

# gjehamberorg 2

YOUR LINK TO BUSINESS

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#### **Second Quarter Accomplishments**

The second quarter of the year from April through June is traditionally one of our most active periods in terms of serving our members and making progress on our annual business plan. Shown below are just a few of our accomplishments:

- Led the community effort to celebrate Economic Development Week in coordination with our economic development partners, GJEP and BIC. A video that can be used to showcase how businesses can take advantage of the resources we offer to grow is now posted on the website.
- Defended the local business climate by legally challenging the Grand Valley Drainage District's fee assessment on businesses which resulted in individual businesses being billed in excess of \$8,000. The matter is still in the courts. Our argument is that this is a defacto tax and subject to a vote under the Taxpayer Bill of Rights.
- Graduated eleven new CEOs from the Young Entrepreneurs Academy ranging in age from 11 to 18. Each has launched a new business.



- on over 39 pieces of legislation introduced in the Colorado General Assembly and published a scorecard of how our local delegation voted on bills of importance to the business community.
- Initiated business retention/ expansion activities that resulted in visits to over 20 companies and the convening of two industry roundtables (technology and energy) that uncovered several expansion projects that have the potential for creation of over 250 jobs in the next 12-15 months.
- Led the opposition on the Western Slope of Colorado to Amendment 69, a ballot initiative aimed at creating a single payer health care system by taxing businesses which voters will decide in the fall election.
- Created the foundation for a new funding mechanism to underwrite Chamber business assistance programming known as the Total Resource Campaign.
- Hosted three Business After Hours events, three Networking at Noon sessions and assisted 12 companies in accessing big data to identify and market to customers through a partnership with the Mesa County Library.







## Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

Matthew Breman, Cranium 360

- Chairman of the Board

Dave Beck, MBC Grand Broadcasting

Lisa Boyd, No Coast Sushi

Joseph Burtard, Ute Water and JRs Carriage Service

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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,

Clay Tufly, Alpine Bank

Janie VanWinkle, VanWinkle Ranch

Diane Schwenke - President/CEO

#### www.gjchamber.org

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Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce 360 Grand Avenue Grand Junction, CO 81501 Or call 970.242.3214 Subscription rate \$35 per year, included in Annual Dues. USPS 112-870

#### Chairman's Column



Those of you that have read my column before may remember that I sometimes need a nudge from the Chamber staff reminding me that I need to write the next Chairman's Column and,

unfortunately, they had to do it again today. But unlike previous months where we talk about what the topic should be, this month needed no discussion, as I knew exactly what it should cover. For me, June marks the half-way point of my time as your chairman and it is time to briefly reflect on what we have accomplished and take note of what there is still to do before Jeffrey Hurd becomes the next chairperson.

Looking back at previous topics covered in this column:

January was about how the Chamber is more than the board and staff, but about the members. Today as I attended the Quarterly Membership Lunch, I was reminded about how true this really is. We were able to acknowledge businesses that have added jobs and done capital improvements, as well as, celebrate all of the people in the room that are working to make Grand Junction a better place to live and work.

The February column was about how the over 100 members of the Governmental Affairs Committee take the time and effort to review what is happening on the local and state level so we may better understand the impact it will have on all of us. I am both happy and grateful to report that this committee is still going strong and actively engaged.

March was about economic development efforts and focused on the Listening to Business initiative. Your Chamber had its first roundtable in April and we are continuing to have them on a regular basis. This initiative makes sure that we are doing our best to meet the needs of the businesses in our community.

In April I wrote about leadership and the importance of such programs like the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!), The Leadership Class and the Young Professionals Network (YPN). Since then we celebrated the graduation of the YEA! students (everyone should go to the final presentations) and the 16 people that graduated from the Leadership Class. We are now in the process of accepting applications for both the next YEA! group and Leadership Class. These are great programs and I encourage as many people to participate as possible.

May was different, as the focus was on the litigation with the Grand Valley Drainage District. I do not have enough space in this column to recap all that has happened in any detail. The lawsuit and an injunction have been filed. The injunction is now under the discretion of the Judge and we are waiting on his ruling. As soon as a ruling is made, there will be a lot more communication from the Chamber.

Last month I was pleased to write about the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between your Chamber, Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) and The Business Incubator. This MOU better coordinated our economic development efforts and has had some immediate results. Economic efforts are more streamlined than ever and this has allowed the Chamber to help more local businesses even faster.

