

Welcome New Board Members & Leadership Terms Years



A warm welcome is extended to our new Board of Directors serving 2019-2021. Members include, pictured below from the left, *Tom Hoggarth, Golfers Organized for Little Falls (GOLF)*; *Laurie Whitlow, PrimeLending*; *Nancy Berg, Berg's Bug Removal* and *Brian Gapinski, Rural MN CEP*. We look forward to your strong leadership in continuing to build a vibrant business community for Morrison County.



Pictured above from the left is your 2019-2020 leadership team for the Chamber of Commerce. *Patrick Watercott, Vernon Sales Promotion*, Vice President; *Dr. Allison Girtz, Allison Zak D.C., LLC*, Secretary; *Rosi Przybilla, Marshik Insurance Agency*, Treasurer and *Tim Matros, Five Pines Senior Solutions*, Chair of the Board. We are excited to have these qualified individuals led us through the year.

Annual Meeting

Thursday, February 28

5:00 - 7:00 pm ~ Social & featured

entertainment: Harper's Chord

7:00 pm ~ Award Ceremony

Falls Ballroom, 15879 Hwy. 27, Little Falls

Join us in celebration 2018 with 2018 Chair of the Board, John Thielen, Thielen Meats and officially welcome 2019 Chair of the Board, Tim Matros, Five Pines Senior Solutions.

We will be recognizing our 2018 Chamber Small Business of the Year, Large Business of the Year and Chamber Volunteer of the Year, during the awards ceremony.

Corporate Sponsorships are now available. As a corporate sponsor your business logo will be included on the Chamber website, event invitation, event program, Chamber Newsletter, Chamber Annual Report and listed as a sponsor in weekly e-mail blasts. By becoming a corporate sponsor you will have the opportunity to have an 8' display table at the event to promote your business. All this in addition to reserved seating and food for 10. Cost is \$370 and reservations are taken on a first come first reserved basis. Contact Deb dboelz@littlefallsmnchamber.com or Gina ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com for more information or call (320) 632-5155.

Snow Removal

Snow removal on our city streets and parking lots can be a challenge. In an effort to efficiently communicate with property owners, the City of Little Falls is collecting email addresses for snow removal alerts. To be added to the list, please email Greg Kimman, Public Works Director/City Engineer at gkimman@cityoflittlefalls.com

From the desk of the CEO . . .

Debora K. Boelz



As the busy Holiday Season comes to a close, I applaud our local retail community for the exceptional quality and variety of merchandise that was available during the holiday season. We are fortunate to have the mix of specialty stores to compliment national brand names that are found on our main streets. Please remember to continue to shop locally as we enter the New Year!

The Board of Directors has new officers for 2019 including Chair Tim Matros, Five Pines Senior Solutions; Vice Chair Patrick Watercott, Vernon Sales Promotions; Treasurer Rosi Przybilla, Marshik Insurance; and Secretary Dr. Allison Girtz, Allison Zak D.CC, LLC. Thank you for agreeing to serve the membership in these leadership roles.

On January 8th the Minnesota Legislature will be called into Session. Our elected officials cannot truly represent us if they do not hear from us. The Chamber will be facilitating a listening session later in January with Representative Ron Kresha and Senator Paul Gazelka. Both Representative Kresha and Senator Gazelka welcome and encourage contact from their constituents. Watch for information on where and when the session will be held.

The application materials for the 47th annual Little Falls Arts & Crafts Fair can be found on the Chamber's website. As we are always on the lookout for new vendors with handcrafted items, please encourage any potential vendors you know to apply with us. A great way for new vendors to test the market place with us is to share a booth space with another artist/crafter. This makes it more cost effective and only ½ the product is needed to fill the booth space. Booth spaces are \$205; with application and license fees, the total cost is \$230. Fair dates are September 7th & 8th.

Market Place Fair applications are also available at this time. The Market Place Fair is the commercial buy-sell event staged on West Broadway. Booths in this area are an eclectic mix of nationally known brands, clever inventions by people like you and me who had a great idea can capitalized on it along with food vendors.

In closing, please mark your calendar for the Chamber's Annual Meeting on Thursday, February 28th at the Falls Ballroom. The event is a mixture of socializing, a few awards, great food and entertainment. Join us for a night of fun – you deserve it!



At the Santa Parade in November, you saw the life-sized Cone Zone mascots greeting people and handing out information on upcoming events. The Cone Zone mascots will be at many locations and events in the coming months to promote activities for the Highway 27 construction project scheduled to begin this spring.

At this time, the bid specs for the project are being finalized. When the project is awarded a community meeting with MnDOT will be scheduled to keep community informed on timelines and other details. Until then, be on the lookout for the Cone Zone mascots!

January Employee of the Month

Sheila Pelzer, CHI St. Gabriel's Health



The Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce our January Employee of the Month, *Sheila Pelzer*, **CHI St. Gabriel's Health**. Sheila has been a Registered Nurse (RN) for the past 35 years.

MaryRose Knutson states about Sheila: "I feel blessed with such a wonderful staff here at CHI

St. Gabriel's Health. Sheila does an amazing job and this just proves that. Whether it is delivering babies, caring for ill or assisting in the recovery of surgical patients, Sheila always gives her best. The pride she takes in her work is truly inspiring."

Sheila states: "I would sincerely like to thank the person who took the time out of their busy day to write a letter and nominate me for this recognition. What a humbling experience. I am truly grateful. I would also like to thank the Chamber's Outstanding Service Committee for sharing the letter that was written and the many Chamber members for the gift cards. Last but not least I want to thank the wonderful co-workers and physicians I work with every day. I could not do this job without you. Thank you for sharing the good days with me and supporting me through the difficult ones."

Thank you to our January Employee of the Month sponsors:

Berg's Bug Removal, Bursch Travel Agency, Coborn's Floral, Design Electronics, Domino's, Fitness Connection, Franciscan Sisters, Fresh Hair Professionals, Johnny C's Sports Bar, Perkins Restaurant & Bakery, Pizza Ranch, Silker Studio, Subway Little Falls, Vacuum Cleaner Outlet & Service Center.

Congratulations Sheila Pelzer!

Thank you to our December Friday Morning Coffee sponsor

Highland Senior Living



Pictured left: *Robin, Debbie, Jessica, Jeff and Tammy*, Highland Senior Living.

Friday Morning Coffee

Friday, January 18

7:30 - 9:00 am

Schlenner Wenner & Co., 118 Wood St., Ste. 101, Little Falls

sponsored by:

**SCHLENNER
WENNER & Co.**
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
& BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Schlenner Wenner & Co, invites you to their new location, 118 Wood St., Suite. 101 (across from the dam). At Schlenner Wenner & Co., they balance the resources of professional staff with the individual needs of their clients. Their goal is to help clients keep their life in balance enabling both large and small businesses to become prosperous and reach their full potential.

Networking is a powerful tool. After announcements, at 8:00 am, attendees will have the opportunities for 30 second testimonials for another Chamber Member business.

Lunchtime on Location (LOL)

Wednesday, January 23

noon

Purple Carrot Market, 53 E Broadway, Little Falls

sponsored by:



The Purple Carrot Market is about building community and self-reliance. They are a locally owned food co-operative featuring locally-sourced foods and foods created by local food entrepreneurs. It is a local, sustainable, consumer food co-op that will provide grocery options for our community.

There is a \$5.00 fee to attend. Make your reservation by emailing Gina at gina@littlefallsmnchamber.com or call the Chamber (320) 632-5155 by Monday, January 21, to ensure we have enough food for all who wish to attend. Announcements at 12:25 pm.

2019 Friday Morning Coffee's

January 18

Schlenner Wenner & Co., 118 Wood St. Ste. 101, Little Falls

February 15

Little Falls Convention & Visitors Bureau,
606 1 St SE, Little Falls

March 15

Friends of Pine Grove Zoo, 1200 W Broadway, Little Falls

April 12

Lori Kush State Farm Insurance,
15594 E Hwy .27, Little Falls

May 17

Spectrum Marketing Services, 308 13 Ave NW, Little Falls

June 21

Paradox Chiropractic, 16541 Haven Rd., Little Falls

July 19

Central MN Credit Union, 35 E Broadway, Little Falls

August 16

Touright Bicycle Shop, 124 2 St NE, Little Falls

September 20

Purple Carrot Market, 53 E Broadway, Little Falls

October 18

Morrison County Historical Society,

2019 Lunchtime on Locations (LOL)

January 23

Purple Carrot Market, 53 E Broadway, Little Falls

February 27

Hands of Hope Resource Center
at the Chamber of Commerce, 200 1 St NW, Little Falls

March 27

Falls Ballroom, 15879 Hwy. 27, Little Falls

April 24

Little Falls Care Center, 1200 1 St NE, Little Falls

May 22

H & R Block, 109 6 St NE, Little Falls

August 28

Morrison County United Way, location to be announced

September 25

CHI St. Gabriel's Health at Home, 812 2 St SE, Little Falls

October 23

Horizon Health, 26814 143 St., Pierz

November 27

Sponsor Needed

This noon time networking event features a light lunch, one to one networking, information about our sponsor, pass the mic and member testimonials. There is a \$5.00 fee to attend.

Thank You Volunteers

We are offering our sincere gratitude and hope that all our volunteers know how much they are appreciated. With this in mind, we would like to extend a thank you to our volunteers who have passed the torch to new volunteers.

Lindy Greeter Committee

Doug Dahlberg, Pine Country Bank
Chris Kruschek, ReMax Central MN
Roy Nouis, Nouis Home Care

Outstanding Service Committee

Diane Zalasin, Pine Country Bank

Welcome to our newest volunteers

Lindy Greeter Committee

Heather Brill, Mid Minnesota Federal Credit Union
Kurt Muesing, Central MN Credit Union
Shelly Stoner, ReMax Central MN
Kyle Wensmann, Coborn's Marketplace

Outstanding Service Committee

Jenni Bird, Central MN Senior Care Inc.
Laurie Litke, North Risk Partners - Deml Insurance
Melissa Sanoski, Morrison County

Golf Committee

Andrew Nygaard, Farmers Union Insurance
Andrew Nygaard
Angie Magee, Central MN Renewables

Welcome New Member

Little Falls Hearing Clinic

Heather Van Stone
109 5 Ave NE #2, Little Falls
(320) 616-6850

fallshearing@yahoo.com

<http://www.littlefallshearing.com>

Little Falls Hearing Clinic performs hearing evaluations and hearing aid services for anyone over the age of 3. Hearing protection. Experience the difference in skill and ability by visiting an audiologist for your hearing care.

2019 Chamber Board & Staff

2017-2019

Tom Hoggarth, **Gofers Organized for Little Falls - GOLF**
Tim Matros, Chair of the Board, **Five Pines Senior Solutions**
Rosi Przybilla, Treasurer, **Marshik Insurance Agency**
Rob Ronning, **Pine Country Bank**

2018-2020

Steve Andres, **Design Electronics**
Dr. Allison Girtz, Secretary, **Allison Zak D.C., LLC**
Patrick Watercott, Vice Chair of the Board, **Vernon Sales**
Promotion

2019-2021

Nancy Berg, **Berg's Bug Removal**
Brian Gapinski, **Rural MN CEP**
Pete Mooney, **The Source Computing**
Laurie Whitlow, **PrimeLending**

Non Voting Ex-Officio

John Thielen, Immediate Past Chair of the Board, **Thielen Meats**

Chamber Staff

Debra K. Boelz, President/CEO
dboelz@littlefallsmnchamber.com

Mary Bednarek, Office, Arts & Crafts Fair and Financial Coordinator
mary@littlefallsmnchamber.com

Gina Vetter, Project & Volunteer Coordinator
ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com

Small Business of the Year; Large Business of the Year and Chamber Volunteer of the Year Nominations are now being accepted.



Pictured left: 2018 Chamber Small Business of the Year, **RTO PA** staff and owners with Chamber President /CEO *Debra K. Boelz*.

In an effort to celebrate our members and the numerous individual volunteers who dedicate their time and talents to the Chamber, the Outstanding Service Committee is now accepting nominations for our Chamber Volunteer of the Year, Small Business of the Year and Large Business of the Year awards. Each award has a specific criteria to assist you in the nomination process.

