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Sue Bjornstad,
Membership Drive Volunteer
Chamber Support Sales Tax Increase For Infrastructure

Chamber Board Chairman and owner of the Ground Round, Matt Walowiak presented The Chamber’s recommendation to increase the City Sales tax to the City Council last month. The Chamber proposes a .5% increase for 20 years with a cap at $2,500 with the tax to be used for road maintenance and the water plant to keep water rate increases reasonable.

In late March The Chamber conducted a scientific survey of likely GF voters to determine how people in Grand Forks would prefer to pay for infrastructure projects and what projects they would likely support. The recommendation presented to the City Council was based on these results and what The Chamber Board has been hearing since last fall’s sales tax vote on .75% for 50 years for a multitude of municipal projects.

June 20th Visit to the Washington D.C. Planned

Members of the Base Realignment Impact Committee will visit Under Secretary Hartley at the Pentagon on June 20th to talk about the many mission opportunities for GFAFB. This meeting will be particularly important since GFAFB will change from an Air Mobility Command Base (AMC) to an Air Combat Command Base (ACC) on June 15th. This command change will align the base with the ACC Global Hawk Mission currently stationed at GFAFB. It also positions GFAFB well for future unmanned spy and cyber missions which are part of ACC.

Chamber President, Barry Wilfahrt will be a part of the four-person delegation visiting the Under Secretary on behalf of Grand Forks Community Leaders.

Chamber Supports Arbor Lot Development

The Chamber encourages members and their employees to Vote No to Grow on June 20th in the special Grand Forks Election to decide the future of Arbor lot. See the attached fact sheet and fly through of the planned new downtown condominiums. **CLICK HERE**
Team Grand Forks Talks 2019 Session

Grand Forks Legislators and representatives from the Team Grand Forks group talk about the many successes during the recent legislative session, plans for hosting interim committees in Grand Forks and some very early discussion on potential key projects for next session.

Lt Governor Meets with Local Business Leaders

Lt Governor Mark Sanford met with local business leaders to talk about UAS, Grand Sky, UND, Canadian Trade, Agriculture, GFAFB, possible interim committees and the general economy as part of an informal discussion.

The Chamber/EDC Government Relations Group meets one to two times annually with the Governor and/or Lt Governor to talk about key issues and opportunities facing Grand Forks.

Ag Committee Seeks New Direction for 2018

A survey is currently out to all Chamber Agriculture Committee members and Ag Event Sponsors. The future approach to the Ag Appreciation Banquet, a business after hours type social event for area farmers and local producers and a farm your/social event for the community are all under consideration. Plans for 2018 will be announced later this summer.

Assumption F Command Ceremony on Tuesday June 6th

Colonel Benjamin W. Spencer is the Commander, 319th Air Base Wing, Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota. As commander, he serves as the senior officer responsible for providing base operating and direct operations support to wing personnel, 2 tenant units and 11 geographically separated units.

Colonel Spencer earned his commission through Officer Training School in March 1995. He is a career aircraft maintenance officer who also completed a 3-year tour in acquisitions as part of the Acquisitions & Logistics Experience Exchange Tour. Colonel Spencer has served as a maintenance operations officer, squadron commander, and group commander. He was also the Executive Officer to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Installations, Environment and Logistics. Additionally, Colonel Spencer

Continued on page 4
spent a year as the Execution Team Chief on the SecAF-CSAF Executive Action Group (HAF/CX). Colonel Spencer’s most recent assignment was the Commander, 355th Maintenance Group, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona.

In 1997, Colonel Spencer deployed as the Squadron Maintenance Officer for the 4407th Reconnaissance Squadron (Provisional) to Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. In 1999 and 2001 he deployed to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey in support of Operation NORTHERN WATCH as the Squadron Maintenance Officer for the 77th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron. Additionally, Colonel Spencer deployed to Iraq as the Commander, 1st Expeditionary Special Operations Maintenance Squadron in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM from May–September 2007. Finally, he deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM from July 2013-June 2014 as Commander, 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Group.

June 21 | King’s Walk | 11 am

For more information, call Megan Rupe at 701.757.5451 or find Edgewood on Facebook!

