

Business Update

Chamber News

Business After Hours

Ambassador Meeting

Committee Corner

Business Brief

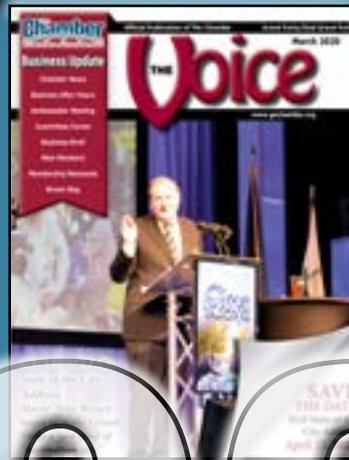
New Members

Membership Renewals

Brown Bag

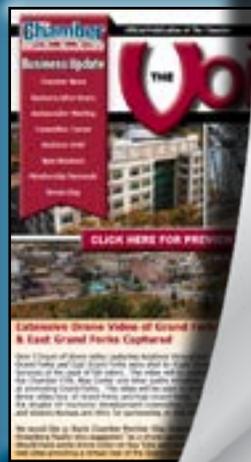
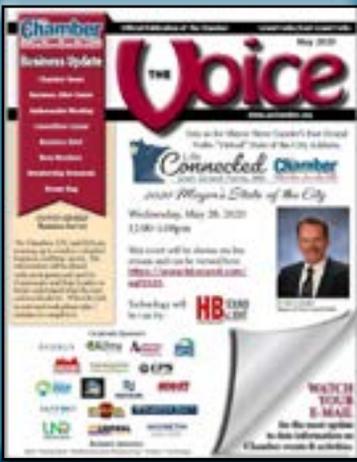
THE Voice

www.gochamber.org



2020

A YEAR IN REVIEW



Check
Out Our

Events

Executive Committee

Chair: Paula Anderson

Sterling Carpet One

Chair Elect: Dave Zavoral

RJ Zavoral & Son's, Inc

Past Chair: Josh Brown

Bell Insurance Services, LLC

Tony Telken- Lithia Ford Lincoln

Josh Grinde, Right Choice Electric Inc

Tommy Kenville, ISight RPV Services

Barry Wilfahrt - The Chamber GF/EGF

Board of Directors

Christopher Adams, Adams Family Farms

Jeff Barta, Achieve Therapy

Dennis Bona, NCTC

Mike Dunn, Construction Engineers

Shanna Field, Wintrust Mortgage

Rachel Gornowicz, Countrywide Sanitation

Peter Haga

Tony Hodny, Red River Biorefinery

Curt Kreun, District 42 ND Senator

Brian Leach, Golf Center

Meloney Linder, UND Public Affairs

Keith Lund, GF EDC

Anna Rosburg, Alerus Center

Lisa Swanson, Hugo's Retail Support Center

Justin Valinski, Columbia Mall

Jill Wilson, Edgewood Healthcare

Sr Military Advisory to the Board

Col Cameron Pringle - GFAFB

Chamber Staff

Barry Wilfahrt

President/CEO

barry@gochamber.org

Kimberly Strom

Vice President of Operations

kimberlys@gochamber.org

Emberly Lietz

Membership Director

emberlyl@gochamber.org

Tina Neil

Communications Director

tina@gochamber.org



COVID Update from Chamber President



*Barry Wilfahrt,
Chamber President
and CEO*

Over the past 8 months the Chamber has worked hard to distribute relevant current COVID information from guidelines to grant programs. The Chamber will continue to share links to business assistance sites as they are released. Many of these are time sensitive.

The Chamber also continues to work with national, state and local leaders to continue to help craft programs to have maximum impact for businesses and organizations like yours. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the latest information available to businesses.

Share the love where you live. Shop local.

We strongly encourage you to support local businesses during these stressful times by purchasing gift certificates and buying meals to take home to enjoy or to give to others also affected by the events of this year. Please support local businesses so we can enjoy them in future years as well.



In an effort to promote Small Business Saturday and shopping local your Chamber published over 30 ads promoting member and non-member local businesses for FREE. [CLICK HERE](#) to view this e-pub.

Let's work together to promote safe holiday shopping at small businesses all season long.

