

THE Voice

Official Publication of Grand Forks - East Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce

Vol 7 Issue 1

January 2011

INSIDE

See page 2 for What's Inside

Please Join Us.....

2011 Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Dinner

RSVP BY TOMORROW, JANUARY 6TH!

Thursday, January 13, 2011

Alerus Center

5:30pm

Social & Silent Auction

6:30pm

Dinner

7:15pm

Guest speaker & Program

8:15pm

Introduction of Henry Havig Award Winner

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, JANUARY 6TH, 2011

Newly created/updated Henry Havig Award Video to be debuted

Tickets:
\$50/person
or
Table of 8 for \$360

Menu:

Harvest Salad

Steak Bearnaise

Redskin Mashed Potatoes

Green Beans Amandine

Tiramisu

Featuring guest speaker, Chas Stoker, Buxton Retail Analytic Co.

~ What makes GF/EGF Unique from a Business Perspective?

~ How will you be able to capitalize on our soon to be released study?

Corporate Sponsors:



Business Sponsors:



Associate Sponsors:

American Federal Bank - GF Region
EDC - Insight Technologies - PS Doors
- Success Unlimited - UND CoBPA -
Widseth Smith Nolting

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
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East Grand Forks, MN 56721
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www.gochamber.org

Officers

Chair: Jim Galloway
JLG Architects

Chair-Elect: Chris Semrau
Ralph Engelstad Arena

Past Chair: Barb Schultz
Ideal Aerosmith

Secretary: Bryan Lee
Gateway Storage

Jeff Westrem
Hugo's Family Marketplace

Jeff Wilson
Vilandre Heating & Air Conditioning

Barry Wilfahrt
The Chamber - GF/EGF

Directors

Craig Amiot - 5 Star Collision

Torrie Enget - Best Buy

Ron Galstad - Galstad, Jensen, Olson PA

Scott Huizenga - City of EGF

Brian Johnson - Choice Financial

Phyllis Johnson - UND

Jay Kleven - EAPC Architects

Curt Kreun - GF City Council

Linda Pierce - Crary Homes & Real Estate

Jim Richter - EGF EDHA

Jim Satrom - PS Doors

Tim Saylor - Altru Health System

Klaus Thiessen - GF Regional EDC

Coleen Tweten - Midcontinent Comm.

Matt Winjum - Rhombus Guys

Chris Wolf - Alerus Financial

Sr. Military Advisor to the Board
Colonel Donald Shaffer - GFAFB

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Audrey Lind

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Chamber News

Forum Communications Committed to Grand Forks Market

A couple days before Christmas Forum Communications President and CEO, Lloyd Case sat down with Chamber President Barry Wilfahrt and the Chamber's Herald Advisory Committee Chairman, Bruce Gjovig to discuss the GF/EGF business community's nervousness over WDAZ weekend news being broadcast out of Fargo. This move made last fall has chamber leadership concerned this may be a trend or a first step to more dramatic shifts at the station in the future.

At the direction of the Chamber Board of Directors, Wilfahrt and Gjovig conveyed three messages: 1. They expressed appreciation for the local (Northern Valley) focus of their news broadcasts. 2. The Business Community feels it is important to have as much local presence as possible. We are nervous the weekend news broadcast in Fargo is the first step to less local presence. We also feel local management presence in the form of a station manager is very important to maintain. 3. In conversations with major advertisers they all expressed the importance of WDAZ. To quote one major advertiser with stores throughout ND, "We rely on the reach of WDAZ to reach our customers especially in Grand Forks."

Mr. Case reiterated several times how important and profitable the Grand Forks market is to Forum Communications. They have no intention of making further changes and are committed to our market. He also appreciated the honest proactive feedback on their operations and coverage of the Northern Valley news. The three leaders also talked about convening a business roundtable between GF area and Fargo area leaders to talk about issues and opportunities common to both groups much like was done recently with the "East meets West" tour to ND oil country.

Mr. Case will be joining the Chamber's Herald Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly and hopes to be able to attend at least annually. The Chamber's Herald Advisory Committee monitors the quality and quantity of local business coverage in local media and suggests creative proactive changes to ensure excellent business coverage in local media.

Retail Task Forces Forming

Mayors Brown and Stauss have invited more than 30 local business people and community leaders to serve on two retail task forces aimed at putting the soon to be released Buxton Company data to good use.

The appointment of the task forces is part of a Chamber of Commerce effort to address retail leakage and increase taxable sales in our communities. The Chamber has teamed up with the City, CVB and the EGF EDHA to hire Buxton Company. Buxton has provided retail data and site selection services for well-known companies and more than 400 other communities across the country for almost two decades.

The first of the two task forces will focus on customer propensity data. They will look at the best way to get this highly detailed customer shopping pattern information out to local business people so they can make changes in their product and service mix to best reflect what local consumers and tourist to our area want and are willing to buy.

Retail Task Forces Continued on pg. 6

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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.

1st Liberty Federal Credit Union	Construction Engineers	Heritage Highlands II	Red River State Recreation Area
A Transmission City	Country Inn & Suites	Heyer Engineering, PC	Riddle's Jewelry
Aaltos-Canad Inn	CPS Ltd Engineering/Land Survey	Holiday Inn Express	Right Choice Electric
Aatrix Software	Custom Stripes	Hugo's #3	River Cinema
Achieve Therapy	D. J. Burris Quality Carpet Cleaning	Humana-Tina Biggs	Riverside Christian School
ACME Tools	Dakota Carrier Network	Ideal Aerosmith	Ronald McDonald House Charities
Ad Monkeys	Dakota Fire Protection, Inc	Independent School District	RSVP+ Your Invitation to Serve
Advanced Business Methods	Dakota Food Equipment	Indigo Signworks	Rydell Chevrolet Buick GMC
Advanced Engineering & Environ.	Dakota Sales/Budweiser	Invisimax	Cadillac
Advantage Healthcare Net	Dakota Supply Group	J. R. Simplot	Score-Service Corp of Retired Executives
Ag Country	Dan Schefter, DDS	James McDonald, DDS	Settle Inn
Alerus Financial	Dean Foods N.C., Inc/Land O'Lakes	Jeff Jensen	Shooting Star Casino
Altru Health Foundation	Deaton's Mailing Systems, Inc	Jenny Craig	Simonson Lumber & Hardware
Altru Health System-Hospital	Deb Kolling	Job Service North Dakota	Ski & Bike Shop
Altru Home Services	Deitz Business Promotions, Inc.	Joe Black's	Skip's Budget Drug
American Cancer Society	Dennie's Delivery	Keith Danks	Society of St. Vincent De Paul
American Crystal Sugar	Development Homes	Keith's Security World	Springhill Suites
American Federal Bank	Dr. Steven Erlandson, DDS, PC	Kingsbury Applied Economics	State Farm-Gary Belanus
American Federal Bank-GF	Drees Risky & Vallager LTD	L & M Meats	Steamatic Total Cleaning & Restoration
American Tire Service, Inc	EAPC Architects & Engineers	Lakes & Prairie Child Care Resource & Referral	Steve Adams Farms
American Tire South	Ecolab	Laser Systems	Stifel Nicolaus
