



YOUR LINK TO BUSINESS

FEATURES

- 3 Legislative Wrap Up Features Lawmakers and More
Chamber Encourages Voter Participation in GVDD Election
- 4 YEA! Sponsors and Volunteers Feted
- 5 Celebrating Business and Economic Development in May
Leadership Class Applications Due the End of May
Chamber and CMU Team Up for Quarterly Luncheon June 20th
- 7 Legislative Wrap-Up Breakfast
- 8 YEA! 3.0 Begins In September
Chamber Launches Total Resource Campaign
- 11 Membership Appreciation BBQ

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 2 Chairman's Column
- 6 Upcoming Events Registration Form
- 9 Welcome New Members
Recent Ribbon Cuttings
- 10 Business Barometer

Chamber Challenges Unfair Fee In The Court

By now many of you may have already heard that the Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce, a handful of individual members and Mesa County have joined forces to file a legal challenge to the Grand Valley Drainage District imposition of fees on area businesses, nonprofits and residents. The first step in that process is to ask for an injunction against the District from collecting fees while the issue makes its way through the courts. This is not an action that the Chamber took lightly and was a last resort after months of trying to work with the District to find an alternative solution.

Since 1915 the Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce has served as the "Voice of Business" in Mesa County. Over the years, the Chamber has played a critical role in addressing problems, providing leadership, and working to improve the business climate to the benefit of not just businesses, but also those they employ and the customers they serve.

The Chamber, along with Mesa County and Chamber Members Conquest Development, EmTech, Knowles Enterprises, Hampton Inn/Fairfield Inn and Suites Downtown and Grand Junction Tech Center, will be filing a lawsuit against the Grand Valley Drainage District. The basis for the lawsuit is that the Chamber, along with the leadership of Mesa County and these private job creators, believe, among other things, that this fee is actually an unauthorized tax impacting thousands of businesses, nonprofits, churches, and individual citizens. The lawsuit will also be seeking an injunction to prevent the Grand Valley Drainage District from collecting this purported fee.

The Chamber has worked diligently for eight months to try and reach a compromise with the Grand Valley Drainage District and other

governmental authorities that will not unduly harm the business community and our fragile economy. The Chamber position has been clearly articulated to their boards, staff and our members on numerous occasions and includes these tenets:

- *The Chamber supports a valley-wide solution to addressing the area's drainage problems, which of necessity involves governmental entities in addition to the Grand Valley Drainage District.*
- *The Chamber supports the development of thoughtful alternatives regarding new fees, taxes, and grants to meet the need.*
- *The Chamber opposes the imposition of an impact fee for business expansions. The growth of businesses improves the economy, increases job opportunities and adds to the tax base.*
- *The Chamber supports an extended process of securing more information in a collaborative manner with all entities responsible for drainage and thoroughly exploring all funding models, the implementation of a sunset provision on the funding source, more transparency and accountability in the form of reports issued to taxpayers regarding how project priorities are identified, how funds are being spent, and how funds are leveraged with money from other sources— including grants.*

Over the past eight months, the Chamber has persistently argued that the Grand Valley Drainage District's purported "fee," in its current form, is not the appropriate answer. The Drainage District nevertheless chose to invoice over 40,000 homes, businesses, nonprofits and city and county governments on March 31st with no change in their original position. This

Continued Page 3

Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

Matthew Breman, Cranium 360
- Chairman of the Board

Dave Beck, MBC Grand Broadcasting

Tyler Bittner, WPX Energy

Lisa Boyd, No Coast Sushi

Joseph Burtard, Ute Water and JRs Carriage Service

Jeff Franklin, Bank of Colorado
- Immediate Past Chair

Stuart Hall, Olsson Associates

Donna Hardy, Dalby, Wendland & Co., P. C.