Col Cameron Pringle updates the Community on Grand Forks Air Force Base



Col. Cameron Pringle
GFAFB Commander
Sr. Military Advisor

The Chamber Military Affairs Committee hosted a virtual State of the Base event featuring Col Cameron Pringle, the GFAFB Base Commander. Col Pringle talked about the missions at the base and also how the airmen have been adapting during COVID.

He also expressed he appreciation to the community for also making changes to the way the base and community interface and how our community supports the airmen at the base. Col. Pringle said, "The relationship between the base and the local community is second to none, and a vital key to mission success in the entire Global Hawk Enterprise."

In case you missed it you can view State of the Base [HERE](#). A special thank you to all of the men and woman that serve our country.

Agriculture Appreciation Takes on A New Look in 2020

Gift cards were mailed out to nearly 500 farmers as part of Ag Appreciation week. The gift cards from Chamber Member Businesses replaced the annual Ag Appreciation Banquet this year. In addition to the gift cards, information about the greater Grand Forks Ag community and Ag businesses was included in the mailing.

We have heard great feedback from the producers, sponsors and also the over 60 businesses where gift cards were purchased. This has truly been a win, win, win pivot!! Thank you to our sponsors for supporting this great adventure in appreciation for our area producers. See page 14 for more information.

Team Grand Forks Legislative Priorities Set

Local legislators will meet with Team Grand Forks Leadership on December 8th to learn about 2021 ND Legislative Priorities.

The list includes such things as:

- A. Support for the Prairie Dog Infrastructure Funding Bill
- B. UND Funding Requests
 - i. Merrifield and Twamley Halls Renovation
 - ii. Research fund for EERC, Bio Tech and other research initiatives
 - iii. John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences Health & Safety Projects
- C. UAS Industry Requests:
 - i. Grand Sky - \$7.5M
 - ii. BVLOS - \$21M (\$6M carryover)
 - iii. UAS Test Site - \$2.5 M
- D. LIFT Funding for emerging businesses

Working with local legislators over the past decade the Team Grand Forks (Chamber, UND, EDC, City and County joint priority list) have managed to bring over \$750,000,000 in infrastructure investment back to Grand Forks. This partnership has been a tremendous success and made a huge difference for the community.

Over 90 Chambers Partner with the Minnesota Ready Coalition

Your Chamber is a partner of the Minnesota Ready Coalition to call on Gov. Tim Walz to provide support to businesses most impacted by Executive Order 20-99.

The Minnesota Ready Coalition is led by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and consists of over 90 chambers and business associations from across the state.

The Chamber of Commerce GF/EGF joined the Minnesota Ready Coalition in sending Walz a letter that urged him to take action to immediately support the businesses and employees impacted most by his latest executive order.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the letter.



Businesses are ready to restart our economy, keep us safe

Chamber Remains Strong Financially

The Chamber maintains a strong operating reserve of over \$300,000. With that in mind, the Chamber Executive Board voted to keep membership investment rates unchanged in 2021. Over the past 16 years, Chamber membership investment rates have increased just 8%, about a half percent a year.



Over the past 5 years the Chamber has also tucked pointed the Chamber Building, installed a new phone system, installed all LED Lighting, purchased a new server and computers. Looking ahead to 2021 the Chamber is planning to remove the handicap ramp in front of the building because it is falling into disrepair, redo the landscaping in front of the building and install a new handicap ramp in the back of the building.

Thank you for your continued support of your local Chamber of Commerce.

Become a part of Friday
E-Promotions today!
772-7271 or e-mail:
info@gochamber.org



202 North 3rd Street
Grand Forks, ND 58203
www.gochamber.org



**HAVE A MESSAGE TO SHARE?
BE HEARD.**

Member²Member
The Chamber E-Promotion

Utilize your Chamber membership to promote your business message by email to almost 3000 members, plus our social media audience.

Promotional space is available for only:

\$35/Friday

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

GFK 

Grand Forks International Airport

Your Airport.
Simply Grand.

