

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

The Voice of Business for June



When: June 8, 2026

Where: Timberlake Lodge

Time: 11:45 am: Buffet
12:00 pm: Luncheon

Cost: \$15.00 members
\$20.00 non-members

RSVP required:
218-326-6619 or email
jennifer@grandmn.com by
June 5, 2026

Calendar of Events

Visit our website for a listing of our events including learning opportunities!



Monthly Luncheon

Behind the Feed: What Are You Actually Seeing Online - and Why?

Monday, June 8
11:45 am
Timberlake Lodge

Work Smarter, Not Harder: Maximizing the Use of Technology in Your Business...and Your Life.

Tuesday, June 9
8:30 am
Rapids Brewing Co.

Post-Session Legislative Luncheon

Tuesday, June 16
11:00 am
Timberlake Lodge
Chamber Members only
Registration Required

To Learn More:
grandmn.com/events/

Committee Meetings

Ambassador:

3rd Wednesday/Month
Noon - 1:00pm

Government Affairs

Last Friday/Month
7:30am - 9:00am

Natural Resources:

Last Friday/Month
9:15am - 10:45 am

To be added to the invite,
email April:
april@grandmn.com

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

JUNE 8TH
AT TIMBERLAKE
11:45 AM START
EARLY START TIME

11:45 AM: CHAMBER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Join us to recognize our 2026 scholarship recipients.
Presented by: Chamber Scholarship Committee and Mesabi Metallics
Scholarship award sponsored by: **MESABI METALLICS**
ESSAR Group - Green Steel

12:00 PM: BEHIND THE FEED: WHAT ARE YOU ACTUALLY SEEING ONLINE - AND WHY?

Ever wonder why certain ads, news stories, or events appear in your feed while others don't? Join us for a conversation on how data and digital platforms shape the information we see, how businesses and organizations connect with people, and what it means for staying informed and connected locally. Designed for everyone, not just business owners, this session will offer a simple, approachable look at how marketing, media, and technology influence our communities and daily lives.

SPEAKERS:



REBEKAH SUTHERLAND
Editor
Grand Rapids Herald Review/APG Media

GABBY JERULLE
Regional Digital Director
Grand Rapids Herald Review/APG Media

Luncheon Sponsored by: **ADAMS MULTIMEDIA**
Community Stories • Marketing Solutions

HeraldReview

11:15 Buffet Available
11:45 Luncheon Begins
1:00 Adjourn

RSVP Deadline: 06/05/26
218-326-6619
jennifer@grandmn.com

\$15/Members
\$20/Non-members

Taxes are not included in the price and will be added at event check-in. Gratuity is also not included. Thank you for your understanding and support!

Thank you to:

HeraldReview



for your sponsorship of this luncheon!

Join us for an approachable, community-focused conversation about how data, digital platforms, marketing, and media shape what we see online and why understanding it matters for staying informed and connected locally.

11:45 am start time

RSVP: jennifer@grandmn.com

Tuesday, June 9
8:30 - 10:30 am
Rapids Brewing Co.

We will explore how to better leverage the technology we already have to streamline workflows, improve efficiency, and save time in business - and life.

There is no cost to participate.
Registration required.
RSVP: jennifer@grandmn.com



Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER: MAXIMIZING THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN YOUR BUSINESS... AND YOUR LIFE

This morning session will explore how businesses can better leverage the technology they already have to streamline workflows, improve efficiency, and save time. Join us for practical insights on making existing tools work harder for your business - and your life - without added cost or complexity.

FACILITATOR:



ABBY OXBOROUGH
Founder
The Leadership Lodge

No cost to participate.
Registration requested.
Refreshments provided.
Registration Deadline:
06/05/26
218-326-6619
jennifer@grandmn.com



POST-SESSION LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON

We invite our Chamber members and public partners to hear directly from our legislators as they summarize the 2026 legislative session.



