Last chance to register for this premium event! Contact our office for golf and sponsorship options or use the inserted flyer. Everyone who signs up to play will receive a special gift-wrapped present. All attendees may participate in the Mega Putt for a chance to win a grill, graciously donated by Warners’ Stellian. Or, find a golden ticket in a special candy bar for a $100 Top Golf gift card! Lots of fun new ways to win cool items.

Speaking of cool items – raffle items are still gratefully being accepted. Showcase your business while supporting the Chamber. It’s a win-win! Thank you in advance.

And speaking of thanks…
thanks to the following sponsors:

Title: Financial One Credit Union
Eagle: Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, 21st Century Bank, Border State Bank
Legacy: Anoka-Hennepin Educational Foundation
Birdie: MidWestOne Bank, Twin City Orthopedics, Blaine Orthodontics
Social Media: E-Merge Online Marketing
Mobile Scorecard: 1 AVAILABLE
Dinner: Northeast Bank
Lunch: 2 LEFT
Beverage Cart: Club Pilates Blaine, Village Bank, Crooners Lounge & Supper Club; 1 AVAILABLE
Hole in One: Sierra Pacific Mortgage, Riverdale Travel
Driving Range: Mate Precision Tooling
Putting Green: Hubbard Broadcasting; 1 AVAILABLE
Registration: Huntington Learning Center
Field Contest: Abrams & Schmidt, LLC, Broadway Bar and Pizza; 6 AVAILABLE
Transportation & Commerce

Throughout the 10 years I’ve been with this Chamber, when I have asked our business community what was keeping them from growing their business, the #1 issue was transportation, followed closely by the #2 issue of transportation, followed by the #3 issue of transportation. Certainly, workforce has become a very pressing problem now, but if you were to look past that, the same transportation problems from 10 years ago still exist. And to be honest, not just 10 years, but 20, 30 years in some cases. Moving a businesses’ products, employees and customers is paramount to success. Without an efficient transportation network, commerce can come to a grinding halt (pun intended).

Therefore, the MetroNorth Chamber has been very engaged in being the voice of business in multiple transportation conversations throughout the north metro. A few highlights:

 Earlier this spring, Lori Higgins testified at the Minnesota House of Representatives Transportation Committee field hearing. (photo) She stressed the need for a strong transportation infrastructure network, since ultimately our entire economy depends on the movement of people and goods. And we certainly can’t bring new business to the area if they can’t get up Hwy 65 or Hwy 10 to visit the site. She also noted the massive influx of visitors we have to this area from around the world, coming in for activities at the National Sports Center, major golf events at the TPC, and more. As a result, these are not just local corridors of commerce, they are corridors of statewide economic significance.

This message was reiterated a few days later when the MetroNorth Chamber participated in a select chamber executive conference call with Governor Walz. Lori also noted to the Governor that while sustainable transportation funding is a necessary conversation, businesses cannot look at his gas tax proposal in a vacuum. She reiterated this message to Met Council Chair Nora Slawik at a chamber executive luncheon in mid-April.

MetroNorth has also been active in conversations regarding County Road J and 35E in Lino Lakes. It is currently bogged down with the way the bridge is constructed and the 4-way stops, which were introduced to mitigate the crashes occurring. It is expected to become worse as anticipated commercial and residential growth continues. The MetroNorth and White Bear Area Chambers are continuing discussions with north metro legislators on possible action.

Ongoing conversations regarding Hwy 65, 35W and 10 continue as well. MnDOT is a featured speaker at the 2nd Quarter Blaine and Coon Rapids Business Councils and continues to send project updates to MetroNorth as available.

If you have specific transportation concerns or comments, please let us know. We are here to be your voice and advocate!
Looking Back

Attending MetroNorth events is a fantastic feature of membership, providing opportunities to build relationships and build your business. From politics to pints, MetroNorth provides a plethora of options to make connections. We wanted to share a few photos from some of the events and programs since our last newsletter. Visit our Facebook page to stay updated with current photos, event announcements, and more!

Celebrating St. Patrick’s Day at Sunrise

Your 2018 Excellence in Business Award Winners: Hope 4 Youth, Infinite Campus, QC Dance, Instrumental Research.

Home Depot Treating Kids to Activities at the Expo

House2Home with Home & Outdoor Adventure Expo Attendees

Golf Committee Members Cindy Richards, CustomGraphix & David Long, CenterPoint Energy Having Fun at the MetroNorth Masters Happy Hour
Ribbon Cuttings

Pho Tai Vietnamese Noodle House: Welcome!
The Pho Tai Restaurant in Blaine has wonderful, fresh food and a fantastic family ready to serve you. 10340 Baltimore Street NE #170, Blaine. (763) 432-9168

Blaine Family Chiropractic: New Treatment!
Cryotherapy, which literally means “cold therapy,” is a technique where the body is exposed to extremely cold temperatures for several minutes. Cryotherapy can be delivered to just one area, or you can opt for whole-body cryotherapy. 13352 Aberdeen Street, Suite A, Ham Lake. (763) 786-5585

Club Pilates: Welcome!
Club Pilates Blaine offers more than just low-impact, full-body workouts. With a range of class offerings that challenge your mind as well as your body, Club Pilates provides a path to a richer, more-fulfilling life. 10945 Club West Parkway #150, Blaine. (763) 888-0003

AngCo: 10 Year Anniversary!
This team of virtual assistants brings a suite of hard-earned skills and can-do attitude, so you and your team will have more focus and more time (hello productivity!). We figure out what needs to happen and make it happen. It’s as simple as that. (612) 789-0304

Huntington Learning Center: Welcome!
For almost 40 years, Huntington has treated students as individuals and tailored their tutoring programs to fit each students’ unique needs, academic goals and schedules. Unlock your child’s potential and send struggles packing with personal tutoring for grades K-12. 10400 Baltimore Street #130, Blaine. (763) 786-8001

The Ambassador of the Month

February
Nancy Jorgenson
Coldwell Banker Burnet

March
Brenda Jewell
Anytime Fitness Ham Lake
Membership

March and April New Members: Welcome!

A+ Outdoor Services
Kelly Kallestad
1551 164th Lane NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304
763.434.2424
info@aplusoutdoor.com
APlusOutdoor.com
Lawn Services/Snow Removal

A-Team Construction, Inc.
Laura Saastamoinen, Office Manager
13743 Aberdeen Street NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304
763.710.9955
info@ateamconst.com
ATeamConstructionInc.com
Construction Company/Contractor

Blue Ox Media Group
Tom McCarver, CEO
5th Street Towers
100 South 5th Street, 19th Floor
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612.345.9028
tmccarver@blueoxmediagroup.com
BlueOxMediaGroup.com
Digital Media

Brand Leverage
Maureen Chinwe Obialo
6120 Earl Brown Drive, Suite 503
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
763.347.0122
maureen@brandleverageusa.com
BrandLeverageUSA.com
Employment Services

Cedarwood Apartments
Emily Magnuson
957 7th Avenue SW
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651.448.2257
cedarwood-nht@norhart.com
Norhart.com
Apartments/Condominiums

Confetti Wealth
Michelle Young, Private Wealth Advisor & President
9298 Central Avenue
Blaine, MN 55434
651.857.1487
carrie.chavez@ampf.com
ConfettiWealth.com
Financial Planning

Downtown Design, LLC
Christina Huisenga, Owner
560 West Main Street
Anoka, MN 55303
651.401.4141
christy@downtowndesignweb.com
DowntownDesignWeb.com
Website Design/Development

Engel & Volkers Minneapolis-Blaine
Dina Erickson, Manager/Realtor
9240 Baltimore Street NE, Suite 130
Blaine, MN 55449
612.338.3836
dina.erickson@evusa.com
Minneapolis.EVUSA.com
Real Estate

Fourty7th Parallel Print & Design Co.
Lisa Carpenter, Graphic Designer/Owner
Mounds View, MN
763.270.5153
lisa@47thparallel.com
47thParallel.com
Advertising & Marketing

Gary Anderson Landscaping
Gary Anderson, Owner
13540 Hanson Boulevard NW
Anchorage, MN 55304
763.754.9401
info@garyandersonlandscaping.com
GaryAndersonLandscaping.com
Landscaping

Gateway Green Apartments
Emily Magnuson
4626 Wyngate Boulevard
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651.571.2091
gatewaygreen-nht@norhart.com
Norhart.com
Apartments/Condominiums

Gateway Green Townhomes
Emily Magnuson
22258 Lilac Court
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651.505.1129
gatewaygreenTownhomes-nht@norhart.com
Norhart.com
Apartments/Condominiums

Grace & Heart
Sheila Marquis, Independent Representative
Big Lake, MN
651.300.2560
mqssheila@hotmail.com
MyGraceAndHeart.com/Sheila Jewelry

Green Whistle, Inc.
Garrett Ebling, President
Andover, MN
507.304.0644
greenwhistleinc@gmail.com
Facebook.com/GreenWhistleInc
Professional Coaching

Greystone Apartments
Emily Magnuson
65512th Street SW
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651.432.4647
greystone-nht@norhart.com
Norhart.com
Apartments/Condominiums

The Legends of Blaine Senior Living
Scott Anderson
10826 Austin Street NE
Blaine, MN 55449
763.401.4328
scott@addedvaluemarketingllc.com
LegendsAtBlaine.com
Senior Living

Lynn’s Cake & Candy Supplies
Tom Behnke, Owner
6538 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432
763.784.5543
lynn@lynnscakeandcandy.com
Lynn’s Cake And Candy.com
Specialty Retail

Maple Court Apartments
Emily Magnuson
390 9th Avenue SW
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651.504.4526
maplecourt-nht@norhart.com
Norhart.com
Apartments/Condominiums

Mill Pond Forest Apartments
Emily Magnuson
290 9th Avenue SW
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651.401.2901
millpondforest-nht@norhart.com
Norhart.com
Apartments/Condominiums

Mill Pond II and III
Emily Magnuson
685 4th Street SW
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651.689.4801
millpond-II@norhart.com
Norhart.com
Apartments/Condominiums

NBK Pest Control
Brad Adams, Owner
Coon Rapids, MN
612.867.3938
brad@nbkpestcontrol.com
NBK Pest Control.com
Pest Control

Norhart
Mike Kaeding
290 9th Avenue SW, Suite 311
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651.689.4950
mike.kaeding@norhart.com
Norhart.com
Apartments/Condominiums

North Suburban Garage Door
Matt Thompson, Owner
Brooklyn Park, MN
612.910.3032
northsuburbanagaragedoor@gmail.com
NorthSuburbanDoor.com
Garage Doors/Openers

Office Depot
Tori Speltz, Store Manager
648 County Road 10 NE
Blaine, MN 55434
763.783.8033
ods06181@officedepot.com
OfficeDepot.com
Office Supplies

Continued on page 6
2018 AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR

Those in the Ambassador program were not surprised to learn that Kat Smithe of the Blaine Festival Volunteer Committee was named the 2018 Ambassador of the Year. Besides co-chairing the committee in 2017 and 2018, Kat was (and still is) an active participant in ribbon cuttings, greeter roles, directory deliveries, member calls, and more. Our Ambassador program is stronger as a result of Kat’s continued support and volunteerism.

Kat, THANK YOU for all you do!

New Member Referral Program Winners

February
LIZ GROTEWOLD
Edina Realty

March
HOLLY BENSON
Minnco
March & April Renewals: Thanks for Your Continued Support!