2301 Airport Dr. • Grand Forks, ND
701-795-6981 • GFKairport.com





NOVEMBER 1 - NOVEMBER 30

Membership Renewals

The following businesses know the value of their Chamber Membership and have renewed their membership in The Chamber-GF/EGF.

Acres & Shares, LLC
Adams Family Farms, Partnership
AFS Automated Financial Services, Inc.
All About Moving, Inc.
America's Best Value Inn
American Crystal Sugar
American Family - Jeremy Fulton
Area Community Credit Union
Aurora Dialysis
BeMobile Corporate Center
BeMobile Verizon Columbia Road
Brady, Martz & Associates, P.C.
Bruce Gjovig
Budget RV
Cancer Center of North Dakota
Capital Resource Management
Coldwell Banker - Forks Real Estate
Crary Real Estate
Curt Kreun
Custom Stripes, Inc.
Dahlstrom Motors
DeMers Dental - Dr. Erickson
DeMers Dental - Dr. Stadem
Dusek Law
East Grand Forks Dental Care
East Grand Inn
East Grand Storage
Economy Plumbing, Inc.
First State Bank
Freedom Church
Galstad, Jensen, and McCann, PA
GFK Flight Support
GOLDMARK Property Management, Inc.
GoodInsurance
Gowan Construction, Inc.
Grand Forks Subaru Kia
Italian Moon Pizza & Restaurant
Jeff's Landscaping
JLG Architects
Johnson & Autrey Law Firm
Johnston Family Law
Lighting Gallery, Inc.
LTD Properties Inc
McFarlane, Inc.
McKenna & Associates, P.C.

My Place Hotels
National Property Inspections - Tim Brown
Networking Specialists, Inc.
North Dakota Ballet Company
North Dakota CPA Society
Northwest Tire South
Olson, Juntunen, Sandberg & Boettner
Opp Construction
Opticare-Forks Vision Clinic
Paragon Chiropractic & Wellness Center
Pearson Christensen, PLLP
Petcetera Animal Clinic
Phil Thompson & Associates
Quentin Burdick Job Corp
Red Door Pediatric Therapy
Red River Farm Network
Red River Land Company
Remer Accounting PC
Rhino Contracting
Rivard's Turf & Forage Inc
River Cinema 15
RML Trading, LLC
Sertoma Club of Greater Grand Forks
Southern Estates, INC.
Spray Advantage
St. Joseph's Social Care and Thrift Store
St. Michael's Catholic Church
Steamatic Total Cleaning & Restoration
Sunrooms Plus, Inc.
Swanson & Warcup, Ltd.
Swingen Construction Company
Terracon Consultants, Inc.
The Golf Center
Third Street Clinic
Tire One Auto Center
Tri-Valley Transportation
Ultima Bank Minnesota
Unique Auto Body & Sales, Inc.
Vaaler Insurance, Inc.
Valley Oral & Facial Surgery
Valley Petroleum Equipment Inc.
Valvoline Instant Oil Change
White Water Truck Wash LLC
Zimney Foster P.C.

Ambassador Meeting

Hosted by: **AE2S**

We are the "welcoming arm" of The Chamber
We welcome new chamber members and businesses with ribbon cutting ceremonies We assist with registration and greeting at Chamber functions and we participate in The Chamber's annual Membership Drive.



The Chamber Ambassadors held their November monthly committee meeting at **AE2S**. They took time to get to know one another better by sharing more in depth, what their business offers and what we can do to support one another.

Thank you to **AE2S** for the perfect meeting space. The delicious meal was catered by **Jersey Mike's Subs**

NOVEMBER NETWORKING EVENT VIA ZOOM!

Join Us
Engage & Connect



Thanks to everyone who joined us for our November Networking event via Zoom! Guests connected with one another by answering icebreaker questions in a poll and in breakout rooms. We even had a spontaneous Crazy Sock Contest in which Brian Huschle of NCTC was voted the winner! Valeria Becker of UND won the Most Logos in the Room Contest where guests had 30 seconds to gather as many logoed items in the room they were sitting in.

We hope you join us December 17th for the next ZoomBAH! Watch for upcoming details, including an Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest!

DECEMBER

ZoomBAH!

Registration is
LIMITED TO 100
guests.
RSVP to
participate!

Join us on...

Thursday, December 17th
4:00pm ~ 5:00pm

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Mark your calendars...

The Chamber GF/EGF invites all Chamber Members and their employees to join us for ZoomBAH! virtual networking event on December 17th from 4-5pm!

Lithia Ford Lincoln of Grand Forks and Ground Round Grill & Bar are the event sponsors and are giving away some incredible prizes including a Gold Level Car Detailing and a Ground Round Gift Card!

This will replace our Business After Hours event for December. We hope to resume our in-person networking schedule soon! Until then, join us for ZoomBAH! You can count on it being interactive and fun!



NEW MEMBERS

Mobile Pro

Joined with volunteer Kaylee Cusak

Brian Bestge
P.O. Box 1677
Fargo, ND 58107
(P) 701-356-7770

brian@mobileproduction.net

www.mobileproduction.net

Mobile Pro is an experienced company that provides LED screens along with full production services to display and enhance every live event an production.

Timber & Ash Designs

Joined with volunteer Derik Zimmer

Jacob Barney
2915 South Washington St. STE C
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-739-6862

timberandashdesigns@gmail.com

timberandashdesigns.com

Timber & Ash Designs is a leading furniture designer and builder specializing in high quality hardwood designs. We also have a full inventory of Domestic and Exotic hardwood lumber and live edge slabs for all your woodworking needs.

North Dakota Women's Business Center

Christy Dauer
5630 36th Ave. S.
Fargo, ND 58104
(P) 701-223-0707

christy@ctbnd.com

www.ndwbc.com

NDWBC helps women advance their careers, businesses and leadership skills. We understand that not knowing where to start can be overwhelming. Let us guide you to the next level with our free tools and training.

Brothers Firearm Shop

Joined with volunteer Derik Zimmer

Travis Chiasson
1726 S. Washington St. S. Unit 63
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-757-2112

sales.brothersfirearmshop@outlook.com

www.brothersfirearmshop.us

Brothers Firearm Shop is a 100% Veteran owned gun shop and the largest NFA dealer in Grand Forks, ND.

Lifesong Family Music, LLC

Joined with volunteer Nancy Nelson

Gretchen Kinseth
1726 S. Washington St. STE 66
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 218-790-3172

[gretchen.kindseth@](mailto:gretchen.kindseth@childrensmusicacademy.org)

childrensmusicacademy.org

www.lifesongmusicstudio.com

Lifesong Family Music provides group music class for babies, kids and families! Helping families learn to incorporate music into their home!

Bob's Oil and Gas LLC

Joined with volunteer Julie Olien

Darin Gilbertson
524 Gateway Dr.
Grand Forks, ND 58203
(P) 701-335-3443

Bob's Oil and Gas is a full service gas station proud to serve Grand Forks ND and surrounding communities

Harry's Steakhouse

Joined with volunteer Derik Zimmer

Hal Gershman
Coming to 421 DeMers Ave.
Grand Forks, ND 58203
(P) 218-779-1329

hal@happy-harrys.com

Construction continues on the future Harry's Steakhouse in downtown Grand Forks. Patrons will be sure to enjoy the 1940s-style restaurant and bar.

Popolino's Pizza

Joined with volunteer Caleb Schoonover

Darrin Kuenzel
2600 DeMers Ave #108
Grand Forks, ND 58203
(P) 701-746-7677 (POPS)

popolinosfundraising@gmail.com

www.popolinospizza.com

Popolino's Pizza has been proudly serving Grand Forks since 1990! Contact us about our Loyalty Program and your fundraising needs. We donate 25% of all money raised! We love helping our community!

Whispering Oaks Golf Club

Joined with volunteer Mary Feller

Darrin and Brandi Kuenzel
1662 26th Ave NE
Manvel, ND 58256
(P) 701-696-1005
(F) 218-773-9780

whisperingoaksgolf@gmail.com

www.whisperingoaksgolfclub.com

In 2016, under new ownership, the clubhouse was remodeled and a full bar and menu was added. Since then, we added an outdoor patio, installed a new practice putting green and more. Our bar and grill is open for take-out and dine in orders!

