



Proudly Serving Morrison County Since 1888



# NEWS

200 NW 1 St

Little Falls, MN 56345

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[assistance@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:assistance@littlefallsmnchamber.com)

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JULY/AUGUST 2009

## Thielen Meats-Winner of Membership Renewal Prize Package

It is membership renewal time at the Chamber! Winner of this year's early payment prize package is John and Linda Thielen of Thielen Meats. The Thielen's have been members of the Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce since 1991.



Pictured are Tom Hoggarth, Evergreen Equipment, Membership Development Committee Chair, with John Thielen of Thielen Meats.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing

Monday, August 3, 2009 \* Little Falls Country Club \* 1 Edgewater Dr, Little Falls  
Noon Shotgun Start

Plans are underway for the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Chamber Golf Outing on Monday, August 3. As this event rotates between our member golf courses, this year we will enjoy the beautiful Little Falls Country Club for this 18 hole scramble. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. with a noon shotgun start. Network with other golfers while enjoying a steak dinner after completing a fun round of golf.

Your \$80 registration fee includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, 2 complimentary beverages, steak dinner, networking, eligibility for door prizes and a day of fun. Teams are now being accepted to play in this Outing, visit our web-site at [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com) to register your team or contact Gina 632.5155 or [ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com)

When registering, purchase mulligans for \$5 each, get in the skins game for \$10 per team, purchase your yard stick at \$5 per use (maximum of 2 yard stick strokes). *Mulligans and yard stick strokes do not count for hole-in-one prizes.*

Team prizes will be award to 3 teams. The team with the lowest gross score and 2 teams will be awarded team prizes by random draw. The "must be present to win" category will include 2 Grand Casino stays, courtesy of Grand Casino Mille Lacs, a hot tub rental, courtesy of Hilmerson Collision Center and Captain Ron's Oasis Spas and a LIVE on location Party Line appearance courtesy of Little Falls Radio.

Take advantage of your Chamber membership by sponsoring a hole for only \$65. A limited number of hole sponsorships are still available. If you have a door prize you would like to donate or would like more information on hole sponsorship, contact Gina at the Chamber, (320) 632-5155 or [ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com). We also accept Visa and Master Card!

Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors:



**COBORN'S**



**Norwood Agency**



**GoldSmith JEWELERS**



CATHOLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES

**St. Gabriel's Hospital**



**PRECISION TOOL TECHNOLOGIES, INC.**



## Inserts Included...

St. Gabriel's Auxillary  
Wine Tasting Fundraiser

DEED  
Business Service Seminar

### Chamber Events:

- ~ July Networking Flyer
- ~ Leadership LindyLand Brochure & Registration Form
- ~ Sporting Clays Early Bird Registration & Sponsorship Forms
- ~ Employee of the Month Nomination Form

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All for One, You.

## From the Desk of the CEO - Debora K. Boelz



### **Greeting from the desk of the CEO!**

*Your Chamber of Commerce has entered a new phase of cyberspace with this, our first electronic version of the Chamber News! Please let us know your thoughts on the format and provide staff with any additional email addresses to add to the distribution list. Do you remember when the Chamber first started sending our meeting agendas via email - what a time and money saving day that was! Can Chamber staff Twittering be far behind?*

*September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> are the dates for the Arts & Crafts Fair this year. For those of you counting along with me, as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, we are 49 working days away from the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Arts & Crafts Fair! This is the latest it can be on the calendar as the event is always the first weekend after Labor Day. We are on track to welcome about 600 vendors with 100 of those being new to our event. This is about the same as in 2008.*

***Our next challenge is to get the shoppers here!** Please help by inviting your friends and family. If you would like the event logo to include on an email, let me know!*

*The last edition of the Chamber News included the full color "Place to Be" weekend poster that you were asked to display in your business. If you need more, please contact the Chamber office. This is a great way to ask the summer tourist back in September.*

*Thank you to John and Christina Plaisted, owners of the former JC Penny building (more recently, Help Systems) at 111 NE 1 St in downtown Little Falls, for allowing the Chamber to do a window display for the summer promoting the Arts & Crafts Fair. The display has representative items of the Fair, purchased over the years by the Chamber staff. And yes, the building is for sale - please contact Century 21 - New Horizons Realty for details!*

*As an FYI, Help Systems did not leave us - they are now located at 43 E Broadway.*

***The Long Range Planning Committee** for the Chamber has added a new component to the Arts & Crafts Fair that we are calling "Spirit Awards". Spirit Awards will be in the form of \$10 cash. Twenty lucky people, or groups of people, will be awarded Spirit Awards and have their picture taken for use in promotions for next year, creating some great word of mouth buzz and putting a fun twist on the weekend!*

*We have all seen these shoppers - they are carrying their body weight in packages! Those groups of women who planned ahead - friends and family arrive attired in custom-made matching t-shirts proudly announcing their intentions to 'shop till they drop' - often in colors that you could see from an overhead jetliner. Or head gear that would make their children embarrassed, which is OK, because they are probably at home anyway!*

*We want to celebrate the spirit of the Arts & Crafts Fair, of Little Falls and all of Morrison County! If people have a good experience with us, hopefully they will accept our invitation to come back during other times of the year and explore all that we have to offer, bringing business to our main streets.*

***If you missed the guest editorial** on June 21, 2009 in the Morrison County Record, it is included in this newsletter. The editorial is from the Chamber Board, under the signature of Chair Sandy Smith, regarding public support of the boating industry in Little Falls. And if you read it the first time, please read it again! It is important that we send a clear message of support to our local businesses that we need them and support them.*

***Bill's Painting & Decorating will be painting the Cass Gilbert Depot this summer.** The Cass Gilbert Depot is 110 years old this year and she is in need of a new coat of paint and fresh stain on the doors. Bill's Painting & Decorating was awarded the bid based on competitive bidding. The Chamber is practicing what we preach - the bid specs included the requirement that the paint be purchased locally, preferably from a Chamber member business. Minimal disruption to the day to day operation of the Chamber is expected during the painting process.*

***In closing,** thank you to all who have reinvested in the community by rejoining the Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce for the 2009 - 2010 membership year. The listing of renewed members to date is in this edition of the Chamber News. We appreciate you!*

## Leadership LindyLand Graduates 9<sup>th</sup> Class

Congratulations to our 2008-09 Leadership LindyLand participants on their successful completion of Leadership LindyLand.

