2016 Business Plan Will Help Economy Strike Back!

The battle lines have been drawn and the droids are fired up! The 2016 Chamber Business Plan is a well-coordinated attack on the factors that are keeping the local economy and local businesses from being more successful. The major goals are:

- Develop a skilled workforce that meets the current and future needs of employers by working collaboratively with education, industry partners and businesses
- Promote a Strong Local Economy by Instituting a Robust Retention/Expansion Program and Supporting Business Development Partners
- Voice Business Needs and Advocate for Stronger Business Climate in the Legislative and Regulatory Arenas at All Levels of Government
- Actively Work to Ensure the Business Infrastructure is in Place to Encourage Business Growth
- Offer Direct Benefits to Members That Will Strengthen Their Individual Businesses
- Ensure the Sustainability of the Chamber in Order to Continue Serving Area Businesses

There are tactics to accompany each of these goals and committees or task forces assigned to ensure that the tactics are implemented. Each quarter the Chamber will report the progress on each of these goals to the membership at large via the Chamber newsletter and other communication vehicles. For a copy of the complete business plan, visit the Chamber website, www.gjchamber.org.

Help Us Visit Members!

Each year the Chamber attempts, with the help of volunteers, to physically visit as many of our members as possible to drop off the new membership materials, including the 2016 Membership Directory and plaque insert. This is important in an age where so much of our communication is digital. Nothing beats a face-to-face conversation for building relationships. That event will begin on February 24th and continue for two weeks. We need at least 75 volunteers who are each willing to make ten calls on fellow members on our behalf. Members who have helped us in the past have indicated that it is a great networking tool for them and their businesses. If you are willing to help us with this effort, please contact the Chamber staff via email at info@gjchamber.org or by calling 970-242-3214.
Chairman’s Column

As the incoming Chairman of the Chamber’s Board, I am honored to have this exceptional opportunity to serve our business community. As the 2016 Chair, I am looking forward to working even closer with our wonderfully dynamic Chamber team lead by Diane Schwenke, and to continuing the great work of my predecessor, Jeff Franklin. Jeff’s talented leadership is reflected in how much the Chamber and its members accomplished this past year and the lasting, positive impact everyone’s efforts have on our local businesses and community.

The heart and soul of our Grand Junction Chamber is not limited to merely a staff of six people and a volunteer board of 20. Rather, the true character and full capability of our Chamber rests with and is reflected in the commitment and action of each and every one of our members who are working together and investing in a place we make our home: the members that invest their time and talent to help our young entrepreneurs in the YEA! program, the members who serve as the Diplomats and reach out to our growing businesses, the members who volunteer on our Governmental Affairs committee to ensure that our concerns are actively represented, the members who take part in our networking opportunities, the members of the Young Professional Network who are creating a community for younger leaders, and so many more.

I am very excited about 2016 and all the opportunities and challenges we’ll encounter as we further advance our mission of promoting economic growth and being the voice of business. With the valuable input and information shared with us via the annual membership survey and the assistance of our community stakeholders, we have developed an outline of goals for 2016. Recognizing the critical need for the Chamber to focus on helping our existing businesses, we are committing the Chamber’s resources to the following five goals:

1. Continue to develop a skilled workforce that meets both the current and future needs of employers. We can only accomplish this working in tight collaboration with education, industry and business partners.

2. Promote a strong local economy by instituting a robust retention/expansion program and supporting our business development partners. We will need to have a person dedicated to interviewing existing business so that we can better understand the needs and challenges to growth, both for individual business as well as industry sectors, so that, in turn, we can develop a plan to address those issues.

3. Continue to be the voice for business needs and the advocate for a stronger business climate in the legislative and regulatory arenas at all levels of government. By strengthening the communication, engaging and encouraging younger business leaders to be active in governmental policymaking, and hosting informational meetings on ballot issues and candidates, we can help ensure that our members our heard.

4. Actively work to ensure the business infrastructure is in place to encourage business growth. This includes expanding our air service, looking at ways to assist our small business with the changing landscape of healthcare, and the continue investment in broadband.

5. By continuing to listen to you, our members, we can continue providing tangible return on investment. These direct benefits range from over 300 networking and marketing opportunities, education programs such as Mesa County Leadership classes and the Chamber University eLearning Center, access to the Chamber’s conference room, relocation packages and job postings on the Chamber’s website.

The Chamber is more than just a building and it is much more than the staff and Board. Our chamber is YOU, a medley of individuals and businesses that have a common goal of making Grand Junction a better and more prosperous place to work, live, and raise a family. It is only through YOU and the FORCE you bring to the Chamber that we are able to accomplish these goals. I urge you to get involved, partake in the many benefits and opportunities your Chamber provides.

By now everyone should have received their Annual Chamber Banquet invite and if I had the ability to do Jedi mind tricks, I would urge you to join me on January 29th for an evening of celebrating our fellow Jedi of our economy, but since I can’t, I will leave you with this brilliant quote from Chewbacca: “Uuuuuuuuuuuuuuurr Aaahhhhhrrrrrrr Uhrrrrr Ahhhhhrrrrr Aaaarrrgh!”

Matthew Breman, Chairman
Young Entrepreneurs Academy Students Receive Legal and Accounting Advice

On December 8, Andy Smith from Kain and Burke, Attorneys at Law, visited the Young Entrepreneurs. Andy explained about legal business structures, why law is important to small businesses, and what small business owners need to know. On December 15, Lisa Thon-Kollar, CPA with Dalby, Wendland Co. gave the Young Entrepreneurs information about taxes, banking, and budgeting, along with some cool sunglasses! Thank you to our business volunteers that are educating our future CEO’s!

Retention Expansion Efforts Ramp Up

As a direct result of the North Star Economic Development Marketing Study, the Chamber will be taking the lead on helping existing businesses grow. Assistance will be provided by the other economic development partners including GJEP and the Business Incubator Center. With funding from Mesa County and the City of Grand Junction, the Chamber will be adding a full-time position to the staff dedicated to doing outreach and providing one-on-one assistance to companies throughout the Grand Valley.

Specifically, this individual will be conducting onsite interviews with businesses, identifying and assisting companies that may be at risk of leaving and helping those in an expansion mode access community resources to assist them. Industry roundtables will also be convened to identify specific trends that can be addressed in order to help the entire local industry cluster be more successful as well.

“We’ve identified this kind of activity addressing the needs of existing local businesses as being essential for at least two years,” noted Diane Schwenke, President and CEO. “Now through the funding provided by the County and City we can actually move forward in early 2016.”

Legislative Video Conferences Scheduled

The Colorado General Assembly convenes on January 13th and the Chamber’s Governmental Affairs convenes their video conference series beginning January 29th. There are still limited opportunities to sponsor these important briefings held at 7:00 AM in the Gallegos Board Room, CMU. For sponsorship details contact Sherri Davis-Hafer (sdavis@gjchamber.org or call her at 970-263-2917). Shown below is the complete schedule:

- January 26th – Home Loan
- February 9th – Rocky Mountain Health Plans
- March 8th - Grand Junction Area Realtor Association and Western Colorado Contractors Association
- March 22nd – Xcel Energy
- April 5th – Grand Valley Power
- April 19th – Sponsorship available
- May 3rd – Sponsorship available
- May 20 - Legislative Wrap Up Breakfast

BANQUET SPONSORSHIP - JOIN THE ALLIANCE TODAY!

Want to have a noticeable presence at the CHAMBER ANNUAL BANQUET, JANUARY 29, 2016, the largest gathering of members in all of 2016? Consider being one of our sponsors! While Wells Fargo is our event sponsor, Two Rivers Winery is our wine sponsor and Express Employment is our VIP Reception sponsor, we still have the following opportunities available. To learn about the benefits of sponsorship and sign up for one of them, contact either Trisha (trisha@gjchamber.org or call 970-263-2912) or Candace (candace@gjchamber.org or 970-263-2919).

Program Sponsor
$500 (two available)

Decoration Sponsor
$1,000

Sound and Lighting Sponsor
$2,500

Silent Auction Table Sponsor
$250
Didn't Get What You Wanted For Christmas?

Bring your wallet to the Chamber “Galactic” Banquet! The Chamber’s Banquet Auction Committee has been hard at work for six months and many of you have also helped assemble an outstanding selection of items for our live and silent auction on January 29th. Benefits from this auction are used for our Young Entrepreneurs Academy and the Mesa County Leadership Program.

Here is a sneak peak at just SOME of the items you will be able to bid on:

- A trip to New York City including airfare, accommodations and a Broadway play
- A time share vacation to Costa Rico for five nights
- A Cabela’s Gun Safe (one of our most popular items)
- A locally grown beef package courtesy of YEA! graduate Dean VanWinkle and his family
- A Romeo and Juliet Package that will keep those romantic fires lit throughout the year
- …and much much more!

A complete list will be available on the Chamber’s website one week prior to the Banquet. Live auction begins immediately after dinner and the silent auction will close by 9:30 PM.

Hire Me First Launches in January

One of the most important things that any high school graduate needs to learn is how to qualify for and succeed at their first job. In Grand Junction, we have many businesses that have what are considered entry level positions in their organizations. For these small business owners choosing their next employee without the benefit of past work experience is difficult. The Hire Me First Program is designed to take students on a journey of career exploration, workplace skill development, and job place immersion that will put them “first” when it comes to applying for work with an employer. It is one thing to get a job. It is another thing to keep that job and excel in the work environment. Students will learn what it takes to be successful at work.

The Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce is partnering with Mesa County Valley School District 51, and the Mesa County Workforce Center to offer a semester long class for one (1) high school elective credit, starting on January 11, 2016. The class will be offered on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 4-6 p.m. and held at the Mesa County Workforce Center, 512 29 ½ Road. Students also have the opportunity to receive additional elective credit, based on the level of the student’s award on the ACT WorkKeys Assessments.

The class will have three components: ACT WorkKeys Assessments, which includes Business Writing, Applied Mathematics, Locating Information, Applied Technology, Reading for Information, Workplace Observation, Listening for Understanding, Teamwork, Talent, Fit, and Performance; 21st Century Skills workshops, covering Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Communication, Time Management, Initiative, and Information Literacy; and a Career Unit complete with a cover letter, resume, and mock interview for an actual job in the student’s area of interest. Lastly, students will be matched with an employer for Job Shadow opportunities at local businesses. Job Shadow opportunities will be during the final three weeks of the class, and students may explore up to six different careers, or complete one or two Job Shadows.

At the completion of the 16-week class, students will “graduate” with a “Hire Me First” certificate that they can present to employers during job interviews. Many local businesses have agreed to offer jobs “first” to those students with the Hire Me First certificate. For more information about how you, as business people can help, contact Terri at the Chamber office (Terri@gjchamber.org or call 970-263-2916).
**All events require pre-registration and pre-payment. Registration fees are non-refundable four business days prior to the event. If special assistance is needed, you must notify the Chamber four days prior to the event. Photos will be taken at Chamber events and used for marketing purposes.**

