

## Chamber Participates In AMC Rodeo

The 319th Air Refueling Wing's RODEO team arrived at McChord AFB July 18 to compete in the Air Mobility RODEO in full-force. The 19-member team consisted of security forces defenders, KC-135 maintainers and aircrew vying against other mobility units in a series of events to determine the best mobility unit.

RODEO is an international combat skills and flying operations competition designed to develop and improve techniques and procedures that enhance air mobility operations and to promote esprit de corps, optimizing mobility partnerships.

The team participated in events testing their expertise in aircraft inspections, air refueling, aircraft launch and recovery, rifle and handgun competitions, obstacle courses and many more, depending on the skill set being evaluated by RODEO umpires.

In addition to competing team members, the Warriors of the North included five members of the local community,



**John Marshall**, Letnes, Marshall, Swanson & Warcup, Ltd, **Jim Bradshaw**, Strata Corp; **Jerry Youngberg**, 1st Realty of GGF and Chamber MAC Committee Chairman; **Barry Wilfahrt**, Chamber President; and **Don Larson**, Policy Director for Governor Hoeven as well as the wing commander, **Col. John Quinn**, the base's marketing director, **Julie McWalter**, and two additional airmen to maintain the hospitality tent.

In addition to observing the rodeo, community leaders also had an opportunity to meet formally and informally with more than a dozen Air Force Generals and the Secretary of the Air Force. The delegation's message focused on future missions for GFAFB and the growing UAS operations and potential missions at GFAFB and at



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### Mission Statement

*"The Chamber of Commerce creates an environment that encourages business success while enhancing the quality of life in our region."*

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Grand Forks, ND 58203  
PO Box 315  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721  
(701)772-7271  
(701)772-9238 Fax  
info@gochamber.org  
www.gochamber.org

**Officers**

**Chair: Rick Duquette**

City of Grand Forks

**Chair-Elect: Barb Schultz**

Ideal Aerosmith, Inc.

**Past Chair: Jerry Youngberg**

First Realty of GFF

**Secretary: Scott Roche**

Great Plains Financial Group

**Chris Semrau**

Ralph Engelstad Arena

**Thane Bergh**

American Federal Bank

**Barry Wilfahrt**

The Chamber - GF/EGF

**Directors**

**Pat Berger** - United Way of GF/EGF

**Andy Byron** - United Valley Bank

**Jim Galloway** - JLG Architects

**Kristi Hall-Jiran** - CVIC

**Kent Hanson** - NCTC

**Jeff Jaspersen** - Canad Inns

**Curt Kreun** - GF City Council

**Sonia Lajmodiere** - The Lighting Gallery

**Bryan Lee** - Gateway Storage

**Monica Musich** - Valley Dairy Stores

**Linda Pierce** - Cray Homes & Real Estate

**Jim Richter** - EGF EDHA

**Tim Saylor** - Altru Health System

**Steve Swanson** - AE2S

**Klaus Thiessen** - GF Regional EDC

**Sr. Military Advisor to the Board**

**Colonel John Michel** - GFAFB

**Staff**

**Barry Wilfahrt**

President/CEO

barry@gochamber.org

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Program Coordinator

corrinas@gochamber.org

**Carla Younce**

Finance Director

carlay@gochamber.org

**Shannon Baker**

Administrative Assistant

**President's Message**

**Chamber Membership Increasing**



While Chambers across the country are losing membership and finding it necessary to cut staff, your chamber is seeing an increase in membership.

On June 30, 2008 The Chamber had 853 members. On June 30, 2009 The Chamber had 918 members, an increase of 65 members year to year.

The Chamber Board and staff are committed to offering relevant programs, advocating for business on issues and providing value for chamber membership. We encourage every member to get involved in the chamber as we work together to make our community and businesses even better.

**Federal Issues Continue to Threaten Bottom Lines**

Comprehensive Health Care Reform and the Employee Free Choice Act both continue to loom large for business.

While health care reform as proposed is being sold as targeting only high income

individuals anyone who can run a calculator should question if this will be enough to cover the huge cost of covering millions of new people today and into the future. In past reforms, at some point the middle class and businesses always paid the bill.

