Lamouex to speak at Chamber Annual Meeting

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

We are pleased to welcome Jocelyne Lamoureux-Davidson and Monique Lamoureux-Morando as our featured speakers at the January 23rd Annual Meeting of The Chamber.

Grand Forks natives, Olympic Gold Medalists, 6 time World Champions, co-founders of the Monique and Jocelyne Lamoureux Foundation, and national advocates and leaders in the fight for gender equity in sports.

Their mission through the foundation is to give back to the Grand Forks community, specifically to help kids reach their full potential in school and make a difference in their lives.

Join us as we report on 2019 and welcome our new Board Chair for 2020, Paula Anderson. The evening will end with the prestigious Henry Havig Award winner.

2019 State of the Base

Over 260 people attended State of the Base at the Ramada Inn on Wednesday, November 6th.

Base Commander Col. Cameron Pringle and CMSgt Ryan Thuyns both addressed the crowd and highlighted some of the airmen stationed at Grand Forks Air Force Base. Both also talked about the strong connection between the community and the Base.
Chamber Remains Financially Strong

The Chamber maintains a strong operating reserve of over $250,000. With that in mind, the Chamber Executive Board voted to keep membership investment rates unchanged in 2020. Over the past 15 years, Chamber membership investment rates have increased just 8%, about a half percent a year.

The Chamber also completed converting all of the lighting in the Chamber building to LED and also installed a completely new phone system in the Chamber offices in 2019. Looking to 2020 and 2021 a new handicap ramp is planned for the north end of the building and in 2021 the front handicap ramp is slated to be removed in conjunction with the complete replacement of 3rd street.

Market Capture Committee Receives Geo Fence Data

According to Matt Walkowiak and Russell Crary, cochairs of the Market Capture Assessment Committee, “The Geo Fencing is completed and we are now in the data analysis stage.” “We expect to have conclusions and recommendations out first quarter of 2020 and work multiple action items throughout 2020.”

Several of the top level conclusions will be presented at the Chamber Annual Meeting and GF Mayor’s State of the City events.

There will be plenty of opportunities for the local business community to see the results in coming months.

Chamber News & Updates

The Chamber Ambassadors would love to meet you and celebrate your business with a ribbon cutting ceremony. If you are interested, please contact Emberly at 772-7271 or emberlyL@gochamber.org

Edgewood Village & Medical Office Ground Breaking
A delicious breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausage, hashbrowns, pancakes, juice and coffee was served by the Chamber Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and past & present Chamber Leadership.

Thank you to all that attended and sponsored this event

In Need of Cotton Material
Torn or stained clothing, towels or linen accepted
(please no jeans or infant clothing).
Please support our consumer work program!
Donations are tax deductible.

Drop off at
The Home Place Thrift Store - 1811 S Washington Street or
Prairie Harvest Mental Health Office - 930 N 3rd Street

For more information contact:
Email: info@prairieharvest.net
Phone: 701-795-9143

CLICK HERE FOR ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES IN THIS PUBLICATION!
The 2019 Chamber Leadership Class graduated December 4, 2019. After 3 months of classes they have learned a lot about themselves, our community and improved their leadership skills. They also have made new friends and contacts. Congratulations on completing the program!

