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May 2022 Newsletter

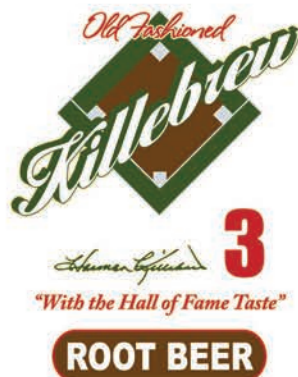
SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Chamber Golf Tournament Fundraiser is July 25th!

Get this one on your calendar, the 34th Annual Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament Fundraiser will be held on Monday, July 25, at Green Haven Golf Course in Anoka!

The Golf Tournament Committee has begun meeting and an event flyer will soon be in the mail to all members. This is a great networking opportunity and more! For now, save the date!

**THANK YOU TO THE GOLF
TOURNAMENT
TITLE SPONSOR,
Killebrew Root Beer!**



ITS TIME TO NETWORK!

The next MIX NETWORKING EVENT is May 24th!



The Mix! An Anoka Area Chamber Business After Hours Event is a great networking opportunity for Anoka Area Chamber Members!

The next Mix event will be held on Tuesday, May 24th in the Empire Room at 10k Brewing in downtown Anoka.

The Mix is being sponsored by Jessi Gurr and the crew at Iceberg Web Design! The event will run from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. There is NO COST TO ATTEND and those that do will have a chance to win some gift cards that will be given away at the event!

Great networking at an even better price!!! Don't miss this one! Your chance to tell all about the products and services you have to offer. Will you meet your next client at the event? NO RSVP needed, just stop in the day of the event and let the networking begin!

The Mix is Sponsored by:





MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHAMBER COMES WITH BENEFITS!

This Anoka Area Chamber Member Benefit HAS US TALKING ABOUT YOU!!

This month's Benefit is: Member Referrals.

Here's the best part about this month's benefit. You don't have to do anything because you already did by joining the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce. Everyday the Chamber office is called by the public or other businesses asking for referrals for products or services they need. As a member, we tell them about you. We don't pick one member over the other but tell them about all the members that cover their request and needs. We only tell those requesting referrals about Chamber members in good standing. That's it, no one else, just members. You've done your first part and that is to join the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce. Now it's our time to go to work for you. Whether someone is looking for flowers, a motel or an accountant, we'll tell them about Chamber members.

Do you need a product or service? Check out the yellow page section of the Chamber Magazine that we produce each year or call the Chamber office. Local partners using each others products and services is something we all should do more of.

For more information about this benefit or any other benefits of membership in the Chamber, call 763.421.7130.

The Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce is a business organization made up of and ran by business people. Our goal is a simple one, do the best job to help promote and better our business members. There are many benefits of membership available only to members of the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce. Each month we'll highlight one of the benefits. If you'd like to learn about all benefits available, attend a Member Orientation Meeting held each month on the 2nd Thursday from 8 to 9 AM at the Chamber office. The meeting is free. RSVP to 763.421.7130 or mail@anokaareachamber.com.

Chairperson's Letter

April showers bring May flowers; we received the April showers and it was certainly needed! Now we anticipate the May flowers and the beautiful weather that comes with it! I hope you are able to get outdoors and enjoy the warmer weather. Spring also enables outdoor sports: the fishing opener, spring turkey season, outdoor baseball, track and field events and a litany of other outdoor activities not the least of which is road construction season. People that have been eagerly awaiting the warm weather to get on the bite on their favorite lake, athletes have practiced over the winter to better perform on the field and track this spring, campers have made arrangements for their trips. The theme here is that it takes hard work, preparation, and commitment to reach our goals whether it's flowers blooming, hitting a fastball, or landing that business deal nothing comes without first putting in the effort. As a community we are going to see this first hand with the US Highway 10 construction project. Please remember to be patient with your fellow travelers and the construction workers. There will be moments of frustration, let's not compound these moments with bad decisions. Be gracious, be aware and be kind on the roads.

Another event that is back is the Anoka Chamber networking events! These events are part of the practice plan for business'. The Chamber hosts these events for members so that you can expand your network and Pete and Tammy and the gang are good at it! We just had our Mix Business After Hours event in late March. The next Mix will be on May 24th, these events are free to attend a great way to meet fellow members and business owners. More details to come for the May event. We also have the AM Connections networking that is on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7:45-9:00 am in the Chamber meeting room. These are great events and they are free to attend and no RSVP is needed, so please feel free to check them out and take advantage of your membership!

