Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

The Voice of Business for April

April 25, 2022 Luncheon

Luncheon Sponsor • Luncheon Speaker

Where:
Timberlake Lodge Hotel

Time:
11:45 a.m.
Buffet lunch,
12:00 pm Luncheon begins.

Cost:
$15.00 members
$20.00 nonmembers

RSVP required:
218- 326-6619
or email
nicole@grandmn.com no later than
April 18, 2022

Merger of the five colleges of the Northeast Higher Education District

Michael Raich, President

Raich has served as the interim president of NHED since 2019 and as president since April 2021, providing strategic vision for the NHED colleges, advancing their mission and core values, and growing his deep connections throughout the Iron Range community.

On March 16th, 2022, the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities voted to approve the merger of the five colleges of the Northeast Higher Education District, including Hibbing Community College, Itasca Community College, Mesabi Range College, Rainy River Community College, and Vermilion Community College, into a single accredited institution with six campuses. The merged institution will operate under the name "Minnesota North College" starting May 23, 2022. All six campuses will remain open under the new structure. The merger was also recently approved by the Higher Learning Commission, Minnesota North College's regional accrediting body. Come meet President Mike Raich as he gives an update on the merger and unveils the new brand for Minnesota North College!

MINNESOTA STATE
Northeast Higher Education District

As we enter into Spring we would like for you to think about all of the ways you can take advantage of your chamber membership. When you get more involved with the Chamber, you will also become better connected to your community. As you get involved you will become more aware of community and business issues. The more you engage, the more you get to know the other community and local business leaders.

By networking at our many events, you get to know your fellow Chamber Members, develop partnerships, and support other businesses.

New 2022 Chamber Members

SpotOn Transact,LLC
John Bristol
Grand Rapids, MN
612-328-6511

This month's winner

Customer Service Award

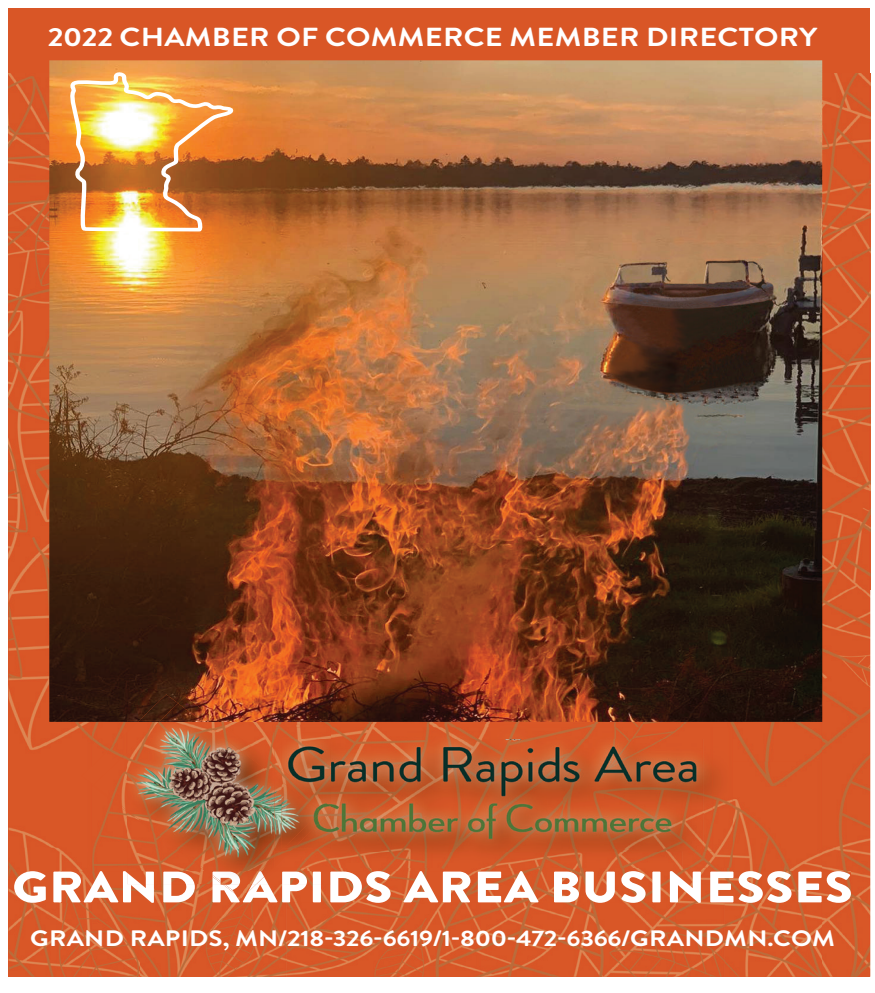
Suzanne VanDien at Northview Bank

This month's Customer Service Award winner: Suzanne VanDien at Northview Bank in Grand Rapids. Congratulations on your great customer service. Suzanne is an asset to our community, and was nominated for going above and beyond!

If you would like to nominate someone for this honor, please email Kerry@grandmn.com

Pictured Suzanne VanDien at Northview Bank and Lori Whitted--AmericInn / Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassador.

2022 Member Directories have arrived!



Twelve times per year, a Chamber Members Business in good standing, will be randomly drawn from the Chamber Members database 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.

This Month's Business Spotlight Recipient:
ODC Grand Rapids is more than the DMV

Most people in Grand Rapids recognize The Occupational Development Center (ODC) as the DMV. However, it is so much more than where you buy your vehicle tags and get your license. Recently, celebrating 50 years, ODC is a nonprofit that specializes in providing opportunities to individuals with diverse disabilities and vocational needs across northern Minnesota. The organization seeks to provide the resources and help needed to pursue meaningful work as well becoming a valued member of the community through mentoring, advocacy, employment, and skill-building.

