



THE Voice

www.gochamber.org

Leadership Tours and Talks event on the UND campus

UND showcased many of its new programs and facilities during the Leadership Tours and Talks event on the UND campus. Pictured are some of the 25 members of the Chamber who spent the better part of the day learning about UND’s expanding academic offerings and touring the many new campus facilities. “It’s little wonder UND enrollment continues to be strong with the great vibe on campus,” remarked one participant.



Pictured are community members who attended the event.

Chamber to Host Two-Night Candidate Forum May 19–20 continued on page 2



The Grand Forks/East Grand Forks Chamber will host a two-night Candidate Forum on May 19 and May 20 in the Grand Forks City Council Chamber, providing the community with an opportunity to hear directly from candidates in several upcoming local and legislative races.

CHAMBER NEWS

Chamber to Host Two-Night Candidate Forum May 19–20 continued from page 1

The forums are organized by the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee and will be moderated by Co-Chair Garth Rydland. Both evenings will be broadcast live and available for viewing on the City of Grand Forks YouTube channel.

Tuesday, May 19

The forum will begin at 6:00 p.m. with candidates for the Grand Forks County Commission, including both four-year and two-year term races. Participating candidates include Rachel Duray, Kimberly Hagen, Debra Kolden-Thibert, Andrew Krauseneck, Mark Rustad, Tony Hodny, Mitch McCoy, and Bob Mullen.

At 7:30 p.m., the forum will continue with candidates in contested primary races for the North Dakota House of Representatives in Districts 42 and 43. Candidates include Ethan Harsell, Dustin McNally, Connie Osowski (District 42), and Jill Chandler, Mike Holmes, and Eric Murphy (District 43).

Wednesday, May 20

The second evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with Grand Forks City Council candidates. Ward 6 candidate Dana Sande (unopposed) will provide comments, followed by contested races in Ward 2 (Dale Bergman, Ryan King, Rebecca Osowski) and Ward 4 (Angela Salentiny, Harry Samuelson).

At 7:00 p.m., the forum will feature Grand Forks School Board candidates, including Mary Adams, Josh Anderson, JoNell Bakke, Allyse Dunnigan, Brianna Hall, Veronica Hanson, Lori Kraemer, and Cameron Murphy.

"These forums are an important opportunity for voters and the business community to hear directly from candidates and learn more about the issues impacting our region," said Barry Wilfahrt, President/CEO of the Chamber.

CHAMBER NEWS

Housing Report Shows Extremely Tight Market

Rental vacancy rates have stayed below 4% over the past year, with fewer than 100 homes currently on the market—clear signs of a very tight housing market. Rental rates have also risen 18% in the past two years.

The Chamber and EDC funded this study to provide data-driven evidence supporting the need for policy changes and incentives to encourage new housing. As past Chamber Board Chair Mike McLean noted, “this study gives a true picture of the housing market so elected officials can make informed decisions.”

A City Council Housing Task Force is also expected to form, similar to the one established in 2012.



DRIVE RESULTS DURING PEAK SEASON

For seasonal businesses, peak season often determines how the entire year performs. Trust the marketing team at the Grand Forks Herald to develop a digital advertising strategy that aligns creative, media placement and performance tracking so every channel works together to drive results.

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CHAMBER NEWS

U.S. Chamber Committee of 100 Meeting Highlights National Economic Priorities and Emerging Trends

A central theme throughout the meeting was the urgent need to increase U.S. economic growth. Speakers, including CNBC contributor Dan Clifton and U.S. Chamber Chief Policy Officer Neil Bradley, emphasized that the current 2% growth rate—consistent since 2008—is insufficient. A shift to 3% growth is critical, with estimates suggesting American households are effectively \$50,000 poorer under the slower growth trajectory. Achieving stronger growth remains a top priority for the U.S. Chamber, particularly as economic mobility and the “American Dream” become more difficult for younger generations.



Policy uncertainty and high interest costs were identified as key challenges. While deficits remain a concern, speakers stressed that interest payments—currently a growing share of federal spending—are the more immediate risk to economic stability. At the same time, strong corporate earnings and potential Federal Reserve rate cuts continue to influence market performance.

Overall, the Committee of 100 meeting which Chamber CEO Barry Wilfahrt is honored to be part of underscored a clear message: sustained economic growth, innovation, and strategic policy alignment will be critical to maintaining U.S. competitiveness in the years ahead.

ACC Update Highlights Importance of Grand Forks AFB



At a recent ACC meeting of Civic leaders attended by Chamber CEO, Barry Wilfahrt, General Adrian Spain emphasized the growing importance of integration, readiness, and advanced technology in future Air Force operations—areas where Grand Forks AFB is well-positioned to contribute.

Discussion also reinforced the critical role of community support, including housing, schools, and infrastructure, in sustaining mission growth. These factors remain key as Grand Forks continues to align with evolving Air Force priorities and opportunities.

CHAMBER NEWS

Cramer Announces \$250M for GFAFB Space Command

Senator Kevin Cramer recently announced a \$250 million investment supporting Space Command efforts at Grand Forks Air Force Base.

The Base Enhancement Committee has been laying the groundwork for projects like this, supported by state funding and informed by the Arctic Opportunity white paper developed by the Mitchell Institute. Looking ahead, the committee plans to use 2025–27 funds to strengthen the case for additional investment in counter-drone capabilities and expanded space assets tied to the Golden Dome initiative.



Chamber CEO Barry Wilfahrt noted that this progress reflects ongoing collaboration with Air Force and Department of Defense leaders, alongside North Dakota’s congressional delegation.

Visit with Barry

Share your business challenges and success with Barry.

Drop me an email. I would love to stop by your business for a visit.

Barry@gochamber.org

Barry Wilfahrt, Chamber President and CEO

CHAMBER NEWS

Natural Gas Supply Remains Key Regional Priority

Natural gas continues to be a critical topic for the Grand Forks region, with ongoing discussions focused on supply, infrastructure, and long-term reliability. As energy demands grow, ensuring access to affordable and dependable natural gas is essential for supporting local industry, future development, and overall economic growth. This was supported by a recent document prepared by the EERC and presented to the ND Pipeline Authority.

Regional leaders and stakeholders like Xcel Energy are actively working to better understand opportunities and challenges, positioning the community to advocate for solutions that support continued expansion and competitiveness. A meeting with Xcel is scheduled and a trip to visit leaders in Bismarck is being planned for this summer to talk about how Grand Forks fits into the State's plan to move Baaken gas to eastern ND.

Herald Advisory Group Making an Impact

Recent coverage in the Grand Forks Herald highlights the growing impact of the Herald Business Advisory group. Several stories in the Saturday, April 27 edition—including pieces on drone availability and healthcare staffing—originated directly from advisory group discussions.

Additional coverage tied to the group continues to emerge, including an upcoming feature on natural gas in the Grand Forks region, a key topic from the most recent meeting.

These stories reflect the value of ongoing collaboration between the GF Herald and business leaders.

Great Time to Join Chamber Ambassadors

Spring brings a surge of ribbon cuttings for new and expanding businesses—making it the perfect time to get involved with the Chamber Ambassadors. Join more than 50 local professionals who help welcome new businesses to the Grand Forks community.

Open to all Chamber members, the group also offers monthly networking luncheons and social events throughout the year.

Interested in joining? Contact Doug at doug@gochamber.org

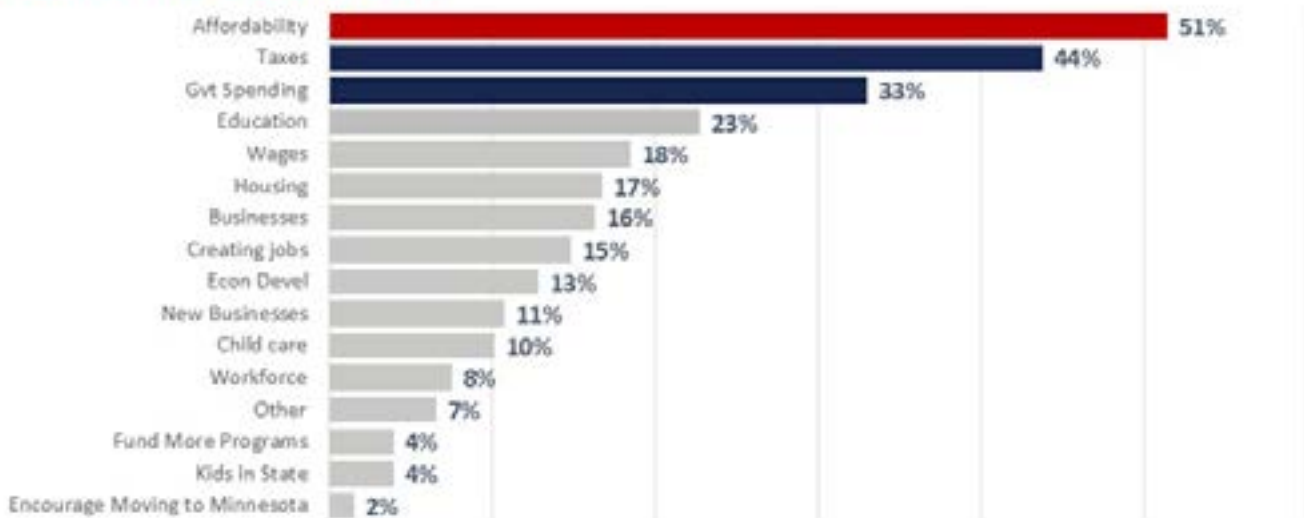
CHAMBER NEWS

Poll: Minnesotans say they're paying more and getting less

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce released today results of a statewide poll showing growing financial stress among Minnesotans, increasing pessimism about the state's economy and rising concern that taxpayers are not getting the same value for what they pay in state taxes and costs that they have in recent years.

"Our state is becoming less affordable, and people are feeling it," said Doug Loon, President and CEO of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. "Minnesotans feel like they are paying more and getting less, and that's something that lawmakers can't ignore."

Which of the following should be the top priorities for state leaders when it comes to growing the state's economy? (up to 3)



Results show clear signs of economic strain and pessimism about the future, particularly among middle- and lower-income Minnesotans. *Click on Graphic for more information.*

- 65% of Minnesotans rate the state's economy as "fair to poor," which means the economy isn't working the way that it should for a lot of families.
- 47% of Minnesotans say their personal finances have gotten worse over the past year, with 53% of lower-income Minnesotans saying their finances have worsened.
- 51% say they get worse value services and programs for the amount they pay in state and local taxes compared to a few years ago.

GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH MINNESOTA PROGRAMS

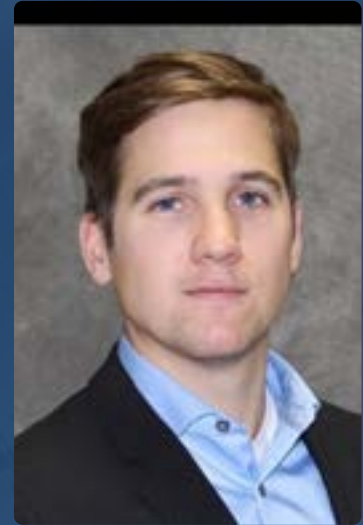
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Chet Bodin
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Manager
(DEED)



Maggie Brocking
East Grand Forks
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Sam Jenson
Workforce
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(DEED)

June 16, 2026

11:30 am - 1:00 pm



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ROSE CREEK GOLF COURSE

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HAWKTREE GOLF CLUB

DETROIT LAKES | 7.16.26
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We've added special nonstop flights to Austin from GFK to help you get to the US Hockey Hall of Fame Game, October 31st, Limited seats available. Book now and don't miss the puck drop!

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ALERUS CENTER

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The Chamber
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The Chamber Grand Forks/East Grand Forks

JOB BOARD

gochamber.org/community-job-board

Leadership Lessons from Mathematics

That's right, mathematics. Great leadership, like mathematics, is built on clarity, logic, and the ability to solve complex problems with confidence. This interactive session is designed to utilize thought-provoking concepts prevalent in mathematics that translate into effective leadership strategies. Whether you are a seasoned executive or a rising leader, this session will connect the mindset of mathematics with real-world leadership examples to shape how you lead with purpose, consistency, and impact.

Think math isn't your thing? No problem, please come anyway! There's no test (we promise), just a fun experience packed with interesting insights and takeaways that will enhance your leadership skills.

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

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



Brown Bag Seminar 

Presented by...

Dr. Andy Armacost, President, University of North Dakota

Andy Armacost is the thirteenth president of the University of North Dakota, a role he assumed on June 1, 2020. He has spent nearly three decades in higher education as an educator, scholar, and leader.

In his current role, Armacost has led the UND campus to national acclaim, setting a trajectory for the university's recent classification as a "Carnegie R1" institution. He has forged key partnerships with the US Department of Defense, becoming the first-ever university designated as a member of the U.S. Space Force's University Partners Program. He has garnered significant support from the state legislature to launch two new major facilities: one for satellite design and fabrication and another for the development of nanomaterials. He led critical efforts following the COVID pandemic to unify

and empower the campus community via the creation and launch of the UND LEADS strategic plan, which articulates our guiding vision and our core values of Learning, Equity, Affinity, Discovery, and Service. Notably, under Armacost's leadership, the UND campus received the Larry Abernathy Award from the International Town & Gown Association and the ACE/Fidelity Investments Transformation Award as two examples of our sense of unity and purpose. The campus and President Armacost have been nationally recognized for their work in the adoption of artificial intelligence, the interaction of humans and machines, and the preservation of what it means to be human.

Prior to UND, Armacost served as the Dean of the Faculty at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He retired in the rank of Brigadier General after thirty years of service, including twenty years as a professor, department chair, and Dean of the Faculty. He currently serves on the board of the Academy's Falcon Foundation; represents UND on three NCAA Division I athletic conference boards; serves on the advisory board for VOICE, the voice of collegiate esports; and is an active board member for four UND-affiliated non-profit organizations that guide our work in energy, aerospace sciences, innovation, and philanthropy.

His academic career began as an undergraduate at Northwestern University, where he studied Industrial Engineering, and as a graduate student at MIT, where he earned his master's and Ph.D. in Operations Research. He is an award-winning educator and researcher, with international recognition from the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) and the Military Operations Research Society (MORS).

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR SEMINAR](#)

\$25/Member & \$35/Non Member (Includes Lunch)

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Amazon WND4

1150 S 46th St, Grand Forks, ND 58201

Amazon's mission is to make customers' lives easier every day by continuously innovating on their behalf. Through its online marketplace, the company offers a wide selection of products, convenience, and value, while also supporting more than 1.7 million small and medium-sized businesses that sell through Amazon stores.

Locally, Amazon's WND4 distribution center in Grand Forks plays an important role in the company's operations network, helping ensure efficient delivery while supporting the region through job creation and economic impact.

Grand Forks Optimist Club

PO Box 12652, Grand Forks, ND 58201

goptimists@gmail.com

optimist.org

The Grand Forks Optimist Club is a volunteer-driven organization dedicated to bringing out the best in youth, our community, and ourselves. Through fundraising and hands-on service projects, we support a variety of youth-focused programs throughout the Greater Grand Forks area. Some of our initiatives include Bike Safety education in local schools, a bike giveaway for children in need, our annual Foster Family Picnic, and providing Easter baskets to youth in the community. By partnering with local organizations and investing in meaningful programs, we strive to make a lasting, positive impact rooted in optimism and service.



HOTWORX Grand Forks

2650 32nd Ave S, Suite 12, Grand Forks, ND 58201

701-330-3903

<https://www.hotworx.net/studio/grandforks>

HOTWORX Grand Forks is a 24/7 infrared fitness studio offering a unique combination of heat, isometric workouts, and high-intensity training designed to help members maximize results in less time. The studio provides a welcoming and efficient workout environment focused on supporting overall health and wellness.

Bringing an innovative approach to fitness, HOTWORX introduces a new and energizing option for individuals in the Grand Forks community looking to achieve their personal wellness goals.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

MORGAIN Physical Therapy

4575 32nd Ave S, Stes 1 & 2, Grand Forks, ND 58201

701-599-3848

<https://morgainphysicaltherapy.com/>



MORGAIN Physical Therapy isn't your typical clinic—and that's intentional.

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MPT combines expert physical therapy with a focus on healthy aging, building long-term resilience—not just temporary relief.

What sets them apart is their Longevity Lounge—a performance and recovery space using advanced, non-invasive technologies like hyperbaric oxygen, red light therapy, PEMF, and sauna to improve circulation, support nerve health, and speed recovery.

Living longer means nothing if your body can't keep up with your life.

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Mr. William Bell

PO Box 147, Buxton, ND 58218

701-841-1000

<https://www.hepperolson.com/>

Retired & Individual Chamber Member

Mr. William Bell is a Grand Forks area resident with a professional background in aerospace and aviation program management. Over the course of his career, he held leadership roles supporting advanced engineering and unmanned systems initiatives, contributing to complex projects within the aerospace industry.

In addition to his work in the field, he also led Chebec Consulting, where he applied his experience in project management and technical development to support industry-related efforts.

Now retired, William remains connected to the community as an individual Chamber member, bringing a depth of industry knowledge and experience to the Greater Grand Forks region.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS Hosted by Canad Inns Destination Centre

1000 S 42nd St, Grand Forks, ND

Thursday, May 21, 2026

4:45pm ~ 7:00pm

Canad Inns Destination Centre invites all Chamber members and their employees to join them for a great Business After Hours event in Upper Playmakers! Not only is this a great space for hosting, they will also be explaining some of the updates that have happened recently and more changes coming soon.

**Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, 2 Drink Tickets & Cash Bar, Great door prizes.
Progressive cash drawing is at \$600 (winner must be in attendance).**

Stop by...Enjoy the fun and take advantage of great networking opportunities.
You might even win **\$600** in our Progressive Cash drawing!

Remember, BAH is FREE for all Chamber members! Is your employer a Chamber member?
That means YOU ARE TOO! Guests are welcome.

See you Thursday, May 21, 2026 at Business After Hours!

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

Thank you to Widseth for hosting an eventful Business After Hours.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

April 2026 Renewals

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

Amundson, Roger D.D.S.
Black Gold Farms
BNSF Railway Company
Border States Trophy & Awards
Buffalo Wild Wings
CleanTech
Countrywide Moving and Storage
Deek's Pizza
Delta Advisory Group
Drees Farming Association
Driscoll's Auto Service
Empire 1
Forks Mobile Wash
Forum Communications Printing
Garden Hut
GF Shutter Shots
Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons
Grand Cities Games
Grand Forks County
Grand Forks County Historical Society
Grand Forks Kia
Greenberg Realty, Inc.
IMM
Kiersten Brutger, Berkshire Hathaway

HomeServices Family Realty
Mainstream Boutique
Northern Plains UAS Test Site
Northland Potato Growers Association
Olive Barrel
OsteoStrong Health and Wellness Center
Red River Tax & Accounting
Sanford Health Equip
Scheels All Sports
SIN BIN Kitchen Bar Casino
Strive Life Grand Forks
Structures, Inc.
The Greenhouse
Thunder Ray's Auto Repair
Total Skin Dermatology and Aesthetics
UND Athletics Department
UND TRIO Programs
VYBE Wellness
Wood Products Inc. DBA American Woods



of U.S. adults agree that their local chamber of commerce is a **trusted resource and partner** for businesses.



feel that their local chamber has an impact on **growing businesses locally**.

90%

believe that their local chamber has an impact on **growing the local economy**.



say that their local chamber has an impact on **addressing challenges** within their community.

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

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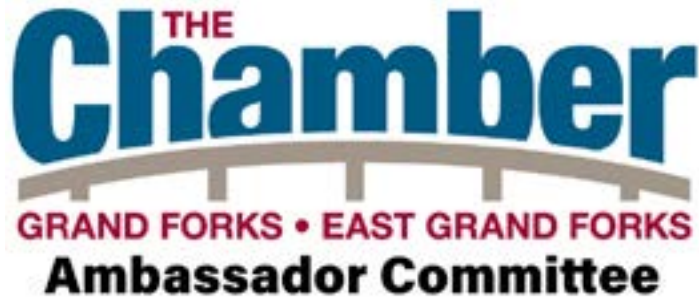


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AMBASSADORS MEETING



The Chamber Ambassadors extend a warm welcome to new businesses, actively participate in celebrating grand openings and special events, and engage in various Chamber activities.

The Chamber Ambassadors play a crucial role in fostering a vibrant business community by actively encouraging and supporting new and fellow members. Their mission is centered around creating opportunities for businesses to thrive while simultaneously contributing to the community's well-being.

Their dedication involves promoting The Chamber to potential members, highlighting the benefits of membership, and showcasing the community as an excellent place to live and do business. Ambassadors commit to attending monthly meetings and participating in diverse events throughout the year, such as Ribbon Cuttings, Business After Hours, and Chamber activities. Through their commitment and positive representation, Ambassadors actively contribute to the success and growth of The Chamber and its members.

The Ambassadors meet on the 3rd Monday of the month.



Ambassador Social on April 20th: @ Red Ray Lanes. The Ambassadors enjoyed connecting and bowling.

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 Doug at **772-7271** or Doug@gochamber.org to schedule a ribbon cutting event.

Heartland Hearing Professionals

4680 S Washington St, Suite D, Grand Forks, ND



Pictured are Heartland Hearing Professionals employees, guests and The Chamber Ambassadors.

Annie's Chocolates

1726 S Washington, Suite 68 (Inside Midtown District Mall), Grand Forks



Pictured are Annie's Chocolates employees, guests and The Chamber Ambassadors.

MEMBER NEWS

Alerus Wealth Advisor Chris Moen earns Certified Financial Planner certification



Chris Moen

Alerus is pleased to announce that Grand Forks-based wealth advisor Chris Moen has earned the Certified Financial Planner certification. This certification recognizes his financial planning expertise and commitment to serving clients in their best interests.

To earn CFP certification, advisors must complete comprehensive financial planning coursework and pass a rigorous exam, in addition to demonstrating their skills as a financial planner in a real-world setting for at least 6,000 hours, holding a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, and adhering to the organization's ethics requirements.

Chris joined Alerus in July 2015 and has more than 20 years of experience in financial services. In addition to the CFP certification, he is a Certified Retirement Counselor. He also holds series 7 and 66 securities licenses and a bachelor's degree in business, with a focus on entrepreneurship, from the University of North Dakota. Chris is active in his community and frequently volunteers his expertise and time to local organizations. He currently serves as board president for Spectra Health, treasurer for Hope Church, and is a board member for the North Dakota Small Business Development Center.

ALERUS

Edward Jones Financial Advisor Matt Odenbach Named Among Best-in-State Wealth Advisors by Forbes|SHOOK®



Matt Odenbach

Edward Jones financial advisor Matt Odenbach of Grand Forks was named among the 2026 Best-in-State Wealth Advisors in North Dakota by Forbes|SHOOK® in 2026.

He ranked No. #14 in North Dakota.

This is his fifth time being named to this prestigious ranking.

Odenbach has served area investors for the past 22 years.

To compile the 2026 rankings, SHOOK® Research analysts conducted individual interviews with nominees. Criteria that determined the final ranking included industry experience, best practices, compliance records and assets under care.

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MEMBER NEWS

BRISSETTE NAMED ASSISTANT DEAN FOR GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES AT UND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

Dr. Catherine Brissette, professor in the UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences (SMHS) Department of Biomedical Sciences, has been named Assistant Dean for Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at the School.

