



CHAMBER NEWS

A publication of the Waconia Chamber of Commerce

June, 2012

Chamber After Hours-Wed, June 13

4:30-6:30pm

Carlson's Lovable Llamas

8380 Cty Rd 10E, Waconia

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to network with fellow Chamber Members and learn more about Agri-Tourism (hot new buzz word) at a working Llama Farm! FREE!



It's Road Construction Season!

Do your customers & clients know how to get to your business?

Check out www.swtransit.org and click on "A way around..." for information on the Hwy 5 construction and Southwest Metro transit schedules. You can also register with MNDOT to get update emailed to you!



Bergmann Interiors

**Bruce Bergmann*

7416 80th Street
Glencoe, MN 55336
320-864-6754
brucebergmann@rmbargmail.com
www.bergmanninteriors.com

Retail Floorcovering/Window Treatments

Laketown Chocolates

**Larry Wilhelm*

141 West 1st Street, Ste 2
Waconia, MN 55387
952-442-1063
info@customchocolate.net
www.laketownchocolates.com

Chocolate Manufacturing/Retail Outlet

Midwest Dental

**Dr Heather Tuttle*

753 Marketplace Drive
Waconia, MN 55387
952-442-2015
precisioneyecaremn@gmail.com
www.precisioneyecaremn.com

Optometrist & Optical Health Care

Waconia Sewing Center

**Peggy Daughbert*

109 S Elm Street
Waconia, MN 55387
952-442-2042
goatpsterd@aol.com
www.waconiasewingcenter.com

Sewing Machines Sales & Service

Who's on First

**Suzanne Wille*

36 First Street West
Waconia, MN 55387
952-442-6301
thewillies6@embarqmail.com

Restaurant

Xyngular

**Carrie Robaina*

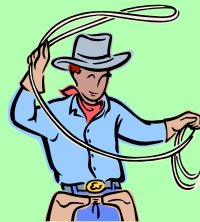
1965 Sierra Pkwy
Waconia, MN 55387
952-393-0966
carrierobaina@hotmail.com
www.ignitewithcarrie.com

Energy, Weight Loss & improved Health Solutions

6th Annual

Waconia Open Golf Event ~ Wild West!

Callin' all Buckaroos: Saddle up! Mark your calendars for Monday, July 16 for a *rip roarin', root n' tootin'*, good time! We're looking for:



Sponsors-Event and Hole

(get your business name & logo on all promotional pieces!)

Participants-Get a foursome together or join one

Volunteers, Silent Auction Donations, After Hours participants!

The best day in the office can't hold a candle to a day on the golf course! Brush up on yer cowboy jargon at

<http://www.legendsofamerica.com/we-slang-u-z.html#U>



The Lake Waconia Fireworks Festival is completely supported by donations. Does your business have a collection bucket?

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Welcome mat... and
MORE COWBELL!

By Kellie Sites, President

Photo courtesy of Lynn Laumann Photography



Don't put that welcome mat away! Everyone did an excellent job of welcoming Governor Dayton and all of our guests for the walleye opener, but there is plenty more to come this summer!

Think about you. When you drive into a town, does it feel welcoming? If you're a band parent, do like seeing Welcome Bands! on the windows of the businesses? I do!

Keep your window markers and welcome flags out all summer! Whether or not you are retail, and whether or not your shop is open... We want people to keep coming back for all kinds of reasons.... Here are some the visitors coming to Waconia this summer:

- JUNE 9 LOLA'S LAKEHOUSE LAKE WACONIA 1/2 MARATHON this beautiful new event also includes a 5k run and a dog event! www.lakewaconiahalfmarathon.com
- JUNE 16 LAKE WACONIA MARCHING BAND FESTIVAL! Bands and their families from all over Minnesota will arrive in droves on that Saturday. They will put out their blankets and chairs and wander around Waconia. Let them know how glad you are to see them! This also includes all the local folks who have kids in the band or who just love a parade...
 Like me.
- JUNE 24 LAKE WACONIA TRIATHLON This is where we could really use some Cowbell! Hang out on Main street from 8:30am to about 10am and cheer on the cyclists and the runners!! Make it a fun family outing! We want this event to get bigger and bigger... And if you've ever been in a race, you know how fun it is to have fans... Cowbells available at Waconia Farm Supply in a variety of sizes.
- JUNE 25 TASTE OF RIDGEVIEW This regional event at Island View Golf club brings people from all over the region to not only golf, but to enjoy the area. This is a great place to network and get business done as well. I highly recommend attending this event in some way!
- 4TH OF JULY!
 Thousands of people driving around., looking for a great place from which to watch the fireworks.
- JULY 20 AND 21 PRCA RODEO!!!!
- AUGUST 8-12 CARVER COUNTY FAIR!!!
- AUGUST 24 & 25 LOLA'S LAKEHOUSE KONA ONE NATIONAL WIND SURFING COMPETITION.... This event is brand new to Lake Waconia and we will be shining for the windsurfing world.
- SEPTEMBER 15 NICKLE DICKLE DAY!!!



Develop relationships, and grow the economy

By David C. Olson

MINNESOTA
CHAMBER of
COMMERCE

Keep in touch with your customers, and good things are bound to happen. That's the premise behind Grow Minnesota!, the Minnesota Chamber's private-sector initiative focused on job retention and creation. And it's working.

One of the most noteworthy achievements in the program's nine-year history is the recent announcement by Gerdau to house new continuous casting steel-making equipment at its St. Paul mill. The caster, representing a \$50 million investment, ensures the plant's competitiveness and also retains more than 330 high-paying jobs.

The Gerdau initiative, and the myriad success stories around the state, are a tribute to the statewide Grow Minnesota! network, Nearly 60 local partners – including the (INSERT LOCAL CHAMBER) – work year-round to connect with business leaders in their communities. They collectively represent the eyes and ears of economic development across Minnesota.

Gerdau's decision to bolster its Minnesota operations was far from happenstance. Company representatives at the St. Paul mill approached us in May 2011 to assist them in earning the Brazilian-headquartered company's investment. The Minnesota Chamber has enjoyed a longstanding relationship with the mill through business retention visits and previously helped on permitting issues.

Bill Blazar, who spearheads Grow Minnesota!, subsequently created a work group including city, regional and state economic development organizations to help move this initiative along quickly. Within a month, representatives from the Gerdau's corporate headquarters came to the Twin Cities.

The Minnesota Chamber also initiated important conversations between Gerdau and Xcel Energy regarding electric rates. St. Paul was competing for the investment with a company facility in Texas, where electric rates were more favorable.

Gerdau is an extraordinary story that made the headlines, and it represents only a slice of the statewide results being delivered by our dynamic statewide network. Other achievements are equally noteworthy. In the 2010-11 program year, more than 400 business volunteers assisted chamber staff in conducting nearly 1,000 conversations with company decision-makers. The program provided one-on-one assistance to 122 firms and protected 4,900 jobs.

Business assistance is first and foremost at the Minnesota Chamber and our statewide network of local chambers. When businesses seek help, we respond. We are at your service. The premise is simple: Helping companies find solutions to your problems is fundamental to growing healthy businesses and creating jobs for Minnesotans.

David Olson is president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit the Web at www.mnchamber.com.

Ambassador Visits

Who's on First

Owners: Michael and Suzanne Wille

Open at 11am 7 days a week

952-442-6301

36 1st Street West Waconia, MN 55387

Family Friendly Restaurant with full liquor service.
Catering Services Available.



The Waconia Ambassadors welcome owner Suzanne Wille back to the Chamber! Having been in business since 1993, they are excited about their new menu and new hours. Look for these new offerings on their menu: Cajun cuisine (courtesy of their chef Lionel from New Orleans) plus new burgers, sandwiches and salads. The new menu also keeps all the old favorites that you've grown to love. Stop by and try out something new!



Waconia Moravian Church

Rev Dr Amy Gohdes-Luhman

952-442-2920

Office Hours M-F 9-1

Sunday Service—summer 9am

www.waconiamoravian.org

"In essentials unity, in non essentials,
liberty; in all things, love."

The Ambassadors welcome Pastor Amy and the Waconia Moravian Church to the Chamber! Pastor Amy has led this congregation since August of 2011 and she is loving it here! The Moravians have been very active in our community and this is the location of the free meal, Feed My Sheep. For more information on the Moravian Church, please contact Pastor Amy or check out their website. Welcome!



HIGHWAY 5 ROAD CONSTRUCTION: If you have not yet attempted to drive on Hwy 5 between Eden Prairie and Waconia since May 31st, I advise you to do so. It's important for you to be able to communicate to your vendors and your customers how to get to you during this road improvement summer.

CONSTRUCTIVE IDEAS FOR MNDOT? Diane.langenbach@state.mn.us

Member News & Happenings

City Events

Music in the Park Thursday in June & July-7pm at City Square Park (rain site is Safari Island) (no performance July 5) Beginning Thursday, June 7. For complete schedule, visit www.waconia.org.