Chris Randall
Chair of the Board of
Directors
Anoka Area Chamber of
Commerce



Chris Randall
Chairperson of the
Board of Directors

**"We just had our
Mix Business
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Spotlight on Champlin

The city is excited to announce the launch of a newly redesigned and resident-friendly website under domain www.ci.champlin.mn.us. It is a mobile-optimized design with enhanced navigation, accessibility, and readability. The homepage features an alert notification bar, a mega menu header, social media buttons, easy find icons, the latest city news, and a robust event calendar with a quick link box and a functioning search bar. Navigation buttons include Recreations & Rentals, Mississippi Crossings, Permits, Utility Billing, Notify Me, and Report a Concern.



Progress on the riverfront redevelopment project Mississippi Crossings (MC) continues with the Event Center, Playground, and Outdoor Performance Area grand opening this fall. Council also approved a rooftop patio restaurant and hometown holiday celebration at MC. Learn more at www.mississippicrossings.com or www.ci.champlin.mn.us and select the MC icon.

Residents can create a personalized “Sign In” account. By creating an account, navigation becomes simplified, and residents can set personalized updates. The new feature, Notify Me, a subscription-based messaging service, will send timely notifications for city alerts, events, and news items of choice via email and text. The upgrade is a 2022 city-services initiative to enhance community engagement and communications.



Photo Gallery from The Mix Networking in March!

A great crowd attended The Mix Networking Event in late March at Nucky's Speakeasy! Thank you to our Event Sponsor Oakwood Insurance Agency!



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES!!

The Anoka Area Chamber will feature some great networking events in the coming months. These events are designed to give you the opportunity to promote your products and services. See full details in articles within this newsletter or go to the Chamber web site at www.anokaareachamber.com. **Is your next client at one of these events?**

All meetings will be held in person !

Mark your calendar for these networking events:

4/20 AM Connections Networking

5/4 AM Connections Networking

5/18 AM Connections Networking

5/24 The Mix Business After Hours

Will you meet your next customer at one of these meetings?

Go to AnokaAreaChamber.com for event details!



A.M. CONNECTIONS
NETWORKING GROUP

1st and 3rd
Wednesdays
of the month

7:45 to 9 AM
IN PERSON

**A.M.
CONNECTIONS
MEMBERS...**

Invite a local business
& get entered to
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a Half page Ad in
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JOIN US!

Join us to connect
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A **FREE** benefit of
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Membership!

Contact the
**Anoka Chamber
Office**

for more information:

763-421-7130

AnokaAreaChamber.com

Member News

Member News is a column that gives members a chance to introduce their business products and services to the membership of the Chamber. These articles are written by the businesses featured.



P.E.A.C.E.
Learning Center

P.E.A.C.E. Learning Center is a Minnesota licensed early learning and development program. We offer a clean child friendly environment that encourages independence, fun, and creativity. Our classroom encompasses students ranging in ages from 3 to 5 years, allowing children to grow at their own pace, mentoring and challenging each other. We believe every child has a right to learn at their own pace and should not be categorized solely by their age. In our unique class setting, we are able to teach and challenge your child to their abilities. Your child will learn and grow within the same classroom, with the same teachers, allowing teachers to truly get to know your child and their best learning method. We make learning fun through personalized lessons aimed to meet their individual learning needs and interests.

Families will enter our newly remodeled facilities through a secure entry. We utilize video monitoring of our facilities and ProCare software to manage attendance and tuition. Our brand-new playground facilities offer a fun and safe space for children to explore and have fun.

We encourage you to check out our website for Open House dates or to contact us for a tour peacelearningcentermn.com.



A big THANK YOU to our loyal customers and hard-working dealers. It is because of you that Antiques on Main has the honor of celebrating 30 years in business! How do you keep a thriving business for



30 years? We strive to keep our shop filled with an ever-changing assortment of antiques and collectibles (you never know what surprises you are going to find when you walk through our doors). Our dealers are friendly and knowledgeable. We are known for having the best selection of antiques at reasonable prices. We are open for business 7 days a week! Antiques on Main has also had the proud pleasure of being a multiple recipient of 'Best Antique Shop' by the Anoka County Shopper.

Please stop by on Sunday, May 1, from 11- 5 p.m., and help us celebrate with special store discounts and treats! Antiques on Main is located at 212 East Main Street in downtown Anoka.



CorTrust Bank®

**CorTrust Bank Awarded CMDC's SBA 504
Lending Partner of the Year**



**Sioux Falls, SD,
March 21, 2022 –** CorTrust Bank in Minnesota was awarded the CMDC's "SBA 504 Lending Partner of the Year" for 2021. This recognition spotlights financial institutions and lenders who have provided the most Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 loans for clients through their relationship with CMDC in the state of Minnesota.

