



chamber Xpress

DULUTH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY NEWS

Vol. 24 • Issue 8 August 2023

www.duluthchamber.com

Ignite Your Fuse at the Lake Superior Zoo

Duluth professionals love experience-based learning; that is why the Ignite Your Fuse series is anything but a typical sit-down luncheon.



Join Fuse Duluth at the Lake Superior Zoo on August 17 to hear from Executive Director Haley Hedstrom about the exciting happenings at the zoo – including the new red panda exhibit! Red pandas are an endangered species and it's estimated the population has declined by more than 40 percent in the last 12 years. Facing threats such as habitat loss and poaching, the number of red pandas will continue to drop. With this new exhibit, the Lake Superior Zoo team aims to help bring awareness to the dangers these animals face in the wild and participate in the protection of the future for red pandas.



Zoozee

Come tour this beloved community staple while enjoying a delicious lunch on the go!

Ignite Your Fuse Experiential Luncheon
Thursday, August 17, Noon to 1 p.m.
Lake Superior Zoo
7210 Fremont St.
\$20 Chamber Members and Students

Register online at www.duluthchamber.com.

Chamber Board Member Nominations Announced

Our chamber is fortunate to be led by an influential and visionary group of business leaders. The board of directors will be fortified with six new members, effective October 1. These new members will embrace the work of the existing board. The Chamber's nominating committee recently ensured the board will remain vibrant by selecting the following leaders to serve on the board:

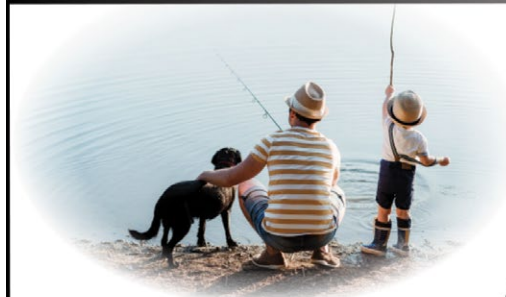
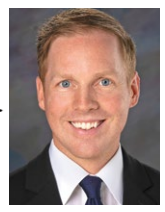
- **Morgan Fritzinger**, Minnesota Tribal Contractors Council
- **Jeff Holmes**, maurices
- **John Magas**, Duluth Public Schools – ISD 709
- **Dylan Merriman**, Dylan Merriman Agency LLC, American Family Insurance
- **Kate Van Daele**, Cenovus Energy
- **Andy Wheeler**, Wheeler Associates

Chamber members can petition for additional nominations by securing the nominee's approval and submitting the petition, listing 25 members in good standing, and their signatures. The petition must be delivered to the chamber office by Monday, August 14, before noon. The chamber address is 5 West First Street, Suite 101, Duluth, MN 55802. The nominees will be presented for approval by the board at the board meeting scheduled for August 29.

Please join me in congratulating the candidates for their willingness to serve on the chamber board of directors.

Matt Baumgartner

Matt Baumgartner
President



What matters most...

is that you get to enjoy this moment - feeling completely at ease - because your independent insurance agent and the company that stands behind them has you covered.

YOUNG & ASSOCIATES
INSURANCE



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Moving business forward. ▶

Let's Do Lunch, Duluth – Tuesday, August 8

How Minnesota DEED is working to grow Minnesota's strong, vibrant and diverse economy," presented by Matt Varilek, MN DEED

As the newly appointed Minnesota DEED Commissioner, Matt Varilek will present for the first time in Duluth, to the capacity crowd at Let's Do Lunch, Duluth on August 8. Join us for this informative luncheon to learn how Minnesota DEED and Commissioner Varilek are working to grow Minnesota's strong, vibrant and diverse economy, which supports our workers and businesses and addresses the workforce shortage. Thank you to our good friends at APEX for sponsoring this gathering.



Matt Varilek

**Join us at the beautiful Greysolon Ballroom by Black Woods
231 E. Superior St.
11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Chamber members \$30
Nonmembers \$40**

**We encourage you to arrive early and/or walk or carpool due to recent parking issues.*



Leaders Celebrate RAISE Grant

Leaders from the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce were honored to join United States Senator Amy Klobuchar, Duluth Mayor Emily Larson, City Councilor Terese Tomanek and several City of Duluth officials, leadership from Downtown Duluth and other key community partners to celebrate the announcement of an \$8.2 million RAISE Grant, from the U.S. Department of Transportation, to help further improve accessibility and safety along the Duluth Lakewalk, as well as enhanced connectivity to Duluth's downtown business community. The Senator credited local leadership and cooperation among local government, the Duluth Area Chamber, local labor leadership and the local business community for helping secure the funding and keeping Duluth in the national spotlight.



Mark Your Calendar: Fuse Fest 2023

Wednesday, September 20, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Clyde Malting Building

FUSE DULUTH

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

The local food and drink market of your dreams returns at our most exciting networking offering of the year! Duluth offers an abundance of tasty masterpieces from local restaurants as well as award-winning brews created in our own backyard. We are fortunate to have so many unique options – but have you had time to try them all?

Inspired by the great food halls of Europe, Fuse Fest 2023 is a foodies' paradise, offering attendees a true taste of the local culinary scene. Feast on scrumptious creations from local vendors and taste the latest beverages from our top-notch breweries. Savor it all while mingling with established professionals and rising stars celebrating the leadership training of young Northland professionals offered by Fuse Duluth.

All proceeds support the Fuse program. Your ticket allows you access to unlimited food and beverages throughout the night.

**\$25 Chamber Members
and Students**



SAVE THE DATE

153rd Annual Meeting & Dinner Celebration

Thursday, November 2

5 to 8 p.m.

Duluth Entertainment Convention Center

It's time to celebrate with us! For 153 years the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce has dedicated its time in supporting, developing and growing our business community. Join us and 1,300 community leaders at the premier business gathering of the year, the 153rd Annual Meeting & Dinner Celebration. This year's celebration will take place on Thursday, November 2, at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center.

This year's keynote address will feature Chief Master Sergeant Lisa K. Erikson, Minnesota Air National Guard. We are incredibly excited to showcase and support our military during the event.



Lisa K. Erikson

Highlight your organization within our business community with a sponsorship at this premier event.

Sponsorship levels include premier, platinum, gold and bronze.

For sponsorship information, please contact Kathleen Privette at 218-740-3745 or kprivette@duluthchamber.com. You may also register for a seat at this high-profile event by visiting duluthchamber.com.

We hope you will join in the celebration!



DULUTH
AREA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

Moving business forward. ▶


DULUTH
AREA CHAMBER
Foundation

Calendar

Please register for chamber events at www.duluthchamber.com or by calling 218-722-5501.

August 1 Tuesday

Forum: Child Care
9 to 10 a.m.

A&L Properties Leif Erickson Room
26 E. Superior St., Ste. 155

Representative Liz Olson - A dedicated public servant, Rep. Olson brings her legislative experience and passion for family issues to our discussion.

City Councilor Arik Forsman - With his finger on the pulse of our city, Councilor Forsman offers invaluable insights into the local impacts of the child care crisis.

Zane Bail, COO of the Northland Foundation - As a leader in a foundation committed to the well-being of our community, Bail provides a unique perspective on the broader implications of the crisis.



August 2 Wednesday

Professional Development Workshop

Implicit Bias in the Workplace and Beyond

Presented by Jebeh Edmunds, Jebeh Cultural Consulting

11 a.m. to Noon

Live webinar + Q&A

Sponsored by The College of
St. Scholastica Stender School
of Leadership Business and
Professional Studies

Chamber educational series:
Professional Development
workshop



August 4 Friday

Finally FURidays Networking Event

7:30 to 9 a.m.