The employee free choice act is also still very much alive. Members of the ND and MN delegations who represent us have indicated to the GF/EGF Chamber they anticipate a compromise of some kind. While this sounds like an improvement, the latest compromises being discussed still call for binding arbitration. This means the government will set the wages you pay your employees if they unionize and you cannot reach an agreement with the union in 120 days.

It is critical every business watch these issues as they evolve and express how they see them impacting their business to our congressional delegation.

*Barry Wilfahrt*

**2010 Chamber Directory to Be Produced Locally**

The Chamber is teaming up with Fine Print of Grand Forks to produce the Chamber Membership Directory locally for 2010. The annual directory highlights living in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks and the great life-style we all enjoy. It also lists all chamber members and their contact information both alphabetically and by category.

According to Chamber President, Barry Wilfahrt, producing and printing the publication without using an outside company is significant because all of the profit from the publication will stay local. Previously, a company from Illinois that made most of the profit has produced the book. Chamber Membership Director Jennifer Walsh will sell the advertising. Ad list prices have been reduced 5% for the 2010 directory passing part of the savings on to the members who advertise.

For more information, contact us at 772-7271.

**Wake up With UND  
September 16th**

Mark your calendars for the Wake Up to UND Breakfast to be held on September 16th.

UND President Robert Kelly will address the business community at a breakfast event on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at the Alerus Center. We look forward to hearing Dr. Kelly as he shares his vision for the university for the upcoming school year. All Chamber members will receive a special invitation. Please save the date for this 7:30 am. breakfast event.



# Are you adding costs versus value to your company? Are you only doing what the customer is willing to pay for? How much work have you done today the customer would not pay for?



Pat Remfert knows that how you identify waste inside your company is important. There are eight documented wastes that exist in every business.

Attend Pat's seminar to gain the skill sets needed to think differently about your daily work. You will be able to "walk" back into your workplace and implement what you have learned to benefit your company immediately.

This seminar is offered in two convenient morning and afternoon sessions. Attend the session that best fits your schedule.

September 17th, 2009  
Clarion Inn - Grand Forks

8:30am - 11:30am  
or  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

Cost to Attend: \$69/person. Sign up 3+ attendees  
for only \$64/person.  
(Non Chamber member price is \$89/person)

Space is limited, sign up soon. Contact The Chamber at 772-7271,  
info@gochamber.org or online at www.gochamber.org.  
RSVP deadline is September 14, 2009.

*Reservations not cancelled 3 business days prior to event will be billed.*

Patrick A. Remfert is President of Remfert and Associates, Inc. located in New Prague, MN. He works with businesses who want a competitive advantage in the market place and who want to educate their people to be their very best.



Pat is recognized as a no-nonsense, get it done leader. His approach is to lead by example. He has worked for businesses that varied from small privately held companies to the largest GE's of the world. He has helped many companies significantly increase their profitability.



## Chamber "Featured Ambassador" for August



Dianne Dybwad is an Assistant Vice President for First State Bank in Grand Forks. She specializes in consumer loans

including new and used vehicles, recreational vehicles, home equity and mortgages. She joined First State Bank in June 2006. In addition to prior work experience in the

finance industry, Dianne's background also includes accounting, human resources and management. Dianne is a very detailed, customer service oriented person, and really enjoys getting to know the banks customers and their needs.

Dianne joined the Chamber Ambassadors in 2009 as a way to meet new people and network with other businesses in the commu-

nity. Dianne grew up in Fargo and graduated from NDSU. She lived in Colorado for 15 years before returning to Grand Forks 10 years ago. She currently lives in Grand Forks with her husband Dan and her son Aaron. Dianne can be reached at [dianned@firststatebanks.com](mailto:dianned@firststatebanks.com) or 701-738-4113.

