



Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

The Voice of Business Join Us



December 11th Monthly Luncheon

It Takes a Village...But Who Built It?

More than 7500 building trades professionals will be needed over the next decade to fill vacancies caused by retirement - not including economic growth! People are not getting the memo that there is a way to stay AND have a career that can afford them a lifestyle they are proud of.

218trades.com is the apprentice and CTE one-stop shop for students, families, school counselors, and job counselors to guide those who want to #workhereplayherestayhere. Join us in listening to David Cook, MBA, a Career Counselor with JET and the project lead for the 218 Trades Initiative talk about the apprenticeship, construction trades careers and technical education available for for students, families, teacher/counselors, and job counselors. You can use 218 Trades as a guide to work here, play here, stay here, with limited (or no) college debt to impede them as they begin their new career. Dave will be discussing the 218 Trades program and how to get individuals connected to services to help them be success-



Where:
Timberlake Lodge Hotel

Time:
11:45 Lunch Buffet
1:00 Adjourn

Cost:
\$15 members
\$20 nonmembers

RSVP Required:
218-326-6619
or email
nicole@grandmn.com
no later than
December 7, 2023

Luncheon Sponsored by:



Superior Quality. Reliable Durability. Peace of Mind.™ MNSTAR Group is the industry leader in "Quality by Design" and Made in U.S.A. custom manufactured wire harnesses and electrical system solutions. We are the preferred choice in industries including Marine, car and truck fleets for Emergency First Responders (police, fire, ambulance), Government & D.O.T., Commercial Utility, Recreation, Agriculture, and Construction vehicles.

WHY WE ARE THE BEST: Designed with superior durability and quality, and engineered for easy installation, we deliver lasting reliability and peace of mind with every product. From concept through delivery, MNSTAR ensures that every step meets the highest quality standards. We use state of the art equipment and TXL industrial grade wire to give your electrical system maximum protection. We are also known for delivering exceptional customer service and reliability to manufacturers and serviceability excellence to the end user.

WHAT WE DELIVER: MNSTAR Group takes every step of our manufacturing seriously from concept and custom wire harness design to the state-of-the-art equipment in delivering an outstanding product. And we are known for exceptional customer service, expertise and on-time delivery.

14th Annual Taking Care of Business December 6th

We would like to invite you to join us in celebrating the 14th year of the Grand Rapids Area Taking Care of Business networking event. The celebration will take place on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Timberlake Lodge. This event is free and open to the public, so come and celebrate with us and our Chamber members.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE 14TH ANNUAL TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS
Wednesday, December 6
4:00pm - 7:00pm
Timberlake Lodge Event Center

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEOA • Camp Bluewater - Camp Fire MN • Camp Hiawatha - Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry • Cenex - Northern Star Co-op • Compass North • Deerwood Bank • Epilepsy Foundation • Evelle - Organizing with Design • Express Employment • Free Range Food Co-op • Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort • Grand Rapids Herald-Review • Grand Rapids Players • Itasca Economic Development Corp. • ISD 318 • Itasca County Public Health • Itasca Life Options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judy Garland & Children's Museum • Justice North • Kathy Tadych - Edina Realty • Lakes Gas • Magnetic North • Maurices • Mediacom Business • Midland Title • Moments Hospice • North Home Children & Family Services • Northwoods Acupuncture • Numotion • Oak Hills Assisted Living • Park State Bank • Paul Bunyan Broadcasting • Paul Bunyan Communications • Payroll Vault • Pinnacle Marketing Group • Promoting ME • Providence Financial Advisors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Grand Senior Living • Schroeder Log Home Supply Inc. • Serv Pro • Setri Barrel Saunas • Shingle Revival LLC, DBA Roof Maxx of Grand Rapids, MN • SND Appliances • Superior Choice Credit Union • Sure Game Wilderness Resort • The Cozy Cove Coffee of Hill City • The Emeralds of Grand Rapids • The Title Team • Timberlake Lodge Hotel & Restaurant • Travel Leaders • True North Salon & Spa • United Way of 1000 Lakes • US Bank • White Pine Jewelers • West Cohasset Chapel • Widseth • Yanmar
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Sponsored By:

Open to the public - FREE to attend
Sign up for drawings
Meet new people and network
Get to know your community/Chamber Members
Contact Kerry Larsen
Kerry@grandmn.com / 218-326-6619

Welcome New Members

Blake & Lind CPA'S, PLLC 504 NW 1st Ave. Suite 200 Grand Rapids, MN 55744 blakeandlindcpa.com	Highway 35, LLC Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Bolton & Menk, Inc 504 NW 1st Ave, Suite 250 Grand Rapids, MN 55744 bolton-menk.com	MN Technology LLC Grand Rapids, MN 55744 www.MNTechnology.net
	Smoke on the Water 94 Roosevelt Coleraine, MN 55744 smokeonthewaterwinery.com

Celebrating Exceptional Customer Service



November Customer Service Award

This month's Customer Service Award winner is Linda Bailey from Timberlake Lodge in Grand Rapids.

Congratulations on your great customer service. Linda is an asset to our community and was nominated for going above and beyond! Linda is known for her kindness and great work ethic.

Pictured: Linda Bailey, Timberlake Lodge & Laurie Clausen - Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce Ambassador/ Edward Jones



Common Questions about Chamber Bucks:

What are Chamber Bucks?

Chamber Bucks are a versatile currency that enables you to support local businesses within our community and area. These specially designed vouchers can be redeemed at a variety of participating Chamber member establishments, ranging from cozy cafes to innovative startups.

How Can You Get Chamber Bucks?

Purchase for Personal Use: Treat yourself or a loved one to the gift of choice by buying Chamber Bucks for personal use. It's a fantastic way to explore new local businesses or revisit your favorites.
Corporate Gifting: Consider using Chamber Bucks as part of your corporate gifting strategy. Show appreciation to employees, clients, or partners while championing our vibrant local economy.

Why Choose Chamber Bucks?

Flexibility: Chamber Bucks provide the freedom to choose from a diverse range of local businesses, ensuring a personalized and enjoyable experience.
Local Impact: Every Chamber Buck spent directly supports the growth and sustainability of our community's businesses.

How to Purchase?

Contact the Chamber office at 218-326-6619 or stop by to purchase Chamber Bucks. It's a simple yet impactful way to contribute to the economic vibrancy of our community.

Let's come together to make a difference! Support local, shop local, and let the Chamber Bucks flow into the hands of our dedicated entrepreneurs.

Meet the New Faces Leading the Chamber in 2024

As we look forward to 2024, it is with great enthusiasm that we introduce the dynamic individuals who will be steering the course for the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce in 2024. These leaders bring a wealth of experience, passion, and fresh perspectives to our vibrant business community.

2024 Officers

- 2024 Board Chair Trent Janezich, MN North Colleges
- 2024 Vice Chair Rawan Elbitar, Echelon Wealth Partners/Ameriprise Financial Services
- 2024 Treasurer Melissa Swenson, Members Co-op Credit Union

New Members to GRACC Board of Directors beginning on January 1, 2024

- Director Dana Scherf, Essentia Health, Deer River & Grand Rapids
- Director Gabrielle Jerulle, Herald Review
- Director Greg Bounds, Century21
- Director Laurie Clausen, Edward Jones

These leaders are poised to drive our new strategic initiatives, advocate for your business needs, and enhance the overall vitality of our community. As we begin this exciting journey together, we encourage you to connect with and support these individuals in their efforts to make the Grand Rapids business landscape even more robust.

We look forward to a year of growth, collaboration, and shared success under the guidance of our newly appointed officers and board members.

Share Your Good News!

Have big news about growth in your company, an upcoming event opportunity or a staff addition you'd like to share?

Share your company's good news with other Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce members!

Email your announcement to Malissa
Malissa@grandmn.com

Include a description of your announcement and a link (if you have one) to more information.

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

This Month's Business Spotlight Recipient:

Business Spotlight

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.



GET IN TOUCH WITH NATURE AT THE BLUEBERRY HILLS!




COMING SOON!



Blueberry Hills Golf Course in Deer River MN is a family owned business and just celebrated its 50 year anniversary of its first round of golf ever played back in 1973. Jordan & Nikki Osse purchased the business back in 2009 making their dream a reality. The 9 hole golf course is located 1.5 miles north of Deer River just off Highway 6 North & is set on the edge of Blueberry Hills. We pride ourselves on how we make all who visit us part of our family whether for a day, week, month, or the entire season.

We both love the sport of golf and recently started to go camping with our family of 4. In 2019 we built a 28 site RV Park that is adjacent to our 9-hole golf course & provides full hook-ups for RV's including both 30 & 50 amp service at each site, water, & sewer. Our RV park also has a showerhouse with private, ¾ baths & a coin operated laundry facility. Since 2019 we have decided to expand our offerings at the RV Park to include an in-ground pool & hot tub that will be installed Spring of 2024. Along with the pool & hot tub we will be expanding to 49 sites in total. To book your stay visit www.campspot.com.

Fun fact: Blueberry Hills Golf Course was voted Best Golf Course of Itasca County this year (2023)! We are excited to announce this & are very proud of our staff, customers, & all who are involved in making our place the Best of Itasca County.

- Malissa Bahr: President & CEO
- Nicole Franzone: Finance Coordinator
- Kerry Larsen: Business Relations Coordinator

