

chamberXpress

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chamberXpress

DULUTH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY NEWS

Vol. 22 • Issue 4 April 2021

www.duluthchamber.com

Hear the Grandma's Restaurant Story

Register Now for Our Virtual Ignite Your Fuse Luncheon Event



Please join us virtually for the second Ignite Your Fuse luncheon of 2021, featuring Grandma's Restaurant Co. President Brian Daugherty.

Brian will take a deep dive into the Grandma's Restaurant history and elaborate on the infamous Grandma Rosa Brochi's story. He plans to cover the past and also update us on the future by informing attendees about exciting new developments happening with the former Sports Garden space.

Attendees can safely tune into his presentation following a delicious box lunch pickup that they can enjoy from the comfort of their own home or office. The event will include a chance to network with other local young professionals with a question-led breakout session following the presentation.

Don't miss this chance to connect with our community, support a wonderful local business and keep apprised and educated about the new developments happening in Duluth. We hope to see you there!

Thursday, May 20
Noon to 1 p.m.
\$20/Chamber member
\$30/nonmember
Register at fuseduluth.com

One-Year Update: Serving Our Members During the Coronavirus Challenge

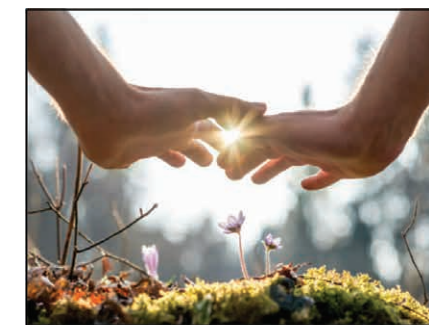
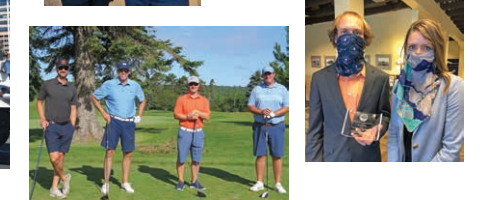
We have all faced extraordinary challenges in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. One year ago, the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce transformed our services to completely digital. You, too, have adapted in major ways.

In the weeks and months moving forward, much remains uncertain. The virtual offerings have been embraced by our members and well attended. Guided by the recommendations of the CDC, Gov. Tim Walz and our valued members, we hope to return to in-person events when it is safe and responsible to do so. The Chamber team remains committed to serving as your connecting point for information, resources and business development.

In the last year:

- 960 member businesses supported
- 87 virtual events hosted
- 3,372 virtual guests welcomed
- 13 safe ribbon cuttings held
- 60 new members embraced
- 44 coronavirus resource emails distributed

Thank you sincerely for your continued support of this community and our Chamber. Brighter days are on the horizon. Our Chamber remains available to you as a resource during the pandemic – and a strong advocate for you as recovery nears.



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Duluth, MN

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Virtual Let's Do Lunch, Duluth – Tuesday, April 13

“Creating a Community for All,” presented by President and CEO Sara Cole of the Duluth Area Family YMCA



Sara Cole

Our local YMCAs are better places because of Sara Cole. Duluth is a better community because of Sara Cole. Three-and-one-half years ago, the YMCA board undertook an extensive national search to ensure a remarkable leader was chosen to fortify the Duluth Area Family YMCA. They succeeded when they hired this innovative leader, who possesses a stellar record of achievement. She is a grant-writing, fund-raising virtuoso. Join us and learn about the exciting changes, investment and development occurring at the YMCA and at the Essentia Wellness Center. Sponsored by our good friends at Wheeler Associates.

Zoom webinar – noon to 1 p.m.
Curbside boxed lunch pickup:
Greysolon, 231 E. Superior St. (10:30 to 11:30 a.m.)
Chamber members \$35/nonmembers \$45
Register at duluthchamber.com



Virtual Let's Connect at Clyde – Tuesday, May 11

“From a Pile of Rocks to the Zenith City: The History of Our Community,” presented by Publisher Tony Dierckins of the Zenith City Press



Tony Dierckins

Duluth's resident historian and master storyteller, Tony Dierckins, recently completed his latest book – “Duluth: An Urban Biography.” It received rave reviews, including from Barton Sutter, Duluth's 2006 Poet Laureate, who stated, “The book we've been missing for years – a reliable, brisk narrative history of Minnesota's most distinctive city.” Join us and benefit from Tony's recap of the book, which covers the entire history of Duluth, from the Precambrian lava flows of 2.6 billion years ago that formed the bed of Lake Superior through the November 2019 mayoral election. Sponsored by our good friends at National Bank of Commerce.

Zoom webinar - noon to 1 p.m.
Curbside boxed lunch pickup
(Event Center entrance):
Clyde Iron Works Restaurant, Catering & Event Center,
2920 W. Michigan St. (10:30 to 11:30 a.m.)
Chamber members/\$30 – nonmembers/\$40



A delicious boxed lunch for Zoom webinar participants through curbside pickup service.

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

In support,
David
David Ross, Chamber President



Leaders Made Here

Application Period Opens April 16 for Leadership Duluth's 2021-2022 Program Year

By educating participants about Duluth's cultural and business history, along with current issues facing the region, Leadership Duluth aims to unite, equip and empower emerging leaders to foster change within their workplace and community. Through a structured series of educational and hands-on opportunities, participants will come to understand the inner workings of these components and how they contribute to the Duluth area's overall health.

Leadership Duluth participants commit to one full day of leadership training per month throughout the program, plus occasional bonus days and events. The program year runs from August 2021-June 2022. Topics include: Leadership Philosophies, Social Challenges, Health Care, Courts and Law, Economic Opportunity, Local Advocacy, Sustainability, Infrastructure and Tourism.

In addition, one service project will be organized, implemented and completed by assigned groups to benefit an area nonprofit organization. Participants will receive a cumulative review of the elements of a healthy community and be awarded the opportunity to reflect upon the contributions they make throughout the program. Finally, in response to Leadership Duluth's call to action, participants will be asked to share their service project progress, plus their personal and business intentions for the future.

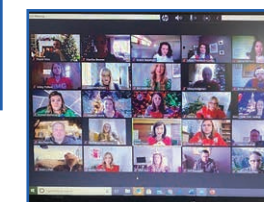
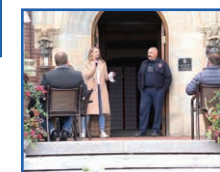
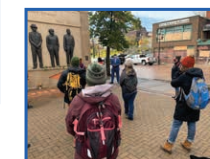
Candidates for Leadership Duluth:

- Demonstrate commitment to be an active participant in a year-long program.
- Are willing to meet/network with up to 50 classmates.
- Are willing to be challenged beyond their comfort zones.
- Have reputations as creative, responsible and effective people.
- Have an interest in surpassing conventional thinking to seek new growth opportunities and fundamental change.



Participants in Leadership Duluth:

- Engage with area leaders.
- Build access to area organizations and institutions.
- Gain industry and community awareness.
- Build lasting relationships with class members, area leaders and Leadership Duluth underwriters.



Class Components of Leadership Duluth:

- Industry, organization and community exposure.
- Hands-on involvement.
- Professional networking.



Ready to apply? Invest in your community, invest in your business, invest in yourself! For more information and to submit your application, visit leadershipduluth.com between April 16 and June 28. Completed applications, along with one letter of recommendation and application fee of \$30, are due no later than Wednesday, June 28. Tuition: \$1,500/Chamber members - \$1,900/nonmembers.

A TEE-RIFIC Event

Be a Driving Force on the Course at the Chamber Golf Classic



The 52nd Annual Chamber Golf Classic – presented by Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC and Otis-Magie Insurance Agency, A Marsh & McLennan Agency Company – is teed up for Monday, July 26, at Ridgeview Country Club.

Outdrive your competition at the largest business-to-business golf event in the Northland by becoming a sponsor at this “un-fore-gettable” event. With sponsorships for every budget, this is your opportunity to be a driving force on the course with great opportunities that raise your organization's profile in front of 300 attendees.

Swing into action and be a part of the (pun) fun! Golfer registration opens in June. For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Kathleen Privette at kprivette@duluthchamber.com.



Calendar

Please register for Chamber events at www.duluthchamber.com or by calling 722-5501.

April 2
Friday

Finally Fridays (virtual)
8 to 8:45 a.m.
Zoom



Join us for networking at Finally Fridays. Our Finally Fridays morning social series provides guests the opportunity to start their day with professional accompaniment while learning about local businesses, products and services.

April 7
Wednesday

Professional Development Series (virtual)
Noon to 1 p.m.



Topic: "Cultivating Resilience During Times of Stress," presented by Stacy Johnston of Audacity HR.

Zoom
Sponsored by The College of St. Scholastica Stender School of Business and Technology.



April 13
Tuesday

Let's Do Lunch, Duluth (virtua)
Noon to 1 p.m.



Curbside lunch pickup: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. - Greysolon by Black Woods, 231 E. Superior St.

Topic: "Creating a Community for All," presented by President and CEO Sara Cole, Duluth Area Family YMCA

Zoom
A Zoom meeting invitation will be emailed to you upon registration, and you'll also receive an email reminder the morning of the event. You will not be on video or audio for this presentation, but a chat option will be open for questions and comments.

A catered, boxed lunch is available for curbside pickup at the Greysolon by Black Woods between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. the morning of the event. If you have dietary restrictions or questions, please email kprivette@duluthchamber.com by April 9. Attendees are asked to park on Superior Street outside the double doors to Greysolon, and a Black Woods staff member will approach your vehicle to confirm your name and deliver your meal. A printed program from the Chamber will be provided with your lunch. RSVP is required to pick up a meal.

Sponsored by Wheeler & Associates.



April 14
Wednesday

Leadership Duluth (virtual)
Environment and Sustainability Day*
9 a.m to 4 p.m.



Zoom
*This program is open to current Leadership Duluth class members only.



April 20
Tuesday

After Hours (virtual)
3:30 to 4:15 p.m.



Zoom
Join us for networking at After Hours. After Hours is our popular afternoon monthly networking series. Area businesses and their employees enjoy establishing quality connections with professionals.

April 28
Wednesday

Chamber Skills Series (virtual)
Noon to 1 p.m.



Topic: "Writing a Compelling Press Release: How to Get Your Story Covered," presented by Nicole Karnowski of Metamorphosis CCT LLC.

Zoom
Sponsored by Lake Superior College.



Success!



The Duluth Seaway Port Authority celebrated its new location at 802 Garfield Ave.

In Case You Missed It

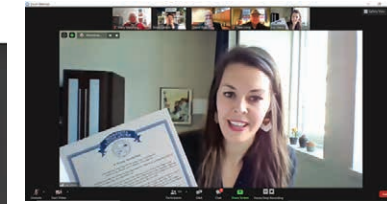


On March 3 and 4, the region's biggest citizen advocacy event – the 24th Annual Duluth & St. Louis County at the Capitol Days – took place, albeit differently than in past years. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chamber, City of Duluth, St. Louis County and many other stakeholders rose to the challenge to ensure our community's voices were still heard within this legislative session.

A lobby team meeting took place with the local delegation, and the Grand Reception connected citizens and business leaders through a new technology platform called Gatherly. In addition, at the Legislative Gathering, participants heard directly from Gov. Tim Walz and local decision makers about how Duluth and St. Louis County will fare within this session.

Chamber President and CEO David Ross was surprised by Rep. Liz Olzon as she presented a proclamation on behalf of the House of Representatives for his dedication and service to the Chamber and business community for the past 24 year.

Thank you to all sponsors and participants for their support as we navigated the challenges of this year!



See You at "The Big Easy"

Join Us for Southern Cuisine and Networking at Mardi Gras at the Mansion

Fuse Duluth is bringing New Orleans flair to Glensheen at our newest networking offering – Mardi Gras at the Mansion!

On July 22, grab your friends and escape to "The Big Easy" for music, mouthwatering Southern cuisine and masquerade shenanigans not typically found in Northern Minnesota. We can't wait to guess who is under the mask at this unique, incognito networking soiree.

SAVE THE DATE:

Thursday, July 22
5 to 7 p.m.
Glensheen Mansion,
3300 London Road
\$20/Chamber member - \$30/nonmember
Register at fuseduluth.com



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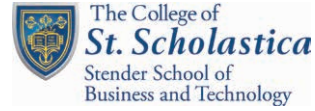
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April 7

VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

Stacy Johnston of Audacity HR presents "Cultivating Resilience During Times of Stress" (noon to 1 p.m. on Zoom). **Sponsored by The College of St. Scholastica Stender School of Business and Technology.**

**Professional
DEVELOPMENT
SERIES**



April 28

VIRTUAL CHAMBER SKILLS SERIES

Nicole Karnowski of Metamorphosis CCT LLC presents "Writing a Compelling Press Release: How to Get Your Story Covered" (noon to 1 p.m. on Zoom). **Sponsored by Lake Superior College.**

**CHAMBER
SKILLS
SERIES**



FUSE DULUTH

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Fuse Leadership Council Chair Colleen Smith (who is the Vista Fleet's general manager) was featured in a Duluth News Tribune article about her volunteer work as a sexual assault advocate with PAVSA (Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault). She began her work with PAVSA when she selected the organization for her service project while participating in the 2018 Leadership Duluth program.

"Helping folks who are in crisis can be pretty traumatic, and there's secondary trauma. Without volunteers like Smith, PAVSA employees would burn out," said Erin Naughton, PAVSA volunteer coordinator, in the article.

We are fortunate to have Colleen's community leadership on the council and this incredible advocacy group here in the Northland!



Colleen Smith



Martha Bremer
Director of Fuse and Leadership Duluth
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mbremer@duluthchamber.com



Let's Celebrate: Schedule Your Ribbon Cutting

With state guidelines now allowing social gatherings, our Chamber is looking forward to the return of ribbon cutting celebrations

Now is the time to mark your milestone – new business opening, new location, renovation, anniversaries or other major accomplishments. The Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce offers free ribbon cuttings for members on location. This is a great opportunity to create a media event with photos of you and "the big scissors" to celebrate your big day.

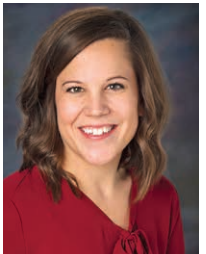
Minnesota now allows social gatherings of up to 15 people indoors and 50 outdoors. Your event will be planned to fit within these guidelines. In the event these guidelines change before your scheduled celebration, you and our Chamber Ambassadors will be notified. Masks will be required.

How to plan a ribbon cutting:

- Email Kathleen Privette (kprivette@duluthchamber.com) at least two weeks before your planned date to schedule a time.
- Chamber Ambassadors are invited to attend.
- Chamber staff will arrive at your location 10 minutes before the scheduled ribbon cutting.
- You will have an opportunity to address the audience about your celebration.
- Refreshments or snacks provided by you are optional (individually packaged items only).
- Ribbon cutting photo will be posted on social media and printed in the Chamber Xpress newsletter.
- Media releases requesting attendance must be written and provided by you. Our Chamber offers press release distribution as a free member benefit. Send your completed release to inquiry@duluthchamber.com.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Chris Johnson
Director of Marketing and Communications
(218) 740-3755
cjohnson@duluthchamber.com



Welcome New Members

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