



# Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

## The Voice of Business for June



When: June 10, 2024

Where: Timberlake Lodge Hotel

Time: 11:45 a.m.  
Buffet lunch, 12:00 pm Luncheon begins.

Cost: \$15.00 members  
\$20.00 nonmembers

RSVP required: 218-326-6619 or email Kerry@grandmn.com no later than June 6, 2024

### Agency Roles and Policing Trends in 2024 June 10, 2024 Luncheon



Luncheon Speakers:  
Andy Morgan  
Chief of Police - GRPD



Joe Dasovich  
Itasca County Sheriff

#### Navigating Agency Dynamics & 2024 Policing Trends from Grand Rapids Police Department & Itasca County Sheriff

Join Andy Morgan, Chief of Police, and Joe Dasovich, Itasca County Sheriff, as they discuss the roles of each department, staffing levels, call volumes, and types. They will also address topics such as the new jail and court security.

This luncheon provides a valuable opportunity to explore the diverse roles and responsibilities of agencies within our community, alongside an examination of policing trends in 2024. Understanding these complexities empowers stakeholders to collaboratively develop strategies meeting the community's multifaceted needs.

Increased awareness highlights the importance of synergy between law enforcement, mental health agencies, and social services in addressing root causes of crime. Additionally, the prevalence of drug-related calls emphasizes the need for prioritizing harm reduction methods and enhancing community outreach initiatives.

Luncheon Sponsor:



L&M Supply now includes twelve retail store locations and one corporate office/distribution in Northern Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. At this time, Co-Owners Del Matteson, Shawn Matteson, and Erik Andersen, along with everyone at L&M Supply, would like to thank all of their customers for their ongoing loyalty through the years. The goal and philosophy of the Company remain unchanged, that is to continue to provide quality products at discount prices with excellent customer service. Adhering to this philosophy will continue to drive the growth of L&M Supply in the future. We would also like to thank our staff for their dedication to running L&M Fleet Supply. Their continued commitment will be the catalyst for ensuring future growth and customer satisfaction at L&M.

### Ribbon Cutting TRU Healthcare



TRU Healthcare is proud to serve the Grand Rapids community, offering exceptional Home Health Aide, Skilled Nursing, and in-home therapy services.

As a Medicare-certified home health agency, our mission is to be the best in the world at caring for people. Our services are designed to benefit a wide range of individuals, including the elderly, those recovering from surgery, patients with chronic conditions, and anyone needing assistance with daily activities or medical care at home. By offering personalized care plans, our skilled professionals help to improve quality of life, promote independence, and assist families in managing complex healthcare needs. Whether it's through skilled nursing care, therapeutic services, or daily assistance from our home health aides, TRU Healthcare is committed to supporting the diverse needs of our community. In this photo from left to right: Jennifer Davey (Operations Manager), Tiffany Grigsby (Home Health Aide), Todd Gray (RN Case Manager), Corinne Thayer (RN Case Manager).

GRACC Ambassadors- Debbie Tahtinen - Midland Title, Danielle Witherill - Edward Jones, Laurie Clausen- Edwards Jones, LeAnn Hardy - City Limits Storage, and Stacia Rom - Applebee's

### Customer Service Award Winner Lori Huber

Itasca Agricultural Associations



Congratulations, Lori, on your exceptional customer service! Your nomination was well-deserved for going above and beyond. You are a valuable asset to our community and are known for your kindness and excellent work ethic.

"Lori Huber has been an active member of the Itasca Agricultural Association for two years. She currently serves as the President of the association and acts as the liaison between the Fair board and the livestock division. Lori is known for her positive attitude towards every issue, and she always suggests ways to improve things. Her positivity has significantly helped the fair move forward since she joined."

In addition to her role as the President, Lori has taken on the responsibility of advertising, sales of ride tickets and memberships, writing the monthly barnyard newsletter, and helping with Lights in the Pines. I am proud to recommend Lori for this award.

Also pictured GRACC Ambassador Debbie Tahtinen - Midland Title



### Calendar of Events for 2024

Chamber Monthly Luncheon  
June 10, 2024

Swap Meet & Car Show  
July 26-28, 2024

Golf Outing & Fun Day  
Sept. 19, 2024

Taking Care of Business  
Dec. 4, 2024

### Chamber Committee Meetings

Ambassador - Third Wednesday/ monthly, noon - 1:00pm

Government Affairs - Last Friday/ monthly, 7:30am - 9:00am

Forestry Affairs - Last Friday/ monthly, 9:15am - 10:45 am

Chamber member, you are welcome to come and check them out to see if you are interested in joining.

### 2024 Northern Minnesota Swap Meet & Car Show

JULY 26 - 28

The Northern MN Swap Meet & Car Show is just around the corner, and we are looking for a few more volunteers! There are several shifts to choose from. If you would like to join us for this fun weekend, please call or email, and we can get you signed up.

Volunteer positions open:

\*Location: Itasca Co Fairgrounds  
\*Shifts avg 3 hours

Sponsored By



- Campground entrance (Sun)
- Hill (Fri - 1 shift open)
- Parking Lot (Fri - 1 shift open)
- Car Corral (Fri & Sat)
- 7th Ave Entrance (Fri)
- Car Show Parking (Sun)

Stacia@grandmn.com - 218-326-6619

Sponsored By





# This Month's Business Spotlight Recipient:



Once a month, a Chamber Member Business in good standing will be randomly selected during the monthly luncheon and featured for the upcoming month.