KodaBank

Steve Brekke & John Holland
Coming to S. Washington St.
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-454-3317

SBrekke@kodabank.com

JHolland@kodabank.com

www.kodabank.com

KodaBank was established to serve the financial needs of our community, its businesses, and its citizens. We are an independently owned community bank with a new branch currently being built in Grand Forks, ND.



Event Planning, Promotion and Adjusting for COVID

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

12:00 noon - 1:00pm via Zoom

*Join us for an interactive discussion on
Plans and tips for success During and Post Pandemic*



Presented by:

Linn Hodgson, Senior Account Manager, Ad Monkeys

I started my media career in the darkroom of a small family-owned weekly newspaper in SW MN. Printer's Ink in my blood was turned into radio airwaves now touches nearly all aspects of traditional and digital media.

More than 40 years of promotional problem solving has given me many opportunities to create and execute numerous events. I've learned from the failures and the successes. We will talk through tools and techniques to boost success and diminish potential issues facing us currently during the pandemic and on the other-side in a new normal.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR SEMINAR](#)

CONGRATULATIONS

to the 2020 Chamber Leadership Class Graduates



The 2020 Chamber Leadership Class graduated in December. After 3 months of classes they have learned alot about themselves, our community and improved their leadership skills. They also have made new friends and contacts. Congratulations on completing the program!



Mike Bibow
AE2S



Kasey Borboa
Minnkota



Robert D'Heilly
UND Facilities



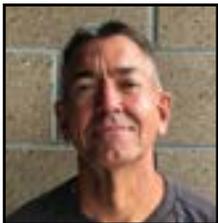
Erik Fabian
Alerus Financial



Adam Fortwengler
Global Friends
Coalition



Jason Gallagher
UND Dining
Services



D.J. Garman
GFAFB



Ryan Graf
AE2S



Scott Harris
GFAFB



Corey Irion
EERC



Nikki Jackman
Midco



Jack LeGrand
GFAFB



April Loken
Retrax



Will Lovelace
Minnkota



Erin Morrow
UND Facilities



Tierra Johnson
Retrax



Hersey Pulley
GFAFB



Kelly Quigley
Altru



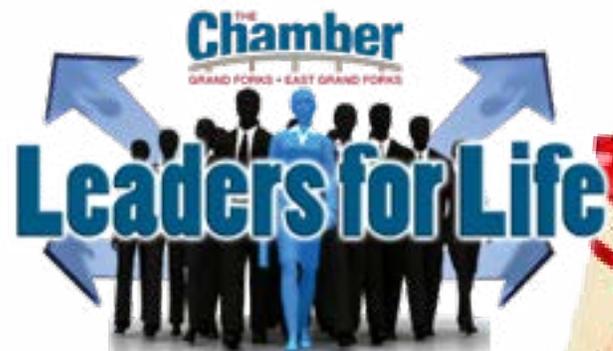
Brett Ringie
GFAFB



Gloria Rodriguez
EERC



Kay Schraeder
Minnkota



Moses Serna
UND Facilities



Sarah Sesselman
AE2S



Cynthia Shabb
Global Friends
Coalition



Cassandra Van Dell
Altru Health System

Thank you for your participation!

BUSINESS BRIEFS

UND Alumni Association & Foundation Welcomes Allison Kremer



Allison Kremer

The University of North Dakota Alumni Association & Foundation is excited to welcome Allison Kremer as the new Social Media and Marketing Coordinator.

Before joining the UND Alumni Association & Foundation, Allison worked in the Fan Relations Department for the Minnesota Wild. She grew up in Worthington, Minnesota and attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she earned a degree in Advertising and Public Relations. After hours, her hobbies include spending time with family and friends, playing and watching sports (particularly hockey), and exploring new restaurants.

Debbie McLennan, Friend of the Grand Forks Public Library, Named Major Benefactor of the Year for 2020



Debbie McLennan

Grand Forks Public Library is proud to share that Debbie McLennan, Grand Forks Public Friends' Board Member, was named the North Dakota Library Association's Benefactor of the

Year for 2020. Debbie generously donates her time and talent to lead the Grand Forks Public Friends group and supports the library in countless ways.

"She cheerfully helps where needed, comes up with creative ideas and is willing to think outside the box, all with a smile on her face," shares Wendy Wendt, library director. Congratulations, Debbie! Thank you for everything you do and every smile you share to brighten a day.

The Public Arts Commission (PAC) Names Vickie Arndt as PAC Gallery Director



Vickie Arndt

The Public Arts Commission (PAC) Board of Directors has named Vickie Arndt as their Gallery Director to manage three art galleries under their direction..

Chairman of the Board Barry Wilfahrt said, "The PAC board has been searching for the right person to help up develop a dynamic marketplace for regional artists and art collectors, and we found that person in Vickie Arndt."

Wilfahrt added, "Vickie grew up in Grand Forks and spent more than 20 years in New York City working with installing and coordinating art exhibits at galleries, studios, and art organizations. She received her degrees in fine arts from Wayne State University in Detroit and State University of New York at Stony Brook where she was on full scholarship and teaching assistantships. She is an active artists who did solo exhibits in New York City. She knows art exhibits from both sides: the artists side as well as the gallery side working with consignments, sales, and inventory. PAC is delighted to find someone with this extensive experience to grow public art in Greater Grand Forks."

Vickie Arndt said, "The Covid pandemic brought me home to be close to family. I am excited to build upon the remarkable foundation established by PAC over the last few years. I look forward to building momentum to engage artists, collectors and the public in my new role. With the support of artists, collectors, benefactors, and community stakeholders, we have an opportunity to make Greater Grand Forks a leading public art community, enhancing quality of life."

Arndt will manage three art galleries in Grand Forks under the direction of PAC. In 2019, PAC installed two art exhibits: "The Art of Healing" at the Altru Professional Center, and the "Art & Artists Among Us" at the Alerus Center. Both of those exhibits include gallery space for regional artists to exhibit and sell their art, and both sites are high traffic areas in the community with hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. PAC also manages the art gallery in City Hall known as the "Mayor's Art Award" to profile a regional artists each quarter. New exhibits will be going up at all three galleries in the next month.

Artists and collectors can contact Vickie Arndt at Gallerydirector@publicartnd.org

BUSINESS BRIEFS

**Liberty Business Systems
Hires Michelle Gjerde**



Michelle Gjerde

Michelle Gjerde has accepted the role of Account Manager with Liberty Business Systems, based out of Grand Forks. As part of the com-

pany's broader vision led by CEO Shawn Peterson, Michelle is committed to being a go-to resource for businesses in the region. With a natural curiosity and passion for helping others reach their professional goals, Michelle's expertise includes working with start-ups and small-to-mid-sized businesses in need of finding new ways to be more efficient, reach new markets and grow faster.

With over 20 years in strategic sales, marketing and communications, Michelle has worked with technology companies and agencies in Minneapolis, Chicago and San Francisco. Previously, she held the role of Communications Director with Digi-Key electronics in Thief River Falls where she worked for several years. After spending some time in her home state of South Dakota, Michelle has recently returned to the area.

Michelle's past experience ranges from start-ups to global agencies to F1000 companies - Gateway, HP and 3M.

Michelle holds a BA in business/communications and journalism from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D.. In her spare time, she enjoys hunting, ice fishing, skiing, skijoring with her Vizslas and other outdoor activities - especially in the winter.

American Banker Names Alerus A Best Bank To Work For

Alerus is pleased to announce it has been named one of American Banker's Best Banks to Work For. The annual list is selected through extensive reviews of company benefits and policies, in addition to employee surveys to obtain firsthand feedback on workplace priorities and company culture. Alerus is one of 85 organizations throughout the U.S. named to the 2020 list.

"There are thousands of financial institutions in the U.S., so to be singled out as one of the best banks to work for is a true honor," said Alerus Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer Randy Newman. "We strongly believe that if we take care of each other and our clients, we will be successful and this award exemplifies that. As we have forged new ground together throughout 2020, our leadership team and employees have remained committed to finding balance

while providing the best client service possible. I couldn't be more proud of what we've accomplished together and I am grateful to all of our employees for making Alerus a top employer."

Alerus employs more than 800 people primarily in Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, and North Dakota. Company initiatives include the SMART (Small Miracles Are Reached Together) Fund, which is funded entirely by employee contributions and available to any employee or family member who is experiencing a hardship. As part of its COVID-19 response, Alerus committed to retain all employees through 2020, maintain current salaries even for employees who were unable to work due to office closures or helping with their children's remote learning, and encouraged work schedule flexibility to accommodate distance learning and other unanticipated life changes.

E-NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Each month The Chamber produces this E-Newsletter that includes **FREE LOCAL INFORMATION** submitted from our members, along with monthly Chamber news, activities and events. This publication is distributed each month to **OVER 3000 MEMBERS** in our Chamber database. With this coverage and information we are offering affordable advertising. [**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION!**](#)



BUSINESS BRIEFS



Indigo Signs is proud to announce that we have changed our brand name and identity from Indigo Signworks to Indigo Signs.

The name change results from a rebranding effort designed to mirror the growth and transformation of our company.

Indigo Signworks was founded in 1996 by a passionate group of sign professionals dedicated to bringing a reliable local source of signage design, manufacturing, installation, and service to the Red River Valley region. In the almost 25 years of service to our local communities, Indigo Signworks has grown to over 140 employees in 7 offices spanning the upper Midwest.

Growing organically and through acquisition, our brand and culture are strong in our industry diversity, knowledge, and product offerings. United in our efforts, Indigo Signworks, coupled with our newest office addition, Sign Source in Chanhassen, MN, has come together under our new brand, Indigo Signs. Effectively covering a five-state region and serving thousands of clients, Indigo Signs is genuinely a sign solutions company more significant than the sum of its parts.

Once this change becomes effective, you will start seeing Indigo Signs' new brand introduced in marketing collaterals, tools, and communications. Finally, our brand's transformation will not involve any changes to its nature and characteristics, nor will it affect existing commercial relations with customers, partners, suppliers, financial management, manufacturing, contracts, personnel, or shareholders.

a degree in business administration with an emphasis in entrepreneurship and supply chain management. She brings tremendous experience to the EDC from her work as a research and administrative assistant with Praxis Strategy Group and as a community outreach coordinator with the Downtown Development Association.

Grand Forks Public Library To Go Fine Free

Grand Forks Public Library is proud to announce its decision to implement a fine-free model of service, effective immediately. A fine-free model will eliminate overdue fines for materials checked out of the library.

All existing overdue fines have been forgiven, which impacts nearly 2,000 patrons, including children, and blocked cards have been reset.

Under the new fine-free model, patrons will still be responsible for the items they borrow. All library materials will have due dates, and patrons will receive reminders when items are due. If materials are not returned 30 days past renewals, the item will be marked as lost and a replacement fee will be applied to the account. This fee will be waived if the item is returned.

Grand Forks Public Library currently provides Curbside Pickup Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m., as well as 24/7 access to parking lot Wi-Fi and online resources, including e-books, audiobooks, databases, virtual programming, and more at gflibrary.com.

West joins EDC Staff



Bridget West has joined the Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation (EDC) as its Operations Specialist.

West will research,

analyze, compile and present information for economic development projects and proposals. This includes compiling data for progress metrics, tracking business development statistics, and other operational responsibilities for the EDC.

"Having previously worked at the EDC as an intern, I'm very excited and honored to be part of the amazing EDC team again. The EDC's dedication to making Grand Forks a great place to live and work through collaboration and innovation is inspiring. I am very proud to be part of the Grand Forks community and working for the EDC will allow me to make an impact in the place I call home," said West.

EDC President & CEO Keith Lund said, "We're very excited to have Bridget join the EDC team. The benefit of having previously worked with Bridget as an intern is knowing what type of employee we're getting. Her background in research, demographics and proposal development will allow Bridget to make immediate contributions to the EDC."

West is a graduate of the University of North Dakota, earning

C O M M I T T E E

The Chamber meets and exceed the needs of our diverse business community and over 1080 Members through the work of our Standing Committees

O
R
N
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R

Chamber Agriculture Committee



Co-chairs:
Cedric Citrowske,
True North
Equipment
Lloyd Wang,
United Valley Bank



AG

Purpose: Promote agriculture and its importance to the region.