The Grand Rapids Division provides two main services: Employment Services such as interview skills, resume writing, and support on the job to assist individuals with disabilities to seek, find and secure competitive employment of their choosing. By working closely with businesses in our community, ODC can provide individuals with options to experience work in a highly integrated setting while providing employment solutions to Grand Rapids businesses. Day Support Services provides support and skills needed to become part of the community through life-enriching activities, volunteering, and life skills. Individuals may increase safety skills, learn how to ride local transportation, become a volunteer for a local non-profit, or any other number of everyday skills and activities.

We serve a diverse group of people with disabilities from autism to mental health diagnoses to developmental disabilities and ages from high schoolers transitioning to adulthood to aging individuals. ODC of Grand Rapids strives to lead our division, our staff, and the people we serve to be valued and active members of this great Grand Rapids community.
Learn more about our Programs and Employment Solutions visit odcmn.org or call 218-326-8574 ext. 13 to speak with Rinna Waters; Program Services Manager. rwaters@odcmn.org

Join the Chamber for your chance to be premiered. The Chamber of Commerce works to help you create jobs, and helps to solve business problems. Make sure you support your Chamber, because they are supporting you.
Call Kerry Larsen at 218-326-6619 or email kerry@grandmn.com

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

13TH ANNUAL
TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2022
TIMBERLAKE LODGE

DETAILS:
- $150 per booth
- Vendors must be registered no later than September 10th, 2022
- Must have an interactive game at your booth
- 55 spots available (NO refunds – this includes no shows)
- 6-foot tables with chairs with Table coverings (all set and ready)
- Set up begins at 2:30 pm—Must be ready by 3:45 pm...no later
- Tear down begins at 7:00 pm (NO earlier)
- Open to the Public

REQUIREMENTS:
- Each space/vendor must have a drawing with a prize to give away $25.00- 50.00 value (bring something to put the drawing slips in, drawing slips to write on, and pens). Examples of drawings can be gift cards from a Chamber Member, gift baskets, hats and t-shirts from your business, a gift certificate from your business, merchandise.
- Bring snacks and treats for your booth; snacks must be packaged.

BENEFITS FOR VENDORS:
- Be ready to play a secret game with your fellow Chamber Members
- For Vendors Only: Great appetizers sponsored by Paul Bunyan Communications
- 55 Chamber Members to network with

CONTACT:
Kerry Larsen
- Email Address: Kerry@GrandMN.com
- Phone Number: 218-326-6619

SPONSORED BY:
Paul Bunyan COMMUNICATIONS
POWERED BY GIGAZONE

Upcoming chamber events this year

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

AROUND THE WORLD IN 18 HOLES

Golf Outing & Fun Day
at Pokegama Golf Course
Thursday, September 15, 2022

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

NEW **Main sponsor - $2,000**
Sponsorship Includes:
- Golf hole with signage on the green
- Team of four
- Banner at clubhouse/registration
- All advertising/radio/social media/website & Newsletter
- Meals and drink tickets for the team

AFFINITY PLUS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Hole Sponsor - $400
Sponsorship Includes:
- Business name in all event publicity
- Hole with signage on the green
- Sponsor acknowledgment in the Chamber Newsletter
- Green fees and lunch for one golfer

Prize Sponsor - $250
Sponsorship Includes:
- Business name in all event publicity
- Sponsor acknowledgment in the Chamber Newsletter
- Green fees and lunch for one golfer

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

Individual golfer - $125
Includes:
- Burger & Brats meal
- On-course games
- 2 motorized carts per foursome (carts per foursome to first 120 golfers)
- Prizes, lots of great networking, and tons of FUN!

***Optional money game* - $40 additional cost per foursome (cash only at check-in)**

2022 Swap Meet
July 29 - 31, 2022

Friday July 29th,
3pm -7pm
Saturday July 30,
8am - 6pm
Sunday July 31,
8am - 3pm

3 day inside vendor space paid by May 15, 2022 - $50
3 day outside vendor space paid by May 15, 2022 - $40

3 day inside vendor space paid after May 15, 2022 - $60
3 day outside vendor space paid after May 15, 2022 - $50

WEEKEND OF WHEELS
NORTHERN MINNESOTA SWAP MEET & CAR SHOWS
ITASCA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS • NORTH ON 3RD AVENUE EAST, GRAND RAPIDS

FOOD BOOTHS OPEN
FRI. • SAT. • SUN.
BREAKFAST SERVED
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
8AM TO 12 NOON
PARKING
$10.00 CARS
$5.00 MOTORCYCLE
$15 MOTOR-HOME, BUS, TRAILER, OR CAMPER
FOR MORE INFO ON CAMPING CONTACT ITASCA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS CAMPGROUND AT (218) 326-6470

SUNDAY 8AM - 3PM
For additional show information contact Nicole Franzone at the GRAND RAPIDS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (218) 326-6619 or email nicole@grandmn.com

ALWAYS THE LAST FULL WEEKEND IN JULY

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
ANTIQUE & VINTAGE MARKET & SWAP MEET
FRIDAY • 3PM - 7PM • SATURDAY • 8AM - 6PM • SUNDAY • 8AM - 3PM

President & CEO: **Mark Rudolph**
Membership & Tourism Coordinator: **Kerry Larsen**
Administrative Asst & Finance Coordinator: **Nicole Franzone**
Information Center Coordinator: **Stacia Rom**

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce