

The VOICE OF BUSINESS



GRAND RAPIDS AREA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

June 2011 Chamber Events

RESERVATIONS ARE NOW REQUIRED!

June 6th, 2011

Luncheon Speaker:

**Mayor Dale Adams
and**

**Grand Rapids City Administrator
Shawn Gillen**

**“Streamlining Government,
Collaboration and Innovation, and
the Local Option Sales Tax”**

Mayor Dale Adams: Mayor Adams was elected to his second term as Grand Rapids' Mayor in November 2010. Since he has taken office the City of Grand Rapids has been faced with the loss of over a million dollars in annual revenue due to state cut backs and he has guided the City through its efforts to meet the revenue loss. The City budget has been reduced by \$1,000,000 a year and Mayor Adams and the City Council continue to find new ways to deliver service and reduce taxes. To that end they have charged the City Administrator and City staff to find any and all ways to reduce the cost of government.



Dale Adams

fiscal challenges due to the reduction in state aid funding. He has played large part in the innovated approach that Grand Rapids has taken to meet these challenges. Along with 14 years of experience in municipal government management, Shawn holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration and a PhD in Public Finance. His academic research focuses



Shawn Gillen

on intergovernmental fiscal relationships, intergovernmental collaboration and government merger. Most recently he was a contributing author to a book on local government merger titled, "City-County Consolidation Promises Made, Promises Kept?"

Shawn Gillen became Grand Rapids' City Administrator four years ago. Since his arrival the City of Grand Rapids has faced numerous

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 June 3rd 2011 - 12:00 noon

June 6th, 2011

Luncheon Sponsor:

Home Instead Senior Care



We, at Home Instead Senior Care, have dedicated ourselves to becoming the highest quality, non-medical, in-home care provider in the Grand Rapids area. We have just opened our office at the Pokegama Office Suites. We offer home helper and Home

Health aide assistance, and hire caregivers who are screened and insured.

Home. There is no place like it. To those in need, it's about finding a trusted partner. To us, it's personal. Come grow with us.

New members

Lori Dowling - Individual

MOVIES - GAME RENTAL
Stage Left
Contact: Tina Mc Cauley
1001 S. Pokegama Ave. Suite A
Grand Rapids MN 55744
218-212-4712



June 22nd, 2011
The Chamber Connection sponsor:

Diamond Willow

949 SW 11th Ave.

Grand Rapids, MN 55744

8-9 a.m.

Experience the Diamond Willow Difference

949 SW 11 Avenue
Grand Rapids, Mn 55744



Diamond Willow Assisted Living features ten private Suites with private bath and shower. Each suite is spacious yet comfortable and decorated with personal, lifelong possessions and furniture.

Diamond Willow specializes in caring for seniors with changing medical, physical and memory care needs. Prior to Diamond Willow, few choices existed for advanced care assisted living. We offer one of the highest staff-to-resident ratios.

Diamond Willow was designed to care for those who once cared for us. The Diamond Willow difference is the simple pleasures we take for granted all our lives. A cup of coffee by the fireplace, the smell of freshly baked bread or having a hand massage with soothing lotions. All of this is offered in a setting that smells and feels like home.

Diamond Willow is different from other senior settings. We recognize that moving multiple times during your senior years is not ideal or desirable. Therefore, our program is designed with the goal of providing multiple care levels in your own personal suite through end of life. As a result, you don't have to move to a new facility when you need a higher level of care. We provide you with security and peace of mind.

Diamond willow believes the most important people in our lives are our elders. They have made us who we are today. We recognize that in many families, promises may have been made between loved ones, assuring them they can stay "home" in their aging years. Sometimes, care needs are so extensive that this promise may not be feasible. Therefore, we designed Diamond Willow to capture the ambiance of "home" with the qualities we all desire; privacy, freedom, and dignity. Two gift certificates will be given away at the Chamber Connection from a fellow Chamber member business. See you there!