# Welcome New Members

### Pins & Needles Tailoring

Shelly Wasylow  
2524 S Washington #2  
Grand Forks, ND 58201  
701-738-4004

*With 26 years experience Pins & Needles is the place to go for all your Alteration needs! Bridal, Formal wear, Zippers and Repairs. OPEN: Monday 9:00-7:00 Tuesday-Friday 9:00-5:30*

### Boardwalk Bar & Grill

Jane Moss  
415 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721  
218-399-3000

[boardwalkbargrill@midconetwork.com](mailto:boardwalkbargrill@midconetwork.com)

*Boardwalk Bar & Grill is locally owned and operated. The goal is to have a place where adults 21 and over could come together, relax in the atmosphere of oak and pine and eat some of the best hamburgers in town. An enclosed patio gives the guest the feel of the outdoors with the large, screened windows and in the winter, the opportunity to sit by one of the two fireplaces for a warmer cozy environment. The bar can accommodate groups from 20 - 60 in our private meeting space with menus available for your special dinners or holiday parties. We also have a large selection of wines and beers for your enjoyment.*

### Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Red River Valley

Stacy Duncan  
1330 18<sup>th</sup> Ave S  
Fargo, ND 58103  
701-232-3980  
[stacy@rmhcfargo.org](mailto:stacy@rmhcfargo.org)  
[www.rmhcfargo.org](http://www.rmhcfargo.org)

*The Ronald McDonald House Charities of the RRV supports programs that directly improve the health and well being of children in the tri-state area of North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Since 1982, the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Red River Valley has provided a "home away from home" for over 1200 families per year.*

### Lithia Ford LM of Grand Forks

Kristin Heffern  
2273 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S  
Grand Forks, ND 58201  
701-787-7215  
[kheffern@lithia.com](mailto:kheffern@lithia.com)

[www.lithia.com](http://www.lithia.com)

*Lithia Ford Lincoln Mercury is an automotive dealership selling New Ford, Lincoln and Mercury vehicles. We also sell quality pre-owned vehicles and are specialists in the cash for clunkers government rebate program that potentially offers you up to \$4500.00. We are proud to sell Ford, Lincoln and Mercury parts, and also provide quality service and warranty work for your Ford family vehicles. Lithia has been America's Car & Truck Store since 1946 and is a proud member of the Grand Forks community since 2006, when the dealership was purchased from Jim Hanson. Lithia Ford Lincoln Mercury has a renewed commitment to being "YOUR HOME TOWN MOTORS."*

### Aflac – Shari Hanson

Shari Hanson  
2375 5<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Northwood, ND 58267  
218-791-8667  
[shari\\_hanson@us.aflac.com](mailto:shari_hanson@us.aflac.com)  
[www.aflac.com](http://www.aflac.com)

*With an office in Grand Forks, you will receive the benefit of local customer service but have the advantage of large company stability. Aflac is not insurance as you know it but insurance for daily living. Aflac offers voluntary insurance policies that help during a catastrophic injury or illness when people cannot work. Your major medical pays doctor bills, Aflac pays you! It is offered on a direct basis or through payroll deduction, and is number one in offering Full Flex programs and pre-taxed premiums and other value added services. Talk to me for a consultation on how Aflac can help improve your employee benefit package at no direct cost to you the employer. We have you under our wing!*

### Northland Fire Protection

Tim Biby  
PO Box 14685  
Grand Forks, ND 58208

[tbiby@northlandfire.com](mailto:tbiby@northlandfire.com)  
[www.northlandfire.com](http://www.northlandfire.com)

*We sell and service kitchen hood fire suppression systems. We also sell and service clean agent systems for electronic rooms and dry systems for paint booths.*

### SpringHill Suites

Mike Brown  
2837 S 42<sup>nd</sup> St  
Grand Forks, ND 58201  
701-757-4150

[mike.a.brown@marriott.com](mailto:mike.a.brown@marriott.com)  
[www.springhillsuites.com/gfksh](http://www.springhillsuites.com/gfksh)

*Welcome to SpringHill Suites by Marriott®, where you'll have the space you need to get things done or unwind and just be comfortable. Our stylish and smartly designed suites are 25% larger than a comparably priced hotel room, giving you room to succeed.*

