

Promoting the Alexandria Lakes Area as the ultimate destination to "live, work, play and prosper."

Official Newsletter of the Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce

APRIL 2021 | VOLUME 114 | ISSUE 4

Don't miss the
**2021 Duffers Delight
Golf Tournament!**

Monday, June 7 at 12 pm

Join us for the 29th Duffers Delight Golf Tournament - the main fundraiser for the Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce! Join the fun by sponsoring a tee or green and network with the 144 golfers playing on the course, or, network with the tee and green sponsors by gathering a team of four to play 18 holes of golf. Enjoy a picnic supper and awards at the clubhouse after golfing!

2021 Pricing:

Individual Golfer

Early Bird: \$125

After May 1: \$135

Team of Four

Early Bird: \$450

After May 1: \$500

Tee or Green Sponsorship - \$200



Note: Golf teams are entered on a first-come basis. 2019 sponsors have first right of acceptance on sponsorship. Prospective sponsors will be added to a wait list to be contacted if spots become available.

Contact the Chamber at 320-763-3161 or info@alexandriamn.org for information and registration!

DUFFERS DELIGHT TITLE SPONSOR:

Innovative
Builders · Erectors · Developers

Learn to 'master your mindset' at Spring Luncheon April 21

Dr. Cindra Kamphoff is a keynote speaker, marathoner and professor who serves as a high performance coach for leaders, businesses and championship teams.

She helps individuals master their mindset so they can gain the high performance edge. She has a Ph.D. in performance psychology and has spoken for companies such as Target, Wal-Mart and Verizon Wireless.



Cindra also works with the Minnesota Vikings, working individually with the players to help them train their minds.

Cindra's book titled 'Beyond Grit: Ten Powerful Practices to Gain the High Performing Edge', is an Amazon Bestseller.

Wednesday, April 21

Serving begins at 11:15 am

Presentation begins at 11:45 am

*Generously
sponsored by:*

Broadway Ballroom

115 30th Ave. E

**Tickets are \$25/person
or \$150/table of 6**

**For tickets or information:
(320) 763-3161 or
jess@alexandriamn.org**



Geneva Capital
Your equipment finance solution.



Visit Alexandria MN



Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce



[alexlakesareachamber](https://www.instagram.com/alexlakesareachamber)

Chamber Horizons, USPS 330070, is published monthly by the Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce. Periodicals postage paid at Alexandria, MN 56308. Postmaster: Send address changes to

**Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce | 206 Broadway St, Alexandria, MN 56308
320-763-3161 | www.alexandriamn.org**

Upcoming Chamber Events

Wake Up Alexandria!

Friday, April 2 from 7:30 - 8:30 am
Plaza Liquor | 400 34th Ave. W

Nonprofit of the day: Let's Go Fishing Alexandria Lakes Area

Chamber 101

Tuesday, April 6 from 7:30 - 8:30 am
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce | Virtual Event -
visit alexandriamn.org for registration link

Listen & Learn

Connective Communication for a Connected Community
Featuring Sherry Bruckner, Bruckner Mediation

Wednesday, April 14 from 1 - 2 pm
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce | Virtual Event -
visit alexandriamn.org for registration link

Wake Up Alexandria!

Friday, April 16 from 7:30 - 8:30 am
Cornerstone Building Chamber Members: COUNTRY
Financial, Cutting Edge Chiropractic, Legacy Hearing
Centers and Manpower | 507 Nokomis St.

Nonprofit of the day: We Got Your Back USA

Spring Luncheon (Front Page)

Master Your Mindset featuring Cindra Kamphoff
Co-hosted by Alexandria Public Schools Community
Education & Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

Wednesday, April 21 from 11:45 am - 1 pm
Broadway Ballroom | 115 30th Ave. E
To reserve tickets call (320) 763-3161 or email jess@
alexandriamn.org.

Listen & Learn is a one-hour virtual event hosted by the Chamber. It offers information, education and resources on topics that impact the community. Call 320-763-3161 or email info@alexandriamn.org for details. There is no charge for the event and is open to the public.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14 FROM 1 - 2 PM

Virtual event: Register at alexandriamn.org.

Connective Communication for a Connected Community

Conflict happens – at home, in the workplace, at school, at a community event, in a meeting, between co-workers, friends, family members, neighbors, business associates, etc. Most conflict can be avoided or resolved through effective communication!

