



chamberXpress

DULUTH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY NEWS

Vol. 20 • Issue 11 November 2019

www.duluthchamber.com

'Tis the Season to Celebrate!

Mark your calendars for our annual Holiday After Hours party at gorgeous Greysolon on Tuesday, Dec. 3. This grand event features a fabulous venue, fantastic food and festive beverages. Join in and celebrate the most wonderful time of the year!

Bring heightened visibility to your organization with a table sponsorship at this very merry business gathering. The Holiday After Hours event features more than 300 business colleagues celebrating the season with plenty of networking and joyful conversation. Participating as a holiday party sponsor is a fun, low cost and effective way to make valuable contacts and take advantage of a great marketing opportunity to showcase your business. Bring your entire staff and join us at the best holiday party in town.

Table sponsor - \$350
Chamber member - \$5
Nonmember - \$10

Sponsor space is limited. Contact Kathleen Privette at (218) 740-3745 or kprivette@duluthchamber.com by November 8 to receive full sponsorship benefits.

Greysolon

Don't Miss our Annual Duluth Leadership Conference

On Thursday, Nov. 7, learn from local leaders who will provide attainable tips on how you can become an even better expert at what you do. Don't miss this opportunity to reinvent your workday, get inspired and strengthen your leadership skills! Full agenda details:



7:45 - 8:30 a.m.

**Registration, networking,
 sponsor booth visit and light breakfast**

MORNING KEYNOTE

8:30 - 10 a.m.

**Leading Change: A Judge's Journey -
 Shawn Floerke, District Court Judge**



BREAKOUT SESSION #1

10:15 - 11 a.m.

**Passion and Perseverance: A Real Look
 at What It Takes to be Successful -
 Jonathan Reznick, owner of the Rambler Food
 Truck and MidCoast Catering**

10:15 - 11 a.m.

**Boost Sales by Boosting Your Creativity -
 Emily Ekstrom, owner of Hucklebeary Gift Shop**

BREAKOUT SESSION #2

11:15 - noon

**Change is Good! Adjusting to Change in the
 Workplace - Karen Stromme, UMD Athletics**

11:15 - noon

**Community Involvement to Benefit Your Career
 - Matt Baumgartner, Grandma's Restaurant Co.
 Corporate Office**

Noon - 12:30 p.m. - Lunch

12:30 - 1 p.m.

Networking and sponsor booth visits

FLASH TALKS

1 - 1:15 p.m.

**Crucial Customer Service to Retain Your Clients -
 Carol Valentini, owner of Valentini's Vicino Lago**

1:20 - 1:35 p.m.

**What Makes Us Feel Good at Work? -
 Tony Sertich, Northland Foundation**

1:45 - 1:55 p.m.

**Digital Marketing -
 Megan Taggart, Aimclear Marketing Agency**

2 - 2:15 p.m.

**Mental and Physical Wellness in the Workplace -
 AJ Axtell, Western Lake Superior Sanitary District**

AFTERNOON KEYNOTE

2:25 - 3:25 p.m.

**Thriving Culture: Building a
 Productive Healthy Team -
 Cindy Clough, founder of
 Just For Kix Dance Studios**



Register at duluthchamber.com.

See sponsors on Calendar (page 4).

Giving Thanks...

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 AREA CHAMBER OF
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Congratulations to Our Chamber Award Winners!

Congratulations to these outstanding individuals, who received their awards during the Annual Dinner Celebration at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center on October 24.

Ambassador of the Year:



Judy Seliga-Punyko

Independent Senior Sales Director, May Kay Cosmetics

The Chamber Ambassadors are an enthusiastic and devoted group of volunteers frequently called upon to represent the Chamber and our members at ribbon cuttings, significant milestones, grand openings, anniversaries, groundbreaking ceremonies, networking events and other community celebrations. In this way, the Ambassadors seek to promote our city and serve area businesses by helping to promote and celebrate their success and growth. In fact, they're one of the Chamber's most visible volunteer groups. They have a strong desire to volunteer as well as a strong desire to help the Chamber "Move Business Forward." A dedicated

Ambassador for over 12 years, Judy Seliga-Punyko has an upbeat personality and is ready to spark a conversation with anyone she meets. And despite her very busy business schedule, she also makes time to attend nearly all Chamber and Fuse Duluth offerings, including almost every ribbon cutting event. Thank you for your commitment to our Chamber, Judy!

