

CHAMBER CHAT

THURSDAY MORNINGS @ 10:00AM
With Chamber President James Miller

KWLM
1340 AM 96.3 FM
NEWS / TALK

 Spotify



Thursday mornings on Open Mic, Chamber President/CEO James Miller hosts Chamber Chat. Recordings are available on KWLM's website or on Spotify. Alzheimer's Association, Willmar Indoor Golf, and Advocacy and Inclusion Matter of West Central Minnesota were featured this month.

CHAMBER CONNECTIONS

Sept 26 | October 3 | October 10 | October 17 | October 31

 ENGAN ASSOCIATES
ARCHITECTS / INTERIOR DESIGNERS
Shared vision. Innovative designs.

 VINNA
HUMAN RESOURCES

 EAGLES
COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

 PROJECT
Turnabout
CENTERS FOR ADULT REHABILITATION

 AIM
Advocacy & Inclusion Matter

Join us Friday mornings from 7:30–8:30 at rotating member locations! Introduce yourself, share updates, and connect with fellow professionals. Each week wraps up with a host business spotlight and door prize drawing — don't forget your business card and \$1 for a chance to win! Learn more at willmarareachamber.com/chamber-connections

FIRST DOLLARS



Serene Willow Psychiatry

Board Certified Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Steffanie Smith of Serene Willow Psychiatry provides compassionate, individualized mental health care through psychiatric evaluations, medication management, therapy, and follow-up support. She specializes in working with children, adolescents, and young adults, with a focus on ADHD, trauma, autism, depression, anxiety, sleep issues, psychosis, and mood disorders.



The Lit Path Massage

The Lit Path Massage offers a wide range of services designed exclusively for women. From therapeutic and relaxation massage to IASTM/Gua Sha, cupping, scraping, and ear candling, each treatment is tailored to help you feel your best. Whether you're looking to reduce aches and pains, improve circulation and range of motion, or simply relax and relieve stress, Angelina Trask provides a personalized experience that supports both body and mind.

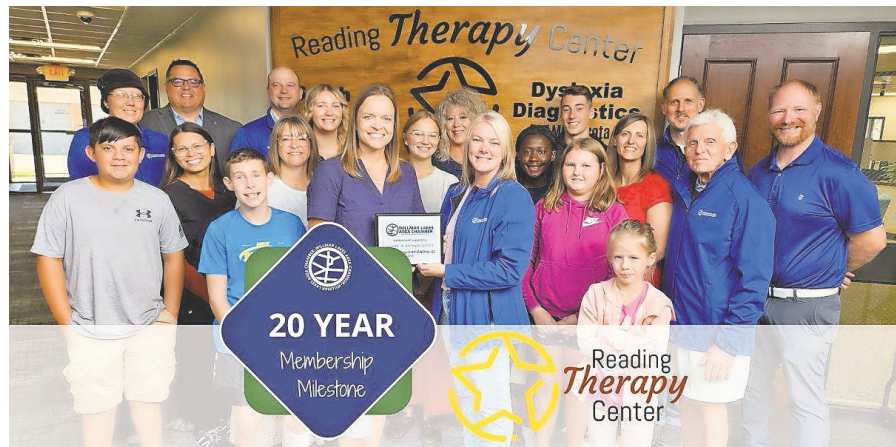
RIBBON CUTTING



Equine Inspired Soul

Equine Inspired Soul offers a unique and individualized, nature-based journey of self-discovery and connection. Tanya Dingmann facilitates experiential opportunities, often partnered with equine partners, to foster empowerment, unlearn old beliefs that no longer serve us, and reignite passion and purpose. Whether you're a career mom seeking to reconnect with yourself, a business seeking team building to solidify internal connection, or feeling a disconnect between yourself and discovering your purpose, Equine Inspired Soul offers a pause that allows you to bring to life hidden strengths. The journey towards wholeness begins with self-awareness.

MEMBERSHIP MILESTONES



Reading Therapy Center

Congratulations and thank you to Christy Green and her team at Reading Therapy Center for 20 years of continuous support and involvement with the Chamber! Reading Therapy Center is a diagnostic educational center offering one-on-one, intensive therapy in reading, writing, comprehension, language, and math for individuals ages six and up. RTC focuses on the root causes of learning challenges to create life-changing results. Many clients travel up to two hours daily, reflecting the impact and effectiveness of the therapies provided.



Nova-Tech Engineering

Congratulations and thank you to Landon Fries and his team at Nova-Tech Engineering LLC for 20 years of partnership with the Willmar Lakes Area Chamber! Nova-Tech is a global leader in agricultural and aquaculture automation, designing and manufacturing innovative robotic systems. Headquartered in Willmar, the company employs nearly 300 professionals across 12 countries and holds several US patents. Its equipment is used in more than 600 locations across 65 countries and six continents.



Life-Science Innovations

Congratulations and thank you to Mike Achman, Beth Wosmek, Pam Schlegel, and Linda Lovold of Life-Science Innovations for 20 years of partnership! LSI is made up of LSI Shared Services, Research & Development, and the Executive Leadership Team. LSI delivers strategic guidance, administrative support, and capital funding to strengthen and grow its current and future affiliate companies, positioning them as leaders in life sciences and engineering. The LSI family of companies operates across diverse industries, including engineering, processing, poultry genetics, and agriculture. Together, they employ more than 1,600 people across multiple states and countries.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MIXER



neXt recently kicked off another year of great networking and professional development events aimed at helping young professionals develop their networks and advance their careers. It was great to see such a wide range of career paths represented — and even better, seeing everyone connecting, laughing, and building new relationships. Visit willmarareachamber.com/next to stay in the loop.

PAID LEAVE IS COMING TO MINNESOTA. IS YOUR BUSINESS READY?

 MINNESOTA
PAID LEAVE

Starting Jan. 1, 2026, Minnesota Paid Leave will offer payments and job protections to Minnesotans when they need time off work for some of life's most important moments — like welcoming a child, recovering from a serious illness, or caring for a loved one. Employers play an important role in helping employees learn about and access the program.

The Willmar Lakes Area Chamber and The Chamber serving the Meeker County Area were proud to host Minnesota Paid Leave Director Greg Norfleet and Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development for a full-house engagement session at the Willmar Conference Center on September 22nd. More than 250 people participated, gaining an overview of the program, learning how to set up a Paid Leave account, receiving the latest updates, and getting their questions answered.

A special thank you to Representative Dave Baker for helping facilitate the Q&A and to Senator Andrew Lang for joining us at this important community event.



 WILLMAR LAKES
AREA CHAMBER
SUPPORTING BUSINESS IN KANDIYOHI COUNTY

Unlocking Financial Planning Opportunities under OBBBA

With an Update on Minnesota Paid Leave

LOCATION: Willmar
Conference Center
Light breakfast included

Join local accounting firms for a comprehensive OBBBA summary including business and individual tax updates, and the latest on Minnesota's Paid Leave

Presenting Firms

 TANFINSON THOMPSON

 CDS
CPAS & ADVISORS

 CHRISTIANSON
CPAs & Consultants

 westberg | eischens
advisors and accountants