AmeriPride	Economic Development Housing Authority	Leighton Broadcasting	Stone's Mobile
Anderson Appraisal Service, Inc.	Economy Plumbing	Liberty Business Systems	Success Unlimited
Anderson Steel Erection & Crane Service	Edgewood Management Group, LLC	The Listen Center	Super One Foods
A-Pink Enterprises	Edgewood Vista-EGF	Lunseth Plumbing & Heating	Swanson Law Office
Applebee's	EGF Blue Line Club	Maple View Memory Care	Swingen Construction Company
ArtWise	EGF Education Association	Mayo Manufacturing	The Bun Lounge
Ben Clayburgh	El Roco Nightclub & Bottle Shop	McDonald's - S. Washington	The Exponent
BNSF Railway Company	Enbridge Pipeline	McDonald's - Columbia Mall	The Lighting Gallery
Boldmethod, LLC	First Class Mortgage	McDonald's - East Grand Forks	The Toasted Frog
Border States Electric Supply	Florian & Sons Excavating	McDonald's - Gateway Drive	Tip Top Tux
Brady Martz & Associates, P.C.	Forks Lath & Plaster	McFarlane	Titan Machinery
Brekke Tours & Travel	Forum Communications	McKinnon Company	Toucan International Market, LLC
Bremer Bank	Frandsen Bank & Trust-10th Ave	Midcontinent Communications	Town Square
Brian's Flooring, Inc.	Frandsen Bank & Trust-S. Wash Galstad, Jensen & McCann, PA	Midwest Refrigeration, Inc	Trojan Promotions
Britton Transport, Inc.	Geico Insurance Companies	Muddy Rivers	UND Athletic Department
Brown Corporations	George A Cariveau, Business Consultant	Mutch Oil Co. of Grand Forks, Inc.	UND University of North Dakota
Business Essentials	GF Abstract & Title Company	ND Division of Vocational Rehabilitation	United Valley Bank-Downtown
C F Industries	GF Board of Realtors	NDSU Distance & Continuing Education	US Food Service-GFG Division
C. L. Linfoot	GF County Agencies	Neil Law Firm	Valley Memorial Homes
Caldis Tingum & Tingum, Ltd	GF Park District	North Dakota Eye Clinic	Valley Oral & Facial Surgery
Cancer Center of North Dakota	GF Public Schools	Northeastern Dakota Area H.R. Assn.	Valley Vision Clinic
Cellular Communications	GF Region Economic Development	Northland Community & Technical College	Vigen Construction Inc.
Century Properties	Good Samaritan Society-EGF	Northwestern Mutual Financial Network	Vilandre Heating & Air Conditioning & Plumbing
Citizens Community Credit Union	Grand Forks Fire Equipment	Northwood Park Townhomes	Vreeland Remodeling, Inc.
Citizens Community Credit Union-Hugos	Grand Forks Winnelson	Opticare-Forks Vision Clinic	Wall's Medicine Center
Citizens Community Credit Union-WalMart	Great Clips	Petcetera	Waste Management
City of East Grand Forks	Greenberg-Rita Schuster	Polk County DAC	Well's Fargo Bank - Columbia Road
Coca-Cola Refreshments USA, Inc.	Greg Gerloff	Porta-Mix Concrete, Inc	Widseth, Smith, Nolting
Cole Paper Company	Hawkes Manufacturing, Inc.	Praxis Strategy Group	Winmar Sleep Center
Community Contractors	Heartland Paper Company	Prudential Crary-Linda Pierce	Xcel Energy
Community Foundation of GF, EGF & Region	Heritage Highlands I	Red Pepper East, Inc	YMCA Family Center
Community Options			
Community Safety Net			