Pictured are from left to right front row: Janelle Fitch, Perkins Restaurant & Bakery; Kelly Ebeling, Minnesota Power; Jill Killeaney, Morrison County Motor Vehicle; Patricia Dumonceaux, Morrison County Public Health; Bonita Strassburg, Morrison County Social Services; Sister MaryPat Burger, Franciscan Sisters. Back row left to right: Vicki Villebro, Horizon Health; Gregg LeBlanc, LeBlanc's Rice Creek Hunting & Recreation; Doug Dahlberg, Spectrum Printing | Design | Apparel; Jodi Weaver, The Gumdrop Tree; Ruth Anne Cheney, St. Otto's Care Center; Lori Stang, Linden Hill Historic Event Center.

*Photo Compliments of Silker Studio.*



## Participants for 2009-2010 Leadership LindyLand Class Being Sought

Are you looking for a cost-effective, locally held, multifaceted training program for yourself or an employee? If you are, the Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce has just the program for you! Please find enclosed materials about Leadership LindyLand: dynamic development of community leaders!

Leadership LindyLand is an 8 month program created to bring community people together to enhance their knowledge and develop leadership skills that will be beneficial on both a personal and professional level.

There are 2 focus areas with Leadership LindyLand. Participants will be challenged to improve their interpersonal skills and refine their management style through a series of exercises and speakers. Secondly, sectors of the community that contribute to the quality of life we enjoy will be highlighted through tours and presentations with the end result being a better understanding of how the various components blend together to create the community in which we live, work and grow.

This program is open to all sectors of the population. Business owners as well as employees will benefit from the training. To obtain registration materials or for more information visit our web-site at [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com) or contact Gina at the Chamber Office, by calling 632.5155 or e-mailing [ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com). Cost to participate is \$495 for Chamber members and \$595 for non-members. For your convenience, we accept Visa and MasterCard!

## Arts & Crafts Fair Volunteers Needed

Be a part of the Arts & Crafts Fair festivities September 12 & 13 by being a block host. Block hosts greet and welcome crafters to Little Falls, ensure that crafters are comfortable with their surroundings and ready to sell their merchandise. Block hosts are an essential part of the Little Falls Arts & Crafts Fair and are well received by our hundreds of vendors. If you only have a few hours or the whole weekend to block host, contact Gina at the Chamber at 632.5155 or [ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com); Deb Lowe at 632.4754 or [pinstripesconsulting@yahoo.com](mailto:pinstripesconsulting@yahoo.com) or Sr. MaryLou Eltgroth at 632.2981 or [mleltgroth@fslf.org](mailto:mleltgroth@fslf.org) for more information.

## Recent Board Action:

- ~ approved a policy on Nonpayment of Services
- ~ approved a policy on Record Retention
- ~ approved a Conflict of Interest policy for Board of Directors
- ~ approved the Fair Share investment schedule for 2009-2010 membership year
- ~ approved the Chamber's Business Plan covering July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010
- ~ approved a Corporate Membership payment to Community Development of Morrison County
- ~ approved a statement of public support for the boating industry in Little Falls

## Business Insights 2009

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, September 30 for Business Insights 2009! This free seminar is open to Chamber members and the community. Featured speaker for 2009 is Paul Douglas, former meteorologist for KARE 11 and most recently WCCO. Paul owns Total Weather, a company he founded that has developed new means of tracking weather systems. His presentation will cover entrepreneurship and how weather impacts the economy, a daily topic of discussion in our agricultural community.

This event is co-sponsored with the Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, Little Falls Business Association, Little Falls Radio, the Morrison County Record and Pine Country Bank. Watch for more details in August.

## Friday Morning Coffee

### July Friday Morning Coffee

July 17, 2009

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Sponsored by: **Lutheran Care Center**

Location: Lutheran Care Center,  
1200 NE 1 Ave, Little Falls



### August Friday Morning Coffee

August 21, 2009

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Sponsored by: **Gold Cross Ambulance**

Location: Gold Cross Ambulance,  
111 SE 5 St, Little Falls



Kick off your weekend by joining us for a cup or two of coffee and a donut while making business connections. All Chamber members and their employees are invited to attend. Friday Morning Coffees are the third Friday of each month from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Introductions are made around the room starting at 8:15 a.m.

## Newsletter Inserts

With the launch of our electronic newsletter, the option for including advertising inserts still exists with a revised rate schedule. The good news is that inserts will be viewed in full color, making your promotional photos and logos really pop!

Rates are \$15 for member nonprofits, \$25 for Chamber members and \$200 for non Chamber members. This rate includes a one year Chamber membership. Contact your Chamber staff for details.

## Please Support our Local Economy!

-Guest Editorial from the Board of Directors

We are living a text book example of what happens when the top of the trickle down economics goes awry. The current local economy is substantially dependent on the boating industry and the results can be felt up and down the main streets of the towns across Morrison County and beyond.

Together we need to support all of the local businesses that are affected by the downturn in the boating industry. The basic premise of any Chamber of Commerce is to do business locally. Buying locally, and doing business locally, is more important than ever at this critical time in our history.

The Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, which provides services to all of Morrison County, is asking that the communities and residents of Morrison County actively work to restore our economy. This can be accomplished by the following:

1.) Become politically active. Contact our elected officials encouraging their support of the financial investment in the recreational boating industry as proposed by Irwin Jacobs, CEO of Genmar Holding, Inc. This proposal outlines the use of a portion of the 'bailout' funds received by General Motors Acceptance Corporation's (GMAC) be redirected to supporting a wholesale and retail financing program for the recreational boating industry. "If the U.S. Government required GMAC to include the boating industry's needs for both wholesale dealer floor plan financing and retail financing, I believe the recreational boating industry would see an immediate end to the continuing downturn," Jacobs said. The Chamber Board of Directors acknowledges the past contributions of the boating industry to the community and fully supports not only their continued presence, but also that of the boating industry-invested local suppliers. By supporting this proposal, we are helping to regain the economic stability of the region.

2.) Buy locally. In a tight economy, you still need to eat, put gas in your vehicle, and purchase a variety of items for your household. Please, whenever possible, do this on the main streets of our communities. The rule of thumb is that of every dollar spent locally is re-spent in the area 7 times over. An example of this would be when you pay your car insurance premium. That local payment is then used for business expenses including payroll, taxes, office supplies, and charitable contributions to name a few. The employee paycheck is used to pay rent, buy groceries, pay for daycare, medical expenses, hair cuts, oil changes, dental visits, dinner out, vet bills, and the list goes on. The service station that changed the oil is able to provide paychecks to their employees who in turn purchase goods and services throughout the community. The key to this is to start the purchasing cycle locally, and keep the purchasing locally, whenever possible. This is a cycle that we do not want to break.

3.) Be informed. Rumors and inaccurate information are detrimental to the rebuilding process. Job losses have personally affected all of us either directly or indirectly. The easy path to take is the one of doom and gloom. Our communities have weathered these hard economic times in the past with businesses closing. Do not write off the boating industry in Little Falls!

4.) Look for the positive. There are new businesses starting up or have recently started up in Morrison County, bringing new jobs and new residents to the area that will need goods and services, places to live, adding to our school systems and expanding our tax bases. Camp Ripley is welcoming more trainees this summer than ever before. Tourist season is upon us. The news of the Lindbergh Historic Site possibly closing has brought statewide attention to the attractions located in our backyard. Community festivals and church bazaars fill our calendars. There is ample opportunity to celebrate this summer.

When visitors arrive in our neck of the woods, what message will they be greeted with? The conversations overheard in the check-out line or adjacent table in a restaurant will be remembered. Please help to make Little Falls and all of Morrison County a place that people will want to return to time and time again.

We live in an ever-changing world. The boating industry has been the backbone of the area providing good paying jobs with benefits for several generations of families. There are many companion businesses in the area that rely on the boating industry for their livelihood by either providing the various components that create a finished boat or through the maintenance of the physical plants. Those businesses need the backing of the community as well.

The Chamber is confident the boating industry will re-emerge and remain major employers for the next generation.

Sandy Smith, Chair, Board of Directors  
Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce

## WELCOME to our Newest Chamber Members!

### Representative Al Doty

302 N Hickory St  
Royalton, MN 56373  
320-584-8057  
(DFL) District 12B

### Senator Paul Koering

4625 Cty Rd 121  
Fort Ripley, MN 56449  
218-829-0544  
(R) District 12

### Nextera Communications

Chris Benhardus, Account Manager  
7115 Forthun Rd, Ste 100  
Baxter, MN 56425  
218-818-6400  
Local, long distance, internet service.

### Steve Wenzel

415 NE 3 St  
Little Falls, MN 56345  
320-632-6485

### Cornerstone Property Executives

Tim Sumner, Owner  
PO Box 451  
Little Falls, MN 56345  
320-630-6260  
Manage and maintain rental property for property owners; Agent for people wanting to buy or sell real estate.

### Randall State Insurance

Julie Zupko, Owner  
PO Box 230  
Randall, MN 56475  
320-749-2060  
Independent insurance agent handling all your insurance needs.

## Chamber Sporting Clays Event

The Sporting Clays event will be on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at Rice Creek Hunting & Recreation. This networking event includes the opportunity to warm up with some trap shooting and then as a team of 4, shoot a round of 50 targets and end with a flurry. Enjoy some wonderful wild game hors d'oeuvres and beverages in the clubhouse following the event.

You can take advantage of a unique sponsorship opportunity by becoming a Corporate or Station Sponsor for this event.

Become a premier sponsor for this event by becoming a Corporate Sponsor for only \$240. Your generous contribution includes the following rewards: Team of 4 in event, hors d'oeuvres for 4, acknowledgement on promotional materials, inclusion in post event advertising, acknowledgement on event materials, recognition in the Chamber Newsletter, acknowledgement in Chamber Annual Report, name recognition to over 100 potential new customers.

Sponsor a station from which all participants will be shooting from for \$65. For your commitment to the Chamber Sporting Clays event you will receive: Professional designed signage acknowledging your sponsorship, recognition at the event, recognition in the Chamber Newsletter, opportunity to generate new business leads, name recognition to over 100 potential new customers, acknowledgement in Chamber Annual Report.

