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Chamber News

Top US Chamber Lobbyist Talks Regulatory Reform

Rob Eidshaug, Vice President of the U.S. Chamber’s Congressional and Public Affairs Division was in Grand Forks last month to meet with a wide array of local business people. He talked about everything from the Trump Presidency, federal budget, health care repeal and tax reform to infrastructure and the Regulatory Reform Act.

Ron explained the process for adopting regulatory laws has not been changed since 1946. After years of an overreaching federal regulatory bureaucracy, the Regulatory Accountability Act would finally restore transparency, accountability, and integrity to the rule making process at federal agencies. It passed the House earlier this year and the US Chamber expects it to be introduced in the Senate soon, but it will need bipartisan support to pass.

ND Senator Heitkamp chairs the subcommittee that will lead the change. Senator Heitkamp has been supportive of the change and she and her staff have a solid understanding of how the Act will help business. Senator Heitkamp has quietly become a US Chamber ally, scoring over 75% in 2015 on key votes affecting business.

175 Career Conversations held with Local College Students.

Thanks to the more than 60 local businesses who signed up to host a student for a two hour “Career Conversation”. The 175 students who participated all had good things to say about the GF/EGF Business Community and many said they are “more likely to look for a job after graduation as a result of the conversation.” The career conversations are part of the ongoing workforce development effort where we are working to connect students to local businesses.

Chamber News continued on pg 3
The 2017 Chamber of Commerce Community Profile/Membership Directory book is available!

The magazine style book highlights our communities and the great things we have to offer. All Chamber Members are listed in the back of the book with contact information.

Many Chamber Members took advantage of the advertising opportunities in the book and you’ll see their business ads throughout the publication. The copy in the book was written by Pulitzer Prize winning former editor and publisher of the GF Herald, Mike Jacobs.

Pictures in the book are courtesy of The Chamber, The GGF Convention & Visitor’s Bureau, GF Air Force Base, Northland College, Ralph Engelstad Arena, UND Shawna Noel Schill, UND Jackie Lorentz, Lutheran Social Services, Altru Health System, GF Senior Center and St. Michael’s School.

This year’s publication was mailed to all members in our contact database, will be distributed at advertisers businesses, placed at hotels in our area and available at The Chamber. Many organizations use the book for recruitment purposes also. You can also view the 2017 Community Profile/Membership Directory book on our website by CLICKING HERE.

Chamber Ag Committee Considers Major Changes

For years the Chamber Agriculture Committee has hosted an annual Farmer Appreciation Banquet and City to Farm Tour. While both programs provide value both also need a restart. To that end a group of farmers and Ag Business people met last month to talk about what is relevant to today’s farmer, how we can continue to promote Agriculture in our community and how can we build on the connections with other Ag Producer groups and associations as we connect farmers to Ag Businesses. The group came up with more than 20 ideas which will be discussed in detail at the May Ag Committee meeting and throughout the rest of 2017. In 2018 look for a whole new approach to these opportunities and new programing from the Chamber Ag Committee.

April 18 set for State of the City with EGF Mayor Gander

Join the Chamber and the City of EGF for a luncheon on April 18th to hear Dr. Steve Gander, the new Mayor of EGF, give his State of the City address. Find out his prospective and plans for East Grand Forks. Sign up will be soon!

April 18
11:30 to 1pm
The Eagles Club in East Grand Forks

SOLD OUT!

The Team Grand Forks Agenda is Looking Better than Expected

As the ND legislative Session moves into the home stretch the Team Grand Forks legislative agenda is looking better than we expected. Funding for the water treatment plant, Grand Sky, the UAS Test Site and base retention are all still alive this session. A full report on the outcomes will be available following the session.

Team Grand Forks Grand Forks is a coalition of The Chamber, EDC, City, County and UND.

Chamber News continued on pg 5
Live like you’re at home during your extended stay in Grand Forks, ND! Enjoy a 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment for 2-4 occupants for only $2,200 a month!

Units are fully furnished!
Furniture, television, housewares including dishes, pots & pans, silverware, towels, sheets, blankets... all you need to bring are your clothes!