CorTrust Bank Vice Presidents, Paul

Stecker and Randy Voeller, accepted the award at CMDC's annual meeting.

"At CorTrust, we take the time to fully understand each business customer's unique situation to identify the best financing solutions for them. Working with CMDC to help small business owners achieve their dreams has been a great partnership," said Paul Stecker.

To learn more about CorTrust Bank's business banking services, visit <https://www.cortrustbank.com/bank-bold>.

About CorTrust Bank

Since 1930, CorTrust Bank has been serving the needs of individuals and businesses throughout 16 South Dakota communities, and 15 Minnesota communities, with 37 branch locations. What started as a small operation serving the needs of local farming families in Artesian, SD, has today grown into a fourth-generation family-owned community bank with \$1.573 billion in assets, and \$155 million in equity and reserves. CorTrust Bank – raise your expectations.

About CMDC

CMDC is committed to promoting economic development by cultivating a financing environment that allows Minnesota small businesses to grow and prosper. To fulfill this mission, CMDC provides business loans and financing services to businesses and bank lenders.

Ribbon Cuttings

The Barrel House Bar & Grill

11496 Martin Street NW, Coon Rapids



The Anoka Area Chamber Ambassadors and City of Coon Rapids officials held a ribbon cutting at The Barrel House Bar & Cafe. Cutting the ribbon are owners ShawnDee Helm and Drew Rasmussen.

Cookies & Cream

11350 Aquilla Drive North, Champlin



The Anoka Area Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting at Cookies & Cream. Cutting the ribbon is owner Ashley Boeshans.

Kumain

11350 Aquilla Drive North, Champlin



The Anoka Area Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting at Kumain. Cutting the ribbon are owners Josie and Rob Schuette.

Senor Patron Restaurant

440 Bunker Blvd., #106, Anoka



The Anoka Area Chamber Ambassadors and City of Anoka officials held a ribbon cutting at Senor Patron Restaurant. Cutting the ribbon is owner Miguel Barboza.

Welcome New Members

The Board of Directors of the Chamber would like to welcome the following New Members to this business organization! We urge the membership to use the goods and services of other Chamber members. This is what the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce is all about. Promoting business between local partners interested in the future of the area!

Allina Health Aetna

Benita Jackson
jacksonb6@aetna.com
1550 Utica Avenue South, Edina
612-283-6032
Insurance

Thrivent

Aaron DeLong
Aaron.delong@thrivent.com
1889 Station Pkwy NW, Andover
763-221-0237
www.thrivent.com
Financial Services

MDS Trailer Rentals

Miguel Schultz
Miguel@mdstrailerrentals.com
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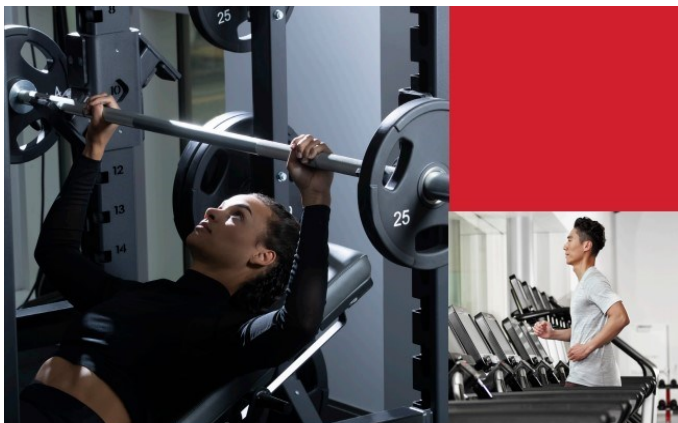
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Vision Statement of the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce

The AACC will be known as the predominant regional leader, providing member businesses with opportunities and resources to help them thrive while advocating with government, education, and citizens to help create a better business environment and a stronger community.



JOIN OUR GROWING TEAM

NOW HIRING

First and second shift manufacturing positions in assembly, material handling, finishing tech and shipping **available at our Ramsey Location.**

- Starting pay, based on experience.
- Great benefits, onsite fitness center available.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, VISIT LIFEFITNESS.COM/CAREERS OR CONTACT HR AT **763.323.4550**



VIOLENCE PREVENTION ROUNDTABLE

Preventing relationship violence in Anoka County

Did you know that relationship violence costs the United States **billions** of dollars each year? While work places are key spaces for prevention education and can provide information about resources, they can also tragically become sites of relationship violence. Relationship violence impacts whole communities, and *is preventable.*

You can help.

Join the Anoka County Violence Prevention Roundtable for our next virtual quarterly meeting or stay informed via email!

CONTACT Justin Navratil at justin.navratil@co.anoka.mn.us

Violence Prevention Roundtable Purpose Statement:

"To prevent Relationship Violence in Anoka County by increasing knowledge, making connections, identifying gaps, and creating solutions."

Announcing the "Anoka Area Chamber Ambassador of the Month"

Kent Hartwig,
Keller Williams Classic Realty NW



Kent Hartwig is a Realtor at Keller Williams Classic Realty NW and Champlin resident for over 25 years. He is a husband, father of two grown children, military veteran, an avid road-bike cyclist, and just about anything outdoors! Specializing in

the residential real estate market, Kent has helped countless people buy and sell homes throughout the Twin Cities - with a focus on the NW metro. "Becoming an active member of the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce - and serving as an Ambassador, has been rewarding and I look forward to connecting with other members to help them achieve their goals". If you want to schedule a meet-up for coffee, lunch or an after-hours drink - feel free to reach out to Kent as he meets with local businesses on a regular basis.

If you are interested in becoming an Anoka Area Chamber Ambassador, contact Peter Turok at pete@anokaareachamber.com



WE WANT YOU!
We are Looking for a Select Few to serve as an Anoka Area Chamber Ambassador!

Only 22 spots make up this group featuring the best of the Chamber's best. This group represents the Chamber at events like ribbon cuttings, ground breakings and more. There are a couple of openings available right now. Contact Pete Turok at the Chamber office to see if this might be a fit for you to become one of a selected handful of members that will represent the Chamber as an Ambassador!!

Chamber Board of Directors Nominations Letter to Membership

TO: General Membership of the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce

RE: Request for nominations for the Board of Directors of the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce for three-year terms.

Article 6, Section 4 of the By-Laws of the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce states that 135 days prior to the end of the fiscal year (September 30), all members in good standing shall be contacted requesting nominations for the Board of Directors, and is to be returned to the Chamber office no later than 120 days prior to the end of the fiscal year. At that time, the Board of Directors shall review the nominations and present a slate of five candidates to replace the directors whose regular three-year terms are expiring. The Board of Directors will confirm the fact by personal contact with the candidates, that they are willing to accept directorship responsibilities. Please keep in mind that any director nominated should be capable of serving as an officer of the Chamber, since officers are elected from the Board of Directors.

Please contact the Chamber office with your nominations for the position on the Board of Directors to the Chamber office no later than **May 31, 2022**. Should you have any questions concerning this, please contact me at the Chamber office at 763-421-7130.

With regards,
Peter Turok, President
Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce



Abilities Ahead

Incorporating people with disabilities into the workforce

Gaining independence, reaching new goals

Sierra Jones-Iverson has been an important part of her FedEx team for four years, growing in her responsibilities as well as increasing the number of hours she works. Her duties have included unloading packages from trucks and relabeling boxes to prepare for shipment.

With nonprofit organization Opportunity Partners' support, Sierra has gained confidence on the job, too. In her quest to gain greater independence in her life, she has picked up additional shifts, nearly doubling her hours from 16 to 30 per week during busy periods.

Sierra didn't let knee surgery slow her down, even when she had to wear a brace and undergo physical rehabilitation. "Everybody was amazed I was still working with my brace," she said, adding that she especially enjoys working with so many nice people.

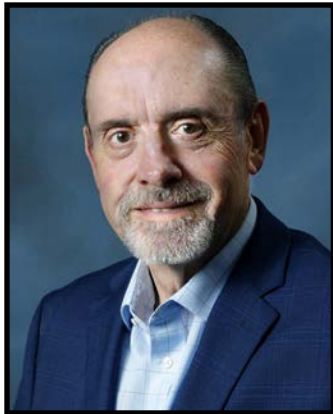
Sierra, 30, is proud of all she has achieved. She is working toward advancing her career at FedEx, hoping to become a manager or trainer someday. She enjoys earning her own money and making her own decisions.

In all, Opportunity Partners supported 300 people with disabilities including Sierra in community jobs in 2021. The assistance that Opportunity Partners provides includes job coaching, training assistance and ongoing support to help people succeed.

Companies benefit by having a dedicated employee and enhancing diversity and inclusion in the workplace, and individuals with disabilities benefit by gaining work experience that can lead to greater independence in the future.