Fishing in the Neighborhood-Friday, June 15 10:00am-Noon at Cedar Point Park
Waconia Parks & Recreation is proud to partner with MN DNR to bring you Fishing in the Neighborhood. This program provides great fishing & learning opportunities for residents & visitors to Waconia.

Movie in the Park-”The Adventures of Tin Tin” Friday, June 22 at 8:30pm in City Square Park (rain site is Safari Island). Bring your blanket and/or lawn chair. Concessions will be available. In lieu of admission, donations of non-perishable food items for the Waconia United Food Shelf will be accepted.

All of these events are FREE! For more information, visit www.waconia.org.



Lola's Lake Waconia Half Marathon-Saturday, June 9



1st Annual...Soon to be one of the most talked about half marathon races in the state of Minnesota, Lola's Lake Waconia Half Marathon & 5k is a can't miss event - we have something for everyone. The beauty of the course, freshness of the spring and the smell of the lake - add to that a half marathon or 5k run and a post race party featuring Traveled Ground at Lola's Lakehouse. To register, go to www.lakewaconiahalfmarathon.com

Lake Waconia Band Festival-Saturday, June 16-6:00pm

Come see a premier marching band competition. Celebrating it's 14th anniversary this year, the Lake Waconia Band Festival features many of the elite marching bands of the region, including our very own, Waconia High School Marching Band. Always entertaining and it's FREE. Parade begins at City Square Park and ends at the Carver County Fair Grounds. Best viewing on Main Street.



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Lighthouse of Waconia-Thursday, June 21 4:00-7:00pm



You are invited to join the Lighthouse for the V.I.P. Gala and Ribbon Cutting. Enjoy live entertainment, delicious hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine! Dedication and ribbon cutting at 5:30. Tours will also be available of their beautiful new community.

RSVP to svilmain@npseniorliving.com or 952-442-1261 Valet parking provided.

Ridgeview Golf & Taste Event-Monday, June 25 at Island View Golf Club

Please join the Ridgeview Foundation at their 27th Annual Golf & Taste Celebration- Monday, June 25. During the course of the day, participants play Golf, Bridge and Bunco. Come and enjoy the Taste Celebration, Silent and Live Auctions, buy a Raffle Ticket, and stay for Dinner! For more information visit www.ridgeviewmedical.org or call 952-442-6011



Iron River Construction named to REMODELING Big50



In May, Iron River Construction was selected by REMODELING magazine to join the REMODELING Big50. Each year since 1986, the REMODELING Big50 inducts the owners of 50 remodeling companies that have set exceptionally high standards for professionalism and integrity through exemplary business practices, craftsmanship, and impact in their community or the industry at large. Congratulations to owner Tracy Dahlin & his crew!

Waconia Mints now available

Great gifts for customers and employees! Collectible tin!

Wholesale: \$1.95 per tin x 48 in a box = \$93.60 per box ...Retail for \$2.95 each

Delicious and cool... ☺ Contact the Chamber to reserve your box!



June Membership Luncheon



Thursday, June 28 2012

11:30AM-1:00PM

Sovereign Estate Wine

9950 North Shore Road, Waconia

“The Business of Biking”

Speaker: Erik Saltvold, Erik's Bike Shop

Hear Erik's story and also hear from

*Marty Walsh from Carver County Parks who will talk about the
Dakota Rail Regional Trail.*

Cost: \$20 Members, \$25 Non-Members
includes speaker, meal, beverage, tax & gratuity



Please RSVP by **Monday, June 22nd***
www.destinationwaconia.org or 952-442-5812

*Payment will be accepted in advance or at the door.

Please note that you will be billed for all meals reserved and walk-ins are not guaranteed.



Chamber Calendar-June 2012

- 7 Coffee Connection @ gk2promotions-9386 Oak Ave, Waconia 7:30-9:00 am
- 13 Board of Directors Meeting 11:45 - 1pm Maple Conference Room
- 13 Chamber After Hours @ Carlson's Lovable Llamas-8380 Cty Rd 10E, Waconia 4:30-6:30pm
- 14 Retail Committee Meeting 8:00 am Maple Conference Room
- 21 Ambassador Meeting Chamber Office Time: afternoon
- 23 Lake Waconia Band Festival Main Street Waconia 6:00pm
- 28 Chamber Luncheon @ Sovereign Estate Wine 11:45-1:00 Doors open 11:30am **RSVP by 6/22/12!**