



CHAMBER NEWS

A publication of the Waconia Chamber of Commerce

February, 2014

Many Thanks to these businesses who have already made their membership commitment for 2014!

1st Street Construction/Pinnacle Woodworking	Everson's Hardware Hank, Inc	Milltronics Manufacturing Co	Town & Country Glass
9 Round Waconia	Faith Lutheran Church	Mini Biff	Transport Security
A-1 Electric Service	Fantastic Sams	Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative	Travel Easy
AA Segner Insurance Agency	First Minnesota Bank	Mocha Monkey	Trending Upward Thrift Shoppe
Alpine Ingredients LLC	George & Carol Barunwarth	Mount Olivet Rolling Acres	Trinity Lutheran Church & School
American Family Insurance	JK2Promotions	MRCI WorkSource-Chaska	UFC-Farm Supply
American Thom Agency	Golden Dragon	Muller Family Theaters-Waconia	Unity Uniform*
AmericInn of Waconia	Ground Round Bar & Grill	Natural Family Center*	Unhinged! Pizza
Ameriprise Financial	HEI Collision Center	Neubauer Chiropractic Health Center	Waconia Deputy Registrar
At the Farm	HomeTown Bank	NRG plumbing	Waconia Dodge Chrysler Jeep
Augustana Emerald Crest	Hoppers Bar & Grill	Oakwood Community Church	Waconia Ford
Barn Quilts of Carver County	Hultgren, Hoxie & Waki Orthodontist	Pentom Land Company	Waconia High School
Bayview Elementary	Imperial Porta-Palace	Peterson Company Ltd	Waconia Inn & Suites
Becky Larsen RE/MAX	Interlaken Place	Pine Products, Inc.	Waconia Lions Club
Bergmann Interiors LLC	Island View Golf Club	Plumbing & Heating by Craig	Waconia Manufacturing
Caim Center	James J Maiser CPA	Precision Eye Care	Waconia Moravian Church
Carlson's Llovable Llamas	It's A Keeper	Premier Custom Apparel Shop	Waconia Patriot
Carver County Abstract & Title*	Jim Gilbert's Wild Bird Store	Ridgeview Foundation	Waconia Public Library
Carver County Development Agency	JIMandSALLY.com	Ridgeview Medical Center	Waconia Public Schools
Carver County Fair	Johnson Funeral Home, Inc.	Ridgeview Rehab Specialities	Waconia Veterinary Clinic
Carver County Historical Society	Karen Kirby	Rising Star Dance Academy	Waconia VFW Post 5462
Casualty Assurance of Chaska	KJGT FM	Safari Island Community Center	Waconia West Carver Rotary
CD Products, Inc	KleinBank	Salon Trende	Weinzierl Jewelry
CenterPoint Energy	Koch Bus Service, Inc	Scholla Financial Inc.	Welcome Neighbor!
CenturyLink	Ladybug Child Care Center	Schram Vineyards	West Metro Shuttle
Children of Tomorrow	Laketown Electric Corporation	Security Bank Waconia	Westside Carpet Cleaning*
Choice, Inc.	Laketown Gym	Shaw Construction Inc.	Westview Acres/Good Samaritan Soc.
City of Waconia	Lakeview Clinic, Ltd.	Simple Grace Promotions*	Willems Cabinetry & Woodworking
Clearwater Clothing	Langemo Law, PA	Soltis Family Chiropractic	Williwm F Oswald, DDS
Clearwater Middle School	Latigo Leasing & Sales	SPOKES Bike & Ice Cream Shop	Willow Winds Gardens
Community Education ISD #110	Legacy Wine & Spirits	St Joseph Church & School	Xcel Energy
Creature Works Labs	Lenzen Chevrolet-Buick, Inc	Statewide Gas Services, Inc	Yetzer's Home Furnishings & Floorcoverings
Crown College	Lindemeier Heating & Cooling	Subway	
Dave Philp-Coldwell Banker Burnett	Locher Bros.	Sunny Days Therapy, Inc.	*New Chamber Members
DMA Dentistry-Dungey, Menser &	Lola's Lakehouse	Systemhouse, Inc.	Inside this issue:
Dojo Karate	Mackenthun's Fine Foods	Taylor Hubbard Photography	Pg 1 Member news & events
Double "A" Trucking	Medallion Cabinetry	The Green Leaf	Pg 2 Guest Editorial
Drazan, Henke & Associates, PLLC	Melchert Hubert Sjodin, PLLP	The Jeff Schulz Team	Pg 3 Minnesota Chamber news
Edward Jones Investments	Memorial Blood Centers	The Saloon-Waconia	Pg 4 Ribbon Cuttings
Egg-Cetera Cafe	MidCountry Bank	The Seat Fixer	Pg 5 Member Updates & Happenings
Elite Waste Disposal	Midwest Dental	The Stash of Waconia	Pg 6 Luncheon News & Calendar
Energy Misers LLC	Midwest Expanded Metal, Inc.	The UPS Store	
	Midwest Vintage Snowmobile Show	TMC Industries Inc.	



What are we up to in 2014?!

By Kellie Sites, President

Photo courtesy of Taylor Hubbard Photography



First of all I want to congratulate Carmen Gesinger on her new role in our chamber as the Marketing and Communications Specialist. She will rock this position! We have also hired a part time administrative assistant, Felicia McKinster, who has a great background in bookkeeping and customer service. We will continue working hard for our membership and community with the framework of our Program of Work and the leaders who will be driving the efforts.

2014 Program of Work

Committees and Assigned Directors

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Todd Swanson, Paul Melchert and Jon Schmidt

- Relationship between the City and the Chamber regarding attracting and retaining business.
- Fine-tune the criteria for the scholarship
- Downtown Task Force follow up
- Beautification
- Chamber's position on District 110 referendum in 2014

RETAIL Summer Jensen, Jessa Theis

- Report only committee
- Do we need a chair and vice chair of the retail committee as it now stands?
- Marketing
- Events
- Budget

POLICY Summer Jensen, Tim Curtis and Phyllis Roth

- Goal to: 1. Identify 2. Research 3. Recommend
- 1 year committee
- Nickle Dickle Day
- Golf
- Sponsorship
- Tourism
- Chamber procurement



Felicia McKinster
952-442-5812
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MEMBERSHIP Cathy Nielsen, Jeff Schulz, Mark Nettesheim

- Retention
- Expansion of membership: who and how many
- Opportunities for member involvement
- New Member materials
- Ambassador Committee role in all of the above

TOURISM Martha Kurtz and Jan Held

- Determine Tourism Board structure: who should be on the board? How long should they serve? etc
- Evaluate goals and bylaws



Repeal B2B taxes; we don't need these headlines

By David C. Olson

MINNESOTA
CHAMBER of
COMMERCE

The Minnesota Department of Revenue recently issued guidelines for the new sales tax on storage and warehouse services for business goods set to take effect April 1. The story generated headlines from Indiana to South Carolina to New York – providing more ammunition for states to try to lure Minnesota companies to relocate or expand elsewhere. Minnesotans will be the net loser.

Repealing all three business-to-business (B2B) sales taxes on business services tops the Minnesota Chamber's agenda for the 2014 Legislature. As leader of the United for Jobs Coalition, we are encouraging these taxes be repealed early in the session.

Local chambers of commerce across the state are supporting our campaign. You can assist in our efforts by signing our petition and contacting your legislators by visiting www.unitedforjobsmn.com.

Our campaign was helped considerably by the December state budget forecast that projected a \$1.08 billion surplus for the current two-year cycle, which provides ample resources to repeal all three of the new taxes plus reduce other uncompetitive taxes. The good news is that Gov. Mark Dayton has made the tax repeal a priority, too, provided the February forecast still shows a surplus. We hope his leadership will help the House and Senate agree to repealing these taxes.

The three taxes are:

- Labor charges for repair and maintenance of business equipment, effective July 1, 2013.
- Telecommunications equipment purchases by telecommunications providers, effective July 1, 2013.
- Storage and warehousing services of business -related goods, effective April 1, 2014.

The new B2B taxes do not apply if the service is done by an employee or by an affiliated company. As a result, small and medium-sized companies – the heart and soul of Minnesota's economy – will bear the brunt of these additional costs.

We need your help. Your stories are our most effective voice. Please contact your legislators today, and urge them to support repeal of all three taxes. Remind them that this aligns perfectly with the governor's agenda for an "Unsession."

Also, encourage legislators to take action early in the session, which convenes Feb. 25. Companies need certainty so they can make their business plans. Many companies are rethinking their investment in Minnesota, if they have not already moved their dollars out of state.

An early tax bill is needed to repeal the B2B taxes prior to the storage and warehouse tax kicking in on April 1 and also to correct another headache facing Minnesota businesses and individuals: the lack of conformity with federal tax law. The 2013 Legislature did not adopt federal tax items that have been typically conformed to in prior years such as employer-provided adoption assistance and tuition assistance. This adds great complexity and increased taxes on benefits not taxable at the federal level but will be taxable in Minnesota. For some businesses, it will mean keeping two sets of books for 15 or 30 years due to lack of conformity on depreciation schedules on certain business equipment.

The governor has recommended that federal conformity and repeal of all three B2B taxes should be a priority for the budget surplus. We agree.

The daily headlines still show the lingering effects of the recession. Let's pledge now to repeal all three B2B taxes, and generate some positive headlines for the Minnesota economy.

David Olson is president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce – www.mnchamber.com.