Opportunity Partners is a local nonprofit advancing the quality of life for people with disabilities through employment, residential and community support. Learn how your business can partner with us at opportunities.org or email partner@opportunities.org.

From the Desk of: Peter Turok



Peter Turok
President

"ARE YOU READY FOR SOME GAVEL?"

It's that time of year when the Anoka Area Chamber does a call out to the membership of the Chamber to see who might be interested in serving on the Board of Directors.

Each year we are looking for candidates to fill 5 openings on the Board of Directors. The term

would be for 3 years unless you end up serving as the Chairperson of the Board and then your term would be 4 year. The work is not hard but oh so important and the Board of Directors runs the ship that is the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce. A total of 16 people sit on the Board. They meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 am and their job is to make the Chamber better and they do their job well.

Things start in September at a Planning Meeting where the Board works up the Strategy to Action Plan for the coming year. All of that is designed to do the very best they can for the members who own this Chamber.

I tell people that the Chamber Board is the Skipper, and Chamber Staff (myself and Tami) are Gilligan and Mary Ann. The Board tells us what to do and staff does it.

The one thing I have been most impressed about the Board during my time here at the Chamber is how they deal with unexpected situations. They are an incredible reactionary group that figures out the issues and puts in place a plan to

deal with it. There is never a better example than when COVID hit. Trust me, the Board didn't have that in their Strategy to Action Plan when they met in September of 2019. When things hit with the pandemic, the Board went into action and quickly addressed what the needs of the membership and the Chamber as a business would need to deal with.

The Board of Directors are absolutely Chamber Rock Stars and we'd love for you to consider being a part of that group. If you really want to get a feel for what the job entails, just take a look at who is on the Board now and give them a call and ask the question. I bet when you are done with that call, you'll next be calling me to say that you are interested.

Plus you get some nice Chamber bling! A name badge and Chamber folder. I mean does it get any better than that? Ok, so what do you think? Are you interested? Do you have some questions you'd like to get answered? Reach out to me and let's talk.

Are you ready for some gavel time?



RICHARD J. MUSSELL
AGENT
763-421-5502
TTY 711

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Chamber Web Site Sponsorship's available!

The Chamber gets tons of hits per day as both the public and business people go to the web site. Get your logo and a link on the Chamber Web Site and be seen! Limited opportunities exist!

Contact Pete Turok at the Chamber office for details.

Calendar of Events

April

20-Chamber A.M. Connections Networking Group
Meeting held in person at the Chamber offices
7:45 to 9 AM
FREE to Attend and NO RSVP NEEDED!

May

4-Chamber A.M. Connections Networking Group
Meeting held in person at the Chamber offices
7:45 to 9 AM
FREE to Attend and NO RSVP NEEDED!

17-Chamber Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
Chamber offices
7:30 AM

18-Chamber A.M. Connections Networking Group
Meeting held in person at the Chamber offices
7:45 to 9 AM
FREE to Attend and NO RSVP NEEDED!

19-Taping of The Chamber Report TV Show
QCTV Studios in Champlin
1:30 PM to 3:00 PM
Want to have your business features on an upcoming show? It's a **FREE** benefit of membership you can do each year!
Contact Chamber staff for details.

24-The Mix Business After Hours Member Networking Event
Empire Room at 10K Brewing
2005 2nd Avenue North, Anoka
4:00 to 6:00 PM
FREE to attend

30-The Chamber offices will be closed for Memorial Day

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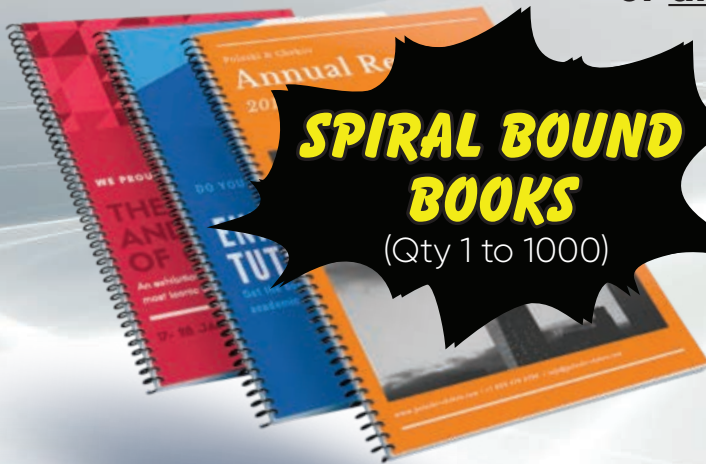


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