



Becker Chamber's

18th Annual Business Expo

January 22nd, 2011

10-2 pm @ Becker High School Field House



Still time to register!

Over 70 businesses & services so far

Entertainment including:

Starz Dance, DOJO Karate, Caricatures by Bill Morgan,
Pets from Becker Pets & Supplies

Food samples from:

Nix Bar & Grill, McDonald's Meats,
McDonald's of Becker, D's Pizza,
Jubilee Foods

Prizes:

Kindle e-book,
Eyewear package valued at \$700 from Insight eyecare
and many other great prizes donated by businesses!

We need volunteers !! We welcome prizes !!

Check our website (www.beckerchamber.org)

or call the office for registration forms and more info!

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*Special Points
of Interest*

- Business Expo
- Taste of the Holidays
- Chamber Bucks
- Membership renewal
- Member news

18th Annual Business Expo

January 22, 2011 10-2 pm

The best Expo in the area!

Free admission!

Businesses, Services, Entertainment, Food, Prizes!

Come and bring the family!



From the Chair, Bruce Tyler

Article provided by IE News Service

The 3/50 Project: How YOU Can Save Local Business !

Which three local businesses would you miss if they closed their doors? Maybe it's that deli on the corner where you grab the best sandwiches. Perhaps it's the video store down the street where the clerk stashes the latest release behind the counter so it will still be there when you stop after work late on Friday night. Is it the florist who already seems to know exactly what your wife will love for her birthday-and is good enough to give you a reminder call so you never forget the date?

Small business (defined as having 500 or fewer employees) is the lifeblood of the American economy, accounting for an astounding 99.7% of all employers, according to a 2007 study by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Yet, locally owned independent businesses are under far more pressure than ever. Trying economic times that have consumers closing their wallets, the credit crunch, and shoppers searching for perceived bargains at large chain stores have taken a severe toll, while buyouts of corporations that are "too big to fail" largely don't benefit the little guys.

It was that combination of factors that was weighing heavily on Cinda Baxter, a Minneapolis-based retail consultant, early in 2009. "It began with a really rotten week in March," Baxter explains. "That Monday, Oprah does a show instructing consumers to stop spending money on anything that was non-necessary. On Tuesday, CBS News reports that, 'Consumer spending drives 70% of the economy. When consumers put their wallets away, the economy has trouble making a U-turn.' " A few days later, after seeing CNBC's Erin Burnett discuss how the headlines were impacting consumer psychology on the Today Show and a later interview on Meet the Press in which Burnett said part of the problem was dire media coverage, Baxter decided to take matters into her own hands: "I am not a person who thinks the glass is half empty with holes drilled in the bottom, so three days later, I wrote a blog post." *continued on p. 3*

Board of Directors

Bruce Tyler, Chair Home Run Human Resources 763-263-2655	Dawn Larson, Vice-Chair Anytime Fitness 763-262-2333	Lynette Brannan, Secretary LB Productions 763-262-9705	Tanya Danielson, Treasurer Sherburne State Bank 763-261-4200
Ken Larson, Director Jubilee Foods 763-2500		Cindy Shore, Director Xcel Energy-Sherco Plant 763-261-3117	

"Our Vision for the Becker Area Chamber of Commerce is organized to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the Becker Area so that it's citizens and all areas of its business community shall prosper. All necessary means of promotion shall be provided and particular attention and emphasis shall be given to the economic, civil, commercial, industrial and educational interests of the area."

Ambassadors

Jody Buesgens All Star Embroidery 763-261-2566	Patti Mayer Magic Moments Photography 763-295-2727	Audrey Orton, Welcome Ambassador Mary Kay Cosmetics 320-743-2636	Amy Chmielewski American Family Insurance 763-261-5959
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Would YOU be interested in helping with our mission to promote businesses and the chamber? Please call !