Welcome New Members

l'Bistro Mediterranean Eatery

Sarah Desgrez
Canad Inns Destination Center
1000 S. 42nd St
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-792-7960
sdesgrez@canadinns.com
www.lbistro.net

l' Bistro Mediterranean Eatery is an exciting new concept where Urban Italian meets Contemporary Comfort. Choose from a seemingly endless selection of classic favorites and hip inventions, to be enjoyed in surroundings inspired by al fresco dining in an old town square. Full of color, energy and life, l' Bistro is the place good food is made to be enjoyed

Tavern United

Denise Lindgren
Canad Inns Destination Center
1000 S. 42nd St
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-772-8404
dlindgren@canadinns.com
www.canadinns.com

Tavern United is a new world sports pub for all ages where friends gather for frothy fun, fabulous food and guaranteed good times! Tavern United presents a full menu of your favorite pub meals each with a special twist that you're sure to love. Tavern United offers over a dozen premium beers on tap from dark, rich stouts, tasty pale ales, to light and frothy lagers.

Playmakers All American Lounge

Scott Humble
Canad Inns Destination Center
1000 S. 42nd St
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-772-8404
shumble@canadinns.com
www.canadinns.com

Playmaker's All American Lounge is the largest gaming lounge in North Dakota! Offering blackjack tables, pig wheel, and B I N G O. Come test your skill and socialize with friends. Our stylish, two-level lounge creates a relaxed atmosphere, furnished with plasma screen TV's, comfortable chairs and luxurious couches. Choose from an assortment of drinks, appetizers from our new menu, or just a tap beer. Playmaker's All American Lounge is also SMOKE-FREE environment with full beverage and food service

Little Bangkok

Thamrong Dechawuth
302 DeMers Ave
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
218-399-1122
dave_58103@msn.com

Wonder Years

Dan Polasky
2550 28th Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-746-7287
wonderyears@live.com
www.wonderyearsgf.com

Jump for Joy Bounce Houses

Dana Boe
1123 N 42nd St
Grand Forks, ND 58203
701-430-1655
jumpforjoybouncehouses@yahoo.com
Jump for Joy Bounce Houses is a new company that will serve the greater Grand Forks and surrounding areas. We offer a reasonable selection of bounce houses, obstacle courses and slides that will be able to accommodate any size event, from a birthday party in the backyard to a community event. Give us a call today to book your event for the spring or summer!

Little Scholar Ship Montessori School

Erin Noll
1420 24th Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-746-9514
frogingf@gmail.com
Little Scholar Ship Montessori Preschool offers education for children 2 1/2 to 5 years of age. We are proud to offer an exciting and complete learning environment to develop the total child. Montessori education is a unique form of teaching where the teacher watches from a far while the child explores the prepared environment and discovers the work by themselves. Children are exposed to practical life, sensorial work, math, science, art and language arts on a daily basis. We also provide a master artist program, a French program and a sign language program. We have been providing service to the community since 1983. We also have a club program for children in kindergarten to third grade.

LA rie Boutique

Laurie Kovar
2860 10th Ave N
Grand Forks, ND 58203
701-757-0536
lauriekovar@gmail.com
www.larieboutique.com

Chiro Rx Ltd

Dr Phillip Berg
2655 24th Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-746-7979
dr.berg@hotmail.com
www.chiorrx.com

Pokrzywinski Financial

Chris Pokrzywinski
1551 28th Ave S Suite A
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-772-1684
cpokrzywinski@woodburyfinancial.com
We work with people to help them achieve their financial goals by providing retirement, estate & life insurance planning

Northern Valley Fertilizer, INC

Mike Lind
Tom Gowan
1418 31st Ave NE
Manvel, ND 58256
701-696-2484
nvfertilizerinc@yahoo.com

Handy Law Office

Gretchen Handy
3001 A 32nd Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-780-1286
gmhandy@gra.midco.net
Handy Law Office is a busy and energetic general practice law office with an emphasis in criminal defense and family law for both North Dakota and Minnesota cases.

Ambassador Ribbon Cuttings



River Cinema 15

The Ambassadors helped celebrate the expansion of the River Cinema 15 in East Grand Forks.

2011 Chamber Leadership

Executive Committee



Jim Galloway
JLG Architects
Chair



Chris Semrau
Ralph Engelstad Arena
Chair Elect/Treasurer
Board of Directors



Barb Schultz
Ideal Aerosmith
Past Chair



Bryan Lee
Gateway Storage
Vice Chair/Secretary



Jeff Wilson
Vilandre Heating &
Air Conditioning
Vice Chair



Jeff Westrem
Hugo's Family
Marketplace
Vice Chair



Barry Wilfahrt
The Chamber - GF/EGF
President/CEO



Craig Amiot
5 Star Collision



Torrie Enget
Best Buy



Ron Galstad
Galstad, Jensen &
Olson, PA



Scott Huizenga
City of EGF



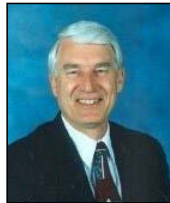
Brian Johnson
Choice Financial



Phyllis Johnson
UND VP Research &
Economic Development



Jay Kleven
EAPC Architects &
Engineers



Curt Kreun
GF City Council



Linda Pierce
Prudential Cray
Real Estate



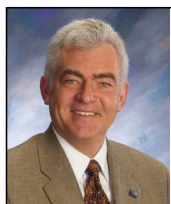
Jim Richter
EGF Ec. Dev. & Housing
Authority