### Thrivent Financial

Chad Erickson  
1618 Central Ave NE  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721  
218-773-1181  
[chad.erickson@thrivent.com](mailto:chad.erickson@thrivent.com)  
[www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com)

### Thrivent Financial

Joe Miedena  
1618 Central Ave NE  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721  
218-773-1181  
[joe.miedena@thrivent.com](mailto:joe.miedena@thrivent.com)  
[www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com)

*We are a financial services office. Life, health, disability and long term care insurances. Investing, retirement, and estate planning, and business continuation planning.*

### ACE Security Systems

Denny Magnusson  
PO Box 5125  
Grand Forks, ND 58208  
701-741-2306

*Personal protection, residential, business & industrial security. Licensed in ND since 1988.*

## Thank You for Renewing Your Membership

*The following businesses know the value of their Chamber Membership and have renewed their membership in The Chamber - GF/EGF. Please visit them for your purchasing needs.*

Airman & Family Readiness Center  
Allard's Market & Greenhouse  
Anne Carlson Center Community Service  
Candle Bin, The  
Cirrus Design  
Crary Homes & Real Estate - Linda Bunde  
Eagle's Crest  
Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve  
Farm & Ranch Guide  
Giltner, Eric  
Green Mill Restaurant  
Happy Host Inn

ISS Facility Service, Inc  
Jiffy Lube  
Johnstown Bean Company  
Kelly's Bar  
KT's Precision Auto Body  
National/Alamo Car Rental  
North Valley Arts Council  
Options: Interstate Resource  
Center for Independant Living  
Ryan Realty & Appraisal  
Travelodge  
Valley Buzz



The Chamber Ambassadors were on hand to welcome new businesses and new Chamber Members, **Bella Vino**, **Oxford Realty** and **Pins and Needles** with a ribbon cutting at their businesses.



# Cats Incredible 2009



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## Alerus Financial Welcomes Heyd and Brewster

Alerus Financial is pleased to announce the promotion of **Christine Heyd** to Consumer Loan Operations Supervisor at its Banksouth location on South Columbia Road.



Previously a Loan Operations Specialist, Heyd will now be responsible for managing the consumer loan operations, assisting with the day-to-day loan processes, and will continue to work as a

project resource.

Heyd joined Alerus more than 11 years ago; she began working in the records department and later transferred to loan operations. Heyd has experience in processing both consumer and commercial loans. She and her husband, Scott, live in Grand Forks with their daughter, Madison.

**Matt Brewster** joins Alerus Financial as a Personal Banker at it's Hugo's location on 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South.



Brewster is primarily responsible for providing superior banking services to customers in a professional manner and for generating new business opportunities through inbound and outbound activities.

Additionally, he maintains in-depth knowledge of all financial products and services offered at Alerus Financial.

Brewster joins Alerus with 2 years experience in the financial industry. He previously worked in both the retirement plan services and credit card fraud departments for another financial institution out-of-state. Originally from Fargo, Brewster and his wife, Karey, now live in Grand Forks. He is currently pursuing Business Finance degree with the University of Phoenix and is a member/fundraiser for Relay for Life.

## AE2S Hires Vollmer, Maruska and Petersen

AE2S (Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.) has hired **Aaron Vollmer** as a Design Engineer in its Moorhead, MN office. Aaron is a native



of Maple Grove, MN and earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from North Dakota State University in Fargo, ND. Prior to joining AE2S, Aaron interned for the City of Maple Grove and consulting firms.

At AE2S, Aaron will initially be part of the design team working on the expansion of the Watertown, SD Water Treatment Plant. This 6.8 million gallon per day water treatment plant expansion will utilize an innovative technology, known as MIEEX, to meet regulatory requirements for disinfection by-products control.



**Zach (Boone) Maruska** has been hired as a Design Engineer in its Great Falls, MT office. Mr. Maruska is originally from Warren, MN and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering at

North Dakota State University (NDSU). He is currently completing his Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering at NDSU.

