

Business

Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce

Excellence

INNOVATION. GROWTH. LEADERSHIP.

Awards



Presented by:



Business Excellence Awards & Annual Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2016

4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Crystal Lake Golf Club
16725 Innsbrook Drive | Lakeville

dakota county regional
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1957 - 2017

60 Years

A special thank you to tonight's emcee.



Shayne Wells
Fox 9 Traffic/Feature Reporter

Shayne Wells has worked in the Twin Cities media since moving to Minnesota in 2010. She was lured to the Land of 10,000 Lakes for a job as an entertainment reporter for the Metromix brand of KARE 11. After two years, she stepped in to help launch a new country station, BUZN @ 102.9 where she co-hosted the morning show with Paul Koffy.

Despite enjoying her stint in radio, Shayne returned to her first love, TV news, as a producer for Fox 9 in 2014. From there she helped launch 'The Jason Show' as the original producer, and is now a reporter for the show and does the traffic on the Fox 9 Morning News.

Shayne is originally from Spokane, WA. But her future is in the Twin Cities where she lives with her husband and 3-year-old daughter.



Tonight's Menu:

Mandarin salad with tarragon dressing

Dual entrée of breaded cheddar chicken with smoked gouda mornay sauce and butternut squash ravioli with roasted red pepper beurre blanc, smoked gouda mashed potatoes and a green bean bundle

Assorted bistro desserts of carrot filled cake, NY style cheesecake and chocolate peanut butter cream pie



Program:

4:30 p.m. *Registration and Reception*

5:25 p.m. *Welcome, Dinner & Annual Meeting*

Shayne Wells, Fox 9

Vicki Stute, President, Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce

Kevin Warren, COO, Minnesota Vikings

Cindy Haas, Past Chair of the DCR Chamber Board, Gateway Bank

Mark Loftus, Chair of the DCR Chamber Board, Dakota Electric Association

6:15 p.m. *Awards Ceremony*

Community Leadership Award

Presented by 2015 winner: Lisa Franxman, Anchor Bank

Woman/Minority Owned Business Award

Presented by 2015 winner: LuAnn Paulet, Insurance by Design

Young Professional (Emerging Leader) Award

Presented by 2015 winner: Joel Fugleberg, Lifestyle Chiropractic

Non-Profit of the Year Award

Presented by 2015 winner: John Kemp, Neighbors, Inc.

Small Business of the Year Award

Presented by 2015 winner: Chris Duffy, Goff Public

Business Excellence Award

Presented by 2015 winner: Ray Krantz, Gopher Resource

Legacy Award

Presented by 2015 winner: Don Chapdelaine, SKB Environmental, Inc.

7 p.m. *Adjourn*



Tonight we celebrate innovation, growth and leadership in our Chamber community. These local businesses and individuals demonstrate a strong commitment to their industries and OUR communities each and every day.

Community Leadership Award



Twin Cities Premium Outlets opened its doors on August 14, 2014 to record breaking attendance. The Center is the premier outlet mall in the region and is home to over 100 outlet stores including Coach, Vera Bradley, Under Armour, Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren, Saks 5th Ave OFF 5TH and many more. Twin Cities Premium Outlet strives to offer guests the best shopping experience possible. They have become engaged with a number of non-profits and strive to make an impact on people's lives. This past year, they provided two scholarships to students in Dakota County.



UTC Aerospace Systems - Sensors & Integrated Systems, located in Burnsville, develops and manufactures air data, micro-electromechanical systems, and flight management systems for the aviation industry. Their employees are active in the community; regularly donating time, talent, and money to make it a more healthy and vibrant place to work and live. They also support STEM activities for boys and girls through a number of programs including a business and education partnership with Burnsville High School.



Wings Financial Credit Union has been dedicated to creating value and giving flight to its members' dreams since 1938. Originally chartered to serve the employees of Northwest Airlines and their families, Wings now provides financial services to anyone who lives or works in the 13-county Twin Cities metro area as well as employees of the U.S. air transportation industry nationwide. Wings has a strong culture of service to the communities their employees live and work in. Each year they have surpassed their previous year targets for volunteer hours.

