

PNCWA2023 Opening General Session
Monday, September 11, 2023
8:30 – 10:00 AM

- Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland (WA-10) will welcome attendees to the beautiful City of Tacoma. As the former mayor of Tacoma and current Congressional Representative for Washington's 10th Congressional District, Representative Strickland has championed several causes including water infrastructure and the health of the Puget Sound.
- "Wine is community, water is life: How Water from Wine is addressing the global water crisis" will tell the story of the founding and development of Water from Wine, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that funds initiatives to provide clean water around the world. Told in three parts, the presentation will start with Pat Tucker, Found of Water from Wine, sharing the origin story of Water from Wine. Water from Wine Executive Director Jamie Ssenkubuge will discuss some of the organization's nonprofit partnerships and funded clean water projects. Executive Wine Officer AnnaLee Zenkner will describe their award-winning wine that is helping drive donations for clean water causes.

Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland

Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland represents Washington's 10th Congressional District, which covers parts of Pierce and Thurston Counties. Born in Seoul, she is the first African-American to represent Washington State at the federal level, and one of the first Korean-American women elected to Congress in its history.

She earned her B.A. from the University of Washington and holds an MBA from Clark Atlanta University.

Prior to her election to Congress, Strickland was the President and CEO of the Seattle Metro Chamber of Commerce. She served two terms as mayor of Tacoma from 2010-2017, where she championed education, infrastructure, and job growth. A firm believer that there is dignity in all work, Strickland led successful efforts to raise the minimum wage and pass paid sick leave, paving the way for statewide action. By making education a civic priority, she led efforts to raise Tacoma's high school graduation rate from 55% to 89%.

In the 118th Congress, Strickland sits on the House Armed Services Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. She serves as whip for the Congressional Black Caucus and is a member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, the Bipartisan Historically Black Colleges and Universities Caucus, and the New Democrat Coalition. She is co-chair of the Puget Sound Recovery Caucus and a member of the Pro-choice Caucus.

Congresswoman Strickland resides in the district with her husband Patrick Erwin.

Pat Tucker Bio

Pat was born into a farming family in Walla Walla in 1949. After graduating with a degree in Agriculture Economics from Washington State University (Go Cougs!) he was instrumental in developing a pivot irrigated row crop farm on the Columbia River, near the little town of Paterson, South of Prosser. This property was incorporated as Sandpiper Farms with Pat as president, a role he has continued since its inception. The 2023 crop will be the 49th harvest at this farm, which is now leased to others who grow potatoes, onions, peas, field corn, sweet corn, mint, bluegrass seed, and cucumbers.

In 1996 Pat had a life changing experience as he was abducted from his home and held for ransom by some farmworkers. This event would change the course of his life in several ways. He has become a follower of Jesus and is determined to make the world a better place.

In 2004 Pat planted a 6-acre plot of Cabernet Sauvignon as a test plot. After determining he had no interest in expanding this acreage, he began to consider how he could use the proceeds of the grapes to do some good in the world. As a result of his abduction and the planting of the vineyard, in 2014 Pat founded Water from Wine, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that benefits groups who help solve the world water crisis. Pat spends his time now working with Water from Wine, as well as assisting family members manage Sandpiper and other properties. Pat and his wife Teri, a retired special education teacher, have 4 children, 3 of whom work with him in some capacity, and 7 grandchildren (soon to be 8). They enjoy time away at either a lake in Northern Idaho or at the ocean on the Oregon Coast.

Jamie Ssenkubuge Bio

After completing a degree in Global Development Studies from Seattle Pacific University, Jamie moved to East Africa for 5 years, to work in various nonprofits, across Uganda and Tanzania.

In Arusha, Tanzania, Jamie filled the role of Sponsor Correspondence Coordinator, at The School of St Jude, before moving to Jinja, Uganda to work as the Supply Chain Manager, with the Akola Project.

During her time there, The Akola Project worked with low-income women, in both Uganda and the US, in jewelry production, and wellness programs. The jewelry was sold in Akola's flagship store in Dallas, Texas, online, and in over 350 boutiques around the US.

At the end of 2016, Jamie moved back to her home state of Washington, where she joined Water from Wine as the Executive Director. Water from Wine had been founded two years prior, but the first vintage was just being released for sale, in December of 2016.

Water from Wine has now produced eight vintages of Cabernet Sauvignon, and four vintages of Rosé from their own vineyard, and has donated over \$1.1 million to clean water projects around the world.

AnnaLee Zenkner Bio

With a BA from University of Washington in Interdisciplinary Studies focused on International Relations, Minors in Human Rights and Environmental Science – enhanced with a Master of Science in Administration, AnnaLee Zenkner began her career in the non-profit health field after building a thesis on the need for more diverse cell type representation within the US National Marrow Donor Registry (now Be The Match). This led her to a unique position recruiting new registered donors in Southeast Texas and West Louisiana, with a focus on underrepresented communities. In just over 2 years she was able to register over 10,000 new potential donors. During this time she also focused on master level certificates in Volunteer Management, Planned Giving, Event Fundraising and Major Gifts.

Upon returning to Washington she worked her way into upper management in Community Relations & Business Development, with a digital focus on reading and education. She left that position to pursue wine education and enrolled as a post baccalaureate through Central Washington University's Global Wine Studies Program. Here she created a nonprofit winery business plan. With her studies nearly complete, a professor recommended her to Water from Wine. As our Executive Wine officer, she has been managing our tasting room, social media, promotions, wine club, events, and certain vintner tasks since June of 2018.