



Detroit Lakes CHAMBER NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce

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Ignite Your EDGE

Presented by the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce

A Women's Speaker Series

all events are 3-5pm

women's
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Rebecca Udem
March 4



Jodee Bock
May 6



Mariah Prussia
July 29



Amanda Davison
October 7



#igniteyouredge www.VisitDetroitLakes.com



The February :45 Fill-up Member Meeting will be at Starboard Point Luxury Condo (top floor of the Fairfield by Marriot).

Join us **Wednesday, February 12th, 8:15-9:00 am** for an opportunity to see this property, hear Chamber news, local updates, and have treats!

We are currently looking for locations for the 2020 :45 Fill-ups call Carrie at 218-847-9202 if you would like to host.

Did you know... Official records of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce go back to the year 1921? That makes us 99 years old this year!

A little history: there is evidence of a businessmen's group as early as 1906, but the Detroit Commerce Club was formed with the first president being John K. West in 1921. We were also known as the Commercial Club and the Businessmen's Club until 1935 when the name was official changed to the Detroit Lakes Civic and Commerce Association. In the early 1980's we merged with the Northwest Resort Association and adopted our current name The Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce.

We are getting ready to celebrate our 100th birthday... if you'd like to help contact the office!



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:

<u>December 2019</u>	<u>YTD</u>
• Walk-Ins	
136	2,469
• Phone Calls	
257	4,006
• Visitor Guides Mailed	
56	2,784
• Website Visits	
18,147	306,355

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

In December, more than 64 percent of visits to VisitDetroitLakes.com were from mobile devices

WOW! Will you look at those #'s!

Your membership dollars help to support the work of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce Office. You have 4 full-time staff working to serve the business and tourism community. The office is open 5 days a week, year-round. To the left you will see the 2019 end of the year final numbers. This is just the "tip of the iceberg". We also reach people through email, social media and out in the community.

How can you be sure we are helping your business? Here are a few ideas:

- ⇒ Make sure your business information is up to date in our records.
- ⇒ Log into your visitdetroitlakes.com profile and update your records.
- ⇒ Stop into the Chamber Office with fresh business cards and flyers.
- ⇒ Visit with our staff or invite the Ambassadors into your office.
- ⇒ Attend the monthly member meetings and share your news.



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!

The Chamber (USPS 699-170) is published monthly by the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce, 700 Summit Avenue, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501. Periodicals postage paid at Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-9998. POST-MASTER: Please send address changes to The Chamber, PO Box 348, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0348. Annual subscriptions \$15.00

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Coming to a mailbox near you...

Watch your inbox for the DL Chamber's Annual Member Survey and your Member Verification Form. These tools help us to continue to be an effective organization for you. The more up to date our information is, the better we can serve the customer.

Member News

Detroit Lakes High School is one of 17 recipients of the MN Dept. of Labor Youth Skills Training Grants. They will receive a \$90,000 grant to develop partnerships with local businesses in Manufacturing, Plant Science/Greenhouse Mgmt. and Health Care. The partnerships will provide students with paid experiences in the workplace in high skill, high wage, high demand areas during the school day. The goal of the program is to expose students to areas of need and opportunity in our state. These partnerships will be implemented for the 2020-21 school year.

Patrick Voigt has joined **Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union** as the Branch Manager in Detroit Lakes, one of ten locations the Credit Union has. Voigt is a graduate of Detroit Lakes High School and most recently served members at a credit union in Idaho.

Member Renewals

Thanks to the following members who have renewed their membership from December 28, 2019—January 27, 2020. Chamber memberships renew at different times throughout the year. For a complete list, see <http://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/list>

A Place to Belong

Casey's—2 stores in Detroit Lakes & 1 in Lake Park
CineMagic Theatre
Detroit Lakes School of Tae Kwon Do and Kumdo
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Four ways to make 2020 SHINE!

1

**women's
EDGE**
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2020 is the year to: Engage, Develop, Grow and Empower!
Join us for Women's EDGE Speaker Series.

See the insert in this newsletter for more information.
Rebecca Udem, Wednesday, March 4th at 3pm at Holiday Inn.
Jodee Bock, Wednesday, May 6 at 3pm at M State.
Mariah Prussia, Wednesday, July 29 at 3pm at Holiday Inn.
Amanda Davison, Wednesday, October 7 at 3pm at M State.

Early-bird tickets for all 4 speakers are just \$99 for DL Chamber Members,
\$129 for non-members.
You will receive 1 ticket to each speaker. Call 218-847-9202 to reserve your seats!

A program of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce
Sponsored by Sanford Health, Bell Bank, ReMax Lakes Region & Holiday Inn.

2

Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce presents:

Vision

2020 Economic Development Summit


DL Economic Development Summit, Fri, March 27, 8:00-11:30am, MState

- ◇ Workforce, Workforce, Workforce!
—featuring University of Minnesota Extension's Ryan Pesch
- ◇ Sanford Health—Midtown Development expansion
- ◇ Road Construction—hear from MN Dot, City and County officials
on what roads will be improved in the upcoming months.
- ◇ New Building and Business Construction around the region
- ◇ Tourism in Becker County and a new website launch.



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COMMUNITY JOB FAIR

Tuesday, March 31, 3:00-6:00pm, M State

Whether you are looking to fill a full-time position or starting to hire for summer help, this is the place to be! Rural MN CEP and its partners have teamed up to bring you the 2nd annual Community Job Fair.

~ Booth Spaces ~ Interview Areas ~ posted on MinnesotaWorks.net ~ Convenient Location
See the insert in this newsletter to register, space is limited.

3

Is your Organization Prepared?

Do your employees or volunteers know what to do in case of an emergency? Are you prepared for a natural disaster, gas leak, agitated customer or a major event that could hinder how you do business? Learn from our trainer **Eric Roeske** and local safety officials about what you can do to be better prepared.

Safety Workshop, Fri, April 17, 8-12Noon, MState

- ⇒ Learn best practices for emergencies at work.
- ⇒ This workshop includes three hours of training by MG Security Group AND a panel discussion with local agencies who can help keep your organization secure and prepared.
- ⇒ Excellent training for front-line staff, managers, churches and non-profit board members



4

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2020 Dates to Remember:

- Feb 6-17 Polar Fest and
DL Ice Palace
- Mar 4 Women's EDGE starts**
- Mar 21-22 Home Show
- Mar 27 Econom Dev. Summit
- April 17 Preparedness
Workshop
- May 14-16 Festival of Birds
- May 29-30 Street Faire
- June 10 Cruise DL Night start
- July 4 DL Fireworks
- July 10-19 DL Water Carnival
- July 23-26 Frazee Turkey Days
- July 26 Art in the Park
- July 29-Aug 1 Becker Co Fair
- Aug 6-9 Vergas Looney Days
- Aug 10-16 Pine to Palm Tour.
- Aug 14-15 YL Triathlon
- Aug 27-29 Ojibwe Forest Rally
- Sept 12 Beardsley Run

Tourism Update



In 2006, extending the Heartland Multi-use State Trail was authorized by the Minnesota legislature. The extension will link the existing trail at Park Rapids to Moorhead, a distance of roughly 100 miles, depending on the route.

In 2011, a master trail plan of the Heartland Trail extension was completed by the DNR.

Trail committees have been meeting with the DNR for more than 15 years to construct the route from Park Rapids to Moorhead. DNR staff complete route designs, often times working with MnDOT staff when the trail is in the highway right-of-way.

Some of the segment routes actively worked on are from Hawley to Buffalo River State Park, linking the current trail in Park Rapids to the west out of the city, and Detroit Lakes to Frazee.

The underpass on the east edge of Detroit Lakes was installed in 2013. In the seven years since then, the committee has met with DNR to establish a route into Frazee. One of the biggest components is the trail work at Acorn Lake between Detroit Lakes and Frazee. A sheet pile wall has to be built into the embankment for stabilization and runoff precautions. The project contractor is expected to complete work this spring.

The route from Acorn Lake to Detroit Lakes weighs on the final trail design from the DNR, bids being let by the DNR and accepting a bid that allows trees in the path of the trail to be removed for construction. No trees larger than 4 inches may be cut down March

31-Nov 1 along MnDOT routes and June 1-August 15 along DNR routes.

The Detroit Lakes/Frazee trail committee is again hopeful the segment from Acorn Lake to Detroit Lakes can be constructed in 2020.

From Acorn Lake the DNR has determined a bridge must be installed at Frazee Cty 10 as a crossing for the trail to continue east along the Hwy 10 right-of-way. Since the route from Acorn Lake to Detroit Lakes will exhaust the remaining bonding dollar budget, a request for \$3 million is being requested of the state Capital Investment Committee this legislative session. Design for three other segments will add another \$1.2 million to the request.

When Chamber reps from Park Rapids and Walker have been asked about use of the Heartland and Paul Bunyan trails in their area, they have repeatedly said they see heavy usage by bicyclists. At the Chamber in DL, visitors come in looking for safe trails to travel.

We simply don't have what they are looking for...yet.

To show business and community support for the Detroit Lakes to Frazee trail bonding bill request, you are asked to write a letter. A letter template that you may personalize will be supplied to you. Please email me for the letter template—your support matters!

cleone@visitdetroitlakes.com

Cleone Stewart, Tourism Director

Sanford Detroit Lakes Clinic

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needs of the community

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You are invited



Help us celebrate our program participants and learn about their experience in LEADERship DL!

Thursday, February 13, 2020 · City of Detroit Lakes, 1025 Roosevelt Ave

- 8:30am Networking Brunch
- 9:00am Capstone Group Project Presentations
- 10:00am Cake/Coffee Break
- 10:30am Graduation Presentations

Please RSVP to Carrie by 2/7; 847-9202 or carrie@visitdetroitlakes.com

2019-20 LEADERship DL participants:

Susan Bjorklund, Detroit Lakes HRA
 Randy Brandt, City of Detroit Lakes
 Madison Fegely, M State Student
 Jackie Graham, City of Detroit Lakes
 Michaela Koenig, Ecumen
 Jennifer Morton, SJE

Matt Nelson, Glenwood State Bank
 Shelby Rasmussen, Humane Society
 of the Lakes
 Sandy Stilke, DL Regional Chamber
 of Commerce
 Shannon Utecht, Hospice of the RRV

Please make sure your employees know... as a member, your business takes DL Chamber Bucks!

- ~ CHAMBER BUCKS are actual checks from the DL Chamber.
- ~ Put CHAMBER BUCKS in your cash register just like other checks in your deposit.
- ~ Any Chamber member can accept CHAMBER BUCKS.
- ~ CHAMBER BUCKS are not meant to be redeemed for cash, however practice good customer relations and give change as you would for other checks written over the amount of purchase.
- ~ CHAMBER BUCKS are being used by businesses and individuals in the community for gifts, incentives, bonuses, promotional prizes, special event drawings and more. Keep their gift excitement going by making it easy for them to redeem their DL Chamber Bucks.