- Coldwell Banker Burnet - Nancy Jorgensen
- Congressman Tom Emmer
- CorTrust Bank
- Country Inn & Suites-Coon Rapids
- Crystal House Boutique
- Culligan Soft Water Company
- Desired Health Chiropractic
- Disabled American Veterans - Anoka #39
- Eddy's Lake Mille Lacs Resort
- Exceptional Chiropractic-Champlin
- Exceptional Chiropractic-Ham Lake
- Family Promise in Anoka County
- Financial Education Services
- Financial LifeLab, Inc.
- Financial One Credit Union-Blaine
- Financial One Credit Union-Columbia Heights
- Financial One Credit Union-Coon Rapids
- Fogerty Arena "The Ice House" Inc.
- Four Seasons Curling Club
- Freedom Cleaning Service
- Hair Designers of Blaine, Inc.
- Ham Lake Physical Therapy
- Hamel Development LLC
- Heidi Kingman Presents Solutions
- Hi Ten Service Center
- HOPE 4 Youth
- Ike's Plumbing & Drain Cleaning, Inc.
- Isanti Physical Therapy
- J & C Peterson Lending Team
- Joel Smith Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
- Kim's Taekwondo Center
- Kwik Trip-Andover
- Kwik Trip-Anoka
- Kwik Trip-Blaine Central Avenue
- Kwik Trip-Blaine Frazer Street
- Kwik Trip-Blaine Lake Drive
- Kwik Trip-Blaine Radisson Road
- Kwik Trip-Coon Rapids
- Leopold's Mississippi Gardens
- Lyric Arts Main Street Stage
- Manny's Piano Moving, Inc.
- McAlpine Landscapes
- MidWestOne Bank
- Mike Orr State Farm Insurance
- Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures
- Millennium Management Services, LLC
- Murphy Bros. Design | Build | Remodel
- National Sports Center
- Nelson Cheese & Deli
- North Branch Physical Therapy
- Northern Sanitary Supply Co., Inc.
- Northern Star Council, BSA
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Office Depot-Riverdale Commons
- Paladin Career & Technical High School
- Premier Specialties
- Ramsey Physical Therapy
- Rasmussen College
- RDM Insurance Agency, Inc.
- Riffland Solutions
- Sannerud, Savarese & Associates P.A.
- Savers
- SBM Fire Department
- SPIRE Credit Union-Blaine
- SPIRE Credit Union-Coon Rapids
- Spring Lake Park Lumber Company
- St. Francis Physical Therapy
- State Representative Cal Bahr
- Sticks & Stones
- The Bank of Elk River - Freeway
- The Landmark of Fridley
- The Legends of Spring Lake Park Senior Living
- TME Business Services LLC
- Twin Cities Harley-Davidson Blaine Valleyfair
- Velocity Public Affairs
- Village Bank-Blaine
- Village Bank-East Bethel
- Village Bank-Ramsey
- Village Bank-St. Francis
- Vista Family Eye Care
- Weichert Realtors-Premier - Michelle Tighe
- Zimmerman Physical Therapy

COMMITTEES/GROUPS: MARCH/APRIL

Ambassadors May 14 & June 11, Chamber, 4 pm
Board May 8 & June 12, Chamber, 7:30 am
Connecting 101 May 9, Chamber, 8:15 am
Coon Rapids Business Council May 21, Bunker Hills-Coon Rapids, 7:30 am
Executive April 30 & June 4, Chamber, 3 pm
Golf May 6, Chamber, 4 pm
Marketing 201 June 13, Chamber, 8:15 am
Sunrise – 1st Friday May 3 & June 7, Tavern Grill-Blaine, 7:30 am
Sunrise – 3rd Friday May 17 & June 21, Sticks & Stones-Blaine, 7:30 am
Sunrise – 5th Friday May 31, Streamworks-Blaine, 7:30 am
Wine May 1 & June 5, TBD, 4:44 pm
Workforce Development May 20 & June 24, Chamber, 12 pm
Working with Women May 22 & June 26, SBM Fire Station #3-Blaine 9:15 am
Thank you 2019 Signature Sponsors!

Gold:
- Mille Lacs
- 21st Century Bank

Silver:
- MidWestOne Bank

Bronze:
- MATE
- Precision Tooling
- KinderCare Learning Centers

Golf:
- financial one

Gala:
- Open

Grow MN:
- Connexus Energy