Learn how to communicate effectively to achieve the human need for connection, support, clarity, respect or understanding in a constructive, positive, non-violent way that builds more meaningful relationships and ultimately a stronger community.



*Sherry Bruckner, Mediator,
Bruckner Mediation*

Learn to optimize your membership at Chamber 101

Join us for a virtual Chamber 101 on Tuesday, April 6 from 7:30-8:30 am to learn more about Chamber programs, events and membership benefits. Hear from fellow members as they share their experiences of being involved with the Chamber. Register at alexandriamn.org.

For more information, contact Jess at 320-763-3161 or jess@alexandriamn.org.

Check out the Chamber's Job Board!

Looking to expand your team? The Chamber website offers an online job board! Current Chamber members can post to this job board at no charge, or upgrade to a featured listing which will pin their job to the top of the page, highlight it and publish it to the Google Jobs Network. Once jobs are posted, employers can view their jobs, make changes or edits, see the number of views their post has received, review applicants, and renew or upgrade their post. Log in to your online member portal with your username and password and click on "Submit a Job Opening" to get started.

For assistance, contact the Chamber at 320-763-3161 or info@alexandriamn.org.

Be Seen SAFELY for All Your Rehabilitation Needs

**Occupational
Therapy**

**Physical
Therapy**

**Speech
Therapy**



Call **320.762.6079** or visit our website at:
alomerehealth.com/services/rehabilitation

ALOMERE
HEALTH

Wake Up Alexandria

Wake Up Alexandria is a networking event held the first and third Friday of each month from 7:30 to 8:30 am at a Chamber member location. A dollar gets you in the door, with all proceeds donated to a nonprofit Chamber member.

March Hosts



CYBERSprout, LLC | March 5

316 Broadway St., Ste. 3

Nonprofit: Runestone Museum Foundation

CYBERSprout offers website design, development and strategy services and provides premium managed WordPress hosting. Their goal is to provide appealing, user-friendly websites that display perfectly on any device while providing optimization and strategy to achieve each client's specific needs.



Cullen's Home Center | March 19

1620 N Nokomis St. NE

Nonprofit: NorthStar Christian Academy

Cullen's Home Center is a complete home store that offers furniture, accents, floor coverings, appliances, electronics, lighting and fireplaces. Cullen's Home Center also has a Builders Team that can assist with building projects of all kinds. It has a website where customers can view their productions.

Legislative Corner



Speak out to support MN business

Now is the time to schedule a virtual meeting or call with your legislators to let them know how their actions can help or hurt your business's road to economic recovery.

Below are 10 bills that could have the biggest impact on businesses around the state. Urge legislators to support employers/employees as our state's economy recovers.

THE HELPFUL

SF 263 / HF 501 – Providing tax relief for businesses that took PPP loans to keep people employed during the pandemic. The MN Senate passed full federal tax conformity for forgivable PPP loans with a vote of 55-12. With a \$1.6 billion surplus and billions more coming from the federal government, Gov. Walz and House leaders should provide this tax relief like neighboring states have done to help 100,000 businesses continue growing the economy and sustaining jobs.

HF 1336 – Safely reopening the economy to speed economic recovery. This bill uses transparent metrics to safely reopen MN's economy. The Legislature and Walz administration must develop a strategy based on transparent metrics that allows for a responsible, phased reopening.

HF 1153 / SF 694 – Lowering health insurance costs for entrepreneurs, self-employed and small employers. Reinsurance is a proven cost-saving provision for entrepreneurs, self-employed, and small employers who help employees purchase insurance in the individual market. Without this, premiums could rise up to 25%.

HF 55 / SF 146 – Analyze costs to premiums for health insurance mandates. Small and mid-sized businesses bear the cost of state-imposed health insurance mandates. MN has one of the longest lists of mandated benefit sets in the country at more than 60. Legislators should know the cost/benefit tradeoffs associated with any proposal to add to that list.

SF 919 / HF 2062 – Needed changes to the new wage theft law. These would be minor in order to make compliance with the new wage theft law less costly and confusing

Legislative... continued on Page 6



YOU CAN BANK ON US.

Football and banking have a lot in common, like experienced coaching and trust. First Western is a locally owned, community bank — trusted for over 50 years. We are your friends and neighbors, people you can count on, providing local decision making.