Ribbon Cuttings



The Natural Family Center

210 W 1st Street, Waconia 952-442-3234
www.thenaturalfamilycenter.com

HomeTown Bank

641 Marketplace Drive, Waconia 952-230-3850
www.htbmn.com



Mocha Monkey-West

641 Marketplace Drive, Waconia
www.themochamonkey.com

Carver County Abstract and Title

641 Marketplace Drive, Suite 3, Waconia
 952-448-5570
www.carvercountyabstract.com



Drazan, Henke & Associates

641 Marketplace Drive, Suite 5, Waconia
 952-448-2705
www.dha-cpa.com

The UPS Store

712 Vista Blvd, Waconia 952-797-6736



Member News & Happenings

Beer Tasting @ Legacy Wine & Spirits-Saturday, February 1st 3:00-6:00pm

Excelsior Brewing will be pouring their brews at Legacy THIS Saturday!

Starting February 3-join the Wine Rewards Club! You'll get an Instant Savings of 5% OFF any non-sale wines you buy, PLUS you get points on your card for future wine purchases. Occasionally, they will have wines that earn you additional points. In the end, you're getting 10% OFF the wines you buy as a Club member! Best of all-It's FREE!



Legacy Wine & Spirits-724 Vista Blvd, Waconia 952-442-9002

Waconia Lions 32nd Annual Wild Game Dinner-Saturday, February 1



4:00pm-Hors d'oeuvres

7:30pm-Dinner Ends

Gun & Cash Raffles ~ Silent Auction, The "BIG" Raffle (over 125 items including 20+ guns)
Live Music by Traveled Ground

Tickets-\$35 in advance/\$40 at the door- purchase at Bob's Barber Shop, Hardware Hank, Mackenthun's, Waconia Ford or call 612-810-0410

Lake Waconia Event Center-8155 Paradise Lane, Waconia

Open House at Safari Island Community Center-February 7 & 8

Stop by and see what Safari Island has to offer! Friday 7th-5-8pm, Saturday 8th-9am-Noon

Free daily admission, discounted memberships, free food, 20+ door prizes, group fitness demo classes, and kid activities.

Safari Island-1650 Community Drive, Waconia 952-442-3105 www.waconia.org



Celebrate 'I Love to Read Month' at the Waconia Library



The library encourages you to drop in and pick up some pleasure reading, attend Storytime or one of their many educational classes. Classes range from a writers' workshop to Twitter 101. You can get details and more by visiting www.carverlib.org

Waconia Public Library-217 South Vine Street, Waconia

Chamber 101-Friday, February 21 8:00-10:00AM

Make sure you're getting the most from your chamber investment! You may be new to the Chamber, have a new representative on your team or just need a refresher on making the most of your membership benefits, this seminar is for you! Previous participants agree this presentation is well worth your time.

Navigate the Chamber Website, Answers to FAQ, Membership Benefits Explained! Space is limited!

Not yet members welcome-bring a friend! RSVP 952-442-5812 FREE!!

Waconia City Hall Oak Conference Rm-201 South Vine Street, Waconia



Mark your Calendar-Escape to the Islands March 1, 2014

This event is designed to get people out of hibernation and into Waconia to enjoy dining, entertainment and retail therapy! There will be specials, demonstrations & drawings with a tropical theme.

10:00-5:00 SHOPPING! Eating and Drinking 11am-? Check out the fun!

Discover the Treasure-in Waconia!



Monthly Chamber Luncheon

Thursday, February 27, 2014

11:30AM-1:00PM

Location: Lake Waconia Event Center

Address: 8155 Paradise Lane

RSVP to the Chamber Office by February 21!



Topic: Business, Business, Business!

A member favorite-Join us for this fun, progressive, networking meal!

Come prepared with **business** cards,
a 2 minute commercial about your **business**,
and be ready to give and get **business**!

3 different courses, 3 different groups of people! Invite a colleague!

\$25 per member, \$30 for non-members RSVP Required!

Walk-ins will not be guaranteed.

Please RSVP by Friday, February 21!

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 not guaranteed.



Chamber Calendar-February 2014

- 6 Coffee Connection @ BIG Athletics (761 Marketplace Drive, Waconia) 7:30-9:00am
- 11 Tourism Committee Retreat @ AmericInn 9:00am-Noon We'll be discussing a market strategy for 2014!
Tourism Board @ AmericInn 1:00-3:00pm
- 12 Board of Directors Meeting-Maple Conference Room, City Hall 11:45am-1:15pm
- 13 Retail Committee Meeting-Maple Conference Room 8:00-9:30am
- 20 Ambassador Meeting Chamber Office Time 8:45 am
- 27 Chamber Luncheon at Lake Waconia Event Center 11:45-1:00 *Speed Networking!* **RSVP by 2/21/14!**

Mar 1 Escape in Waconia-Shopping & Dining Event all over Waconia! *Discover the Treasure!*