At last fall’s strategic planning session, your Board set a 2017 strategic goal to ‘define and facilitate an economic development assessment of Anoka County to retain, attract, and grow businesses as well as to promote this County as a great place to work and live.’ Quarterly objectives were set, the first being to establish a Task Force of appropriate stakeholders from throughout Anoka County. This Task Force has been meeting on a regular basis throughout 2017 and fulfilling the rest of the objectives, including analyzing existing data and similar research, connecting with the 21 municipalities within the County, identifying the desired scope, and investigating third parties to conduct the assessment. We are pleased to state that a firm has been hired and is about to begin a 12 to 16-week process of analysis and assessment.

This is not a small project in size, scope, or cost, but we feel strongly that this is a much-needed first step to be competitive in retaining and attracting business to Anoka County. The two other funders of this assessment are Anoka County Board and Connexus Energy (both of whom are also on the Task Force), and we thank them for their support.

Of course, an assessment is only as valuable as what you do with the information. Future steps include defining ways in which the results should be utilized for a multi-year strategy of positioning ourselves as the leader of economic development in Anoka County. We will look to partner with many other stakeholders in the area to work together in our shared goal for a strong and vibrant business community.

We will keep you informed on the initial assessment’s progress and of course the results once known. In the meantime, do not hesitate to let us know if you have any questions about this exciting endeavor.

Call for Leaders

Members in good standing may apply for a position on the MetroNorth Chamber Board of Directors, which is responsible for setting Chamber policy and direction, ensuring our fiscal health, and confirming that we are continued good stewards of your resources. Serving on the Board of Directors is an excellent way to be a leader within MetroNorth as well as get to know other business leaders who share a similar interest.

Applications are due by Thursday, August 24, 2017. A Nominating Committee comprised of current Board and Chamber members will review the applications. Recommended candidates will be voted on at the
Member Referral Program

One of the best ways for your Chamber to grow in size and strength is new members joining based on the referrals of current members – YOU. And to show our appreciation for your support, each time someone joins based on your referral you receive 2 weeks of advertising in the Monday electronic newsletter, opened by over 400 each week. Once a month we do a drawing from all referrals for a grand prize winner. We’ve ‘up’d the ante’ for the grand prize: $100 in MetroNorth Money!

Like to attend events? MetroNorth Money can be used for membership luncheons and Sunrise registrations. Want to increase your businesses’ visibility? MetroNorth Money can be used for electronic and print advertising, as well as towards website banners and enhanced listings. Just another reason why you should tell all of your friends, vendors, neighbors, clients, siblings, and random acquaintances to join the 3rd largest Chamber in the metro area... MetroNorth!

Summer Food Fest Fun

A heartfelt thank you to all those who supported our 7th Annual Summer Food Fest on June 13 at Westwood Middle School in Blaine. Almost 600 people participated! Our new location was well-received, especially the air-conditioned cafeteria; thank you Spring Lake Park District #16. We also raised about $15,000 for Toys for Joy and the MetroNorth Chamber. This wouldn’t be possible without our sponsors: Allina Health, Blaine Festival Volunteer Committee, AMEC, BNSF Railway, Counselor Realty, ECM, Kraus-Anderson Construction Company and SPAAR.

And of course, we are indebted to our food vendors: Acapulco, Broadway Bar & Pizza, Dunn Brothers Coffee, Chick-fil-A, Chili’s, Costco, Counselor Realty, Crooner’s Lounge and Supper Club, Cub Foods, Edgewood, and Unique Dining Catering.

The Champion’s Code

Our July Membership Meeting featured Ross Bernstein, noted author and speaker. His energetic and passionate keynote inspired attendees to think like a Champion.
Member Appreciation Party
Thurs, August 10th 4:45 p.m
MB2 Raceway – Fridley
It’s time to have a party in your honor! To say THANK YOU for your continued support, we have planned another exceptional Member Appreciation Party. We’ve reserved the entire MB2 Raceway facility for 2 hours of free go-kart racing and other games, including a special activity hosted by Running Aces Casino & Racetrack. Food and beverages will also be available. An RSVP is a MUST, especially if you wish to race.

Becoming An On Point Leader:
Leading People and Teams In The 21st Century
Wed, Sept 13th 11:30 am
Crooner’s Lounge & Supper Club
The Working with Women Committee is pleased to share that Pam Borton, former head women’s U of M basketball coach, will keynote a luncheon on Sept 13. Borton led Minnesota to its first Final Four appearance in 2004 and she led the team to 6 NCAA appearances and 3 straight Sweet 16 appearances. She has a rare executive combination of major college athletics, assembling and coaching teams, reaching a Final Four and now a certified personal and executive coach. Don’t miss her presentation on leading people and teams; more information to be shared soon.

Minnesota Manufacturing Week
October 1-7th
For our 3rd consecutive year, MetroNorth will facilitate evening tours of area manufacturing facilities to the general public. While many students are given the opportunity to visit manufacturers during the day with their classmates, it’s important for parents to also see these clean, modern, cutting-edge facilities that offer high-paying, rewarding careers. And not just parents – any other adult worker who might be interested in this type of career is also invited to attend.

We are currently formalizing the dates and locations. If you are interested in hosting a tour let us know ASAP.

Christmas in July
At the July membership luncheon, the Gala Committee gave away a Christmas Present: a bowling party for 6 and an overnight stay, courtesy of the Mermaid/AmeriInn. The lucky winner was Carol Novak, volunteer coordinator for NACE. Gala Sponsorships are already being reserved; thanks Border State Bank for being the premier sponsor! Contact us ASAP to ensure you receive the ‘present’ you want!

Presenting/Premier Border State Bank
Entertainment Financial One Credit Union
Merry $2,500
Bright $1,500
Table $750
Corks & Cocktails $500
Golden Ticket $500
Photo Studio Blaine Festival Vol. Committee
Heads & Tails $500
Best Dressed $500
Christmas Coin Schaaf Floral
Bar $300
Name your Own
Work directly with our team to create a unique opportunity.
Phone: 763-783-3553
Email: chamber@metronorthchamber.org

December 7th • 5-9 pm
Leopold’s Mississippi Gardens
Sponsorship Opportunities

Merry & BRIGHT
Winter Gala
December 7th • 5-9 pm
Leopold’s Mississippi Gardens
Sponsorship Opportunities

Merry & BRIGHT
Winter Gala
December 7th • 5-9 pm
Leopold’s Mississippi Gardens
Sponsorship Opportunities
Jam Hops: Ground Breaking! (New Location)

Jam Hops is dedicated to the pursuit of nurturing children so they can realize their dreams. We are leaders who believe that by teaching through example, we build self-confident, productive children who will become life champions. 1460 133rd Lane NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304, 763.413.0647, jamhops.com

FN Bargains Grand Opening/ New Member

FN Bargains is a discount variety store which sells new and open-box merchandise at 50-75% off retail prices. We bring in new products every day - so you never know what you might find! 16525 Highway 65 NE, Ham Lake, 763.434.3004, facebook.com/fnbargains

Orthology: New Services

Orthology specialists are experts in the musculoskeletal field, intensively trained in a world-class, evidence-based approach. They are passionate about their profession, up-to-date on the latest clinical procedures and research, and deeply committed to providing great care that gets you back to doing what you love. 3183 Northdale Boulevard NW Suite 103, Coon Rapids, 763.220.4844, orthology.com.

Apricot Lane Boutique: Grand Opening/ New Member

This locally owned women’s boutique carries a selection of clothing, accessories and gifts unique to any other location. Our clothing is on-trend, affordable, and ever-changing to ensure you walk away with something one of a kind! 4255 Pheasant Ridge Drive Suite 314, Blaine, 651.343.9667, apricotlaneboutique.com

MB2 Raceway: New Member

We warmly welcome everyone, from walk-in racers, to small and large private groups. We also cater to corporate events, team building programs, birthday parties, bachelor parties, training seminars, meetings, charities, sports teams, school outings, and any other type of special occasion. 45 Northern Stacks Drive Suite 200, Fridley, 763.710.7773, mb2raceway.com.