Ample Amenities
- Basketball Court
- Community Room
- Elevator
- Fitness Center
- Hot Tub
- Heated Underground Parking
- 24-Hr Emergency Maintenance
- On-site Management
- Pet Friendly
- Swimming Pool
- Smoke-Free Living
- Spacious Floorplans
- Movie Theater
- Paid utilities
- Internet & cable access

IRET Properties
2150 47th Ave South • Grand Forks, ND 58201
iretapartments.com • 701.746.4738
Final Legislative Forum Dominated by UND Funding Discussion

Pictured are GF legislators at the last of the three legislative forums hosted by the Chamber on three Saturday’s during the ND Legislative session. UND Funding dominated discussion at the March Forum. All 12 GF Legislators have repeatedly voice their support of maintaining as much funding for UND as possible in the tight budget environment.

The Chamber hosts the forums so Chamber members have an opportunity to ask questions during the forum or meet privately before or after the forum with legislators on specific issues of interest to them.

At the recent US Chamber’s Committee of 100 meeting several topics dominated discussion:

1. **Regulatory Rollbacks** and the key roll Senator Heitkamp will plan in this reform as subcommittee chair. Congress will also use the Congressional Review Act to review and rescind many recent rules.

2. **American Health Care Act** will be the top administration priority.

3. **Tax Reform** – look for reduced corporate rates, reduction in special interest deductions, a more territorial system and possible repeal of the death tax.

4. **Investment in Infrastructure** – The Trump Administration is calling for a 1 trillion dollar investment in Infrastructure.

5. **Federal Budget Reform** – By 2026 three entitlement programs Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid will make up 99% of the federal budget unless changes are made.

Invest Wise LLC
Ribbon Cutting
Congratulations to some outstanding Grand Forks business women for being named into the Top 25 Women In Business by Prairie Business Magazine!

Carmen Fore
Managing Director/Financial Advisor
Northwestern Mutual

Meg Morley
Attorney
Morley Legal Services

Laurie Tweten
Broker/Owner
Coldwell Banker Forks Real Estate

Commercial Furnishings • Commercial Flooring & Window Coverings • Architectural Walls • Office Supplies

Steelcase
HANNAHER’S workplace interiors
Formerly Gaffaney’s of Grand Forks

2902 Gateway Drive
Grand Forks, ND 58203
701.746.6466
www.hannahers.com
March Business After Hours

March Brown Bag

March Ambassador Meeting
Miranda Anderson Joins Hilton Garden Inn Staff

Miranda Anderson is the new Director of Sales for the Hilton Garden Inn Grand Forks/UND. She joins the property with over 15 years of hospitality experience and holds a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Hotel Restaurant and Tourism Management from the University of Minnesota Crookston. As the Director of Sales, she specializes in establishing close partnerships with local businesses, national accounts and leisure travelers, as well as providing assistance with any of their travel needs. Miranda strives to provide each and every guest who visits the Hilton Garden Inn Grand Forks/UND with an outstanding experience and prides herself on being a masterful multi-tasker, efficient manager and savvy communicator.

Choice Financial Hires Hart

Grand Forks, N.D., March 20, 2017 – McKenzie Hart recently joined Choice Financial as a Customer Service Representative. Hart graduated from the University of North Dakota with a Bachelors in Business Administration and Marketing. Hart was named Grace Rhomnus female Athlete of the year in 2016. She is also a record holder for UND Volleyball. Aside from sports, Hart loves to be involved in her community. She also enjoys the outdoors, board games, fashion, and staying fit and healthy.

Choice Financial is a people first financial services organization that remains locally owned and built around long-term customer relationships, well-rounded products and services, and authentic community banking.

For more on Choice Financial’s history visit choicefinancialgroup.com/virtual-timeline.

Energy & Environmental Center Hires Kalk and Massmann

Dr. Brian Kalk is the new Director of Energy Systems Development at the EERC. He leads a multidisciplinary team of scientists and engineers focused on research, development, and commercialization of innovative energy technologies. Prior to his position at the EERC, Dr. Kalk served as a member and Chair of the North Dakota Public Service Commission. He has a Ph.D. in Natural Resource Management and an M.S. in Environmental Engineering from North Dakota State University and a B.S. in Social and Political Science from Campbell University.

