



# THE CHAMBER REPORT

## Warm Welcome to our New Members from the Chamber Ambassadors!

The Elk River Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors love visiting with our new members!



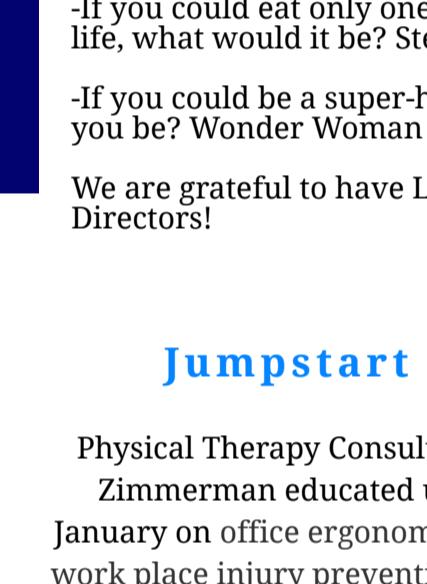
They gave a heartfelt welcome to Azure Davis, Executive Director and founder of Ruff Start Rescue. Azure has had a passion for helping animals from a very early age and realized the need for shelters and foster care in our area. At age 23 she started Ruff Start after a call out on Facebook to see who would like to help her. She has grown Ruff Start to over 100 volunteers in Central MN and is still growing! Azure has a passion for educating our youth on the importance of animal welfare and advocacy.



Next, the Ambassadors met Luke, Cory and Matt from Yardworx Outdoor Services. Luke started the full service lawn care and commercial snow removal business in 2017. Yardworx has over 20 employees and has seen amazing growth in his business over the last couple of years.



They gave a warm welcome to Vicky Silberg-Biren, broker/owner of Biren Realty Group. Vicky is an Elk River native that moved out of the area for some time and then moved back to her home town to do business. Vicky currently has one agent and is looking to grow her business in the area. She really likes to mentor new agents and help teach and grow their skills in the area of real estate.



Lastly, the Ambassadors visited Village Bank in Ramsey and met their amazing staff. Michelle Anderson, former Elk River Area Chamber of Commerce Board member and Sarah Schake, social media coordinator shared their Family Built, Community Strong philosophy. They work hard to grow their community by building relationships with the people and through the Chamber.

## Board Member Spotlight: Linda Cockrell

We would like to introduce one of our current board members: Linda Cockrell of HR&Q!

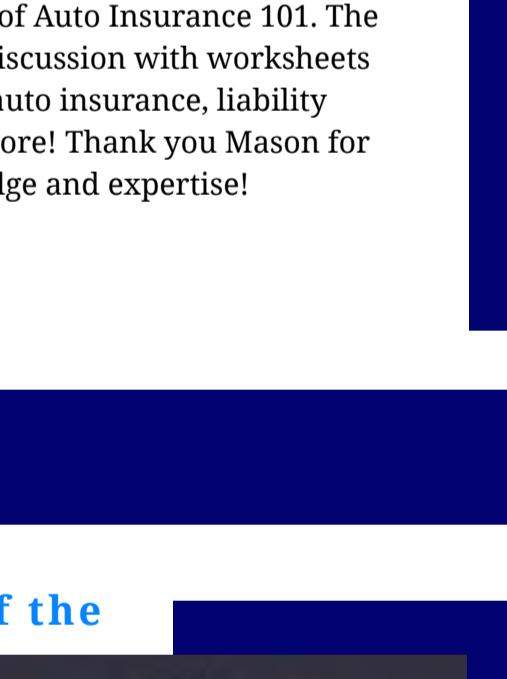
Linda is the owner of HR&Q, LLC and she is currently in the last year of her term serving on our Board of Directors. We asked Linda a few "get-to-know-you" type questions and these are her responses:

-If you were a pair of shoes, what would you be and why? Tennis shoes because they are fast and comfortable

-If you could eat only one food for the rest of your life, what would it be? Steak!

-If you could be a super-hero for the day, who would you be? Wonder Woman

We are grateful to have Linda on our Board of Directors!



## Jumpstart

Physical Therapy Consultants -

Zimmerman educated us in January on office ergonomics and work place injury prevention. We

learned what can be done to

improve employee safety, decrease

risk of injury, and improve comfort

while at work in both the industrial

and office settings.

See this attached Industrial Health

Services and Office Ergonomic

Checklist to keep you and your

employees healthy and safe!

[Click Here for Handout](#)

## Chamber Connections Educational Presentation

Mason Schwartz of Mason Schwartz Agency, LLC gave us an overview of Auto Insurance 101. The group participated in a discussion with worksheets to better understand auto insurance, liability exposure and so much more! Thank you Mason for all your knowledge and expertise!

*“The Chamber of Commerce of Elk River is an excellent resource for my company to find a business when we are in need of a product or service. I have met so many people in the community by going to various events hosted by the Chamber. This has allowed me to network and be more known or learned about had it not been through the Chamber.”*

*“The education through different seminar’s they provide has definitely been one of my favorites. They allow me to grow as a business owner both professionally and personally. I so glad I made the decision to join the chamber, and am forever grateful for the opportunities the membership has provided for myself, my business and my community.”*

*“Tamara Ackerman, Owner Avalon Salon, Elk River Area Chamber*



Did you know a benefit of membership is that we provide easy access to post your job openings to be listed on our website and out on our Twitter Feed! Login to our Member Information Center to access this benefit!

[Meet Candidates face to face at our local job fair. Click here for more details!](#)

[www.elkriverchamber.org](http://www.elkriverchamber.org)



## MEMBER BENEFIT.

### JOB POSTINGS

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Welcome New Members:

