Grand Forks/East Grand Forks

April 2023



www.gochamber.org

State of the Base Col Curry Addresses the Community

THE



Pictured is GFAFB Commander, Col Tim Curry at the Chamber sponsored State of the Base Event.

Col Curry talked about the growing China threat, missions at GFAFB and also recognized several outstanding airmen serving our country at GFAFB. Col Curry has been an excellent Base Commander. The base has seen great progress under his leadership. Very visible things like the Space Development Agency Mission, Test Resource Management Mission at Grand Sky and the Global hawk mission on GFAFB. But the biggest positive is the moral and attitude of the airmen. "Whenever you are on the base you can just feel it" according to long time Civic leader James Bradshaw of Strata Corporation.

CHAMBER NEWS

Chamber President and CEO, Barry Wilfahrt had dinner with Governor Burgum, Lt Governor Miller and five of his Chamber CEO Colleagues from North Dakota.



Pictured are Governor Burgum, his chief of staff, Lt Governor Miller along with Chamber CEO's from the larger communities in ND. Chamber President and CEO Barry Wilfahrt is pictured on the left in the back.



Barry Wilfahrt, Chamber President and CEO

The Governor talked about his agenda at the halfway point in the session. Income tax relief, workforce solutions, childcare solutions, reducing regulation and red tape for business were on the top of his agenda.

The ND and local chambers shared similar concerns along with some specific opportunities that need funding in each community from the state. For Grand Forks Barry talked about Grand Sky, Career Technical Education funding, the children's museum and UND funding as key items for his community.

CHAMBER NEWS

Agribusiness Committee Tours American Crystal Sugar



Ryan Wall, Plant Manager gives members of the Chamber Agri-business committee a tour of American Crystal Sugar. The EGF plant is the largest of the 5 ACS plants.

CHAMBER NEWS

Chamber "Shark Tank" Set

We have all seen the popular TV Show "Shark Tank". The Chamber will feature its own version of Shark Tank on May 1st at 6:30 p.m. at the Empire Arts Center. New businesses (less than 2 years old) and individuals with a business idea are encouraged to "go into the tank" and share their business opportunity with the "sharks". Presenters will compete for cash prizes.



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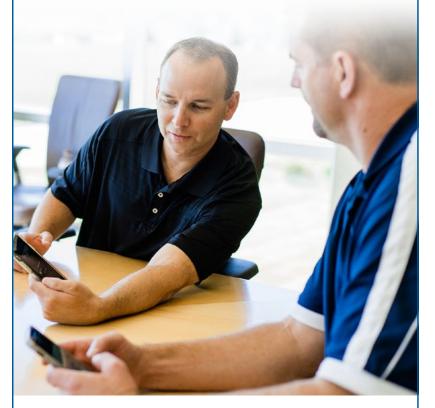
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Career Development through Perspective

It focuses on leveraging one's own professional story to gain ground on your career path. We will talk about utilizing your skills and abilities, positive perspective, imposter syndrome, and upskilling.

Presented by: Linsey Stadstad Linsey has worked in talent management for over a decade, with the majority spent in the public sector. She enjoys helping others be the best they can be while getting them in the right positions to align with their strengths. She loves to learn what motivates others and works to connect those motivations with the organization's overall vision and goals.

> Wednesday, April 19, 2023 11:30am-1:00pm The Chamber Board Room \$20/person - Member (Includes Lunch) \$30/person - Non-Member (Includes Lunch)

Registration Information

Limited seats available. Sign up today!

Registrations for this seminar are available online only.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

701 Beauty Bar

Alayna Johnson 4551 S Washington St Suite K Grand Forks ND 58201 218-779-6882 http://701beautybar.com/

701 Beauty Bar specializes in full body waxing, vagacials, lash lift and tints, brown tinting, brow laminations and skin lightening.

Larson and Associates Agency, LLC

Jacob Larson 218-773-3608 408 3rd St NW East Grand Forks, MN 56721 jlarson1@amfam.com http://www.amfam.com/agents/

minnesota/east-grand-forks/jacob-larson

The Larson and Associates Agency is here to protect the life you have worked to build. Whether it is your home, auto, business, farm, life policy, or that new toy our team has the knowledge and expertise to help you protect your dreams.

My team is here to serve. Our unique backgrounds, training and experience have prepared us well to help meet your insurance needs. Additionally, as residents of your community, we understand how important it is to be there for you; our trusted friends and neighbors. Together, we're building strong partnerships that help everyone succeed.

Buff City Soap

Isabella Breinig 3811 32nd Ave Grand Forks ND 58201 http://buffcitysoap.com/

Frustrated by commercial soaps' harsh chemicals, detergents, and animal fats, we set out to create a better way! Buff City Soap — delightfully scented plant-based soaps, handmade daily, in our brand-new Grand Fork's Makery. We're on a mission to create handmade

products that are free of harsh ingredients and full of nourishing plant-based goodness. Taking tremendous pride in handcrafting every bar of soap, each one truly unique like our guest!

Absolute Glass

Chris & Laura Schauer Grand Forks ND 58201 701-215-3591

chrisschauer7@gmail.com

Absolute Glass is a local family owned window and gutter cleaning company that was established by a couple who has resided in Greater Grand Forks all their lives. They know and appreciate the community and its' people. Absolute Glass offers service to business and residential patrons with timely and thorough service.



Starting April 11th our membership drive volunteer teams will be "SCOOPING" up prospects at our Kick-off party.

During the drive, our volunteers will be contacting non-chamber member businesses about joining. If you know of a business our teams should visit or if you're interested in becoming a member, let Jessica know! jessicat@gochmaber.org

Top TEN Chamber Membership Benefits

• 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.

5 • 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.

D • **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.

• Marketing & Advertising – Targeted and affordable advertising offered by The Chamber help you promote your business effectively on a small budget.

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 representativeon 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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WOMEN for PHILANTHROPY Marilyn (Koble) Vetter, '88

APRIL 25, 2023 UNDfoundation.org/wfp





ALERUS CENTER

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

March 1, To March 31, 2023

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

5-Star Collision & Glass Center Bonzer's Sandwich Pub **Connecting Point** Dairy Queen-Northend Dakota Peat & Equipment Daydreams Specialities Easter Seals Goodwill ND, Inc. Erickson Financial Advisors Forks Freightliner Grand Sky Development Company, LLC Hugo's Wine & Spirits - 32nd Hugo's Wine & Spirits - Columbia Rd Ink, Inc. KVRR-TV Labradorly Marketing Love In Action Marco Mike's Pizza & Pub NAV Innovators Network Center Northern Plains UAS Test Site

Northern Roots Boutique Oxford Realty LLC - David Blumkin Pampered Chef - Brenda Kovar Plains Chiropractic & Acupuncture PlayIt! S-Y Commodities Salon 222 Sanford Health 929 Central Ave Clinic Sanford Health Equip SCORE - Grand Forks Simply Boutique Steve Christian Insurance Professional Thermal Air **TIAA-Scott Roche** Triangle Coach Service, Inc. Up North Window Cleaning Vogel Law Firm Wall's Medicine Center Wells Fargo Bank - Columbia Rd **Xcel** Energy



AMBASSADORS 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.

March Ambassador Meeting, was held at Mt. Everest 8848. Steffanie from UND Career Service and Emberly from CVIC spoke.



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.



Suedel Therapeutics and Wellness <u>https://www.suedeltherapeutics.com/</u>, 3535 S. 31st St, Suite 105, Grand Forks, ND

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Hosted by Bluepeak

Brick & Barley, 9 N 3rd St., Grand Forks, ND Thursday, April 20, 2023 - 4:45pm ~ 7:00pm

<u>Bluepeak</u> invites all Chamber Members and their employees to join them for a fun Business After Hours event!

Free Admission – Complimentary hors d'oeuvres & beverages Great door prizes - Progressive cash drawing is at \$1400.

Stop by...Enjoy the fun and take advantage of great networking opportunities. You might even win \$1400 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, April 20 at Business After Hours!

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





GET THE SCOOP ON THE CHAMBER embership

WE ARE CURRENTLY ACCEPTING PRIZE DONATIONS!

These donations are awarded to our Membership Drive volunteers who work ambitiously to bring in new chamber members!

Prize ideas include but are not limited to:

Gift Cards Hotel Stay Golf Package Gym Membership Maid Services Electronics

102

DONATE NOW!

Prive April 12-12 Jay 16

Your business will be recognized on the donor list which will be seen in future promotions.

For questions regarding membership drive contact Jessica at JessicaT@gochamber.org or 701-772-7271

Crookston Hotel Named Best of AmericInn 2022 Award Winner

The AmericInn by Wyndham at 1821 University Ave Crookston, MN today announced it has been awarded the annual: Best of AmericInn 202 Award, which recognizes the brand's top performing hotels and their sta

In celebration of the achievement, Cory Dallager, the hotel's Co-owner, accepted the award from AmericInn and Wyndham Hotels & Resorts leadership.



"We are so proud to receive this honor, as our team has worked incredibly hard to consistently deliver a high level of service to our guests," said Dallager. "This award is a testament to the dedication of our team and our steadfast commitment to our guests. We look forward to welcoming even more travelers in the year to come!"

To be eligible for the award, hotels must have demonstrated strong guest satisfaction, had all their staff complete Wyndham's required health & safety trainings, and remained in good standing with the brand in the past year.



Trio joins DCN technical team

Dakota Carrier Network (DCN) has hired two new employees Nathan Briggs and Andrew Geigle, and team member Tara Taylor has assumed a new role.

Briggs, Geigle, and Taylor are all serving as Ethernet/IP technician I. As such, they are part of the Network Operations Center team, supporting DCN's state-of-the-art carrier Ethernet and IP networks. Responsibilities include network monitoring and provisioning, trouble analysis, receiving and resolving trouble reports, and administration of equipment. Briggs and Taylor are based out of DCN's Network Operations Center in Bismarck and Geigle will work from Fargo following training in Bismarck. All will serve customers throughout the state.



Nathan Briggs



Andrew Geigle



Tara Taylor

Briggs has worked as an information systems specialist in the mining industry since 2016. He has worked in a variety of areas including server and network administration, network design, system security, and technical support. Briggs earned an associate degree in computer information systems from Bismarck State College and a bachelor's degree in management information systems from the University of Mary in Bismarck.

Geigle has been an information systems maintainer for the U.S. Army/ North Dakota National Guard since 2017. Duties have included work with information systems and equipment, managing networks, operating diagnostic equipment, and ensuring continuity of power to equipment. With the NDNG, Geigle completed Advanced Individual Training in network management. He is currently working toward a bachelor's degree in cyber security systems through Southern New Hampshire University.

Taylor joined DCN in 2015 as an application administrator and late in 2021 shifted to application analyst. Her previous roles at DCN included responsibilities for administering software applications to create reports based on statistical information, configuring and maintaining network monitoring, and creating and maintaining custom dashboards for external and internal users. Prior to joining DCN, she served as a technical support trainer and application analyst. Taylor earned an associate degree in computer support from Bismarck State College and is a certified MEF Carrier Ethernet Certified Professional (CECP).

Rosemary Erickson Johnsen has been named the next Senior Vice Chancellor



Rosemary Erickson Johnsen

The University of Minnesota Crookston is pleased to announce Rosemary Erickson Johnsen, Ph.D., has been named the next Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Johnsen currently serves as the division head for Business, Arts, and Education, and will start her new role May 1, 2023.

Johnsen came to Crookston in 2022 and previously served as the associate provost and associate vice president of academic affairs at Governors State University in Chicago, Illinois. In those roles, she was on the leadership team that oversaw the Higher Learning Commission re-accreditation for their campus, the university's strategic plan, and a major strategic

enrollment planning process. Prior to her most recent appointments, Johnsen co-directed study abroad programs for Michigan State University's Office of International Studies and Programs; she also served as professor of English for 12 years at Governors State, and as a visiting assistant professor at Michigan State and Grand Valley State University.

DCN hires Syverson as CFO



Kristin Syverson

Dakota Carrier Network (DCN) has hired Kristin Syverson as its new chief financial officer (CFO).

Syverson's diverse background includes finance, marketing, and operations in the manufacturing, engineering, and non-profit sectors. These combined with a decade of CFO experience have made her into a leader with strong analytical, change management, and strategic planning skills that will help DCN thrive.

The CFO is an integral part of the DCN executive team, accountable for a comprehensive set of financial responsibilities. The CFO establishes

and maintains the company's financial policies and procedures, providing operational and administrative direction for accounting, budgeting, purchasing, billing, collections, and cash management. As CFO, Syverson is also responsible for ensuring soundness of the company's financial structure and managing DCN's relationships with financial institutions and governmental agencies. She will be based out of corporate headquarters in Fargo.

Meet Tami Froelich, she is the newest addition to Prairie Harvest Mental Health.



Tami Froelich

Tami's hometown is Bismarck, ND but has also lived in Park Rapids and Wadena, MN for 10 years. She has worked in the Social Work field for 30+ years. Some of her experience includes working in Child Protection, Hospice, Children's Mental Health Case Management and several other positions. She went back to college 3 years ago and obtained her Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling.

Tami has been working as our Life Skills/Job Development Coordinator for three months. She enjoys working with our clients in social settings to develop coping and interpersonal skills.

When Tami is not working, she promotes her own mental health by sewing, cross stitching, reading, and spending time with her two dogs.

BeMobile Receives 2022 Verizon Agent of the Year Award

BeMobile Verizon, is proud to announce that it has been awarded the prestigious "Verizon Agent of the Year" award for 2022. This award recognizes the outstanding achievements and contributions of BeMobile in providing exceptional services to its guests and driving significant growth in Verizon's mid-major segment.

As a Verizon partner for over 23 years, BeMobile has consistently demonstrated its commitment to delivering innovative solutions and superior customer experiences. With a team of highly skilled and dedicated professionals. BeMobile has been able to build strong relationships with its communities with annual events such as its Local Love campaign that supports hundreds of small businesses each year and their Backpack Giveaway with over \$1 million dollars in school supplies given away over the last 10 years.

"We are honored to receive this recognition from Verizon and are so proud of our team for earning this award through their cumulation of efforts in 2022," said Jake Miller, COO of BeMobile Verizon. "We also must thank our communities, we are grateful for the opportunity to be a resource for their connectivity needs. We will continue to prioritize our guest experience each day in our locations."



EDC Awards Molmen With 2023 Impact Award



Dave Molmen

The Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation (EDC) board of directors announces Dave Molmen as the 2023 Klaus Thiessen Impact Award recipient. The award was presented to Molmen at the EDC annual meeting held at the Alerus Center on Thursday, March 30. Annually, the board recognizes an outstanding business or individual that has made a positive impact on economic growth, vitality, and prosperity in the Grand Forks region.

"I have had the good fortune of working with Dave during our time together at Altru. He is an extremely dedicated and passionate leader. It is an honor to be able to present him with the 2023 Klaus Thiessen

Impact Award," said Meghan Compton, EDC Board Secretary, and Treasurer. "Dave's impact in the Grand Forks region is unsurmountable, especially through his 40-year career within the health system."

Among Molmen's accomplishments, the largest includes serving as a leader of the Altru Health System and its predecessor organizations for more than 40 years. In the beginning, Molmen was one of the principal architects in the merger of United Hospital and the Grand Forks Clinic in 1997 which led to the creation of the Altru Health System. Soon after the merger, he served as the first Chief Operations Officer and was quickly put to the test as he directed hospital operations through the historic flood fight of 1997 and the massive recovery that followed.

"When it comes to being honored with the award, the first word that comes to mind is unworthy because the accomplishments in my career have always been completed with a group of people," Molmen stated, "Working together is the hallmark of the Grand Forks community – we put differences aside and make the community better for the common good."

Read more.





THE CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS AND THE CHAMBER INVITE YOU TO ATTEND MAYOR GANDER'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS & LUNCHEON



Thursday, April 20, 2023 11:30am - 1:00 pm East Grand Forks Civic Arena



\$22/person - Open seating\$180 - Reserved Table of 8

REGISTER HERE

Reservations are required by Thursday, April 13th. (Event may fill up prior to the registration deadline.)



AE2S ~ Bremer Bank ~ First Community Credit Union Galstad, Jensen & McCann, P.A. ~ GRAND Lifestyle Magazine Northdale Oil ~ Northland Custom Woodworking University of MN Crookston ~ Xcel Energy BUFFET LUNCH CATERED BY BLUE MOOSE BAR & GRILL

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THECHAMBER

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> Tina Fetsch Executive Assistant info@gochamber.org

Jessica Tennison Membership Director jessicat@gochamber.org



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