Woman/Minority Owned Business Award



Medi-Car Auto Repair - Debi McConnell purchased an almost bankrupt business in 2009 and turned it into the successful Medi-Car Auto Repair. The benefit they provide is long term care for their customer's cars—for better car performance and safety, and ultimately, to save them money avoiding the high cost of new car purchases. The Medi-Car culture is about delivering quality workmanship and extraordinary customer service. Debi believes that it all starts with employee satisfaction. If her employees are satisfied and feel valued, they will treat their customers and their vehicles with great care.



The UPS Store - Anne McClimon started her journey with the Eagan UPS Store in May 2012, bought the store in December 2013, and this past year purchased a second location. When she took over she made it her mission to provide unparalleled customer service, high quality, and affordable prices. Their goal is to do more than earn your business; they want to be an extension of your team. The UPS Store offers a wide array of business solutions such as full service printing, graphic design, wide format, mailboxes, notaries, passport photos, packing, freight, shipping and so much more.



Vanguard Cleaning Systems of Minnesota sells and supports commercial cleaning franchises across the Minneapolis metro, Rochester and southern Minnesota. Vanguard Minnesota is ranked second among 65 Vanguard locations for revenue growth. This is particularly noteworthy as all but one of the other Vanguard offices is run by a male. Vanguard sponsors community events such as Cinco De Mayo and also focuses on giving back through quarterly team building and community service events.

Young Professional (Emerging Leader) Award



Derek Boeve, Minnwest Bank

Derek has been with Minnwest Bank for the past five years as a commercial loan officer. He has been involved with groups such as the American Red Cross, Eagan Foundation, and coaching high school basketball. He has also been president of the Luverne Chamber of Commerce. Derek believes the groups he's been a part of have allowed him to grow and broaden his leadership skills. Derek's advice to future leaders: "Success is earned, not given. Always remember, every time you get lazy or complacent, your competition is out there taking what could have been yours."



Katie Misukanis, Rasmussen College

Katie is the Government Relations Director for Rasmussen College. She is chair of the Minnesota Career College Association, engages with several Chambers, serves on the Real-Time Talent Board of Directors and several work groups at the Minnesota Office of Higher Education. Katie believes that finding a mentor early in her career was the key to some of her success. Katie's advice to future leaders: "Be who you are and be it well."



Eric Swanson, Fireside Wealth at Ameriprise Financial

Eric is a Certified Financial Planner with Fireside Wealth at Ameriprise Financial in Eagan. He is a Charter Member, and current President, of the Eagan Kick-Start Rotary Club and has been chair of the South Metro Young Professionals Group for a number of years. Eric believes it is important to give back on a monthly basis to help our community continue to prosper. Eric's advice to future leaders: "Be open-minded and seek out a variety of opportunities that are out there. You never know until you try."

Non-Profit of the Year Award



American Cancer Society works relentlessly to save lives and create a world with less cancer. Together with millions of supporters worldwide, they help people stay well and get well, find cures, and fight back against cancer. Each year, more than 4 million people in over 20 countries raise much-needed funds and awareness through the Relay For Life movement. Relay is the grassroots movement and the way communities come together to fight cancer. It is the most successful fundraising movement in history.



Darts - In 1974, DARTS began providing seniors with community and transportation services and in 1978 they became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. DARTS mission is creating connections that enrich aging. They accomplish this mission by fulfilling basic needs and enhancing quality of life for older adults and their caregivers in our Dakota County communities. Their programs strive to make intergenerational connections, to help our communities thrive. Some of DARTS services include homemaking, outdoor chores, home repairs, transportation, care coordination, respite care, education and support.



Kids 'n Kinship was established in 1972 in response to a need for youth to have positive role models in their lives. The goal is for the children to form a long-term friendship with a responsible, consistent role model and benefit from developing the sense of self-worth that is essential to successfully functioning in school, in healthy relationships, and eventually on the job. Through the use of volunteer mentors, Kids 'n Kinship has changed lives of over 3,250 youth participants.

Small Business of the Year Award



Connolly Kuhl Group (CKG) operates with the simple premise of helping every client make an impact; an impact that produces results for organizations and businesses that need to identify, engage, and activate audiences in a way that can shape public perceptions. We offer a unique combination of strategic communications pathways that are designed to meet the challenges that come from an increasingly complex information marketplace. We rise above the political divide and partner with our clients to develop customized, comprehensive campaigns that advance change.



Gateway Bank is focused on building and nurturing strong relationships with their clients and their community. They were founded with a clear vision of what a community bank should be and they remain committed to conducting every transaction with that vision in mind. Their three core beliefs which include outstanding client service, strong client relationships, and an excellent work environment, shape who they are and how they do business. Their strategic vision is simple; take care of our associates, take care of our clients, and take care of our community.



GR Promotions, a promotional products distributor, was incorporated on September 10, 1994. Since day one, their mission statement remains the same, "Offer a level of customer satisfaction that is promised by many, but delivered by few." They continue to promote their business as the "Service AFTER the Sale Company." They have helped to set the standard for customer satisfaction within the Twin City area and especially South of the River. They are proud to say they have several customers that have been with them for over 20 years.

Business Excellence Award



Associated Global Systems - The National Account Team of Associated Global Systems, a logistics services provider specializing in the Tradeshow, e-Retail, Home Delivery and Consumer Electronics industries, is based in Eagan and provides sales, service and IT solutions. They transitioned to a vertical call center approach which has created excellent growth within Associated Global Systems in terms of increased sales revenue and employment opportunities.



Chuck & Don's mission is to enrich the lives of pets by providing the best products, service, and education for its customers. They advocate responsible pet ownership and commit to meaningful corporate citizenship that makes a positive difference in the communities in which they operate. A major factor in their success is employees share the same core values including: customer's first, passion for animals, learning and sharing knowledge through teamwork, commitment to the community, and empowerment to do the right thing.



Fairview Health Services is driven to heal, discover and educate for longer, healthier lives. They are a nonprofit health care system providing exceptional clinical care—from prevention of illness and injury, to care for the most complex medical conditions. Fairview Health Services is also committed to providing exceptional care to patients in the Dakota County region. One key example is the new, two-story clinic opening in Eagan in mid-December 2016. This new facility will enable them to serve more patients with a broader range of services.

Legacy Award Winner



Dan Nicolai, *Castle Rock Bank*

Dan Nicolai has been president and CEO of Castle Rock Bank since 1961. That was a big year as he also married his bride, LaVonne Stotesbery. He knows his customers personally and works hard to meet their needs. Dan's motto: All persons count.

Dan has been very active in the community over the years including: Community Action Council (360 Communities) director for six years; finance chair to build the Farmington Swimming Pool; board member to establish the Farmington Area Education Foundation; and member of the Dakota County Parks Board, just to name a few.

The recognition he has received for the amazing work he has done runs far and wide. A few include: Melvin Jones Award from the Loins Club; Legacy of Community Banking Award from the Independent Community of Bankers of Minnesota; and the Community Care Award from 360 Communities.

Dan's advice to future leaders is to be true to yourself and all others.

Thank you to our 2016 Business Excellence Awards Committee

Derek Boeve	Minnwest Bank
Bill Cottrell	Cottrell Law Firm, P.A.
Mike Ferber	Eagan's July 4th Funfest
Bryan Frandrup	Venture Bank
Lisé Freking	Thomson Reuters
Krista Jech, Chair	Sun Thisweek Newspapers/ECM Publishers
Brenda Johnson	Anchor Bank, Eagan
Peggy Johnson	Dakota Electric Association
Kathy O'Connell	Eagan Convention & Visitors Bureau
Jake Sedlacek	Xcel Energy
Mike Zipko	Zipko Strategy



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Paul Eggen State Farm Insurance
Wings Financial Credit Union
Xcel Energy

Communications Sponsors



A special thank you to the **Eagan Hy-Vee Floral Department** for providing our beautiful centerpiece flowers, **Thomson Reuters** for printing our signage, and **Perfect Reflections Photography** for taking tonight's photos.

Thank you to the businesses who donated items for our swag gift bags and door prizes tonight **Dakota Electric Association, DCA Title, Eagan Hy-Vee, Holiday Inn Express Eagan, Jensen's Food & Cocktails, Minnesota Vikings, Minnesota Zoo, Sam's Club, and The UPS Store.**

Thank You for Coming!

Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce is the influential voice to champion economic growth for business. We steadfastly serve the cities of Eagan, Farmington, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, Rosemount, Sunfish Lake and West St. Paul, along with Castle Rock, Empire and Hampton Townships. Explore the many ways we're leading the way to make the Dakota County area the best possible place to live, work and grow your business.

dakōta countyregional

C H A M B E R O F C O M M E R C E

www.dcrchamber.com