Cricket Wireless: Grand Opening/ New Member

Find great buys on cell phones, plans, and service at Cricket, where you get reliable nationwide coverage, affordable prepaid rates, and no annual contract. 601 County Road 10 NE, Blaine, 763.276.9212, cricketwireless.com.

Twin Cities Orthopedics: Ground Breaking

Whether you’ve been hurt, or simply are experiencing joint discomfort, the physicians at our orthopedic specialty clinic in Blaine are here to help. We provide the expert care and treatment options to help you regain mobility and get back your life. 11855 Ulysses Street NE, Blaine 55434, 763.441.0298, tcomn.com.

Twin Cities Harley-Davidson North – Blaine: Ground Breaking!

Our philosophy is simple. Offer the absolute best selection of Harley-Davidson products and services, while ensuring that our well trained family of employees always exceeds our customers’ expectations. 9751 Ulysses Street NE, Blaine, MN 55434, 763.786.9079, tcharley.com.
Ribbon Cuttings

Designer Sign System: New Member!

Designer Sign Systems provides a full service offering that includes design, wayfinding planning, signage design, manufacturing of both interior and exterior signs and sign systems, project management, permitting, installation and post-installation maintenance and re-order fulfillment. 9975 Flanders Court NE, Blaine. 763.784.5858. www.desingerson.com

The Ambassador of the Month

May

Daryl Kirt
Scenic Sign Corporation

June

Holly Benson
Minnco Credit Union

Ambassadors Present:

Amy Weber-DeRaad – Mary Kay
Angie Glotzbach – AngCo
Anita Spading – Klein Bank
Beth Whelan – Oxygen Consulting
Bob Hyland – Financial One Credit Union
Brenda Jewell – Anytime Fitness Ham Lake
Bruce Erickson – LegalShield
Christine Kusch – The Mermaid
Corie Korin – Tria Restaurant & Event Center
Daryl Kirt – Scenic Sign
Denise Wellick-Peterson – Now Get Going Fitness
Dick Fisher – eMerge Online Marketing
Emily Boettcher – Unique Dining Experiences
Holly Benson – Minnco Credit Union
Jon Nalty – Keller Williams Classic Realty
Kat Smith – Blaine Festival Volunteer Committee
Karen Andler – Vision Staffing Solutions
Karla Laackmann – Juice Plus
Kari Vaughn – HealthSource of Blaine
Megan Mensen – Desired Health Chiropractic
Mike Rathbun – Freedom Cleaning
Shawn Quarberg – The Lakes Life/N2 Publishing
Stacey Buchanan – Klein Bank
Steve Griffiths – Impact Services

Is Your Heart Calling You to a Greater Purpose?

Bethesda
Connecting people of all abilities
Questions? Call 815-272-3293
Apply today! BethesdaJobs.org

Testimonial Time

“Lori and her team put together another great after-hours networking event – Business Over Brews – in June. Hearing the Bent Brewstillery story of risk and entrepreneurship is awe-inspiring and motivational. Spending time at events like this not only help build awareness of Midwest Imaging Solutions, but are also extremely educational. Thank you for going out of your way to create GREAT events.”