| JAN 12 | 12 Noon | Kick Starting Youth Careers - Lunch 'N Learn  
Mesa County Workforce Center  
Advance Registration Requested. No cost to attend. |
| JAN 13 | 7:00 AM | YPN Before Hours  
Four Winds Coffee & Tea  
RSVP via YPNMC.org |
| JAN 13 | 12:00 Noon | Energy Briefing: Utah Tar Sands Project  
Mesa County Workforce Center  
Advance Registration: $15 for GJACC members |
| JAN 20 | 12:00 Noon | Networking @ Noon Barons  
Advance Registration Required: $18 for GJACC members |
| JAN 20 | 2 - 4 PM | Mesa County Libraries Business Connect  
GJACC Conference Room  
Advance Registration Requested. No cost for |
| JAN 26 | 5:30 PM | Business After Hours  
Western Colorado Community College  
Advance Registration: $10 for GJACC members |
| JAN 29, 2016 | Chamber Annual Banquet  
Two Rivers Convention Center  
Cost if reserved before 1/15/16  
Individuals: $79  
Corp. Table of 10: $890 |
| FEB 11 (Thursday) | 12:00 Noon | Energy Briefing  
From Rocks to Shocks!  
Mesa County Workforce Business Center  
Advance Registration: $15 for GJACC members |
| FEB 17 | 12:00 Noon | Networking @ Noon  
Chez Lena at Western Colorado Community College  
Advance Registration Required: $18 for GJACC members |
| FEB 17 | 2 - 4 PM | Business After Hours  
Moody Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Advance Registration: $10 for GJACC members |
| FEB 24 | 7:30 AM | Directory Delivery Kickoff Breakfast  
Sergio’s  
Volunteers are needed to hand deliver the 2016 membership materials. No one needs to call on more than ten businesses over the two week delivery period. No cost to attend for volunteers. Reservations required. |
| FEB 25 & 26 | Legislative Days at the Capitol  
$375/person - double occupancy  
$350/person - single occupancy (includes transportation, meals & lodging). |
| MAR 9 | 12:00 Noon | Energy Briefing  
featuring John Benton, Black Hills Energy and Exploration  
TBD  
Advance Registration: $15 for GJACC members |
| MAR 16 | 12:00 Noon | Networking @ Noon STIX Bar & Grill  
Advance Registration Required: $18 for GJACC members. |
| MAR 16 | 2 - 4 PM | Business After Hours  
Techna Glass  
Advance Registration: $10 for GJACC members. |

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**GJACC Events Registration Form: January, February & March 2016**

- Kick Start Lunch - 01/12/16
- Energy Briefing - 01/13/16
- Networking at Noon - 01/20/16
- Business Connect - 01/20/16
- Business After Hours - 01/26/16
- Annual Banquet - 01/29/16
- Energy Briefing - 02/11/16
- Networking at Noon - 02/17/16
- Business Connect - 02/17/16
- Business After Hours - 02/23/16
- Directory Delivery - 02/24/16
- Legislative Days at the Capitol - 02/25 & 2/16
- Energy Briefing - 03/09/16
- Networking at Noon - 03/16/16
- Business Connect - 03/16/16
- Business After Hours - 03/29/16

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Company Name: ___________________________Contact Person: ___________________________
Attending (Names): ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________ Fax: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
Payment Method: □ Bill my Chamber Account  □ Check Enclosed  
□ Charge my MC/VISA/Discover/AMEX  #______________________ Exp Date ________
Authorized Signature: ___________________________

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*All events require pre-registration and pre-payment. Registration fees are non-refundable four business days prior to the event. If special assistance is needed, you must notify the Chamber four days prior to the event. Photos will be taken at Chamber events and used for marketing purposes.*
Kick Starting Youth Careers Partnership Formed

The Grand Junction Chamber, the Mesa County Workforce Center and Hilltop Community Resources have partnered to engage young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 in the world of work through internships at area businesses.

The program will match young adults with employers willing to mentor and develop skills these young adults need to be competitive in their industry. These internships are 100% funded for a predetermined duration, eliminating business’s direct labor and workers’ compensation costs. Businesses will participate in the selection process of job ready participants and will have the final say on which young adult they will accept into their establishments.

Our goal is to have 60 businesses and 60 youth matched by the end of February.

Interested businesses can contact Terri Smatla at the Chamber (Terri@gjchamber.org or (970) 263-2916) and/or Garrett Morrison at (970) 244-0609. Young adults can apply at the Mesa County Workforce Center, 512 29 ½ Rd, Grand Junction CO.

Tar Sands Topic of January 13th Briefing

Commercial tar sands mining has come for the first time to the U.S., where U.S. Oil Sands and MCW Energy Group, both Alberta-based companies, have begun producing tar sands from mines literally right next door in eastern Utah. Learn about the new technology that is being employed and how the mining may be impacting our local economy at the next Energy Briefing slated for Wednesday, January 13th, 12:00 PM at the Mesa County Workforce Center. U.S. Oil Sands representatives will be providing the program. Other Energy Briefings planned for early 2016 include:

- **February 11th - The First Geothermal Power Plant, Developer Trent Yang**
- **March 9th - John Benton, Black Hills Energy and Exploration**

Cost to attend these sessions is $15, which includes lunch. Reservations may be made online at www.gjchamber.org.
2016 Event Calendar

JANUARY
Jan 12 Kick Starting Youth Career Lunch 'N Learn
Jan 13 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Jan 20 Networking @ Noon Lunch at Barons
Jan 20 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Jan 26 Legislative Videoconference at CMU
Jan 26 Business After Hours at Western Colorado Community College
Jan 29 Annual Banquet at Two Rivers Convention Center

FEBRUARY
Feb 9 Legislative Videoconference at CMU
Feb 11 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Feb 17 Networking @ Noon Lunch at Chez Lena
Feb 17 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Feb 23 Business After Hours at Moody Insurance
Feb 23 Put Your Business On The Map - a Google Presentation
Feb 24 Membership Directory Delivery Kick-off
Feb 25 & 26 Annual Legislative Days at the Capitol

MARCH
Mar 8 Legislative Videoconference at CMU
Mar 9 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Mar 15 VEA! Investors Panel at Residence Inn
Mar 16 Networking @ Noon Lunch at Stix Bar & Grill
Mar 16 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Mar 21 Quarterly Membership Luncheon
Mar 22 Legislative Videoconference at CMU
Mar 29 Business After Hours at Techna Glass

APRIL
Apr 5 Legislative Videoconference at CMU
Apr 7 Summer Youth Options Fair
Apr 19 Legislative Videoconference at CMU
Apr 20 Networking @ Noon Lunch at Texas Roadhouse
Apr 20 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Apr 26 Business After Hours at St. Mary's Hospital
Apr 28 VEA! Trade Show & New Member Showcase

MAY
May 3 Legislative Videoconference at CMU
May 11 Energy Briefing Luncheon
May 18 Networking @ Noon Lunch at Sergio’s Restaurant
May 18 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
May 20 Legislative Session Wrap Up Breakfast
May 24 Business After Hours at Bassett Furniture
May 28 - June 4 NJCAA Baseball World Series (JUCO)

JUNE
Jun 6 Mesa County Leadership Class Graduation
Jun 8 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Jun 13 Quarterly Membership Luncheon
Jun 15 Networking @ Noon Lunch at A Taste of Heaven Catering
Jun 15 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Jun 28 Business After Hours at Hampton Inn, Fairfield Inn & Suites, Springhill Suites

JULY
Jul 13 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Jul 20 Networking @ Noon Lunch at No Coast Sushi
Jul 20 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Jul 26 Business After Hours at Wag Resort

AUGUST
Aug 10 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Aug 17 Networking @ Noon Lunch at The Feedlot
Aug 17 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Aug 30 Business After Hours at Sooper Credit Union

SEPTEMBER
Sep 14 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Sep 19 Quarterly Membership Luncheon
Sep 21 Networking @ Noon Lunch at Bocas Venezuelan Grill
Sep 21 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Sep 27 Business After Hours at Hilltop Senior Services
Sep 30 Golf Tournament

OCTOBER
Oct 12 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Oct 19 Networking @ Noon Lunch at HoneyBaked Ham
Oct 19 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Oct 25 Business Showcase at Two Rivers Convention Center

NOVEMBER
Nov 9 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Nov 16 Networking @ Noon Lunch at Rib City (North Ave.)
Nov 16 Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
Nov 26 Shop Local - Small Business Saturday
Nov 29 Business After Hours at Courtyard by Marriott