Animal Allies Humane Society

4006 Airport Road

Sponsored by Animal Allies



August 8 Tuesday

Let's Do Lunch, Duluth

Featuring Commissioner Mark Varilek, Minnesota DEED

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

Greysolon by Black Woods

231 E. Superior St.

Sponsored by APEX



August 16 Wednesday

Small Business Development Workshop

"Designing New and Innovative Products"

Presented by Ray Mattison, Design Eye Q

11 a.m. to Noon

Live webinar + Q&A

Sponsored by Lake Superior College

Chamber educational series:
Small Business Development
workshop



August 17 Thursday

Ignite Your Fuse Experiential Luncheon

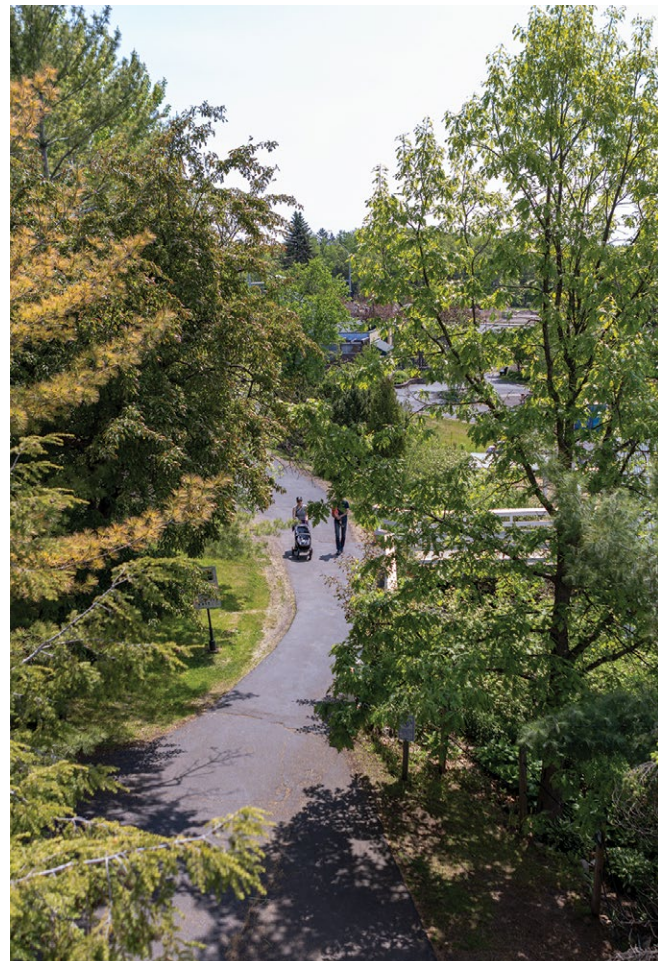
Exciting Updates at the Lake Superior Zoo

Presented by Haley Hedstrom, Executive Director

Noon to 1 p.m.

Lake Superior Zoo

7210 Fremont St.



Success!

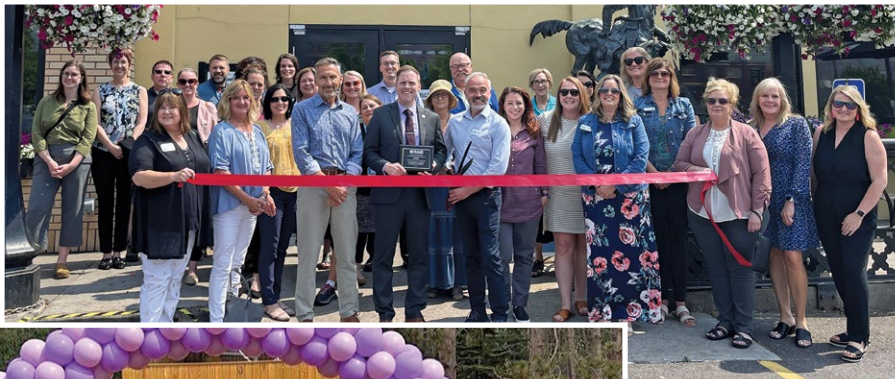
CHAMBER STAFF

Duluth Creative Co, celebrated their grand opening, located at 317 W. Superior St.



Story North Productions celebrated their two-year anniversary.

Visit Duluth celebrated the grand opening of new Visitors Center in Grandma's Saloon & Grill in Canal Park.



YMCA Camp Miller celebrated their 125th anniversary.

Isaacson & Associates-American Family Insurance celebrated their grand opening at 40 W. Central Entrance.