Chamber Office

Julie Brandt, President
Gaye Kirchoff, Administrative Assistant
PO Box 313 13612 First Street, Suite 2
Becker, MN 55308
Office: 763-262-2420 Fax: 763-262-2150
info@beckerchamber.org

"Our Mission is to promote a positive business environment, offering participation, encouragement and support to the Becker Area Businesses."

Monthly Member Meetings

The Becker Chamber Member meetings are usually held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at various member's locations. We meet from 12—1 p.m. , enjoy lunch, networking, and often a speaker. Join us!

January 12th, 2011 "Social Media" presented by George Sawyer from Sawyer Technologies

Becker Home Center catered by Café Pawz

February 9th, 2011 "Human Resource Issues" presented by Bruce Tyler Home Run Human Resources

Sherburne History Center

March 9th, 2011 "State of the City" presented by Becker City officials

Blue Moon Grille

Watch for more details !

Upcoming Event: Business Expo January 22, 2011

Member-to-Member Specials

Advertising for specials/discounts to other members listed here FREE!

Central Minnesota Law, PLLC
Duwane Snyder
offers
10% discount to chamber members and veterans

2011 Chamber Dues

We would like to remind you that membership runs on a calendar year basis. If you have not paid for 2011, please consider doing so. Invoices will go out in February. We take credit cards, invoice, and can work with you on payments, etc.

We Want Your Input!!

Chamber membership has many benefits (see page 2) and is a valuable business tool in today's economy. We try to provide many opportunities to help you! Is there something you would like to see or help with? Let's work together to make it a great year!

Contact us! We'd love to help!

Scheduled events in 2011:

Expo, Spring Banquet, Freedom Days, Golf Mixer, October Harvest Fest, Holiday Social

New Year's Resolutions for chamber members:

- *Get the most of my membership
- *Attend at least one meeting
- *Try Chamber Bucks!
- *Volunteer for one event
- *Keep the office updated on changes or events for my business!

The chamber office always welcomes flyers, coupons, and miscellaneous items for "New to the Area" bags, to give to tourists, as giveaways, etc.

*Is your business well represented?
We can help you advertise!*

Chamber accepts Credit Cards



The chamber now accepts credit cards (MasterCard & Visa) as payment for lunch meetings, membership, expo, sponsorship, donations, etc.

www.beckerchamber.org



Phone (763) 262-2420 13612 First Street, Suite 2, Becker, MN 55308

 <p>www.beckerchamber.org 13612 First Street, Suite 2 P. O. Box 313 Becker, MN 55308</p>	<p>Julie Brandt President</p> <p>Phone 763-262-2420 Fax 763-262-2150 julie@beckerchamber.org</p>	<p>Advertising Space Available</p> <p>Call 763-262-2420</p> <p>\$10 per Newsletter</p>	 <p>www.beckerchamber.org 13612 First Street, Suite 2 P. O. Box 313 Becker, MN 55308</p>	<p>Gaye Kirchoff Administrative Asst.</p> <p>Phone 763-262-2420 Fax 763-262-2150 gaye@beckerchamber.org</p>
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January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		National Cancer Prevention Month	Family Fit Lifestyle Month			1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2	3	4 Board mtg 10am City Council 5pm	5 Expo mtg. @ Nix 12-1pm	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Chamber Mtg. @ BFW 12-1pm	13 BNG @ Crossings Inn 7:15am	14 Flyers due for expo !	15
16	17 No school  City offices closed	18 City Council 5pm	19	20	21 Business Expo Staff setup 3-6pm Businesses 6-9pm	22 18th Annual Business Expo 10-2 pm
23	24 No school	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
American Heart Month	National Children's Dental Health Month	1 10am Board mtg City Council 5pm	2	3	4	5
6	7 School Board 6pm	8	9 Chamber Mtg. @ SHC 12-1pm	10	11 Early release from school Father/Daughter Dance @ BCC	12
13 Faith Lutheran Sweetheart dinner	14  Valentine's Day	15 City Council 5pm	16	17	18	19
20	21 No school City offices closed  President's Day	22	23	24 Blood Mobile @ BCC 1-6pm	25	26
27	28					

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Advertising Space Available

Call 763-262-2420

\$10 per Newsletter



That post, meant for only a few friends, was the start of what would soon become an international movement to support locally owned businesses. Baxter's idea was simple: if half of the employed U.S. population chose three locally owned independent businesses they would hate to lose, and then spent a combined total of \$50 a month with them, it would have a major impact-generating an estimated \$42 billion dollars of revenue annually.

