

January 2023



THE Voice

www.gochamber.org

2023 Chamber Annual Meeting

Featured Speakers for Chamber Annual Dinner



Dr. Derek Tournear

Director

Space Development Agency

George Rumford

Director

Test Resource Management Center

Tom Swoyer

CEO

Grand Sky

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Alerus Center

Social & Online Auction Display 5:30pm

Dinner & Program 6:30pm

[Click Here to Register!](#)

Plus 2022 Henry Havig Award Winner announced.

CHAMBER NEWS

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Awards The Chamber Grand Forks / East Grand Forks with 5-Star Accreditation



Pictured above is The Chamber Board of Directors and staff.

Front Row: Jessica Tennison, Kimberly Strom, Tommy Kenville, Barry Wilfahrt, Tina Fetsch

2nd Row: Penny Stai, Pat Boppre, Meloney Linder, Russel Crary, Mike Fridolfs, Kay Derry

Back Row: Anna Rosburg, Dave Zavoral, Keith Lund, Mike Dunn, Torrie Enget, Brian Leach, Tony Hodny

Missing from photo: Curt Kreun, Meghan Compton, John Schumacher, Matt Fischer, Mike McLean, Brandon Bochenski, Andy Schneider, Tarek Howard, Col. Tim Curry

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has awarded The Chamber Grand Forks / East Grand Forks with its designation of Accredited with 5 Stars for its sound policies, effective organizational procedures, and positive impact on the community. There are over 7,000 Chambers of Commerce in the United States and only 141 are 5-Star Accredited, the highest designation.

Chamber CEO, Barry Wilfahrt said “this is a tribute to the outstanding volunteer leadership and engaged Chamber membership.” This is the third consecutive five-year designation achieved by the GF/EGF Chamber. “Chambers of Commerce that achieve an Accreditation designation are truly leaders in their industry.” said Raymond P. Towle, U.S. Chamber Vice President, Federation Relations and IOM. “This rigorous review includes all aspects of a chamber’s policies, operations, and programming. When chambers of commerce earn the distinction of becoming Accredited, it is a mark of excellence for the organization, its staff, and its leadership. Accredited chambers are recognized for their ability to serve as a resource to their region’s businesses while maintaining transparent governance practices, sound financial controls, safe work environments, effective communications, and value in programming. They are commended for their continued advocacy of free enterprise, and for their commitment to serving members and their local businesses. Congratulations on this tremendous accomplishment.”

Local chambers are rated Accredited, 3-Stars, 4-Stars, or 5-Stars. State chambers are recognized as either Accredited State Chamber or Accredited State Chamber with Distinction. The final determination is made by the Accrediting Board, a committee of U.S. Chamber board members.

The mission of the GF/EGF Chamber is to create an environment that encourages business growth while enhancing the quality of life in the region.

CHAMBER NEWS

Chamber Focuses on Infrastructure



*Barry Wilfahrt,
Chamber President
and CEO*

The Chamber will continue to focus on major infrastructure projects in 2023.

The two City Councils will meet in joint session tonight to continue to talk about finding a plan to build an additional bridge or two between our two cities. The Chamber strongly supports building both an in town bridge and a bridge at the Merrifield location.

The Chamber will be working closely with the City of Grand Forks this legislative session to secure funding for an interchange on I-29 at 47th and also an underpass at 42nd and Demers. The Chamber will also continue to push the GF County Board to do the environmental work on a Merrifield interchange. According to Chamber Past Board Chair, Tommy Kenville, “we are making progress but our community leaders must have the “political will” to do what is best for the long term growth of the community. These are hard decisions but doing nothing is not an option.”

The Chamber’s Infrastructure Committee led by Dave Zavoral and Sally Miskavige will continue to meet in 2023, participate in MPO meetings, Council meetings and meet with the DOT in both states to keep pressure on to design, fund and build these projects.

State of the Base Rescheduled

The Chamber will host Col Tim Curry for his State of the Base event in March 2023. This will be a great opportunity to learn about the exciting things happening at GFAFB.

CHAMBER NEWS

Chamber President Wants to Visit with You

Chamber President, Barry Wilfahrt enjoys nothing more than meeting one on one with Chamber Members. This is an ongoing process with nearly 1,100 members. If you want to visit with Barry over coffee about your business, please contact Tina Fetch and she will move you up the list and get you scheduled. Nothing helps the Chamber best represent your business at the Capital or on local issues than visiting first hand with you the members. Email Tina today with a couple suggested dates: tfetsch@gochamber.org.

- SILENT AUCTION NOTICE -

'Tis the season of giving and silent auctions!

The Chamber has one of its own Online Silent Auctions at the Annual Meeting & Dinner on **Thursday, January 26, 2023**. Please consider **DONATING AN ITEM** or **GIFT BASKET** to one of the Chamber's largest fund raisers!



2023 ONLINE AUCTION

THE Chamber
GRAND FORKS • EAST GRAND FORKS

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 Social Media & Member2Member!

Thank you to all the contributors!

We hope to see you at the Auction!

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE!](#)

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Rosenquist Law Office

Kerry Rosenquist
2750 S 26th St. Ste C
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-775-0654

<https://rosenquistlawoffice.com/>

Rosenquist Law Office is a Grand Forks and Fargo based law office that is dedicated to helping its clients navigate the legal system throughout North Dakota and Minnesota. Our respected legal professionals work diligently to review your case and get you the best possible outcome. Rosenquist Law Office is led by a team of skilled attorneys that focus on protecting your rights and freedoms.

F Pederson Consulting LLC

Faye Pederson
701-746-7212

faye@pedersonconsultingllc.com

F Pederson Consulting LLC is a Bookkeeping, Payroll & QuickBooks consulting business dedicated to servicing small businesses in the Greater Grand Forks area. Previously, I have managed a small local CPA firm for over 20 years and has over 30 years of experience with QuickBooks.

Nutrien Ag Solutions

Matthew Glessner
4500 54th Ave N
Grand Forks, ND 58203

<http://nutrienagsolutions.com/>

Nutrien Ag Solutions is the retail division of Nutrien Ltd., the world's largest crop inputs company. We provide full-acre solutions through our crop consultants helping growers achieve the highest yields with the most sustainable solutions possible.

Your CBD Store

2990 32nd Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
www.getsunmed.com

Matt Yde

Your CBD Store is now the largest CBD retailer in the U.S. with our main focus in educating consumers on various Hemp Derived products. Education is lacking in the growing industry so we mix that with a huge variety (over 150) products with extensive lab tests to ensure quality.

USDA Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center

USDA GFHNRC
2420 2nd Ave N
Grand Forks, ND 58203

<https://www.ars.usda.gov/plains-area/gfnd/gfhnrc/>

About the USDA ARS Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center
As part of the United States Department of Agriculture, the Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center has been a world leader in nutrition research for more than 30 years. Our mission is to improve the health of all – in Grand Forks and nationwide!



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UND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
FOUNDATION
LEADERS IN ACTION

Thursday, February 9, 2023



**GIVING
HEARTS
DAY**

UNDalumni.org/ghd



40TH ANNIVERSARY

ANTHRAX

**Black Label
Society**

SPECIAL GUEST

EXODUS

JANUARY 25
ALERIUS CENTER

LIVE NATION

ANTHRAX.COM
BLACKLABELSOCIETY.COM

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

DECEMBER 1, TO DECEMBER 31, 2022

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

A & L Siding & Home Improvement Center	Cost Cutters - Grand Cities Mall	Gate City Bank - 24th Ave S
Aatrix Software	Countrywide Sanitation	Gerrells Sports Center - Hockey World
Absolute Refrigeration, LLC.	Crary Real Estate-Linda Pierce	Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons
Acme Equipment	Culinex	Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons
Acme Rents (Heavy Equipment)	Custom Aire	GOLDMARK Property Management, Inc.
Acme Rents (Tailgate)	Dahl Funeral Home	Gowan Construction, Inc.
ACME TOOLS	Dakota Commercial & Development Inc. - Jerry Youngberg	Grand Forks Country Club
Ad Monkeys	Dakota Fence	Grand Forks County Historical Society
AFS Automated Financial Services, Inc.	Dakota Supply Group	Grand Forks Herald
All Embracing Home Care, LLC	Delta Dental of Minnesota	Grand Forks Public Schools
American Legion Post 6	Don's ABC Seamless, Inc.	Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation
AmericInn By Wyndham Crookston	Dusek Law	Great Clips
AmericInn Lodge & Suites	Dusso Photography	Greater Grand Forks Fair & Exhibition Inc.
Anne Carlsen Center Community Services	EAPC Architects Engineers	Greenberg Realty-Rita Schuster
Archives Coffee House	Edgewood - East Grand Forks	H&S Electrical Services LLC
Arvig	Edward Jones - Brian Emerson	Half Brothers Brewing Company
Aurora Dialysis	EGF Blue Line Club	Hampton Inn & Suites
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Family Realty - Jodi Danzl	EGF Blue Line Club	Hampton Management
Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	EGF Rod & Gun Club	Happy Harry's Bottle Shops
Brekke Tours & Travel	Enclave Property Management	Happy Harry's Bottle Shops - 2
Brockmeyer Tile & Stone, Inc.	Epic Companies	Heritage Highland I
Buffalo Wild Wings	Evergreen Insurance	Heritage Highland I
Cabela's	Ferguson Books & More!	Heritage Highland I
Catalyst Medical Center	Fert-L-Lawn	Heritage Highland II
Choice Bank - 42nd Street	Finest Auto Trim, INC	Heritage Highland II
Choice Bank - South Washington	Forks Lath & Plaster, Inc.	Heyer Engineering Inc.
Connect Interiors	Forx Builders Association	Houston Engineering, Inc.
Construction Engineers, Inc.	Frandsen Bank & Trust - East Grand Forks	
Continental Covenant, LLC	Frandsen Bank & Trust - Grand Forks	
Cost Cutters	Garon Corporation	

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ICS Consulting	Newman Outdoor Advertising	Stone's Security Systems Inc
Ironhide Equipment	North Dakota Eye Clinic	Stones Mobile Radio Inc.
ISight Drone Services	North Dakota Museum of Art	Subway - 2400 S Washington
Italian Moon Pizza & Restaurant	Northern Bag and Box Company	Success Unlimited
J.R. Simplot	Northern Plumbing Supply	Swanson & Warcup, Ltd.
Kuhl Properties	Northlands Rescue Mission	Ten Acre Marketing
L & M Meats & Sausage	Northridge (Hospitality & Construction)	The Bun Lounge
L.I.S.T.E.N. Center	Northside Cafe	Thrifty White Pharmacy #081
LafargeHolcim	Northwest Tire	Todd's Trailer Sales & Rentals
Leighton Broadcasting 1310 KNOX/97 KYCK/1043 Cities FM/Rock 95/Z947	Opticare-Forks Vision Clinic	Tractor Supply Company
Lineage Logistics	Peterson Veterinary Clinic	Tru North Services, LLC
Little Miracles, Inc	Petopia	True North Resource Center
Loffler Companies, Inc.	Philadelphia Macaroni Company	Trustone Wealth Management
Mainstream Boutique	Polk County DAC	UND Office of the President
MAK Construction LLC	Prairie Business Magazine	Unique Auto Body & Sales, Inc.
Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Dakota	Praxis Strategy Group	University of Mary
Manke Family Dentistry	Premier Signs, LLP	University of Minnesota Crookston
Maple View Memory Care Community	PS Industries Incorporated	V!TAL nutrition
McDonald's - S. Washington	Public Arts Commission	Vaaler Insurance, a Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company
McKinnon Company	ReadiTech IT Solutions	Valley Dairy/Valley Car Wash
Mexican Village	Red River Biorefinery, LLC	Valley Golf
Mikkelson Consolidated, L.L.P	Red River Farm Network	Valley Petroleum Equipment Inc.
Modern Auto Body, Inc.	Red River Valley Habitat for Humanity	Valley Senior Living
Modern Information Systems, Inc.	Rhombus Guys	Valley Truck Parts and Service, Inc.
Morgan Printing, Inc.	Rhombus Guys Brewing Company	Vigen Construction Inc
My Place Hotels	Rollin on the River Marathon	Visit Greater Grand Forks
MyAlly Health	Sam's Club	Vreeland Remodeling, Inc.
National Property Inspections - Tim Brown	Sanford HealthCare Accessories	Waterfront Kitchen & Bath
ND Mill & Elevator	Simonson Lumber and Design Center	Webster, Foster & Weston Consulting Engineers, Inc
	SimplyMaid	WELCORE HEALTH
	Spectra Health	Winsupply Grand Forks
	SpringHill Suites by Marriott	Yorhom Medical Essentials
	Stifel Nicolaus	

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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.

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.

December Ambassador Meeting, was held at Rhombus Guys Brewing Company.



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.



Circle of Friend Adoption Center
cospets.com, 910 S. Washington St, Grand Forks, ND

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Hosted by **Northern Air**

1600 32nd Ave S., Grand Forks, ND

Thursday, January 19, 2023 - 4:45pm ~ 7:00pm

Northern Air 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 \$1100.

Stop by...Enjoy the fun and take advantage of great networking opportunities.

You might even win **\$1100** 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, January 19 at Business After Hours!

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

Thank you to Canad Inn for hosting an eventful December Business After Hours.



MEMBER NEWS

PRAIRIE BUSINESS MAGAZINE NAMES MALLORY BERDAL AMONG 2022'S TOP 40 UNDER 40



*Mallory Berdal,
Alerus*

Alerus is pleased to announce Prairie Business magazine has named Mallory Berdal, banking operations manager, to its Top 40 under 40 list for 2022. The annual list recognizes outstanding young professionals from the Dakotas and western Minnesota for their contributions to their professions and communities.

As the banking operations manager at Alerus, Berdal is responsible for the deposit operations and loan operations teams, and plays a critical role in technology advancements, fraud mitigation, deposit and lending projects, and process improvements. She joined Alerus in 2006 and has served in various roles during her tenure with the company, including client service manager and deposit operations manager.

Berdal is an active member of the community and currently serves as a member of the Greater Grand Forks Sertoma Club. She also recently volunteered as a youth soccer coach and assists in coordinating community involvement activities for Alerus. She holds a bachelor's degree in business management from the University of North Dakota and is a designated National Check Professional and Accredited ACH Professional.

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MEMBER NEWS

Woodside Village at Valley Senior Living on 42nd Earns High Performing Rating from U.S. News & World Report

Woodside Village at Valley Senior Living on 42nd, a skilled nursing care community, has been recognized as a “Best Nursing Home” for long term care with a high performing rating for 2022 to 2023 by U.S. News & World Report, a global leader in quality rankings.

The annual “Best Nursing Homes” ratings assist prospective residents and their families in making informed decisions about where to receive short-term or long-term nursing home care. “We are extremely honored to achieve this ranking by the U.S. News & World Report. It is a testament to the care offered to residents by our team of expert caregivers, while ensuring the utmost in resident safety,” said Gina Roller, Administrator, Valley Senior Living on 42nd.

For 2022 to 2023, U. S. News rated more than 15,000 nursing homes on care, safety, infection rates, staffing and health inspections. To calculate the “Best Nursing Homes” ratings, U.S. News evaluated each nursing home’s performance using a variety of data such as resident care, safety, and outcomes obtained from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Short-term and long term ratings include data on consistency of registered nurse staffing, use of antipsychotic drugs, success in preventing emergency room and hospital visits, success in preventing falls, preventing serious infections, and making sure residents are able to return home. For the first time, the “Best Nursing Homes” ratings feature new measures on weekend staffing and infection rates that led to hospitalizations.



The Employment Issue

It's not you or them, honest!

Please join us on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, for a review of the new employment landscape, and what to do about it. Dr. Jeff Franck (HR Guru that talks a lot) and Jacob Johnson (Emolpyment Guru that lives with hiring issues) will review what’s happened, why it’s happened, and what you need to do as an employer to keep up.

Wednesday, January 18, 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](#)

MEMBER NEWS

Local Real Estate Agents Recognized Internationally for Outstanding Achievement

Grand Forks area professionals honored by EXIT Realty Corp. International

The 2021/2022 real estate market was brisk as home prices and interest rates continued to rise. The need then and now for knowledgeable, professional real estate agents to skillfully guide their clients through the changing market has never been greater.

EXIT Realty Corp. International recognized its champions for outstanding achievement through that period during the company's international Convention held recently at the Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort near Jacksonville, Florida.

* Marc Hedlund, Associate Broker with EXIT Realty Metro in Grand Forks was honored with the Silver Award by EXIT Realty Corp. International. The award was given in recognition of closing between 50 and 74 real estate transaction sides during the production year July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022.

* Steve Leventes, Sales Representative with EXIT Realty Metro in Grand Forks was honored with the Bronze Award by EXIT Realty Corp. International. The award was given in recognition of closing between 25 and 49 real estate transaction sides during the production year July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022.

“The real estate professionals who put the needs of their clients first and who can pivot to meet those needs in a changing economy will always succeed,” said Tami Bonnell, Co-Chair, EXIT Realty Corp. International. “It’s because of the hard work and dedication of our agents and brokerage owners that EXIT has continued to thrive and expand across the US and Canada. We are proud of their accomplishments, and we extend our best wishes for their continued success. Congratulations to our champions!”

THE CHAMBER

Executive Committee

Chair: Russel Crary, Crary Real Estate
Chair Elect: Tony Hodny, H & S Electrical Services LLC
Past Chair: Tommy Kenville, iSight Drone Services
Matt Fisher, Probitas Promotions
Kay Derry, Northern Roots Boutique
Pat Boppre, Blue Moose Bar & Grill
Barry Wilfahrt, Chamber GF/EGF

Board of Directors

Meghan Compton, Altru Health System
Mike Dunn, Construction Engineers
Torrie Enget, Hugo's Family Marketplace
Mike Fridolfs, Northrop Grumman Corp.
Annie Gorder, Three Farm Daughters
Tarek Howard, Auto Finance Super Center
Meloney Linder, University of North Dakota
Keith Lund, GF EDC
Mike McLean, JLG Architects
Matt Norby, Norby's Work Perks
Emily O'Brien, Bioscience Association of ND
Scott Reck, Northdale Oil
Andy Schneider, Dakota Concealed/GF County Sheriff
John Schumacher, American Federal
Penny Stai, River Cinema
Tyler Wilson, Vilandre Heating & Cooling
Sr. Military Advisor to the Board
Col. Timothy Curry, GFAFB

Chamber Staff

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