At AE2S, Mr. Maruska will be initially assisting with the design of the Core System Pipeline for the Rocky Boy's / North Central Montana Regional Water System Project. The Core System Pipeline is a key component of the \$350 million regional water system that will serve the Rocky Boy's Reservation and surrounding communities from Havre to Cutback in North Central Montana.



**Mike Petersen** has been hired as a Project Engineer in its Minneapolis, MN office. Mike is a native of Richfield, MN and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Minnesota State

University (MSU) in Mankato. Mike is the recipient of the Central States Water Environment Association (CSWEA) Academic Excellence Award and graduated Cum Laude.

At AE2S, Mike will provide design services, an operators perspective of systems, and perform construction

services for projects such as the City of Marshall Water Treatment Plant Optimization project, the City of Moorhead PTO Pump Stations, the City of Fairmont Water Treatment Plant Optimization, and the Core System Transmission Pipeline of the Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System Project which is currently being designed. This project is a key component of the \$350 million regional water system that will serve the Rocky Boy's Reservation in Montana and surrounding communities.

## AE2S' Brown Earns LEED Accreditation



AE2S (Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.) Senior Project Manager, **David Brown**, PE, has earned the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental

Design (LEED) Professional Accreditation. LEED Professional Accreditation distinguishes building professionals with the knowledge and skills to successfully steward the LEED certification process. LEED Accredited Professionals (LEED APs) have demonstrated a thorough understanding of green building practices and principles.

Mr. Brown's LEED Professional Accreditation reinforces the emphasis AE2S places on helping clients make their water, wastewater, and stormwater systems environmentally responsible, from site design to system optimization to innovative ways to utilize process by-products. He recently completed a Facility Plan for the Fairmont, MN Water Treatment Facility and is designing optimization improvements for the City of Marshall, MN Water Treatment Plan, which includes improvements to reduce energy usage in the plant.

## Semrau Honored With Achievement Award

**Chris Semrau**, a 2000 graduate of the University of North Dakota will be honored on Oct. 1, 2009, as a recipient of the UND Alumni Association's Young Alumni Achievement Award. Fernanda Philbrick, '94, '96, is also a 2009 recipient.

Less than ten years out of college, Semrau has been able to build a career in the entertainment industry with Ralph

Engelstad Arena that has brought a positive national and international impact to the Grand Forks community and his alma mater.



Semrau has served as director of events/media relations for Ralph Engelstad Arena in Grand Forks since May 2000 when he earned his bachelor's degree in business. As a young 20-something, the

opportunity to get in on the ground floor of REA was a big one. As one of the facility's original four employees, he was able to be involved from the project's inception including its opening in October 2001 when the Fighting Sioux men's hockey team faced-off against the Minnesota Gophers. His role in booking and event management has been significant for the myriad events hosted at the facility. At the Ralph, he is part of the senior management team that directs development and planning decisions for the 11,634-seat facility. From inception of the operation, Chris has been tasked with promoting Ralph Engelstad Arena on a national and international basis.

Yet, his ambitions haven't ended there. Semrau has worked with the Academy of Country Music at the ACM Awards in Las Vegas, Nev., and serves as an event consultant for WE Fest at the Soo Pass Ranch in Detroit Lakes, Minn. As a young professional and North Dakotan, he has also done his part to serve the Greater Grand Forks community. Semrau's involvement includes time as an executive board member for the Chamber of Commerce and as a founding member of Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals.

Semrau is married to Roslynn and they have a daughter, Nora. They live in Grand Forks.

## Wells Concrete Announces Name Change of GF Subsidiary

Wells Concrete today announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, Concrete, Inc., has changed its name to Wells Concrete.

Concrete, Inc., a 118-year old company based in Grand Forks, North Dakota, engages in producing and erecting precast/prestressed concrete building components. The company has been a

wholly owned subsidiary of Wells Concrete since 1994.

The name change is a result of Wells Concrete's efforts to bring uniformity to their identity within the Wells Concrete family, including locations in Grand Forks, Wells, and their new facility in Albany, Minnesota.



"We are excited to adopt this name

for our business as it will show to our customers that Wells Concrete is undergoing a positive transformation that will lead to a more valuable and comprehensive offering," commented Bob Sween, General Manager of Concrete, Inc.

There has been no change in management or staff at the Grand Forks location and Wells Concrete will continue to provide the same quality products, expert advice and personal service their clients have come to expect.

"The Wells Concrete name provides a consistent, positive brand message of strength, stability, and local decision-making, while maintaining a reputation as the leader in both architectural and structural precast/prestressed concrete products," said Spencer Kubat, Vice President of Sales of Wells Concrete.

## Embridge Pipeline Begins Construction

The Alberta clipper pipeline project involves the construction of a 1,000 mile pipeline from Alberta to Superior Wisconsin. The Embridge Company pipeline will cut through North East North Dakota and Northwest Minnesota (see map) and over 1,000 people in our region will be employed in this massive construction project that is anticipated to last approximately 18 months. Survey crews have already begun staking the pipeline route. At its closest point the pipeline will pass only about 25 miles from East Grand Forks and part of the \$60 million in wages and benefits paid to workers on the project will spill into our local economy.

For more information on this project or the Embridge Company which owns the pipeline contact Lorraine Grymala, Manager of community Affairs for Embridge (715.398.4677)

## Monarch Management Welcomes Schulz

Jonathan Schulz has been hired by Monarch Management and Consulting Services as Executive Assistant.

Jonathan grew up in Little Falls, MN and graduated from Concordia College,



Moorhead in May of 2008. He graduated with a major in Healthcare Management and Long Term Care, and minored in Coaching. While at Concordia he played basketball for the Cobbers and was an

active member of the Student Healthcare Management Association (SHMA). Jonathan completed residencies at both St. Benedict's Senior Community in St. Cloud, MN, and at Fairview Health System in Red Wing, MN. He was also recently employed with Innovis Health in Fargo, ND. In his spare time, Jonathan enjoys attending Golden Gopher football and basketball games, playing/watching sports, fishing, and relaxing at the family lake cabin in Central Minnesota.

## Corcoran and Donat LEED Certified



Anthony Corcoran, PE and Brett Donat, AIA have completed and passed testing to become LEED® Accredited Professionals for EAPC Architects Engineers. Corcoran has been a mechanical

engineer in EAPC's Fargo office for two years while Donat has been an architect in the Bismarck office for three years.



LEED® Professional Accreditation distinguishes building professionals with the knowledge and skills to successfully steward the LEED® Certification Process, as stated by the U.S. Green Building

Council. It also states that LEED® Certification provides independent, third-party verification that a building project is environmentally responsible, profitable and a healthy place to live and work. EAPC has been involved in many design projects that are eligible for LEED® Certification.

A Chamber & SCORE Brown Bag Seminar

## effective visual ADvertising

We live in a visual world. Businesses use graphic ads and logos to attract our attention to their product and/or service offers.

- What is your visual advertising saying about your product or service?
- Is it attracting viewers the way it should?
- Is it supportive of the message intended?

If you are unsure of these answers, then attend this Brown Bag workshop on visual advertising. The following aspects of visual advertising will be discussed:

- \*An Effective Logo
- \*Print Ad Essentials
- \*Seeing the Big Picture

**Wednesday, August 12, 2009**  
**11:30am – 1pm**  
**The Chamber**  
**Lunch is provided**  
**\$15/members**  
**\$25/ non-members**

This brown bag is presented by:  
**Scott Telle**  
Ad Monkeys, Owner

To register, contact The Chamber at 772-7271 or [info@gochamber.org](mailto:info@gochamber.org).  
Reservation deadline is August 11th.  
Seating is limited, sign up soon.

*Reservations not cancelled 3 business days prior to the event will be billed.*

## 48,550+ Webpage Views in One Month!

[www.gochamber.org](http://www.gochamber.org) lists all our Chamber members and people are finding you there! Some of the categories visited and number of views received from July 2nd to August 5th were:

Abstractor/Architects/Engineers	2621
Restaurants	2056
Hotels & Motels	1942
Contractors & Construction	1289
Financial Institutions	1158
Realtors	1147
Non Profit Organizations	657
Attorneys	656
Automotive Supplies & Service	642
Agriculture/agribusiness	636
Advertising Services	421
Insurance Agencies	413

## More Ways Your Chamber Is Working For You:

Member Referrals Made By The Chamber In 2009:

# 579

Total for July: 100

Certificates of Origin Signed By The Chamber In 2009:

# 8

Total for July: 2

New Resident Packets Distributed By The Chamber In 2009:

# 161

Total for June: 39



Hosted by:



Your Destination Centers

## Hosted by Playmakers All American Gaming Lounge

In the Canad Inns

Thursday, August 20, 2009

4:45pm - 7:00pm

**Free Admission**

Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres and drink tickets ~ Great Door Prizes ~ Progressive cash drawing is at \$2000! ~ NO RSVP Needed

Canad Inns and Playmakers invites all Chamber Members and employees to their exciting Business After Hours. Stop in, enjoy the great food, fun & check out Playmakers. Take advantage of great networking opportunities while you are there. You might even win \$2000 in our progressive cash drawing! We'll draw the name of one Chamber Member business. If someone from that business is present, they win!

*Business After Hours is a great time to network, catch up with friends, coworkers and clients in a fun and casual way. Spread the word and plan to attend the next Business After Hours.*

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### Alerus Financial Acquires BankFirst Deposits

Alerus Financial, N.A., a diversified financial services company based in Grand Forks, ND, announces the acquisition of the Minneapolis-based deposits from BankFirst, headquartered in Sioux Falls, SD. Alerus successfully bid for the deposits, which were under the control of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). BankFirst was closed by the SD Division of Banking, which appointed the FDIC as receiver. The Minneapolis branch will reopen as Alerus Financial, N.A. on Monday, July 20, 2009 under the leadership of locally based David Latta, Executive Vice President, and Chip Norris, Twin Cities Market President.

### Marlys Kvasager Joins Altru Health System

Marlys Kvasager, licensed clinical social worker, recently joined Altru Clinic - Main psychiatric services. She received her master's degree from the University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work, and held a private practice in Denver for 27 years. She has copy written Art Therapy treatment modalities, one for children and one for sexual abuse patients. She was co-owner and founder of The Center for Attention Development, a specialized clinic for the diagnosis and treatment of children and adults



with attention deficit disorder (ADD). Marlys also coauthored and designed a group treatment program for adult survivors of sexual abuse.

### Kristin Heffern New General Manager of Lithia Ford L-M of Grand Forks

July 1<sup>st</sup>, I took over as the General Manager of Lithia Ford. I grew up in Grand Forks, graduated from Red River High School and the University of North Dakota. After spending many years in Scottsdale, AZ, although happy, something was missing. I was missing my family and my roots. My family settled in the Red River Valley and Grand Forks back in the 1800's and we have happily been here ever since. I am so proud to be the General Manager of Lithia Ford, I am looking forward to bringing the Hansen philosophy and small town family feeling back to the Ford store. I invite each of you and your families to stop in and see me. I will keep a fresh pot of coffee on and on my good days, I will make sure that we have a plate of cookies or a piece of fruit to share with you. I'd like to sit back and relax while we talk Sioux Hockey or discuss Chamber events and what's going on in our community. In the event you need a new or used vehicle we represent New Ford, Lincoln, and Mercury lines. We also can handle any of your service or parts needs. Lastly, I'd like to invite everyone to our Labor Day Car Show on Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Registration opens at 8am. No charge for spectators. 100% of all registration fees will go to the Grand Forks food bank charity, whose food reserves are at an all time low. For more information or questions please call me direct at (701) 787-7215. I look forward to meeting you or reconnecting with each of you, real soon. Kristin Heffern – General Manager

## Chamber Calendar August 2009

### August 2

7:30am Small Business Committee Mtg.  
(COC)

4:00pm Ribbon Cutting at Bella Vino

### August 6

7:30am MAC Exec Mtg. (COC)

