-JULY -

American Family Insurance District Office

(320) 258-3525

Cartridge World St. Cloud

(320) 258-3148

MainStreet Chamber

Midtown Fitness Center

(320) 253-4990

Ness Plastic Surgery

(320) 230-6377

PPX Professional Portable X-Ray, Inc.

(866) 895-2119

Star of India

(320) 310-3511

Super Smokes

(320) 333-1610

— AUGUST —

3rd Street Hair Company

(320) 252-8560

Creque Law, LLC

(320) 247-3439

Daylily Spa Salon

(320) 258-5459

Granite City Counseling, LLC

(320) 257-1800

Healthy Blends

(320) 257-1680

Insperity

(952) 960-5360

Marty Czech, Realtor

(320) 333-2626

Minnesotadeal.com

(651) 329-9911

Personal Touch Travel (390) 259-9812

Quality Design & Fire Protection

(320) 253-3254

Skin Fitness MD/The Vein Center

(320) 230-6377

Super Consulting Services, LLC

(612) 281-9381

Wells Fargo Advisors

(320) 980-3356

— SEPTEMBER —

Bayada Nurses Inc.

(320) 251-0668

Charter Business

(763) 241-4152

Evolution Tae Kwon Do

(320) 251-4900

Food Dudes Delivery (320) 251-1888

Great River Educational Arts Theatre

(G.R.E.A.T.)

(320) 258-2787

Guadalajara Mexican Restaurant

(320) 654-9020

Mastey Financial Group, LLC

(320) 253-8700

Motel 6

(320) 253-7070

Rural Aids Action Network

(320) 257-3036

T. R. Fox Properties

(320) 253-3267

Travelers Country Club on the Mississippi

(320) 743-3133

Vaultas

(320) 443-6700

On Your Behalf... Business & Workforce Development

The St. Cloud Area Chamber's Business and Workforce Development programs include everything from training to scholarships. They all have one important commonality. Each program is created to help strengthen Chamber member businesses by attracting, retaining, and educating the local workforce.

Take the **Business Development Council (BDC)** as an example. The BDC works to provide our members with inexpensive and practical training and development opportunities such as our Supervisor Development Certificate and "10 Principles of Extraordinary Customer Service" programs. Knowledgeable volunteers offer quality seminars and workshops on topics that range from stress management to marketing techniques through our popular Lunchtime Learning program.

We also have an active relationship with area schools through our Work-Based Learning Committee. Volunteers organize programs like Business and Education Partnerships that bring employees into the schools to volunteer their time and talent, maintaining business' presence in education. The Unite for Success Scholarship Program gave away over \$80,000 last year to area high school seniors.

Business and Workforce Development also means encouraging professionals to fine-tune their roles as community leaders. Our St. Cloud Area Leadership Program is designed to help current and emerging leaders understand the dynamics of the community and the role leadership shares in building healthy communities.

Our Executive Dialogue Groups foster open and frank communication among small groups of business owners. Participants can gain new insight into a broad range of common and uncommon problems. The pooled experience, expertise and talent of the group can often point to better answers to many everyday and long-range questions from individual businesses.

Our College-to-Career program focuses on the need to retain college graduates to prevent "brain drain" in the St. Cloud area. **NEXT-St. Cloud** was recently introduced as a networking and professional development program for the NEXT generation of business leaders.

We believe the strength of businesses is directly related to the strength and resiliency of our workforce. That's why the Chamber is committed to providing our members with resources and programs that ensure our members and our community enjoy a prosperous future.

By Definition... Affordable, High-Quality Training

The Chamber offers multiple programs designed to encourage and support area businesses. Audiences range from employees who need a boost of networking self-confidence to owners who would like to pick up tax tips over lunch.

Lunchtime Learning is a compact educational session held over the noon hour at the Chamber. We feature local speakers who present on a topic of interest to business people.

Supervisor Development is designed for those who have received limited training or those who need to improve their leadership skills. The program offers seven different courses giving supervisors the resources to present themselves as teachers, counselors and mentors.

Customer Service Training is a high-energy program intended for front-line personnel, managers and anyone else who needs a reminder about the importance of exceptional customer service. The program will help participants understand the customer, identify characteristics of great customer service, understand why people buy, and deal with difficult customer situations.

Membership Matters is published quarterly by the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce. For subscriptions or change of address, contact us at (320) 251-2940, 110 Sixth Ave. S, PO Box 487, St. Cloud, MN, 56302-0487, email: information@StCloudAreaChamber.com, or visit our web site: www.StCloudAreaChamber.com. We welcome your questions or comments. Teresa Bohnen, president; Gail Ivers, vice president; Alexa Sandbakken,