



# Detroit Lakes CHAMBER NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce

## New to the Area? Join us May 3rd!



### Welcome to Detroit Lakes

Learn about events, resources and community information you can use. Whether you are new to the area or want to re-connect with the community, this event is for you!

All are welcome. Admission is FREE.

Tuesday, May 3rd, 2022 | 4:00 - 4:45 PM

DL Chamber of Commerce | 700 Summit Ave | RSVP 218-847-9202



New employee, neighbor or friend? Know someone looking to make more connections in the area? Be sure to invite them to our next Welcome to DL event.

Want to make sure we tell new residents about your business? Check that the DL Chamber Office has a stock of your business cards or flyers to promote your business in our lobby... we will share these resources at the quarterly Welcome to DL events and with visitors all year.

## Birders Flocking to DL!

Detroit Lakes is nestled in the heart of a transition zone between tall grass prairie, northern hardwood and conifer forest ecosystems. That means there are lots of kinds of birds! Which, in turn, means a lot of serious birders flocking here each spring for the annual Festival of Birds.

The 25th annual Festival of Birds is scheduled for May 19-21, 2022. This “build your own conference” offers workshops, fieldtrips, speakers, exhibits and demonstrations.

Every year this event draws birders from all over the US and the world. We hope you'll join too! More information and registration can be found at [VisitDetroitLakes.com](http://VisitDetroitLakes.com).

Here are just a few places attendees will explore: Bird by pontoon on Detroit Lake, Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge, Hamden Sough National Wildlife Refuge, Rush Wildlife Management Area, Itasca State Park & La Salle Lake Rec. Area.



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:**

March 2022	YTD
• Walk-Ins	
121	302
• Phone Calls	
271	396
• Visitor Guides Mailed	
396	1,060
• Website Sessions	
30,651	91,297

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

# HR Connect at Laker Transitions

Join us **Thursday May 5, 2022; 8:15 - 9:30 AM** for the monthly HR Connect. We will be meeting at: **Laker Transitions, 1104 West River Road** (just east of Cenex on Hwy 34), DL. Tour the facility and learn about the excellent work they are doing in workforce training.



HR Connect is perfect for HR professionals, business owners and managers. We discuss human resource topics, share best practices and review data to help attract, retain and grow an excellent workforce for the lakes region!

## :45 Fill-up is May 11th

DL Chamber Members are welcome to join in for :45 minutes of networking!

Hosted the 2nd Wednesday of each month 8:15-9:00 am at the DL Chamber Office.

Bring your business cards, event flyers and information. FREE. Coffee and treats provided. No RSVP required. All employees of member businesses are welcome.



# Advertise in this newsletter

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

~ **Inserts:** reserve your place in the next newsletter for your insert. \$160.00 (\$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.

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# Sharpen your *EDGE* in 2022!

In 2022, we have 3 dynamic presenters ready to Inspire, train and help you to sharpen your *EDGE*.

**Kat Perkins on June 22nd**

**Dr. Cindra Kamphoff on September 21st**

**Dr. Kerry Petsinger on November 9th**

Hear all three inspiring speakers for just \$99.00!

Call to reserve your tickets 218-847-9202 or

Carrie@VisitDetroitLakes.com



**Kat Perkins**

*Musician, Author and Finalist on NBC's "The Voice"*

Kat will share how attitude can help you rise above and be fearless.

June 22, 2022  
City Park Band Shell - Detroit Lakes



**Dr. Cindra Kamphoff**

*Executive Coach, Author and Podcast Host*

Dr. Cindra will help you train your mind, gain your edge and achieve your goals.

September 21, 2022  
Meadows on Lind - Detroit Lakes



**Dr. Kerry Petsinger**

*High Performance Coach, Professor and Writer*

Dr. Kerry will empower you to create a routine of peak performance that brings results.

November 9, 2022  
Event Center - Frazee

Sponsored by:



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As a member of the DL Chamber, your business takes DL Chamber Bucks!

- ~ CHAMBER BUCKS are actual checks from the DL Chamber issued to your business. Any DL Chamber member can accept CHAMBER BUCKS.
- ~ Put CHAMBER BUCKS in your cash register and treat them like other checks in your bank deposit.
- ~ 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.

Thank you to First Security Bank, Bremer Bank and Wells Fargo Bank for supporting this program for over 30 years!

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# Academies of DL Update



April 25, 2022 By Josh Omang Principal DL High School  
Over the past 6 years Detroit Lakes Public Schools has been working hard to transform our high school experience to better prepare students for their futures. In fact, the first group of **seniors who have experienced the “wall to wall” academy model** will be graduating this year! There are several **components that make an “academy model high school”** different from a traditional high school experience. These **components all work together to create “college ready,” “career ready,” and “life ready” students.** Below we have outlined several important components of this model in an effort to further educate and connect our community with the Academies of Detroit Lakes High School.

## “College Ready”

Students complete rigorous coursework at DLHS that prepares them to attend and succeed at any post secondary institution of their choice. We offer several AP and concurrent enrollment courses where students have the opportunity to earn early college credit while in high school. Additionally, there are several industry related certifications that students can earn within our academy pathways. These certifications allow students to demonstrate the knowledge and skills that they have acquired throughout their high school career. Our academic coursework is rigorous and fulfills the MN State graduation requirements just like every other high school throughout Minnesota. One important difference in this coursework is that our instructors work hard to teach core content through the lens of their academy pathway. These connections between core content and industry standards work together to expose kids to relevant skills and knowledge that are currently used in industry. Most importantly, we want our students to have a plan when they leave us. Even if this plan changes, we are highly confident that our students have been equipped with the tools necessary to navigate anything that the real world throws their way.

## “Career Ready”

There are over 60 community partners that work directly with our instructors to provide meaningful work based learning experiences for our students. DLHS has a work based learning continuum that all students experience throughout their careers. This starts right away in 9th grade with our Freshman Career Fair and freshman interviews and culminates with the senior capstone project. On May 9th, our seniors will be presenting their capstone projects around the building at

DLHS showcasing the amazing things that they have learned throughout their 4 years with us! At each grade level these work based learning activities provide a different type of exposure where students learn about opportunities in multiple high wage, high demand careers. Activities include everything from industry related field trips, guest teachers, and job shadows, to internships where students are working on solving real world problems that a business is having.

## “Life Ready”

Teaching the soft skills of responsibility, attendance, hard work, teamwork, and others has long been a goal of the school experience. At DLHS we have adopted a document called the **“10 Commandments of Career Success”** as our roadmap for talking to students about soft skills. The skills outlined in this document have been developed in partnership with our academy advisory boards and from current research about **what “soft skills” businesses currently value most.** The academy advisory boards are made up of business partner representatives, pathway teachers, school administrators, and even students who are experiencing each pathway. They meet periodically throughout the school year to improve several aspects of our academy classes. Our goal is to be sure that we intentionally teach these important life skills throughout a **student’s high school career in both academy pathway courses and core content courses.**

As we continue improving our academy experience for students at DLHS it is important to keep in mind how much things have changed since most of us have been in high school. Taking core content classes alone is no longer enough to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to **be successful in today’s world.** The rigorous content, exposure that students get from work based learning activities, and intentional teaching of employability skills in our academy model **all combine to truly create students who are “college ready,” “career ready,” and “life ready.”** We are always looking to expand our community partnerships to both prepare our students for their futures and improve the talent pipeline in the workforce. If you are interested in joining our movement to transform how students are prepared for success, contact our Work Based Learning Coordinator, Vern Schnathorst. vschnathorst@detlakes.k12.mn.us or myself Josh Omang, Principal, at jomang@detlakes.k12.mn.us or by calling us at the High School directly (218) 847-4491.

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# Ambassador Visits in April



Ambassadors presented a First Dollar of Profit to Shelley Weets & Bryan Lee of **Caliber Home Loans**. The business is located at 1265 Hwy. 10 West, Ste. 8, Detroit Lakes. They handle residential mortgage lending for purchase, refinance or remodel. (Not pictured is Brooke Ames)



Jessica Burhans presented a First Dollar of Profit to **Burgau Insurance Agency**, 1265 Hwy. 10 West, Ste. 9, Detroit Lakes. Pictured above with Jessica are: (l) LeAnn Burgau (Owner/Agent) and Darla Medeck-Johnson. Burgau Insurance is an independent health insurance agency specializing in Medicare Health and prescription drug plans. Their goal is to educate their clients so they can feel confident in choosing insurance plans that provide the most effective coverage for their needs.



Dr. Scott Lawrence, Liberty Health, received a First Dollar of Profit. His clinic is located at 1361 Wenner Road, Detroit Lakes. The clinic offers primary and specialty care.

## The 2022 Coupon Books are now available!



Stop in the DL Chamber Office to pick up copies for your guests and clients. While you are here be sure to grab Visitor Guides, maps and local information perfect for your lobby, new employee packets, reunions, events or in your guest room.

You can also find these hot deals online at <https://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/hotdeals>



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## Member News

**Detroit Lakes Public Utilities** received a first place Safety Award of Excellence for 2021 from the American Public Power Association. Nearly 320 utilities from across the country submitted applications. The award is based on the number of work-related reportable injuries or illnesses and the number of worker hours during the year. APPA has offered the awards for more than 65 years.

**First Lutheran Church Detroit Lakes** will be having a free tree giveaway on Sunday, May 1 from 9:30 to 11:00. Come to the back parking lot and help the environment! The trees will be 6-10 inch bare root and will include, chokecherry, red splendor crabapple, red (Norway) pine and black hills spruce. Limit 3 trees till supply runs out. Care, mulch, and planting instructions available. Questions call 218-849-0876.