The 2020 Farmers' Appreciation event looked a little different this year. The Chamber Agribusiness Committee and participating sponsors supported our gift card appreciation efforts.

The Chamber visited over 60 local businesses and purchased hundreds of gift cards. These gift cards were mailed out to area farmers that covered a total of 32 outlying cities around the Grand Forks Area.

Thanks again to our committee members and area producers for continued support of agriculture awareness in our region. We look forward to 2021.

Thank You Sponsors

- ND Mill & Elevator
- AgCountry Farm Credit Services
- BNSF Railway Company
- Bremer Bank
- Alerus Financial
- Altru Health Systems
- Brady, Martz & Associates, P.C.
- AgriData, Inc
- Grand Forks County Soil Conservation District
- Nodak Electric Cooperative
- True North Equipment
- Frandsen Bank & Trust
- Choice Financial - South Washington
- Forks Freightliner
- American Federal Bank- EGF
- Zimney Foster P.C.
- CF Industries Sales, LLC
- University of MN Crookston
- Bergstrom Electric, Inc.

the **GIFT of GOLF**

3 ANYTIME ROUNDS & A ROUND IN OCTOBER FOR ONLY \$109^{+TAX}

PURCHASE ONLINE AT KINGSWALK.ORG

Wishing you a season of peace and cheer from the University of North Dakota Alumni Association & Foundation.

In the spirit of this giving season, we kindly ask you to [donate to the UND Food for Thought Food Pantry](#) to spread a little extra holiday cheer for UND students. [Click this photo to learn more.](#)

UND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION LEADERS IN ACTION

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Your Chamber Working For You
While you are hard at work, your Chamber of Commerce is working for you. The

Chamber GF/EGF is a 5-star accredited chamber. We inform, promote, advocate, connect and educate our members and community.

I

Inform

We inform our members on important business and community information.

P

Promote

We promote our members, the business community and the GF/EGF region.

A

Advocate

We advocate for our members and our business climate at the city, state and federal levels.

C

Connect

We provide opportunities for business to connect with other businesses.

E

Educate

We provide education opportunities for your business and employees.

701-772-7271

202 North 3rd Street - Grand Forks, ND

www.gochamber.org

ARE YOU DOING THIS ONLINE?

There are common mistakes people make that leave the door wide open to online intruders. You can defend your computer and accounts by learning some basic guidelines. Never overshare personal information, never click unexpected attachments and don't reuse your passwords.

To learn more visit DEFEND.ND.GOV



Merry Christmas from Read iTech!

We hope you enjoy lots of joy with family and friends, whether in the real world or the virtual one. We are thankful for our clients support during this challenging year and the opportunity to keep their IT network secure and operational.



Read iTech
A DRN COMPANY

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1811 S. Washington, Grand Forks, ND
www.prairieharvest.net

Hours: Monday - Friday 10AM - 6PM
and Saturday 10AM - 5PM

Please bring donations in boxes that you can leave.
Furniture donations appreciated!

Drop off your cotton or cotton blend stained, torn, old clothes (no jeans or infant clothing) to be used for Prairie Harvest Mental Health's Rag Contract.

All Proceeds Benefit

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Season of Giving

Presented by: **cities FM104.3**

SPECTRA

NOV 19 FOOD DRIVE
NOV 23 PET DRIVE
DEC 7 GIFT DRIVE
DEC 12 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
DEC 18 LETTERS TO SANTA
DEC 18 LAST DAY FOR DONATIONS

Life is for taking chances

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Share the love where you live. Shop local.

Recently Governor Walz issued an Executive Order that once again closed many East Grand Forks businesses. Restaurants, the theatre, gyms, and similar businesses need your continued support to be able to reopen. We strongly encourage you to support these businesses during these stressful times by purchasing gift certificates and buying meals to take home to enjoy or to give to others also affected by the events of this year. Please support local businesses so we can enjoy them in future years as well.



Order delivery or curbside pickup.



Buy a gift card for a friend or to use in the future.



Purchase a meal for a friend or local hero.



Like, comment, & share local businesses social media.