So what is next? The short answer is, a lot. In the coming months there will be a lot of discussion and work making sure Amendment 69 (Colorado State Health Care System Initiative AKA ColoradoCare) does not pass. We are launching a Total Resource Campaign to better listen and take action on what our members think are priorities, the annual golf tournament will be in September, The Business Showcase in October, industry round tables, a new Leadership Class, Business After Hours and much, much more. We are excited to be heading into the second half of 2016 strong and ready to serve our community.

Matthew Breman, Chairman

#### Congratulations Expanding Companies

At the June 21st Quarterly Membership Luncheon, the Grand Junction Chamber presented the "Hammer Award" to the following companies for expanding their facilities, adding jobs and building a stronger economy:

Company	Contact	Employees Added	Capital Investment
Alpine Bank	Clay Tufly	3	\$1,000,000
Community Hospital	Chris Thomas	78	\$76,000,000
Hummel Real Estate	Rhonda Hummel	4	\$500,000
MCC Drug & Alcohol Screening	Bobbie Mizushima	2	\$415,000
Red Rock Radio Group	Anissa Wright	2	\$80,000
Taco Bell	Kendi Basinger	10	\$2,880,000
Unifirst Mortgage	Stewart Cruickshank	4	
TOTALS:		103	\$80,875,000



#### **Hammer of Progress Recipients:**

Chris Thomas - Community Hospital, Anissa Wright & Cheri Trout - Red Rock Radio, Justin Menge - Alpine Bank, Stewart Cruickshank - Unifirst Mortgage Corp., Rhonda Hummel - Hummel Real Estate and Kendi & Kyle Basinger - Taco Bell

If you are a business that has expanded recently, that has not been recognized by the Chamber in the past twelve months, please contact us at 970-242-3214 or email <a href="mailto:diane@gjchamber.org">diane@gjchamber.org</a> to ensure you are recognized and economy building at our June meeting.

## **Grand Valley Drainage District Lawsuit Update**

The lawsuit filed by the Grand Junction Area Chamber and Mesa County challenging the legality of a new annual fee assessment by the Grand Valley Drainage District is now in the hands of District Court. Briefs have been filed by all parties to the original complaint, as well, as the request for an injunction.

We do not know when the Court will act to set a hearing or just rule on the injunction on the basis of the arguments already submitted. Regardless of the outcome of an injunction, which does require a higher standard, the Chamber remains confident that this case has merit and that ultimately the Drainage District erred in imposing this burden on businesses and residences without a vote. The Chamber will continue to keep its members updated on the case.

## **Chamber Seeks Young Entrepreneurs**

Middle and high school students with a passion for ideas and a desire to augment their education with some real life skills would make excellent candidates for the Chamber Young Entrepreneurs Academy! Recruitment for the next class which begins

the end of September is now in full swing and applications will only be accepted through early August or until the class slots (24) are filled.



Students that are accepted into the program will not only learn valuable skills that will serve them well in their future careers, but will also launch their own businesses. The Chamber is asking all members to think about the young people they know...babysitters, seasonal employees, friends of their children and grandchildren! Who would benefit with the leg up this unique training/mentoring program offers? Submit names and contact information to Terri in the Chamber office (tsmatla@gichamber.org)or call 970-263-2916 and we will be happy to reach out and provide information on the program to those individuals you recommend.

#### **RefUSA Training Offered**

Mesa County Libraries has ReferenceUSA, the premier online research and reference tool for area business professionals, sales reps, marketing professionals, entrepreneurs, government agencies, students and researchers. It allows anyone to get fast and easy access to details on more than 43 million U.S. businesses and more than 260 million U.S. residents. Information includes; company name, address, phone, executive contact names, employee size, SIC and NAICS codes, credit ratings, etc.

Chamber members can use the database to:

- Do market research
- Build a business plan and
- Locate sales leads and download lists

The Chamber will be hosting a **FREE** Reference USA demonstration and training session on **Monday**, **July 25th**, **12:00 to 1:00 PM in the Chamber lower level conference room**. Registrations are appreciated for planning purposes and can be made by emailing <a href="mailto:info@gjchamber.org">info@gjchamber.org</a> or calling 970-242-3214.

## Volunteer to Read with a Child!

Got an hour a week for eight weeks that you could donate to a child with the potential



for life changing results? That is all it takes to be part of the Read with a Child program. Conducted by School District 51 and sponsored by the Mesa County Business Education Foundation, Read with a Child targets third and fourth grade students in selected elementary schools that need just a bit of help in building their reading and comprehension skills.

A two-hour training session and a background check funded by the foundation is all you need in addition to a desire to help children develop the one skill we know helps ensure success in the future. The initial assignments will be made sometime this fall.

For more information, contact Terri at the Chamber (<u>tsmatla@gjchamber.org</u> or 970-263-2916).

# Ten Dollar Donors

A little pocket change,

can make a big life change,

for a child who has been abused.



#### **Chamber Gets Gigabyte Service**

Those of you who are in our building periodically will notice something new and very fast the next time you log onto our Wi-Fi network. Thanks to a partnership with OBJ Group, a tenant in our building, we were able to contract with Charter Communications to install gigabyte service late last month.

Charter and CenturyLink both have gigabyte service available in the downtown area of the community and other service providers like Unite are also broadening our business options for connecting to the rest of the world.



HIRE ME FIRST PROGRAM



Preparing the Workforce of the Future

#### **High School Students Preparing** for Future Careers

Seven high school students received "Hire Me First" certificates on June 24th. These students completed a three-week condensed Summer Camp at WCCC. Students learned 21st Century Workplace Skills, were given ten WorkKeys assessments and spent at least six hours in a Job Shadow experience in area businesses. The certificates can be used along with their resumes to apply for entry-level positions with area employers and demonstrate their skill level and readiness to work. The students who graduated from the summer 2016 class are:

> **Xocchyll Casiano Destiny Chavez Colson Firmin Amy Garland Emerson Hill Allyson Laible Gabe Liebelt**

Guest Speakers included Matthew Breman, Kacey Watts, Elaina White, and Nina Anderson. Special thanks to WCCC for making it possible to enrich and enhance the lives of our young people with the experience.

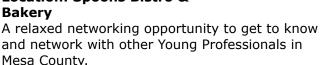
#### **Upcoming YPN Events**

#### **YPN Before Hours**

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 7:00 - 8:30 AM

**Location: Spoons Bistro &** 

**Bakery** 



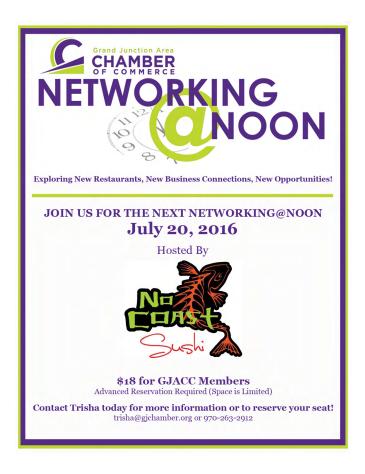
#### YPN Conversation with Tim Ray of the Grand **Junction Rockies**

Thursday, July 28, 2016 12:00 Noon

**Location: TBD** 

YPN members and quests participate in a monthly lunch with a local business owner, community leader or elected official. This is a great way to learn life lessons from those who have succeeded in their careers, built businesses from the ground up or lead a thriving organization.

For additional events or to find out more about the Young Professionals Network, visit the YPN website at www.ypnmc.org or their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ypnmc.



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

#### 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 25 | 12 - 1 PM RefUSA Training 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.

#### AUG 10 | 12:00 Noon Energy Briefing Mesa County Workforce Business Center

Advance Registration: \$15 for GJACC members.

#### AUG 17 | 12:00 Noon Networking @ Noon Buffalo Wild Wings Advance Registration

Advance Registration Required: \$18 for GJACC members.

#### AUG 17 | 2 - 4 PM Mesa County Libraries Business Connect GJACC Conference Room

Advance Registration Requested. No cost for GJACC members.

#### AUG 30 | 5:30 PM Business After Hours Sooper Credit Union

Advance Registration: \$10 for GJACC members.

#### SEP 14 | 12:00 Noon Energy Briefing Mesa County Workforce Business Center

Advance Registration: \$15 for GJACC members.

#### SEP 15 | 4:00 PM New Member Showcase GJACC

No cost for GJACC members.

#### SEP 19 | 12:00 Noon 2016 Quarterly Membership Lunch Grand Vista Hotel

Advance Registration Required: \$18 for GJACC members.

#### SEP 21 | 12:00 Noon Networking @ Noon Sports Vortex

#### \*location change

Advance Registration Required: \$18 for GJACC members.

#### SEP 21 | 2 - 4 PM Mesa County Libraries Business Connect GJACC Conference Room

Advance Registration Requested. No cost for GJACC members.

#### SEP 27 | 5:30 PM Business After Hours Hilltop Community Resources

Advance Registration: \$10 for GJACC members.

#### SEP 30 | 7:30 AM Golf Tournament 2016 BrightStar Golf Redlands Mesa, LLC

Sponsored by: Shaw Construction Corporate Team \$600, Individual Player \$125.

#### OCT 12 | 12:00 Noon Energy Briefing Mesa County Workforce Business Center

Advance Registration: \$15 for GJACC members.

#### OCT 19 | 12:00 Noon Networking @ Noon The Flying Pig -Community Hospital

#### \*location change

Advance Registration Required: \$18 for GJACC members.

#### OCT 19| 2 - 4 PM Mesa County Libraries Business Connect GJACC Conference Room

Advance Registration Requested. No cost for GJACC members.

Save The Date
OCT 25 | 4 - 7:30 PM
Business Showcase
Two Rivers Convention
Center

#### **GJACC Events Registration Form: July - October 2016**

 	<ul> <li>□ Networking@Noon - 07/20/16</li> <li>□ Business Connect - 07/20/16</li> <li>□ RefUSA Training - 07/25/16</li> <li>□ Business After Hours - 07/26/16</li> <li>□ Energy Briefing - 08/10/16</li> <li>□ Networking@Noon - 08/17/16</li> </ul>		Business Connect - 08/17/16 Business After Hours 08/30/16 Energy Briefing - 09/14/16 New Member Showcase - 09/15/16 Quarterly Luncheon - 09/19/16 Networking@Noon - 09/21/16		Business After Hours - 09/27/16 Golf Tournament - 09/30/16 Energy Briefing - 10/12/16	
	Company Name:		Contact	Pei	rson:	
	Attending (Names):					
	Phone:		Fax:		Email:	
Payment Method:   Bill my Chamber Account   Check Enclosed						
☐ Charge my MC/VISA/Discover/AMEX # Exp Date						
Ī	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.\*

## **Ballot Issue Positions Taken by the Board**

As many as 15 to 17 ballot issues will be voted on in Colorado this fall and many of them will have adverse impacts on businesses and the business climate. Conversely there are some ballot measures aimed at stemming this ballot overload which has resulted in our state constitution being more than double the length of the US constitution. Shown below are the ballot issues that the Chamber has considered so far. Several more are scheduled for the July Board Meeting.

- Amendment 69. Chamber Opposed. Already certified for the ballot this measure would raise state taxes \$25 billion to create a new health care payment system for all individuals living in the state. A new governmental entity called Colorado Care would be created and funds along with benefits would be managed by a 21 member elected board that is not subject to recall. Funds would be generated from a payroll tax and a 10% income tax on small business owners and retirees who report more than social security income on their tax returns. The impact on economic development could be substantial.
- Amendment 96. Chamber Supported. This amendment would require that any petition for a citizen-initiated constitutional amendment be required to have at least two percent of the registered electors who reside in each state senate district in order to be placed on the ballot. In addition, at least 55% of the votes cast are needed in order to pass a new constitutional amendment.
- Amendment 63. Chamber Opposed. This amendment concerns a person's right to a healthy environment (including air, water, land and ecological systems) and requires state and local governments to assign the highest

COME SEE WHY ED BOZARTH IS THE CHEVY DEALER MORE CHEVY BUYERS CHOOSE IN COLORADO.\*

ED BOZARTH & MARK MILLER

END BOZARTH & MARK MILLER

END BUICK

2595 HWY 6 & 50 | Grand Junction, CO 81501 | 970-778-3674 | EdBozarthGrandJunction.com

\*Based on YTD 2016 General Motors Retail Sales Report. Comparing cumulative Ed Bozarth retail sales to all other Colorado Chery Dealerships.

priority to protecting the healthy environment It also allows individuals to sue governmental entities to enforce this fundamental right. In essence any citizen could bring action against a local government to limit any business activity it deems a danger to their safety and right to a healthy environment.

- Amendment 75. Chamber Opposed. This amendment to the constitution authorizes local governments to prohibit, limit or impose moratoriums on oil and gas development. It also authorizes local laws and regulations that are more restrictive that the state as a protection of a community's health, safety, welfare and environment.
- Amendment 78. Chamber Opposed. This amendment is a new requirement on oil and gas development that requires a setback of 2500 s.f. from the nearest occupied structure or other specified or locally designated area. It has been estimated that as much as 90% of the land mass in the state could be impacted by this new requirement.



Quarterly Membership Luncheon as we host a Candidate Forum for the upcoming election.

#### September 19, 2016 Grand Vista Hotel

\$18 for members in advance \$23 for non-members/ members at the door

Call 970-242-3214 or email info@gjchamber.org to RSVP today!



#### **New Members!**

#### **Aspen Techonology Group**

Debra Romaniec www.aspentgi.com Consulting Services

#### **B3 Extreme Sports Facility**

756 Valley Ct Grand Junction, CO 81505 Whitney Cushman (970) 241-1234 www.bextremesportsfacility.com Indoor Recreation Facility

#### **Country Elegance**

2490 Patterson Rd Grand Junction, CO 81505 Sandi Reynolds - (970) 255-0026 www.countryeleganceflorists.com Florist/Balloon Bouquets

#### **Garage Flooring LLC**

632 W Gunnison Ave Grand Junction, CO 81501 Justin Krauss - (800) 956-4301 www.garageflooringllc.com Carpet/Flooring/Tile Dealers

#### Mel Mulder

Friends of Business

#### **Practical Tackle**

Brayden Kelley www.practicaltackle.net Fishing

#### Rad Dog Design and Marketing

PO Box 23342 Glade Park, CO 81523 Henna Mattila - (970) 640-0523 www.raddogdesign.com Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations/Graphic Art

#### **Western Colorado Business Systems**

206 Holland Thompson Dr Carbondale, CO 81623 James S. Jenkins (970) 963-0555 coloradowestcommunications.com

Telephone: Communication Equipment/Services



## **September 15, 2016** 4pm-6pm

**Grand Junction Chamber Offices** 

**Contact Us Today For More Information!** 970-242-3214 or trisha@gjchamber.org

Members

#### Have you recently joined the Chamber?

ASK us how you can feature your business during this event

**Learn** about the services and products offered

# Over 150 golfers, networking, prizes, and more!





## 7:30am or 1:00pm

**Tee Times Available** 

### **Corporate Team of 4**

(Includes Hole Sponsorship) \$600

## **Individual Player**

\$125

Includes green fees, cart, lunch, dinner, and 2 drink tickets per player

## For More Information

Call: 970-263-2919

Email: candace@gjchamber.org

Sponsorships Available!

Presented By



Hole-In-One Contest Presented By



## **Recent Ribbon Cuttings**



**Applied Industrial Technologies**635 W White, Grand Junction, CO 81501 (970)245-8060 - **New Business** 



Hummel Real Estate 316 Main St, Grand Junction, CO 81501 (970) 314-7490 - New Location



MCC Drug & Alcohol Screening, Inc. 1330 N 12th St, Grand Junction, CO 81501 (970) 256-7772 - New Location/Expansion



MLS Senior Care LLC PO Box 3360, Grand Junction, CO 81502 (970) 314-2993 - New Business



**Stonewood Vintage Rentals & Design** 2496 Commerce Blvd Ste A, Grand Jct, CO 81507 (970) 812-6073 - **New Business** 



Willy's Wild Carvings Edible Fruit Designs 2400 Consistory Ct, Grand Junction, CO 81501 (970) 628-4775 - New Business



## **Business Barometer**

#### May 2016

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

info@gichamber.org

970-242-3214

Sales Tax Revenue Collections						
May 2016 2015 % Change						
City of Grand Junction	\$3,315,367	\$3,245,760	2.1%			
Total YTD	\$17,278,899	\$17,166,309	0.7%			

MESA COUNTY Building Permits Issued					
May	2016	Total Value	2015	Total Value	
New Single Family Residence	53	\$12,023,254	32	\$6,468,468	
New Commercial	1	\$97,350	0	\$0	
Other	337	\$6,451,813	130	\$4,345,693	
Totals	391	\$18,572,417	162	\$10,814,162	
YTD Totals	1101	\$104,119,235	744	\$64,803,309	

MLS Statistics - Quarterly				
1st Quarter	2016	2015		
Total Sold	659	656		
Dollar Volume	\$141,083,499	\$131,926,547		
Total Sold YTD	889	755		
Dollar Volume YTD	\$200,950,620	\$152,630,409		

Source: Grand Junction Area Realtor Association

Hotel/Motel Occupancy				
May 2016 2015				
Occupancy Rate	74.2%	74.1%		
Average Daily Room Rate	\$95.15	\$91.34		

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				
May	2016	2015		
Enplaned Passengers	19,057	19,603		
Deplaned Airfreight	56,204*	542,945		
Enplaned YTD Passengers	85,208	81,715		
Deplaned YTD Airfreight	1,864,222*	2,821,201		

Labor Market Statistics				
May	2016	2015		
Civilian Labor Force	73,237	73,419		
Total Employment	69,079	69,065		
Total Unemployment	4,158	4,354		
Unemployment Rate	5.7%	5.9%		

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

<sup>\*</sup>FedEx numbers not reported for this time period

## 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



Grand Junction CO 81501

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



# 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