What Baxter couldn't have envisioned was how quickly her new program 'The 3/50 Project', would take off. What caused the groundswell? Perhaps it's the straightforward way Baxter presents the facts: for every \$100 spent in locally owned stores, \$68 remains in the local economy. In contrast, only \$43 of every \$100 remains local when spent in national chains, and little or no local revenue results from online purchases.

"No one has talked this through with consumers," Baxter says. "The experts all talk in terms of macro or micro-economics-not how consumers talk to each other over the dinner table. We simply say, "Here's the impact. 'It really resonates that even a small amount of spending can make a big difference."

You can learn more about Cinda Baxter and the 3/50 Project by using Google, Just type '3/50 project' and you will be amazed at the amount of information that will encourage you to shop locally.

We have our own story...my wife and I moved to Elk River in November, 1984 when the population was around 5,000 people. In 1985 we decided to buy every Christmas present in Elk River. This was when we had one Hardware store, which burned down later, and one department store (Johnson's), two feed stores, a downtown movie theatre which played only one movie. We saw the last movie played there: 'Johnny Dangerously'. There was one big box store (Pamida) and a few other Ma/Pa stores. Well, we did it! We took the philosophy that if it is not in Elk River, you don't need it! We still do everything in our power to buy locally. I encourage everyone to try it next year and do your shopping in Becker. In addition, start right now and pick 3 local businesses and spend \$50 each month. Spread the wealth around and I am sure you will be very surprised and happy you did it.

You will even make a number of local businesses very happy.

Bruce Tyler

Member Benefits

Bulk Permit Use: Chamber Members are able to use our Bulk Mailing Permit. A \$35 annual fee and a 200 mailing minimum is required. Please contact the Chamber Office for assistance.

Ceremonies & Events: Chamber Ambassadors are available for Ribbon Cutting events, Award Ceremonies or for an Open House. Ambassadors are the recruiting and retaining arm of the Chamber and are always willing to make a visit and take a photo at your special event.

Mailing Labels: Printed address labels are available to all Chamber Members at no cost.

Chamber Bucks \$\$: Promote yourself and other members with these!

Sponsorship and Volunteer Opportunities

E-mail Blasts: We can send an ad or pro-

motion to all members for only \$10.

Member to Member Ads: Free 2x2 ads for specials directed toward Chamber Members are available for advertising in our newsletter and on our Specials Page of our website. These are run on a first come, first serve basis.

Monthly Member Meeting: The second Wednesday of the month is reserved for our Chamber Luncheon. It is held at various locations within the community from 12-1pm. Attendance is limited to members or by invitation. An RSVP to the Chamber Office is required.

Newsletter Inserts: Preprinted flyers can be added for \$20 each newsletter. Business Card Ads run 12 months for \$72.

Website Advertising: Free advertising on our website under the specials tab is available on a first come, first serve basis. Banners can be placed on the homepage for \$10/month or on any inside page for \$5/month with a link set up to your website. Banners must be 175x60 pixels and excludes design. Contact the Chamber Office if interested. These also run on a first come, first serve basis.

Welcome Kits: Welcome Kits are available for you to place your business advertisement in. These kits are distributed to new residents from both the Chamber Office and City Hall.

Notary Services available at NO cost to members. Call Julie!

Tuesday Tidbits-weekly e-mail updates

www.beckerchamber.org

Phone (763) 262-2420 13612 First Street, Suite 2, Becker, MN 55308



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E-Mail: achmiele@amfam.com
24-Hour Claims Reporting: 800-374-1111

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\$10 per Newsletter



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Independent Sales Director
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Member "Focus" - Cutting Edge Woodworks LLC



Cutting Edge Woodworks LLC.

is owned and operated locally, right outside of Becker, by Erik Dumonceaux since 2008. Cutting Edge Woodworks is a small cabinet shop that can make your custom cabinet dreams a reality. If you are thinking of new kitchen cabinets, a bathroom vanity, cabinets to finish off a basement, built-ins, a bar, an entertainment center, bookshelves, a fire place mantel and/or surround, entry room lockers, a desk, furniture, interior trim, commercial cabinets or any other custom built cabinet project, Cutting Edge Woodworks will build a beautiful, high quality product to fit perfectly into your home.

Please call to discuss your cabinet ideas and for a FREE estimate. See you at the expo!

With Cutting Edge Woodworks, the possibilities are endless.

Erik Dumonceaux
Cutting Edge Woodworks; LLC.
12532 84th St. SE
Becker, MN 55308
cuttingedgewood@izoom.net
phone: (320) 293-5940
fax: (763) 261-5298



Member News:

Welcome NEW members:

<i>Belde Family Chiropractic</i>	<i>635 Rose Drive Suite 4</i>	<i>Big Lake, MN</i>
<i>Venture Custom Rods</i>	<i>1223 Monroe Court</i>	<i>Becker, MN</i>
<i>Hansen House of Music</i>	<i>16950 77th Street</i>	<i>Becker, MN</i>
<i>Blue Moon Grille</i>	<i>14000 Clubhouse Lane</i>	<i>Becker, MN</i>
<i>Silpada Designs-Susan Snyder</i>	<i>12090 Meadowlark Blvd</i>	<i>Becker, MN</i>

www.beckerchamber.org

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Call 763-262-2420
\$10 per Newsletter

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"Taste of the Holidays"

Becker's Annual Holiday Social was held at Gily's December 3rd, 2010 from 5-8 p.m.

The evening was a great kick off to the holiday season with festive decorations, delicious food, holiday music, and wine samples. After checking in, members and guests dropped off toys and food shelf items. Great River's Faith in Action volunteers were available to share how we could help local families. A variety of refreshments were available from various vendors and a buffet of scrumptious food was provided by Jubilee Foods. It was endless! Silent auction items kept bidders on their toes checking their bids. Door prizes were given away every half hour. Great River Spine & Sport provided a bit of extra relaxation with chair massages. Thank you to Gily's manager Milissa Johnson and staff, Jubilee Foods and staff, and board member Ken Larson for helping put this together. Thanks also to the committee members consisting of: Chris Weise, Lynette Brannan, Amy Chmielewski, Tanya Danielson, and chamber staff Julie & Gage.



A HUGE thanks to the businesses that donated silent auction items!!

We can't wait to see you next year!

December 2nd, 2011



\$\$\$\$\$ CHAMBER BUCKS \$\$\$\$\$

\$ What are they?

Chamber Bucks are prepaid checks issued from the chamber office for any dollar amount desired. They are NOT made out to any specific business, so you can redeem them at any *current* chamber member's business.

\$ Where do we get them?

You can obtain the chamber bucks by calling the chamber office. We will get them ready for you. You must pay for them at the time of pick-up.

\$ Where can we use them?

You can use them at any *current* chamber members business. Over 100 businesses! (retail, restaurant, services, etc.) A list of chamber members will be provided to you.

\$ How do we redeem them?

You present the check at the time of purchase. The business accepts the check just like a regular check. You have one year from the date of issuance to use them.

\$ Why would I want to use them instead of just cash?

In a show of support to your fellow chamber members, you are offering business to them. It helps keep business local and within the chamber network. (if you read Bruce Tyler's article, this is yet another way to help local business)

Please call us at the chamber with any questions! Or you can call the office of Dr. Stephanie Gruenes and ask for Joe!

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\$10 per Newsletter

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