Contact your local legislators

Senator Amy Klobuchar (DFL)
 202.224.3244
senator.klobuchar@senate.gov

Senator Tina Smith (DFL)
 202.224.5641

Seventh District Collin Peterson (DFL) US House
 D.C.: 202.225.1593
 218.847.5056

Paul Utke (R)
 Senate 2
 218-255-1131

Kent Eken (DFL)
 Senate 4
 651.296.3205
Sen.kent.eken@senate.mn

Steve Green (R)
 House 2B
 651.296.9918
Rep.steve.green@house.mn

Paul Marquart (DFL)
 House 4B
 651.296.6829
rep.paul.marquart@house.mn

For more information go to www.gis.leg.mn

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Directors

Peggy Akers..... 2021

Jill Brandt 2020

Jackie Buboltz..... 2020

Vern Schnathorst..... 2022

Mike Sidders 2022

Amy Wolf 2021

Contact Us

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Carrie@VisitDetroitLakes.com

Cleone Stewart... Tourism Director
Cleone@VisitDetroitLakes.com

Jean Erickson... Office Coordinator
Jean@VisitDetroitLakes.com

Sandy Stilke... Membership
Services Coordinator
Sandy@VisitDetroitLakes.com

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dlchamber@VisitDetroitLakes.com
www.VisitDetroitLakes.com

What's Happening!

February 2020

- 1 Midnite Riders Old Timer's Snowmobile Run, Lake Park
- 3-4 Canadian "Why Not?" Bonspiel, Lakes Curling Club
- 5 Chamber Ambassadors, 9:30am, Chamber Office
- 6-17 Polar Fest, event schedule at www.polarfestdl.com
- 6 Lakes Crisis & Resource Center Open House, 4-6pm
- 6 MN Sn'ice Palace Lighting, 7pm
- 7-9 Vern Turner Memorial Bonspiel, Lakes Curling Club
- 7 Daddy's Little Sweetheart Dance, 6pm, Holmes Theatre
- 7 Polaritaville, 5:30-8:30pm, Shorewood Pub
- 8 Kiwanis Pancake Feed, 8am-noon, American Legion Club
- 8 Great Polar Race, Scavenger Hunt around DL, 10am-1pm,
- 8 Poles 'n Holes Fishing Derby, 9am-3pm, Little Detroit Lake
- 8 Fandazzi Fire Circus, 7pm & 9pm, DL City Beach/Park
- 9 Snoway But Up & Snoway But Round Races, Detroit Mountain Rec. Area
- 10 Resolution Restart 2020 Fitness Challenge begins, DLCCC
- 10 Jared Munch: Paddle Boarding from Duluth to the Arctic Ocean, 7pm, DL Public Library
- 11 Noon Rotary Polar-ific Spaghetti Feed, 4:30-7:30pm, M State Cafeteria
- 12 :45 Fill-up, 8:15-9am, Starboard Point Luxury Condo (Fairfield 4th floor)
- 12 Brown Bag Lunch Series, noon-1pm, Becker County Museum
- 13 Giving Hearts Day, www.GivingHeartsDay.org
- 13 Chocolate Fantasy, 5:30-7:30pm, Becker County Museum
- 13 Tom Papa Comedy Show, 7:30pm, Holmes Theatre
- 14 The Romantics Concert, 8pm, Shooting Star Casino
- 15 ULTRA Vintage Rally & Swap Meet, 8am, DL City Beach (ride at noon)
- 15 Freeze Your Buns Run, 8am registration, 9am run, DLCCC
- 15 Polar Fest Plunge, 1pm, Detroit Lake near Lakeside Tavern
- 15 Frozen Fireworks, 7pm, Little Detroit Lake
- 16 Kids Pan Fish Derby, 12-1:30pm, Little Det. Lake, Rossman Ave. area
- 16 "LIVE" at The Lodge, 5-8pm, The Lodge on Lake Detroit
- 16 Candlelight Cross Country Ski Night, 6-8pm, Detroit Mountain XC Trails
- 18 Tourism Bureau board meeting, 8:15 am
- 22 Ice Harvest 440 Snowmobile Race, Detroit Lake
- 25 Dr. Jazz & the Dixieland Sounds, 7pm, Holmes Theatre
- 27 Chamber Board Meeting, 8am, Chamber Office
- 28 Joe Nichols, 8pm, Shooting Star Casino
- 29 DL Lions Bowling Blast, 4:30pm, Voyageur Lanes

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.