Calling all sponsors & golfers!
Please join us for an exciting day of golf, fundraising & fun!
Funds raised from the tournament will go to the Alzheimer’s Association and help us in the battle to end Alzheimer’s!

June
13 ................. Agribusiness
14 .................. Government Education Alliance Committee Meeting
15 .... Executive Committee Meeting
19 ... Ambassadors Meeting
21 .... Brown Bag Luncheon
22 ........ Board of Directors Meeting
29 ......... Military Affairs Committee Golf Tourney
The Chamber Ambassadors would love to meet you and celebrate your business with a ribbon cutting ceremony. If you are interested, please contact our membership director at 772-7271 or emberlyL@gochamber.org to schedule a ribbon cutting event.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND

MAK Construction

Red River Behavioral Health

RH Standard

Synergy Builders
Ambassador Meeting

We are the welcoming arm of The Chamber. We welcome new chamber members and businesses with ribbon cutting ceremonies. We assist with registration and greeting at Chamber functions, and we participate in The Chamber’s annual Membership Drive.

Guest speaker Brian Pabst, The Joy Work Club at East Grand Forks City Hall

Ambassador of the Quarter, (R) Patty Hajostek

IT MATTERS.

WATER. It grows our children and crops.
It develops our cities and country.
It powers our industries and businesses.
It cleanses our bodies and the land.

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ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING | STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING | COMMUNICATION SERVICES

THINK BIG. GO BEYOND.
It’s the talk of the town!

This is one of the many networking opportunities The Chamber offers for its members and their employees.

Rydell’s showcased their business while Chamber members networked in a relaxed atmosphere.
Taking the stress out of business banking so you can get back to living your life.

Making Life Happen

Business Loans
Commercial Line of Credit
Account Analysis
SBA Approved Lender
Checking Accounts
SEP IRAs

citizens-cu.com
Jenny Arel and Jeanne Peterson Join Altru Health Foundation’s Board of Directors

Grand Forks, N.D. – Beginning in May, Jenny Arel, realtor at Coldwell Banker Forks Real Estate and Jeanne Peterson, Financial Director at Edward Jones joined the Altru Health Foundation Board of Directors. “We are very fortunate to have two outstanding professionals join the Altru Health Foundation board of directors - Jenny Arel and Jeanne Peterson,” says Jon Green, executive director at Altru Health Foundation. “Both bring many years of knowledge and expertise to the nonprofit patient care work of the foundation. Jenny has prior experience as a foundation director and Jeanne has excellent experience in the investment field. Both grew up in the surrounding rural region and understand the challenges of rural medicine.”

Arel grew up in Park River, North Dakota and currently lives in Grand Forks. Her passion within Altru Health System is to provide exceptional healthcare to the region. As a board member she wants to strategically plan for the future, drive goals and support the mission of Altru. Arel enjoys spending time at the lake with friends and family and is also a financial advisor for Alpha Phi.

Peterson grew up in Fertile, Minnesota and currently lives in Grand Forks. Peterson joined the Altru Health Foundation Board of Directors to give back to the community. “My passion would be in the area of customer services. I think customer service is at the heart of any successful organization,” explains Peterson. She hopes to have an impact, to support the mission of the board and to gain knowledge and insight into Altru. “Jenny and Jeanne join a group of dedicated professional board members all committed to helping Altru deliver world class care through our donor’s generous gifts,” says Jon Green.

Altru’s Jodie Storhaug, OTR/L, Receives Neonatal Therapy Certification

Grand Forks, N.D. – Altru Health System is proud to announce that Jodie Storhaug, OTR/L has passed the Neonatal Therapy Certification. Jodie was recognized at the National Association of Neonatal Therapists Conference this month as one of 76 therapists in the United States to take and pass the exam. She is the only Certified Neonatal Therapist in the state of North Dakota. This certification verifies that the therapist has demonstrated their advanced knowledge in caring for high risk infants in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Jodie earned her bachelor’s degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of North Dakota. Of the 30 years she’s worked for Altru Health System, she’s spent 25 years in inpatient therapy with a focus in Neonatal Intensive Care. Jodie and her husband have two daughters and one grandchild on the way. They are involved with the Feed My Starving Children organization, partnering with them to bring a MobilePack to the Grand Forks community for the past seven years. When she's not at work, Jodie enjoys spending time at Pelican Lake, knitting, exercising, Bible study, celebrating her Norwegian heritage and spending time with family.

Altru’s Jodie Storhaug, OTR/L, Receives Neonatal Therapy Certification


Previously a credit underwriter, Rentz is now responsible for developing and cultivating relationships in addition to managing significant customer portfolios. He is the primary contact for new or existing customers and provides comprehensive financial management solutions for customers with lending, deposit, and investment needs.

Rentz joined Alerus in 2010 as a staff accountant and later transitioned into credit underwriting. Prior to Alerus, he was an auditor with RSM US LLP (formerly McGladrey LLP). Rentz has almost ten years of experience in the financial industry and received a Bachelors of Accountancy and Bachelor of Business Administration in Managerial Finance and Accounting degrees from the University of North Dakota. He volunteers with Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest and serves as a council board member and finance committee member for Calvary Lutheran Church. Rentz and his wife, Bethany, currently reside in Grand Forks, N.D.
Welcome New Members

Steer’s Somalian Cuisine joined with Kathryn Kester
Elias Dean
2915 South Washington St.
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-757-3113
elias.dean@outlook.com
www.facebook.com/steersgfk/
Steer’s is serving up delicious Somalian cuisine including samosas, rice and chicken dishes at the restaurant located on South Washington Street. You can also get a taste of these delectable dishes at various local events. Follow us on Facebook for our menu and hours of operation. Call us to cater your next event or business meeting!

Half Brothers Brewing Company joined with Jenny Kuhns
Chad Gunderson
17 N. 3rd St.
Grand Forks, ND 58203
(P) 218-791-1047
chad@halfbrothersbrewing.com
www.halfbrothersbrewing.com
Half Brothers Brewing Company will be a 10-barrel production craft brewery and taproom located in downtown Grand Forks. Owners and half-brothers Chad Gunderson & Taylor Nord plan to transform the former Dakota harvest Bakery building into the brewery, focusing on locally inspired hand crafted brews and a small craft food menu for the community to enjoy.

K & E Construction joined with Craig Ventzke
Elliott Knutson
20900 State Hwy 200 SW
East Grand Forks, ND 56721
(P) 701-741-4643
elliottknutson@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/K-E-Construction-213506715807806/
K & E Construction Provides Poured Concrete Foundations, Foundation And Slab Repairs, Replacement And Water Proofing, Flat Work And Removal And Egress Windows To The East Grand Forks, Mn Area

Sayko General Contracting, Inc. joined with Charlene Wifall
Aaron Custer
214 8th Ave. S.
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-610-9326
saykocontracting@yahoo.com

Isagenix - Rachel Osowski joined with Janelle Studney
Rachel Osowski
Manvel, ND 58256
(P) 701-330-9848
rachelosowski@live.com
www.facebook.com/rachel.hillhouseosowski
Rachel is a health & wellness enthusiast with a passion for nutrition, physical fitness, and creating time and financial freedom for clients. Rachel is passionate about helping others to live their best lives. She will help you choose proper nutrition, make recommendations and assist you in achieving your health and wealth goals through the use of Isagenix systems.

Jensville Firearms Training, LLC joined with Kathy Snider
Craig & Shari Hanson
2375 5th Ave NE
Northwood, ND 58267
(P) 218-791-4829
jensvillestore@gmail.com
www.jensvillefirearmstraining.com
Jensville Firearms Training, LLC provides training for basic pistol safety and use. We offer a Ladies Only Classes, North Dakota Concealed Carry Classes I and II, Gun Range, Passport Photo’s, and Fingerprint service.

LifeVantage-Analiza Caoili joined with Kathryn Kester
Analiza “Annie” Caoili
2203 S. 38th St.
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-739-4468
anniecaoili@hotmail.com
www.livelifelivelong.lifevantage.com
Annie a LifeVantage Independent Distributor. LifeVantage is a wellness and personal care company that produces products that promote healthy living. We believe products are only as good as the science they stand on.

Pace Painting & Drywall joined with Mike Kjelshus
Jacob Green
300 2nd Ave. NE
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
(P) 218-399-1002
pacepainting@yahoo.com
www.pacepaintinganddrywall.com
We are a professional painting and drywall contractor that has been in business over 22 years. We are primarily a commercial business that fairly bids hotels, apartments, strip malls and new construction including townhomes & residences. No job is too big or small!
Ault Construction
joined with Nancy Nelson
Brandon Ault
310 W. 7th St.
Larimore, ND 58151
(P) 701-265-2083
(P) 701-265-2117
constructionault@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/AultConstruction/
Ault Construction is a locally owned and operated company offering construction, remodeling, and home improvement services. We strive to implement quality work and a lasting relationship with our customers. Call us for your FREE estimate!

TIAA-Ryan Thompson
joined with Sue Bjornstad
Ryan Thompson
1142 17th St. N. STE D
Fargo, ND 58102
(P) 701-353-6216
Ryan.Thompson@tiaa.org
www.tiaa.org
Wealth Management Advisor with TIAA for Minnesota, North & South Dakota. We do retirement, Incapacity & Estate Planning for all their employees and families. I am also a Certified Financial Planner® that specializes in Trust Services & Estate Planning.

Grand Forks Subaru Kia
joined with Mykal Carlson
Matt Bredemeier
2400 Gateway Dr.
Grand Forks, ND 58203
(P) 701-746-4335
MATT@GFSUBARU.COM
www.grandforkssubaru.com
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joined with Jacob Johnson
Jacob Johnson
2524 S. Washington St. #6
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-757-0562
jjohnson@doherty.jobs
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Marc Kuhn
4575 32nd Ave S. STE 5
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(P) 701-330-8196
info@makconstructiongf.com
www.makconstructiongf.com
MAK Construction is committed to superior customer service and quality craftsmanship. Our project managers monitor every stage of the construction process, ensuring your project is held to our highest standards of quality.

Synergy Builders LLP
Marc Kuhn
4575 32nd Ave S. STE 5
Grand Forks, ND 58201
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info@synergybuildersnd.com
www.synergybuildersnd.com
We know it’s an important decision when you choose a builder for your home and it’s a decision that we don’t take lightly at Synergy Homes. Our team has learned the art of home construction with 75+ years of expertise in framing, drywall, painting, granite and tile.

Red River Valley Habitat for Humanity
joined with Larissa Campbell
Kyle Kosior
PO Box 5415
Grand Forks, ND 58206
(P) 701-741-7444
kosiork@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/Red-River-Valley-Habitat-for-Humanity-226269390720549/
Habitat for Humanity is not only committed to the construction of homes, but also to developing communities and uplifting the families that live there. Habitat builds, renovates and repairs simple decent and affordable housing with people who are living in inadequate housing and who are unable to secure adequate housing by conventional means.
### May 1 - May 30 Membership Renewals

The following businesses know the value of their Chamber Membership and have renewed their membership in The Chamber-GF/EGF. **GIVE THEM A VISIT!**

| 1st Realty of GGF, Inc          | Park University              |
| Aflac District Office          | Pat McLean                  |
| Assurity Finance & Development, LLC | Philadelphia Macaroni Company |
| Bon Voyage Travel Leaders      | Quality Inn                 |
| Bully Brew Coffee House        | Ramada Inn                  |
| Choice Financial-42nd          | Red Roof Inn Townhouse      |
| Dahlstrom Motors               | Rodeway Inn                 |
| Dakota Commercial & Development, Inc | Subway - 1801 Gateway Dr |
| Days Inn                       | Subway - 1850 S Columbia Rd |
| Doherty Staffing Solutions     | Subway - 2400 S Washington  |
| Eagles Crest Grill             | Subway - 2551 32nd Ave S    |
| East Grand Floral              | Subway - 2800 S. Columbia Rd|
| German Law Group, PC           | Subway - 32nd Ave S         |
| GF Custom Woodwork, Inc.       | Subway - DeMers             |
| Grand Cities Painting and Drywall | Subway - EGF                |
| Grand Forks Diesel Injection Service Inc. | Subway - Emerado |
| Greenberg Realty - Lynda & Tom Hartmann | Sunrooms Plus, Inc. |
| Holistic Hub LLC               | Terry Sando                 |
| Italian Moon Pizza & Restaurant | The Arc, Upper Valley        |
| James Dalglish                 | Thermography & Health Solutions LLC |
| Jewelry On The Run             | Total Relaxation            |
| Knights Inn and Suites         | True North Equipment        |
| KVRR-TV                        | U.S. Bank                   |
| Northrop Grumman Corporation   | Ultima Bank Minnesota-Loan Production Office |
| Obermiller Nelson Engineering  | Walmart-Gateway             |