Nominations are due to the Chamber of Commerce by Friday, January 25, 2019. Awards will be bestowed at the Annual Meeting Thursday, February 28. Please consider making a nomination in one or more category. Recipients will receive the public recognition and a plaque noting the honor. Their names will also be displayed on permanent plaques in the Chamber Lobby. Nomination forms are available on our website at www.littlefallsmnchamber.com/pages/NominationForms

Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 21, 2019

Recent Board Action

- Heard a report from *Carol Anderson*, **Community Development of Morrison County**
- Approved a meeting date calendar for 2019
- In accordance with the bylaws, approved 4 ex officio appointments: City of Little Falls, Community Development of Morrison County, Little Falls Convention & Visitors Bureau and Morrison County
- Approved Committee Liaisons from the Board of Directors
- Approved one new member, Little Falls Hearing Clinic
- Approved officers for 2019 Board of Directors

Doug Loom's column from the MN Chamber can be found at

www.mnchamber.com

Or

www.littlefallsmnchamber.com/pages/Newsletter

January Calendar of Events

The Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce event and meetings are in bold. For an expanded list of community events, visit our website at www.littlefallsmnchamber.com

January

- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 ~ Story Time, 10:15 am, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls
- 3 ~ Tech Time, 5:00 pm, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls
- 3 ~ Open Mic Night, 7:00 pm, Great River Arts, 122 1 St SE, Little Falls
- 4, 18 ~ Friday Fun at the Creation Station, 3:30 pm, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls
- 5 ~ Petite Picasso Art Class, 10:30 am, Great River Arts, 122 1 St SE, Little Falls
- 5 ~ Mini Monet Art Class, noon, Great River Arts, 122 1 St SE, Little Falls
- 5 ~ Candlelight Snowshoe & Hike, 5:00 – 8:00 pm, Lindbergh Historic Site, 1620 Lindbergh Dr. S., Little Falls
- 10 ~ Downtown Council - The Big Dig, 8:00 am, Great River Arts, 122 1 St SE, Little Falls
- 10 ~ **Chamber Board of Directors**, 11:00 am, Chamber of Commerce, 200 1 St NW, Little Falls
- 10, 24 ~ Movie Night, 4:00 pm, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls
- 12- 13 ~ Ice Carousel Extravaganza, Green Prairie Fish Lake, Forrest Rd., Little Falls
- 12 ~ How to Write a Novel in Seven Steps presented by Jess Lourey, 11:00 am, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls
- 12 ~ 2nd Saturday Free Art, 11:00 am, Great River Arts, 122 1 St SE, Little Falls
- 14-18 ~ The Path of Holiness -- Joyful and Challenging Retreat, St. Francis Convent, 116 8 Ave SE, Little Falls
- 18 ~ **Friday Morning Coffee**, 7:30 - 9:00 am, Schlenner Wenner & Co., 118 Wood St. Ste. 101, Little Falls. Sponsored by:
Schlenner Wenner & Co.
- 18 ~ Adult Anime Club, 4:30 pm, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls
- 19 ~ National Popcorn Day, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls
- 21 ~ Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Chamber Office OPEN)
- 22 ~ Guitarist Dave Cofell, 4:00 pm, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls
- 23 ~ **Lunchtime on Location (LOL)**, noon, Purple Carrot Market, 53 E Broadway, Little Falls.
 Sponsored by: **Purple Carrot Market**
- 24, 25 ~ Church of Cash, 6:30 pm doors open, 7:30 pm show begins, Great River Arts, 122 1 St SE, Little Falls
- 26 ~ Sprout Marketplace, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Sprout Food Hub, 609 13 Ave NE. Ste. 8, Little Falls
- 26 ~ KC Buffalo Feed & Raffle, 4:00 - 8:00 pm, Pierz Ballroom, 104 Park Ave SE, Pierz
- 31 ~ Card Making with Jan, 5:00 - 7:00 pm, Carnegie Library, 108 3 St NE, Little Falls

LITTLE FALLS AREA



Proudly Serving Morrison County Since 1888

200 1 St NW

Little Falls MN 56345