

MetroNorth 2017 Annual Report

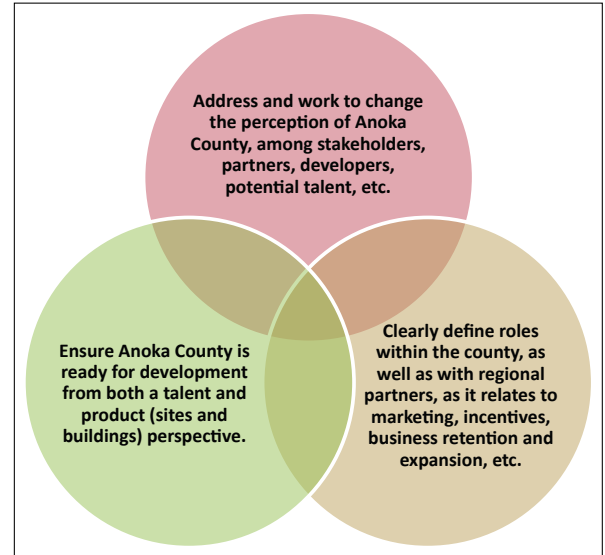
Chamber of Commerce

The MetroNorth Chamber offers many avenues by which a business can **promote** their products/services and expand their professional connections. The below 'At A Glance' numbers show that many people take advantage of our events, programming, and marketing channels to grow their business.

Besides assisting in the promotion of area businesses, a chamber of commerce also exists to **protect** the interests of the business community. In 2017, we saw some of our key initiatives to strengthen and protect local businesses really take fruition. **Our regional economic development initiative**, in partnership with Anoka County, Connexus Energy, and a multitude of local cities, came together. We hired a nationally recognized firm to complete a comprehensive SWOT analysis – the results of which were released in December 2017. The goals that came out of that study became the basis of our 2018 action plan to ensure that Anoka County is the best place to grow one's business.

We also implemented several **innovative workforce programs** with area schools during 2017. Finding and retaining quality talent remains the #1 issue we hear from our members, so we continued to dedicate time and resources to this effort. From hiring Student Recruiters to promote your job openings to teenagers, to coordinating a tour of local manufacturing facilities with a busload of high school students, we worked hard to leverage our relationships between businesses and schools to ensure a high caliber workforce in Anoka County.

In 2018 we are continuing all the above efforts in our never-ending mission to strengthen the business community. Your membership – your investment – into the MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce allows us to be the effective, innovative voice of business success that we are, and for that we thank you.



Anoka County Regional Economic Development Goals

Lori Higgins, President
MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce
763.783.3553

2017 AT A GLANCE



734

TOTAL MEMBERS



124

NEW MEMBERS



68,802

WEBSITE PAGE VIEW



83

ANNUAL EVENTS

3RD

LARGEST CHAMBER
IN THE TWIN CITIES



4,826

EVENT
ATTENDEES



445

SUNRISE LEADS/
REFERRALS



332

WORKING WITH
WOMEN 1-2-1'S



1,249

PAGE LIKES



1,382

FOLLOWERS

2017 At a Glance

- Signature Legislative Reception at Courtyards of Andover
- Board approves legislative priorities, incl. business tax relief & ADA reform
- MetroNorth Career Fair at Northtown Mall draws job seekers



High-Quality Food, Wine & Connections at the Olive Garden After-Hours

- Lori Higgins testifies at Capitol multiple times to support more transparency & reverse referendum for utility franchise fees
- Anytime Fitness CEO Chuck Runyon keynotes Excellence in Business Awards at TPC
- Blaine Festival Volunteer Committee, Anytime Fitness Ham Lake, Box Financial Chris Hasling & Grand Casino Mille Lacs & Hinckley win 2016 business of the year awards



Being Inspired by Joe Nayquonabe at Learning from Influential People

- Scholarship awarded to Andover High School student Grant Matz
- Sold-out golf tournament enjoyed at The Refuge
- Spirited conversation at Session Wrap Up



Business Was Brewin' at Bent Brewstillery

JANUARY



Bringing Job Seekers & North Metro Businesses Together

FEBRUARY

- Olive Garden wine dinner sells out quickly
- Coon Rapids Business Council hears 'State of the City'

