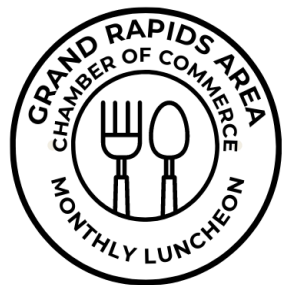




# Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

## The Voice of Business for December



When: Dec 9, 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  
Stacia@grandmn.com no later than  
Dec 5, 2024



### Calendar of Events for 2024

Franchise Fee  
Virtual Listening Session  
Tue November 26, 2024.  
www.grandmn.com for more info!

Taking Care of Business  
@ Timberlake Lodge  
Dec. 4, 2024

Chamber Monthly Luncheon  
December 9, 2024  
@Timberlake Lodge

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

## The Heart of Grand Rapids: How The Reif Enriches Our Community

The Reif Performing Arts Center is more than just a venue—it's a vibrant community hub that has been enriching Northern Minnesota for over 40 years with a diverse mix of performances, exhibits, and educational programs. Our mission, "Stimulating Arts in Northern Minnesota," drives us to bring world-class national and international acts to our stages, drawing more than 25,000 patrons annually from across the region.

Each year, we present over 50 touring performances that cover a wide range of artistic disciplines, including music, dance, theater, children's shows, and comedy. The Reif also proudly showcases performances by local artists, school groups, and community organizations, creating an inclusive platform that fosters artistic diversity.

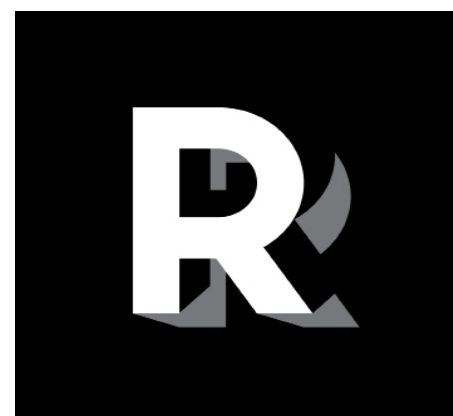
As we approach the holiday season, we're thrilled to feature beloved performances like The Nutcracker and Rock 'n Roll Christmas, bringing festive joy to audiences of all ages. Our commitment to community extends beyond performances; we host the Reif Dance program, open to students ages 4 through adult, offering classes in ballet, jazz, tap, and modern dance. Additionally, our gallery highlights the work of local and regional artists, further expanding the artistic experiences we offer.

The Reif Center underwent a major renovation in 2016, which brought state-of-the-art facilities and now includes two versatile performance spaces: the 700-seat Wilcox Theater and the intimate, 200-seat Ives Studio Theater.

The Reif Arts Council is dedicated to providing a well-managed, dynamic facility where the community can experience, exhibit, and learn through a broad range of visual and performing arts. We continue to listen to our community, supporting local artists and collaborating with regional arts organizations to ensure a balanced and engaging arts experience for all.



James Mack became the Executive Director of the Reif Arts Council in May 2024, bringing over 20 years of non-profit leadership and arts management experience. James holds a Master's in Nonprofit Administration from the University of Notre Dame and degrees in Cultural Anthropology and Agricultural Genetics. He is also a Rotarian, freemason, husband, and father of two.



THE REIF

## Customer Service Winner



This month's Customer Service Award winner:  
Amanda Kostiuk from Travel Leaders

Congratulations, Amanda, 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. Also pictured GRACC Ambassador Debbie Tahtinen - Midland Title

If you would like to nominate someone for this honor, please email Kerry@grandmn.com

## Taking Care of Business

### Discover Local Services at "Taking Care of Business"

Join us at Taking Care of Business to connect with over 50 local businesses! This is your chance to explore a variety of services you may not have considered lately—all in one convenient location.

Don't miss this opportunity to discover, network, and support your community. See you there!

Come curious. Leave inspired.



A fun old fashion  
**Taking Care of Business**  
**December 4, 2024**  
**4:00pm - 7:00pm**  
**Timberlake Lodge**  
**Grand Rapids, MN**  
*Open to the Public @ No Cost*



- AEOA
- AT&T
- Bark & Beyond
- Buffalo Plaid Coffee
- Cenex - Northern Star Co-op
- Century 21 Land of Lakes
- Compass North
- Deerwood Bank
- Dondelinger
- Duluth Airport
- Ellie Mental Health
- Essentia Health
- Express Employment Pros
- Free Range Food Co-op
- Giants Ridge
- Grand Rapids Herald Review
- Grand Rapids Players
- Itasca Economic Development Co.
- IASC
- Itasca Life Options
- Itasca Youth for Christ
- Judy Garland & Children's Museum
- Lakes Gas
- Lakeview Behavioral
- Lucky 7 Bear Bait
- Magnetic North
- Members Co-op Credit Union
- Midland Title
- Mississippi Diamond Jewelers
- Moments Hospice
- Northwoods Acupuncture
- Oak Hill Assisted Living
- Park State Bank
- Paul Bunyan Communications
- Paymasters
- Payroll Vault
- Pinnacle Marketing Group
- Providence Financial Advisors
- Rapids Riders
- River Grand Senior Living
- Riverwood Healthcare
- ServPro
- Setri Barrel Saunas
- Rapid Garage Door & Awning Co.
- The Emeralds
- The Plum Catalyst
- The Title Team
- Thrivent Financial
- Timberlake Lodge Hotel & Restaurant
- Travel Leaders
- True North Salon & Spa
- US Bank
- White Pine Jewelers
- West Cohasset Chapel
- Widseth



We are all in this together!! Bring your Cousin Eddy & Aunt Bethany! Clark will have the place lit!



### Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce: Board Nomination Process for 2025

In accordance with Article IV, Section 2 of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce By-laws, the Board of Directors will determine its slate of nominees for new Board Members and Officers for 2025 during the November Board meeting. Following this meeting, the nominees will be formally communicated to the membership.

The final slate will be presented for ratification by the Chamber Membership during the Chamber Luncheon and Annual Meeting on December 9, 2025. Voting by the quorum of members present at this event will constitute a binding decision.

For any questions or additional information, please contact the Chamber Office.

Malissa Bahr, President  
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce



# 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.



## IT STARTED WITH \$5 AND A DREAM.

In 1936, a group of eight people from the Cloquet area envisioned a better way of getting the financial services that they and their community needed. Today, Members has grown to over 50,000 members with a focus of serving our communities and empowering new generations. As a not-for-profit credit union, we're not in business to make money for a handful of shareholders – we're in it to serve our members, for life. Our earnings are returned to our members in the form of lower loan rates, higher interest on deposits, and lower fees.

## PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

We provide our members with great rates on savings, investments and loans, no-surcharge ATM access, youth education and savings options, mortgage services, and personal investment and planning services. Members can access big-time products and hometown service at any of our twelve branch locations. They can also connect virtually with our live video banking team. Our video banking solution gives members the opportunity to apply for loans, open new accounts, discuss their mortgage application, sign forms, and more, all from a mobile device or desktop computer.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We're here to make our communities stronger, our employees happier and our world better. That's our mission and we live it every day. For over 85 years, we've been a dedicated supporter of our members and communities. From sponsorships to volunteering to investing, we dig deep. The Grand Rapids Chamber is a critical partner that shares our goal of building and supporting the community and our residents.



## JOIN US!

It's never been a better time to become a member. Stop by our Grand Rapids location to meet with our friendly team and branch manager, Jennifer Raushel. Our office is next door to the Grand Rapids Chamber at 18 NW 4th Street. Or, visit us online at membersccu.com.



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)

# Ribbon Cuttings

## Rapids Riders ATV Club



The Rapids Riders ATV Club is excited to join as new members! As a club, we're passionate about promoting and protecting access to public lands, making sure these spaces remain open and accessible for ATV enthusiasts like us. Trail rides are a big part of what we do. There's something special about hitting a new trail, discovering fresh scenery, and experiencing a place for the first time—especially when it's shared with friends. We take pride in being involved in regional land access issues, attending local meetings to support responsible riding, and ensuring that ATV enthusiasts have a voice. Supporting the next generation of riders is important to us, too. That's why we host Youth Safety Certification classes, teaching young riders about safety and stewardship. Additionally, as stewards of the UPM/Blandin ATV Trail, we contribute to trail maintenance, helping to preserve the riding opportunities we all love. Pictured from left to right: Jenna Tadych - The Emeralds, Debbie Tahtinen - Midland Title, Dan Ratke, Angela Ratke, Jerry McKnight (Club President), Steve Ferraro (Club Treasurer), and Connie Andrews (Club Secretary), Becky Gilbert - The Title Team, Laurie Clausen-Edward Jones.

## Dunkin' and Baskin-Robbins



Excitement was in the air as Dunkin' and Baskin-Robbins opened their doors! This grand opening marks a fantastic addition to the local food and beverage scene, bringing the beloved coffee, donuts, and ice cream brands together under one roof. Dairy-land Operations is a locally owned and operated Dunkin' and Baskin-Robbins franchise. Dunkin' is America's favorite all-day, everyday stop for coffee, espresso, breakfast sandwiches and donuts. With 50+ varieties of donuts and dozens of premium beverages, there is always something to satisfy your craving. Dunkin' is proud to serve Grand Rapids, MN for all breakfast and snacking needs. Baskin-Robbins is a colorful ice cream parlor, serving ice cream favorites and custom ice cream cakes. We've got flavors for everyone, for every day, and for every occasion. So, whether your kid's team finally won a game, you found your left shoe, or you just got out of bed this morning, there's always a yay-worthy treat ready for you. Pictured from left to right: Kerry Larsen - GRACC, Debbie Tahtinen - Midland Title, Danielle Witherall - Edward Jones, Katelyn Meyer, Ida Garcia, Amy Wilson, Brielle Martin, Trisha Holl, Michkayla Bohanon and of course Sprinkles, Becky Gilbert - The Title Team

# New Chamber Members



Adolfson & Peterson Construction  
408 West Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55802  
(218) 213-4067



Buffalo Plaid Coffee Company  
[matt@buffaloplaidcoffee.com](mailto:matt@buffaloplaidcoffee.com)



Jon Rohloff - State Farm Insurance Agent  
3923 1st Ave #3  
Hibbing, MN 55746  
(218) 263-6855



Malbay Estate  
31122 Malbay Road,  
Cohasset, MN 55721  
(218) 259-9874

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



Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce