026!

March 4, 2026

Coffee & Conversations

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

8236 SE 24th St

Mercer Island, WA 98040

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM PST

Mercer Island Connect: Joint After Hours with Bellevue Chamber,

events@merceraislandchamber.com

We are kicking off our 2026 Coffee & Conversations series with our newly elected mayor and deputy mayor.

Coffee & Conversations

Wednesday, March 4th

11:00am - 12:00pm

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

The Coffee & Conversations series allows business leaders in the community to engage in an intimate setting with city and regional leaders for discussions that are affecting businesses directly. Such conversations bridge the gap, allowing views, voices, and conversations to take place in the ever-changing economic map of our community.

March 6, 2026

Mercer Island Connect: 5 Chamber Speed Networking Breakfast

Hilton Garden Inn

1800 NW Gilman Blvd

Mercer Island, WA 98029

07:30 AM - 09:00 AM PST

5 Chamber Speed Networking Breakfast

Friday, March 6th

7:30am-9:00am

Hilton Garden Inn

1800 NW Gilman Blvd

Issaquah, WA

Join chamber members and guests from Issaquah, Newcastle, SnoValley, Sammamish, and Mercer Island for breakfast and fast connections.

\$45 member price (for current chamber members)

\$60 guest price

Registration closes Friday, March 20th

Mercer Island Connect is the chambers networking event series. Finding time in your schedule while trying to work can be hard, so we have options each quarter for you to connect with others when it is best for you. From early mornings, afternoons, evenings, and even industry specific opportunities, there is sure to be something for you!

April 23, 2026

Mercer Island Sustainable Fashion Show

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

11:00 AM - 01:00 PM PST

events@merceraislandchamber.com

Sustainable Style Hits the Runway!

Join us for the Chamber's First Sustainable Fashion Show—where style meets purpose. Featuring Mercer Island's own thrift store and local consignment boutiques, eco-friendly accessories, and fashion-forward products that support sustainability.

Special twist: Our runway models are local business owners showcasing their favorite looks!

Save the Date: Thursday, April 23rd

Celebrate creativity, community, and conscious fashion. Let's make sustainability chic!

Thursday, April 23rd

11:00am - 1:00pm

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

May 6, 2026

Coffee & Conversations

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

8236 SE 24th St

Mercer Island, WA 98040

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM PST

Mercer Island Connect: Joint After Hours with Bellevue Chamber,
events@merceraislandchamber.com

Speaker TBA

Coffee & Conversations

Wednesday, May 6th

11:00am -12:00pm

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

The Coffee & Conversations series allows business leaders in the community to engage in an intimate setting with city and regional leaders for discussions that are affecting businesses directly. Such conversations bridge the gap, allowing views, voices, and conversations to take place in the ever-changing economic map of our community.

September 16, 2026

Coffee & Conversations

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

8236 SE 24th St

Mercer Island, WA 98040

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM PST

Mercer Island Connect: Joint After Hours with Bellevue Chamber,
events@merceraislandchamber.com

TBA

Coffee & Conversations

Wednesday, September 16th

11:00am -12:00pm

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

The Coffee & Conversations series allows business leaders in the community to engage in an intimate setting with city and regional leaders for discussions that are affecting businesses directly. Such conversations bridge the gap, allowing views, voices, and conversations to take place in the ever-changing economic map of our community.