Jim Satrom
PS Doors



Tim Saylor
Altru Health System



Klaus Thiessen
GF Region Economic
Dev. Corporation



Coleen Tweten
Midcontinent
Communications



Matt Winjum
Rhombus Guys



Chris Wolf
Alerus Financial



Col. Donald Shaffer
GFafb Commander
Sr. Military Advisor to
the Board

Chamber Staff



Barry Wilfahrt
President/CEO



Lisa Swanson
Vice President of
Operations



Kimberly Strom
Program/Event
Director



Jennifer Walsh
Membership Relations
Director



Carla Younce
Finance Director



Audrey Lind
Administrative
Assistant

Retail Task Forces Continued from pg. 2

The second task force will examine what potential new business opportunities make sense in our market based on Buxton's retail analytic data and how to best reach local, regional and national entrepreneurs with this information. Local entrepreneurs and existing businesses will be targeted first to potentially expand existing businesses or open new locally owned businesses to fill the gaps. Next regional franchises and national franchises will be targeted.

Local businesses should see this as an opportunity to capture additional sales. All business people and people interested in starting a business are welcome to attend the Buxton presentations. Any business with an eye to the future will benefit from the results. Watch for email notices and announcements in local media for the public presentations. Also if you are interested in serving on one of the task forces please call or email Barry at the Chamber office to volunteer...barry@gochamber.org

President's Message Chamber and Partners Address Retail Leakage

Retail leakage plagues every community across the country. Part of this is people's desire for something different and to be entertained. Part of it is also a legitimate desire for goods and services that are just not available in their local community. In order to make changes, businesses need to know specifically what people want and where the opportunities are.

In an effort to identify some of those legitimate shortcomings in our local business community's retail mix, the chamber teamed up with the City, CVB and the EGF EDHA to hire Buxton Company. Buxton has provided retail data and site selection services for well-known companies and more than 400 other communities across the country for more than a decade.

Chas Stoker with the Buxton Company will be the featured speaker at the Chamber Annual Meeting on January 13th. He will give us a preview of what local business people can do to reduce leakage to other markets.

More detailed and in-depth action oriented seminars and meetings will be held later this Winter and into the spring. Watch for email notifications in coming weeks.

BRIDGING THE FINANCING GAP

Sometimes projects need a boost when trying to cross over from concept to reality. AE2S Nexus helps bridge that gap. We focus on creating solid plans, aggressively pursuing funding options, and assisting you with implementation to make sure your project is on solid ground.

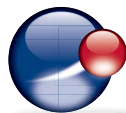
SERVICES

- Utility Rate Analysis
- Funding/Financing
- Project Development and Administration
- Economic Development
- Asset Management

AE2S

NEXUS

The Financial Link



A Division of AE2S (Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.)

www.AE2SNexus.com



A Month in Pictures

AT&T Business After Hours



EGGStravaganza



AT&T Business After Hours



EAPC Architects Business After Hours



Chamber Leadership Graduation



Chamber Leadership Graduation



Shaefer Promoted at AE2S

AE2S (Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.) has promoted



Scott Schaefer, PE to Wastewater Group Manager. Originally from Brookings, SD, Scott earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University.

Scott's experience and expertise span all aspects of wastewater collection and treatment, including the implementation of biological nutrient removal, innovative technologies, regulatory compliance, and wastewater reuse. Scott previously worked for Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. in Tucson, AZ, where he worked on large projects including biological nutrient removal upgrades for two Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTFs) in Chesterfield County, VA and WWTF capacity re-rating in Tucson, AZ. Recent AE2S experience includes: the Imperial Hills Lift Station for the City of Plymouth, MN; WWTF Improvements for Williston, ND; Wastewater Process Modeling for Grand Forks, ND; and Wastewater Facility Planning for multiple municipalities.

As Wastewater Group Manager, Scott leads technical development, training, business development, and project implementation for wastewater technologies and projects across the company.

Alerus Financial Hires and Promotes

Mandi Maloney has accepted a new position as consumer loans operations specialist with Alerus Financial.

Previously a customer service representative, Maloney will now be responsible for processing and servicing all types of loans, including commercial, consumer, residential real estate, and credit cards. Additionally, she will service internal and external customers by answering questions, problem solving, and delivering services on time.



Maloney joined Alerus in 2005 and received degrees in Radiologic Technol-

ogy A.A.S. and Liberal Arts A.A. from Northland Community & Technical College. Upon graduation, she was awarded the Mallinckrodt Award of Excellence, a distinguished award given to one graduating student for outstanding academic achievement. Maloney currently resides in East Grand Forks, MN.

Lindsay Carpenter has joined Alerus Financial as a customer service representative at its downtown Express branch.



Carpenter delivers superior customer service, processes financial transactions for customers, and opens new accounts. Additionally, she maintains and provides customers with in-depth knowledge of

all financial products and services offered by Alerus Financial.

Carpenter previously worked as a customer service representative with Western State Bank in Devils Lake, ND. She will graduate this December with an Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education and plans to pursue a Bachelor's degree in business management. Originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba in Canada, Carpenter now makes her home in Grand Forks.

Altru Adds Physicians

Dr. Jeremy Handy joins Altru Health System's Psychiatric Services. Dr. Handy, who specializes in child/adolescent psychiatry, comes to Altru from Tulane University Hospital in New Orleans, LA, where he recently completed a child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship. A graduate of New York



Medical College, Dr. Handy is a member of the American Psychiatric Association and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists.

Dr. Billie Jo Grieve joins Altru Health System as a general surgeon. A graduate of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Dr. Grieve completed her surgical training with the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clin-



ics General Surgery Residency Training program. She has been practicing general surgery at Immanuel St. Joseph Hospital in Mankato, MN since 2006. Dr. Grieve has a broad general surgery background, which includes experience in colorectal, advanced laparoscopy, trauma, thoracic, and vascular surgery.

Dr. Mandi Johnson joins Altru Health System's family medicine practice at Altru Clinic-Family Medicine Center. Dr. Johnson is a graduate of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Science in Grand Forks and completed her residency with Grand Forks Family Medicine Residency.



Dr. Kevin Mork joins Altru Health System's Anesthesiology department at Altru Hospital. A North Dakota native, Dr.



Mork is a graduate of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences. A Colonel with the Medical Corps of the U.S. Army, Dr. Mork previously served as Chief of Anesthesia & Operative Services with Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center in Fort Hood, Texas. Throughout his years in the Medical Corps, Dr. Mork has held numerous appointments in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dr. Mork is a member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and the North Dakota Society of Anesthesiologists.

Cleveland Promoted at Frandsen Bank & Trust

Richard Hoban Chief Executive Officer of the Frandsen Financial Corporation has announced that **Bill Lee** has been re-elected as Chairman of the Board of the Frandsen Bank & Trust effective January 1, 2011.



Hoban also announced that current Senior Vice President **Corey Cleveland** has been promoted to Grand Forks bank President effective January 1, 2011. Cleveland will continue to report to Bill Lee who had served as bank president.

According to Lee: "With my expanded responsibilities as Chairman of the Board of Frandsen Bank & Trust, Corey Cleveland was the perfect choice to lead the Grand Forks bank into the future. He has been with Frandsen Bank & Trust (and formerly Community National Bank) for over 21 years, and is well-regarded in our community for his expertise as a business person, his tireless community involvement, and his career as a trusted banker and friend. He has always gone above and beyond the call of duty to meet the financial needs of our customers."



Cleveland grew up in East Grand Forks, MN and is a graduate of the University of North Dakota with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. He has also completed the American Banking Association National Commercial Lending School and has been a classroom instructor for the American Institute of Banking. He has served on the North Dakota Bankers' Association Board of Directors (2005-2009).

Corey and his wife Jackie have three children, and they enjoy golf, travel, UND sports, and outdoor recreational activities.

EAPC Receives People's Choice Award

EAPC Architects Engineers was recognized as a finalist in the international conceptual design competition "Downtown Fargo: an urban-infill competition" put on by Kilbourne Group, a Fargo development company committed to supporting the redevelopment of Downtown Fargo. The competition garnered 160 entrants from 23 countries.