DECEMBER
Dec 9 Leads Group Holiday Party
Dec 12 Quarterly Membership Luncheon
Dec 14 Energy Briefing Luncheon
Dec 14 Networking @ Noon Lunch at Grand Vista Hotel
*No Business After Hours in December

For updated locations, times, and registration information:
www.gjchamber.org  970.242.3214  info@gjchamber.org

*All dates & locations are subject to change
Join us as we meet with the Colorado General Assembly for two informative and fun days at the State Capitol!

PLUS A CAN’T MISS DINNER at
The Broker Restaurant has been reserved so you can come and make your voice heard;
Colorado’s legislators are expecting you...

Legislative Days at the Capitol 2016
Thursday & Friday, February 25 & 26, 2016
Select: □ $375 per person* (single) □ $350 per person* (double)
(*cost includes transportation, meals, and lodging)

Company Name: __________________________  Contact Person: __________________________

Phone Number: __________________________  Email: __________________________

Attendees:

Authorized Signature: __________________________

Method of Payment:  _____ Bill my Chamber Account  ______ Check Enclosed

_____ Charge to my MC/Visa/Discover # ______  Exp. Date: ______________

Return to: Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce, 360 Grand Ave, 81501, Fax to 970-242-3694
Register online: www.gjchamber.org

All events require preregistration and prepayment. Registration fees are 50% refundable up to FIVE BUSINESS DAYS prior to event.
Substitutions may be made at any time. If special assistance is needed, notification to the Chamber four days prior to event is required.
Expanding Companies Applauded

At the December Quarterly Membership Luncheon eleven companies were recognized for creating 200 new jobs and investing over $46 million into the local economy. Altogether in 2015, the Chamber recognized 30 companies for creating 328 jobs and investing $54,154,298 in the Grand Valley. Those recognized most recently are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Employees Added</th>
<th>Capital Investment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Robin’s Nest of Antiques &amp; Treasures</td>
<td>Shane Allerheiligen</td>
<td></td>
<td>$55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Copy Products</td>
<td>Desiree Salerno</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AlphaGraphics</td>
<td>Gary Nelson</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amigo Animal Clinic, PC</td>
<td>Dominic Carrica</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ariel Clinical Services</td>
<td>Becky Hobart</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>$63,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Mesa University</td>
<td>John Marshall</td>
<td></td>
<td>$25,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Repair of Western Colorado</td>
<td>Ted Munkres</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$1,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Fights LLC</td>
<td>Steven Yates</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MindSprings Health / WestSprings Hospital</td>
<td>Kathy Capps</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>$3,078,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powderhorn Mountain Resort</td>
<td>Sam Williams</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Star Aviation, Inc.</td>
<td>David Krogman</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>$9,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS:</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
<td>$46,266,298</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to the 4th Quarter 2015 Business Expansion Award Recipients

LET’S BE THE FORCE OF BUSINESS TOGETHER IN 2016!

By now most of you have received an invitation to the 2016 Chamber Banquet and hopefully most of you pulled that little green tab at the bottom to activate your very own light saber courtesy of the Chamber. We truly believe the “force” of local business will be light years ahead of past years in building our local economy and hope you are planning on joining us. This is a sellout event with tables and seats assigned on a first come/first serve basis so reserve early. And if you’d like to join our rebel force there are two ways you can ensure the victory of the evening.

The first is by volunteering to help us man the gambling tables at Jabba’s Hut. Knowledge of these games of chance are not necessary as we can help you get the hang of dealing blackjack, poker and manning the roulette wheel. Jabba will provide all beverages and you can network with all kinds of aliens! To volunteer, contact Candace (candace@gjchamber.org or 970-263-2919).

