

CHAMBER CHAT

THURSDAY MORNINGS @ 10:00AM

With Chamber President James Miller

KWLM
1340 AM 96.3 FM
NEWS/TALK

Spotify®

VISTAPRAIRIE AT
COPPERLEAF



Thursday mornings on Open Mic, Chamber President/CEO James Miller hosts Chamber Chat. Recordings are available on KWLM's website or on Spotify. Kandiyohi County Food Shelf, R&J Tours, VistaPrairie at Copperleaf Senior Living, and Dooley's Petroleum were featured in the last month

CHAMBER CONNECTIONS

marcus
construction

UNITED
community
Action
PARTNERSHIP

RIDGEWATER
COLLEGE

Mainstream
Boutique

August 28

September 11

September 18

September 25

Join the Willmar Lakes Area Chamber at rotating member businesses to introduce yourself, share business updates, hear the latest community news, and enjoy coffee, conversation, and door prizes. Everyone's welcome—just bring your business card and \$1 to support our Nonprofit of the Month!



Thank you to everyone who braved the heat and joined us for an evening of live music, dancing, and community fun on July 25th! The White Keys kept the crowd entertained all night, whether people were enjoying the music from the dock, wading in the lake, relaxing on the patio, or dancing the night away. This event wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of our presenting sponsors, Special Events Committee, Board Members, Ambassadors, and dedicated volunteers. A big thank you to Grand True Value Rental for providing the tables and chairs, Rambow for making us look good, and the wonderful team at Zorbaz for their outstanding hospitality and partnership.

RIBBON CUTTINGS



Excitement was in the air as the Chamber helped kick off the 9th Annual Jared Anez Eagle Lake Race Series. This half marathon, 5K run/walk, Kids Fun Run, and bean bag tournament is a celebration of family, community, and Jared Anez's legacy – a respected husband, father of six, agriculture business owner (Anez Consulting), school board chairman, and community leader who passed away unexpectedly in 2017. This race honors his commitment to education, service, and bringing people together through scholarships to STEM students.



Congratulations to Mike and Terri Wood of Woody's Trucking on the completion of their office remodel and new drive-through washout bay with Marcus Construction. Woody's Trucking Inc. is a refrigerated transportation carrier that has been providing nationwide temperature-controlled transportation services since 2001. After relocating to Willmar in 2011 and purchasing their current facility in 2015, the company has continued to grow while maintaining its commitment to reliable, on-time deliveries through quality drivers and modern, well-maintained equipment. Here's to 25 years of excellence in refrigerated transportation and continued success in the years ahead!

MINNESOTA DUAL-TRAINING PIPELINE WORKFORCE COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

THURSDAY, SEPT 24, 2026
3:00 - 4:30 PM

WILLMAR LAKES AREA CHAMBER
1700 Technology Drive NE, Suite 124, Willmar, MN

REGISTER AT willmarareachamber.com/events

DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR AND INDUSTRY



DISCUSS. LEARN. SHARE. NETWORK. ASK.

FIRST DOLLARS



THE PEACE PLAYHOUSE

Enrollment is open for children ages 2-11 at The Peace Playhouse Daycare in New London. Located within Peace Lutheran and operated by Class A licensed provider Stina Ostlie, the daycare serves up to 10 children and features an art room, quiet room, large gym, and outdoor play space. It's a clean, safe, welcoming place for children to learn, create, explore, and play.



H2 CUSTOM HOMES LLC

H2 Custom Homes delivers quality residential carpentry with expert craftsmanship in windows, doors, decks, framing, drywall, and detailed wood trim. Built on care, precision, and dependability, Adam Herman and Hunter Fagen bring blueprints and dreams to life.



BUBBLY CLEANING

Bubbly Cleaning, led by Sarahi "Bubbles" Benevides, provides discreet and dependable commercial and residential cleaning services, including deep cleaning, move-in/move-out cleaning, medical clinics, restaurant kitchens, upholstery, and carpet cleaning. Bubbles and her professional team take care of the dirty work so clients across West Central Minnesota can enjoy cleaner, healthier lives.

GROUNDBREAKINGS



CAMPUS MINISTRY CENTER

Congratulations to Willmar Campus Ministry Center on the groundbreaking of their 2,500 square foot expansion with Marcus Construction! Campus Ministry Center is a welcoming place where Ridgewater College students can find a meal, support, and connection. Thanks to generous community support, an expansion is underway to add bathrooms and more dining and kitchen space. You can help this important community asset continue to grow by volunteering or making a financial gift. Together, we're helping our students and community flourish!



ROBBINS ISLAND AMPHITHEATER

The Willmar Lakes Area celebrated an exciting milestone last week with the groundbreaking of the Robbins Island Amphitheater. In partnership with the City of Willmar, Willmar Rotary Club, Engan Associates Architects, and Marcus Construction, this long-time community vision is becoming a reality. The new amphitheater will provide a vibrant space for Rockin' Robbins, community festivals, special events, and new opportunities for residents and visitors to gather, celebrate, and make memories for years to come. It is an exciting step forward for the community and a wonderful example of what can happen when local partners come together to make a vision a reality.



Eagle Creek
GOLF CLUB
PRESENTED BY
J.D. KREPS
FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.



The 37th Annual Willmar Lakes Area Chamber's Golf Classic, presented by JD Kreps Financial Group, brought together Chamber members, business leaders, and community partners for a day of networking, collaboration, and friendly competition. A huge thank you to our incredible sponsors, Chamber Ambassadors, dedicated volunteers, the amazing Eagle Creek team for their outstanding hospitality, and West Central Technology for hosting a fantastic After Hours. From sponsorships and Bottle Bonanza donations to every golfer and volunteer, each contribution helped make this event a success. The Golf Classic is more than a day on the course—it's an opportunity to strengthen business relationships, make new connections, and celebrate the collaborative spirit that makes the Willmar Lakes Area a great place to live, work, and do business.