- Scott Vonderharr, Midwest Imaging Solutions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Membership</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>May and June New Members: Welcome!</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Admire the Hue Painting</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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| Ryan Kandoll, Owner  
Blaine, MN • 763.392.4685  
ryan@admirethehue.com  
AdmireTheHue.com  
Painting/Wallpaper |
| **Aflac** |
| Cindy Raum, Agent  
22366 Washington Street NE  
East Bethel, MN • 651.982.6574  
cynthia_raum@us.aflac.com  
Aflac.com  
Insurance |
| **Becka Swanson, Owner** |
| Blaine MN • 763.458.1258  
beckascoaching@gmail.com  
BeckaSwanson.com  
Personal Trainer |
| **Blue Moon HR** |
| Kelly Rietow, Owner  
Mike Thorsland, Owner  
912 125th Lane  
Blaine, MN • 612.405.2274  
extpert@bluemoonhr.com  
BlueMoonHR.com  
Human Resources |
| **Cliff IT Solutions, Inc.** |
| Srikar Vanka, President  
9380 Central Avenue, Suite 200  
Blaine, MN • 763.710.5064  
hr@cliffitsolutions.com  
CLIFFITSOLUTIONS.com  
IT Services |
| **Concierge Title** |
| Sara Ellerstad, Owner  
13750 Crosstown Drive NW, Suite 300  
Andover, MN • 763.795.9106  
sara@conciergetitle.com  
ConciergeTitle.com  
Title/Closing Company |
| **Conquer Ninja Warrior LLC** |
| Mitch Pajic, Manager  
1469 101st Avenue NE  
Blaine, MN • 651.981.1805  
mitch@conquerymns.com  
ConquerMN.com  
Fitness Center |
| **Crow Wing Transport, Inc.** |
| Mike Vant, Independent Agent  
7740 Central Avenue NE  
PO Box 32221  
Fridley, MN • 763.450.7129  
mike@crowwing.net  
CrowWing.net |
| **Downtown Design, LLC** |
| Christina Huisenga, President  
118 East Main Street  
Anoka, MN • 763.401.4142  
christy@downtownwebmn.com  
DowntownUSA.com  
Web Design/Development |
| **Empire Beauty School** |
| Marvin Kimble, School Director  
8205 University Avenue  
Spring Lake Park, MN • 763.717.1903  
mkimble@empire.edu  
Empire.edu  
Education/Beauty School |
| **Famous Dave’s** |
| Anne Simms, General Manager  
3211 Northdale Boulevard  
Coon Rapids, MN • 763.421.9467  
coonnarapids@famousdaves.com  
FamousDaves.com  
Restaurant |
| **Goodlife Global (IBO)** |
| Karen Kipka, Independent Business Owner  
St. Francis, MN • 651.276.2348  
karensbb@gmail.com  
BestOne.hbbusa.com  
Marketing/Fundraising |
| **J.B. Picture Framing Studio** |
| Joe Weinbeck, Owner  
9005 6th Street NE  
Blaine, MN • 763.242.2244  
jbframing@comcast.net  
JBFraming.com  
Picture Framing |
| **McAlpine Landscapes** |
| Ryan McAlpine, Owner  
Coon Rapids, MN • 763.486.9157  
ryanmcalpine47@gmail.com  
McAlpineLandscapes.com  
Landscape |
| **Mike Orn State Farm Insurance** |
| Mike Orn, Agent/Owner  
3306 Bunker Lake Boulevard  
Andover, MN • 763.323.4101  
mike@mikeorn.com  
MikeOrn.com  
Insurance |
| **Mint Salon & Spa** |
| Crystal Sticha, Owner/Stylist  
Amber Mueller, Owner/Stylist  
43 Central Street  
Circle Pines, MN • 763.432.1045  
mintsalonmn@gmail.com  
MintSalonMN.com  
Salon/Spa |
| **Origin Marketing LLC** |
| Rosalie Bell, President & Founder  
Monticello, MN • 763.498.9168  
rosalie@originmartmarketing.com  
OriginSmartMarketing.com  
Advertising & Marketing |
| **The Parkway Off Central** |
| Patti Harvey, Leasing Specialist  
9436 Ulysses Street NE  
Blaine, MN • 763.784.9399  
parkway@steven-scott.com  
TheParkwayOffCentral.com  
Apartments/Condominiums |
| **Twin Cities Orthopedics** |
| Rob Simmons, Chief Operating Officer  
11225 Ulysses Street NE  
Blaine, MN • 205.908.0766  
breannalindholm@tcomn.com  
TCOMN.com  
Physicians/Surgeons |

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### May and June Renewals: Thanks for Your Continued Support!