The public was invited to vote for the People's Choice Award. EAPC's entry was among three who received recognition. EAPC associate Sean Sugden said he is very pleased with the recognition. "To be one of the top nine out of

160 is an incredible honor," said Sugden. "To be one of the top three chosen by the popular vote is a testament to how our staff and company is cutting edge, yet sensitive to the region's definition of excellent design."

Via the international conceptual design competition, Kilbourne Group challenged designers to envision a multi-use urban solution to

address retail, office, residential, parking, and plaza space needs for the U.S. Bank Plaza and surface parking lot located along Broadway in Downtown Fargo.

Meridian Joins Iteris Family

Meridian Environmental Technology, Inc. (MET), a privately-held company based in Grand Forks, North Dakota announced today it has signed a Stock Purchase Agreement to be acquired by Iteris, Inc. (NYSE Amex: ITI), a leader in traffic management focused on the development and application of advanced technologies.

Meridian began operations in 1998 with the focus of providing state-of-the-art systems and operational services designed to enhance the safety and mobility of our nation's highway system. With Meridian's focus on reliability and service, MET quickly became a national leader in 511 advanced traveler information systems, road weather forecasting services, and Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS) management tools.

Meridian will operate as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Iteris family. MET customers will continue to receive high-level products and services from the same innovative and creative Meridian staff they have worked with and come to expect for the past 12 years.

Insight Technologies Named MSP Elite Partner

Insight Technologies announced today it was named an MSP Elite Partner by N-able Technologies, the global leader in remote network and systems management software for IT departments and managed service providers. N-able's MSP Elite Partners represent the company's top performing partners worldwide and many are also recognized as the IT industry's fastest growing and most successful MSP's.

Insight was named an MSP Elite Partner as a result of its overall performance and leadership as an N-able partner, as well as its proven expertise in delivering 100 percent IT coverage to customers through manage4d IT services. Only a select group of N-able partners have been appointed to this influential group

BGEA Hosts ND Legislative Preview

Senators Ray Holmberg and Connie Triplet and Representatives Elliot Glassheim and Stacy Dahl attended the December BGEA meeting. All four outlined what they see happening in the upcoming legislative session. The budget will once again dominate the session. Oil basin infrastructure needs, flood mitigation for Fargo and University budgets will all be hot topics. Representative Glassheim also listed off more than 25 Bill that will likely be introduced but likely not pass.

The business community will have a relatively light agenda this session, mainly play defense against any bills that would result in a negative business climate.

Chamber Board Sets Legislative Priorities.

Grand Forks/East Grand Forks Legislative Policies

1. Whereas UND and NCTC are major parts of the Grand Forks and East Grand Forks economy; The Chamber supports increased funding and building projects proposed by University and College leadership.

2. Whereas citizens of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks property taxes have been greatly impacted by flood mitigation costs following the flood of 1997; The Chamber supports property tax relief before other types of tax relief.

3. The Chamber supports the North Dakota Chamber's 2011 Legislative Policy Statements and Guidelines where they do not conflict with the two statements above.

[Click Pamphlet to View Policies](#)



Conflict Resolution Center University of North Dakota

CRC'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING 2011

Facilitating Effective Meetings February 28- March 1 8:30-5:00

Leading Effective Meetings is a crucial role for leaders in any organization. In this workshop, we will explore barriers to effective meetings and begin to address new ways of approaching meetings. You will learn skills and tools for facilitating meetings and assisting with decision-making and will understand how to manage conflict and navigate negative emotions by learning and practicing tools and guidelines used to work with these difficult topics. You will have an opportunity to practice skills throughout this interactive workshop.