Volunteer of the Year:

Leslie Perrett

Career Counselor, City of Duluth Workforce Development

The Chamber's Military Affairs Committee (MAC) promotes and supports the positive economic impact that local branches of the military have on our community's economic health and welfare. The MAC does so by advocating through legislative and governmental channels as well as building and garnering community support. This group is educational and supports military installations and the jobs they bring to Northeastern Minnesota. Leslie Perrett has been a MAC member since 2010. She has graciously dedicated her time by supporting the 148th Fighter Wing, one of two Air National Guard wings tasked to provide Suppression of Enemy Air Defense (SEAD) support for our nation. She attends planning meetings, events and has traveled to Washington, D.C. to advocate for the 148th. She is also a Chamber Ambassador and volunteers her time and assistance for the Chamber's Annual Meeting & Dinner Celebration. Thank you, Leslie, for the time you invest in supporting our local men and women of the 148th.



Fuse Duluth Young Professional of the Year:



Kim Chick

Regional Director of Sales, ZMC Hotels

Fuse Duluth is an initiative focused on developing young leaders to strengthen our community. The program includes volunteer opportunities, educational offerings and networking events that produce strong leadership skills and crucial connections within the community for the young people who choose Duluth as their home. Kim has been a Fuse Leadership Council member since 2015. She has served as board chair-elect, chair and currently serves as past-chair. Her longevity with Fuse has not drained her passion for the program; in fact, quite the opposite! She continues to be the first to volunteer, rarely misses an event and always has a can-do attitude and infectious smile. Teamwork, drive and passion come naturally to this young superstar. Kim is also a member of the Leadership Duluth Steering Committee

and the Greater Downtown Council Board of Directors. She has been a vital part of developing, executing and growing Fuse. We are honored to work with her to make Duluth a great place for young professionals to call home.

On Our Radar

A Great Luncheon A Compelling Speaker

Let's Do Lunch, Duluth – Tuesday, Nov. 12



Erik Simonson

**"Lake Superior Zoo – Revitalizing a Duluth Treasure,"
presented by Erik Simonson, chief executive officer of the
Lake Superior Zoological Society**

Our Lake Superior Zoo is the only zoo in Northeastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin. As the 19th oldest zoo in the United States, it has a rich history of providing the perfect place to escape and connect with nature. Join us and get the latest details from the leader who is guiding the revitalization of this community treasure. If you're wild about the zoo, wild about animals, wild about conservation, or just wild at heart, join us for what promises to be an engaging and informative presentation. Sponsored by our good friends at Minnesota Power – An ALLETE Company.

**11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Greysolon
231 E. Superior St.
\$35 Chamber members/\$45 nonmembers**



Register at duluthchamber.com or call (218) 722 -5501. I look forward to seeing you at the Greysolon Ballroom.
Go where the in-crowd goes. Know what the in-crowd knows.

In support,

David Ross, Chamber President

In Case You Missed It

The Essentia Health Wellness Center Story and Tour

On October 17, Fuse Duluth hosted an exciting Ignite Your Fuse Lunch and tour of the all-new Essentia Health Wellness Center located in Hermantown. The Wellness Center is a fantastic example of how organizations can come together to answer the needs of their community. The beautiful facility boasts clean lines, open spaces and a welcoming feeling for ALL. We couldn't help but fall in love with the new YMCA childcare center that will house 118 spots! This is an exciting development to help address the current need for quality childcare for young families in our region.



November 1

Friday

Finally Fridays

7:30 to 9 a.m.

Location: WDIO WIRT TV,
10 Observation Road

Join us for a cup and conversation at this popular early morning networking event sponsored by WDIO TV LLC.



November 6

Wednesday

Professional
DEVELOPMENT
SERIES

Professional Development Series

Noon to 1 p.m.

Location: Chamber conference room,
5 W. First St., Ste. 101

Topic: "Project Management," presented by Brandon Olson, associate professor of CIS and project management and director of the master of science in applied data analytics at The College of St. Scholastica. Sponsored by The College of St. Scholastica.



November 12

Tuesday

Let's Do Lunch, Duluth

11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Greysolon by Black Woods,
231 E. Superior St.

Topic: "Revitalizing a Duluth Treasure," presented by Erik Simonson, chief executive officer of the Lake Superior Zoological Society

Sponsored by Minnesota Power, an ALLETE Company.



November 19

Tuesday

Ambassador Luncheon

Noon to 1 p.m.

Location: Canal Park Lodge,
250 Canal Park Drive

All Chamber Ambassadors and new Chamber members are invited to join us for our monthly Ambassador Luncheon to hear a guest speaker.

November 19

Tuesday

After Hours

4:30 to 6 p.m.

Location: The Boat Club Restaurant & Bar,
600 E. Superior St.

Join us for this popular networking event sponsored by The Boat Club Restaurant & Bar.



November 27

Wednesday

Chamber Skills Series

Noon to 1 p.m.

Location: Chamber conference room,
5 W. First St., Ste. 101

Topic: "Social Media as Customer Service," presented by Elizabeth Hanson, Flint Group. Sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Superior.



November 7

Thursday

Duluth Leadership Conference

7:45 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.

Location: Greysolon by Black Woods,
231 E. Superior St.