To become a Sporting Clays sponsor visit our web-site at [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com) and click on the calendar of events feature or send your sponsorship check to the Chamber office, 200 1 St NW, Little Falls, MN 56345. Make checks payable to the Chamber of Commerce. We now accept Visa and Master Card! Deadline for corporate sponsorship is Friday, August 14, 2009. For more information contact Deb or Gina at the Chamber of Commerce, by calling 320.632.5155 or by e-mail at [ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com).



## CONGRATULATIONS! Employee of the Month Winners

In May, Renae Schneider, NAPA Auto Parts, was honored. As a customer service representative, Renae does a variety of things from checking in freight to waiting on customers to answering the phones. She has been there for over 17 years. Renae and her husband, John, have 3 daughters. She enjoys spending time with her family. They like to ride bicycles on the Soo Line Trail.

In June, David Cook, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, was honored. David is a counselor, and has been with the Vocational Rehab Services since November of 2007. He had worked in the Faribault/Owatonna office for 27 years previously before moving back to Little Falls. He enjoys the sights and sounds of nature, and also music.

## Employee of the Month Nominations

Outstanding service is something that should be rewarded. If you have been on the receiving end of outstanding service from a Chamber member employee, nominate that person for Employee of the Month. Nominating is easy. Visit our web-site at [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com) and click on the nomination link to download the nomination form, e-mail Gina at [ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com) or call the Chamber at 632-5155.

### MISSION:

*The Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce will promote our members and the greater community through innovative partnerships and accountable leadership.*

## LINDY GREETER MEMBER VISITS

Thank you for your membership. Photos in this issue are from Member Visits made April 23 & May 28. Greeters present the members with a Chamber mug filled with sweets, and thank them for their support of the Chamber and Community.



### VISION CENTS OPTICAL

Lindy Greeters Roxanne Matsen, **Larson Abstract**, left, and Randy Fossum, **Home Savings of America**, with Manager Margo Pixley at **Vision Cents Optical**. They have a wide range of eyewear available, including the newest styles of sunglasses.



### CORNERSTONE PROPERTY EXECUTIVES

Lindy Greeters Jon Vetter, **Pine Country Bank**, left, and Steve Andres, **Design Electronics**, right, with Tim Sumner of **Cornerstone Property Executives**. Cornerstone is a full service real estate company that also provides property management services for rental owners. They are a new Chamber Member.



### GARY PAULSON, CPA

Lindy Greeter Jon Vetter, **Pine Country Bank**, right, with **Gary Paulson, CPA**. Gary states, "I believe everyone in a community is better served when people give back what the community gives them. One way to do that is to be involved in the Chamber".



### PETE & JOY'S BAKERY

Lindy Greeters Randy Fossum, **Home Savings of America**, and Lori Kush, **Kush State Farm Insurance**, right, with Co-Owner Joy Kamrowski at **Pete & Joy's Bakery**. The Bakery now has added delicious fudge, along with their daily fresh doughnuts. Stop in and see their expanded line of Polish pottery.



### NEXTERA COMMUNICATIONS

Lindy Greeters Jon Vetter, **Pine Country Bank**, left, and Steve Andres, **Design Electronics**, right, with Chris Benhardus, Account Manager for **Nextera Communications**, a new Chamber Member. They are a local, long distance, and internet provider.



### FIRST AVENUE DENTAL

Lindy Greeter Steve Andres, **Design Electronics**, middle, with Drs. Suzette Olson, DDS, and Melvin H. Bauer, DDS of **First Avenue Dental**. For more information visit their website at [www.firstavenuedental.com](http://www.firstavenuedental.com)



## INDEPENDENT LIFESTYLES INC.

*Lindy Greeters Roxanne Matsen, Larson Abstract, left, and Lori Kush, Kush State Farm Insurance, right, with Branch Coordinator Jeni Melby at Independent Lifestyles Inc. They teach, collaborate, and cooperate with people of all disabilities to help them realize their goals for maximum independence.*



## LUTHERAN CARE CENTER

*Lindy Greeter Jon Vetter, Pine Country Bank, with Joan Jackson, new Administrator at Lutheran Care Center. Lutheran Care Center has been in business for over 40 years serving Morrison County. Bridgeway Assisted Living provides a great lifestyle for seniors.*



## MID-MN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

*Lindy Greeters Roxanne Matsen, Larson Abstract, second from left, and Lori Kush, Kush State Farm Agency, right, with David Borden, Julie Hofius, and Branch Manager Barb Lyons at Mid-MN Federal Credit Union. They offer business, real estate, and personal loans, along with full service banking departments. They build relationships one person at a time.*



## LIND REALTY/ SHOWCASE PROPERTIES

*Lindy Greeters Roxanne Matsen, Larson Abstract, second from left, and Randy Fossum, Home Savings of America, right, with Lorraine Meyer, Owner Dennis Lind, Tim Happke, and Kathy Enns at Lind Realty/ Showcase Properties. Not pictured are Gerry Gwost, and Jeff and Chris Kruschek. Stop and see their newly remodeled offices. It is an excellent time to buy a house. Rates are down for more buying power. Buyer incentives may be available.*

## Your 2009 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors:

### 2007-2009

Tom Chatfield  
**Fallsburg Woodworking**  
 Jacki DeVine  
 Lori Kush  
**Kush State Farm Insurance**  
 Sandy Smith  
 2009 Chair of Board  
**GoldSmith Jewelers**

### 2008-2010

Shane Cole  
**Dominos Pizza**  
 Carl Vaagenes  
**St. Gabriel's Hospital**  
 Doug Veillette  
**Dairy Queen**  
 Tom West  
**Morrison County Record**

### 2009-2011

Bridget Britz  
**Horizon Health**  
 Paul Kapsner  
**Royalton Lumber**  
 Julie Zupko  
**Bieganek Insurance Agency**  
 Col. Richard Weaver,  
 Immediate Past Chair  
**Camp Ripley**

## Chamber Staff:

Debora K. Boelz,  
 President/CEO  
 dboelz@littlefallsmnchamber.com

Rachel Czech,  
 Financial Coordinator  
 rachelc@littlefallsmnchamber.com

Sylvia Ryden,  
 Office Coordinator  
 sylviar@littlefallsmnchamber.com

Gina Vetter,  
 Projects & Volunteer Coordinator  
 ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following members who have renewed their investment in the Chamber for fiscal year 2009-2010, as of June 24, 2009.  
**We appreciate your continued support.**

AC Construction	Deml Insurance Agency	Kinship of Morrison County
Ag Star Financial Services	Design Electronics	Kush State Farm Insurance
Alverna Apartments	DeVine, Jacki	L & R's Oof Da Tacos
AmericInn	Dominos Pizza	Larson Abstract
Anakkala, Berns, & Co. PLLP	Doug Prokott Building & Remodeling	LeBlanc's Rice Creek Hunting & Recreation
Anderson, Judge Doug	Earl LeMieur Homes & Rentals	
Anderson Custom Processing	EcoWater Systems	
Appraisals Plus	Edward Jones Investments/ Kyle Hoggarth	Lin Furniture
Aspire Realty of Little Falls	Edward Jones Investments/ Robin Klosowski	Lincoln Lakes Area Business Association
Atomic Learning	Edward Jones Investments/ Teri Hoggarth	Lind Realty/Showcase Properties
BNI Mississippi Connections		Linden Hill Historic Event Center
Beaty, Dr. John		Little Falls Anesthesia
Beaty Rentals		Little Falls Business Association
Bell Mortgage		Little Falls Community Schools
Bernick's Pepsi	Elder Care of Minnesota	Little Falls Convention & Visitors Bureau
Best Way Food Concessions	Emblom-Brenny Funeral Service	Little Falls Eye Care Center
Bieganek Insurance Agency	Employment Enterprises	Little Falls Fleet Supply
Bieganek, Ron, Agency	Environmental Care Nursery & Landscaping	Little Falls Granite Works
Bill's Standard Service		Little Falls Machine
Black & White Café	Evergreen Equipment	Little Falls Plumbing & Heating
Bob LeMieur Roll Offs, Refuse & Recycling	Falls Auto Glass	Lutheran Care Center
	Falls Ballroom	McDonalds
	Falls Court Dental Clinic	Melgram Jewelers
Bon Jo's	First Avenue Dental	Mid-MN Federal Credit Union
Brandl Motors	Fitness Connection	Mid-State Education Dist 6979
Brey, Cindy	Flower Dell	Miller Concessions
Bursch Travel Agency	Force, Phil	Mills Motor, Inc.
CTC – Consolidated Telecommunications	Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls	MN Copy Systems
C & L Distributing	Freeberg, Conrad	MN Fishing Museum
Cabin Fever Saloon & Eatery	Friends of Pine Grove Zoo	MN Flying Aces
Casey's General Store-North	Froggy's Signs, Inc.	MorrTrans
Casey's General Store-West	GLS Lawn Service	Morrison County Agricultural Society
CenterPoint Energy	Gamradt, Leonard	Morrison County Humane Society
Centra Sota	Gas Service	Morrison County Food Shelf
Central Lakes College	Gold Cross Ambulance	Morrison County Record
Central McGowan	GoldSmith Jewelers	Morrison County United Way
Central MN Wedding Professionals	Granny's Kitchen	NAPA Auto Parts
Central MN Door Service	Gumdrop Tree	Northway Oil
Central MN Ethanol Co-op	Hands of Hope Resource Center	North Star Drilling
Century 21/New Horizons Realty	Hanowski, Dan Properties	Pap's Sport Shop
China Dragon	Head First Salon & Day Spa	Paulson, Gary CPA
City Sanitary-Commercial	Healthy Community Collaboratives (HCC) of Morrison County	Peck, Jack
Clothes Hanger		Pine Country Bank
Coborn's Superstore	Help Systems	Pinstripes Consulting
Collection Bureau of Little Falls	Herzog Roofing	Pizza Ranch
Community Development	Hilmerson Collision Center	Precision Tool Technologies
Contegrity Group, Inc.	Home Savings of America	Premier Financial Resources/ Jerry Januschka
Copper Kettle Korn	Horizon Health	
Cornerstone Property Executives	Initiative Foundation	Productive Alternatives
Creative Engravings	Invest Financial Solutions	Public Access Video, LLC
Crisis Line & Referral Service	JK Self Storage	R.A. Randall Agency
Crow Wing Power	JT's Storage Center	Randall Lakes Area Clinic
D & D Beer Company	Jensen Builders	Riitters & Thompson, PA
Dairy Queen	Kentucky Fried Chicken	Rising Stars Therapeutic Equitation

Rosenmeier Law Office  
 Roylton Lumber  
 Rural AIDS Action Network  
 Rural Minnesota CEP  
 SAS Design Haus  
 St. Camillus Place  
 St. Francis Campus Credit Union  
 St. Gabriel's Hospital  
 Schlenner, Wenner & Co.  
 ServiceMaster Clean  
 Silker Studio

Spectrum Printing | Design | Apparel  
 Steinke, Ramona  
 Stellar Health Center  
 Super 8 Motel  
 Taco John's  
 The Royal  
 Thielen Meats  
 Treasure City  
 Tri-City Paving  
 Tri-County Community Action  
 Trutwin's Service & Repair

Vacuum Cleaner Outlet & Service Center  
 Vernon Sales Promotion  
 Viking Coca Cola Bottling  
 Waller House Inn  
 Walmart  
 Weaver, Col. Richard  
 West Side Bar  
 West Side Improvement Association  
 West Side Discount Liquor  
 Wetzel Law Firm  
 Your ADvocate Marketing & Promotions

## Calendar of Events & Chamber Meetings

July/August 2009

(Chamber events and meetings are in **bold** print). For an expanded listing of community events, check the Chamber website at <http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com/WhatsNew.cfm>

### JULY

Every Sunday beginning July 12 – Concerts in Maple Island Park – 3:00 p.m.

- 3 Chamber Office closed in observance of July 4<sup>th</sup>**
- 7 Chamber Lindy Greeter Committee Meeting – Noon – Century 21/New Horizons Realty**
- 10 Morrison County Chaplaincy Golf Tournament – Little Falls Country Club
- 11 Creepy Crawlers Critter Encounters – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Pine Grove Zoo
- 11 Rural School Teacher's Tea – 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. – Morrison County Fairgrounds
- 11 Little Falls Golf Extravaganza – Little Falls Country Club
- 16 Chamber Membership Development Committee Meeting – 7:45 a.m. Depot**
- 17 Friday Morning Coffee – 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. – Lutheran Care Center**
- 17-18 Relay For Life
- 18 Cat Feeding & Enrichment Program – 4:00 p.m. – Pine Grove Zoo
- 21 Chamber Golf Outing Committee meeting – Noon—Depot**
- 25 Creepy Crawler Critter Encounters – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Pine Grove Zoo
- 25-26 Our Lady of Lourdes Church Bazaar
- 29-Aug 1 Morrison County Fair

### AUGUST

August 2, 9, 16 – Concerts in Maple Island Park – 3:00 p.m.

- 1 Paint-A-Thon
- 3 Chamber Golf Outing – Little Falls Country Club**
- 4 Chamber Lindy Greeter Committee Meeting – Noon – Pizza Ranch**
- 5 Peace Concert & Green Fair – 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. – St. Francis Campus
- 7 Adopt An Animal Family Reunion – 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. – Pine Grove Zoo
- 13 Chamber Board Meeting – 11:00 a.m. - Depot**
- 15 FAB Golf Tourney – Little Falls Country Club
- 15 Author Tea Retreat – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Linden Hill Historic Event Center
- 15 Wolf Feeding & Enrichment Program – 4:00 p.m. – Pine Grove Zoo
- 21 Friday Morning Coffee – 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. – Gold Cross Ambulance**
- 22 Creepy Crawler Critter Encounters – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Pine Grove Zoo
- 28 New Teacher Breakfast – Depot**

## Paul Douglas to be Featured Speaker at Business Insights 2009!

Mark your calendar now for Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Initiative Foundation for this exciting event. The program will be from 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. and is free and open to the public.

Watch for more details and registration materials in the August issue of Chamber News!



200 NW 1 St, Little Falls, MN 56345

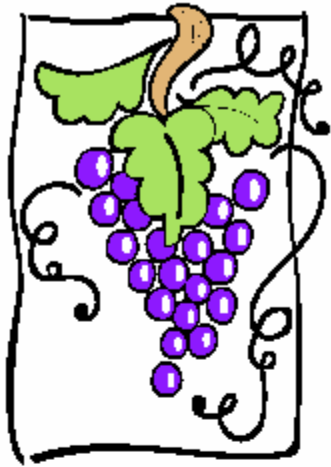
(320) 632-5155 \* Fax (320) 632-2122

Website: [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com)

E-mail: [assistance@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:assistance@littlefallsmnchamber.com)

***Proudly serving Morrison County since 1888***

**"SUPPORT OUR CHAMBER MEMBERS—THEY SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY"**



*St. Gabriel's Hospital  
Auxiliary Presents  
"To Your Health"*

*Join us for a night of wine tasting, food, entertainment,  
silent auction, door prizes, and friendship at the beautiful  
Linden Hill Historic Event Center to benefit the  
Auxiliary and its many projects.*

*July 28, 2009 5-8 pm \$25.00 / Person*

*Tickets are on sale at the St. Gabriel's Hospital Auxiliary*

*Gift Shop or contact these members:*

*Noemie Bolden 632-1038*

*Lucy Tanner 632-6765*

*Mary Larson 632-8203*

*Sandy Morse 632-6710*

*Donna Brooks 632-2421*

*Deb Anderson 632-6510*

*Beer, non-alcoholic wine and non-alcoholic beer will be available.*



Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED)

# Minnesota Unemployment Insurance (UI) Overview

*What are your obligations as a Minnesota Employer?*

Gary Johnson, Employer/Agent Liaison, with the Unemployment Insurance Program at DEED will discuss a broad range of Unemployment Insurance topics, answering your tough questions.



Topics include:

- ▶ NEW UI legislation & how it could affect your workplace
- ▶ Unemployment benefits eligibility (quits, discharges, misconduct)
- ▶ Important follow-up you must do after dismissing a problem worker
- ▶ Filing an appeal or raising an issue
- ▶ Common mistakes made and how to avoid them
- ▶ "Partial UI" - MN Shared Work Program
- ▶ Temporary and Permanent Layoffs
- ▶ Employer Online Self-Service System (with a focus on online benefits functionality)
- ▶ Covered vs. non-covered employment (owners, independent contractors, family, etc.)
- ▶ Tax rates and experience rating
- ▶ Taxable wages
- ▶ Submitting quarterly wage detail reports
- ▶ Reporting unemployment fraud

## Business Service Seminar Sponsors

- MN Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED)
- Lake Country Human Resource Association
- Lakes Area Human Resource Association
- Staples Business Group
- Brainerd Lakes Chamber
- Little Falls Chamber
- Long Prairie Chamber
- Perham Chamber
- Staples-Motley Chamber
- Wadena Chamber

We have applied for (General) recertification credit hours toward PHR, SPHR and GPHR through the SHRM Certification Institute.

CEUs also available

### Two Dates - Two Locations - Only \$10.00

**Perham:** Wednesday, July 15, 2009, 12:00 to 3:30 PM, (includes box lunch). Arvig Communication Systems, Don Swenson Room, 150 2nd St SW, Perham.

**Staples:** Thursday, July 16, 2009, 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon (includes continental breakfast). Central Lakes College - Staples Campus, Room C168, 1830 Airport Road, Staples.

For more information contact the following Business Services Specialists:

- Steve Retzer - 218-846-7379, [steve.retzer@state.mn.us](mailto:steve.retzer@state.mn.us)
- Joan DuMont - 218-631-7670, [joan.dumont@state.mn.us](mailto:joan.dumont@state.mn.us)
- Cindy Brey - 218-825-6783, [cindy.brey@state.mn.us](mailto:cindy.brey@state.mn.us)

### Submit registration & payment by July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**\*\*Please make checks payable to Brainerd Lakes Chamber. Mail payment & Registration form to: Minnesota WorkForce Center/DEED - Attn: Cindy Brey 204 Laurel Street, Suite 21 Brainerd, MN 56401**

### Who Should Attend

HR professionals, business owners and managers, attorneys, accountants, consultants and others interested in their rights & responsibilities regarding MN UI.

----- Registration Form -----

Please submit one form for each participant.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Check seminar of choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Perham 7/15, 12:00 - 3:30 \_\_\_\_\_ Staples 7/16, 8:30 - 12:00 noon



# July Networking Events

## Friday Morning Coffee

Friday, July 17, 2009

7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

at The Lutheran Care Center

1200 1 Ave NE, Little Falls

Sponsored by:



## Leadership LindyLand - Participants for the 2009-10 class are now being sought.

Leadership LindyLand is an 8 month course meeting October through May. **Session topics include,** but are not limited to:

- Personal Leadership Development
- Health & Human Services
- Community Heritage
- Camp Ripley
- K-12 Education and beyond
- Chamber Day at the Capitol
- Economic Development
- Team Building
- Collaboration
- Tourism
- Community Service Project

**Register by August 31, 2009 and save \$25.00 on your registration fee.**

Registration fee for Chamber Members \$495 Non members \$595

*We now accept Visa and Master Card!*

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Chamber Golf Outing

Monday, August 3, 2009

Noon Shotgun Start

Little Falls Country Club

1 Edgewater Dr, Little Falls

### Registration

\$80.00 per golfer or \$320 per team

Registration includes: 18 holes of golf, 2 beverages, boxed lunch, cart, steak dinner, eligibility for door prizes, chances at hole in one prize's, networking and an afternoon of fun.

Visit our web-site, [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com) to register your team for the Chamber's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing. For more information on sponsorship contact the Chamber by calling (320) 632-5155 or e-mailing us at [ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com). *We now accept Visa and Master Card!*

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Sporting Clays

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Registration 4:00 p.m.

Shooting 4:30 p.m.

LeBlanc's Rice Creek Hunting & Recreation

16543 Game Farm Rd, Little Falls

### Early Bird Registration

Register by August 21, 2009 and shoot for \$45 per person. After August 21 shoot for \$55 per person

Visit our web-site, [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com), to register your team for the Chamber's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Sporting Clays Event. For more information on sponsorship contact the Chamber by calling (320) 632-5155 or e-mailing us at [ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:ginav@littlefallsmnchamber.com) or visit our web-site at [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com). *We now accept Visa and Master Card!*

Make the most of your Chamber membership **by attending these events!**

200 1 Street NW, Little Falls MN 56345 320.632.5155

[assistance@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:assistance@littlefallsmnchamber.com)

## Leadership LindyLand

Dynamic Development of  
Community Leaders



2008-2009 Participants at the Business Day at the Capital

Now in its tenth year with over 90 graduates, Leadership LindyLand immerses a diverse group of people in an exciting learning opportunity. The program is designed to enhance their professional and individual leadership skills through an eight month program.

Leadership LindyLand will benefit those who currently are in leadership positions as well as those striving toward positions of leadership. Participants gain knowledge and skills that will benefit them personally as well as professionally. All sessions are facilitated by professional trainers.

### Skills that have been gained by participants

- Development of leadership skills
- Refinement of team building skills
- Improved interpersonal skills
- Refined management style
- Introduced to all sectors of the community
- Increased confidence
- Collaboration
- Networking
- Awareness of community opportunities
- Community service project
- Enhanced capabilities
- Added value to the workplace

### Session topics include:

- Personal leadership
- Health & human services
- Community heritage
- Identify personal leadership styles
- Tourism
- Camp Ripley
- Government
- Economic development
- Team building
- Collaboration
- Community service project

\*\* Separate work time will be needed to complete the community service project.

### Program dates & fees:

Application deadline is August 31 for the early bird discount of \$470, after August 31 at the full rate of \$495. Non Chamber rate is \$595.00. Application deadline is September 15.

Leadership LindyLand generally meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month from October – May. There will be a 2 day kick off retreat October 21 & 22. Each session runs the length of the work day 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Meeting locations vary.

Leadership LindyLand is a chance to get to know the community in which we live and/or work; a chance to become acquainted with people we might otherwise not meet, an opportunity to gain a better understanding of ourselves. Once a month, it takes us out of our workplace and helps us to see the bigger world in which we live; we are all inter-connected.

- Deanna Boone, Franciscan Sisters

**I. Personal Data**

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First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Work Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address Preferred: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Employment/Student/Retired**

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Present Employer/Student/Retired \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Business \_\_\_\_\_

Present Title or Position \_\_\_\_\_ Date Began \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Fees and Signatures of Agreement**

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Fee for Chamber members is \$495, fee for non-Chamber members is \$595. Take advantage of the early bird discount if registering by August 31 and save \$25 on your registration fee. Making the fee \$470.00 This fee includes programming expense, meals, and all education costs. Partial scholarships are available. Contact the Chamber office for details and an application. If you are registering after August 31 a \$50 down payment must accompany this form. Remaining balance is payable in full prior to **October 21, 2009**. Payment plan is available upon request. Fees are non-refundable.

My registration will be paid as follows: Personally \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Employer/Sponsor \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me a scholarship application form Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

*I understand the purpose of the Leadership LindyLand program and I will devote the time and resources necessary to complete this program. I understand the above commitments and agree to be bound by them in signing this registration form.*

Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Employer-** *This registration has the approval of this business/organization and this individual has our full support including the time to participate fully in the program.*

Employer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_


**Please complete and return by September 15 to:**

Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce  
Leadership LindyLand  
200 1<sup>st</sup> St NW  
Little Falls MN 56345

*Leadership LindyLand is a  
program of the Chamber of Commerce*



# Sporting Clays Event

September 15, 2009     LeBlanc's Rice Creek Hunting & Recreation  
16543 Game Farm Road, Little Falls

**Registration** / Warm up shooting  
4:00 – 4:30 p.m.

**Shooting Round** (shotgun start)  
Optional flurry shoot will be available 4:30 p.m.

**Social /Awards** 6:00 p.m.

Your Registration Includes:

50 Targets  
Hors d' oeuvres  
Flurry  
Afternoon of Fun  
Networking

-----  
detach and return

## REGISTRATION 2009 Chamber Sporting Clays

Name	Business	E-mail and/or Phone #
1) "Captain":	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____
4)	_____	_____

Registration \$45 per person, until August 21, 2009. August 22, 2009, \$55 per person.      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Social only \$10 per person. \$10 x \_\_\_\_\_ (number of guests *without* event participation)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to sponsor a station at \$65 per station. \$65 x \_\_\_\_\_ (number of stations)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total amount enclosed**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (total)

**Payable to: Chamber of Commerce, 200 1 St NW, Little Falls, MN 56345**

We would like to be paired with the \_\_\_\_\_ team, if possible.

Contact me:

I'd like more information about Station Sponsorship.

Name	Business	Phone Number / E-mail Address
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For more information visit our web-site at [www.littlefallsmnchamber.com](http://www.littlefallsmnchamber.com) or contact  
Gina at the Chamber by calling 632-5155. We accept Visa and Master Card!



Little Falls Area Chamber of Commerce  
is proud to offer another great networking event:

## Sporting Clays!

The Sporting Clays event will be on **Tuesday, September 15, 2009** at **LeBlanc's Rice Creek Hunting & Recreation**. This networking event includes the opportunity to warm up with some trap shooting and then as a team of 4, shoot a round of 50 targets and end with a flurry. Delicious wild game hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served following the event.

You can take advantage of a unique sponsorship opportunity by becoming a **Corporate** or **Station Sponsor** for this event.

### Corporate Sponsorship

\$240.00

Become a premier sponsor for this event by becoming a Corporate Sponsor. For your generous contribution you will be rewarded with the following:

- Team of 4 in event
- Hors d'oeuvres for 4
- Acknowledgement on promotional materials
- Acknowledgement on event materials
- Recognition in the Chamber Newsletter
- Inclusion in post event advertising
- Name recognition to over 100 potential new customers
- Acknowledgement in Chamber Annual Report
- Opportunity to include marketing materials in registration bag

Yes, I will be a Corporate Sponsor

### Station Sponsorship

\$65.00 per station

Sponsor a station from which all participants will be shooting from. For your commitment to the Chamber Sporting Clays event you will receive:

- Professional designed signage acknowledging your sponsorship
- Recognition at the event
- Recognition in the Chamber Newsletter
- Opportunity to generate new business leads
- Name recognition to over 100 potential new customers
- Acknowledgement in Chamber Annual Report

Yes, I will be a Station Sponsor.

Please print exactly how you would like your sign to read: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship will be secured when payment is received with this form in the Chamber office, 200 1 St NW, Little Falls, MN 56345. Make checks payable to the Chamber of Commerce. Deadline for **Corporate Sponsorship** is **Friday, August 7, 2009**. Call 632-5155 for more details.



# Employee of the Month NOMINATION FORM

### ***Selection Criteria***

- Employer must be a Little Falls Chamber of Commerce member.
- Prompt, pleasant, friendly, and courteous service.
- Knowledgeable about product or service provided.
- Positive attitude towards job and community.
- Genuine interest in your needs and wants.
- Willingness to "go that extra step".
- Appreciation shown for your business.
- Transactions handled in a professional manner.

***I would like to nominate the following person for the  
Little Falls Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Month Award!***

Name of Business \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Nomination \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Reason For Nomination***

*This form may be dropped off at, or sent to the Chamber of Commerce office*

Revised 11/07

**Little Falls Chamber of Commerce**

200 NW First Street • Little Falls, MN 56345 • (320) 632-5155 • FAX: (320) 632-2122 • e-mail: [assistance@littlefallsmnchamber.com](mailto:assistance@littlefallsmnchamber.com)