

December 2023 Newsletter

From The Executive Director

“Wonder is the beginning of Wisdom.”

~Socrates



Wonder is defined as a feeling of surprise mingled with admiration, caused by something beautiful, unexpected, unfamiliar, or inexplicable.

Wisdom is the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment.

Allowing wonder in our lives leads us to wise outcomes never expected.

This month, let yourself wonder in amazement and awe. Marvel in astonishing surprise as you see the collaboration you and others put forth.

WCEDP EVENTS!

Join us and CRS for our Annual Holiday Social!

THIS THURSDAY, DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER TODAY!



**JOIN WCEDP & CRS
AT OUR ANNUAL**

Wcedp
Wright County
Economic Development Partnership
Partnering for Opportunities

Holiday Networking Social

**DECEMBER 7TH, 2023
FROM 4-6PM
AT THE ST. MICHAEL THEATER**

APPETIZERS, CASH BAR (THE FIRST ONE IS ON US), & PRIZE DRAWINGS

REGISTER TODAY - WWW.WRIGHTPARTNERSHIP.ORG/EVENTS

crs
COMMERCIAL REALTY SOLUTIONS
www.crs-mn.com



2023 ANNUAL MEETING

January 19, 2024



**Wright County Economic Development Partnership Presents:
Erik Therwanger, Founder & Author of Think Great**



January 29, 2024

7:30 -10:00am

FREE

Wright County Government Center
3650 Braddock Ave NE, Buffalo, MN 55313
www.wrightpartnership.org/events
or Email Missy at admin@wrightpartnership.org

Erik is the founder of Think GREAT and draws from his experiences as a U.S. Marine, executive business leader, sales professional, and entrepreneur to help organizations achieve new levels of success. He uniquely combines leadership development, team building, sales training, and goal-setting into strategies and techniques that empower team members and leaders to exceed expectations.

Next Level Planning - Optimize Your Planning Results

Marine Corps veteran (air traffic controller), strategic planning expert, and author of ELEVATE: Take You Business to the Next Level, shares the powerful strategies and techniques required to position your "Business Aircraft" to take off and reach new levels of success.

Attendees will discover how to set their sights on the dream destination for their business, create the plan needed for elevation, and unify their team for the Next Level results they are striving for. With an emphasis on teaching the power of Business Elevation, today's team members will learn how to elevate performances and cohesion to accomplish any goal.

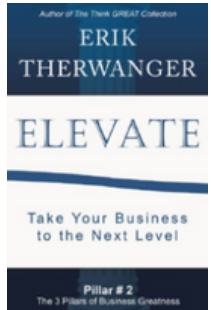
REGISTER NOW

BECOME A SPONSOR 2023 Annual Meeting



Think **GREAT**[®]
Transforming People Magnifying Results

We are looking for sponsors to assist in making our 2023 Annual Meeting one to remember!



Sponsorships will go toward the attendee *gift, breakfast, and venue expenses.*

Become a Sponsor for this Great Event!

Platinum Sponsor: \$1000

Gold Sponsor: \$500

Silver Sponsor: \$250

Supporting Sponsor: \$ _____

Sponsors will be shared via social media, all print marketing, and a banner at the event.

Email Missy To Become A Sponsor Today - admin@wrightpartnership.org

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



COMMUNITY EVENTS



Throughout the Day there will be a Christmas Scavenger Hunt

Breakfast With Santa 9 AM – 12 PM

Montrose Community Center

- Meet Santa – Free
- Digital Picture w/Santa - \$5
- Breakfast Meal - \$5
- Letters to Santa – Free (Return Letter from Santa \$5)
- Coloring Contest

Cookie Decorating 12 PM – 3PM

Montrose Community Center

- Decorate 5 Christmas Cookies - \$40
- Class includes everything you need to decorate these cookies (beginner class)
- Must register: www.MinnieSotaCookies.com

Carriage Rides 3 PM – 5 PM

- Start at Montrose Community Center go to Veterans Park and Back
- \$5 per person, \$10 per couple, \$20 per family

Tree Lighting & Caroling 5PM – 6:30 PM

Veterans Park

- Hot Coco & Cider will be provided

Movie – The Grinch 7 PM

Montrose Community Center

- Free Event just bring chairs/blankets



COMMUNITY EVENTS

25th Anniversary



DATE:

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

TIME:

5:45 PM - Arrival

6:00 PM to 6:30 PM - Event Time

LOCATION:

5th Street NE Crossing - Buffalo MN (west side of the tracks)

Join CPKC and celebrate the holidays by listening to great music and donating to help your local food bank.

