

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, online at <http://events.StCloudAreaChamber.com>, or complete the form on the back side of this page.

Minnesota Chamber Business Gives Program offers online workshop

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce Business Gives Program is offering a free online workshop Sept. 13 from noon-1 p.m. The topic is “When to Say ‘Yes’ and How to Say ‘No’” to nonprofit and community groups, with a focus on creating giving plans. Register online at www2.gotomeeting.com/register/540657426. For more information, contact Jackie Reis at jreis@mnchamber.com.

Government Affairs Division meets Sept. 9

The Government Affairs Division meets Sept. 9 from 7:30 - 9 a.m. at the Chamber. This month’s topics are impartial justice reform and annual program planning. Open to all Chamber members, no registration required.

NEXT St. Cloud features Sara Jane Nicoll, Larry Hosch

Local politicians will be the featured speakers at the Sept. 13 meeting of NEXT St. Cloud, a program for the next generation of business leaders. There will be a question and answer session about how to stay engaged in politics and remain relevant in a field dominated by established professionals. The meeting is from noon-1 p.m. at RJ’s American Grill, 4221 Clearwater Road. NEXT St. Cloud is a monthly meeting that features current business leaders, best practices dialogues, and networking opportunities. To register or for more information about NEXT, contact Jill Copeland at 656-3830 or jcopeland@StCloudAreaChamber.com.

On Oct. 5, Lunchtime Learning addresses “BrandsFormation”

Join us at the Chamber office from noon-1 p.m. October 5, for “BrandsFormation.” Sponsored by St. Cloud Overhead Door Company, Julie Rohling, marketing executive with Leighton Broadcasting, will help you identify your media mix and share the four fundamentals of BrandsFormation. The cost is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by September 30. Lunchtime Learning is a series of lectures designed to bring important, yet entertaining information to business people over the lunch hour. For the complete Lunchtime Learning schedule, visit <http://events.StCloudAreaChamber.com>.

Membership Directory sales underway

Advertising sales have begun for the 2012 St. Cloud Area Chamber Membership Directory and Buyer’s Guide. Contact Gregg Apostoloff, Village Profile, at (320) 656-3831, for more details. Members tell us they use the directory as their first stop for business services – reserve space now!

Business after Hours September 15

Schlenner Wenner & Co. hosts Business After Hours September 15, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at 630 Roosevelt Road, Suite 201, St. Cloud. Join us for food and fun! Members and guests are invited to this complimentary networking event. No registration required.

Waite Park Chamber After Hours Sept. 29

Rejuv Medical hosts Waite Park Chamber After Hours September 29 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at 210 3rd Street North, Waite Park. This is a special networking event for all Chamber members and guests who are interested in doing business in Waite Park. Don’t miss the chance for complimentary food and casual networking!

Business Central features new “Who’s Who in Financial & Professional Services”

The Nov. issue of *Business Central Magazine* features a special advertising section on **Financial and Professional Services**, reaching over 6000 business-to-business readers. Purchase an ad at 1/3 page or larger and receive a free short profile with picture, spotlighting one of your staff. The deadline is Sept. 23. Contact Wendy for details, whendricks@BusinessCentralMagazine.com, or call her at 656-3808. Find out more at www.BusinessCentralMagazine.com.

New Member Welcome Sept. 15

If you have recently joined the Chamber, or if you’ve been a member for awhile but would like to become more involved, meet us at the Chamber for a New Member Reception. Enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast and learn about the variety of opportunities available to you. The reception is Thursday, Sept. 15, at 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber office. Register by Sept. 13.

Reservation form

Did you know?

In July, the Chamber:

- ✓ had 220 visitors
- ✓ received 295 phone calls
- ✓ referred 98 members

- NEXT St. Cloud, September 13: #_____ participants @ \$195 per year (includes 12 lunches)
- New Member Welcome Sept. 15: #_____attending
- Hands-on Social Media Workshop, Sept. 21: #_____attending @ \$50 per person
- Waite Park Chamber, September 21: #_____attending
- Sauk Rapids Chamber, September 22: #_____attending
- Star-Studded Celebration, September 22: #_____attending @ \$25 per person
- "BrandsFormation," October 5: #_____attending @ \$15 per person

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.

Business Central encourages you to **Welcome Students!**

Waite Park Chamber meets September 21

Sauk Rapids Chamber meets September 22

Star-Studded Celebration arrives September 22

You're helping us grow with *Each One* *Reach One!*

New, free service for business questions

Corporate sponsorship available for Golf Open

Hands-on Social Media Workshop Sept. 21

The September issue of *Business Central Magazine* includes a pullout poster. Please display the "Welcome Students" poster in your business to greet area college students. Special thanks to our sponsors C & L Distributing, Minnesota School of Business, JDB Associates, and WJON.

Join us for the Waite Park Chamber meeting September 21, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., hosted by Restoration Professionals, at Waite Park City Hall. The program includes a presentation on "Conflict in the Workplace," by Sara Prom, Conflict Management Center. 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 Sept. 19. Unregistered attendees pay \$5.

Northstar Visitor Guides and Brenny Transportation host the Sauk Rapids Chamber meeting Sept. 22, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at C & L Distributing, 1020 Industrial Dr. S. Tara Tollefson, Plaza Park Bank, will share "Facebook Tips Businesses Can Implement Immediately." Members and guests interested in Sauk Rapids issues are welcome. There is no cost; register by Sept. 20.

On September 22, Chamber volunteers sparkle at this spirited volunteer recognition celebration. The fast-paced, upbeat format is lively and fun and features premier networking and grand hors d'oeuvres from 5-8 p.m. and, of course, spotlights one-of-a-kind volunteers! Held at the Best Western Kelly Inn/Green Mill, registration is \$25 per person. Register by Sept. 16.

The Chamber is wrapping up the 2010-11 *Each One Reach One* Membership Lead Contest. The program started September 1, 2010 and ended August 31, 2011. With six successful membership referrals Bernie Perryman wins this year's contest. Hot on her heels, Jim Beck, Minnesota School of Business, was second with five successful referrals. Thanks Bernie, Jim, and all who provided leads!

Participate in the 2011-12 Contest. Submit quality leads to Wendy Franzwa at 656-3834 or wfranzwa@StCloudAreaChamber.com. Include the company, contact name, and number.

Have questions about permits, marketing, or expanding or selling a business? Use a free service meant to break down barriers and open doors, available at www.mnbizconnect.com or call 1-888-MINN-BIZ. BusinessConnection is a service of Grow Minnesota! and is sponsored by the St. Cloud Area Chamber, the MN Chamber and MN DEED.

The Chamber Open committee is searching for a corporate sponsor for the 66th Annual Chamber Open in August of 2012. The corporate sponsor receives recognition in *Business Central Magazine*, *Bottom Line*, all promotional pieces related to the tournament, as well as many day-of benefits such as logo placement on pin flags, golf balls, and welcome banner, along with four complimentary teams of four. For complete corporate sponsorship details please contact Ginny Kroll at vkroll@StCloudAreaChamber.com or 656-3805, by November 12.

Bring your laptop, logos, and questions to our workshop. Participants will learn, step-by-step, how to create an ad on Facebook, the pros and cons of using Facebook, and how to effectively use other forms of social media. Led by Angela Schoenrock and Cory Josephs, A Simple Design, the workshop is Sept. 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Chamber. \$50 includes lunch. Register by Sept. 19.