Nikki Massmann is the new Director of Communications at the EERC. She leads the EERC’s marketing and public relations efforts and works with clients on media relations and communication strategy for collaborative projects. Prior to her position at the EERC, Massmann served as Communication Coordinator at the Center for Rural Health at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. She has a B.S. degree in Scientific and Technical Communication from the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

New staff? Business accomplishments? SHARE YOUR NEWS IN Business Briefs........FREE! Drop us an email: info@gochamber.org
Welcome New Members

Northern Valley Youth Orchestras
Naomi Welsh
311 S. 4th St. STE 204
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-757-3009
info@novyo.org
www.novyo.org
The Northern Valley Youth Orchestras program offers young musicians the opportunity to stretch and challenge themselves in a supportive setting. Dynamic and accomplished conductors and educators, and demanding but exciting music make for a stimulating, educational experience.

UND Sports Properties
Tony Goldenstein
2751 2nd Ave N. Stop 9013
Grand Forks, ND 58202
(P) 701-777-5373
agoldenstein@undsportsproperties.com
www.undsports.com
UND Sports Properties is the official rights holder for UND Athletics providing corporate partners with marketing and advertising opportunities ranging from radio, TV, digital, signage, promotions, print, UNDSports.com and more.

Northern Valley OBGYN
Kerry Trottier
2810 17th Ave. S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-738-2004
(F) 701-738-2005
ktrottier@northernvalleyobgyn.com
www.northernvalleyobgyn.com
Northern Valley OBGYN is the ONLY independent OBGYN office in the Red River Valley. Dr. Trottier and Betsy Hemler, CNM provide personal care with also front row parking, lab services and 3D Ultrasound on site!

My Card Guys
Scott Fricke
Thief River Falls, MN 56701
(P) 218-688-2204
scott.fricke@gmail.com
www.cpay.com
Central Payment specializes in credit card processing, POS systems and ATM’s providing solutions for any business. Visit our website or call us for more information regarding our services and programs to support your business.

Center for Relaxation & Renewal
Diane Magnuson
117 N. Washington St. STE D
Grand Forks, ND 58203
(P) 701-738-8888
centerforrandr@gmail.com
grandforkswellness.com
The Center for Relaxation & Renewal offers Soma Yoga, Spa Yoga, private yoga instruction, massage, Walk 15 classes, Healing Touch, health workshops, Aqua Detox and Infrared Sauna.
February 23 - March 31, 2017 Membership Renewals

The following businesses know the value of their Chamber Membership and have renewed their membership in The Chamber-GF/EGF. **GIVE THEM A VISIT!**

- Acme Equipment
- Acme Rents
- AgCountry Farm Credit Services
- Altispeed
- Altru Hospital
- Amundson Family Funeral Home
- Bert’s Truck Equipment
- Bethel Lutheran Church
- Big Jim’s East Side Tire
- Border States Trophy & Awards
- Capital Resource Management
- CenturyLink
- Click by Anne LLC
- Comeau Electric, Inc.
- Crary Real Estate-Linda Pierce
- Dakota Supply Group
- Dean Foods N.C., Inc. - Land O’Lakes
- DeMers Dental - Dr. Erickson
- DeMers Dental - Dr. Stadem
- Edward Jones - Jeanne Peterson
- Edward Jones-Wyatt Holtz
- EGF Rod & Gun Club
- Erickson Financial Advisors
- Farmers Union Insurance Agency, Inc.
- GF Heating & Air Conditioning
- GGF Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Good Samaritan Society Heritage Grove
- Grand Cities Mall
- Grand Forks Public Library
- Grand Forks Senior Center
- Greenberg Realty - Meggen Sande
- Gregory J. Norman Funeral Chapel
- Henningsen Cold Storage Co.
- Hornbacher’s
- Houston Engineering, Inc.
- Hugo’s Wine & Spirits - Columbia Rd
- In-Prints Screen Printing, Inc.
- Independent School District #595
- Insight Technologies, Inc.
- J.R. Simplot
- L & M Meats & Sausage
- Lifetime Vision Center
- Lulu’s Thrift Store
- McKinnon Company
- Midwest Refrigeration, Inc.
- Mikkelson Consolidated, L.L.P
- ND Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Network Center
- Networking Specialists, Inc.
- Newcomers Welcome Service
- Oxford Realty - Barb Hangsleben
- Patty Hajostek-Colonial Life Insurance
- Peterson Veterinary Clinic
- Porta-Mix Concrete, Inc.
- Premier Signs, LLP
- R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc.
- RDO Equipment Company
- RehabAuthority
- Rhino Contracting
- River Towne Properties, Inc.
- Rydell Honda Nissan of Grand Forks
- Sanford Health
- Ski & Bike Shop
- Stable Days Youth Ranch
- Stamart Truck Stop
- Strata Corporation
- Stray Media Group
- Tanabe-Badger Dental Group
- TIAA
- Tire One Auto Center
- United Valley Bank - Downtown
- United Way of Grand Forks, E. Grand Forks & Area
- Valvoline Instant Oil Change
- Village Family Service Center
- Vogel Law Firm
- Wells Fargo Bank - Columbia Rd
- Wy’s Floral
Go into the Shark Tank and Win

If you have a new business concept - "Go Into the Tank". Participants will have 1 minute to make their pitch on what their biggest business challenge or opportunity is. The sharks will ask a few questions and offer their advice.

Three cash prizes will be awarded to the winners.
$500 1st place
$250 for 2nd and 3rd place.

Interested in pitching your concept to the sharks?
barry@gochamber.org

Attend the Shark Tank and Learn

You are invited to attend, watch and learn from the presentations and the interaction with the Sharks. Have fun and learn about some great business concepts.

The event is FREE to attend!

Meet The Sharks

Our Sharks have diverse backgrounds along with tremendous business and entrepreneurial experience ...and they don’t bite!

Hal Gershman
Owner of Happy Harry’s Bottle Shops
Phil Gisi
President and CEO Edgewood Management Group LLC
Matt Winjum
Co-owner, Rhombus Pizza

Sponsored by:

ALERUS

Center for Innovation

Edgewood
The Chamber's annual Spring Membership Drive will kick off in April! We are currently accepting prizes which will be awarded to our 60 volunteers who work ambitiously to bring in new chamber members.

This year's theme is "Embrace Change, Drive Growth". Prize ideas include but are not limited to: Gift Cards/Certificates * Concert Tickets * Debit Cards * Tickets to Sporting Events * Airfare * Electronics * Hotel Stay * Golf Package * Gym Membership * UND Gear * Car Racing Items

The Prize List will be in "The Voice" E-Newsletter & Member 2 Member each week until the end of the Drive. The newsletter and M2M are emailed to 3,000 contacts and shared on our Facebook and Twitter pages. These promotions reach thousands of people!

If you would like to contribute a prize, please call 772-7271 or Email Emberly

Thank you for joining us to Drive Growth in our community!
BeMobile invites all Chamber Members and their employees to join them for a fun Business After Hours event!

**Thursday, April 20th 2017**

4:45pm - 7:00pm

2100 S. Columbia Rd., Grand Forks, ND

Stop in...Enjoy the fun and take advantage of great networking opportunities. You might even win $1,400 in our progressive cash drawing! We'll draw the name of one Chamber Member business. If someone from that organization is present, they win!!

Because of the business nature of this event, no children under 18 may attend.
Personal Branding & Networking

There is a well-known adage in business stating: “People do business with people they know!” Whether you own your own business, work for someone else, or manage a non-profit organization, you still need to get the word out about who you are, what you do, and why you make a difference.

 Attend this Chamber Brown Bag to learn how to:

• Assess your personal brand
• Set up a strategy for networking
• Understand how social media can work against you
• Create working “sound bites”
• Learn about the two most powerful networking tools
• And yes, gain a new appreciation for small talk!

Presented by: Eric Giltner, Senior Area Manager, US Small Business Administration

Wednesday, April 19, 2017
11:30am – 1:00pm

The Chamber, 202 N 3rd St
$20/Person – Chamber Member
(Includes Lunch)
$30/Person – Non-Member
(Includes Lunch)

Registration is available online only and is limited to 30 attendees. Sign up soon! Click HERE to register and add the event automatically to your calendar.

Reservations not cancelled 3 days prior to event will be billed.