MUSICAL GUESTS:

Dallas Smith

MacKenzie Porter

cpkcr.com/en/community/HolidayTrain

BUSINESS NEWS

Did you say Tattoo Shop? Yes, we did! Earth Child Tattoo Now Open in Maple Lake!



Lisa Sherman, right, owns Earth Child Tattoo in Maple Lake. Pictured with her apprentice Jaclyn Thorston at the parlor on Birch Avenue South.

Photo by Brenda Erdahl

By Brenda Erdahl - Maple Lake Messenger

Lisa Sherman and Jaclyn Thorston are your average, run-of-the-mill moms – hardworking, down to earth and 100-percent dedicated to their children. They are also tattoo artists.

Sherman is the owner of Earth Child Tattoo that opened this fall in the old library on the corner of Birch Avenue South and 1st Street in Maple Lake. She has two daughters, 10 and 3 years old.

Thorston is Sherman's apprentice. She also has a three-year-old daughter.

"We're very busy," the ladies laughed, but it's no joke.

In the last few months, Sherman has worked tirelessly to turn a store front that was in need of a little love and attention, into a cozy sanctuary where customers can be surrounded by comfort and unique artwork.

"Our goal is to make sure everyone who comes in here feels welcome; it's not scary, not at all," Sherman said.

So far numerous folks of all ages have ventured in. Some just to check out the new business in town, and others to fill a dream they've had for a long time like the grandmothers who come in to have the names of their grandchildren tattooed on their skin.

"You're never too old to get a tattoo," Sherman said. "I once tattooed a lady who was 89 years old, and it was her first."

MORE INFO

WEBSITE



PARTNER NEWS



Operation Round Up

Your pennies make a big difference with Operation Round Up! Since 1994, members of Wright-Hennepin (WH) have donated more than \$4.9 million to local charities through the Operation Round Up program. The program rounds up electric bills to the nearest dollar, and that tax-deductible amount is put in a fund that is used for donations to local charities.

MORE INFO



Central Minnesota Area - 19th Annual Career Fair



**CENTRAL MINNESOTA
Jobs & Training Services**



March 27, 2024, 2-6pm
Monticello High School
5225 School Blvd, Monticello, MN 55362

Registration cost is \$150.00 per booth.
Registration includes one table, two chairs, limited electricity,
Wi-Fi and advertising for the event.

For those who need an accommodation to attend this event,
please call,

Tim Zipoy at 763-271-3722



PARTNER NEWS



Exciting News! Larson Building Breaks Ground on a New Redevelopment Project in Downtown Buffalo, MN.

LB Home Office Expansion:

The first shovel has hit the dirt, marking the beginning of a new era for Larson Building. Our growing team is excited for this office expansion and the continued opportunity to carry out LB's core values: Client Trust, Servant Attitude, Accountability, Promptness and Safety.



Ridgeview Nationally Recognized by Healthgrades for Specialty Care!



Ridgeview announced today it has achieved numerous accolades for clinical excellence, according to new research released by [Healthgrades](#), the leading resource consumers use to find a hospital or doctor.

Among Ridgeview's distinctions are Specialty Excellence Awards placing the hospital in the Top 100 – and in the Top 10% – of all hospitals in the nation for Joint Replacement. Ridgeview also received the Surgical Care Excellence Award, placing in the Top 10% in the nation, as well as five-star ratings for Total Knee Replacement and Total Hip Replacement. These achievements place Ridgeview in the upper echelon of hospitals nationally for specialty care and reflect the hospital's commitment to consistently delivering the best care possible.

"We are honored to be recognized as one of the nation's 'best,' confirming our promise to provide all of our patients with the best care, outcomes and experience," said Mike Phelps, president and CEO, Ridgeview.



LOOKING FOR A NEW CAREER TO START THE NEW YEAR WITH!

Check out these great options today!

**Think Express only offers
Industrial Staffing?
Think again!**



While Express Employment Professionals is best known for providing staffing solutions for Light Industrial jobs, we also recruit and place qualified workers in Office Services roles for both contract and direct placement. In fact, Staffing Industry Analysts **rank** Express as the **3rd largest office/clerical staffing** provider in the U.S.

We make hiring a breeze!

Put Express to work for ALL your office staffing needs, including but not limited to:

- Call Center Agents and Customer Service Representatives
- Receptionists, Administrative Assistants, and Executive Assistants
- Bookkeepers and AP/AR Specialists
- Staff Accountants
- Legal Assistants
- Data Entry Clerks and more!

MORE INFO

CAREERS CONTINUED

The Buffalo Chamber has a Program Manager position open for someone from the area. If you enjoy people, are detail oriented and enjoy organizing events, have good technical knowledge/computer skills and want to promote our businesses and community, then this position may be for you. It is FT or near FT, we can be flexible. It does require working some weekends for events. Interested? Contact Sue at sue@buffalochamber.org for more information.



We believe that our organization has a lot to offer for career-minded individuals. Trailblazer has a clean working environment with excellent facilities and equipment, the culture is positive and professional, and we promote healthy and constructive communication to ensure everyone can be heard and contribute to the success of the team. We also provide good wages and an excellent benefits package.

We are looking for flexible, hardworking individuals who share our values and enjoy helping others. Our core values include Safety, Teamwork, Attitude, and Responsibility, which collectively represent the STAR in our logo.

CAREERS CONTINUED



PART TIME SEASONAL DEER
PROCESSOR WITH EXPERIENCE
POSSIBLE FULL TIME IN SPRING
Starting at \$17 per hr.
CALL John 763-350-0656
7124 Jason Ave NE
Monticello, MN 55362

LOOKING FOR FULL TIME MEAT CUTTER
WITH EXPERIENCE ON SAW
Starting at \$20 per hr.
CALL John 763-350-0656
7124 Jason Ave NE
Monticello, MN 55362



T.O. PLASTICS

Start Your Career with T.O. Plastics

T.O. Plastics is a growing, fast-paced plastics thermoforming company with facilities in both Clearwater, MN and Otsego, MN. We are looking for dedicated, reliable individuals to join our team. We welcome interested individuals to learn more about us and what we have to offer. T.O. Plastics is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

We have entry-level plastic manufacturing jobs available for packers, material handlers, machine operators, and more. We provide reliable, consistent work and opportunities to grow.

◆◆◆ Now offering a sign-on BONUS program worth up to \$2,000. ◆◆◆



At VitalPath, we're passionate about the medical device industry and recognize that our most valuable asset is our people. Everyone at VitalPath works hard to maintain our reputation as experts in manufacturing custom, highly complex catheter solutions. We are proud of these accomplishments and understand that our responsibility is to go beyond and to strive for improvement and excellence in all that we do.



WE ARE HIRING



Littfin Lumber, located in Howard Lake, MN is hiring Direct! If you have experience in truss building or other similar building skills, please apply today for this great opportunity to be hired directly by Littfin and be eligible for excellent benefits and wages!

A career at Littfin puts you on the cutting edge of designing and manufacturing trusses and laminated columns. Our company is driven by its passion and commitment to Quality, Customer Service, Integrity and Safety.

At Littfin, we take pride in our 60-year heritage as a family owned and operated business. We believe in a strong family culture and recognize that our employees are our strength and greatest asset.



Craft Pattern & Mold is an industry leading manufacturer of prototype plastic and metal parts, as well as production tooling, for a variety of commercial and industrial applications.

Craft Pattern has been delivering cost effective, precision prototype casting, machining, and tooling solutions to customers for over 40 years and we welcome the opportunity to show what we can do for you. We offer quick turn, customized prototyping of metal and plastic parts using a variety of industrial grade materials and robust manufacturing processes.

Our team has the knowledge, experience, and expertise to deliver the quality tooling and prototype parts you demand.

HEADING TO COLLEGE?

Earn your degree
TUITION FREE

That's the **NORTH STAR PROMISE**



Beginning in fall 2024, the North Star Promise (NSP) Scholarship program will create a tuition and fee-free pathway to higher education for eligible Minnesota residents at eligible institutions as a "last-dollar" program by covering the balance of tuition and fees remaining after other scholarships, grants, stipends and tuition waivers have been applied.

