



Detroit Lakes CHAMBER NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce

WE Fest Shuttle runs August 1, 2 & 3rd!

The Detroit Lakes Chamber is excited to again provide a shuttle to WE Fest for over 30 years! Riding is easy!

1. Purchase a ticket for one day (\$10) or all 3 days (\$20) at our bus stops conveniently located downtown DL or at the Becker Co. Fairgrounds. FREE day parking is available.
2. **If you are camping at WE Fest... you can ride our shuttle for FREE!** Simply show us your camping wristband.

Shuttles run every 20 minutes 12Noon-2:00am. For more information call 218-847-9202.



DL Crazy Daze August 6th ~ 7am-6pm

The biggest one day sale in Downtown Detroit Lakes is Tuesday, August 6th! Come shop on Washington Avenue for fun deals from downtown businesses, local retailers AND this year you will see some of your favorite flea market vendors too. Food Trucks will be on hand and many stores will have in-store specials too. It's gonna be a CRAZY day!

Welcome to Lakes Country!

The Detroit Lakes Chamber is working on 2 great events to Welcome people to our community and we need your help.

1. For many years, we have welcomed teachers back to school and we plan to continue again this year.
2. On September 5th, we are creating a Welcome to DL event at the DL Pavilion which is open to anyone who wants more connections and information on our community and region. Whether you just moved to the area or have been here for many years and just need to expand your network; this is the event for you! Please share with your new employees, friends and neighbors.

Please see the insert for information on these events and let us know if your organization can help.



Ready to make a SPLASH?!?

Splash Awards: celebrating the impact and involvement of our community's volunteers!

Thursday, October 3, 2019

3:00-5:00 PM at the Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes

The Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce is launching a new event to create a ripple in our region. We hope to celebrate all who make a splash! Please consider supporting our newest event, plan to bring your employees on October 3rd and be sure to nominate friends, family and co-workers to recognize all the good in our region. [See the insert for more information!](#)



The Mission of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce is to advance a vibrant business and tourism economy through service, advocacy, networking and innovation.

We're Working for You:

June 2019	YTD
• Walk-Ins	
267	1,140
• Phone Calls	
368	2,091
• Visitor Guides Mailed	
307	1,239
• Website Visits	
38,223	158,268

Online newsletter at: <https://www.visitdetroitlakes.com/chamber/newsletter>

In June, 59% of the traffic to VisitDetroitLakes.com was by mobile phones

Member News

Congratulations to Randy & Sheila Blanford, owners of **Tamarac Resort & Campground** on celebrating their 20th season! The resort is on Round Lake and has 3 cabins, 48 seasonal RV spots, restaurant and new lodge.

Midwest Printing and Pro Print have joined forces and will continue doing business under the **Pro Print** name. They will be in the same Washington Avenue location and offer expanded capabilities and great service. Pro Print is owned by Creston Dorothy.

A bike fixit station for the public was recently added to the trailhead at **Detroit Mountain Recreation Area**. This was made possible by donations from a number of local businesses, organizations and individuals and a grant from the Detroit Lakes Area Community Foundation.

Midwest MN Community Development Corporation and its affiliate company, White Earth Investment Initiative, has promoted and hired several staff members. Christine Clark has been promote to MMCDC Chief Financial Officer. Amanda Hanson is now MMCDC Director of Human Resources. Rae Smith is the new WWII Loan Processor/Administrative Assistant. Sue Trnka serve as WEII Community Services Coordinator. Trina Berry has joined MCDC as Administrative Assistant. MMCDC, based in Detroit Lakes, provides commercial and home mortgage lending, as well as housing, business and community development services through Minnesota.

Advertise in this newsletter

~ **Display ads** can be placed for one month or save money by reserving your space for 6 or 12 months. \$35.00 Your ad can be the same for every issue or changed as often as you like.

~ **Inserts:** reserve your place in the next newsletter for your insert. \$160. (\$60 for non-profits) **Space is limited so be sure to call ahead. Drop off 650 ~ 8½" X 11"** inserts (can be double sided, but need to be on standard copy paper – no card stock). These must be at the Chamber Office by the 24th of the month.

If you have any questions please call Carrie 218-847-9202. Thank You!

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Welcome!

Member Meetings

Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce is hosting Monthly Membership Meetings! On the **2nd Wednesday of each month from 8:15 am to 9:00 am...** enjoy a morning beverage and treat while hearing what the DL Chamber and area organizations are up to! These are a great way for new employees to meet others and to share your company news.

We will be "on the road" and at a different location each month so watch this newsletter each month. To sponsor or host this event call Carrie 847-9202.