**SIGN UP TODAY for a great chance to network with Chamber members -
October 6th 2011 "First Annual Taking Care of Business -
A Showcase for Chamber members"**

**FIRST ANNUAL
TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS
"A SHOWCASE FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS"**

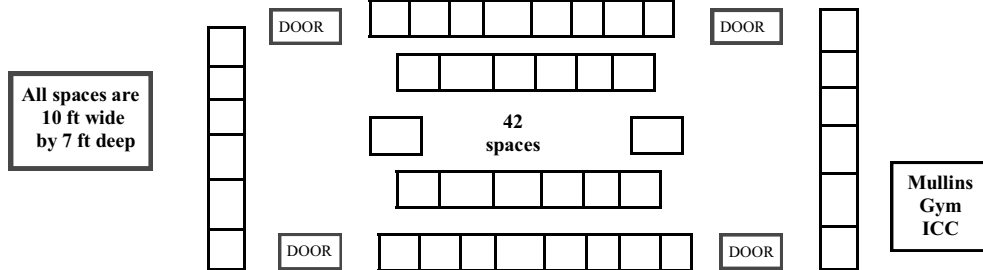
WHAT?
42 - 10 FT. BY 7 FT DISPLAY SPACES FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS TO NET-WORK AND PROMOTE THEIR BUSINESS
WHERE?
ITASCA COMMUNITY COLLEGE—Mullins Gym
1851 EAST HIGHWAY 169, GRAND RAPIDS, MN
WHEN?
OCTOBER 6, 2011
FROM 3:30 P.M TO 6:30 P.M.
HOW?
CONTACT KERRY LARSEN AT THE CHAMBER AT 218-326-6619 OR BY E-MAIL AT KERRY@GRANDMN.COM



NETWORKING

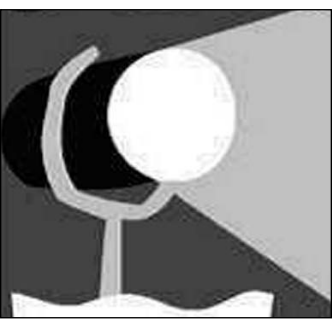
Creating a group of acquaintances and associates and keeping it active through regular communication for mutual benefit. Networking is based on the question "How can I help?" and not with "What can I get?"

DETAILS?
*The Area for your display is only \$100 and is limited to the first 42 Chamber Members who reserve a space.
*No electricity available
* Tables or chairs are NOT provided. You are responsible for your own.
*Set up starts after 2:00 p.m. the day of the event and must be complete by 3:15 p.m.
*Take down starts at 6:30 p.m. and must be complete by 7:30 p.m..
*The event will be promoted by the Chamber and it is open to the public. There is no admission fee.
*Participating Chamber Members will be spotlighted in Chamber communications prior to the event.
*Only Grand Rapids Area Chamber Members in good standing are eligible to participate.



Hurry, only 20 booths left!

www.grandmn.com



June 2011 Business Spotlight Recipient: Al's Restoration



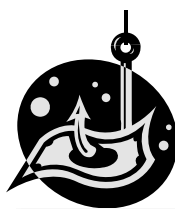
Owners: Al & Denise Lauer

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.

Al's Restoration has been in business since 1995. It is owned and operated by Al and Denise Lauer. We moved to the Grand Rapids area 9 years ago. With over 30 years of experience in the masonry business doing both residential and commercial projects, we specialize in brick and stone projects both new construction and repairs. Whether you are using real stone or manufactured stone we can take care of your needs. We also specialize in chimney repairs. If you have bricks falling out of your chimney or cracks in the brick let us take care of it before you start to have water leaking into your home or even worse fire damage. We also do tuckpointing, caulking, specialized patching and coatings. We give free estimates and can be reached by telephone at 218-256-0279 or by e-mail at alsrestoration1@aol.com. We are a proud member of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce and Northern Minnesota Builders Association. We are insured and can supply references and pictures of past projects upon request.



Grand Rapids Area Chamber Member Sponsored Teams



Brock Anderson & Randy Topper Sponsored by:
Grand Rapids GM



Bruce Berglund & Andy Fisher Sponsored by:
Paul Bunyan Communications



Colt Anderson & Ben Olson Sponsored by:
Maki Body & Glass



Jason Joliceur & Dan Boedigheimer Sponsored by:
TaskMasters Handyman & Cabin Care



Mark Utecht & Sam Utecht Sponsored by:
Glen's Army Navy



Mike Peluso & Brian Fettig Sponsored by:
Wired2Fish.com



Tim Graupmann & Jim Seybold Sponsored by:
Grand Rapids Chiropractic



Tony Jerulle & Dale Anderson Sponsored by:
Sammy's Pizza



Dave Hernesman & Sean Colter Sponsored by:
Glen's Army Navy



"Catch, Record, Release" Walleye Tournament

June 18, 2011

Pokegama Lake, Grand Rapids, MN

\$400.00 per two-person team
(Limited to 50 teams)

1st place \$5000

www.grandrapidschamberwalleyeclassic.com

Headline Sponsor:



Biggest Walleye: \$1000.00
Biggest Walleye sponsored by:



Platinum Sponsors:



Gold Sponsors:



Silver Sponsor:



"WE HAVE FACEBOOK"

Go to the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce face book page for the latest updates www.facebook.com/grchambermn



Pillars Society

The Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce honored nine members of our Chamber for their exemplary support of the Chamber's Mission, by inducting them into the Chamber's Pillar Society for 2010. Every membership driven association has a mission that speaks to the priorities of the organization. The Chamber's mission statement is short and simple. It is to "Advocate For A Business Environment, In Which Our Members Can Prosper". That advocacy is carried out in many different ways and at many different levels. Within every organization, there are always a handful of members who are willing to invest beyond the norm to help the organization reach its goals. These members play a major supporting role for the rest of the members, much the same as a strong foundation supports a building. They are the Pillars of our Chamber of Commerce. Pictured: A representative from each business included American Bank, Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital, Grand Rapids Herald Review, KOZY/KMFY, Mediacom, Paul Bunyan Communications, Blandin Paper Company, Walmart & Wells Fargo Bank.



100th Anniversary of the Department of Natural Resources



Craig Schmid
Region Forest Manager
Grand Rapids

A yearlong recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Division of Forestry begins this year. The Division has dedicated a century to protecting, managing and educating about one of Minnesota's most treasured resources, its forests.

On October 7, 1910, a wind driven fire destroyed the towns of Baudette and Spooner in northwest Minnesota. At least 42 people died and 300,000 acres were burned. As a result of the fire, the Minnesota Forest Service was created by the

state Legislature in 1911. The new agency was charged with "fireproofing" northern Minnesota.

Over the next 100 years the agency evolved becoming the Department of Conservation in 1931 and finally the DNR Division of Forestry in 1971. A colorful staff of foresters and forestry technicians have become a fixture in many northern Minnesota towns. Locally the Deer River Forestry Area manages fires and state lands in Itasca and southern Koochiching counties. They have offices in Deer River, Grand Rapids, Effie and Northome.

The timber that wasn't harvested around the turn of the century likely burned in the fires that followed. In 1910 alone, 1018 fires burned 1,191,450 acres. With forester's help the forest grew back. Today the Division of Forestry manages over 4 million acres of timberlands statewide, producing 800,000 cords of timber annually. State lands are certified sustainable by two independent organizations. And Minnesota's forest products industry is the 4th largest manufacturing sector in Minnesota, employing 40,000 people.

While all that timber is growing, various recreational activities are welcome on State Forest lands. From bird watching, to hunting, to berry picking, our State Forests are buzzing with activity. The Division of Forestry helps manage these activities.

To help celebrate the 100th anniversary, the DNR in conjunction with partners in forest industry and local wildlife organizations are planning a ruffed grouse hunt at the Golden Anniversary State Forest near Grand Rapids. The Golden Anniversary State Forest was

created to commemorate the Department of Conservation's 50th anniversary in 1961. It has a hunter walking trail as well as a cross country ski trail. This year is also the 50th anniversary of the Ruffed Grouse Society which holds its national hunt annually in the Grand Rapids area.

A date and time haven't been selected yet, but sometime in mid October is the goal. Keep an eye out for a formal announcement, and come help us celebrate 100 years of success.

Chamber Annual Dinner

Each year the Chamber Staff helps select an individual, who has over the years, shown more than average support for our organization. This year's recipient has not only represented their employer at chamber functions, but this individual has also served on the committees of the chamber and is now serving on the chamber board of directors. Part of understanding the value of the chamber comes from individual participation in the organization and dedication to the chamber mission. Another part of that education is the formidable action of being engaged in business and experiencing all of the ups and downs that make business and entrepreneurship a satisfying endeavor. This person understands the ins and outs of the business world and is always a promoter of our organization not only in their everyday business life but also during their personal time as well. This year's Friend of the Chamber Award goes to a great chamber member who is always willing to go that extra step to provide leadership for his fellow members, support the chamber organization and promote the chamber and its members to visitors and community members alike.

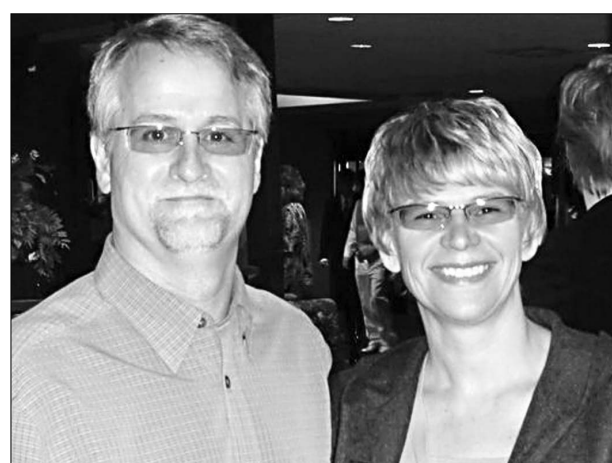


2010 Friend of the Chamber – Jason Janesich from Mediacom – Congratulations Jason!

Thank you Annual Dinner Sponsors

US Bank
WDIO
American Bank
Paul Bunyan
Communications
Grand Itasca Clinic &
Hospital
Blandin Foundation
MN Power
Blandin Paper

Wells Fargo
GRSB
Wal-Mart
Mediacom
Ogle's Marketplace Foods
Itasca Development
Corporation
Itasca Community College
The Local Boy



CEOs in the Classroom 2010 – 2011

Partnering to Prepare Our Future Workforce

"Connecting the pipeline from schools to businesses presents a significant challenge to businesses and the nation's education system alike. How do we ensure that the lessons learned in the classroom appropriately connect to the skills needed in the workforce? Grassroots efforts are emerging across the country, as local chambers of commerce and businesses are perfectly positioned to take on the challenge and let their schools know what skills they need to help the business community succeed." United States Chamber of Commerce

CEO's in the Classroom was started in 2006 as a pilot project to connect schools with businesses in order to accomplish two goals. One is to help students begin thinking about their future in the work world. The second is to discuss how the decisions they make now affect their work life later. Students learn how the lessons taught in the classroom translate into real jobs, encouraging them to work hard and get good grades, and consider post secondary training or education. This year, the CEOs in the Classroom program underwent an update which included enlarging the geographic region to reflect the entire Northland Prosperity Networks Region (7 NE MN counties plus 10 NW WI counties).

Locally, approximately 534 students in 22 classrooms from nine schools participated in the program including: Bigfork, Deer River, Grand Rapids, Greenway, Floodwood, Hill City, Nash-

wauk/Keewatin, Northland Remer, and Northern Lights Community.

- "I learned how important going to college is to get a good paying job, and how much money it takes to support yourself."