Reaching the summit of professional success comes from hard work, dedication and continuing your education. Join us at the region's only full-day conference designed to motivate, inspire and benefit you and your organization. It's time to reinvent your workday, get inspired and strengthen your leadership skills.

UNITEDHEALTH GROUP®



7:45 - 8:30 a.m.

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sponsor booth visit and light breakfast

MORNING KEYNOTE

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Shawn Floerke, District Court Judge



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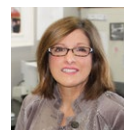
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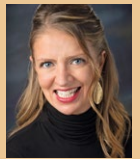


Success!

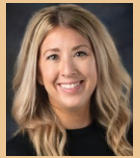
Animal Allies Humane Society celebrates the opening of its new Activity and Humane Education Space.



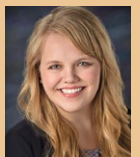
CHAMBER STAFF



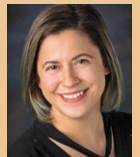
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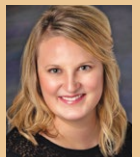
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New Hope FOR Families celebrates its grand opening at 1028 E. Eighth St.

Paul Davis Restoration of the Northland, located at 501 Tower Ave. in Superior, celebrates joining the Duluth Chamber.



Reimagined by T. Underwood, a premier home staging and interior design firm, celebrates its grand opening at 138 W. First St.



Udac Inc. celebrates the grand opening of its new location at 4724 Mike Colalillo Drive.



November 6

Brandon Olson, associate professor of CIS and project management and director of the master of science in applied data analytics at The College of St. Scholastica, presents "Project Management" (noon to 1 p.m., Chamber conference room, 5 W. First St., Ste. 101). Sponsored by The College of St. Scholastica.

Professional DEVELOPMENT SERIES



November 27

Chamber Skills Series

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CHAMBER SKILLS SERIES



Fuse Leadership Council Holds Annual Strategic Planning Session

Last month the Fuse Leadership Council, comprised of 16 local young professionals, met for our annual half-day strategic planning session. We gathered for an afternoon of reflection, creation and camaraderie. This session, focused on the 2020 Fuse offerings, allows us to create quality, timely programming that benefits Twin Ports young professionals and their employers.

This talented council has played a crucial part in producing Fuse Duluth's most successful program year in its 14-year history. Following our annual meeting, I am confident that Fuse Duluth will continue to grow and provide our region with new, active, hands-on experiences that will place area professionals at an advantage throughout their careers – and provide our community with the leaders of the future.



FUSE DULUTH

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



Foreground: Colleen Smith, Vista Fleet. Second row (from left): Mandi Robarge, Minnesota Power; Mollie Nelson, University of Minnesota Duluth; Martha Bremer, Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce; Jane Pederson, Glensheen Mansion; Meghan Mahoney, Gardner Builders. Third row: Tom DesMarais, Northland Consulting Engineers; Rob Hedberg, Visit Duluth; Julie Visger, Flint Group; Jake Erickson, Northwestern Mutual; Margie Nelson, Life House Inc.; Sarah Kurtovich, St. Luke's; Amanda Van Kilsdonk, Essentia Health. Back row: Grant Hauschild, Essentia Health; Daniel Berg, National Bank of Commerce. Not pictured: Gage Hartman, Real Living Messina & Associates; Kim Chick, ZMC Hotels Inc.

Martha Bremer
Director of Fuse
and Leadership Duluth
(218) 740-3754



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VISITORS & those considering
 to move to our area.

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Gain prime exposure and increase your business' community profile through advertising on the Chamber website.

With over 6,000 monthly page views, the Chamber serves as a primary information and communication hub.

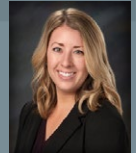
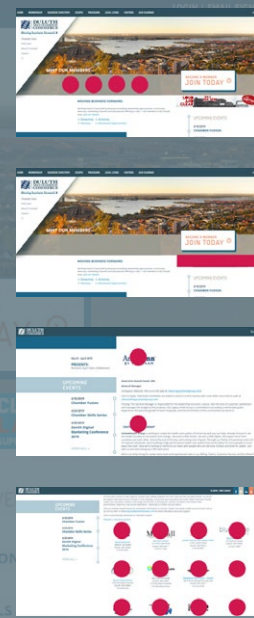
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Katie Brooks
 Director of
 Marketing &
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WelcomeNewMembers

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chamberXpress

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SAVE THE DATE

CELEBRATION EVENTS

AUGUST 3, 2020

Mayoral Proclamation &
Press Conference

AUGUST 5, 2020

150th Anniversary Cocktail Party

AUGUST 7, 2020

Duluth Chamber Community
Picnic

NOVEMBER 5, 2020

150th Annual Meeting &
Dinner Gala

RESTAURANT SUPPLIES
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