

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

OCTOBER 2021 | VOLUME 114 | ISSUE 10

October Listen & Learn Events

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 it is open to the public.

Updated MN & Federal Workplace Laws

Impacting nursing mothers, pregnancy accommodations, and parental leave

The U.S. Dept. of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division and MN Dept. of Labor and Industry will share updates on required workplace provisions for nursing mothers under state and federal laws, including significant changes in Minnesota.

The session will walk attendees through required break time and work place accommodations that must be in place for all employers covered by the provisions. Q & A session included!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7 AT 10 AM

Virtual event: Register at www.alexandriamn.org.



Corey Walton
Community Outreach
& Resource Planning
Specialist, US Dept.
of Labor’s Wage &
Hour Minneapolis
District Office



Dave Skovholt
Outreach
Coordinator,
Labor Standards
& Apprenticeship
Division, MN Dept. of
Labor and Industry



Cherylee Sherry
Healthy Systems
Supervisor, Office
of Statewide Health
Improvement
Initiatives,
MN Dept. of Health

Roles & Responsibilities of the School Board



Rick Sansted
Superintendent,
Alexandria Public Schools

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26 AT 11:30 AM

Virtual event: Register at www.alexandriamn.org.

In preview of the upcoming special school board election, Rick Sansted will share information around the roles and responsibilities of school board members.

School boards differ from city councils and other boards in a variety of ways. If you are interested in learning more around the function of school boards, please join us at this virtual Listen & Learn presented by the Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.



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



[RehabAuthority Physical Therapy](#) hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, September 1 for its new Alexandria location at 3007 Hwy. 29 S, Ste. 102. Travis Beniak, PT, DPT treats a variety of things including sports injuries, post surgical recovery, neurological issues, nerve pain, headaches, arthritis and more. He does this using manual therapy, joint mobilization, myofascial release and other treatments that best fit the client's need.

Upcoming Chamber Events

[Wake Up Alexandria!](#)

Friday, October 1 | 7:30-8:30 am
Past & Present Home Gallery | 619 Broadway St.
Nonprofit of the Day: Alzheimer's Association MN-ND
\$500 Shopping spree giveaway!

[Chamber 101](#)

Tuesday, October 5 | 7:30-8:30 am
Alexandria Chamber | Virtual Event
Register at alexandriamn.org

[Wake Up Alexandria!](#)

Friday, October 15 | 7:30-8:30 am
Alexandria Cub Foods | 2612 S Broadway St.
Nonprofit of the Day: Somplace Safe Thrift Store

[Listen & Learn: Updated MN & Federal Workplace Laws](#)

Thursday, October 7 | 10-11 am
Alexandria Chamber | Virtual Event
Register at alexandriamn.org

[Off the Clock](#)

Wednesday, October 20 | 4-5 pm
Longtrees Woodfire Grill | 4409 State Hwy. 29
Nonprofit of the Day: Legacy of the Lakes Museum

[Listen & Learn: Roles & Responsibilities of the School Board](#)

Tuesday, October 26 | 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Alexandria Chamber | Virtual Event
Register at alexandriamn.org

Share your events on the community calendar!

Want to market your event? Add it to the Douglas County Community Calendar. It's easy! Visit www.alexmncalendar.com and click "add an event." All qualifying Chamber member events that are added by 12 pm Wednesday before the Thursday blast will be included in the Events at a Glance eBlast, reaching more than 1,000 emails weekly. For more information, contact Katie at 320-335-2869 or membership@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 501(c)3 nonprofit Chamber member.

September Hosts



G'Mariecee Portrait Studios | September 3

220 22nd Ave. E, Ste. 107

Nonprofit of the Day: Courageous Families, Inc.

G'Mariecee Portrait Studios is owned and operated by Gina Christopherson. She photographs families, high school seniors, infants and children, business people, weddings and events, and architecture.



Vantage Bank | September 17

311 30th Ave. E

Nonprofit of the Day:

First Lutheran Church/Community Preschool

Vantage Bank is a full-service community bank guided by a board of directors that represent a broad spectrum of the agricultural and professional community. The team is committed to providing a better banking solution focused on customer needs.

Thank you for attending our Fall Luncheon!

The Chamber fall luncheon was held on Monday, September 20 at Broadway Ballroom. More than 100 people attended the event. Bethany Berkeley, a Dale Carnegie Certified Trainer, helped attendees realize the important role each of them has in 'selling' our community and attracting and retaining workforce across all business sectors. Berkeley specializes in strategic customized training solutions.



Bethany Berkeley, Dale Carnegie Certified Trainer, was the Chamber's Fall Luncheon speaker sponsored by SunOpta. Berkeley spoke on "Activating our Community."

Special thanks to our event sponsor:



Fueling the Future of Food

Welcome! September *new members*

Resonance Performance Solutions

Dr. Tom Tardif | (320) 200-4333

info@drtomtardif.com | www.drtomtardif.com

Longtrees Woodfire Grill

Jenn Slavik | (320) 219-7009

4409 State Hwy. 29

jenn@longtreeswoodfiregrill.com

www.longtreeswoodfiregrill.com

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



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



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 liaisons, supporting new members with introductions, information, and education on membership benefits.

September Visits



Redbird Counseling
Brooke Halliday, LPCC, Owner

←
Redbird Counseling, located at 316 Broadway St., Ste. 5, is owned by Brooke Halliday. Halliday offers services to clients ages 16+ and works on a variety of issues including depression, anxiety, stress and more.

→
Taylor Brown – eXp Realty serves clients in Alexandria and the surrounding areas. Brown specializes in residential, commercial and investment properties. Her office is located at 624 Broadway St., Ste. 103.



Taylor Brown - eXp Realty
Taylor Brown, Realtor;
Angie Heidelberger, Sales & Marketing Associate



The Filament
Tyler Golberg, Owner

←
The Filament is a commercial leasing space located at 316 Broadway St. on the main level. The space offers six office rentals and has an emphasis on collaboration and community, offering community work areas and a conference room.

Get your BIAD tickets!

Tickets to the 2021 Business & Industrial Appreciation Day (BIAD) luncheon honoring Viking Bank as the BIAD award honoree and Alomere Health as the Legacy Award honoree are \$25 per person or \$250 per table of 10. Tickets may be purchased at livingalexarea.ticketleap.com/biad-2021/

**The event is Wednesday, November 3
from 11:30 am to 1 pm at
Arrowwood Resort
& Conference Center**

Open house to follow at Viking Bank



JoEllen Doebbert

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Celebrating 30 years of providing legal services to the Alexandria lakes area.

OPEN HOUSE

**November 3rd
1:30 - 4:30pm**

Stop in and see our new Viking Bank location.

4277 Dakota St., Suite 203 • Alexandria, MN 56308
320-763-7838 • doebbertlaw.com

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.

September Visits



Marco | New Location

Tom Seidl and Rachel Dirks, Technology Advisors;
Michael Amberg, Managed Services Specialist;
Braeden Wahl, Technology Advisor

← Marco recently moved its Alexandria office to a new space at 418 3rd Ave., Ste. 106. It offers a variety of services including copiers and printers, phone systems, audio visual, shredding, IT, cloud, and more.

→ The Edge Co. is a new business in downtown Alexandria owned by Kiyana Miller. It is located at 624 Broadway St. It features clothing and home goods, food and beverages. The space also houses 8 rental office suites and a conference room.



The Edge Co. | New Business

Eryn Mattson, Employee; Miah Schirmers, Employee.
Not Pictured: Kiyana Miller, Owner.



Cutting Edge Chiropractic | New Owner/Rebrand

Dr. Landon Olson, DC/Owner;
Tina Gray, Certified Massage Therapist

← Cutting Edge Chiropractic, formerly Cornerstone Chiropractic, is newly owned by Dr. Landon Olson. The company's mission is to guide individuals to reach their health and wellness potential through functional chiropractic care, customized Pilates, personal training, and massage.

Learn ways to optimize your membership at Chamber 101 session

Join us for a Virtual **Chamber 101** on **Tuesday, October 5 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. Visit alexandriamn.org to register. For more information, call the Chamber at 320-763-3161 or email info@alexandriamn.org.



OKTOBERFEST AT 22 NORTHMEN BREWERY OCTOBER 23, 11AM-7PM, FREE ADMISSION

- **OCTOBERFEST BEER**
- **FOOD TRUCKS**
- **MULTIPLE BANDS**
- **STEIN HOLDING COMPETITIONS**
- **GAMES**

Legislative Corner

By John Kirchner
Vice President,
U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Last month the business community had cause for celebration, as the Senate passed a historic, bipartisan infrastructure package that will make long-overdue investments in our nation's physical infrastructure.

Unfortunately, that bipartisan moment didn't last long. Shortly after passage of the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, the Senate passed a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution on a party-line vote that calls for unprecedented expansion of government spending that will likely be funded by an equally unprecedented tax hike on businesses.

The administration claims its proposed tax increases will only hit big corporations and the rich, but the truth is these will be paid for by workers and families through lost jobs and lower wages. Furthermore, the majority of c-corps are small businesses, with 84% having fewer than 20 employees. The burden of these tax hikes will fall hardest on small business.

Raising the corporate tax rate from 21% to 28% will put MN businesses at a severe competitive disadvantage. If the corporate rate were increased to 28%, MN companies would face a combined state and federal rate of 37.8%. That is higher than the corporate rate of every other developed nation on earth, making it harder for MN manufacturers to compete with foreign companies.

The Biden administration also proposes nearly doubling the tax rate on capital gains, hitting approx. two-thirds of capital investment in the U.S. This will dampen investments in MN start-ups and hurt families saving for retirement or college or looking to buy a home.

The capital gains rate hike would also apply to the transfer of assets of family-owned businesses at death. This would threaten the ability of the next generation to keep family-owned businesses up and running.

Raising taxes now will stop recovery dead in its tracks. Congress should build upon the momentum of the bipartisan infrastructure bill and abandon the partisan spending spree that leaves businesses holding the bill. Contact your representatives and tell them not to raise taxes that will hurt small businesses, workers, and families.

Business Buzz

The employee satisfaction-driven "50 Best Places to Work" list welcomed [Wideth](#) to its ranks for the third year in a row. The annual competition is in its seventh year and is sponsored by *Prairie Business Magazine*.

Josh Meyers was named [Zimny Insurance Agency's](#) new Vice President and Shareholder. Josh joined the agency in 2015 as a Client Advisor. He has spent the past 6 years protecting what matters to his clients, living the agency's values and being a good community steward.

Fashion apparel brand Liverpool Los Angeles launched Destination Liverpool Shops, partnering with [6th & Broadway Clothing and Decor](#), along with 86 other independent retail stores across the U.S. to act as premier Liverpool Specialty stores.

[Attorney JoEllen Doebbert](#) is celebrating 30 years of providing legal services to residents of the Alexandria Lakes Area.

[Bell Bank](#) was recognized as one of PEOPLE Magazine/PEOPLE.com's 100 Companies That Care. It came in at #87 alongside the likes of Bank of America, [Target](#) and Progressive Insurance.

[American Solutions for Business](#) recently named Eric Gorghuber as the company's senior director of technology. In this role, Gorghuber will manage the Enterprise Solutions group in technology.

Jan Cook was hired as Senior Personal Lending Officer at [Gate City Bank](#). A native and current resident of Alexandria, Cook brings 26 years of experience to Gate City Bank.

[Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union](#) (MMFCU) recently announced the appointment of Sarah Speer to its Board of Directors. Speer is currently the Marketing & Public Relations Manager at Sourcewell in Staples. MMFCU also has \$1,000 scholarships available for Credit Union Members. Learn more at [mmfcu.org](#).

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

"One smile speaks louder
than a hundred words."

- Abhijit Naskar

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



WINNING EDGE
Visual Branding Professionals

Call or text 320.763.7953 | WinningEdgeGraphics.com