New Brand!

At your November 8 Annual Meeting, we unveiled the new MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce brand. This included a new logo for the Chamber as well as for each individual committee, a new website, and social media pages. We will be incorporating our new brand into everything we do and couldn’t be more excited. We thank everyone who helped us through this process. Very soon you will be receiving a new window/door decal with the new logo, so watch for that. And, if you would like a ‘Proud Member’ graphic for your website or social media pages, contact us and we’ll email that to you.

Annual Meeting Highlights

Also at your Annual Meeting, we thanked a number of people for their 2018 leadership. This includes your 2018 Board of Directors, and in particular, your Executive Team: Stacey Jensen, Running Aces, past chair; Dan Thomsen, Northeast Bank, Chair; Tiffany Schmidt, Abrams & Schmidt, Vice Chair, and Scott Vonderharr, Midwest Imaging Solutions, Treasurer. It was also announced that your incoming Vice Chair is Tracy David of Little Acorn Shave Co.

We also acknowledged your 2018 committee leadership, because without the dedication of these chairs, we could not sustain our level of innovation and programming. Thank you to: Kat Smithe, Blaine Festival & Amy Weber DeRaad, Mary Kay (Ambassadors); Jess Robertson of PTL Tire & Auto (Gala); Dan Babbitt, Edward Jones & David Long, CenterPoint Energy (Golf); Paul Ekstrom, Realty One Group (Hops & Vines); Robin Schnaidt, Numbers LLC, & Angie Glotzbach, AngCo (Sunrise); Meg Chiodo, Edina Realty and Sue Melchoir, Instrumental Research (Working with Women); Rod Medel, Medel & Associates (Workforce Development).

And although time was short, we briefly highlighted a few key successes of 2018, including the progress we made on our economic development goals. As you know, we started an effort in the fall of 2016 whereby we facilitated a study of Anoka County to best assess how we can attract, grow and sustain businesses in the north metro. We originally partnered with Anoka County and Connexus Energy to fund the study, which was released in December 2017. In 2018 we focused on the results and moving our strategic goals forward. Today, all 21 municipalities in Anoka County are part of this effort, which includes a dedicated website, brand, goals, and even a dedicated staff person. Usually, it can take a long time to see results in the economic development space. So, what we have accomplished in just 2 short years is quite remarkable.

Regarding advocacy, we had some strong partnerships in our efforts to effect change on behalf of our members. We helped secure approval for state funding for a nearly washed out commercial rail bridge in southern Anoka County. We recently passed a resolution, after facilitating a roundtable discussion with Congressman Emmer, highlighting the devastating effects from the uncertainty in the marketplace due to volatile trade and tariff regulations. We were also part of a state-wide effort to modernize the state Workforce Development Fund in order to empower regions to use this resource more strategically based on area needs.

Speaking of workforce, we are extremely proud of our local initiatives. In 2018 we launched some innovative programs with our high schools, such conducting Trade Tours, Career Exploration Days, and hiring student recruiters to promote job openings to their networks. Rest assured, as long as workforce is the #1 priority of our members, it will be a #1 priority for us.
2018 Board of Directors:
Daniel Thomsen, Chair
Northeast Bank 763.784.3533
Tiffany Schmidt, Vice Chair
Abrams and Schmidt 651.332.7907
Stacey Jensen, Past Chair
Running Aces 651.925.4571
Scott Vonderharr, Treasurer
Midwest Imaging Solutions 612.216.4501
Brad Boldt
Ameriguard Agency, Inc. 763.767.0522
Tracy David
Little Acorn Shave Co. 612.743.3232
Don Haller
Connexus Energy 763.323.2839
Kim Nybo
Nybo Insurance Agency 763.571.6111
Duane Vandenberghe
Mate Precision Tooling 763.576.3435
Ross Bloomquist
Financial One Credit Union 763.404.7680

Committee Co-chairs:
Ambassador:
Kat Smithe, Blaine Festival
Amy Weber-DeRaad, Mary Kay
Gala:
Jess Robertson, PTL Tire & Auto
Golf:
Dan Babbitt, Edward Jones
David Long, CenterPoint Energy
Government & Public Affairs:
Katie Misukanis, Rasmussen College
Sunrise:
Robin Schnaidt, Numbers LLC
Angie Glotzbach, AngCo
Hops & Vines:
Paul Ekstrom, Ekstrom Realty Group
Workforce Development:
Rod Medel, Medel & Associates
Working With Women:
Sue Melchoir, Instrumental Research
Meg Chido, Edina Realty Title

If you are interested in joining a committee or learning more, contact the Chamber. We’d love to hear from you!