Jeffrey S. Hurd, Beckner & Hurd, LLC

Chuck Johnson, Brady Trucking

Jon Labrum, OBJ Group

Heather Lambeth, New Image Realty, LLC

Darin Mack - The Trophy Case

Paula Reece, Crossroads Fitness

Chris Thomas, Community Hospital

Pat Tucker, Conquest Developments, LLC

Clay Tufly, Alpine Bank

Janie VanWinkle, VanWinkle Ranch

Diane Schwenke - President/CEO

www.gjchamber.org

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Creating a Strong Local Economy
- Representing the Interests of Business with Government
- Promoting the Community
- Providing Networking Opportunities to Build Business Relationships
- Political Action

Chairman's Column



This "Chairman's Column" is a little different than the others I have written. Normally, I like to write about some of the great programs our Chamber has to offer or the benefits of being a member. This one is more about a specific issue that we are working on and the process and people working towards a common goal.

For the last eight months, the Chamber staff and board members have spent hundreds of hours diligently trying to reach a compromise with the Grand Valley Drainage District (GVDD) and other governmental authorities on the fees that they had planned on imposing and have since billed. From the very beginning, we supported the development of a valley-wide solution to addressing the area's drainage problems and a solution that would not unduly harm the business community and our fragile economy. This is an issue that affects over 40,000 homes, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and city and county governments.

The GVDD fees have created a tremendous amount of "heartburn" for our members. The staff at the Chamber have received more phone calls and visits over these fees than any other issue in the past 10 years and there has been a unifying message, "The Chamber needs to do something about this." This message has been heard loud and clear!

Since learning that the GVDD was looking into a fee structure that would have a disproportionate impact on business, the Chamber has been committed to taking a leadership role in finding a more fair and equitable solution. We attempted to bring different entities together with the GVDD to look at other funding models and bring about a valley wide solution. When this did not work, and the notices of the fees were sent out, once again your Chamber was committed to finding a solution. To this end we reached out to our members and asked for their opinion, their ideas and their help.

In the course of our considering

a response to the proposed fees, there were differing views among our members, partners, and board members on how we should proceed. I was heartened by the respect and collaboration among the board in developing the Chamber's final action – such that even in our board meetings when members put forth different opinions on how to proceed, other board members thanked them for sharing their opinion. Once the final fees were formally announced and assessed, we all came together for the common goal of representing the businesses of our community.

Through this collaborative effort, we have concluded that the Chamber, along with Mesa County and other businesses should file a lawsuit against the Grand Valley Drainage District to seek an injunction to prevent the GVDD from unilaterally collecting the new drainage fee. The main basis for the legal objections to the GVDD fees is that the GVDD wrongfully labeled the assessment a "fee" versus a tax, thereby circumventing the rights of voters.

Although we feel strongly about our position in the lawsuit, we cannot be certain of the outcome and we will continue to provide updates as it progresses. We continue our commitment to serve as the **"Voice of Business"** and take a leadership role working to improve the business climate to the benefit of not just businesses, but also those they employ and the customers they serve.

Matthew Breman, Chairman

See You at the Ballpark!

The Chamber is proud to have been a sponsor of the Junior College World Series for fifty-seven years and encourages our members to participate in the upcoming tournament, May 28th through June 4th.

Game passes are available for purchase at the Chamber office and are still one of the most affordable family venues in the Valley.

To keep up-to-date with all of the JUCO news, go the JUCO website, www.jucogj.org.



Chamber Challenges Unfair Fee In The Court (Cont'd Page 1)

action is bad for business, bad for the economy, and businesses and citizens deserve to know whether the "fee" is in fact an impermissible "tax" that requires voter approval.

Ultimately, it is the hope of our organization(s) that we can quickly get back to focusing on this valley wide problem and devising a more comprehensive and collaborative approach to addressing our needs to manage storm water in Mesa County without harming our members and the business community at large.

Anyone interested in helping the Chamber fund its portion of the litigation costs is urged to call Diane Schwenke, 970-242-3214.

Legislative Wrap Up Features Lawmakers and More

The Chamber's Annual Legislative Wrap Up, sponsored by Wells Fargo is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 18th, 7:30 AM at the Clarion Inn**. Local lawmakers have been invited to attend and there will be a special presentation on proposed ballot measures to make it harder to amend the State of Colorado Constitution, a document that is already twice as long as the U.S. Constitution.