- "I learned not to become a felon."
- "I learned what steps to take to get to my dream."

- "Make smart choices. The decisions you make now can affect you later."

As a result of the presentation, I made a decision to:

- "Stay in school."
- "Talk to my parents about what classes I'd like to take in the future."
- "Do different things so that when I apply for a job, I will have many different abilities."
- "Work harder in all my classes and build better study habits."

These powerful words are comments written by 8th graders who participated in the CEOs in the Classroom Program, evidence of the value of business and education working together to prepare our future workforce. As one 8th grade teacher writes, "Partnering with business helps teachers to bring relevancy to our teaching. A diverse group of eighteen CEOs engaged in the program this past school year including:

Bryan Rude - American Bank
Cindy Feyder - Edward Jones
Dan Odegaard - Bigfork Valley Hospital
Dave Yankowiak - Lift Development
Jeff Borling APEX-IEDC

Jenny Edwards - Evergreen Terrace
Joe Broking - Itasca Economic Development

Joe Oberton - Krystal Kennels
Kristina Clark - Edward Jones
Rick Cole - Dale Carnegie
Rick Lemonds - Lake Country Power
Madelen Schuemann - Minnesota Power

Mark Saiger - Saiger's Steam Clean

Mike Youso - Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital

Mitzy Calgaro - Rapid Fuel
Sandy Layman - Layman Consulting
Scott Larson - Lake States Tree Service

Todd Christianson - Local Boy

As written by Bud Stone, President "It's encouraging to have a part in developing solid relationships between business and education. Too many times, those conversations do not take place and the partnerships needed to move forward never evolve. The CEOs in the Classroom program offers us a great opportunity for building a strategic Workforce Development Initiative." The CEOs in the Classroom program is sponsored by the Workforce Development Committee of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce and is funded in part by the Blandin Foundation.

If you are interested in participating in the 2011-2012 school year, please contact the Chamber.



Join us for the 2011
Chamber Golf Outing & Fun Day
Eagle Ridge Golf Course
Thursday, July 21, 2011

This years theme is "Giddy Up and Golf"

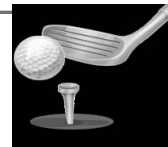
Golfers:

Wear your best western "gear" for a chance to win well, it's a surprise!!
(Participation is optional)

Hole Sponsors:

You will have a chance to compete for the Best display or activity.
(Golfers will vote for this award).

To sign up for the Golf Outing contact Renee at 326-6619 or by email: renee@grandmn.com.



If trees could talk, they would ask:

"WOULD YOU WANT GARBAGE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT YOUR HOME?"

Hike it in. Hike it out.
Let's respect our forests.

FEAP
FORESTRY EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROGRAM

For more information visit www.FEAPMN.com

Ribbon Cuttings



Aesthetics Hair Salon & Skin Care Center offers a full range of personal care and relaxation services to help you reach a higher state of beauty and wellness. Aesthetics offers a customized variety of hair, skin, and nail care with specialized services including massage, waxing, permanent makeup, facials, and other relaxation techniques. Stop by and see the newly expanded Salon located at 11 Willow Lane in Grand Rapids, Monday through Friday during the hours of 10 am to 6 pm. Evening and weekends are by appointment only. Watch for the upcoming Grand Opening coming soon. From Left: Abby Daigle, Kathy Borkovec, Cheryl Essington, Tessy Brooks, Ryan Childs, Patty Childs, Jennifer Stefan. Ambassadors: Dwight Moody/Range Water Conditioning, Diane Skelly/Travel Master, Amber Kaczor/Our Gang Staffing & Michelle Graber/Express Employment