A veteran researcher focused on infectious disease – particularly the tick-borne *Borrelia burgdorferi* bacteria that cause Lyme disease – Brissette, who came to UND in 2010, has helped secure more than \$25 million in research dollars for UND. Much of this funding is connected to the School's Host-Pathogen Interactions (HPI) Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (CoBRE), a National Institutes of Health-sponsored project that allows institutions to focus their research efforts in a defined way. The HPI program is one of several NIH CoBRE program at the SMHS.

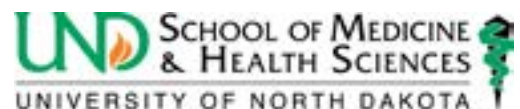
This growth in graduate and postdoctoral biomedical research at UND is part of why the SMHS sought a senior faculty member dedicated to guiding and mentoring junior researchers.

"Our graduate students and postdoctoral scholars are essential to the research and discovery mission of the School, and I'm excited to support their training, mentorship, and professional development," said Brissette. "Graduate students and postdocs are the future of biomedical research, and I'm excited to help ensure that SMHS remains a place where they can do outstanding science and build fulfilling careers."

While the title is new, the work of shepherding graduate and postdoctoral researchers is not. For years, this task was managed by a platoon of SMHS faculty across programs. The new half-time role will ease the loads of other faculty and allow Brissette to facilitate mentoring across SMHS departments and disciplines, fostering a supportive, inclusive, and high-quality learning environment that advances the school's purposes in education, discovery, and innovation.

"I'm particularly committed to strengthening mentorship and building a supportive research culture where trainees feel empowered to develop as scientists, scholars, and future leaders," said Brissette. "Effective mentorship and clear professional pathways are key to helping graduate students and postdocs reach their full potential."

Among other tasks, in her new role Brissette will: provide academic leadership, oversight, and strategic guidance for graduate (M.S., Ph.D.) and postdoctoral education across SMHS; develop and maintain activities targeted at recruiting, admitting, and retaining an exceptionally high-quality cohort of graduate students; serve as a general academic advisor and advocate for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars; promote professional development opportunities among graduate students and postdoctoral scholars, including, but not limited to, grant writing, career exploration and preparation, teaching skills, and responsible conduct of research; and encourage interdisciplinary research and facilitate collaboration and networking between trainees and faculty principal investigator mentors.



MEMBER NEWS

American Crystal Sugar celebrates 100-year milestone

On October 6, 1926, our East Grand Forks factory initiated its first sugarbeet processing campaign for the American Beet Sugar Company. Our rich history began here with 10,000 acres harvested and average yields of 7.59 tons per acre. The factory sliced an average of 1,100 tons per day with sugar content averaging 17 percent and produced 200,000 bags of profitable sugar. Today, American Crystal growers are harvesting record sugarbeet crops, 13.3 million tons in 2025 from 408,000 planted acres, across the Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota.



American Crystal will recognize this milestone in our many community partnerships over the next several months, culminating with our presence at this year's Holly Dazzle event on November 22, where you can find us in the parade and Town Square, and sponsoring the fireworks show.

Opportunities to interview growers, visit the factory, and collect historical details can be assisted by our Communications Manager, Belinda Forknell. She can be reached at bforknel@crystalsugar.com or 218-236-4354.

American Crystal Sugar Company is an agricultural cooperative owned by 2,550 shareholder entities in the Red River Valley involved in the growing and processing of sugarbeets. American Crystal is the largest beet sugar producer in the United States. American Crystal operates sugar factories at East Grand Forks, Crookston, and Moorhead, Minnesota, and Drayton and Hillsboro, North Dakota. Its Corporate Headquarters and Technical Services Center are in Moorhead.

THE CHAMBER

Executive Committee

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Past Chair: Mike McLean, JLG Architects
Russel Crary, Crary Real Estate
Chris Jordheim, Widseth
Daren Muscha, Bass Pro Shops
Barry Wilfahrt, Chamber GF/EGF

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Shari Olson, Northland Community & Technical College
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Curtis Regan, Dakota Commercial & Development Inc.
Andy Schneider, Dakota Concealed/GF County Sheriff
Andrew Vigen, Vigen Construction
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