MARCH



Business of the Year Winners with Keynote Speaker Chuck Runyon

APRIL

- Mille Lacs Corp. Ventures COO Joe Nayquonabe keynotes Learning from Influential People at Tria
- Infinite Campus hosts Blaine Business Council in their new 8-story tower

MAY



Just Another Hard Day at the Office, I Swear

JUNE

- Business Over Brews was buzzin' at Bent Brewstillery
- Mpls/St. Paul Business Journal ranks us 3rd largest Chamber in metro
- Summer Food Fest goes indoors at Westwood Middle School

- Ross Bernstein keynotes "The Champion's Code" at The Mermaid
- Acapulco VIP Cocktail Experience offers one-of-a-kind dinner and drinks

JULY



Ross Bernstein and some MetroNorth Champions



Feeling the Need, the Need for Speed, at MB2 Raceway

AUGUST

- Go-kart racing at MB2 Raceway for Member Appreciation Party
- SuperBowl Host Committee gives insights on business opportunities to MetroNorth guests at the 3M Championship

- Pam Borton keynotes On Point leadership luncheon at Crooner's
- \$100 MetroNorth Money introduced for member referral program

SEPTEMBER



Coach Pam Borton with Crooners & Mary T Staff and Family



A Behind the Scenes Tour for the Public at Mate Precision Tooling

OCTOBER

- Public tours offered at Aggressive Hydraulics, Mate Precision Tooling & Green Bay Packaging
- Boos & Brews was Spooktacular with Lyric Arts, Anoka Co. Historical Society & Casa Rio

- ActionCoach keynotes Art & Science of Connecting at Pizza Ranch
- Coon Rapids Business Council attendees receive update on the the Regional Economic Development initiative

NOVEMBER



Lots of Connections at the Art & Science of Connecting



Kat Perkins Entertains the Merry & Bright Gala Guests

DECEMBER

- Merry & Bright Gala at Mississippi Gardens features Kat Perkins, The Voice
- Board approves 2018 legislative priorities, incl. Net Neutrality & NAFTA 'do no harm' efforts

2017 SIGNATURE SPONSORS

GOLD

2nd Century Bank



GOLF



GALA



SILVER



GROW MN



BRONZE



THANK YOU!

2017 Board of Directors

Stacey Jensen

Running Aces; Chair

Jess Robertson

PTL Tire & Auto; Past Chair

Dan Thomsen

Northeast Bank; Vice Chair

Clayton Kearns

MinnesotaJobs.com; Treasurer

Don Haller

Connexus Energy

Dan Jacott

Majestic Oaks

Duane Vandenberghe

Mate Precision Tooling

Scott Vonderharr

Midwest Imaging

Tiffany Schmidt

Abrams & Schmidt LLC

Jason Peterson

Kraus-Anderson Construction Company

Brad Boldt

Ameriguard Insurance Agency

Ross Bloomquist

Financial One Credit Union

Kelly Rietow

Roo Solutions

Michael Lawrence

Key Air

Kim Nybo

Nybo Insurance Agency



The Powerhouse Members of the Working with Women Committee

2017 Committee Chairs

Ambassador:

Kat Smithe, Blaine Festival

Amy Weber-DeRaad, Mary Kay

Gala:

Jess Robertson, PTL Tire & Auto

Golf:

Brad Boldt, Ameriguard Insurance

David Long, CenterPoint Energy

Government & Public

Affairs:

Katie Misukanis, Rasmussen College

Sunrise:

Alex Carlson, Achieve Services

Angie Glotzbach, AngCo

Wine:

Jim Kugler, Kugler Financial Services

Workforce Development:

Michele Ramler, Cedar Association

Rod Medel, Medel & Associates

Working With Women:

Donna Wheeler, Keller Williams

Classic Realty

Sue Melchoir, Instrumental

Research



72

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2017 EVENT PARTNERS

NORTHTOWN MALL



Twin Cities



BUNKER HILLS GOLF CLUB • Est. 1968



RASMUSSEN COLLEGE



The Tavern Grill RESTAURANT • BAR