- **Able Property Management**
- **AccountSource LLC**
- **Achieve Services, Inc.**
- **Acorn Mini Storage**
- **Allarea Contractors, Inc.**
- **American Israel Chamber of Commerce**
- **At Home**
- **Atomic Data**
- **BAE Systems**
- **BNSF Railway**
- **Brookdale Blaine**
- **Bunker Hills Event Center**
- **Central Rental**
- **City of Fridley**
- **Community Pride Bank**
- **Congressman Tom Emmer**
- **Country Inn & Suites- Shoreview**
- **Dailey Homes**
- ** Erickson Metals of Minnesota**
- **Gaughan Companies**
- **HealthSource of Blaine**
- **Healthy VIBE**
- **Iceberg Web Design**
- **Imprint Gallery, Inc.**
- **Innovated Metal Fabrication, Inc.**
- **Kendall’s Tavern & Chophouse**
- **Kintaro**
- **Kwik Trip- Andover**
- **Kwik Trip- Anoka**
- **Kwik Trip- Blaine North**
- **Kwik Trip- Blaine South**
- **Kwik Trip- Coon Rapids**
- **La Casita- Columbia Heights**
- **La Casita- Coon Rapids**
- **Life Prep Academy**
- **LivINN Hotels, Ltd.**
- **LuLaRue- Michelle Elliot**
- **Macaroni Kid**
- **Malmborg’s Garden Center**
- **Manning Transfer, Inc.**
- **Mary Kay- Amy Jones**
- **Northtown Mall**
- **OpenIP Solutions**
- **Park Dental Riverdale**
- **Pizza Ranch Andover**
- **Premier Banks**
- **Print Central**
- **Purpose Driven Restoration**
- **Ramsey County- Blake Huffman**
- **Rodan + Fields Dermatologists**
- **Mandy Meisner**
- **Schechter Dokken Kanter CPA’s**
- **Shortstop Bar & Grill**
- **The Lakes Life/N2 Publishing**
- **The Tavern Grill**
- **Village Floor & Wall, Inc.**
- **Volunteers of America- The Homestead at Coon Rapids**
- **Von Hanson’s Meats**
- **Warners’ Stellian**
- **Weber Johnson Public Affairs**
- **Wells Fargo Home Mortgage**
- **Xcel Energy**
**COMMITTEES/GROUPS: AUGUST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 1</td>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>Aug 14</td>
<td>Golf</td>
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<td>Aug 2</td>
<td>Wine</td>
<td>Aug 4</td>
<td>1st Friday Sunrise</td>
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<td>Aug 5</td>
<td>Workforce Development</td>
<td>Aug 8</td>
<td>Ambassadors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 6</td>
<td>1st Friday Sunrise</td>
<td>Aug 9</td>
<td>Board</td>
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<td>Aug 7</td>
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<td>Aug 10</td>
<td>Marketing 201</td>
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<td>Aug 8</td>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Aug 11</td>
<td>Coon Rapids Business Council</td>
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<td>Aug 9</td>
<td>1st Friday Sunrise</td>
<td>Aug 12</td>
<td>On Point Luncheon</td>
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<td>3rd Friday Sunrise</td>
<td>Aug 13</td>
<td>Connecting 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 11</td>
<td>5th Friday Sunrise</td>
<td>Aug 14</td>
<td>New Member Referral Program Winners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 15</td>
<td>Wine</td>
<td>Aug 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 16</td>
<td>Workforce Development</td>
<td>Aug 21</td>
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<tr>
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**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- Member Appreciation Party: Aug 10, MB2 Raceway, Fridley, 4:45 pm
- Marketing 201: Aug 17, Rasmussen College-Blaine, 8:15 am
- Coon Rapids Business Council: Aug 22, Bunker Hills Golf Club, 7:30 am
- On Point Luncheon: Sep 13, Crooner’s Lounge, 11:30 am
- Connecting 101: Sep 21, Chamber, 8:15 am

**New Member Referral Program Winners**

**May Referral Winner:**
Bob Hylland, Financial One Credit Union
$50 Kintaro Gift Certificate

**June Referral Winner:**
Donna Hartley, Primerica
$100 MetroNorth Money
Thank you 2017 Signature Sponsors!

Gold:

Silver:

Bronze:

Golf:

Gala:

Grow MN: