

# Detroit Lakes CHAMBER NEWS



Official Newsletter of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce

## Women's *EDGE*—September 27th

The Women's *EDGE* Speaker Series for 2023 is excited for our next speaker Kristi Floersch. At 3:00 pm on Wed, September 27th we will be gathering at the Becker County Museum 2nd floor conference room and outdoor deck.

Kristi is an artist, author and entrepreneur who is very passionate about helping us flourish. Kristi will bring an interactive presentation that will bring her art alive and inspire us to make the most of our time.

If you are a reader, you may want to check out Kristi's book (see her website <https://flourishnow.net/author>). Her book, "It's Time, Flourish Now" will help you define the life you are intended to live. Kristi says: "Most people either have anxiety from not having enough time or are depressed about having too much time your hands. You are designed for more."

Tickets are available for both Kristi Floersch on Sept 27th and for Melissa Marshall on November 8th. Each session is \$45, call 218-847-9202 to reserve your seat.



women's  
**EDGE**  
Engage • Develop • Grow • Empower



## FREE Non-profit Training by SCORE



Join us for a free Business Builders Workshop: **Building Stronger Nonprofits**  
September 12th from 9:00 am-4:00 pm at the DL Chamber Office or via Zoom

Prairie  
and Lakes

The workshop will be hosted in Fargo, Grand Forks, Bismarck, Minot and Detroit Lakes. Seating will be limited at each of these locations, and we will allow only 2 people per organization to attend in person. It will also be available via ZOOM for those who cannot attend at one of the onsite locations. Topics will include social entrepreneurship, business model canvas for entrepreneurs, board of directors – recruiting and engagement, strategic planning, grant writing, friend raising, volunteer recruitment, and marketing communications.

Speakers will include: Cindy Miles – CEO Kansas Nonprofit Chamber, Bree Langemo - Director of Concordia College Center for Entrepreneurship, Dennis Elbert – Dean Emeritus of the College of Business and Public Administration, University of North Dakota, Del Carver – SCORE District Director: North Dakota, South Dakota, and West Central MN, Della Kapocius – Former Grant Writer for the Center for Innovation, and more

Go to [VisitDetroitLakes.com/Chamber](http://VisitDetroitLakes.com/Chamber) for more event information and to register.

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>July 2023</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
• Walk-Ins 398	1,451
• Phone Calls 354	1,786
• Website Sessions 63,705	269,613

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



## In memory of Jodi



The DL Chamber extends our sympathy to the friends, family and Colliers Securities clients of Jodi Ahles. Jodi was currently serving as the Incoming Chair of the Chamber Board of Directors and was active in a few committees until her cancer no longer allowed her to participate. Her leadership will be greatly missed.

For those wishing, memorials in Jodi's memory may be made to Special Olympics or to the Detroit Lakes Kiwanis Club.

## :45 Fill-up is September 13th

This month's host is Amazon Hub Delivery Partners. Learn more about what is new at the DL Chamber and around town!

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



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

## Summit Ave Construction

Summit Ave in Detroit Lakes (Highway 10 to Holmes St) is under construction this fall. There will be times when the DL Chamber's front door will not be the easiest to get to.

**BUT don't fear... our back door and parking lot will be open!**  
Monday—Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, year-round



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# Nominations Needed by Sept 5th



## Splash Awards 2023

Vision | Involvement | Impact

We hope you will consider nominating someone for our annual Splash Awards!

### Individuals:

- ◇ **LAUNCH AWARD** This award recognizes an individual in our community whose leadership, volunteerism, energy and willingness to serve propels projects, organizations and our community forward.
- ◇ **ACCELERATOR AWARD** This award recognizes an individual who motivates their friends, colleagues and community to get involved. This person is a dedicated volunteer, team-builder and a community collaborator who inspires us to rev up.
- ◇ **BEACON AWARD** This award recognizes an individual who is a long- standing volunteer and repeat performer for their willingness to always step up, participate and lead. They are a steady beacon of light.
- ◇ **SKIPPER AWARD** This award recognizes an individual's outstanding leadership in their company or organization. They have gone above and beyond to help the community.

### Businesses or Organizations:

- ◇ **WAVE AWARD** This award recognizes a current DL Chamber Member business or organization that sets the example for promoting and investing in the tourism and hospitality industry in our region.
- ◇ **LIGHTHOUSE AWARD** This award recognizes a business or organization that consistently shows their enduring commitment and long-standing service to our region. Their light shows us the way.
- ◇ **RIPPLE AWARD** This award recognizes a club, group or non-profit that motivates the people around them to be engaged and contributing members of the community through an event, volunteer project or service. They make ripples in our region.

See the insert in this newsletter to attend October 5th to celebrate our Splash Awards!

## ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER!

The DL Chamber News is published monthly and features the happenings at the Chamber and with our members.

~ **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 delivered to the Chamber Office by the 24th of the month.

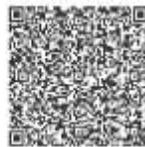
Ask us about ways your business can be featured in the newsletter. From Member News to Ambassador Visits - we want to help you promote your events and milestones.

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# An Active August



On Wednesday, August 2nd the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce had the chance to officially “cut the ribbon” on the 40th WE Fest! Pictured (right) are Owner, Matt Mithun and General Manager, Mark Bjerke. Happy Birthday to WE Fest!



Thank you to event chair, Jeff Leighton and to all that participated in the August 8th Downtown DL Crazy Daze. We started the day with lots of crazy deals & ended with some crazy rain... but it was still a great day!



30 businesses attended the Employment Law training in Aug. Thank you Abbie Thurmes of Pemberton Law for excellent info.

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# Mental Health First Aid Training Available

The DL Chamber along with Marsh McLennan Agency present this great training:

### LEARN HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR COLLEAGUES, FRIENDS, FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS

Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults. Similar to First Aid or CPR, Mental Health First Aid helps build the skills and confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to those who are struggling and connect them to appropriate support.

#### AFTER THE COURSE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO:

- Recognize common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges.
- Understand how to interact with a person in crisis.
- Learn a 5-step action plan to help someone who is developing a mental health challenge & connect them to the appropriate resources or professional help.
- Use self-care tools and techniques.
- Receive information on mental health challenges such as depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis & substance use.

#### CALL [218-847-9202](tel:218-847-9202) TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT

**Date:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 \*pre-work required too  
**Time:** 8:30 am–3:00 pm (includes a 30 minute lunch and break)  
**Place:** Becker County Museum  
**Cost:** \$250.00 per person - includes lunch and all materials needed.  
 Only 25 spaces remain. See the insert in this newsletter to learn more.



## Member News

**Lakeshirts** ranks No. 113 for manufacturing firms on the 2023 Inc. 5000 list. The prestigious ranking provides a data-driven look at the most successful companies within the economy's most dynamic segment. In May, the company was awarded the Apparel Impact Award by CLC, the leading collegiate trademark licensing company. In June, they were named Better Business Bureau Torch Award for Ethics winner for large companies in Minnesota & North Dakota. Lakeshirts is almost 40 years old. Congratulations!

**TEAM Industries** announced the retirement of David Ricke, President & CEO, after 49 years of dedicated service. He will continue to serve as Chairman of the Board. Micah Ricke has been appointed the new President & CEO. Micah has been an integral part of the TEAM family for over 24 years.

The First National Bank of Henning (FNB), with offices in Ottertail, Battle Lake and Henning, announced it has entered into an agreement to purchase the Evansville and Detroit Lakes branches of **First Security Bank** which is headquartered in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota.

**Leighton Broadcasting's KDLM** wins the 2023 John Gordon award for MN Twins Radio Affiliate of the Year.



Your business could be a star!

This Space is Available for \$35.00 per month!



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## Support LOCAL!!

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!

## New Members

### Toshiba Business Solutions

Stephen Garey, Sr. Act. Manager  
11222 Co. Road 17  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
701-330-0593  
Email: Stephen.garey@tbs.toshiba.com  
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### Amazon Hub Delivery Partners

April Jorgenson, Acquisition Manager  
9436 West Broek Drive  
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## Member Renewals

See the list of member renewals on the insert in this newsletter.



Splash Awards  
October 5th  
3:00 pm  
Holmes Theatre  
Ballroom

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# GI Bill use for Job Trainings

GI Bill use for On-The-Job Training and Apprenticeships:

Employers with Apprenticeships and On-The-Job Training (OJT) Programs can become certified as an employer eligible to offer education benefits to Veterans through the GI Bill and the MN GI Bill. This provides additional incentives for potential new veteran employees that have remaining GI Bill or MN GI Bill eligibility or both. There must be specific training they need to accomplish; the remainder can be normal work activities that is supervised in some way.

Benefits to the new employee (the veteran) through using either the MN GI Bill or Federal GI Bill could range from \$2,000 to \$16,000 for the first year (paid by VBA or MDVA), which can be an attractive incentive (particularly if the new employee needs to relocate), and more if the training/apprenticeship lasts 2 years. If the new veteran employee uses the MN GI Bill, there are also job placement and retention incentives to the **employer** up to \$2,000. **This is a great way to leverage other people's money to support your business** and incentivize veterans to work for you! Matt at the Becker County Veterans Service Office can provide more information by calling (218) 846-7312. *Matt will also be giving more details on this at the HR Connect meeting on September 7... join us!*

# Got Employees?

On the first Thursday of each month, the Chamber's HR Connect meets. This is open to anyone and is free for DL Chamber members (\$10 for non members). Whether you have 1 employee or you manage many... this is a great place to ask questions and share best practices.

Thursday, September 7th  
8:15-9:30am  
DL Chamber Office

**Special Guest, Matt Erickson from Becker County Veteran's Services**



## 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

**Pete Stauber (R)**  
8th District US House  
<https://stauber.house.gov/>

**Paul Utke (R)**  
Senate 5  
218-255-1131  
sen.paul.utke@senate.mn

**Rob Kupec (DFL)**  
Senate 4  
651-296-3205  
sen.rob.kupec@senate.mn.

**Jim Joy (R)**  
House 4B  
651-296-6829  
rep.jim.joy@house.mn.gov

**Krista Knudsen (R)**  
House 5A  
651-296-9918  
rep.krista.knudsen@house.mn.gov

To find your local rep. go to  
<https://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/>

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Treasurer

Nate Hunter..... 2024

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Jackie Buboltz ..... 2024

Directors

Kim Bettcher .....2026

Jason Kuehne .....2026

Andrew Holmquist .....2025

Stacey Omberg.....2025

Joe Skogmo.....2026

**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

**What's Happening!**

September 2023

Tues/Sat. Lakes Area Farmer's Market, 10am-1pm, Peoples Park  
Saturdays Shady Hollow Flea Market, Hwy. 59 South

- 1 Septober Fest, 5-8pm, parking lot behind Coldwell Banker
- 1-4 Laddies Loppet Mountain Bike Races, Maplelag Resort
- 2-3 Craft & Vendor Show, Holiday Inn (Sat. 10am-6pm; Sun. 10am-3pm)
- 2-4 Shady Hollow Flea Market Labor Day Weekend
- 7 **HR Connect, 8:15-9:30am, Chamber Office**
- 9 Dick Beardsley Races—1/2 Marathon, 25k, 10K & 5K
- 9 Fall Open House, 9am-1pm, Dynamic Homes
- 10 Toast to Tamarac, 1-5pm, Lakeside Tavern
- 12 **Free Non-Profit Training, 9am-4pm, DL Chamber Office via Zoom**
- 13-15 Noon Rotary Blood Screening, 7-9:30am, EMS Building
- 13 **:45 Fill-up Member Meeting, 8:15-9am, DL Chamber Office**
- 13 **Cruise DL, Night 4-8:30am, West Lake Drive**
- 14 Water Street Dance Milwaukee, 7:30pm, Holmes Theatre
- 15 Noon Rotary Golf Scramble, 12:30pm shotgun start, Detroit Co. Club
- 16 Retreat Open House, 2-5pm, Holbrook Farms
- 16 Survivors of Heroes Fundraiser, 5-9pm, Soo Pass Ranch
- 17 DaVinci The Exhibition Opens, Becker County Museum
- 21 United Way Community Celebration, 4:30-6:30pm, DL Pavilion
- 22 Tommy James & the Shondells, 8pm, Shooting Star Casino
- 23 Lake Park Pumpkin Fest
- 26 Echoes of Brass, 7pm, Holmes Theatre
- 27 **EDGE Speaker Kristi Floersch, 3-5pm, Becker County Museum**
- 28 **Chamber Board Meeting, 8am, Chamber Office**
- 28 Essentia Health Found. Designer Purse Bingo, 6:30pm, DL Pavilion
- 30 Oktoberfest, 11am-6pm, downtown DL

See full calendar of events at [VisitDetroitLakes.com](http://VisitDetroitLakes.com)

Please let us know if you have events for our website calendar.