LeRoy Tipton to retire from Grays Harbor Chamber of Commerce

Local News

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Aberdeen, Wash. – LeRoy Tipton has announced he will retire in December after heading the Grays Harbor Chamber of Commerce for over two decades. In his 23 years at the Chamber, Tipton instituted Leadership Grays Harbor program, the trade show (which has turned into EXPO Grays Harbor and the Bite of Grays Harbor), and the annual Legislative Send-Off along with other programs. He is also well-known for leading motivational and leadership classes and for building a strong relationship with the Coastal Caucus. “My term as President has been abundantly rewarding,” Tipton said. “My greatest joy has been serving with the stellar leaders of our community as they have served the Chamber as officers, board and committee members and members at large. My greatest satisfaction has been to participate in innovative partnerships with those who share our purpose.”

“LeRoy has always been the ‘Voice of Grays Harbor,’” said Chamber Board Chairman Leonard Barnes. “For years, he has been an outspoken promoter of all the things Grays Harbor has to offer, and has maintained a positive outlook, even when the Harbor was undergoing wrenching changes. LeRoy has been a steadying presence in Grays Harbor County, and we will miss him.” “I think LeRoy has given his heart and soul to our community for a very long time. I think his work was and is his joy and his inspiration, and I hope he finds much more of both in his retirement,” Tami Garrow, vice-chair, added. Tipton’s retirement date is set for December 31 to give the board plenty of time to do succession planning. “It is always hard to see a strong leader step down, but we know the Chamber is in a strong position to take on the challenges of the 21st Century, and we see a lot of opportunity for the Chamber to take its next steps in making the Harbor a better place to live, visit and transact business,” Barnes said. The Grays Harbor Chamber of Commerce has over 400 members.