### August 11

7:30am Agribusiness Mtg. (Aaltos)

7:30am Past Board Chairs Mtg. (COC)

### August 12

11:30am Brown Bag (COC)

Noon Leadership Committee Mtg. (Joe Blacks)

### August 13

8:00am MAC Meeting (COC)

### August 17

11:30am Ambassadors Mtg (TBD)

### August 18

4:30pm CATS Meeting (COC)

### August 19

7:30am Finance Committee Mtg (COC)

Noon ATHENA Committee Mtg (Blue Moose)

4:30pm City to Farm Tour (Ag Country)

### August 20

7:30pm Executive Committee Mtg. (COC)

4:45pm Business After Hours at Canad Inns

### August 26

3:30pm Ribbon Cutting at Face & Jaw Surger Center

### August 27

7:30am Board of Directors Mtg. (COC)

## Troy and Zach Srnsky Win 22nd Annual Cats Incredible Fishing Tournament

Place	Names		lb.'s Catfish Caught
1	<b>Troy Srnsky &amp; Zach Srnsky</b>	<b>Warren, MN</b>	<b>91.50</b>
2	Larry Barrow & Joel Barrow	Lincoln, NE	82.35
3	Paul Cariveau & Mervyn Rud	EGF, MN	78.32
4	Pat Carter & Travis Carter	Elk Point, SD	76.71
5	Brandon Oby & Chris Dolan	St. Thomas, ND & Minneapolis, MN	76.55
6	Darwin Lunski & Brian Nord	Grand Forks, ND	76.10
7	Kevin Gietzen & Ryan Kemnitz	EGF, MN	73.06
8	Mark Swenson & Jerry Wenzel	EGF, MN & Randall, MN	67.71
9	Ryan Rupert & Chris Koon	Grand Forks, ND	67.49
10	John Sonstegard & James Nordlof	Baudette, MN	67.09
11	Brad Nelson & Kevin Thompson	EGF, MN	65.88
12	Victor Moreno & Duane Restemayer	Hoople, ND & Edinburg, ND	65.71
13	Merle Hoverson & Jeffrey Zak	EGF, MN	64.62
14	Billy Cariveau & Marty Cariveau	Fargo, ND & EGF, MN	63.96
15	Tony Weber & John Anderson	EGF, MN	61.98
16	Marty Berg & Jon Brundin	Grand Forks, ND	61.72
17	Alex Vournas & Eric DeBilt	Thief River Falls, MN	61.55
18	Ben Moen & Mitch Johnson	EGF, MN & Fisher, MN	59.76
19	Don Oster & Ryan Oster	Grand Forks, ND	57.92
20	Perry Gagnon & Alfred Gagnon	Grand Forks, ND	57.14
21	Randy Ostgard & Jacob Ostgard	Grand Forks, ND	56.94
22	Casey Clement & Dave Clement	EGF, MN	56.81
23	Lee Bell & Paul Tomaselli	Grand Forks, ND	56.40
24	Andre Fortune & Mike Peterson	EGF, MN & Grand Forks, ND	54.86
25	Brent Riddle & Kayla Riddle	Chillicothe, MO	54.75
26	John Howard & Ralph Miller	Grand Forks, ND	53.09
27	Dave Christensen & Erin Christensen	Maddock, ND & Garfield, MN	52.17
28	Greg Micko & Scott Garner	Cottage Grove, MN & Cambridge, MN	51.96
29	Ryan Gregoire & Riley Gregoire	EGF, MN	51.55
30	Phillip Jeffery & Jason Kalt	EGF, MN & Warren, MN	51.51
31	Ray Lee & Eric Thompson	Grand Forks, ND & EGF, MN	51.18
32	Jeff Heath & Eric Heath	EGF, MN & Alvarado, MN	50.66
33	Marv Feltman & Shane Feltman	Grand Forks, ND	49.92
34	Kevin Boushee & Bennett Boushee	EGF, MN	49.63
35	Todd Mischler & Larry Mischler	Grand Forks, ND & EGF, MN	48.77

**See pages 8 & 9 for pictures of the event**