

# CHAMBER NEWS

June 2026  
Volume 33 - No. 6



Official Newsletter of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce



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## Help Us Share Your Success

One of the many benefits of Chamber membership is the opportunity to increase visibility for your business. To help amplify the great things happening across our business community, we're excited to introduce a new way for members to share their milestones with the Chamber.

We know our members are doing great things every day, but we don't always know about them. Help us help you.

Whether you're celebrating a milestone anniversary (1, 5, 10, etc), expansion, renovation, new location, grand opening, award, or other significant milestone, we want to hear about it. By sharing your news with us, you'll help ensure your accomplishments don't go unnoticed.

Through this new member benefit, the Chamber will help amplify member milestones through our social media and

communication channels, providing additional exposure while highlighting the innovation, investment, and growth taking place throughout our region. Chamber Ambassadors may also be available to help celebrate.

A few things to keep in mind:

- Milestones should be submitted at least one week in advance whenever possible.
- Posts will follow a consistent format and schedule to ensure fairness among members.

Your success is worth celebrating, and your story helps showcase the strength of our business community. If you have a milestone to share, simply scan the QR code and complete the submission form.



## Enhancing Your Chamber Experience

We're excited to share that the Chamber will soon be launching a new member management system along with a redesigned Chamber website as part of our ongoing commitment to enhancing your membership experience.

The new Info Hub will serve as your one-stop member portal, making it easier to update your information, register for events, post jobs, and manage invoices and payments – all in one convenient place.

Our redesigned website will also better connect visitors and residents with Chamber members while making Chamber resources and member information easier to access and navigate.

We look forward to sharing more details soon and helping you make the most of these exciting updates. Thank you for being a valued Chamber member!

## GET IN TOUCH

218-847-9202

700 Summit Ave.  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

DLChamber@VisitDetroitLakes.com

VisitDetroitLakes.com/Chamber

**Jackie Buboltz**

President

jackie@visitdetroitlakes.com

**Jean Erickson**

Office Coordinator

jean@visitdetroitlakes.com

**Joanna Thoennes**

Membership & Business

Support Specialist

joanna@visitdetroitlakes.com

**Megan Gilsdorf**

Events Coordinator

events@visitdetroitlakes.com

**Cleone Stewart**

Tourism Director

cleone@visitdetroitlakes.com

**FOLLOW US!**



#DLCHAMBER

## OUR MISSION



*The mission of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce is to promote and enhance a vibrant business community while contributing to the quality of life through leadership, connection and community.*



## Our Reach in 2026

### April 2026

#### Walk-Ins

132

#### Phone Calls

156

#### Website Viewers

22,024

### 2026 Totals

#### Walk-Ins

397

#### Phone Calls

488

#### Website Viewers

89,109

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Board Chair

**Kim Bettcher - 2026**

DLCCC

### Chair-Elect

**Liz Holzer - 2026**

Dynamic Homes

### Treasurer

**Jason Kuehn - 2026**

DL School District

### Past Chair

**Nate Hunter - 2027**

HomeSmart Adventure Realty

### Directors

**Cara Frank - 2026**

Bell Bank

**Emily Haverkamp - 2027**

MState

**Jennifer Hagman - 2026**

Better Every Day Consignment

**Joe Skogmo - 2026**

First Lutheran Church

**Tiffany Voigt - 2028**

DL Tribune/Forum Communications

**Jennifer Winn - 2027**

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## 4th of July Fireworks Donations

Summer is right around the corner, and that means the 4th of July celebrations will be here before we know it! In recent years, we've been fortunate to increase our budget and expand the Detroit Lakes fireworks display—and the community response has been overwhelmingly positive.

Donation letters to support this year's fireworks display have now been mailed, and we encourage

you to keep an eye out and please consider making a contribution. This annual tradition is made possible through the generosity of our community and local businesses, and every donation helps keep this celebration strong for everyone to enjoy.

We truly appreciate the continued support that helps make the Detroit Lakes fireworks display a highlight of the summer.

## Coffee + Community - June 3

### Coffee + Community: Importance of Local Journalism

**June 3 | 8–9:15am | Becker County Museum**

Local journalism plays a vital role in keeping communities informed, connected, and engaged. As the media landscape continues to evolve, trusted local news sources remain an essential part of strong communities.

This panel discussion will feature representatives from local print, radio, and television media.

RSVP for free by scanning the QR code!

**Sponsored by  
Detroit Lakes  
Noon Rotary**



## West Lake Drive Project Updates

Stay up to date on the latest news, construction progress, and project timelines for the West Lake Drive improvement project.

### More Information:

218-847-5658

[cityofdetroitlakes.com/westlakedrive](http://cityofdetroitlakes.com/westlakedrive)



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[Learn more at sanfordhealth.org](http://Learn more at sanfordhealth.org)

**Sanford Detroit Lakes Clinic**  
1245 Washington Ave.  
(218) 846-2000



Jaimie Deraney, MD



Michael Norgard, MD



Becky Peterson, APRN



Jenny Lessman, PA-C

**SANFORD**  
WOMEN'S



**HR**  
CONNECT

**1st Thursday  
of every month!**

If Human Resources is in your job description, this is the group for you!

**Thursday,  
June 4**

**8:15 – 9:30 am**

### LOCATION:

Chamber Conference Room  
700 Summit Ave.  
Detroit Lakes

*Free for Members  
\$10 for Non-Members*

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## Ambassador Visits



Our Chamber Ambassadors appreciated the opportunity to visit Bestow Counseling and learn more about owner Debbie Svobodny and the passion behind her work. Debbie shared her background and why it has become her life's work to help ensure counseling services are available and accessible within our community.

Learn more about their services and mission by visiting their website [www.bestowcounseling.com](http://www.bestowcounseling.com)



Our Chamber Ambassadors enjoyed visiting The Music Shop in Washington Square Mall and to learn more about the passion and experience behind the business.

During the visit, Ambassadors learned about their background, the wide range of services they offer—including music lessons for all ages, instrument accessories and supplies, and repair services—and their vision for making music more accessible within the community.

Learn more at [www.themusicshopdl.com](http://www.themusicshopdl.com)

## Member News

Congratulations to **The Music Shop** of Detroit Lakes on winning the grand prize at the Pitch 412 competition hosted by Project 412! The store is owned by Brian & Abigail Ferdon and located in the Washington Square Mall.

Their business model offers a three-pronged approach: retail sales of

instruments across band, orchestra and guitar categories; recurring income from lessons; and repeat visits driven by instrument repairs.

The Music Shop plans to invest the grand prize money in rental instruments to lower the barrier of entry for new students.



### 2nd Wednesday of every month!

Join the **:45 Fill Up** for networking and share business and event information! Be sure to bring business cards and flyers to share!

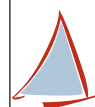
**Wednesday,  
June 10  
8:15 – 9:30 am**

### LOCATION:

Chamber Conference Room  
700 Summit Ave.  
Detroit Lakes

*Want to host a :45 Fill Up  
at your business?*

**Contact the Chamber!**



### CONTACT US!



218-847-9202



700 Summit Ave.  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



[DLChamber@VisitDetroitLakes.com](mailto:DLChamber@VisitDetroitLakes.com)



## Welcome New Members

### Provision Contractors

Chris Brown, Local Contact  
1125 Village Lane  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
320-380-1508

Email: [provisioncontractors@gmail.com](mailto:provisioncontractors@gmail.com)  
[www.provisioncontractors.com](http://www.provisioncontractors.com)



Provision Contractors brings trusted craftsmanship to the Detroit Lakes Area; specializing in roofing, siding, windows and doors. Their team has over 15 years of experience. Built on Christian values, they stand behind their work and their word, ensuring every project is completed with care.

### Detroit Lakes Area Pride

Paul Haarstick, Treasurer  
P. O. Box 61  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502  
Email: [dlareapride@gmail.com](mailto:dlareapride@gmail.com)  
[www.dlareapride.org](http://www.dlareapride.org)



Detroit Lakes Area Pride

DL Area Pride celebrates and advocates for LGBTQ+ people across the lakes region – building community through inclusive events, education and connection. They meet the third Thursday of the month, 5:30pm at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

### Clear Lakes Ice Company

Misty Qualey, Owner  
2603 Walnut Circle  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
218-790-1155  
Email: [hello@clearlakesicecompany.com](mailto:hello@clearlakesicecompany.com)  
Website coming soon



Clear Lakes Ice Company

Clear Lakes Ice Company is a new company that will own and operate a Kooler Ice automated ice vending machine. Locations to be determined.

### VFW Jess Omundson Post 1676

Sheri Dalen, Event Manager  
500 Washington Avenue  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
218-847-9460  
Email: [vfwclub@arvig.net](mailto:vfwclub@arvig.net)



VFW Jess Omundson Post 1676 is a bar/lounge for everyone, both Veterans and non-Veterans. They serve lunch Monday-Friday, Burger Night on Wednesday, and a great Happy Hour Monday-Friday from 3-5pm. They have an Event Center in their lower level, seating up to 200 people. They also offer full service gaming and bingo.

### Sherwin-Williams

Andrew Litzau, Store Manager  
990 US Hwy. 10 East  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
218-592-9164  
Email: [sw721159@sherwin.com](mailto:sw721159@sherwin.com)  
[www.sherwinwilliams.com](http://www.sherwinwilliams.com)



New paint store opening in DL in June. Quality paint and supplies for consumers and contractors.

## MEMBER RENEWALS

Thanks to the following members who have renewed their Chamber Membership from April 25, 2026 - May 22, 2026!

**Advanced Business Methods**

**Allstar Construction**

**Becker County Sportsmen's Club**

**Better Homes & Garden Real Estate**

**Culligan Water Conditioning**

**Deana Deitchler Real Estate**

**Detroit Lakes Morning Rotary**

**HomeSmart Adventure Realty**

**iDigital Outdoor**

**Terry Kalil**

**Kelly Services**

**Lakes Inn**

**Maplelag Resort**

**MBFC**

**Midco**

**Olander Bus Service, Inc.**

**Seven Sisters Spirits**

**Shoe Sensation Co.**

**Thrive Property Solutions**

**True Blue Flower Co.**

**Verizon Wireless/BeMobile – West**

**WE Fest**

Chamber Memberships renew throughout the year.

For a complete list, visit [business.visitdetroitlakes.com/list](http://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/list)



## COMPASS Young Professionals

connects young professionals ages 18–40 from all industries to grow their networks, develop leadership skills, give back to the community, and have fun doing it. Supporting involvement benefits both employees and employers by building stronger leaders, encouraging collaboration, strengthening workplace engagement, and investing in the future of our region.

- Expand professional and personal networks
- Develop leadership skills and confidence
- Build connections across industries and organizations
- Get involved in the community without overcommitting
- Strengthen employee engagement and employer brand
- Support future leaders and regional growth



Scan here to join!

Program Sponsored by:



# Minnesota Employers: New Retirement Plan Requirement Now in Effect

Minnesota employers should be aware of the new Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program, which requires many employers to either offer a qualified retirement plan or participate in the state's retirement savings program.

The law applies to employers with five or more employees that do not currently offer a qualified retirement plan such as a 401(k), SEP IRA, or SIMPLE IRA. Employers that already provide a qualifying plan can file for an exemption.

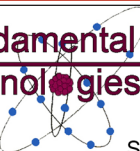
The Secure Choice program is being rolled out in phases based on employer size, with larger employers required to comply first and smaller employers phased in over the next two years. Employers who participate in the state program will facilitate payroll deductions into employee retirement accounts, while employees may choose to opt out.

Employers doing business in Minnesota with five or more employees receiving Minnesota taxable wages will receive either an email or postal letter from the record keeper, Vestwell, that began the week of January 19, 2026, with log-in information and a unique access code for the program portal at [securechoice.mn.gov](https://securechoice.mn.gov). Employers who do not receive an access code can still register using their FEIN and required validations. Employers are required to either register for the Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program and establish Roth IRA accounts for eligible employees or file for an exemption if they already offer a qualifying retirement plan. Employers may enroll or file an exemption beginning in January 2026, but must comply by the deadline based on employee count.

Additional information, timelines, and employer resources are available through the Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program website. [www.securechoice.mn.gov](https://www.securechoice.mn.gov)

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# Legislative Session Concludes: Key Takeaways for Minnesota Businesses

The 2026 Minnesota legislative session concluded on May 18, with lawmakers passing a number of measures affecting businesses, taxpayers, and communities across the state. Information in this summary is based on updates provided by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce.

Several business priorities advanced during the session, including a two-year extension of the Pass-Through Entity (PTE) Tax. The PTE Tax provides federal tax relief to more than 66,000 Minnesota businesses without reducing state revenues and has been a top priority for the Minnesota Chamber. While the extension is welcome news, business advocates continue to push for a permanent solution in future sessions.

The Legislature also approved tax relief measures for Minnesotans, including property tax relief and temporary reductions in vehicle tab fees. Lawmakers passed a significant capital investment package that includes funding for infrastructure, transportation, water and wastewater projects, economic development initiatives, and other community improvements across the state.

Another major focus of the session was fraud prevention and government accountability. New measures include the establishment of an independent Office of the Inspector General, expanded tools for state agencies to investigate and prevent fraud, and investments in technology modernization to improve oversight and program integrity.

Not all business priorities were resolved. The Minnesota Chamber continues to advocate for permanent extension of the PTE Tax, additional federal tax conformity measures that encourage business investment and innovation, and improvements to Minnesota's Paid Family & Medical Leave program to address employer concerns regarding cost and implementation. These issues are expected to remain key topics when lawmakers return in 2027.

The Chamber will continue to monitor legislative developments and share updates that impact our members. We appreciate the work of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce in representing the interests of Minnesota's business community and providing timely legislative information throughout the session.

**Source:** Minnesota Chamber of Commerce Legislative Updates.

To find your local representative, go to  
[www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/iMaps/districts/](http://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/iMaps/districts/)

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### Detroit Lakes Chamber Bucks Reminder:



For good customer service, please continue to accept ALL Chamber Bucks but let the Chamber know if you receive any \$10 checks from First Security Bank; we will exchange them for **new** 1st National Bank checks.



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Regional Chamber  
of Commerce

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## What's Happening - June 2026

Tuesday      Tuesdays in the Park, 6pm, City Park Bandshell  
Tues/Sat      Lakes Area Farmer's Market, 10am-2pm, Peoples Park  
Wednesday      Wild Wednesday, 10am, Tamarac NWR (begins June 10)  
Sat/Sun      Shady Hollow Flea Market, 7am-3pm, Hwy. 59 South  
Sat/Sun      Group Scuba Dives, Tri-State Diving

**3..... Coffee & Community, 8-9:15am, Becker County Museum**

3.....Cocktail Pairing Event, 6pm, Spanky's Stone Hearth

**4..... HR Connect, 8:15-9:30am, Chamber Office**

4,11,18..... Trucks & Tunes, 5-8pm, DL City Park

5.....Charlie Parr Concert, 7:30pm, Holmes Theatre

5-6 .....Hawley Rodeo

6 .....MY Flyers Color Run, 10:30am, DL City Park Bandshell

6 .....National Trails Day Event, 7-8:30pm, Frazee Lions Park

7.....Detroit Lakes Pride in the Park, 11am-4pm, Peoples Park

**10 ..... :45 Fill-up, 8:15-9am, Chamber Office**

**10 ..... Cruise DL Night, 4-8pm, Detroit Lakes City Park**

10.....Boys & Girls Club Night at the Mountain, 4:30-6:30pm, Detroit Mountain

13 .....MMMH Show & Shine, 12-3pm, Becker Co. Fairgrounds

13 .....Bob Wiedewitsch and Donny Anderson Memorial Truck & Tractor Pull, 4pm, Becker Co. Fairgrounds

14.....Northwind Gaels Performance, 2-4pm, Corner Collective Bistro

**17..... COMPASS YP The Great DL Race, 5pm Start, Becker County Museum**

19.....Cornerstone Arts & Giving Gala, 5:30pm, Frazee Event Center

19-20.....Lumberjack Festival, Thurs. 10am-8pm, Fri. 10am-5pm, Becker County Museum

24.....Women's Wednesday, 3-5pm, Forest Edge Gallery

**25..... Chamber Board of Directors, 8am, Chamber Office**

25.....Zane Lamprey Comedy Show, 7pm, Bucks Mill Brewing

27 .....Music on the Mountain, 5:30pm gates open, 6:15pm music, Detroit Mountain

[See full calendar of events and local information at VisitDetroitLakes.com](https://www.visitdetroitlakes.com)

*Please let us know if you have events for our calendar.*

### Route Around Your Office

Please route to:

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
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| _____ | _____ |