DL Public Schools invites you to a community open house at Laker Transitions on Thurs. May 19th at 10am. **Laker Transitions, 1104 West River Road** (just east of Cenex on Hwy 34), DL. Ribbon Cutting followed by tours and information on their programs.

## Member Renewals

Thanks to the following members who have renewed their DL Chamber membership from March 31–April 25, 2022. Chamber memberships renew throughout the entire year. For a complete list of members see [business.visitdetroitlakes.com/list](http://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/list)

Advanced Business Methods  
At Ease Dock & Lift  
Becker County Transit  
Dakota Mailing & Shipping Equip.  
Design 2 Sell  
DL Bike Shop  
First Baptist Church  
Golden Manor  
Jiffy Lube

Lake Detroiters Association  
Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union  
Miller Yard Care & Construction  
MONO Investments  
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# Welcome New Members

### Zeke's Mobile Welding & Repair

Zeke Staloch, Owner  
17945-330th Avenue  
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952-334-0563  
Email: zekeswelding.repair@gmail.com

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### HomeSmart Adventure Realty

Robb Johnson, Broker-Owner  
1012 Washington Avenue  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
218-844-4440  
Email: Robb@RealtorRobb.com  
www.HomeSmart.com

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### Patriot Assistance Dogs

Marielle Kahler, Administrator  
1478 Mallard Street  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
218-850-2425  
Email: info@padmn.org  
www.patriotassistancedogs.com

We provide service dogs to military veterans living with mental health issues at no cost.

### Lora Honer Designs

Lora Honer, Graphic Designer/Owner  
19624 Ecrú Drive  
Park Rapids, MN 56470  
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Email: Lora@L-HDesigns.com  
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## Contact your local legislators

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

**Senator Tina Smith (DFL)**  
202.224.5641  
scheduling@smith.senate.gov

**Michelle Fischbach (R)**  
7th District US House  
202 225-2165 or  
218-616-2802

**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](http://www.gis.leg.mn)



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Jackie Buboltz.....2023
- Treasurer  
John Hansen .....2023
- Past Chair  
Brittany Nordick ..... 2022
- Directors  
Jodi Ahles .....2023  
Chris Gravidahl .....2023  
Nate Hunter..... 2024  
Shannon Johnson..... 2024  
Vern Schnathorst .....2022  
Mike Sidders .....2022

**Contact Us**

- Carrie Johnston... President  
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
- Phone: 218-847-9202  
dlchamber@VisitDetroitLakes.com  
www.VisitDetroitLakes.com

**What's Happening!**

May 2022

- 1 Free Tree Giveaway, 9:30-11am, First Lutheran Church DL
- 3 Welcome to DL, 4-4:45pm, Chamber Office
- 4 Ambassadors, 9:30am
- 4 Pinot for Paws (for HSL), 5:30pm, Spanky's
- 4 DL Fire Department Open House, 6-7pm, Fire Hall
- 5 HR Connect, 8:15-9:30am, Laker Transitions
- 5 Lakes Chic Street Fashion Show, 7pm, Norby's Flats
- 6 The Beach Boys, 8pm, Shooting Star
- 7 Free Movie "The Addams Family 2", 10am, Cinemagic Theatre
- 7 Bonnets & Bowties (for Marshmallow Anim. Shltr), 3-6pm, Holiday Inn
- 7 Remembering Bobby Vee, 7:30pm, Holmes Theatre
- 11 :45 Fill-up, 8:15-9am, Chamber Office
- 11 Day of Caring, Detroit Lakes
- 12 Her Crooked Heart, 7:30pm, Holmes Theatre
- 13 High Valley, 8pm, Shooting Star Casino
- 14 Shelter-wide Open House, 11am-4pm, Humane Society of the Lakes
- 14 Troubador, 9pm, Zorbaz
- 15 Opening Day Tamara NWR Visitor's Center, 10am-5pm
- 18 Celebrate Aging Expo, 9am-2pm, Holiday Inn
- 19-21 Festival of Birds, various locations
- 20 No Mercy Fights, 6:30pm, Freeman Arena
- 21 Opening Day Farmer's Market, 10am-1pm, Peoples Park
- 21 Bridge Over Troubled Water, 7:30pm, Holmes Theatre
- 26 Chamber Board of Directors, 8am, Chamber Office
- 26 Customer Appreciation Open House, Design 2 Sell
- 27 Joe Nichols, 8pm, Shooting Star Casino
- 28-30 Opening Weekend at Shady Hollow Flea Market
- 28-30 ATA Trap Shoot, Becker Co. Sportsmen's Club

See full calendar of events at [VisitDetroitLakes.com](http://VisitDetroitLakes.com)  
Please let us know if you have events for our website calendar.