Chamber members on the Governmental Affairs Committee have taken positions as of press time on 31 pieces of legislation affecting businesses. Among the bills the Chamber has supported, are several that incentivize businesses to offer internships and employment opportunities leading to a more skilled workforce. Additionally, the Chamber has opposed several measures that make it more difficult for employers to screen and hire individuals. A complete list of all positions taken and the outcomes of those bills will also be distributed at the breakfast.

Cost to attend is \$15 and reservations may be made online at www.gjchamber.org.

Chamber Encourages Voter Participation in GVDD Election

On May 3rd, you may be eligible to vote in an election that you may not even be aware of. If you are a landowner, resident and registered voter in Grand Valley District 1, which is an area from 20 Road west to Kiefer Extension (approximately 12 Road), and from the Colorado River north to the Grand Valley Highline Canal you can cast a ballot for one of the three seats on the Board of Directors. The way to do that is to show up in person at the **Grand Valley Drainage District office, 722 23 Road between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM**. As no separate mailing has been sent notifying voters of this opportunity, turnout is expected to be light and every single vote will be important so the Chamber urges members to take the time to cast ballots in this election.

The Chamber has also endorsed a candidate in this race, Cody Davis. A statement, requested by the board prior to endorsement is shown below.

Candidate Tad Hutchins did not respond to the Board's request.

Candidate Cody Davis:

"Below are my thoughts about the future of the GVDD and the 5-2-1.

For starters, I believe the GVDD boundaries should be enlarged to include the greater Grand Valley area, and eliminate the need for two drainage authorities. I know this process includes legislation at the state level, but it will be worth the time and investment.

As far as the drainage fee that was recently assessed, it was done in haste with little thought to the impact to growth and development. In addition, the fee was imposed in an inequitable fashion, picking winners and losers. Non-profit organizations should be exempt from paying this, not just the school district.

The fact is, the GVDD is in desperate need of revenue to continue providing this vital function to the valley, and no one is arguing that point. The question is how to pay for it. With a consolidated drainage district (as I propose), taking this to the people as a reasonable tax is the first step. They deserve to vote on this, rather than having a fee imposed against their will. From a practical standpoint, having this on the tax roll would make it easier to assess and collect; as this would be done by Mesa County, and it would also save the district a substantial amount of money because they would not have to collect the fee."

Reasonably Priced, Creatively Disguised as Expensive

CallahanEdfast

Mortuary & Crematory
A family company since 1886.



YEA! Sponsors and Volunteers Feted

The third class of the **Chamber's Young Entrepreneurs Academy** will graduate on **May 10th, 6:00 PM at Chez Lena, at WCCC** and members are invited to attend and cheer on these newly minted small business owners aged 11 to 18. None of this would have been possible without the tremendous outpouring of support from the business community that took many forms in 2015 -2016.

It is time to officially recognize these organizations and individuals that have made that possible. Our sincere thanks and appreciation goes out to:

Partner Organizations:

- Mesa County Valley School District 51
- Western Colorado Community College
- Business Incubator Center
- Mesa County Workforce Center

Major Sponsors:

- City of Grand Junction
- Home Loan and Investment
- Capco, Inc.
- Mesa County Workforce Center
- WPX Energy

Supporting Sponsors:

- Bank of Colorado
- Alpine Bank
- Community Banks of Colorado
- Mesa County Business Education Foundation
- OBJ Group
- StarTek USA, Inc.
- US Bank

Instructors and Mentors:

- Skip Hudson, (Instructor), Turnkey Consulting
- Heather Lambeth, (Instructor), New Image Realty
- Christian Herrera, (Instructor), X106.9 FM
- Amy Austin, (Mentor), Nuclear Care Partners
- Andrea Gatley, (Mentor), AlphaDog Systems
- Andy Johnson, (Mentor), Edward Jones
- Annalisa Pearson, (Mentor), Business Incubator Center
- Ashlie Zimmerman, (Mentor), Hartmann Brothers
- Greg Agnew, (Mentor), HubWerks
- James Watson, (Mentor), CoorsTek Medical
- Jeff Goodrich, (Mentor), RadCad Designs
- Karen Troester, (Mentor), US Bank
- Kurt Anderson, (Mentor), Copeland Supply
- Patrick Howery, (Mentor), Colorado West Otolaryngologists

- Seth Rockey, (Mentor), State Farm Insurance
- Shaver Hansen, (Mentor), Home Loan Insurance

Graphic Designers, Website Developers, Guest Speakers, and Field Trip Hosts:

- Cranium 360
- Thin Air
- LAUNCH WestCO
- Inspeyered
- Submerge Designs
- Dalby, Wendland & Co.
- Kain & Burke, PC
- EmTech, Inc.
- HRL Compliance Solutions
- Alida's Fruits
- Callahan-Edfast Mortuary
- AlphaGraphics
- Texas Roadhouse
- The Salon Professional Academy
- HopeWest
- ANB Bank
- Cherry Creek Mortgage

The recruitment process for sponsors and students for the next class starting this fall has begun. If you are interested in helping support this program or recommending a student for the next class, contact Terri Smatla at terri@gjchamber.org for more information. The new student application form is now available online at www.gjchamber.org.

On a final note, our Saunders Scholar Brayden Kelley, will be competing in the semi-final competition in New York State on May 6th and we wish him all the best. We know he will represent our program well and be a strong contender in the competition.



2015/2016 YEA! Students and Mentors

Celebrating Business and Economic Development in May

Last month the City of Grand Junction passed a resolution declaring **May 1st through May 7th as Small Business Week**. A recent review of the data shows that 99.4% of the businesses in Mesa County have less than 100 employees so we are definitely a community of small businesses and it is appropriate to celebrate them and what they do for our economy.

Following on the heels of Small Business Week is **Economic Development Week, May 8th through May 14th**. The purpose of this new celebration is to bring awareness to communities across the nation of the difference economic development professionals make along with the resources at their disposal can make in helping small business grow.

All Economic Development Partners will be participating in activities locally but the Grand Junction Economic Partnership, Business Incubator Center and the Chamber are collaborating on some major initiatives including:



- A month-long billboard featuring the three entities
- Collecting video clips from businesses and elected officials discussing how economic developers make a difference that will be showcased on websites and elsewhere
- A traveling **"I Love My Job"** booth where we will be collecting video testimonials for the area's workers on living and working in the Grand Valley.

If you would like to have your company or your workers participate in any of these activities, please contact C.J. at the Chamber office (970-263-2917).

Expansion Information Sought

The June Quarterly Luncheon is still over six weeks away but if you are a business that has expanded don't wait till then to tell us about it! We'd love to hear about it now so we can prepare your "hammer of economic progress" award and insure that the date is on your calendar to be our guest for the June 20th event.

To notify us about your expansion all you have to do is call the office, 970-242-3214 and tell us about it or complete a simple form that is available at www.gjchamber.org.

Chamber and CMU Team Up for Quarterly Luncheon June 20th

The economic outlook nationally and regionally will be served up with lunch at the Chamber's Quarterly Luncheon sponsored by ANB Bank and co-hosted by Colorado Mesa University on Monday, June 20th.

Matt Rosenberg, CMU Business Department and principal with RoseCap Investments will provide a midyear overview of national and international trends. Diane Schwenke, Chamber CEO will then provide attendees with a snapshot of current local leading economic indicators.

Also on the agenda for this meeting will be the quarterly awarding of "Hammers" for our builders of the local economy, those businesses that have made a capital investment and/or added employees. Businesses that wish to be recognized, are urged to contact Trisha or Diane at the Chamber office.

Reservations are required and can be made online at www.gjchamber.org or by calling the office at 970-242-3214. The cost is \$20 and the event will be held in the University Center Ballroom on the CMU Main Campus.

Leadership Class Applications Due the End of May

Anyone interested in participating in the next Mesa County Leadership Class, which begins in early September is urged to submit their applications soon. The deadline is June 1st and the class is limited to 20 individuals.

Those chosen for the class will spend about one day a month in various community settings learning about what makes the community "tick" and how various sectors interact and affect other sectors. Also included in the program, is an overnight leadership retreat and attendance at the Chamber's two-day Grand Junction trip to the state capitol in late February.

To view more information or complete an application, visit www.gjchamber.org. The cost is \$975 for the entire session, including overnight trips.



Mark Your Calendar ~ Details & Registration online at gjchamber.org

MAY 10 | 6:00 PM
YEA! Graduation
Chez Lena - WCCC
Campus
 RSVPs requested by
 5/6/16
 No cost at attend. Space
 is limited.

MAY 13 | 11:00 AM
Membership
Appreciation BBQ
GJACC Parking Lot
 Complimentary for
 GJACC Members

MAY 18 | 7:30 AM
Legislative Wrap-up
Breakfast
Clarion Inn
 Advance Registration: \$15
 for GJACC members.

MAY 18 | 12:00 Noon
Networking @ Noon
Sergio's Restaurant
 Advance Registration
 Required: \$18 for GJACC
 members.

MAY 18 | 2 - 4 PM
Mesa County Libraries
Business Connect
GJACC Conference
Room
 Advance Registration
 Requested. No cost for
 GJACC members.

MAY 24 | 5:30 PM
Business After Hours
Bassett Home
Furnishings
 Advance Registration:
 \$10 for GJACC members.

MAY 28 - June 4
JUCO - Junior College
Baseball World Series
www.jucogj.org

JUN 9 | 5:00 PM
Mesa County
Leadership Class
Graduation
BrightStar Redland
Mesa
 No cost to attend. Space
 is limited.
 Booth space available.

JUN 15 | 12:00 Noon
Networking @ Noon
A Taste of Heaven
 Advance Registration
 Required: \$18 for GJACC
 members.

JUN 15 | 2 - 4 PM
Mesa County Libraries
Business Connect
GJACC Conference
Room
 Advance Registration
 Requested. No cost for
 GJACC members.

JUN 20 | 12:00 Noon
Quarterly Membership
Luncheon
CMU University
Ballroom
 Advance Registration
 Required: \$20 for GJACC
 members.

JUN 28 | 5:30 PM
Business After Hours
Hampton Inn /
Fairfield Inn &
SpringHill Suites
 Advance Registration:
 \$10 for GJACC members.

JUL 20 | 12:00 Noon
Networking @ Noon
No Coast Sushi
 Advance Registration
 Required: \$18 for GJACC
 members.

JUL 20 | 2 - 4 PM
Mesa County Libraries
Business Connect
GJACC Conference
Room
 Advance Registration
 Requested. No cost for
 GJACC members.

JUL 26 | 5:30 PM
Business After Hours
The Wag Resort
 Advance Registration:
 \$10 for GJACC members.

GJACC Events Registration Form: May, June & July 2016

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> YEA! Graduation - 05/10/16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business After Hours - 05/24/16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Networking@Noon - 07/20/16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership BBQ - 05/13/16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Graduation - 06/9/16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Connect - 07/20/16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Wrap Up - 05/18/16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Networking@Noon - 06/15/16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business After Hours - 07/26/16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Networking@Noon - 05/18/16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Connect - 06/15/16 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Connect - 5/18/16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly Luncheon - 06/20/16 | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Business After Hours - 06/28/16 | |

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: _____

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.



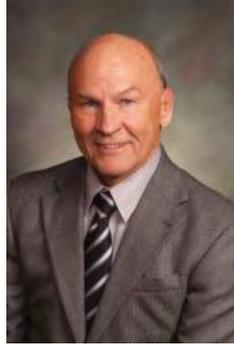
LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP
Breakfast



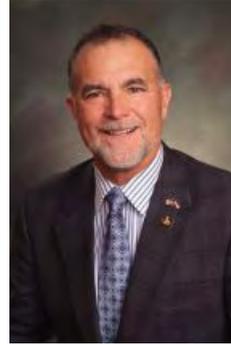
Presented by



Senator Ray Scott



Rep Dan Thurlow



Rep Yeulin Willet



Rep Don Coram

They went to Denver. They stayed for 120 days and read hundreds of pieces of legislation. In the end...what REALLY happened? More importantly, how will it impact businesses in the Grand Valley?

Join the Chamber as we hear from our local and area lawmakers including State Senator Ray Scott, Representative Dan Thurlow, Representative Yeulin Willet and Representative Don Coram (all invited) in this annual wrap-up.

Wednesday, May 18, 2016
7:30-9:00 AM
Clarion Inn, 755 Horizon Drive

Cost for this event is:
\$15 for pre-registered members, \$20 at the door or for future members

LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP BREAKFAST - Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Company Name: _____

Attending (Names): _____

Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

Method of Payment: Bill My Chamber Account Check Enclosed

Charge my MC/VISA/Discover # _____ Exp. Date _____

Authorized Signature: _____

RETURN FORM TO: GRAND JUNCTION AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, 360 GRAND AVE., 81501; OR FAX TO 970-242-3694

All events require pre-registration and pre-payment. Registration fees are non-refundable two business days prior to event. Substitutions may be made at any time. If special assistance is needed, you must notify the Chamber two days prior to the event.

Hire Me First Students Explore Careers In Area Businesses |

Eight high school students from around the Grand Valley will be gaining valuable career exploration experience as part of the Hire Me First Spring 2016 class. The students have been learning 21st Century Workplace Skills and taking eleven WorkKeys Assessments, and now will have an opportunity to explore careers that they selected as part of a Career Project that included writing a resume, cover letter, having a mock interview, researching careers and writing a paper that was presented to the class.

Students select the careers that they want to explore and thanks to the area businesses, they will get up to a three-hour on-the-job observation, complete with details about pursuing that occupation as a career. The following businesses will be helping the students out with their Job Shadows:

- Amigo Animal Clinic
- Antonelli's Advanced Automotive
- Callahan-Edfast Mortuary
- CSU Tri-River Extension Office
- Elam Construction
- FCI Constructors, Inc.
- Gerber Collision Repair and Refinishing, Inc.
- Kathy's Nails
- Lewis Engineering
- Networks Unlimited, Inc.
- Pear Park Elementary
- Raw Canvas
- United Companies
- WestStar Aviation, Inc.

The next offering of the Hire Me First class will be offered through Western Colorado Community College starting on June 6 – 24, 2016. High School students can register by calling 970-255-2800 or wccc.coloradomesa.edu/cec on the web. Students can earn one high school elective credit for the class and, up to three high school elective credits for WorkKeys (with a higher level score).

Chamber Launches Total Resource Campaign in 2016

Chambers of Commerce have been institutions in many cities for not just decades, but centuries. And, their financial models in most instances are the same today as they were then. Memberships and sponsorships of events are the bread and butter of many budgets. But the world has changed and attitudes toward membership organizations are also changing.

With that in mind, the Grand Junction Chamber Board voted to conduct a total resource campaign later this year. The concept is relatively simple and straightforward. Current members, prospective members and businesses that benefit financially from

area businesses will have the opportunity to support the programs and initiatives they are passionate about, often in new and more direct ways.

Staff and key board volunteers are just beginning the process of initiating this new effort and the campaign itself will not launch until September 8th. If you are interested in learning more or how you and your business can be involved, please contact Trisha at 970-263-2912 or Diane at 970-263-2915.

YEA! 4.0 Begins in September

Over 30 businesses or social enterprises have been launched with your help in the past three years through your support of YEA!

The Young Entrepreneurs Academy, (YEA!) takes students in grades six through twelve through the process of starting and running real businesses over the course of a full academic year. **Students work in close cooperation with local leaders of industry, community members, and educators to develop ideas and objectives, write business plans, pitch potential investors, obtain funding, register with governmental agencies, develop their brand identity and much more!**

By the end of the class, students own and operate fully functioning businesses that can be carried on after graduation. **Students learn to make a job-- not just take a job!** YEA!'s direct mission is to help students embrace their passion, energy, creativity and talents, launch a venture, and view entrepreneurship as synonymous with success and freedom.

The Chamber has several sponsorship levels available for businesses that may be interested in supporting this important program. The levels include:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|------------|
| • Presenting Sponsor | \$5,000 | (limit 2) |
| • Premier Sponsor | \$2,500 | (limit 4) |
| • Scholarship Sponsor | \$1,500 | (limit 6) |
| • Investor Sponsor | \$1,000 | (limit 12) |

To discuss how you can change a student's life in this fashion, contact Terri at 970-263-2916 or Diane at 970-263-2915.



Recent Ribbon Cuttings



Epic Escape Game

605 Grand Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 985-4080 - New Business



Lunderful Local Deals, LLC

(970) 985-5999
New Business



River City Real Estate LLC

362 Main St Ste B, Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 248-8501 - New Business

WELCOME

New Members!

Applied Industrial Technologies

Scott Hearn - (970) 245-8060

www.applied.com

Industrial Distributor

Food Dudes Delivery

AJ Hansen - (970) 241-1904

www.fooddudesdelivery.com

Restaurant: Delivery Service

Hummel Real Estate

316 Main St

Grand Junction, CO 81501

Ronda Hummel - (970) 314-7490

www.HummelRealEstate.com

Real Estate: Commercial/Residential/Agricultural

Monument Women's Healthcare

610 25 Rd

Grand Junction, CO 81505

Templa Melnick - (970) 986-8900

<http://monumentwomenshealthcare.com>

Health: Maternal & Child Advocacy

Shelter Insurance

1236 N 7th St

Grand Junction, CO 81501

Shannon Cordova - (970) 628-4888

Insurance



VECTRA Bank Colorado

499 28 1/4 Rd, Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 683-5988 - Business Renovation



Business Barometer

March 2016

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

info@gjchamber.org

970.242.3214

Sales Tax Revenue Collections			
March	2016	2015	% Change
City of Grand Junction	\$2,947,129	\$2,967,132	-0.7%
Total YTD	\$10,356,177	\$9,970,608	0.8%

MESA COUNTY Building Permits Issued				
March	2016	Total Value	2015	Total Value
New Single Family Residence	38	\$9,589,341	30	\$8,114,621
New Commercial	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other	275	\$20,144,220	141	\$5,606,671
Totals	313	\$29,733,561	177	\$13,721,292
YTD Totals	710	\$54,813,715	529	\$55,642,944

MLS Statistics - Quarterly		
4th Quarter	2015	2014
Total Sold	1055	743
Dollar Volume	\$231,204,945	\$157,974,405
Total Sold YTD	3418	3,083
Dollar Volume YTD	\$742,947,444	\$649,448,107

Source: Grand Junction Area Realtor Association

Hotel/Motel Occupancy		
March	2016	2015
Occupancy Rate	55.6%	48.3%
Average Daily Room Rate	\$75.46	\$76.03

Mesa County Foreclosures		
Year	Number Filed	Number Gone to Sale
2013	781	564
2014	539	403
2015	479	304

Source: Mesa County Public Trustee

G J Regional Airport		
March	2016	2015
Enplaned Passengers	18,023	16,647
Deplaned Airfreight	347,511	609,639
Enplaned YTD Passengers	49,267	45,923
Deplaned YTD Airfreight	994,459	1,740,776

Labor Market Statistics		
March	2016	2015
Civilian Labor Force	72,629	73,410
Total Employment	68,356	68,875
Total Unemployment	4,273	4,535
Unemployment Rate	5.9%	6.2%

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

2016 Chairman Circle Members

Alpine Bank

ANB Bank

Bank of Colorado

Community Hospital

FCI Constructors, Inc.

Grand Junction City
Government

Holiday Inn & Suites -
Grand Junction Airport

OBJ Group

Rocky Mountain Health
Plans

St. Mary's Hospital &
Regional Medical Center,
Inc.

US Bank

Wells Fargo Bank

gjchamber.org

YOUR LINK TO BUSINESS

VOLUME #33 • ISSUE #5

Grand Junction Area
Chamber of Commerce
360 Grand Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501

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



Grand Junction Area
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION:

"The Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce will represent business and promote economic growth."

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- A Healthy Business Climate Creates a Sustainable Community
- Representing and Advocating for Business is a Member Expectation
- Professional Connections and Networking Opportunities Build Business
- Quality of Life is Integral to our Economic Vitality
- Being Proactive & Innovative Improves our Effectiveness

CELEBRATING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEEK

Let's have a
BBQ!



CREATING a BRIGHT
FUTURE

MEMBER APPRECIATION



May 13th, 2016
Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce Parking Lot

11am - 1:30pm
FOOD, NETWORKING, PRIZES!

A COMPLIMENTARY EVENT