Aug 14: Fair Hills Resort (meet at Chamber at 7:50 if you want to carpool)
Sept. 11: Holiday Inn - featuring local government & leader updates

Grow Minnesota
 The Detroit Lakes Chamber of Commerce is partnering with local entities to make Grow Minnesota business calls. This is a format followed by over 80 Chambers and communities under the direction of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce.

Every Grow Minnesota Partnership visit has four parts: first, to thank your company for being in the Detroit Lakes and Becker County area and in Minnesota; second, to get a better understanding of your business and its activities; third, to offer assistance with any company-specific problems related to doing business in our area and in the state; and, fourth to hear your thoughts on the overall business environment and what can be done on a statewide basis to strengthen it. We're particularly interested in the trends that are affecting your business.

If you would like a volunteer team to come visit with your business please call Carrie Johnston 218-847-9202.

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Splash Awards

October 3, 2019
 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
 Holiday Inn

Ambassadors



DL Chamber Ambassadors making visits in July were: (l to r) John Hansen, Caroll Clark, Terrel Davison, Laura McMartin and Andy Mohn (not pictured).



Terrel Davison is pictured with David Langworthy, Owner of **DL Bike Shop**, at their new location, 928 Washington Avenue. The store sells new bicycles, parts, accessories and clothing and has a certified mechanic.



On June 27, Ambassadors attended the Ribbon Cutting for the new Pickleball courts in Peoples Park, DL. The five courts are open to the public 24 hours a day, but scheduled play is Monday-Friday 8:30am-noon, and evening play Monday and Thursday at 7pm. For free introductory classes, call 218-847-4235.

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Ambassadors



Laura McMartin presented a First Dollar of Profit to Tracy Erb, co-owner of **Vintage 'n Vogue**, a unique up-scale consignment boutique shop. They carry a wide range of inventory—from designer apparel to vintage & contemporary furnishings. Their new location is 831 Washington Avenue.



Andy Mohn presented a First Dollar of Profit to Nick Christenson, owner of the **State Farm Office** at 710 Washington Avenue. The office provides insurance and financial services, auto, home, life, health and bank. Be sure to stop in and see the newly remodeled office too!

Ambassadors participated in the Ribbon Cutting at The Perch on Pelican at **Fair Hills Resort**. The Perch is a bar/lounge located in the lower level of the resort's pavilion and is open to the public. Hours are Monday-Friday, 2-10pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am-10pm. The resort has been operated by the Kaldahl family since 1926.



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2019 Dates to Remember

Aug 1-3 WE Fest

Aug 5-11 Pine to Palm Tourney

Aug 6 DL Crazy Daze

Aug 7-10 Becker Co. Fair

Aug 16-17 YL Triathlon

Aug 22-24 Ojibwe Forest Rally

Sep 7 Beardsley Marathon

Sept 12 Women's Expo

Oct 4 Chamber Awards

Oct 5 Damien Home Tour

Dec 2 Parade of Lights, DL

See full calendar of events: <http://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/events>

Please let us know if you have events that should be on our website calendar.

(NOTE: 2020 Water Carnival is set for July 10-19)

Tourism Update

Detroit Lakes has many shining examples of businesses that boost their curb appeal! One resource states that 95% of customers say the outside appearance of the store influences their decision on where to shop (or stay). Here are some ideas business owners and managers might find helpful in attracting visitors to shop or spend the night:

- ✦ Place greenery/flowers out front. Larger containers make more of a statement. (Detroit Lakes' Downtown Alive program of huge planters is an excellent example. Your planters can be of a smaller size, keeping in mind an 8 inch pot alone may not be enough)
- ✦ Signage—refreshed and easy to read from the front of the building and driving down the street (hanging perpendicular)
- ✦ Make your store accessible to all shoppers
- ✦ Clean glass doors frequently (fingerprints turn off customers) and windows regularly
- ✦ Sweep the sidewalk daily
- ✦ Change your window display regularly to keep return shoppers interested. Display your most appealing goods
- ✦ Change and/or add lighting
- ✦ De-clutter
- ✦ Have a sale? Include signage for awareness
- ✦ Make sure price tags are visible. Some people will not bother to ask

- ✦ Regular maintenance (door handles, paint, paths, steps, landscaping, etc)

- ✦ Keep parking well lit and marked
- ✦ Place trash receptacles out of sight
- ✦ Update your awnings, furniture
- ✦ Include a bike rack for bicyclists
- ✦ If your business caters to dog owners, include a place to tether a dog

Where do you start to boost your curb appeal? Begin with a checklist of items you can accomplish today and those to put on a short-term goal list.

Cleone Stewart, Tourism Director



Chamber staff presented a First Dollar of Profit to Otter Coffee and Ice Cream on Main Street, Vergas with employee Sydney Bahls accepting for owner Jill Shipman. Otter Coffee is open daily at 8 am in the summer offering coffee, bakery items, protein shakes, ice cream, wine, local gifts and puppacinos (for your dog)

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Does the new law apply to my employees?

- ▶ **Yes, for all drivers – anytime – anywhere.** Use voice commands or single-touch activation to make calls, text, listen to music, and get directions.

Should my organization update our traffic policy?

- ▶ **Yes. ALL employees must use their phones in a hands-free, one-touch manner.**
- Develop and communicate clear rules and regulations on the use of mobile phones.
- As an employer, you can be stricter than the law with your policy.

Can my employees use their phones while driving?

- ▶ **Yes, but only hands-free or one-touch activation mode.**

Can my employees use their phones for GPS?

- ▶ **Yes.**
- One-touch or voice-activated mode.
- NO typing or scrolling while driving or part of traffic.

Does it matter if the phones are company issued or personal?

- ▶ **No. The law is hands-free regardless who owns the phone.**

Does the new law effect Commercial Vehicle Drivers?

- ▶ **No. The law remains the same for CMV drivers.**
- Hands-free.
- One touch.

Can my employees use their phone in an emergency?

- ▶ **Yes. Hands-free or hand-held when there is an immediate threat to life and safety.**

How can I make employees phones hands-free compatible?

- Employees can use a single earphone that has a microphone.
- Pair their phone to their current Bluetooth system.
- Use an auxiliary cable to connect to their phone's earphone jack to the vehicle's car AUX jack.
- If the vehicle has a cassette player, purchase an adapter that fits into the cassette player.
- Provide holders that clip to the dash, vent or cup holder to make phone use hands-free.



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For more information go to
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More information at: <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ots/hands-free/Pages/default.aspx>

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What's Happening!

August 2019

- Tues./Sat. Lakes Area Farmer's Market, 10am-1pm, Peoples Park
- Tues. Cruise, Smorgasbord, Hootenanny, 5pm, Fair Hills Resort
- Tues. Tuesdays in the Park, 7pm, DL City Park Bandshell
- Thurs. Summer Thursdays LIVE at The Lodge, 5-8pm (not 8-1)
- Sat/Sun Discovery Dives by TriState Diving, area lakes
- Sat/Sun Shady Hollow Flea Market, 7am, Hwy. 59 South
- Sun. Wildlife Movie, 2pm, Tamarac NW Refuge

- 1-3 WE Fest, Soo Pass Ranch (DL Shuttle runs 12Noon-2am)
- 5-11 Pine to Palm Golf Tournament
- 6 DL Crazy Daze, 7am-6pm, Downtown DL
- 7-10 Becker County Fair
- 7 & 21 Women's Wednesdays, 3-5pm, Forest Edge Gallery
- 8 Vergas Looney Days
- 8 Lakes Crisis Center Community Open House, 2-7pm
- 8 Pat Surface & American Pie Woodstock Tribute Show, 7:30pm, Holmes
- 9 DL Firefighters Dance, 7:30pm, in front of Lakeside Tavern
- 11 Holy Rosary Parish Festival, 11am-3pm, Holy Rosary Church
- 12 Pickleball Demo by Helle Sparre, 9am, Peoples Park Courts
- 13 Promotions & Events Committee, 8:30am, Chamber
- 14 :45 Fill-up Member Meeting, 8:15-9am, Fair Hills Resort
- 14 Cruise DL Night, 4-8:30pm, West Lake Drive
- 15 Big Voodoo Daddy, 8pm, Holmes Theatre
- 16 DL Craft Beer Tour, 4-8pm, Detroit Mountain Rec. Area
- 20 United Way Back-to-School Supply Drive, 4-6pm, Holmes Ballroom
- 20 Tourism Bureau Board of Directors, 8:15 am, City Council Chambers
- 22 Boys & Girls Club Grand Opening Celebration, 3-6pm
- 22 Board of Directors, 8am, DL Chamber
- 22-24 Ojibwe Forests Rally
- 23 McCaws for Paws, 5:30pm, Zorbaz
- 24 Shelter Fest, Hotel Shoreham
- 24 Boats & Bars, 11am
- 30-Sept. 2 Western MN Steam Thresher's Reunion, Rollag

See full calendar of events: <http://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/events>
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