

THE Voice

Official Publication of The Chamber - GF/EGF



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Pictured: 2015 Ambassador's Chair Matt Dehnert passes the reins (antlers) on to 2016 Chair, Larissa Campbell.

THE Chamber
GRAND FORKS • EAST GRAND FORKS

THE Chamber

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Bob Moore - River Cinema

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Scott Telle - Ad Monkeys

Klaus Thiessen - GF Regional EDC

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Chamber News

Chamber to Host Joint Council Meeting February 3rd

Grand Forks and East Grand Forks City Councils will hold a joint meeting at The Chamber of Commerce Office at 3 p.m. on February 3rd. For decades The Chamber has encouraged inter-governmental cooperation in the name of cost savings and lower taxes.

The agenda will include an update on the interconnect waste water project that will very significantly financially benefit both communities. Todd Feland, Grand Forks City Administrator will talk about the joint agreement the Grand Forks, GF County and GFAFB signed last February. That process would be an excellent template for the two cities to potentially follow to help identify where the two can cooperate and work together to save both cities money.

Chamber Government Affairs Committee Co-chairs, Dane Ferguson, Ferguson Books and Media and Garth Rydland, Valley Memorial Homes will co-chair the meeting on behalf of the Chamber.

According to Chamber President, Barry Wilfahrt, "The Chamber has had this joint meeting as a goal for a couple years and the timing seems right with the interconnect project coming together."

Following the meeting The Chamber Board and GF and EGF EDC Boards will host the two councils for a social hour.

Bonding for Interconnect Top Legislative Priority for EGF

Members of the Base Realignment Impact Committee met with Air Force and Congressional leaders to update them on the major progress that has been made on the Enhanced Use Lease "Grand Sky" project at GFAFB and the cost savings it will bring to the Air Force. The EUL is certainly the center piece of what we have been working on with GFAFB. The BRIC group also talked about GFAFB as the "Base of the future" talking about why it is the perfect base for a variety of future missions especially in light of increased importance being placed by the Soviet Union on the arctic region.

Members of the BRIC Include:

Bill Lee, Base Retention Committee - Base Realignment Impact Committee (BRC/BRIC)

Todd Feland, City Administrator - City of Grand Forks

Dana Sande, Grand Forks City Council President

Commissioner Tom Faulk - Grand Forks County

Bruce Gjovig, CEO - University of ND Center for Innovation

Barry Wilfahrt, CEO - The Chamber of Grand Forks

Michael Moore, AVP - University of North Dakota

Klaus Thiessen, CEO Grand Forks Economic Development Corporation

Host a UND or NCTC student at your business place during the week of February 15-19. The Chamber, EDC and Job

Acclimating New Americans to Local Workplace

Workforce Task Force Partners With NCTC

The New American Training Program, with an expected launch in Spring of 2016, will provide access to basic skills and understanding required to be an effective member of the local job force. NCTC is taking the lead on this program with support from Global Friends and the Workforce Task Force. The program is designed to help teach New Americans skills that have immediate use in the workforce, enabling New Americans to succeed in a work environment, and adjust to the work culture. The New American Training Program "is a good thing, a much needed thing, not just for the New Americans but for our employers," said Keith Reitmeier, manager of Grand Forks area Job Service North Dakota. With more than 2,000 open jobs in Grand Forks County, this program allows employers to tap into a job market that is otherwise inaccessible.

The program focuses "three hurdles," according to Barry Wilfahrt, Chamber CEO "The first is language. It's not realistic to expect them to become fluent in a month, but it gets

them started. And they need to learn English work terms. The second is basic manufacturing skills. And third, how do you fit into the American work force? What do you wear to work? If you were to take me and drop me in China and tell me to get a job, what would I need to know to be successful?" Providing access to these skills allows New Americans to better succeed in a business environment. "If you've never been paid or never had that opportunity to work, you need help getting used to the work environment," said Cynthia Shabb, Global Friends' director. "This program will help build skills and understanding of what it means to have a job – work culture, work language, work ethics – so the New Americans have

opportunities to advance."

Overall, the program hopes to welcome New Americans into the local workforce and provide them with a much needed skill-set to adjust to the American work force.



Sign Up Now to Host a Student During Job Shadow Week



Service of North Dakota are organizing the event.

Why? 60% of student who

participated last year said they are more likely to seek employment in Grand Forks/East Grand Forks after participating in the Job Shadowing experience. Getting to know our local students helps them feel more welcome and helps convince them they should stay in our community when they graduate.

To register to host a student **CLICK HERE**.

Important Dates for 2016

January 29th
Chamber Annual Meeting at Alerus Center

February 3rd
Joint Meeting of the GF/EGF City Councils at the Chamber office

February 24th
Mayor's State of the City at Alerus Center

Membership Renewals - Through December 31st

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.

5-Star Collision & Glass Center
 AAA Quality Cleaners
 AALTOS - Canad Inns
 ACME TOOLS
 Advanced Business Methods
 AE2S
 Aflac - Judy Ingvalson
 Aflac District Office
 AFS Automated Financial Services, Inc.
 AgCountry Farm Credit Services
 AgriData, Inc.
 Alerus Center
 Alerus Corporate Center
 All About Moving, Inc.
 All Reasons Self Storage, LLC.
 Allstate-Corbin Insurance Agency
 Altru Health Foundation
 Altru Hospital
 American Cancer Society-Relay For Life
 American Family Insurance Debra Hopkins Agency Inc.
 American Federal Bank- EGF
 American Tire Service, Inc.
 American Tire South
 Amundson Family Funeral Home
 Anchor Marketing
 Anderson Steel Erection & Crane Service
 Applegren Construction
 Aqua Pure Water Solutions
 Area Community Credit Union
 ArtWise
 Arvig
 BacTee Systems, Inc.
 Bakken Backers
 Bank Forward
 Bank of North Dakota
 Behl's Photography
 Bergstrom Electric, Inc.
 Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND
 Blueprint IT Solutions
 Boardwalk Bar & Grill
 Border States Electric Supply Co.
 Braaten's Quality Auto Service
 Brady, Martz & Associates, P.C.
 Brekke Tours & Travel
 Bremer Bank
 Brockmeyer Tile & Stone, Inc.
 Brown Corporations
 Budget RV
 Burggraf's Ace Hardware
 Business Essentials
 C & H Insurance
 C & R Cleaners & Laundry
 C&M Ford
 C'Mon Inn
 C.L. Linfoot Company
 Cabela's
 Caldis, Tingum & Tingum, Ltd
 Cambridge Property Mgmt
 Camrud, Maddock, Olson & Larson Ltd
 Canad Inns
 Capital Resource Management
 Carrington Court Townhome Apts.
 Caulfield Studio
 Century Electric, Inc.
 Championship Tae Kwon Do
 Charles Bridgeford, D.D.S.
 Chiro Rx Ltd

CHS Ag Services
 City of East Grand Forks
 Coldwell Banker - Forks Real Estate
 Coldwell Banker- Katie Marcotte
 Columbia Mall
 Community Contractors, Inc.
 Community Options
 Community Safety Net
 Continental Covenant, LLC
 Cornerstone Ag Services Inc.
 Country Inn & Suites
 Countrywide Sanitation
 Crary Real Estate-Linda Pierce
 Culinox
 Curt Kreun
 Curtis Tanabe, D.D.S.
 Custom Stripes, Inc.
 D.J. Burris Quality Carpet Cleaning
 Dahl Funeral Home
 Dakota Carrier Network
 Dakota Harvest Bakers
 Days Inn
 Dean Foods N.C., Inc. - Land O'Lakes
 DeMers Dental - Dr. Erickson
 DeMers Dental - Dr. Stadem
 Denny's
 Development Homes, Inc.
 Dimensions Photography LLC
 Docu-Shred, Inc.
 Don Fisk
 Duaine Espesgard
 Eagles Club #350
 EAPC Architects Engineers
 East Grand Floral
 Eastside Express - Luigi's Pizza
 Economy Plumbing, Inc.
 Edgewood Management Group, LLC
 Edgewood Vista - East Grand Forks
 Edward Jones - Ken Johnson
 El Roco Nightclub & Bottle Shop
 Emerson Duty Free Shop

Expressway Suites
 Face and Jaw Surgery Center
 Fairfield Inn
 Farmers National Company
 Ferguson Books & More!
 First Church of God, Grand Forks
 First Class Mortgage
 Flint Group
 Florian & Sons Excavating
 Freedom Church
 Galstad, Jensen, and McCann, PA
 George Wogaman
 GF Abstract & Title Company
 GF Custom Woodwork, Inc.
 GF Motor Vehicle Branch Office
 GF Regional Airport Authority
 GGF Symphony Orchestra
 Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons
 Global Friends Coalition
 Global Safety Network
 Golden Rule Auto Repair
 Good Samaritan Society Heritage Grove
 GoodInsurance - Bonnie Baglien
 Gowan Construction, Inc.
 Grand Forks American Legion Post # 6
 Grand Forks Builders and Traders Exchange
 Grand Forks County Historical Society
 Grand Forks County Soil Conservation District
 Grand Forks Montessori Academy
 Grand Forks Park District
 Grand Forks Public Schools
 Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation
 Grand Forks Winnelson
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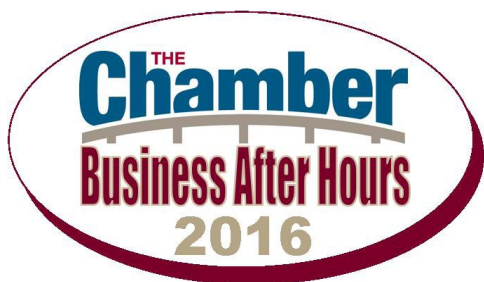
Greenberg Realty - Lynn Kvidt
 Greenberg Realty, Inc.
 Greenberg Realty-Stacey Galstad
 Hammarback & Scheving, P.L.C.
 Hampton Inn & Suites
 Hampton Management
 Hanson-Maves Company - Bekins
 Happy Grass
 Happy Harry's Bottle Shops
 Happy Harry's Bottle Shops - 2
 Heritage Highland I
 Heritage Highland II
 Holiday Inn Express and Suites
 Home Care Companions
 Home of Economy
 Hornbacher's
 ICON Architectural Group
 Impact Dakota
 Independent School District #595
 Industrial Contract Services, Inc.
 Innes Construction Company
 Insure Forward
 InvisiMax
 Ironhide Equipment
 Iteris, Inc. - Grand Forks
 J & G Landscaping
 James O'Connell, D.D.S.
 Jeff's Landscaping
 Joe Black's
 Johnson & Autrey Law Firm
 JTC, Inc
 Jump for Joy Bounce Houses
 Keith's Security World
 Kelly Services
 Kuhl Properties
 Lander Limited Partnership
 Leighton Broadcasting
 Liberty Business Systems, Inc.
 Lumber Mart
 Lunseth Plumbing & Heating
 Lunseth Plumbing & Heating
 Lux Communities
 Main Resource Equipment Auctions
 & Land Sales
 Make-A-Wish Foundation of North
 Dakota
 Maple View Memory Care Commu-
 nity
 Marco
 Mary Kay - Chassidy Strege
 Mary Kay - Roberta Turney
 Mayport Insurance & Realty, Inc.
 McDonald's Gateway Drive
 McDonald's South Washington
 McFarlane
 McKinnon Company
 Merrill Lynch
 Merry Maids
 Midcontinent Communications
 Midwest Refrigeration, Inc.
 Mikkelson Consolidated, L.L.P
 Millennium Systems Technology, Inc.
 MODE
 Modern Auto Body, Inc.
 Modern Information Systems, Inc.
 Muddy Rivers
 MyPayrollHR
 National Property Inspections - Tim
 Brown
 ND Division of Vocational Rehabilita-
 tion
 ND Mill & Elevator
 Neil Law Firm
 Newcomers Welcome Service
 Nodak Mutual - David Kent

North Dakota CPA Society
 North Dakota Eye Clinic
 North Dakota Safety Council
 Northdale Oil
 Northern Lights Council, Boy Scouts
 of America
 Northridge (Hospitality & Construc-
 tion)
 Northwestern Mutual Financial Net-
 work
 Northwood Park Townhomes
 Now or Never Nutrition
 Obermiller Nelson Engineering
 Occupational Development Center
 Olson, Juntunen & Sandberg, Ltd.
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 Opticare- Forks Vision Clinic
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 Priority Title, LLC.
 PRO Resources
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 Red River State Recreation Area
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 Remer Accounting PC
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 ter
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 Right Choice Electric Inc
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Steeple Apartments, LLC
 Steffes Corporation - Grand Forks
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 Steve Adams Farms
 Steve Erlandson, D.D.S.
 Steven Swanson, D.D.S.
 Stifel Nicolaus formerly UBS Fi-
 nancial Services Inc.
 Stone's Mobile Radio, Inc.
 Stray Media Group
 Sublime Aesthetic Professionals,
 LLC
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 Super 8 Motel
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 The Toasted Frog
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 Thrifty White Pharmacy
 Times Square Townhomes, I, Inc.
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 III, Inc.
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BUSINESS AFTER HOURS 2016



Sterling Carpet One invites all Chamber Members and their employees to join them for a fun Business After Hours. Enjoy the fun and take advantage of great networking opportunities.

You might even win \$1900 in our progressive cash drawing! We'll draw the name of one Chamber Member business. If someone from that organization is present, they win!!

Hosted by

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4:45pm - 7:00pm



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- Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, drink ticket & cash bar
- Great Door Prizes
- Progressive cash drawing is at \$1900!

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.

Meet Your 2016 Chamber Board of Directors

2016 Chamber Leadership

Executive Committee



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True North Equip.
Board Chair



Matt Walkowiak
Ground Round
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Kristi Magnuson-Nelson
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Paula Anderson
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Josh Brown
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Dan Dahl
Dahl Funeral Home



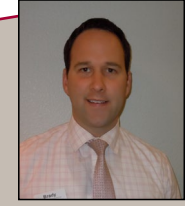
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Altru Health System



Pete Haga
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Brady Hansen
BeMobile, Inc.



Kenny Holweger
Kenny's Music



Brian Huschle
Northland College



Curt Kreun
Retired



Pat McLean
Retired



Bob Moore
River Cinema



Tom Rosendahl
Dakota Supply Group



Scott Telle
Ad Monkeys



Klaus Thiessen
GF Region Economic Dev. Corporation



Laurie Tweten
Coldwell Banker



Col. Rodney Lewis
GFAFB Commander
Sr. Military Advisor to the Board



The impact of your giving \$10 or more on **February 11th** are matched up to \$4,000 by Dakota Medical Foundation.

Your support is essential on this **one day 24-hour** online event to Prairie Harvest Mental Health. You're invited to change lives of adults with serious mental illness by simply going to impactgiveback.org



Giving Hearts Day
impactgiveback.org

February 11, 2016

Chamber Ambassador Ribbon Cutting

To schedule a ribbon cutting for a new business, new location, remodel or dedication, contact Emberly at emberlyL@gochamber.org



Hornbacher's

Welcome New Members

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secondimpressionsegrf@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/secondimpressionsthiftstore
Second Impressions is under new ownership and has a new location in East Grand Forks! We recycle quality goods back into the community at a fair price. We also work with local charities to help enhance the communities we serve.

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Don Fisk

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Grand Forks, ND 58201

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Bank of North Dakota

Kim Kautzman
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kkautzman@nd.gov
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Bank of North Dakota is an agile partner that creates financial solutions for current and emerging economic needs. Located in Bismarck since it's opening in 1919, BND now has an office in Grand Forks.

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Bremer Bank Business After Hours



Chamber Leadership Graduation



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Chamber Leadership Graduation



Bremer Bank Business After Hours



**Chamber Leadership
Graduation**



Mike Maidenbergs Finalists and Recipient



**Ambassador Committee
Members**



Chamber Ambassador Committee Members

2016 Annual Meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016

Chamber Annual Meeting & Dinner

Alerus Center
Friday, January 29, 2016

5:30pm Social & Silent Auction

(Social music by Kenny Holweger from Kenny & the Classics)

6:30pm Dinner & Program

8oz. sirloin with chipotle coffee rub & brandied onions/mushrooms served with 3 chipotle garlic shrimp

Garlic buttered Asparagus

Cheddar mashed

Spring mix, Mediterranean feta with ranch and sundried tomato vinaigrette

Fresh baked petit pain rolls with butter

\$60/person (reserved seating)

\$55/person for reserved table of 8

RSVP deadline is January 25, 2016.

Cancellations not made 3 business days prior to event will be billed.

Featured Speaker: John Phipps, Commentator



John Phipps is, like most farmers today, not what you expect. He holds a degree in chemical engineering, studied economics, and served as a submarine nuclear engineer, all of which contribute to his unique perspective on rural culture.

Since 1994 he has written award-winning humor and commentary for Farm Journal and Top Producer magazines.

From August 2005 until October this year, John was the TV host of US Farm Report. He now adds commentary from his farm every week.

In conjunction with his Farm Journal work, he speaks often to farm and rural groups on topics ranging from risk to professional development.

Speaker sponsored by:
ND Mill & Elevator ~ True North Equipment ~ Alerus ~
Hugo's Family Marketplace ~ Black Gold Farms ~
Red River Farm Network

As we move into 2016, we invite you to make your plans to join us as we report on the past year and Kristi Magnuson Nelson passes the gavel on to 2016 Board Chair, John Oncken.

Browse the silent auction during the social while enjoying entertainment by Kenny Holweger from Kenny & The Classics.

This will be followed by the dinner, program and featured speaker. Our evening ends with the Prestigious Henry Havig Award Winner announcement. Our very own, Mike Hergert with RR Farm Network, will be our emcee for the evening.

Reservations:

Online reservations are the best way to RSVP. Print a ticket for quick and efficient check in at the event.

Click this box to make your reservation online.

To email your reservations: lisas@gochamber.org

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Alerus Hires Chris Moen

Alerus is pleased to addition of **Chris Moen** as branch manager at its Banksouth location.



Moen is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the Banksouth branch including execution of Alerus' service delivery model, achieving sales goals

and objectives, monitoring the branch safety and security, and supervising the retail staff.

Moen joins Alerus with more than 10 years of experience in the financial industry and was previously a branch manager with Citi. He received a Bachelor's of Business Administration degree with majors in marketing and entrepreneurship from the University of North Dakota. Moen is a member of the Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals, graduate of the Chamber Leadership Program, organizer of Grand Forks 1 Million Cups, and actively involved with Grand Forks Startup Community. He currently resides in Grand Forks with his spouse, Marilee.

Alerus Promotes Michael Helt

Alerus is pleased to announce the promotion of **Michael Helt** to relationship manager at its Banksouth location.



Helt is responsible for developing and cultivating relationships in addition to managing significant customer portfolios. He is the primary contact for new or existing cus-

tomers and provides comprehensive financial management solutions for customers with lending, deposit, and investment needs.

Helt joined Alerus in 2004; his past positions include relationship banker, lead personal banker, trainer, customer service representative, and teller. In 2014, Helt was named Young Professional

Business Person of the Year by The Chamber – Grand Forks/ East Grand Forks. He was also named to Prairie Business Magazine's 40 Under 40 list in 2013. Helt received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Mary and currently resides in Grand Forks with his wife, Amber, and their daughter and son.

Dr. Howard Hack Joins Altru Gastroenterology Team

Howard Hack, MD, joins the gastroenterology team at Altru Health System. "I understand the importance of listening to my patients, examining them with thoughtfulness and then using state of the art knowledge and treatments to provide the very best medical care," says Dr. Hack about his philosophy of medicine.



Dr. Hack earned his medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri. He completed his gastroenterology fellowship at Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California and his medical residency at Barnes Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri. Prior to Altru, Dr. Hack worked in private practice in Paradise, California.

"I found the pursuit of medicine has been a perfect match from my lifelong passion for learning and helping others. I enjoy learning about different problems, as well as new approaches to diagnosis and treatment. I especially enjoy the privilege of teaching others the art of medicine so more people will benefit from this knowledge." Dr. Hack has also taught medical students, internal medicine residents and GI fellows at Stanford University, and his work has been published in Lancet (London, UK) on H. pylori infection

and cost effectiveness research. Dr. Hack's many years of experience and expertise in gastroenterology makes him an excellent addition to Altru Health System.

In his spare time, Dr. Hack enjoys swimming, bike riding, ice skating with his family, and building Legos with his youngest son.

JLG Pledges 1650 Volunteer Hours in 2016

In addition to the more than 10,000 hours the staff at JLG Architects are projected to volunteer next year, the firm has once again increased its commitment to The 1+, a national organization which challenges architects, engineers, and planners to donate one percent of their working hours to pro bono design service. In 2016, JLG has pledged to give 1,650 of the firm's billable time to organizations which would not have been able to afford design services.

"There are many non-profits out there operating on tight budgets that don't have the resources to pay for architectural services, even though the future growth of their organizations depends on a new or updated facility," said Lonnie Laffen, JLG CEO. "Good design makes a difference for the entire community, and we are fortunate to be able to give our time and our resources to making life better."

JLG has been a member of The 1+ since 2011 and has donated more than 3,000 hours in that time.

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3 Basic Beliefs

1. Respect for the Individual
2. Service to our Members
3. Striving for Excellence

MSgt Robyn Kaufhold Receives 2016 Mike Maidenbergl Emerging Leader Award

On December 9th, MSgt Robyn Kaufhold, graduate of The Chamber's 2015 Leadership Class, was chosen as the recipient of the Mike Maidenbergl Emerging Leader Award. As a recipient, Robyn receives a plaque and the opportunity to select a community nonprofit to receive a financial award designated for leadership training.

The award was presented at The Leadership Program Graduation by The Community Foundation of GF/EGF, which manages the Mike Maidenbergl Leadership Fund.



The Mike Maidenbergl Emerging Leader Award was established in 2006 upon Mike Maidenbergl's retirement from the Grand Forks Herald and is funded from contributions that were made by Grand Forks Herald employees in his honor.

This award is given on an annual basis to a graduate of the Chamber's Leadership Program. The finalists are selected by their peers in the class based on ten leadership criteria. The final recipient is chosen based on completion of an essay and other criteria.

MSgt Kaufhold is a First Sergeant with the United States Air Force, 69th Maintenance Squadron at the GFAFB. She has been a guest speaker in the Northwood Memorial Day event and East Grand Forks Veteran's Day event. She is also an active member of the Air Force Sergeants Association and Air Force Top Three Organization.

Congratulations Robyn.



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Chamber Express Advertising

Advertise in Chamber Express and reach over 3000 of your fellow chamber members!

Promote your business or special offer with your flyer or brochure in over 3000 Chamber Express packets.

The Chamber will stuff and mail special Chamber Express packets to over 3000 chamber member contacts. It's easy to include your message or special offer...here's how!

- Reserve your space ASAP by contacting us at 772-7271 or info@gochamber.org.
Space is limited to 15 inserts per month.
- Provide us with 3100 copies (subject to change) of your flyer or brochure the month prior to the mailing month.

Cost: \$250

for 8.5 x 11, up to 24lb flyer or brochure
Larger sized or heavier paper will add additional charges. Call for quote.

You must be a chamber member to advertise in the Chamber Express packets.

2016 Chamber Express packets will be mailed in March and September.

Limited space available, reserve your spot soon.

For more information, contact us at 772-7271 or info@gochamber.org.



Newsletter Advertising

The Voice Online Newsletter Advertising

Call The Chamber @ 772-7271- Lisa Swanson
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Lower rates are for 1 year advertising contract.

Full Page Ad
Color or BW
10 X 7 ¼"
1 month ~~\$200~~
\$125!



Quarter (1/4) Page
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3" X 7 ¼"
1 month ~~\$80~~
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Business Card Size
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~~\$30-a month~~
\$20!

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Color or BW

3" X 3 ½"
1 month ~~\$50~~
\$30!

Half Page
Color or BW

5" X 7 ¼"
1 month ~~\$130~~
\$75!

Email Advertising

Member to Member E-Promotions

Every Friday The Chamber sends its Member to Member email to over **3000** chamber member email addresses.

Promotional space is available for only \$30/Friday (175 word maximum). You provide the copy and we'll include it in the Fridays you choose! If you include an email address or web link in your copy, it will be hyper-linked in the email so readers can simply click on it and reach you.

You may also add your company logo or event picture!

Friday Member to Member E-Promotions is advertising *from* Chamber members *to* Chamber members.

Space is limited. Contact The Chamber for information on how your business can become a part of Friday E-Promotions at 772-7271 or info@gochamber.org