Sponsored by: **MINNESOTA POWER**
AN ALLETE COMPANY

Cost: \$20 Members
\$25 Public Partners

Registration required:
grandmn.com/event

Tuesday, June 16
11:00 am - 1:30 pm
Timberlake Lodge Hotel

We invite our Chamber members and public partners to hear directly from our legislators as they summarize the 2026 legislative session.

\$20 Members
\$25 Public Partners

RSVP required: grandmn.com
*This is a Chamber Member only event

Thank you to sponsor:



May Customer Service Award

Congratulations & Well Done

Denise Carlson

EVENT SERVICES COORDINATOR,
TIMBERLAKE LODGE HOTEL

Denise is pictured with Chamber Ambassador,
Kari Weerts - Thrivent Financial



Denise is a strong example of outstanding customer service and consistently demonstrates professionalism, attention to detail, and dedication with every event.

If you would like to nominate someone who demonstrates exceptional customer service, contact:
kerry@grandmn.com

Ribbon Cuttings

Great Tails Animal Rescue

Great Tails Animal Rescue is transitioning from a foster-only, to a shelter with foster presence animal rescue when they open this June in Cohasset. Their animal rescue business model has been budget-based from their start in 2018, and to date, including their newly-built shelter, they do not owe any money to any entity they do business with.

On top of this, they have been a primarily volunteer-run non-profit organization, including their Board of Directors and Coordinator teams. They average 80-100 calls for pet intake a month, and have taken in, provided essential vet care, and adopted out over 1400 pets.

For more information, visit www.greatailanimalrescue.com or follow them on Facebook.



Pictured in front row, left to right: Chamber President, April Arnason, Chamber Ambassador, Jennifer Raushel-Members Cooperative Credit Union, Chamber Ambassador, Danielle Witherill-Edward Jones, Kim Mainerich-Volunteer Coordinator, Hannah Bradach-Board Member/Marketing Coordinator, Kelsey Krogen-Board Member/Treasurer, Jordan Unseth-Board Member/Event Coordinator, Shannon Anttila-Co-Founder/Event Coordinator, Janet Pellersels-Intake Coordinator, Leah Huso-Board Member/Officer. Chamber Ambassador, LeAnn Hardy-City Limits Storage, Chamber Ambassador, Rebecca Gilbert-The Title Team, and Chamber Ambassador Laurie Clausen-Edward Jones. **Pictured in back row, left to right:** Carol Frisby-Intake Coordinator, Tracy Hensley-Secretary/Adoption Coordinator, Maureen Rosato-Volunteer Coordinator, Myranda Erickson-President, and Deanna Wick, Volunteer.



Dale's Auto Body

Dale's Auto Body is excited to announce new ownership as of January 30, 2026. Paul and Anna Grooms have officially acquired the business from Dale and Rebecca Maunu, who proudly operated Dale's Auto Body for the past 42 years.

The Grooms are honored to continue the long-standing tradition of dependable service and quality auto body repair that the community has come to know and trust. Both born and raised in the Grand Rapids area, Paul previously owned and operated Grooms Property Services/Grooms Dock & Lift for 17 years, while Anna has worked as a registered nurse since 2015 and most recently served as secretary for their business. Together, they have been married for 13 years and are raising their three children locally.

While ownership has changed, the experienced technicians, painters, and office staff remain the same, ensuring customers receive the high-quality service Dale's Auto Body is known for. The shop continues to offer collision repair, automotive refinishing, frame and unibody repair, and glass repair and replacement services. Paul and Anna are grateful for the community's support and look forward to serving the area for years to come.

Pictured from left to right: Chamber Ambassador, Rebecca Gilbert-The Title Team, Karl Valtinson, Ronald Waters, Tiffany Spoor, Daniel Gorath, Rob Niemela, Paul Bignall, Paul Grooms, Anna Grooms, Steve Roberts, Andrew Grooms, Greg Rabe, Jeremy Stoltz, Scott Morgan, Chamber Ambassador, LeAnn Hardy-City Limits Storage, and Chamber President, April Arnason.