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Grand Forks, ND 58203  
701.746.6466  
[www.hannahers.com](http://www.hannahers.com)
THIS IS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF GRAND FORKS

The Citizens for a Vibrant Grand Forks committee was formed by local business leaders, elected officials, community organizations and artists who believe that our community must embrace smart investment in our city. Our mission is to inform the citizens of Grand Forks with the facts about the upcoming special election on June 20 and advocate for the development of Arbor Lot. Vote NO to GROW!

Why is this development so important?

Simply put: more mixed-use buildings create more places to live, work and shop in Grand Forks. With businesses closing, tax revenue declining and our infrastructure needs increasing each year, as a Grand Forks community it is pivotal that we encourage this type of private investment – not discourage it.

Why not a develop a different lot?

The City Council and The Planning and Community Development Department selected the 15 South 4th Street lot because it was the only lot large enough to accommodate the development in Downtown Grand Forks. The other two lots within the downtown 'core' were deemed 'unbuildable' due to their size and the type of adjoining buildings.

Why Vote NO?

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT TO LOCAL BUSINESSES**

By voting NO and allowing this investment in our community, you are ensuring more people will work, live and shop downtown. The more people we have coming into our community, allows our current companies to continue to thrive.

**IMPROVE OUR LOCAL ECONOMY**

Development will inject an estimated $76.1 million* in new taxes over the next 99 years - money that could be used for much needed infrastructure and road improvements.

**NEW PLACES TO LIVE, WORK, & SHOP**

The development will add 15-28 owner-occupied units and 1-2 floors of retail space. In addition, this development will add two levels of parking. One sub-level and one ground level parking that will adhere to the backside of the main floor retail consisting of 2500sqft. Therefore, no additional street or parking ramp spaces will be taken up with this development. The last 26 downtown condos sold out in two weeks!

**HONOR THE ART AND OUR HERITAGE**

The City and developers are committed to using or relocating all the park’s art while commemorating the park’s heritage, in addition to maintaining the pedestrian walkthrough.

**99 YEARS AND $8.4 MILLION* COST**

Voting YES forces the city to keep the park for 99 years at an estimated cost of $8.4 million*. This cost and lack of flexibility hurts city planning.

Voting Information:

**Absentee Voting**

May 12 – June 19 | Request form can be found at the City’s website: GrandForksGov.Com/Election

**Election Day**

June 20 at the Alerus Center from 7AM – 7PM
Please make sure to bring a valid form of I.D.

*Numbers were provided by the City of Grand Forks which were calculated by Mike Bergeron for the City Council based on a 2.5% annual escalator for both maintenance and property taxes extending calculations out to 99 years.
Thursday, 
June 15
4:45pm ~ 7:00pm

Hosted by

FREE ADMISSION

• Complimentary hors d’oeuvres
• Cash Bar
• Great Door Prizes
• Progressive cash drawing is at 600!

Hugo’s/Hugo’s Wine & Spirits and Forx Rentall invite all Chamber Members and their employees to join them for a fun Business After Hours event outdoors! Country musician Ruthie Collins will be performing!

Stop in... Enjoy the fun and take advantage of great networking opportunities. You might even win $600 in our progressive cash drawing! We’ll draw the name of one Chamber Member business. If someone from that organization is present, they win!!

Because of the business nature of this event, no children under 18 may attend.