Cost: \$199.00 Continuing Education and Professional Credits applied for

Location: TBA in Grand Forks, ND

Registration Deadline: Feb. 15, 2011

Mediation Skills for Leaders June 21 – 23, 2011 8:00-5:00 Daily

Have you wanted to take our Mediation Training but haven't found 5 full days and the funds to attend? This work shop is less than ½ the price and only ½ the time! In this workshop, you will learn skills to allow you to reduce the cost of conflict in your business or organization by learning to manage conflict effectively and capture the positive energy of conflict. You will develop an understanding of the context conflict occurs in, and its impact on workplace climate. You will enhance your ability to manage conflict and explore causes of conflict. Through the theory and strategies of transformative mediation, you will be able to practice skills for mediating small and larger group conflict in this highly experiential workshop.

Cost:\$300.00 Continuing Education and Professional Credits applied for

Location: Skalicky Room 211, 4300 James Ray Dr., Grand Forks, ND

Registration Deadline: June 1, 2011

Contact Information: Phone (701)777-3664 E-mail: conflict.resolution@und.edu

Web Site: <http://conflictresolution.und.edu>

2011 Calendar of Events

January 19	Lunch & Learn: <i>Intro to Nonviolent Communication</i>
February 11	Lunch & Learn: <i>Listening With Love</i>
March 17-18	Advanced Skills: <i>Conflict Coaching for Mediators</i>
May 23-27	40 Hour Family Mediation Seminar
May 31-June 4	Nonviolent Communication Symposium

Contact us for more information on these events



Hosted by The C'mon Inn

Thursday, January 20, 2011

4:45pm - 7:00pm

3051 32nd Ave. S.

Hosted by:



Free Admission

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drinks ~ Lots of Great Door Prizes ~ Progressive cash drawing is at \$300! ~

NO RSVP Needed

C'mon Inn invites all Chamber Members and employees to their Business After Hours on January 20th. Stop by and take advantage of great networking opportunities while you are there. You might even win \$300 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.

Home Place Thrift Store



701-795-9704
1811 S. Washington
www.prairieharvest.net

- Furniture
- Household Items
- Clothing
- Appliances
- Electronics
- Books

All Proceeds Benefit:



Call us to pick up your Donations

Your Ad Here!



With a one year contract, only \$50/month!

Contact Lisa at lisas@gochamber.org

A Chamber & SCORE Brown Bag Seminar

INTERNET SAFETY AT WORK

How to Protect Your Computer Network from the Internet



- 1.) How to defend your computer network
- 2.) Avoid Spyware/Malware and Trojans
- 3.) Protect portable computers in case of theft
- 4.) Protect your network from internal theft
- 5.) Comply with regulations – HIPPA, SOX, PCI, etc.
- 6.) Access your network securely from almost anywhere

Presented By: John Harrie – Owner/Sys. Engineer at Networking Specialists Inc.
 Microsoft Certified System Engineer ~ IBM Professional Server Expert and Professional Server Specialist ~ Cisco Certified Network Associate ~ SonicWALL certified Security Administrator ~ Allworx Certified Professional

Wednesday January 19, 2011

11:30am – 1:00pm

The Chamber

202 N. 3rd St, Grand Forks

\$20/Person (Includes Lunch)

Seating is limited. Sign up soon!

Reservations can be made at

772-7271 or email info@gochamber.org with the

names of those attending.

RSVP deadline is January 18, 2011.

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

Member Referrals Made By
The Chamber In 2010:

1063

Total for December: 120

Certificates of Origin Signed
By The Chamber In 2010:

29

Total for December: 2

New Resident Packets
Distributed By The Chamber
In 2010:

290

Total for December: 22

Check Out The Chamber Calendar of Events Here

www.gochamber.org

Number of Member Exposures for December (statistic includes internet search engine visits): 586,037

Top Member Directory Views/TCS Page Views for December

	<u>Dir.</u>	<u>TCS</u>		<u>Dir.</u>	<u>TCS</u>
Stray Media Group	718	19	Fine Print Screen Print/Embroid.	687	20
GF Co. Farm Serv. Agency	700	8	Night Out Grand Forks	687	8
Lisa's Soy Scents	698	56	First State Bank	686	14
ND Mill & Elevator	694	7	Sanford Health	685	32
Forks Builders Assoc.	691	13	American Crystal Sugar	684	6
Northern Plains Potato			American Red Cross	683	42
Growers Assoc.	689	11			