Alexandria • Carlos • Milona


FIRST WESTERN
BANK & TRUST
You can bank on us

   firstwestern.bank
Member FDIC

Membership Team

Volunteers on the Membership Team visit new member businesses to welcome them to the Chamber. They also serve as mentors and liaisons, supporting new members with introductions, information, and education on membership benefits.



Cedar Rose Inn Bed & Breakfast
Brenda Baumtrog, Owner

March Visits

Cedar Rose Inn Bed & Breakfast was built in 1903 in Alexandria. It offers breakfast, on-site hostess and four rooms that each have their own bathroom. Brenda and Dave Baumtrog purchased the Bed and Breakfast in the fall of 2019.

Ella's Salon recently moved to a new building at 719 Darling Ave. Services include hair, nail, massage and eyelash extensions. The new facility features retail space and more rooms for massage, body waxing and additional pedicure chairs.



Ella's Salon
Emily Regnier, Owner

Welcome! *March new members*

Casa Jalisco Authentic Mexican Restaurant

Pablo Damian
(320) 219-6055
casajalisco523@gmail.com

Winsupply of Alexandria

Ryan Heidelberger
(320) 763-2828
winsupplyinc.com

Real Films

Alicia Bertram & Rachel Geyen
(320) 808-5451
hello@realfilmsmn.com
realfilmsmn.com

Cutting Edge Chiropractic

Dr. Landon Olson
(320) 762-2639
info@cuttingedgealex.com
cuttingedgealex.com

LA FERME

Amber Aspengren
(320) 846-0777
lafermemn@gmail.com
lafermemn.com

Kvale Real Estate

Carl Kvale
(320) 766-8823
info@kvalerealestate.com
kvalerealestate.com

Cutting Edge Pilates

Lisa Olson
(320) 808-0062
info@cuttingedgealex.com
cuttingedgealex.com

Moore Engineering

Rich Slagle
(218) 998-4041
rich.slagle@mooreengineeringinc.com
mooreengineeringinc.com

Boy Scouts of America - Northern Lights Council

Brenda Thomson
(320) 760-5605
brenda.thomson@scouting.org
nlbsa.org/prairiefire

Jeremy Wagner Construction, LLC

Tiffany Wagner
(612) 719-1365
jwconstruction@hotmail.com
Facebook: @JeremyWagnerConstruction

Noonan Sports Specialists

Mike Hawes
(320) 808-9632
noonanadmin@alexns.com
alexns.com

Please consider these new members for your personal and professional needs, and welcome them to our network!

STOP JOINT PAIN

320-762-0399

SANFORD
ORTHOPEDICS
SPORTS MEDICINE



**Kaylee
Miller, DPM**

Ambassadors

The Ambassadors are volunteers who extend the public relations arm of the Chamber. They attend business open houses, groundbreakings and ribbon cuttings; welcome new businesses to the area; and commemorate relocations and major remodels. They are out making business visits the second Wednesday of every month.

March Visits



Casa Jalisco | New Business

Rosy Servin, Busser; Luis Rodrigues, Owner/Waiter; Juan Servin, Owner/Chef; Maria Rodrigues, Owner/Waitress; Evelyn Rodriguez, Waitress

Casa Jalisco is a new Mexican restaurant located at 523 Broadway St. in Alexandria. It offers a variety of authentic Mexican dishes made from scratch with fresh ingredients. It is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner.



Cutting Edge Pilates | New Business

Landon and Lisa Olson, Owners

Cutting Edge Pilates is a new business located on the second level at 112 6th Avenue E. in Alexandria. It uses both classical mat and reformer Pilates techniques to strengthen and stabilize the whole body with low-impact, core-building precision.



Real Property Management Optimum | New Location

Josh Boyer, Owner; Jessica Boyer

Real Property Management Optimum relocated to 1417 Broadway St., Ste. 3. The full-service property management company offers professional management services, from tenant screening and leasing to maintenance and evictions.

Spend Douglas Challenge comes to a close

The Spend Douglas Challenge created by students at Alexandria Area High School is coming to a close.

The students created the challenge through Pride of the Lakes to aid local businesses struggling from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Individuals were encouraged to do business at Douglas County businesses, take a photo of themselves doing so, then upload the photo to social me-

dia and tag the business, tag Pride of the Lakes, add #SpendDouglas to the post and then challenge three other people to do the same.

Each post entered a person into a weekly drawing to win \$50 in Chamber Bucks and into a final drawing for a grand prize of \$500 in Chamber Bucks!