DOOR SERVICE, SECURITY ACCESS CONTROL, AND PAL MEDICAL are located at 508 SE 10th St by the airport roundabout. We have been in business for 40 years, doing residential and commercial sales, service and installations.. Door Service is the first business in northern minnesota to become an accredited door dealer with certified skilled technicians, of which Dan, the lead technician, has won the national **DOORMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD** thru the door industry of THE INTERNATIONAL DOOR ASSOCIATION (IDA). Automated Access Entrance Systems, ADA, fire alarms, and security systems, go hand in hand with the door industry, also, with the changing times of a mobile society, bringing a sense of a safe and secure feeling of our properties being protected..therefore **SECURITY ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEMS** fits this niche in our business.PAL MEDICAL provides people with the peace of mind and confidence to help maintain independent living.thru the Lifeline medical alert service and automated medication dispensers. We now have the AutoAlert, which automatically calls for help if a fall is detected. With the three businesses in one location, we offer 24 hour emergency service 7 days a week..Try us, you'll like us. Pictured: Jason Mallum, (Door Service) Wendy Chupurdia, (with Pal Medical) Lorraine Giles -(Owner), Scott Braith (with Security Access Control Systems) and Lori Dvorak (All of the Above). Ambassadors - Dwight Moody/Range Water Conditioning, Peggy Schagh/US Bank, Amber Kaczor/Our Gang Staffing & Michelle Graber/Express Employment



For My Cell is your local one stop for all your cell phone and ipod accessories. We carry a huge selection of cases, covers, screen guards, chargers, charms, data cables, batteries, bluetooths, fm transmitters and anything else you need for your advice. We have accessories for almost every make and model of cell phone, ipod and ipad. Tons of styles available to personalize your phone and we carry name brands like Otterbos, Body Glove and Case Mate. Speciality items are also available like Coach and Harley Davidson. We even carry Wilson cell phone boosters for your car, home, or cabin. If you're sick of dropping calls from home while driving from town to town, stop in and ask how a Wilson Booster can help you. Stop by and see what we have. We are located at 13 Willow Lane, Grand Rapids, MN 55744. Phone: 218-327-8000/web site: www.formycell.net Pictured: Sam Heiken, Helena Weirzbicki, Mary Heiken and Ashley Mattson. Ambassadors: Michelle Graber - Express Employment & Laurie Nivala - Wheelchairs Plus.

May 2011 Customer Service Award Justin Simmens from Walmart

Congratulations for your excellent customer service!



Pictured: Justin Simmens - Walmart & Jacki David - Project Read/Workforce Development Committee

HELLO Chamber Members

Now is a great time to get that special someone their recognition! If you know of someone who has great Customer Service Skills, please nominate them for the Customer Service Gold Star Award.

HOWEVER PLEASE REMEMBER TO NOMINATE A PERSON, NOT A BUSINESS AS A WHOLE OR AN OWNER OF A BUSINESS!

ALSO REMEMBER, YOU CAN'T NOMINATE SOMEONE FROM YOUR OWN BUSI-

NESS OR A RELATIVE!

If chosen, this person will be recognized at the Chamber of Commerce Chamber Luncheon and photographed for the Chamber newsletter. Please email nominations with a letter on why you would like to nominate this person to kerry@grandmn.com and Kerry will pass the nominations to the proper committee for consideration.

Have a great day!

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(inquire within)

Inquire within the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce or call Bud Stone at 218-326-6619



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Vice Chair Peggy Schagh	US Bank
Treasurer Amy Trast	American Bank
Past Chair Jake Goering	Individual Member
Visit Grand Rapids Nancy Roth	Bridges Kinship Mentoring
One Year Term Megan Christianson Lisa Randall	Northern MN Builders TaskMasters Handyman & Cabin Care Minnesota Power Wildwood Resort Ruttgers Sugar Lake Lodge
Two Year Term Kurt Ogle Sue Estee	Ogle's Marketplace Foods Second Harvest Food Bank
Three Year Term Jeff Borling Kristina Clark Gaalaas Dave Scott Roger Hoyum Jason Janesich	Travel Masters Grand Rapids GM Deerwood Bank Apex Edward Jones PureDriven JDI Contracts Mediacom
Diane Skelly	Travel Masters
Leigh Lonson	Grand Rapids GM
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