NAMI - Grand Rapids Area

NAMI - Grand Rapids Area is proud to be a member of the Chamber! We intend to support businesses with awareness of mental health in the workplace. Best practice in mental health retains employees, saves resources, and increases productivity.

NAMI - Grand Rapids Area is a volunteer nonprofit and an affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness of MN. Our mission is to provide support, education, and advocacy for adults and children with mental illnesses and their families. Progress on our mission is because of generous contributions from individuals and businesses in our community.

Contact NAMI Grand Rapids Area at 218-999-7658 or gr.mn.nami@gmail.com. Visit our website for resource information www.namigrandrapidsmn.org

Pictured from left to right: Chamber Ambassador, LeAnn Hardy-City Limits Storage, Dan Seward, NAMI Grand Rapids Area Board Member, Marian Barcus, President NAMI Grand Rapids Area, and April Arnason, Chamber



Business Spotlights

Burger King Restaurant

The local Owners and Operators of the **Burger King Restaurant in Grand Rapids** would like to thank the community for their ongoing patronage. Ken Kopischke, along with his wife, Carol and son, Cody, have owned the restaurant since 2013. Ken has been with Burger King for 50 years, beginning in 1976 with Burger King Corporation, where he spent 37 years in Field Operations, Marketing, and Franchise Support before purchasing the local restaurant.

At the most recent Burger King Convention, Ken and Cody received one of two National Franchise Excellence of the Year Awards for 2025. According to Ken, "Our restaurant was chosen as one of the best in the country among franchisees, with 1 to 5 locations, based on sales, traffic growth, image, community involvement, and operational metrics compiled by a third party." We are proud to support the community through donations to athletic teams, D.A.R.E., the District 318 Endowment Fund, Tall Timber Days, GRPD K-9, and many others in need.

This success would not be possible without a fantastic management team. Alongside Cody is General Manager, Deidra Theilmann, who brings over 20 years of experience and leads all day-to-day training, development, operations, and profitability. She is supported by managers Mike Theilmann, Jeff Caspersen, and Alaura Hill. Together, they create a family-like atmosphere and promote a positive work/life balance. We are always looking for friendly individuals to join our team.



Again, thank you for your continued community support.

Ken, Carol, and Cody Kopischke



Angel Fund

Angel Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing financial assistance to Northeastern Minnesota residents facing any type of cancer diagnosis.

For many cancer patients in our rural region, treatment requires frequent travel to appointments in places like Duluth, Minneapolis, Rochester, or other care locations. Angel Fund helps ease that burden by gifting gas cards and other support for needs not covered by insurance, including groceries, car repairs, and nutritional supplements.

This assistance can make a meaningful difference for individuals and families already managing the stress of diagnosis, treatment, and daily expenses. In 2026, Angel Fund is currently gifting up to two \$400 gift card gifts per patient, helping provide a little hope when it is needed most.

Angel Fund is supported by fundraisers, grants, donations, memorials, community organizations, and the work of a dedicated volunteer board.

Learn more or connect:

- www.angelfundrange.org
- Facebook: [@angelfundrange](https://www.facebook.com/angelfundrange)
- Email: info@angelfundrange.org
- Phone: 218-262-9929



Welcome New Members!

Individual Member: *Malcolm Wallaker*

DAVIS CHIROPRACTIC
Health & Wellness

204 NW 5th St, Grand Rapids
218-326-1804

LAUNCH
MARKETING SERVICES

Deer River, MN
218-301-3850

MFA
MINNESOTA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Grand Rapids, MN 55744
218-879-5100

President – CEO: **April Arnason**
Business Relations Coordinator: **Kerry Larsen**
Events & Marketing Coordinator: **Jennifer Plackner**

Grand Rapids Area
Chamber of Commerce