CONGRATULATIONS to the 2019 Chamber Leadership Class Graduates

Harold “Pete” Anderson
Sigma Defense Systems

Brandon Bambaugh
GF Region EDC

Travis Benson
GF Police Department

Jonathon Berger
Anne Carlson Center

Lori Christianson
Prairie Harvest

Allison Conway
Hugo’s Family Marketplace

Lauren Denton
Altru Health Foundation

Sandy Diggs
Lux Communities

Sage Doehler
First Comm. Credit Union

Amessa Dowell
GF Public Library

Duke Dukart
Hugo’s Wine & Spirits

Torrie Enget
Hugo’s

Ben Fladhammer
Minnkota

Andy Fuhrman
Minnkota

Jenn Graetz
UND Office of Ext. Learning

Jamie Gudajtes
Hugo’s

Grant Gunderson
Minnkota

John Hamling
EERC

Carrie Herrig
UND

Crystal Hotchkiss
ND University System - Core Tech. Services

Stephanie Johnson
EERC

Wayne Lembke
Minnkota

Melanie Malme
Retrax

Stacey Mesteth
Vaaler Insurance

Becky Mindeman
Gate City Bank

Cristela Moe
LISTEN

Regan Plain
Minnkota

Sarah Quanrud
UND Facilities

Anna Rosburg
Aerus Center

Jenny Scheevel
City of Grand Forks

Georgia Smith
Altru

Steven Smith
EERC

Nicola Sportbert
Vaaler Insurance

Kari Suedel
EERC

Tammy Theis
Retrax

Blaine Thompson
Nodak Electric

Abby Vonasek
Hugo’s Family Marketplace

Ryan Winkelman
Black Gold Farms

For more information on this program, please CLICK HERE!
Chamber Agriculture Committee
Co-Chairs: Brandon Heider, Frandsen Bank and Carah Hart, Red River Farm Network

The 2019 Farmers’ Appreciation event on November 14th was a delightful success. The Chamber Agribusiness Committee hosted over 260 guests for a FREE “Farmers Night Out.”

The night began with a warm welcome from Brandon Heider, the Chamber Agribusiness Committee Co-Chair, then was followed by a personal speech by Dr. Frayne Olson. Dr. Olson is a Crop Economist/Marketing Specialist with the North Dakota State University Extension and Director of the Quentin Burdicks Center for Cooperatives. After a delicious meal, the crowd was entertained with Kenny & the Classics music. This amazing band played lots of fun music. Old and new. There was an assortment of prizes distributed to chosen guests throughout the evening.

Thanks again to our area producers for stopping by and enjoying a night on us. We look forward to hosting this event for many years to come.

Thank You Sponsors

- ND Mill & Elevator
- AgCountry Farm Credit Services
- Alerus Bank
- BNSF Railway Company
- Bremer Bank
- Altru Hospital
- American Crystal Sugar
- Simplot
- Brady, Martz & Associates, P.C.
- Lithia Auto Stores
- AgriData, Inc
- Grand Forks County Soil Conservation District
- Nodak Electric Cooperative
- True North Equipment
- Farmers National Company
- Frandsen Bank & Trust
- AE2S Construction/EIM
- Choice Financial - South Washington
- Forks Freightliner
- Zimney Foster P.C.
- American Federal Bank- EGF
- CF Industries Industries Sales, LLC
- First Community Credit Union
- University of MN Crookston
- Bergstrom Electric, Inc.
- RML Trading, LLC
Your business will be in front of over 400 people at the event and recognized in the auction program, on the item's bid sheet and in future auction promotions, including Facebook & Member 2 Member!

Thank you to all the contributors! We hope to see you at the Auction!

Items may be brought to the Chamber office at 202 N. 3rd St. or contact Cristina to arrange for pick-up of your auction donation prior to January 8th. cristina@gochamber.org or 701-772-7271

Thank you! We hope to see you at the Auction!

CAREER CONVERSATIONS
A PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING EVENT
SHARE ABOUT YOUR CAREER WITH YOUR FUTURE WORKFORCE
FEBRUARY 25-26
REGISTER ONLINE BY DEC 16: NORTHERNVALLEYCAREERS.COM

EMPLOYER REGISTRATION
Spend an hour with a college student to share about your career.

CHOOSE MULTIPLE TIMES THAT WORK FOR YOU!

CLICK HERE to register your business for this event.

Approximately 60% of past student participants in the program, have indicated they are more likely to pursue a career in the Grand Forks area after graduation as a result of their Career Conversation, which is the main reason the Chamber, EDC and Job Service have partnered on this workforce project.
Northland Community & Technical College and Boardwalk Bar & Grill invite all Chamber Members and their employees to join them for a fun Business After Hours event located at NCTC!

