

Chairman's Circle Investors



MEMBERSHIP MILESTONE



VIVID IMAGE

Congratulations to Steve and Beth Gasser and Cegi Wassman of Vivid Image on 10 years! Vivid Image is a full-service digital marketing agency located in Hutchinson specializing in web design and marketing for small businesses. With 30 years of experience, the Vivid team focuses on strong relationships and real results, partnering primarily with family-owned businesses that value genuine connection.

FIRST DOLLAR

Willmar Community Closet



The Willmar Community Closet is a 501(c) (3) that exists to provide free clothing and essential items to anyone in need, in a welcoming space, that honors dignity, diversity, and mutual care. Located on the third floor of First Presbyterian Church, they are committed to reducing waste, uplifting neighbors, and strengthening the fabric of the community one garment, one connection, and one act of kindness at a time.

CHAMBER CONNECTIONS

February 27 alzheimer's association	March 6 Willmar Municipal Utilities	March 13 Central Minnesota Christian School	March 20 PROJECT Turnabout	March 27 WILLMAR AREA Women's Fund
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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!

NEW MEMBER WELCOME



CELEBRATING COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP



On February 12th members of the business community came together to honor remarkable leaders whose vision, dedication, and heart continue to shape the strength and vitality of our region. We celebrated Membership Milestones, thanked our retiring Chamber Board members, reflected on the progress of the past year, and looked ahead to the exciting initiatives already taking shape. Every moment underscored what's possible when people unite with purpose.

Julie Anderson shared a beautiful quote from her grandmother that captured the spirit of the day: "Love isn't love until it's given away."

Thank you to everyone who continues to give—your time, your talents, your energy, and your love—for the betterment of our community. You are the reason we thrive.

Legacy Award: Steve Linder, Lakeland Media

MILO Award: Julie Anderson, Nesbit Agencies / Kensington Insurance Agency

Exemplary Leadership Award: Sara DeRoo, Christianson CPAs and Consultants

5 Under 45 Emerging Leaders: Sammy Contreras, MAC Supply & Hardware

Jessica L Hanson, Willmar Hypnosis • Andrew Kveene, Edward Jones

Liz Heimer & Micah Larson, Intuition Brewing • Matthew Onnen, Jennie-O

Retiring Board Members: Terri Wood, Woody's Trucking Inc. • Caroline Chan, Kandiyohi County
Jaime Martinez, CentraCare • Suzanne Hass, Allstate Insurance

CONGRESSWOMAN FISCHBACH VISITS THE CHAMBER



US Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach recently visited the Willmar Lakes Area Chamber for a discussion on the Working Families Tax Cuts Act and the tax relief it will bring to businesses and individuals.

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | 8:00-9:30AM
HERITAGE BANK | WILLMAR

FREE WITH RSVP: WILLMARAREACHAMBER.COM/EVENTS



RIBBON CUTTINGS

Magnolia Accounting Services



Congratulations to Haley Martinez of Magnolia Accounting Services, LLC on her First Dollar and Ribbon Cutting! Magnolia Accounting Services provides personalized bookkeeping, payroll, and tax solutions that help business owners stay organized and focused on growth.

Glacial Ridge Curling



Congratulations to Glacial Ridge Curling on their incredible new club and thank you for hosting Business After Hours! Who would've guessed the former Herberger's store in Uptown Willmar could be transformed into a full-on curling facility? Well, after an impressive \$600,000 renovation, that dream is now a reality — and it's going to be a gamechanger for curling in our community! The club is incredibly grateful for the support of its members and the local business community for helping turn this dream into reality.

Glacial Ridge Curling is excited to grow their club after reaching capacity at their former Civic Center location, and to keep building the love of curling across the area. The new facility will be open seven days a week and even features a bar and social area — making it the perfect spot to curl and connect!

Mike Henke Inc



Mike Henke is a national speaker who partners with organizations to build positive, high-performing workplace cultures. His interactive, customized training helps improve leadership, employee engagement, and retention while increasing team connection and productivity. Specializing in leadership development, sales, and human resources, Mike delivers practical, people-focused strategies that create workplaces where people want to stay.

CHAMBER CHAT

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



Thursday mornings on Open Mic, Chamber President/CEO James Miller hosts Chamber Chat. Recordings are available on KWLM's website or on Spotify. Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach, Baker Graphics, Kandiyohi County Food Shelf, and Mike Henke Inc. were featured in February.