The weekly winners included:

Tonia Kirchner
Lexy Swensrud

Heidi Klimek
Angie Galloway
Lynelle Lanoue
Brittany Johnson
Amy Christopherson

The grand prize drawing will take place April 1. Follow Pride of the Lakes on Facebook or Instagram to find out who the lucky winner is!

MINNESOTA
Craft Lager
FEST
AT 22 NORTHMEN BREWING CO.

THE FIRST
MN Craft Lager Fest
RIGHT HERE IN ALEXANDRIA | JUNE 5TH, 2021

CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS & INFO

Legislative... continued from Page 3

for employers while keeping with the spirit of the law's original intention.

THE HARMFUL

HF 1200 – Mandating 24 weeks of employee paid leave.

This would impact hiring, staffing, retention and other workplace management decisions and increase the cost of doing business, making the state less competitive.

HF 7, HF 41 – Mandating one-size-fits-all sick leave.

These bills would mandate that employers offer fully paid time off in a specific format for an expanded set of familial persons for an expanded list of qualifying events. Cost, compliance and operational impacts of these put pressure on employers, especially small employers.

HF 39 – Subjecting businesses to uncompetitive and unworkable hiring processes.

Employers already adhere to a strict set of labor laws and workplace standards to maintain safe, healthy, respectful, inclusive workplaces. This bill would add unneeded regulations making it difficult to hire employees during a time of economic recovery.

HF 11 / SF 1029 – Increasing health care costs and decreasing access due to a public option.

A public option would increase costs and decrease access in the long term. It would also lead to increased instability in our state's health insurance market and threaten the continued viability of the individual and small group markets in particular.

HF 1335, HF 2114, HF 2228, HF1689 – Increasing taxes on businesses while employers try to recover from the pandemic. Despite having a large budget surplus and billions of dollars coming to the state from the federal government, some legislators want to raise taxes on businesses trying to recover from the pandemic-related downturn.

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS:

Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen (R) District 8

(651) 297-8063 sen.bill.ingebrigtsen@senate.mn

Senator Torrey Westrom (R) District 12

(651) 296-3826 sen.torrey.westrom@senate.mn

Representative Mary Franson (R) District 8B

(651) 296-3201 rep.mary.franson@house.mn

Representative Jeff Backer (R) District 12A

(651) 296-4929 rep.jeff.backer@house.mn

Representative Paul Anderson (R) District 12B

(651) 296-4317 rep.paul.anderson@house.mn

Business Buzz

Alomere Health was again recognized as a Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital for 2021. This is the fourth year in a row, making it one of only three hospitals in Minnesota to achieve this status! Earning a spot in the Top 100 is based on performance across numerous metrics. It is the health care industry's most comprehensive assessment of rural provider performance.

Tom Jacobson, attorney with **Swenson Lervick Syverson Trosvig Jacobson Cass, PA**, was elected president of the Minnesota Association of City Attorneys (MACA) at the group's annual meeting. MACA is dedicated to improving city government through educating and sharing information among its city attorney members.

American Solutions for Business earned the 2021 Top Workplaces USA award. The company qualified based on results from employee feedback through a third-party survey.

Leona Hurlbut of **Gate City Bank** was promoted to assistant vice president and mortgage loan officer. She started at the bank in 2017 and has seven years of experience. Scott Gronholz was promoted from commercial banker to assistant vice president and business banker. He brings more than 30 years of experience.

Coldwell Banker Crown Realtors employees were recognized for joining new membership circles. Managing broker Brandon Johnson qualified to join the International Presidents's Circle. Broker associate Kevin Mahoney and sales associate Ashley Rambow were honored as members of the International Sterling Society.

Viking Bank announced Vicki Berberich's promotion to vice president retail manager and mortgage origination.

Rainbow Rider was recognized in by the Minnesota Public Transit Association for efforts with increased cleaning, using personal protection equipment and transporting essential workers and passengers on essential errands.

To include your business news in the Chamber Horizon Newsletter, email information to Lauren at marketing@alexandriamn.org.

"A smile is a friend maker."
- BANGAMBIKI HABYARIMANA

DESIGN • SIGNS • BANNERS • VEHICLE GRAPHICS
CUSTOM APPAREL • PRINTING • SWAG



WINNING EDGE
Visual Branding Professionals

Call or text 320.763.7953 | WinningEdgeGraphics.com