Stop in... Enjoy the fun and take advantage of great networking opportunities. You might even WIN $800 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.
Debra Pflughoeft-Hassett Announced As New Empire Executive Director

The Empire Arts Center announced Debra Pflughoeft-Hassett as their new Executive Director. She officially began her duties on November 25.

Pflughoeft-Hassett, a long-time resident of Grand Forks and graduate of the University of North Dakota (UND), has worked in areas such as program development, energy research, and sustainability coordination. She has been a volunteer at the Empire Arts Center since 2009 and Head House Manager since 2012. She also volunteers regularly for other local nonprofit organizations and events. “I’m thrilled to start this position because the Empire is such an important gathering place for our community,” Pflughoeft-Hassett says. “I can’t wait to continue the important work of the Empire as we embark on our next century.”

“Debra brings a unique set of skills and experience combined with a strong passion for and knowledge of the Empire Arts Center, and we are thrilled to welcome her as our next Executive Director,” Empire Arts Center board president Jonathan Holth says. “We are excited for the future of the Empire under Debra’s leadership.”

Emerging Professional Friendly Firm Award

AIA North Central States Region, the Emerging Professionals Committee of the American Institute of Architects, has recognized JLG Architects with a 2019-2020 Emerging Professional Friendly Firm Award. The award recognizes architecture firms in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin that

1. provide fair compensation and benefits to emerging professionals;
2. support architectural licensure and invest in the professional development of emerging professionals;
3. actively create opportunities for emerging professionals to grow;
4. demonstrate commitment and innovation to train and mentor emerging professionals.

JLG was one of 12 firms honored with the award.

Phillip Stack is Hired a Chamber Intern

Phillip Stack, a UND MBA student with a focus in business analytics, will work with the Chamber staff and Praxis Strategy Group to sort and interpret the GeoFence data from the Buxton Retail Analytics Group from Fort Worth, Texas. Phillip moved to Grand Forks in 2016 after completing both a B.S. and M.S. in chemical engineering.

New Space, More Services Now Offered at RiverView Recovery Center in East Grand Forks

RiverView Recovery Center East Grand Forks recently moved into a larger building. While the distance of the move was small, it happened for a big reason: improved services for clients.

The move didn’t require moving vans; it only required a walk across the parking lot to the building next door. The physical address didn’t even change; you can still find RiverView Recovery Center at 210 Gateway Drive.

“We moved to have more space and privacy for our clients,” shared Erica Cerda, addiction counselor and licensed graduate social worker. “With the move, we can now offer individual sessions and group therapy in a much more confidential, uninterrupted setting.”

With more space comes the ability to offer new programs. RiverView Recovery recently added peer support and recovery coaching services, and telehealth assessments.

The Peer Support and Recovery Coaching Program helps participants find and utilize their values, assets, and strengths with the support of a certified peer recovery specialist. Peer recovery specialists ask questions, offer insight, and help those in the program become whole, resourceful, and capable of choosing what is best for them. The Peer Support and Recovery Coaching Program often happens outside of the recovery office. The recovery coach and program participant are most often in the community taking care of tasks and getting the participant plugged back into that community.
BUSINESS BRIEFS

Elizabeth Murphy, PMHNP-BC Joins Northwestern Mental Health Center

Elizabeth Murphy

Lizzie will serve as a psychiatric provider for children ages 6-18 years old.

Lizzie earned her Master of Science degree in nursing from the University of Mary in Bismarck and the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. She is a certified Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner with special interests in treating mood disorders, anxiety disorders, ADHD and providing integrative, holistic psychiatric care.

Northwestern Mental Health Center’s vision is to deliver quality services through coordinating care that fosters wellness and resiliency across the region. NWMHC is one of six Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics in Minnesota. CCBHCs were created to expand access to mental health and addiction care in community-based settings.

“The expertise and enthusiasm Lizzie adds to NWMHC will help us achieve our vision,” explains CEO, Shauna Reitmeier. “Now our young people have another option and better access to psychiatric care.”

Lizzie will provide services such as psychiatric assessments, diagnoses, medication management and treatment.

Kelly Leach, FNP, Joins Altru’s Nephrology Team

Kelly Leach, FNP, joins Altru Health System’s nephrology team. Kelly completed the Family Nurse Practitioner program from the University of North Dakota. She was previously a part of the electrophysiology cardiology department at Altru.

Armocost selected as 13th president of the University of North Dakota after interview with State Board of Higher Education

The State Board of Higher Education has selected Dr. Andrew Armacost as the 13th president of the University of North Dakota. He is slated to begin his position June 1, 2020, though an earlier start date is possible, Armacost said at a press conference after his appointment.

The Board interviewed three finalists at their meeting Tuesday, Dec. 3, on the UND campus. A total of 61 applications were received for the position. Last month, six candidates each spent two days visiting campus and in public forums, meeting with students, faculty and staff, and interviewing with the Presidential Search Committee. The Committee narrowed the field to three finalists on Nov. 22.

Congratulations to Carrie Herrig for 2020 Mike Maidenberg Emerging Leader Award

Carrie Herrig, UND

Carrie Herrig is the Staff Career and Personal Advancement Coordinator at the University of North Dakota.

In 2004, the Mike Maidenberg Leadership Endowment was established at the Community Foundation by Grand Forks Herald employees to honor Publisher, Mike Maidenberg on his retirement. What a fitting way to thank and commemorate Mike’s long time civic leader role in Grand Forks. His leadership was instrumental in strengthening our community, especially after the flood of 1997. His leadership presence continues as he was at the forefront of establishing the Community Foundation. Mike was the first Board President. He remains committed to the quality of life in communities and is a strong advocate for revitalization of downtown areas.

The Award winner selects a nonprofit organization or government entity of which will be awarded $1,200 - which will provide two scholarships to attend the 2020-2019 Chamber Leadership Class.
Altru Health System Names Steven Weiser, MD, as New President

Altru Health System announced today that Steven Weiser, MD, has been named the system’s new president, effective January 1, 2020. Dr. Weiser currently serves as Chief Medical Officer.

“Dr. Weiser has been an invaluable member of the Altru team for more than two decades and has already played an integral role in bringing our bold new era in care to life,” said Kris Compton, chair of Altru’s Board of Directors. “In appointing a new president, we were looking for someone who could provide the steady leadership, innovative thinking and industry expertise that’s needed to deliver on our vision for the future, and we are confident that Dr. Weiser is the best person for the role.”

In his role as president, Dr. Weiser will be responsible for providing clinical, operational, strategic and cultural leadership within Altru. He will work closely with CEO Brad Wehe to establish and activate the strategic direction that will ensure a strong future for the health system.

“Dr. Weiser and I share the value of keeping the patient at the center of every decision we make as an organization, and that commitment will continue to drive us forward in our vision to deliver world-class healthcare,” said Brad Wehe, CEO, Altru Health System. “I’m excited to partner with him.”

“I am honored to be taking on this important role within Altru and our region,” said Dr. Weiser.

Dr. Weiser joined Altru Health System in 1999. He has served as a full-time attending Emergency Department physician since 2001 and as the EMS Medical Director for Altru, the Grand Forks County EMS and many other EMS services since 2002. In 2017, he was appointed Medical Director of Inpatient Services, and moved into the role of Chief Medical Officer in January 2019. Earlier in his career, Dr. Weiser helped to develop the Occupational Medicine, Urgent Care and Critical Care Paramedicine.

SkySkopes is the First UAS Company to Join the North Dakota Aviation Council

The North Dakota Aviation Council welcomes SkySkopes as the first UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) company to join the Council. SkySkopes joins the Council as Organizational Member in the organization.

SkySkopes is a professional UAS flight operator headquartered in Grand Forks, ND, with a team of highly certified UAS pilots. SkySkopes flies a wide variety of advanced sensors and unmanned aircraft for transmission/distribution line inspections, oil and gas applications, and other innovative use cases that focus on adding value within the energy sector.

According to SkySkopes President & CEO Matt Dunlevy, “SkySkopes joining the NDAC is another indication of the advancement of the UAS industry, especially in the state of North Dakota. It is a reminder that unmanned aircraft absolutely are aircraft and that drone pilots absolutely are pilots. We see it as an opportunity to interface with the already existing culture of aviation around our several offices in North Dakota. Joining the NDAC is a way for us to be true to our pilots. They’re cut from the same cloth as the manned pilots.”

ND Aviation Council President Darren Hall sees the partnership between the organizations as “A wonderful example of an opportunity to collaborate and connect with new partners in the UAS community to discuss shared goals, opportunities, and challenges. It’s all about what we can do TOGETHER to problem solve and collaborate for the betterment of the aerospace industry throughout North Dakota and beyond. We are excited of how the newly defined organizational structure of the aviation council allows companies to join, participate and ultimately grow our partnerships across the industry with organizations that have a vested interest in the success of aerospace in ND.”

“Dr. Weiser and I share the value of keeping the patient at the center of every decision we make as an organization, and that commitment will continue to drive us forward in our vision to deliver world-class healthcare,” said Brad Wehe, CEO, Altru Health System. “I’m excited to partner with him.”

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November 1 - November 31
Membership Renewals

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

ONLY A FEW WEEKS LEFT!

WINDOWS 7 & SERVER 2008 SUPPORT ENDS ON JAN. 14, 2020

Microsoft will end extended support for these two systems on January 14, 2020. In only a few weeks, those still using Windows 7 and Server 2008 will no longer receive free technical support, software and security updates putting their computer at risk of viruses and malware.

Immediate action required.

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CLIENT FOCUSED—TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN
The Chamber Ambassadors held their November meeting at Sickies Garage - East Grand Forks. Christine Johnson with Skils'kin informed the group of the mission and purpose of the organization, which is located at the Grand Forks Air Force Base.

If you are interested in learning more about The Chamber’s Ambassador Committee or serving on the committee, contact Emberly Lietz at The Chamber. 701-772-7271 or EmberlyL@gochamber.org.
**Inform**
We inform our members on important business and community information.

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

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

**Connect**
We provide opportunities for business to connect with other businesses.

**Educate**
We provide education opportunities for your business and employees.

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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.

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**HOLIDAY CHEERS GATHERING**
Monday, December 9  
4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.  
Gorecki Alumni Center

and please bring a nonperishable or hygiene item to support the UND Food for Thought Food Pantry. RSVP at UNDalumni.org/holidaycheers

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**CARBON CAPTURE IS HERE.**

LEARN MORE.
BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
Hosted by: EAPC

It’s the talk of the town!
This is one of the many networking opportunities The Chamber offers for its members and their employees
December

Brown Bag Seminar

Nonprofit Fundraising Tips, Tricks and Technology

• Four core elements of every fundraising strategy
• Four things you should tell every donor
• How to make your donor feel like a hero
• Essential Technology every fundraiser needs

Presented by:
David Sena
Dave@boldleading.com
President/CEO of United Way of Grand Forks
East Grand Forks & Area

He brings fundraising and community-building experience to United Way. In the fall of 2014, Dave received the key to the city for the work he has done to help people experiencing homelessness in the city of Grand Forks. During his thirteen years at Northlands Rescue Mission as the Executive Director, Dave led its impact in helping men and women find safety, work toward employment, and find sobriety. Over the past four years, his for-profit company, Bold Leading, has helped raise over two million dollars for nonprofits through direct fundraising, marketing, and campaign consulting.

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2019
11:30am – 1:00pm
The Chamber - 202 N 3rd St

$20/Person – Chamber Member
(Includes Lunch)

$30/Person – Non-Member
(Includes Lunch)

Registrations are available online only

To register and add the event automatically to your calendar click
the register button below

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Seating is limited to 32 Attendees Sign up soon!
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would like to be added to our waiting list
please e-mail: info@gochamber.org
Reservations not cancelled 3 days prior to
event will be invoiced

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Peter Monsrud, Videographer
Division of Marketing & Communications
UND