

The VOICE OF BUSINESS

GRAND RAPIDS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

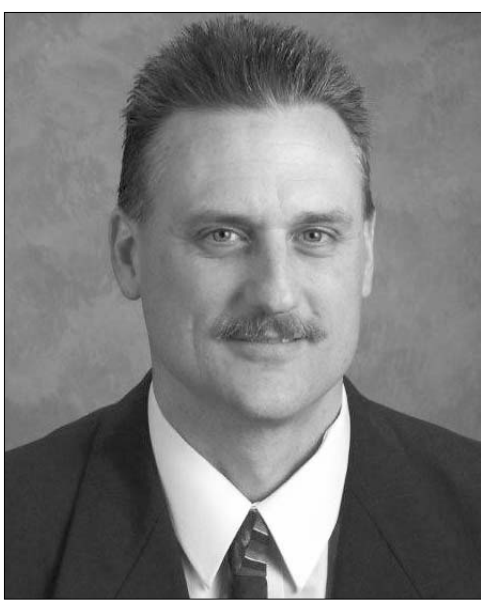
February 2012 Chamber Events

February 6th, 2012
Luncheon Speaker:

Jeff Temple

Family Nurse Practitioner & Orthopaedic Physicians Assistant from Northern Pines Orthopaedic Clinic

In today's society, employers and employees are faced with the demands of not only a daily routine, but also the potential for developing a work related or disabling injury if the overall work environment is not ergonomically safe. Ergonomics is a term that describes "the science of fitting work place conditions and job demands to the capabilities of the working population. Implementing effective and successful "fits" to ensure high productivity, avoidance of illness and injury risks, and increased satisfaction amongst the workforce is the overall goal for all employers "(Occupational Safety and Health Administration).



Jeff Temple
cuss potential types of repetitive injuries, and recommended prevention measures in the workplace, including workstation modification, stretching, and overall assessments by a skilled organization.

To help understand such a broad topic of ergonomic safety, the Grand Rapids Chamber has invited Jeff Temple, a Family Nurse Practitioner and Orthopaedic Physicians Assistant from Northern Pines Orthopaedic Clinic, to present and offer suggestions in establishing a safe work environment for all employers and their employees. He has completed an extensive review of the literature to present a concise and detailed review of ergonomics in the workplace. Additionally, he will dis-

Please join us at 11:30 a.m. at the Sawmill Inn. 11:30 a.m. Networking, 12:00 Noon Luncheon starts. The cost is \$11.00 at the door and RESERVATIONS are required. Please call Renee at 218-326-6619 or renee@grandmn.com no later than February 3rd, 2012 - 12:00 noon

February 6th, 2012
Luncheon Sponsor:

Radtke Physical Therapy



Radtke Physical Therapy is an outpatient physical therapy and rehabilitation practice that specializes in orthopedic and sports injuries. We opened in Grand Rapids in 1998, and have been operated by owner/director Jon Arntson, DPT, since 2006. We are dedicated to providing the highest quality of care in a friendly and encouraging environment. Our treatment is based on state-of-the-art medical technology along with hands-on care. Our proven manual treatment techniques combined with modern equipment and exercise interventions yield optimal results.

We have three convenient locations, with two in Grand Rapids and one in Nashwauk.

Please contact any of our offices with questions or to schedule an appointment.

Locations

Radtke Physical Therapy
1542 Golf Course Rd., Suite 104
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
T: 218-326-3300
F: 218-326-3400

Radtke Physical Therapy - Nashwauk
832 1st St., Suite 140
Nashwauk, MN 55769
T: 218-885-1282
F: 218-885-1471

Radtke Physical Therapy - Northern Pines
111 Golf Course Road
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
T: 218-327-7257
F: 218-327-1585

Our goal is to create an environment to help optimize your body's ability to heal. Having prompt, appropriate treatment can contribute to a faster recovery, which means returning sooner to work, daily activities, hobbies and sports.

We Offer:

- Evaluation Within 24-48 hrs
- Flexible Scheduling
- Personalized Care with Treatment Tailored For Each Patient
- Licensed Therapists
- Specialized Treatment Programs
- Friendly and Open Environment
- Convenient Location with Easy Access and Parking

February 22nd, 2012 Chamber Connection:

Edward Jones Investments - Kristina Gaalaas

**2 NW Third Street
Grand Rapids MN
8 a.m. – 9 a.m.**

Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Kristina Gaalaas, a financial advisor with Edward Jones will host the Chamber's next Breakfast Connection from 8-9am, Wednesday, February 22nd at her office at 2 NW 3rd St, Grand Rapids. She will be discussing Defining Your Legacy.


Gaalaas has been a financial advisor with Edward Jones for eight years and enjoys meeting her clients face-to-face to discuss financial goals and implement plans to achieve them. She is a Grand Rapids native who is grateful for the opportunity to return to her hometown with her firm and enjoys spending time with her family and her newborn daughter.

What do you want your legacy to be? How do you want you, your business, or your family to be remembered? Together, we'll explore your greatest wishes for the people, causes, and communities you care about. Discover why it's important to define your legacy and uncover common misconceptions. An estate planning attorney will also be present to answer questions.

Gaalaas and her assistant Cindy Walberg look forward to seeing you. Healthy food and beverage choices will be available.

**Bring your business cards and be ready to network

**Drawing available for attendees



**You are invited to the
109th Grand Rapids Area
Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner**

Saturday, April 21, 2012
Sawmill Inn
Grand Rapids, MN

5:00 p.m. - Social Hour

6:00 p.m. - Dinner
(Prime Rib & Broiled Shrimp)

6:45 p.m. - Volunteer Recognition / Pillar Awards
followed by Comedian:
Scott Novotny

Reservations required.

Sponsor table of 8/Reserved seating - \$600.00
Individual/Open seating - \$50.00

Reservation deadline April 13, 2012.
No refunds after April 13, 2012.

To make your reservation
contact Renee at (218) 326-6619 or renee@grandmn.com.

MEMBER 2012

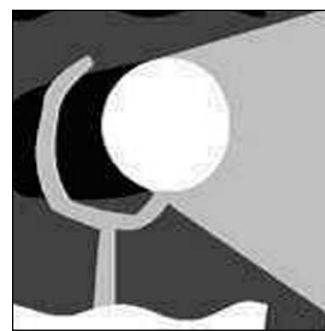


New members

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Larsen, Jason - Individual | Blues Acting Academy |
| Medure, Pat - Individual | Contact: Rashad Karim |
| | Grand Rapids MN 55744 |
| | 218-398-3738 |



February 2012 Business Spotlight Recipient:



Twelve times per year, a Chamber Member Business in good standing, will be randomly drawn from the Chamber Member Data Base at the Monthly Luncheon and spotlighted for the upcoming month.

This randomly drawn business will have the opportunity to showcase themselves through the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce network and newsletter with added exposure and marketing.

This program is intended to provide a special way to thank all of the businesses and individuals who support the Chamber Organization's mission of advocacy for business.



District 318, as well as all of our area school districts, are involved in the important business of educating our children. Future generations depend on quality schools for the success of today's students.

District #318's focus is to place our greatest efforts on providing exceptional service for our students and their families. What a great opportunity and what an incredible challenge!

To reach our strategic goals, the district has built four primary aims which include:

- STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
- EFFECTIVE & EFFICIENT SYSTEMS
- PARTNERSHIPS
- SAFE ENVIRONMENT

In order for us to be successful in developing and implementing the best possible educational experience for all students, we need the entire community's support, suggestions, encouragement, and feedback. We appreciate each person's willingness to work with us.

District 318's mission statement is "Together, teaching and learning for life . . . to achieve excellence." Lets continue to work together to uphold this mission.

Joe Silko, Superintendent



Future Workers Event

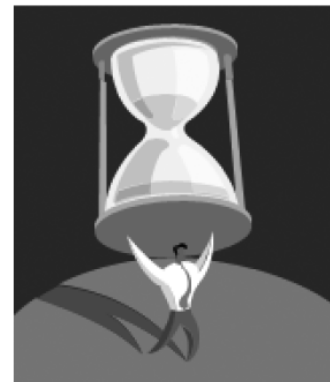
April 18th and May 2nd

This is an opportunity for you to have an influence on your "future workforce" while teaching students' about your expectations for employees, your hiring practices, and the skills and abilities you require in your employees.

If you wish to have students visit your business or if you would like to escort student groups to businesses, contact Paula Frings at paula@mavenperspectives.com or 218.259.1215. *(First-come basis)*

Approximately 30 businesses and 60 volunteers are needed for each day.

*Hosted by the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Committee
Funded in-part by The Blandin Foundation*



Partnership Succeeds in Leaving Forest Legacy



Peggy Ladner
The Nature Conservancy

In July of 2005 when the Minnesota Forest Legacy Partnership was formed, thousands of acres of pri-

vately-owned land that for a century were managed by timber and mining companies and open to the public had been sold to investment companies that often parceled it off for resale. Nearly 1 million acres of large, undeveloped tracts of Minnesota forest were at risk. If not protected, the land could be taken out of timber production. Subdivision and development would mean that the land would be off limits to the public for hunting and outdoor recreation. Water quality and wildlife habitat would also be diminished.

To address this threat, the Blandin Foundation and The Nature Conservancy created the Minnesota Forest Legacy Partner-

ship, an unlikely alliance of nonprofits, forest industry, and government leaders that together committed to keep our forests intact, thereby protecting timber jobs, tourism dollars and public recreation opportunities in addition to the ecological benefits that come from conserving forestland. With an initial investment of \$6 million from the Blandin Foundation, the group was challenged to leverage another \$20 million of public and private funds to protect up to 75,000 acres of timberland from development.

Using working forest conservation easements, the Partnership focused its attention on the highest quality forests in north

central Minnesota and the large industrial forest owners. Priorities were set using a model developed by Conservancy scientists and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and conservation organizations reached out to landowners to determine their interest. Willing landowners, including the Rajala family and Forest Capital Partners, agreed to sell their right to develop the land while retaining the right to remove timber and agreeing to allow the public continued recreational access.

Many private donors, including the Bush Foundation, the McKnight Foundation and the NYC-based Surdna Foundation, agreed

to invest in the Partnership's strategy. But the passage of the 2008 Legacy Amendment was critical to funding the most anticipated easement - the 187,000 acres owned by UPM/Blandin Paper Company. The Partnership focused its collective efforts on educating the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and the Legislature on the value to the state of Minnesota in keeping UPM's land intact as a working forest into perpetuity. Their \$36 million grant along with additional funding secured by The Conservation Fund from the Blandin Foundation and others sealed the largest conservation project in Minnesota's history.

Future generations will thank the Forest Legacy Partnership and the taxpayers of Minnesota for their far-sighted investments. To date, the Partnership has purchased easements on 330,000 acres at a cost of \$77 million in public and private money - far less than it would cost to purchase that land, provide public services to new home owners or clean the air and water that would be adversely affected by developing, rather than conserving, Minnesota's Northwoods.



Bud Stone - President
The Grand Rapids Area
Chamber of
Commerce

2012 Grand Rapids Area Chamber Catch, Record Release Walleye Tournament

Just to let you know, the Chamber's 2012 Catch, Record and Release Walleye Tournament, sponsored by Paul Bunyan Communications, is only 5 months away!

It will take place on Pokegama Lake on June 16, 2012. This will be the best tournament yet and there are a few changes in the format this year starting with the Rules Meeting and Award Ceremony taking place under a tent in the L&M Parking lot on South Highway 169. The Tournament Committee is planning a fun community/family outing in conjunction with the Friday, June 15th,

2012 Rules Meeting with lots of stuff such as seminars, Let's Go Fishing, food, venter displays, and kids activities. There will be room to display 15 Competitors Boats during the Rules Meeting Event. The first 15 boats registered will have the option to be one of the boats on display. In addition, 1st Place, 2nd Place and 3rd Place will be guaranteed at \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000 respectively regardless of how many boats are registered for the event and the entry fee has been reduced to \$250 per boat. Places 4 through 10 will be paid based on the number of boats registered. The web-site is in the process of being up-dated to reflect the changes for 2012, so check it periodically starting in February and get your registration in early to qualify for the boat display option. Give me a call if you have any questions at 218-326-6619.



The Right Place to do Business!