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Jebbeh Edmunds
Director of Education
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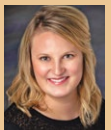
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Program Director of Fuse Duluth
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kprivette@duluthchamber.com



Lori Steinbach
Director of Office Administration
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lsteinbach@duluthchamber.com

Educational Opportunities

The Duluth Area Chamber hosts educational opportunities that provide you and your team tangible methods to enhance your talents. We hope to see you at an upcoming offering:

The Professional Development Workshops are designed to enrich leadership skills in the workplace and career.

August 2 – Implicit Bias in the Workplace and Beyond

Chamber educational series:
Professional Development
workshop



The Small Business Development Workshops are designed to enhance hard skills used by entrepreneurs and their staff.

August 16 – Designing New & Innovative Products

September 13 – Quickbooks Basics

Chamber educational series:
Small Business Development
workshop



Each webinar is free for chamber members and their employees. Register to attend and find recorded offerings at www.duluthchamber.com. Recordings of these webinars can be found on the Duluth Chamber YouTube channel.

FUSE DULUTH

Congratulations to the Winning Team of the 2023 GREAT Duluth Race!



On Thursday, June 29, Fuse Duluth hosted the GREAT Duluth Race, an exciting community scavenger hunt intended to bring colleagues together and celebrate the spirit of teambuilding. The event brought in 26 teams, 17 sponsors, 60 missions, four special awards and one grand prize winner – Congratulations Duluth Workforce Development's The Incredibles on their landslide win! The triumphant team took home a stunning Aerial Lift Bridge trophy crafted by Pop & Dot Design and Fabrication, which will travel yearly with each new winner of the race.



1st Place GRAND PRIZE
Duluth Workforce Development - The Incredibles



2nd Place
Duluth YMCA Core Connections



Small Business Champions
Holden Duluth Agency

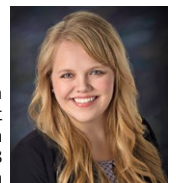


Team Spirit
Flint Group Flint Tropics

Thank you to our presenting sponsor Cirrus Aircraft and all who made this event possible!



FUSE DULUTH
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



Aubrey Hagen
Director of Membership Development
Program Director of Fuse Duluth
218-740-3758
ahagen@duluthchamber.com

The Holiday Season is Approaching: Support Local Holiday Guide

Did you know buying local returns more than three times as much money per dollar to our local economy? You can have an impact on our neighbors and community members this holiday shopping season.

The chamber is excited to announce the distribution of its 2023 Holiday Guide, coming to inboxes AND mailboxes this November.

PLACE YOUR ORGANIZATION, EVENTS AND WINTER SPECIALS IN THE UPCOMING HOLIDAY GUIDE

The chamber's Seasonal Guide is an exclusive, cost-effective way to highlight your organization's seasonal specials, discounts and gift ideas in front of chamber member businesses and their staff. Your member-to-member promotion will be distributed directly into 3,500 inboxes and featured on www.duluthchamber.com.

Distribution of the 2023 Holiday Guide is scheduled for early November. Prices listed are all inclusive, covering both print and postage.

- \$535 Single-Sided Flyer
- \$615 Double-Sided Flyer
- \$435 Nonprofit Single-Sided Flyer

Contact the chamber to reserve your space in the Holiday Guide:
inquiry@duluthchamber.com.

WelcomeNewMembers

Allison Hanig-Landrus Agency, Inc. American Family Insurance

Allison Hanig-Landrus
1131 E. 4th St., Ste. A
Duluth, MN 55805
218-491-6304
<http://allisonhaniglandrusagency.com>
Advocate and educator for all your insurance needs – specializing in auto, home, life, business, snowmobile, ATV/UTA, watercraft, motorcycle and umbrella.

Consolidated Communications

Jamie Nelson
4330 W. 1st St.
Duluth, MN 55807
218-740-6106
www.consolidated.com

Fairway Independent Mortgage

Noah Twomey
4750 Biltmore Lane
Madison, WI 53718
866-912-4800
www.fairwayindependentmc.com
Mortgage lender providing home loans to qualified borrowers, offering a wide range of residential loan programs.

MC Pressure Washing LLP

Alec Cokley
Duluth, MN 55803
218-461-0060
<http://mcpressurewashing.com>
Pressure washing and window cleaning company offering exterior cleaning services.

Men as Peacemakers

Sarah Curtiss
123 W. Superior St.
Duluth, MN 55802
218-727-1939
www.menaspeacemakers.org
To engage individuals and communities in innovative strategies that promote equality, repair harm and prevent violence against women and children.

Minnesota Masonic Children's Clinic for Communication Disorders

Niki Lampi
218-720-3911
24 W. 2nd St.
Duluth, MN 55802
www.masonicchildrensclinic.org
Our mission is to provide accessible and personalized, state-of-the-art services to children who are in need of improving communication abilities, and support their caregivers, in order to increase each child's learning potential, social engagement and quality of life.

Old Saw Media

Thomas Deschenes
728 E. Superior St.
Duluth, MN 55802
763-807-0021
www.oldsawmedia.com
Our goal is to help you connect with your target audience and make an impact with your message. Whether you're promoting a product aimed at enhancing happiness or a service focused on sustainability, we're here to support you in your marketing journey.

R&R Aesthetic

Joel Hare
4891 Miller Trunk Highway, Ste. 104
Hermantown, MN 55811
218-216-4587
<http://rraesthetic.com>
Medical aesthetic services, located near Hermantown and Duluth.

Road Reflections

William Tecku
P.O. Box 63
Gordon, WI 54838
602-315-9597
www.roadreflections.com
Road Reflections creates spoken arts radio broadcasts as well as supplemental instructional materials for secondary level English teachers.

The Wellness Bar

Melissa Burgess
4891 Miller Trunk Highway, Ste. 104
Hermantown, MN 55811
715-869-5379
www.thewellnessbar.org
Patient-centered functional medicine and hormone replacement clinic that focuses on optimizing your health using a more holistic perspective.

Tom Meador

Volunteer and
Retired Health Care Executive
320-219-3703

chamberXpress

The Chamber Xpress newsletter is published monthly by the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce. Members of the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce receive the Chamber Xpress at an annual subscription rate of \$12, which is included in their membership dues.

Periodicals mail postage paid at:
Duluth, MN
Publisher, Matt Baumgartner
5 W. 1st St.,
Duluth, MN 55802
Phone: 218-722-5501
Fax: 218-722-3223
Email: inquiry@duluthchamber.com
Website: www.duluthchamber.com

The printing of the Chamber Xpress is done at: Arrowhead Printing, Duluth, MN.

POSTMASTER:
Please return form 3579 to the Chamber Xpress,
Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce, 5 W. 1st St.,
Duluth, MN 55802 • Phone 218-722-5501

Publication # 526-390

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

The 54th Annual Chamber Golf Classic presented by Aluminum Cabinet Company teed off at Ridgeview Country Club on July 17. More than 215 golfers, 75 sponsor organizations and many volunteers enjoyed golf, networking and fun.

Thank you to our marquee sponsor, Aluminum Cabinet Company and the many committed sponsors, volunteers and Ridgeview Country Club team for all your contributions to the event. In addition, thanks to those who supported the Duluth Area Chamber Foundation and purchased raffle tickets. The event was a huge success!

1st Place – Dan Berg, Chad Curran, Bill Watson, Scott Sandelin, Cory Fairchild (score 54)

2nd Place – Eric Anderson, Ben Altonen, Kevin Chick, Ted Rees (score 55)

3rd Place – Charlie Forsyth, Heath Birkholm, Doug Sundin, Tyler Muschewske, Mike Hollway (score 55)

Random Draw Winners – Kelly O'Toole, Andrea Altmann, Mary Cornwell, Kevin Cornwell, Al Bastien

Proximity Winners:

#2 Long Drive in Fairway (Men) – Tyler Muschewske

#3 Closest to Pin – Eric Anderson

#5 Closest to Pin – Chris Benson

#7 Longest Drive In Fairway (Women) – Adrienne Grover

#9 Longest Putt on Green – John Kontry

#12 Closest to Pin – Adam Bachand

#13 Longest Drive In Fairway (Men) – Tim Justin

#16 Longest Drive In Fairway (Women) – Elizabeth Durand

#18 Longest Putt on Green – Tyree Johnson