The second is by donating an item to our silent or live auction. All proceeds are used to fund the Young Entrepreneurs’ Academy and the Mesa County Leadership Program. Items the committee is particularly looking for include:

- Weekend getaway packages including hotel nights, time shares and the like
- Sporting tickets (Broncos, Rockies, Avalanche, CMU Athletics)
- Adventures (fly fishing, sky diving, skiing, rafting)
- Furniture, particularly office furniture
- Dining Gift Certificates
- Original artwork

And just about anything else you think would be appealing to your fellow Chamber members. All donating businesses will be recognized and earn our undying gratitude.
Recent Ribbon Cuttings

Emerald Gardens
2863 North Ave Ste 1, Grand Junction, CO 81504 (970) 628-4628 - New Business

Press Colorado Juice Co., 555 Main St, Grand Junction, CO 81501 (970) 201-7346 - New Business

New Members!

American Cancer Society
2754 Compass Dr Ste 100
Grand Junction, CO 81506
Alisha Howard - (970) 254-5587
Non Profit: Charitable

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield
700 Broadway
Denver, CO 80273
Nicola Ferrell - (888) 287-0651
www.Anthem.com
Insurance
Health Care Plans

Cleaner Carpets by George
PO Box 777
Fruita, CO 81521
Jason M. Brewington - (970) 243-4212
www.cleanercarpetsbygeorge.com
Carpet Cleaning

Emerald Gardens
2863 North Ave Ste 1
Grand Junction, CO 81504
Jerad McClain - (970) 628-4628
www.emeraldgardens970.com
Garden Centers & Nurseries

Harmony Isolation Float Center
755 North Ave Ste B
Grand Junction, CO 81501-3152
Alisa Bailey - (970) 314-4509
www.harmonyfloat.wix.com
Health and Wellness

Home Mortgage Alliance
619 Main St
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Molly van Lawick - (970) 424-5163
Mortgages & Contracts

Stonebridge Properties in Glenwood Springs
125 Wulfsohn Rd
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
Mandy Freese - (970) 928-0900
Hotels/Motels
## Business Barometer

### November 2015

A gauge of Grand Junction’s economic indicators published by the Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce.

**info@gjchamber.org**  
970.242.3214

### Building Permits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>Total Value</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Total Value</th>
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<td>New Single Family Residence</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>$10,115,169</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>$6,234,138</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Commercial</td>
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<td>$773,728</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$319,667</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>$5,930,465</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>$20,875,252</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>$16,819,362</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>$27,429,057</td>
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<tr>
<td>YTD Totals</td>
<td>1,680</td>
<td>$212,686,501</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>$230,867,179</td>
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### Sales Tax Revenue Collections

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>% Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Grand Junction</td>
<td>$3,296,230</td>
<td>$3,417,435</td>
<td>-3.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total YTD</td>
<td>$38,833,472</td>
<td>$38,059,641</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
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### MLS Statistics - Quarterly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>3rd Quarter 2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Sold</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollar Volume</td>
<td>$212,360,123</td>
<td>$182,760,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Sold YTD</td>
<td>2,629</td>
<td>2,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollar Volume YTD</td>
<td>$566,785,343</td>
<td>$486,655,843</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hotel/Motel Occupancy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Occupancy Rate</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>41.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Daily Room Rate</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>$74.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mesa County Foreclosures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number Filed</th>
<th>Number Gone to Sale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Grand Junction Area Realtor Association

### Labor Market Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civilian Labor Force</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>76,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Employment</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>72,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Unemployment</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>3,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*N/A = Data not available as of 12/16, information will be updated upon receipt*

Sources: Grand Junction Area Realtor Association, Colorado Workforce, Grand Junction City Sales Tax Department, Grand Junction Regional Airport, Grand Junction Visitor and Convention Bureau, Mesa County Building Department, Rocky Mountain Lodging Report
Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce
360 Grand Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501

970-242-3214, Fax: 242-3694
info@gjchamber.org

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• Professional Connections and Networking Opportunities Build Business
• Quality of Life is Integral to our Economic Vitality
• Being Proactive & Innovative Improves our Effectiveness

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