This randomly drawn business will have the opportunity to showcase themselves offering them exposure through the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce network

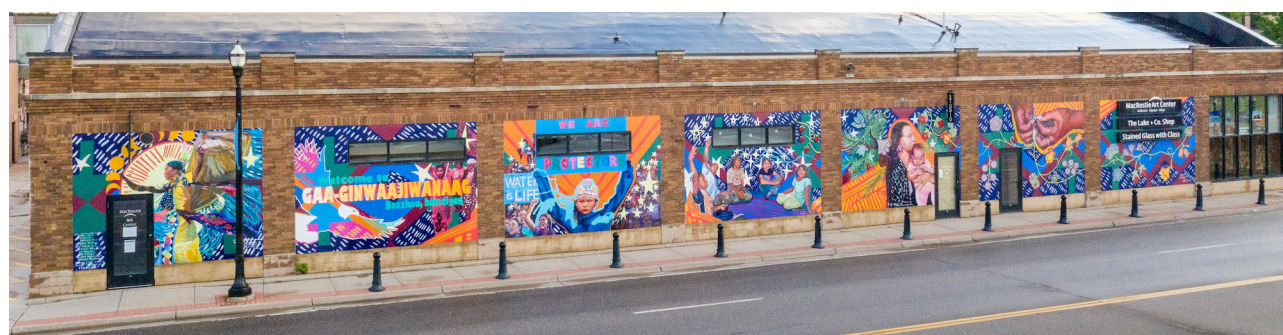
This initiative expresses gratitude to all businesses and individuals supporting the Chamber's mission of advocating for business interests.

MacRostie Art Center is a nonprofit arts organization that has been a part of the Grand Rapids community since the 1960s. Located in a historic building in downtown Grand Rapids, the MAC is a regional art center, working to make our community strong and vibrant by providing all people the opportunity, access, tools, and inspiration to realize their creative potential.

The MAC hosts over 20 exhibitions each year, both in its downtown location and in satellite galleries throughout the area. MAC's studios offer a variety of classes to help people from all levels of experience learn new techniques and to provide a space to create and connect through coursework led by talented local artists. The art shop at MacRostie Art Center features work from over 100 local artists, creating opportunities for artists to have their work seen and purchased.

The Giinawind Creative Space is the MAC's newest program. In the Ojibwe language, Giinawind is an inclusive pronoun that means "we/us together", and the space is intended as place to highlight Indigenous artists and encourage community gatherings.

The MAC maintains a busy calendar of First Friday exhibit openings, classes, and annual events like the Downtown Art Fair. Information about the latest activities at MacRostie Art Center can be found at [www.macrostieartcenter.org](http://www.macrostieartcenter.org)



Join the Chamber for your chance to be premiered. The Chamber of Commerce works to help you create jobs, and helps to solve business problems. Make sure you support your Chamber, because they are supporting you.

Call Kerry Larsen at 218-326-6619 or email [kerry@grandmn.com](mailto:kerry@grandmn.com)

## GRACC Annual Dinner

**Thank You** to all who attended the 122nd Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner. It was a wonderful evening of networking, celebrating our local businesses, with great entertainment. The Annual Dinner had record attendance with a fun energy, that made the event a big celebration!



### Paul Bunyan COMMUNICATIONS

A big shout out to our main sponsor this year, Paul Bunyan Communications! With a strong mission to commit to caring, cooperation, and respect in our relations with members, customers, employees, and our communities. Thank You Paul Bunyan for being a strong member for the Chamber.



We're thrilled to shine a spotlight on Joe Franzone, an invaluable community member! Joe's unwavering support and willingness to lend a hand make him a true "Friend of the Chamber". His advocacy and positive attitude embody the spirit of our organization. Thank you, Joe, for your dedication and remarkable demeanor!



#### 2023 Pillar Award Winners

Within every organization, there are always a handful of members who are willing to invest beyond the norm to help the organization reach its goals. These investments happen in many ways. This group of members play a major supporting role for our organization, much the same as a strong foundation supports a building. They are the Pillars of our Chamber of Commerce.

These are the Pillars of our Chamber of Commerce: Paul Bunyan Communications, Rapids Radio, Mediacom, Lonza, Super One, US Steel, Yanmar, Timberlake, UPM Blandin Paper Co., Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital, Grand Rapids State Bank, Essentia Health, Herald Review,

We are thankful for all the table sponsors and individual business members who make this event possible.

The Annual Dinner table sponsors: Blake and Lind, CPAs, Blandin Foundation, Deerwood Bank, Essentia Health, Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital, Grand Rapids State Bank, Itasca Economic Development Corp., IRRR, Itasca County Board of Realtors, MDI, M.N. Technology, Mediacom, Members Cooperative Credit Union, Mesabi Metallics, Minnesota North College-Itasca, Minnesota Power, Park State Bank, Paul Bunyan Communications, Rapids Radio, and Super One.

For those of you who were not able to attend. The Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce is working towards a new mission, 'Fostering a business environment for growth, by connecting, advocating and educating'. We want to collaborate with employers in our area, and ensure that all area businesses feel supported. This mission will allow us to see the possibilities in our vision of 'creating a vibrant and thriving Greater Grand Rapids Area'. The value of our chamber extends to engaging in advocacy that benefits our area businesses and communities, along with supporting economic opportunities, and local charitable initiatives. Our goal is to pave the way for businesses to prosper but also make meaningful contributions that make a difference.

The Annual Dinner highlights the fact that being a part of the chamber is more than just a transaction; it is an investment in support, networking, economic progress, and continued education on topics important to our members. Our business members are the heart and soul of the work we do. Thank you for creating a fun and memorable evening.

Thank you for being a part of our chamber community!



President & CEO: **Malissa Bahr**  
 Business Relations Coordinator: **Kerry Larsen**  
 Events and Marketing Coordinator: **Stacia Rom**



Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce