

Visit us at [www.StCloudAreaChamber.com](http://www.StCloudAreaChamber.com)

**The St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce, a regional organization of diverse businesses, increases business contacts, enhances professional development, and provides leadership and information on local and state business issues.**

**How to register for Chamber events**

For all events in this issue, unless otherwise noted, register by calling the Chamber at 251-2940, ext. 126, emailing [registrations@StCloudAreaChamber.com](mailto:registrations@StCloudAreaChamber.com), online at <http://events.StCloudAreaChamber.com>, or complete the form on the back side of this page.

**Government Affairs hosts meeting about education funding**

On November 11, the Government Affairs Division will host a meeting with information about funding for K-12 education. Special guests are local superintendents: Bruce Watkins, St. Cloud Area School District #742; Daniel Bittman, Sauk Rapids-Rice School District #47; and Dr. Joseph Hill, Sartell-St. Stephen School District. The Government Affairs Division meets from 7:30-9 a.m. at the St. Cloud Area Chamber office. There is no cost, but register by November 9.

**We're seeking committee volunteers!**

The Technology & Education Conference Committee and VIP Committee are recruiting new members for 2011-2012. The Technology & Education Conference Committee puts together the annual conference in November; contact committee chair Andrew Berger at [aberger@eventis.com](mailto:aberger@eventis.com) for more information. The VIP Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month from 10:30-11:30 a.m., calling Chamber members to share Chamber news and events. Contact committee chair Tammy Hansen at [thansen@msbcollege.edu](mailto:thansen@msbcollege.edu) to find out more.

**Membership directory sales underway**

Advertising sales for the 2012 St. Cloud Area Chamber Membership Directory and Buyer's Guide have started! Contact Gregg Apostoloff, Village Profile, at (320) 656-3831, for details. Members tell us they use the directory as their first stop for business services – there's still time left to reserve your space!

***Next-St. Cloud* meets November 8**

***Next-St. Cloud*** is a program for the next generation of business leaders. Participants have the opportunity to enhance their management skills, networking, and career development; expand their knowledge in the areas of sales, marketing and management; and build strong relationships with other participants and current business leaders. The cost is \$195 per person annual registration fee; all lunches are included. This must be paid in advance. For more information, contact Gail at 251-2940, ext. 109 or [givers@StCloudAreaChamber.com](mailto:givers@StCloudAreaChamber.com).

**Chamber reviewing ad budget**

The Chamber's Marketing Committee is currently reviewing the advertising budget to allocate funds for 2012. If your business is marketing/advertising/media oriented and you would like to submit a proposal, please contact Gail at [givers@StCloudAreaChamber.com](mailto:givers@StCloudAreaChamber.com) or 251-2940, ext. 109. All proposals must be received by November 2. Submitting a proposal does not guarantee inclusion in the advertising budget.

**Business After Hours November 17**

STRIDE Academy hosts Business After Hours Thursday, November 17, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at 3241 Oakham Lane. Join us for food and fun! Members and guests are invited to this complimentary networking event. No registration required.



When Shannon Templin, Minnesota School of Business, needed to order logo wear, he called on Kris Nelson at Custom Accents. "Kris did a custom order for three pieces and it worked out really well for us. Large or small, you can count on her to treat you well and get the order right." Thanks, Shannon, for Thinking Chamber First!

Have you made a decision recently to do business with someone because they are a member of the Chamber? If so, we'd like to hear from you. Call Gail at 251-2940, ext. 109 or email [givers@StCloudAreaChamber.com](mailto:givers@StCloudAreaChamber.com).

**Nominate outstanding businesses today!**

The Chamber's Business Awards Selection Committee is seeking nominations for three business awards: Small Business of the Year, Entrepreneurial Success, and Business Central Mark of Excellence. To nominate a business, contact Gail Ivers by December 1 at 251-2940, ext. 109 or [givers@StCloudAreaChamber.com](mailto:givers@StCloudAreaChamber.com).

## Reservation form

### *Did you know?*

In September, the Chamber:

- ✓ had 436 visitors
- ✓ received 371 phone calls
- ✓ referred 75 members

- NEXT-St. Cloud, November 8: # \_\_\_\_\_ attending @ \$195 per person/year
- Government Affairs meeting, November 11: # \_\_\_\_\_ attending
- Waite Park Chamber, November 16: # \_\_\_\_\_ attending
- Sauk Rapids Chamber, November 17: # \_\_\_\_\_ attending
- Lunchtime Learning, "Malware," December 7: # \_\_\_\_\_ attending @ \$15 per person
- Become a Chamber Connection Birthday Party Sponsor, December 2
- Obtain exhibit space at the 2012 Central Minnesota Farm Show, February 28-March 1, 2012

#### Registration/member information update:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill me  Payment enclosed  American Express  Discover  MasterCard  VISA  
Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Register with credit card at <http://events.StCloudAreaChamber.com>. For user name/password call Vicki, 656-3822.

## Get your exhibit space for the Central MN Farm Show now!

Exhibit spaces for the 2012 Central Minnesota Farm Show are now available! This show is the largest of its kind in the Upper Midwest with over 4,000 people from the agriculture industry attending. Showcased in the new St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center, you can become part of the all new 2012 Central Minnesota Farm Show taking place on Feb. 28- Mar. 1. For more information, contact Ginny at [vkroll@StCloudAreaChamber.com](mailto:vkroll@StCloudAreaChamber.com) or 251-2940, ext. 105.

## Sauk Rapids Chamber meets November 17

CentraCare Health System hosts the Sauk Rapids Chamber meeting Nov. 17, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at C & L Distributing, 1020 Industrial Dr. S. Members and guests interested in Sauk Rapids issues are welcome. There is no cost, but register by Nov. 15. Please note that the Sauk Rapids Chamber is meeting one week early this month due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

## Waite Park Chamber meets November 16

Join us for the Waite Park Chamber meeting Nov. 16, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., hosted by Tully Tube Network and Facetime Business Resources at Waite Park City Hall, 19 13th Ave. N. The program includes lunch and a presentation on "Healthy Thanksgiving Alternatives" by Rejuv Medical. Members are welcome and encouraged to bring guests who are interested in Waite Park community issues. There is no cost to attend, but register before November 14. Unregistered attendees pay \$5.

## On Dec. 7, Lunchtime Learning addresses "Malware"

Brad Grabham and Gordon Schrubbe, Jr., St. Cloud State University, will discuss "Malware: Employees are the weakest link." Sponsored by Dijital Majik Computer Clinic, this informative lunch will teach you the best practices for safe computing and explain how to avoid malware. Join us at the Chamber office from noon-1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7. The cost is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by December 5 by calling 251-2940, ext. 126 or by emailing [registrations@StCloudAreaChamber.com](mailto:registrations@StCloudAreaChamber.com).

## Become a sponsor for Chamber Connection's 22<sup>nd</sup> Birthday!

When you sponsor Chamber Connection's 22nd Birthday Party on Dec. 2, 7:30-9 a.m., you get the following special benefits: have your business information on the special sponsor table, your company name on signs on each table, your company name and logo on invitations sent to over 300 Chamber members, your logo on the Chamber calendar of events, and your company name announced at each Chamber Connection meeting until the party! To become a sponsor, contact Scott Anderson, Statewide Property Inspections, at (320) 761-2100.

## Seeking MN Business Ethics Award nominations

The Minnesota Business Ethics Award recognizes Minnesota businesses that have exemplified and promoted ethical conduct for the benefit of the workplace, the marketplace, the environment, and the community. Businesses are recognized based upon size, with one winner from each category: Small (under 100 employees), Midsize (100-500 employees), and Large (more than 500 employees).

Nominate an outstanding Chamber business for this prestigious honor. Visit [mneticsaward.org](http://mneticsaward.org) and recommend a business by January 27, 2012. The Minnesota Business Ethics Award is a collaborative effort of the MN Society of CPA's, the Society of Financial Service Professionals, and the St. Thomas Center for Ethical Business Cultures.

## Find us on Facebook and LinkedIn!

Find the Chamber on Facebook! If you "like" us, you can see event updates, post your own announcements, and connect with other "fans" of the only 5-Star Accredited Chamber in the state. Check it out at [www.facebook.com/SaintCloudAreaChamberofCommerce](http://www.facebook.com/SaintCloudAreaChamberofCommerce).

The Chamber is also on LinkedIn! As a benefit for members, the LinkedIn group showcases members representing the best of the St. Cloud business community. We provide places and spaces for our members to do business as part of our mission to create, enhance, and support a healthy business environment. Visit [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) and search under Groups for "St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce."