Chamber addresses 2012 Legislative priorities with regional legislators



The Government Affairs Committee of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber hosted an "Eggs & Issues" event for regional legislators and chamber members on Friday, January 13, 2012 at the TimberLake lodge. Forty-six members of the chamber joined Senator Tom Saxhaug, Representative Tom Anzelc and Representative Carolyn McElfatrick for a light breakfast and some weighty discussion about the upcoming legislative session. The legislators were given the opportunity to talk about what they feel are their top priorities for 2012 and later during the event, chamber members participated in a Question & Answer session where they had the opportunity to voice their concerns. Questions from the floor included:

How are legislators going to provide funding for transportation projects in rural areas? This is always a challenge as the tax capacity in rural communities is never enough to maintain transportation infrastructure. Sometimes a bonding bill is the only way revenue can be procured to make needed repairs.

How are legislators going to reduce individual and corporate taxes? Recent cuts to local governments have created shortfalls that reduce a cities or a counties ability to provide needed services.

Legislators were also asked what they plan to do during this session that will increase co-operation between those that represent the people of Minnesota? If you recall, there was a lengthy State Government shutdown that occurred last year when legislators and the Governor could not work out a collaborative solution regarding the State budget.

Another question that was asked was, how do we continue to have a strong rural voice that will be heard in St. Paul? With declining populations in northern Minnesota and redistricting on the horizon, we will most likely lose some representation in our region.

Other topics touched on were a Viking Stadium, expanded charitable gambling options, full transparency in government spending, taconite production taxes, aquatic invasive species, school trust land exchanges, funding for education and workforce training and legislative redistricting.

The Chamber's Government Affairs Committee will hold another "Eggs & Issues" event at the close of the 2012 Legislative Session to review the outcomes and how the results compare with the discussions that took place at this event.

Bud Stone
President of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce



"WE HAVE FACEBOOK"

Go to the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce facebook page for the latest updates:

www.facebook.com/grchambermn

Ribbon Cutting



The Pokegama Plaza merchants recently completed a facelift and held a Grand Re-Opening. The Pokegama Plaza has been serving Grand Rapids for the past 22 years and is home to 14 area businesses. The Plaza is located on Pokegama Avenue South just west of McDonalds and south of K-Mart. Pictured are Bette Hanson (SEARS), Carol Gerken (Home Medical), Phyllis Brown (H&R Block), Nancy Kurtz (American Family Insurance), Cindy Feyder (Edward Jones), Lorraine Curtiss (One Main Financial), Paula Nobs (Presto Print), Chamber members not pictured are Salmela Jewelers and Mr. Movies. Chamber member Ambassadors: Lori Whitted/AmericInn, Dianna Mattfield/Lakes Area Credit Union, Diane Skelly/Travel Master, Diane Clough/Rapid Weight Loss, Peggy Schagh/US Bank & Jane O'Leary/Remax Thousand Lakes

January 2011 Customer Service Award

Larry Kirkeby
from **L & M Supply**

Congratulations for your excellent customer service!



Pictured: Larry Kirkeby/ L & M Supply and Peggy Schagh/Us Bank & Chair of the Board 2012.

February 2012

~ February 2012 ~

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 8:00 a.m. Walleye Classic Committee Meeting - Chamber Conference Room	2 8:30 a.m. Program Committee Meeting 12:00 p.m. Website Committee meeting	3 7:30 a.m. Government Affairs Committee Meeting - Chamber Conference Room
6 11:30 a.m. Networking - 12:00 p.m. program starts/Sawmill Inn Speaker: Jeff Temple/Northern Pines Orthopaedic Clinic Sponsor: Radtke Physical Therapy (see front page)	7 12:00 p.m. Membership Committee meeting Chamber Conference Room	8 8:00 a.m. Ambassador Committee meeting Chamber Conference Room	9 **Both held in Chamber Conference Room	10
13	14 Happy Valentines Day Chamber Does what? 12:00 noon @Chamber conference Room	15 7:30 a.m. Past Leaders - Forest Lake Restaurant 12:00 noon Workforce Committee Meeting Chamber Conference Room	16	17 7:30 a.m. Government Affairs Committee Meeting - Chamber Conference Room
20	21	22 Chamber Connection 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Edward Jones - Kristina Gaalas @ Edward Jones (see front page)	23 8:00 a.m. - Area Business Committee Meeting Chamber Conference Room	24 9:00 a.m. Forestry Affairs Committee Meeting - Chamber Conference Room
27 Chamber Board of Directors Meeting 11:30 a.m. - Forest Lake Restaurant	28	29	If you have any questions about a Chamber meeting/event on this calendar call 218-326-6619	

"Happy Valentine's Day!"



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