Legacy Club

We are so pleased with the response to our Legacy Club initiative. Thank you to the below investors for your commitment to the Chamber. Our rebranding efforts and our 50th anniversary celebrations will be so much more impactful as a result. If you didn’t sign up and want to reserve one of the open years let us know.

Proudly Introducing our...

50 FOR 50 LEGACY CLUB

To commemorate our 50th Anniversary we are starting an exclusive Legacy Club that will launch at the Gala, but then continue to promote within the Chamber for years to come.

Here’s how it works: Choose a year that resonates with your business (year you opened, year you joined the Chamber, etc.) and you will forever “own” that year in the Legacy Club. Legacy Investors will be recognized in perpetuity - on our website, at membership meetings, in our office, etc. We are also offering a table of 8 at our Dec 6 Gala at Infinite Campus, where we will celebrate our 50th anniversary in grand style. We believe it’s a small investment this year for a long return for years to come.

Club Investment - $1000
As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary and honor our past with the Legacy Club, we are also excited to move into the future by choosing to rebrand the Chamber with a fresh new look that will better resonate with who we are today and where we are headed. Proceeds collected from the Legacy Club will help support this rebranding effort.

1968 Majestic Oaks Golf Club
1969 Blaine Festival Committee
1970
1971
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1973
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1979 Blaine Brothers
1980
1981 PTL Tire and Auto
1982 Holz Garden Center
1983 Tyrone, Inc. – Leo Luskey
1984
1985
1986
1987
1988 Walters Recycling & Refuse, Inc.
1989 Kim Nybo Insurance Agency
1990 Northeast Bank
1991 Grand Casino/Mille Lacs Corp
1992 ACE Solid Waste
1993 Infinite Campus
1994
1995
1996 Mate Precision Tooling
1997
1998 Village Bank
1999 Commers The Water Store
2000 CenterPoint Energy
2001 Refuge Golf Club
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2004
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2006 Deluxe Insurance Group
2007
2008 Running Aces
2009
2010 Green Bay Packaging
2011 Comcast
2012 Oxygen Consulting
2013 Amanda Winterer – Keller Williams
2014 Box Financial Advisors
2015 Border State Bank
2016 Financial One Credit Union
2017 Kraus-Anderson
2018 MidWestOne Bank

Contact the Chamber to reserve your Legacy Club Membership!
763-783-3553 or lori@metronorthchamber.org
Upcoming Events

2019 Olive Garden Wine Dinner
Tues, Feb 19, 2019 • 4:44 pm, Olive Garden Coon Rapids

Our first after hours of 2019 is the highly anticipated, always-sold out Olive Garden Wine Dinner. They pair an array of wines with mouth-watering cuisine in the cozy setting of their private dining room. We strategically assign members to designated tables to facilitate the best possible connections. Drink wine, meet people, have fun. This event won’t disappoint. Only $35/$60 pair; space is limited so don’t delay.

Home & Outdoor Adventures Expo
Saturday, March 23, 2019
National Sports Center

We are now accepting vendor applications for our 2019 Home & Outdoor Adventure Expo. We’re excited to bring this event to the north metro community! If you have a product or service for homeowners, as well as for those great outdoor adventures we all enjoy (hunting, fishing, boating, camping, etc.) then contact us ASAP to reserve your booth!

31st Annual Golf Tournament
Thurs, May 16, 2019
Noon Shotgun, Majestic Oaks

Secure your sponsorship or foursome for our 2019 tournament, which will once again be on BOTH 18-hole courses at Majestic Oaks to ensure LOTS of people can participate at a GREAT speed of play. This year’s theme is “50th Anniversary Birthday Bash.” Everyone who signs up to play will receive a special present! Interested in a hole sponsorship? The first 18 confirmed hole sponsors are guaranteed a table, chair, and golf cart. Many thanks to Financial One Credit Union for renewing as the title sponsor!

Workforce News

We’re excited for the progress of our student recruiter program; whereby high school students promote current job openings to their networks.

Recently, the students at Coon Rapids High School were interviewed by North Metro TV for a story on the success of this initiative. Their Cardinal Connections program, now in its second year, is really gaining momentum.

CRHS students Salam & Brynn with their DECA Coordinator, Mr. Blake Bodenburg, and Lori Higgins.

Junior Brynn Nguyen being interviewed by North Metro TV.

SLPHS students Brian, Rakwon, Vanessa and Brian with DJ Hartley and Lori Higgins.

If you hire teenagers…contact us! We’d love to work with these students on promoting your opportunities.
Ribbon Cuttings

Majestic Oaks: Newly Renovated!
Majestic Oaks recently completed over half a million dollars in renovations and remodel to the elegant ballrooms, lobby area and restrooms. They restored the vaulted beamed ceilings and built-in dance floors while adding new chandeliers, lighting and carpet. 701 Bunker Lake Blvd NE, Ham Lake. 763-755-2140 majesticoaksgolfclub.com

Wings Financial Credit Union: New Location!
Since its founding in 1938, Wings Financial Credit Union has focused on giving flight to its members’ financial dreams through exceptional service and financial value. 10400 Baltimore St NE, Ste 140, Blaine 800-692-2274 wingsfinancial.com

Luke Beaverson Agency: New Member!
American Family Insurance Agency providing dependable auto, home, business, health, and life insurance, as well as other insurance products. 2345 124th Ct NE, Ste 200, Blaine. 763-767-7277 LukeBeaversonAgency.com

Tony’s Place: New Member!
An inclusive play space for children with autism and other abilities: Trampoline, play gym, swings and more. Northtown Mall, Blaine 612-229-1750 inclusiveplayplaces.org

Blaine Kidds Pediatric Dentistry: New Member!
New pediatric dentist office serving Blaine and surrounding areas. 1351 113th Ave NE Blaine 763-415-1222 dentalkidds.com

Torg Brewery: New Member!
A veteran-owned, woman-brewed microbrewery/taproom. Torg brews a wide range of traditionally beers to serve in a warm, engaging “British Pub” atmosphere. 8421 University Ave NE Spring Lake Park 763-639-0539 torgbrewery.com

Family First Chiropractic Center: New Member!
Your friendly, neighborhood chiropractor treating patients like family with extra care and quality. 11901 Hwy 65, Blaine 763-404-6244 Familyfirstchiropracticcenter.com

Child and Teen Medical Center-Blaine & Fridley: New Member!
Dedicated to providing families with the highest quality of care in a compassionate, personal, and friendly environment. 11107 Ulysses St NE, Ste 1200, Blaine 763-333-7733 childandteenmedicalcenter.com

Financial Education Services: New Member!
Offers a variety of products, programs, and services in their FES Protection Plan, as well as credit education services to help clients achieve their financial goals and improve their financial literacy. New Brighton 612-382-0205 fesconnect.net/jswenson
September and October Renewals: 
Thanks for Your Continued Support!

ACE Solid Waste, Inc. 
Adhue Graphic Resources 
Aggressive Hydraulics 
All Source 
Amazon Environmental 
American Pump 
Ameriguard Agency, Inc. 
AngCo | Virtual Assistant 
Annette M. Larson Counseling 
ASAP Vacuum Sales & Services 
Atlas Staffing-Coon Rapids 
Atlas Staffing-Mounds View 
Autumn Glen Senior Living 
Aveda 
BAE Systems 
Bertolas & Pekula, LLC 
Blake Drilling Company, Inc. 
Boardwalk DIY Studio 
Border State Bank 
Bridal Aisle Off the Rack Boutique & Consignment 
Bridging Hope Counseling 
CenterPoint Energy 
Central Spirits Liquor Store 
City of Ramsey 
Commers the Water Company 
Dunwoody College of Technology 
Emberwood Apartments 
Flight Line Gifts 
Glass & Mirror, Inc. 
Houle Insulation 
House2Home Flooring & Design Studio 
Infinite Campus, Inc. 
IN1 Bodywork & Wellness 
IPS-Integrated Protection Systems 
John Roberts Company 
Kugler Financial 
LegalShield | IDShield-Julie Ann Guglielmo 
Little Acorn Shave Co. 
Magnum PR 
Maria D. Agency-State Farm Insurance 
Mary Kay-Amy Weber-DeRaad 
Mate Precision Tooling 
MB2 Raceway Minneapolis 
Memorial Blood Centers 
Midwest Imaging Solutions 
Mike Kraft Architects 
Mingo Realty, Inc. 
MINNESOTAJOBS.COM 
NACE Foodshelf 
Numbers LLC 
Ole Piper Inn 
Olive Garden 
Operation Grace 
Oxygen Consulting, Inc. 
Panera Bread-Blaine 
Panera Bread-Coon Rapids 
Park Dental Blaine 
Premier Commercial Properties 
Ramsey County-Blake Huffman Rise, Inc. 
River North Senior Apartments 
Riverdale Travel 
RMS 
Savalaw 
Sky Zone 
Smith Schafer & Associates, Ltd. 
Solar Arts Building 
Spiral Manufacturing Company 
St. Paul Saints Baseball 
Stepping Stone Emergency Housing 
Streamworks 
Terry Overacker Plumbing, Inc. 
The Dental Specialists 
TPAC Underwriters, Inc. 
Traffic Management, Inc. 
Twin Cities Gateway Visitors Bureau 
Valley Oasis Transportation Services 
Volunteers of America-The Homestead at Coon Rapids 
Walmart-Andover 
Walmart-Ulysses Street Blaine 
Walters Recycling & Refuse, Inc. 
Waters Edge Community Association 
Wells Fargo Advisors 
Willy McCoys Andover 
Willy McCoys Ramsey 
Wings Financial Credit Union-Blaine 
Wings Financial Credit Union-Coon Rapids
Membership

September and October New Members: Welcome!

A Nose For Paws
Melissa Olson, Business Owner
13055 Riverdale Drive, Suite 500-368
Coon Rapids, MN 55448
763.286.9045
anoseforpaws@gmail.com
ANoseForPaws.wordpress.com
Dog Grooming/Walking

Blaine Kidds Pediatric Dentistry
Anita Spading, Executive Director
800 Osborne Road NE, Suite 215
Blaine, MN 55432
763.333.7733
anita@wefixblinds.com
WeFixBlinds.com
Pediatric Dentistry

Child and Teen Medical Center
Angela Bennett, Clinic Administrator
11107 Ulysses Street NE, Suite 1200
Blaine, MN 55449
763.337.7733
abennett@childandteenmedicalcenter.com
ChildAndTeenMedicalCenter.com
Clinics/Labs

Crashed Toys
Sarah Petersen, General Manager
10506 Central Avenue NE
Blaine, MN 55449
763.434.8822
sarah.petersen@copart.com
CrashedToys.com
Auto/RV/Motorcycle Sales

McMillan Apartments
Patti Harvey, Leasing Specialist
157 Grass Lake Place
Shoreview, MN 55126
651.484.0055
mcmillan@steven-scott.com
Move2theMcMillan.com
Apartments

MN Board of Cosmetology
Gina Fast, Executive Director
1000 University Avenue W, Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55104
651.201.2742
cosmetology@state.mn.us
mn.gov/boards/cosmetology
Government

The ‘nMotion Center for Performing Arts
Sarah Goar, Artistic Director
7988 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432
763.571.6180
sarah@nmotiondancecenter.com
nMotionCenterforPerformingArts.org
Dance

Prime Time Medical Training
LuVessie Jones, Owner
6240 Highway 65 NE
Fridley, MN 55432
952.563.9901
vessie@medtraining.com
PrimeTimeMedTraining.com
CPR/First Aid Training

Timeless Elements
Tauni Commers, RN Injector
10950 Club West Parkway NE, Suite 150
Blaine, MN 55449
763.308.5444
temedspa@aol.com
TEMedSpa.com
Spas

Tony’s Place
Wendy Morina, Owner
215 Northtown Drive NE
Blaine, MN 55434
612.229.1750
wendy@inclusiveplayplaces.org
InclusivePlayPlaces.org
Nonprofit

Topgolf Minneapolis
Brooklyn Center
Adam Skibek, Director of Sales
6430 North Camden Avenue
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
763.201.9636
adam.skibek@topgolf.com
TopGolf.com
Golf

Blinde Installation and Repair, Inc.
Anita Spading, Executive Director
4800 West Broadway Avenue
Crystal, MN 55429
763.886.0109
anita@wefixblinds.com
WeFixBlinds.com
Window Treatments

Blaine K Ids Pediatric Dentistry
Cassie Brehmer, Marketing Coordinator
1351 113th Avenue NE
Blaine, MN 55444
763.415.1222
marketing@dentalkids.com
DentalKids.com
Pediatric Dentistry

Who says color doesn’t call attention to your advertisement? It just did.
COMMITTEES/GROUPS: DECEMBER

Ambassadors Dec 11, Chamber, 4 pm
Board Dec 12, Chamber, 7:30 am
Executive Dec 4, Chamber, 3:30 pm
Gala Dec 6, Infinite Campus, 5 pm
Golf Dec 10, Chamber, 4 pm
Marketing 201 Dec 20, Chamber, 8:15 am
Sunrise – 1st Friday Dec 7, Tavern Grill-Blaine, 7:30 am
Sunrise – 3rd Friday Dec 21, Sticks & Stones-Blaine, 7:30 am
Wine Dec 12, Torg Brewery, 4:44 pm,
Workforce Development Dec 17, Chamber, 12 pm
Working with Women Dec 19; SBM Fire Station #3, Blaine 9:15 am

Ambassadors aren't the only fun ones in the Chamber; just ask the Working with Women group!

Ambassadors approve of our new brand!

#1inFun #MetroNorthProud #BuildingBusiness #BuildingRelationships
Thank you 2018 Signature Sponsors!

Gold:
- 21st Century Bank
- Mille Lacs

Silver:
- MidWestOne Bank
- Walmart

Bronze:
- Mate Precision Tooling
- KinderCare Learning Centers

Grow MN:
- Connexus Energy

Funding Provided by:
- Mille Lacs
- Twin Cities Orthopedics