

Business Update

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THE Voice

www.gochamber.org



Repurposing the Global Hawks

All 24 of the 're-missioned" (REPURPOSED) Global Hawks are at Grand Sky as part of the Test Resource Management Center's (TRMC) Range Hawk Program. The Global Hawks will be modified by Northrop Grumman over the next several years and become the platform that collects the trajectory and telemetry data on US Hypersonic Missile tests. In coming months Grand Sky will see several new hangers and considerable new building as a part of this program. 16 corporate partners will collaborate on the program providing significant job growth. **GLOBAL HAWKS:** Page 2



Pictured above: Barry Wilfahrt, Chamber President and Air Combat Command Civic Leader; US Senator John Hoeven, George Rumford, Director of the Test Resource Management Center, Bruce Gjovig, US Air Force & SPACE FORXE Civic Leader.

*Check out
September BAH
on page 13*



According to Chamber President, Barry Wilfahrt from the moment Senator Hoeven found out about the opportunity he worked tirelessly to get this program at Grand Sky. Gjovig and Wilfahrt presented the TRMC opportunity to Sen Hoeven in June of 2021.

This announcement is just two months after the Space Development Agency announced their new satellite control Center on GFAFB. Great things are happening at GFAFB and Grand Sky.

Executive Committee

Chair: Tommy Kenville,

iSight Drone Services

Chair Elect: Russel Crary,

Crary Real Estate

Past Chair: Dave Zavoral,

RJ Zavoral & Son's Inc.

Matt Fisher, Probitas Promotions

Tony Hodny, H & S Electrical Services LLC

Pat Bopppe, Blue Moose Bar & Grill

Barry Wilfahrt, Chamber GF/EGF

Board of Directors

Brandon Bochenski, Barys Const./City of GF

Meghan Compton, Altru Health System

Kay Derry, Northern Roots Boutique

Mike Dunn, Construction Engineers

Torrie Enget, Hugo's Family Marketplace

Mike Fridolfs, Northrop Grumman Corp.

Tarek Howard, Auto Finance Super Center

Curt Kreun, District 42 ND Senator

Brian Leach, Golf Center

Meloney Linder, University of North Dakota

Keith Lund, GF EDC

Mike McLean, JLG Architects

Anna Rosburg, Alerus Center

Andy Schneider, Dakota Concealed/

GF County Sheriff

John Schumacher, American Federal

Penny Stai, River Cinema

Sr. Military Advisor to the Board

Col. Timothy Curry, GFAFB

Chamber Staff

Barry Wilfahrt

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Vice President of Operations

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Membership Director

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Area legislators Hear Early Team Grand Forks Requests



Legislators and Legislative Candidates from Grand Forks County met with Representatives from Team Grand Forks to talk about early plans for legislative asks in the 2023 legislative session. The County talked about Grand Sky, Beyond Visual Line of Sight and the Test Center. The City talked about 42nd underpass at Demers and a 47th I-29 interchange, UND talked about capital needs, inflation response, program support and workforce innovation initiatives. The Chamber and EDC talked about additional funding for Career Technical Education, the children's museum and Lift funding for local startup and growing companies.

Legislators and candidates each shared their perspective on the upcoming session as the group began talking strategy for the 2023 session and the Team Grand Forks agenda.

Historically the Grand Forks delegation has worked collaboratively like no other delegation in North Dakota. The results are evident. Well over \$1B in state funding for project over the past decade. These projects benefit every business and citizen in our region.





What's going on in our community?

A lot.

Let's hop in my car and take a quick windshield tour. I think you are going to be impressed.

Right out of the Chamber's parking lot is the completely renovated Mill Square Building with its high-end apartments and great view of the river.



*Barry Wilfahrt,
Chamber President
and CEO*

The Herald building remodel is nearly complete with the Red River Valley's first Technology Accelerator.

The five-story Olive Ann Downtown Hotel will be an 80-room facility adjacent to Sky's and the Cloud 9 Lounge.

The Beacon includes two seven-story buildings with plans for a third. An outdoor events venue and many amenities will be part of this project in the old Town House Motel location.

Lyons Auto has been demolished and a 122-room apartment building is taking shape.

St. John's Block Hotel is undergoing extensive renovations.

The Argyle with JLG Corporate Headquarters is opening soon.

Nearby The Selkirk Condo Development is nearing completion.

The new Hugo's and Alerus bank location and many amenities in Hugo's has changed downtown living for the better. All of these projects have added a real buzz to life downtown. **TAKE A DRIVE:** Page 3

Entering East Grand Forks on DeMers we see where Molly Yea's new restaurant, Bernie's, will be opening soon. Inside the East Grand Forks Mall, there is the movie-themed Shire Bar and just outside is one of the many Bully Brew Coffee locations in the Grand Cities. Next, we see the new Walgreens store and Michaels Furniture, two nice additions to the East Side.



Heading west on Highway 2 back into Grand Forks there is the new Rydell Car Wash, Red Hydrant Pet Boarding, Charlie Browns is now Charlie's, El Roco is now the Rock Bottle Shop and LaCantina Restaurant and the new Simplot Freezer Facility rises into the prairie sky.



Quick, stop! What is that? It is the rubble pile from the old Holiday Inn. The New Career Technical Education Center will be going up this fall and is opening 2024.



University Avenue is a showpiece. So many new buildings and the new street improvements make it one of the most appealing campuses in the whole country. In just a decade the campus has had a complete makeover. UND Proud!

Let's head west toward Grand Forks Air Force Base. The base has a new Space Development Mission, where Department of Defense Satellites will be controlled from GFAFB in addition to their Global Hawk ISR Mission.

Grand Sky is booming. The new multi-tenant building where North Dakota has its new Beyond Visual Line of Sight Control Center, the multi-billion-dollar 24 retired Global Hawks are all on the ramp near Northrop Grumman where they will be modified to do hypersonic missile testing. The steel for a new hanger is visible at General Atomics, where pilots from all over the world are trained to pilot the MQ9 Reaper Drone. **TAKE A DRIVE:** Page 4

Chamber News

Chamber News



Heading to town from the west on DeMers we see the new True North Impact Center, sculpture in front of the Alerus Center, and in the industrial park there is the huge new Border States Electric building and one of the three bitcoin mining operations in Grand Forks.

Heading down 32nd we see the new Northdale Oil, tons of new retail and specialty shops in the many strip malls all along the retail corridor. At the intersection of Columbia the Southtown Mall looks very impressive with its complete new look. The new Plaza 32nd is open and a discount tire store is under construction. On Washington, the new Grand Forks Clinic anchors the South End. Heading north there are many new apartment buildings and the new Edgewood facility and Sanford Clinic. The new Studio South on 36th building, the state of the art indoor Kart Track which is opening soon, the new Listen Center and the Grand Cities Mall renovation really stand out.

So many storefronts have been redone over the past year or so: McDonalds, Scooters Coffee Shop, Wendy's and Taco Bell to name just a few.

On Columbia, the new Bank Forward facility is just north of Kings Walk with the new Koda Bank, SOCO Building and Bell Insurance.



Next, we see a new car wash where Hardees once stood and wow, hit the brakes: the new Altru Hospital structure is up and looks unbelievable! What a great facility this will be when it opens in a couple years.

We have a lot to be proud of. There is so much new building and so many renovations it is hard to keep up and I am sure this is only half of what is going on.

Leadership program kicks off 38th year.



Leadership Program kicks off its 38th year of developing the leadership skills necessary to achieve success in your career, family and community.

Pictured are the participants in the 2022 Chamber Leadership program that participated in the orientation at Lincoln Park.



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Blue Zones Project- Grand Forks

Ashlee Kleveland

<https://grandforks.bluezonesproject.com/home>

Blue Zones Project works with Grand Forks community to create an even better place to live, learn, work, play, and worship. When the entire community participates – from worksite and schools to restaurants and grocery stores – small changes contribute to huge benefits for us all: lowered healthcare costs, improved productivity, and ultimately, a higher quality of life. We look forward to working together to help make healthier choices easier for everyone in the Grand Forks area.

CHS Grand Forks

Brandon Bina

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Grand Forks ND 58203
701-746-1911

<https://chsagservices.com>

Our cooperative is one of many company-owned, locally-governed ag service centers that are part of CHS Inc., the nation's leading farmer-owned cooperative, committed to delivering value and helping its owners grow. Our member-owners and customers are connected from locations close to home in northeastern Minnesota, to essential global markets.

At CHS, our first priority is to help our farmer-owners and customers grow. This means providing quality products, the latest in innovation and first-class customer service. As agriculture and our communities evolve, we are committed to staying at the forefront of the industry. Locally, we employ a knowledgeable and professional staff to assist you with your agricultural, home and business needs. From harvesting and selling your crop, to custom fertility and crop protection solutions, to quality nutrition for your livestock, we're here to support your growth and help you build the business you want.



Maximizing Business Growth

Is your business ready?

Thursday, September 8, 2022

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Chamber
GRAND FORKS • EAST GRAND FORKS

River Cinema, East Grand Forks, MN
featuring

Hal Gershman

Business Owner/Operator



Hal Gershman was born in Grand Forks. He attended the University of North Dakota, graduating with a B.S. in Marketing in 1966. He served in the Peace Corps in Bolivia for 27 months where he met his future wife Kathy, also a volunteer. Hal has been a business owner since 1969, beginning with pizza houses in Mexico City and eventually Cambridge, MA. Hal returned to Grand Forks in 1976 and is the president of Happy Harry's Bottle Shops in Fargo and Grand Forks, Gershman Enterprises, LLC, and Harry's Steakhouse. He was President of the Grand Forks City Council from 2000 to 2014. Hal's proudest vote on the council was supporting his co-sponsored anti-discrimination housing ordinance. Grand Forks became the first city in North Dakota pass such an ordinance. Hal chaired the first Grand Forks Airport Authority, served thirty years on the Alerus Financial Board of Directors and is currently ex-officio on the Economic Development Committee. He is currently on The Empire Arts Board. In 2008, Hal and Kathy funded the Hal & Kathleen W. Gershman Family Foundation to support the arts, education and social services. Hal and Kathy's daughter Leonora lives in Los Angeles with her husband and two children.

Seminar Topic

Things I've Learned Along the Way

Confronting competition, or being the competitor, is a delicate dance. I will share my thoughts on how to be the new competitor in a market and how to react to a new competitor in a market. I will also share some thoughts on business in general. Bring your questions. I'll be looking forward to answering them.

Break Out Sessions:

- Pre-Venture / Business Start-Up
- Business Growth / Business Succession
- Marketing / Finance
- Hiring / Workforce

Maximizing Business Growth

Program:

8:00 - 8:30 am

Registration

8:30 - 8:40 am

Welcome & Introductions - Theater 14

Sonia Roberton, Lighting Gallery
Co-Chair Chamber Small Business Committee

8:40 - 9:50 am

Featured Speaker

Hal Gershman, Business Owner/Operator

9:50 - 10:00 am

Break

10:00 am

Presenters Introductions

Sonia Roberton, Lighting Gallery
Co-Chair Chamber Small Business Committee

10:10 - 11:45 am

Breakout Room Discussions

(Pick a session in each time slot)

10:10 - 10:55 am

Pre-Venture / Business Start-Up – Theater 14

Tyler Sletten, Center for Innovation

Steve Moser, SCORE

Kayla Wallgren, ND Woman's Business Center

Business Growth / Business Succession – Theater 15

John Oncken, True North Equipment – Business Growth

Mark & Skyler Johnson, Sage Legal – Business Succession

11:00 - 11:45 am

Marketing / Finance – Theater 14

Amy Enget, Midco – Marketing

Jon Rentz – Alerus Financial - Finance

Hiring / Workforce – Theater 15

John Friend, PS Industries

Jacob Johnson, Doherty Staffing Solutions

11:50 am - 12:00 pm

Regroup in Theater 14 – Final Questions

Sonia Roberton, Lighting Gallery

Co-Chair Chamber Small Business Committee

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING AND SUPPORTING THE CHAMBER!



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THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 29 - ALERUS CENTER

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

All About Moving, Inc.	Committee	Public Arts Commission
All Embracing Home Care, LLC	Hjelmstad Insurance	Sleep Wellness Center
Anne Carlsen Center Community Services	Insure Forward	The Rock Bottle Shop
Apex Apparel	Insure Forward	The Toasted Frog
Behl's Photography	ND Small Business Development Centers	Thomsen Homes LLC
Benchmark Mortgage	Norby's Work Perks	Thrivent Financial - Chad Erickson
Bud & Ralph's Appliance Service	Northern Plains Dental PC	TLC Cleaning, LLC
Business Essentials	Northern Valley Youth Orchestras	Total Skin Dermatology and Aesthetics
Cabela's	Overmoe & Nelson, Ltd.	United States Postal Service - Grand Forks, ND
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch	Paragon Chiropractic & Wellness Center	Walmart-Gateway #5806
Edward Jones - Bret A. Bentow	Paragon Pro Manufacturing Solutions	Winsupply Grand Forks
Fairfield Inn & Suites East Grand Forks	Power Plate Meals	
Ferguson Books & More!	Probitas Promotions	
Grand Forks United Republican		

Top **TEN** Chamber Membership Benefits

- 1. New Business Contacts** – Networking and new business contacts will help your business grow. With more than 100 chamber programs and events, you'll have no problem adding to your contact base.
- 2. Credibility** – Make a statement that you are committed to the future of the Grand Forks/East Grand Forks region.
- 3. Leadership Development** – The Chamber offers learning and professional development opportunities to help you run a smarter, more profitable business.
- 4. Community Commitment** – Community involvement benefits you and the community and shows your commitment to helping our region grow.
- 5. Referrals** – The Chamber's referrals of our members are a great return on your investment.
- 6. Publicity and Exposure** – Publicity and heightened name recognition as a Chamber Member shows your customers and potential customers who you are.
- 7. Marketing & Advertising** – Targeted and affordable advertising offered by The Chamber help you promote your business effectively on a small budget.
- 8. A Healthy Local Economy** – Be a part of a group that is committed to creating a strong local economy to keep our business momentum moving forward.
- 9. Gain a Voice in Government** – The Chamber is your representative on a local, regional, state and national level. With over 1100 members representing thousands of area employees, The Chamber speaks with a strong voice for our business community on issues affecting your business.
- 10. Partnership** - You will be a part of an organization whose mission is to create an environment that encourages business success while enhancing the quality of life in our region.

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Prairie Harvest Mental Health provides mental health wellbeing services to adults with mental health concerns. Prairie Harvest Mental Health has been redefining our newly designed person-centered services and is accepting referrals for the following services.

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- ◆ Housing
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- ◆ Med Services—Nursing
- ◆ Rehabilitative Services
- ◆ 1915(i) Services

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MEET THE PEOPLE WHO ARE LIGNITE
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INFORM PROMOTE ADVOCATE CONNECT EDUCATE

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.

Ambassador Meeting

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.

August Chamber Ambassador social was held at Riverside Park they enjoyed subs from Jersey Mikes. Thank you to the Ambassadors for all that you do. Group photo from 2021.



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The Chamber E-Promotion

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THE Chamber

Business After Hours



TRADE SHOW STYLE BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

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[Click Here to Reserve your space now for a "Boot-scootin Good Time"!](#)

..... **Hosted by**

Alerus Center

1200 S 42nd St, Grand Forks, ND

Thursday, September 15 - 4:45pm ~ 7:00pm

Alerus Center invites all Chamber Members and their employees to join them for a fun Business After Hours event!

Free Admission – Complimentary hors d'oeuvres - Drink ticket & cash bar - Great door prizes - Progressive cash drawing is at \$700.

Stop by... *Enjoy the fun and take advantage of great networking opportunities. You might even win **\$700** in our Progressive Cash drawing! We'll draw the name of one Chamber Member business. If someone from that organization is present, they win!!*

Forward this message on to your friends and colleagues.

See you Thursday, September 15 at Business After Hours!

**Because of the nature of this event, no children under 18 may attend.*

Thank you to Balloons by Misti for hosting an festive August Business After Hours.



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Maliskey Joins EDC Staff as Marketing and Communications Manager

Mark Maliskey has joined the Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation (EDC) as its Marketing and Communications Manager. Maliskey will coordinate strategic marketing and manage all internal and external communications with key stakeholders. He will work to keep EDC members informed of organizational activities and continue to market the Grand Forks region as an exceptional place to grow and establish primary sector business.

"I am excited to join a dedicated team of community leaders and be part of the EDC's mission to expand economic opportunity for the Grand Forks region. I am looking forward to showcasing the bountiful opportunities that our community offers and streamlining communications with our clients and members," said Maliskey.

EDC President & CEO Keith Lund said, "The EDC is thrilled to have Mark on staff. With his strong marketing, management, and content curation background, we know that Mark's skills will be an invaluable asset to the EDC's team."

Maliskey comes to the EDC from the University of North Dakota where he served as the Marketing Manager for Dining Services and Housing & Residence Life. He earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan and a Master of Business Administration in Digital Marketing and Innovation from North Dakota State University. He has in-depth knowledge and experience with communication and marketing, managing teams, and project management.

The Grand Forks Region EDC works collaboratively to foster an environment that attracts innovative people and business investment to Grand Forks County and the surrounding region, enhancing economic vitality for long-term prosperity and growth.



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Altru Selects Dr. Josh Deere as New President

Altru Health System announced today that Dr. Josh Deere has been selected as Altru's president, effective today, September 1, 2022. "On behalf of Altru's Board of Directors, we are thrilled to share that Dr. Josh Deere will be Altru's next president," shared Karen Thingelstad, chair of



Altru's Board of Directors. "Dr. Deere's experience in physician leadership, focus on providing exceptional patient experiences and a long-standing commitment to our community align with the vision the board of directors has for this role."

Dr. Deere has been a physician leader at Altru for eleven years, serving as chair of family medicine for four years, medical director of primary care for seven years and most recently as the interim chief medical officer since February of 2022. He has practiced as a primary care physician at Altru since 2009.

"I am excited to become Altru's

president and to continue serving our organization in physician leadership," shared Dr. Deere. "As president, I, along with my physician leader colleagues, bring clinical expertise to the forefront, ensuring decisions are made with the care of the patient at the center. I am honored to continue to work alongside Todd Forkel, Altru's CEO, as we lead our team toward Altru's vision of providing world-class care to the residents we serve."

Originally from Kennedy, Minn., Dr. Deere earned his medical degree from the

University of North Dakota and completed a family medicine residency through the Altru Family Medicine Residency program. Dr. Deere and his wife, Liz, have two children, Olivia (15) and Isaac (11). In his free time, he enjoys spending time at the lake with family, traveling and playing golf. "Being on the leadership team for our locally owned health system is a privilege," expressed Dr. Deere. "I have spent my entire life in the upper Red River Valley, and it is incredibly important to me to continue to provide high-quality care, close to home for those we serve."

Your Chamber Working For You



New staff? Business accomplishments?
SHARE YOUR NEWS IN Business Briefs FREE!
CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT

Ribbon Cutting

The Chamber Ambassadors would love to meet you and celebrate your business with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

If you are interested, please contact Jessica at **772-7271** or jessicat@gochamber.org to schedule a ribbon cutting event.

THE Chamber
GRAND FORKS • EAST GRAND FORKS



Impressions Gifts



Boot Barn



Northdale Oil



Phase One Complete!

Thank you for your patience during the Runway Intersection Closure. We are now open and running at normal capacity. If you have any questions, please visit our website www.gfkairport.com



LEADERSHIP

MATTERS

Brown Bag Seminar 

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

11:30 am - 1:00 pm - Chamber of Commerce Board Room

Leaders at the senior level strive to create a culture of engagement, while leaders on the front line need to motivate employees daily to drive results. Regardless of level, most leaders “think” they’re demonstrating the qualities of an effective leader, but the findings from a new study indicate otherwise. Our research found that:

Only 17% of employees are satisfied in their job. ...And 45% of employees are planning on leaving their job in the next

Through a recent global employee study, Dale Carnegie identified specific areas where leaders are falling short – we call these “leadership blind spots”. Join us, as we identify the leadership attributes that are critical to organizational performance and find out what your leaders may be missing.



Presented by: Sarae Kellen
Workforce Development Strategist
Dale Carnegie Training of ND & NW MN

Sarae is dedicated to helping individuals and organizations thrive. She earned her degree from North Dakota State University where she graduated with a bachelors degree in Business Marketing. Sarae spent the beginning of her career consulting in the marketing and advertising sector.

[Click here for Bio](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR SEMINAR](#)

\$20/In Person (Includes Lunch) - LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE!

If you have questions, please contact the Chamber. info@gochamber.org or 701-772-7271