Ballot Issues Update

As this newsletter goes to print, the Colorado Secretary of State continues to review petitions and certify measures for the November ballot. Shown below are business related ballot measures that have already been certified for the ballot that the Chamber has taken positions on:

- **Amendment 71 Increasing Requirements for Constitutional Amendments (Raise the Bar)**
  **Chamber Supports**
  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. The Colorado Constitution is already more than two and a half times as long as the entire U.S. Constitution due to all of the amendments that have been added in recent years.

- **Amendment 69 Single Payer Healthcare System**
  **Chamber Opposes**
  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 the system 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 and attracting new small businesses to the state would be significant and access to care would be compromised and health care professionals move elsewhere to practice medicine.

- **Amendment 70 $12 per hour minimum wage**
  **Chamber Opposes**
  The measure proposes to raise the minimum wage 90 cents on January 1, 2017 and ratchet up to $12 by January 1, 2020. Eric Fruits, the president and chief economist of Economics International Corp. estimates that 90,000 jobs will be lost if the measure passes. Those most affected will be younger workers who already have the highest unemployment rate in the state. He argues that the 44% increase in the compressed time frame of four years will force businesses to cut jobs to compensate for shifting expenditures. Colorado already has a constitutional amendment that mandates a higher rate than the national minimum wage and fluctuates annually based on the rate of inflation.

The fate of the two ballot initiatives related to oil and gas development is still unknown but with only turning in 105,000 signatures with a requirement of 98,492 valid signatures puts both in doubt of meeting the requirements. Other measures that have been certified for the ballot that the Chamber has not taken a position on include: hiking the tobacco tax, bringing back the Presidential Primary, allowing independent voters to participate in primary elections, and medical aid in dying.
Chairman’s Column

Every once in a while, the staff at your Grand Junction Chamber and I have a slight difference of opinion on what topic I should cover in the “Chairman’s Column.” This month was one of those times that we were not 100% in sync. I wanted to start talking about the Banquet (yes, it is coming up again) and the staff felt that it would be far more valuable for me to write about more immediate and timely events. Of course the staff is correct, but I will sneak a little Banquet information in at the end.

This year is a year of a few firsts and that includes our Total Resource Campaign (TRC). Technically a TRC is a type of fundraising campaign that, like any Chamber fundraising campaign, has a goal of increasing revenue through sponsorship and membership, however that is where the similarities start to end. Our TRC will not only make it easier for business to get involved, but plan their sponsorship dollars and have a more direct impact on the focus of the Chamber.

To make our TRC work we have Campaign Co-Chairs (Clay Tufly and Pat Tucker), Vice Chairs (Elizabeth Boyd and Kathy Hall) and 14 teams of two to six volunteers from various local companies that see the value of getting more involved with the Chamber. The volunteers will network with other business owners and professionals (both Chamber members and non-members) to discuss the opportunities to promote their business through more targeted sponsorships of Chamber events and programs.

Unlike in years past when we would approach business for sponsorships as events were coming up, a TRC volunteer will present a business with a list of opportunities for the entire year. This has two major benefits to companies:

1) By seeing a list of all the event sponsorships on an annual basis, a business can better choose what opportunities align with their values, focus and customer base and therefore, be more proactive and selective.

2) Since companies will be presented with a schedule of sponsorship opportunities that occur annually, it becomes much easier to budget for these targeted opportunities.

What is also different with a TRC, is sponsorship opportunities are not just around events. For the first time, sponsorship can be around both programs and key strategic initiatives. This helps make sure that your Chamber is focusing on what is important to you and, once again, helps businesses align sponsorship dollars with initiatives that are important to them. There are three strategic initiatives in this year’s campaign:

1. **Strong Economy & Business Climate**

2. **Workforce Development & Talent Recruitment**

3. **Standing Up for Business**

I am happy to report that although the campaign is just getting underway, it is off to a very strong start.

Now a little teaser about this year’s Banquet. . . We just had our first meeting to talk about the theme. This is no easy task after last years’ Star Wars. There is not a lot I can share on this yet, however, I can mention some ideas that did not make the cut. These are in no particular order. . .

**Deadpool**

**Titanic**

**Anything around this year’s Presidential race**

**Rap music**

**High School (the musical)**

Clearly the team has a lot more work to do on this, so stay tuned!

Matthew Breman, Chairman
Grand Valley Lawsuit Update
The legal challenge to the Grand Valley Drainage District fee by the Chamber and Mesa County continues to wind its way through the court system. A meeting was held with the new judge in the case, Judge Timbreza, late last month and a trial date was set for early June, 2017. It is the hope of both sides, however, that a decision will be reached sooner than that based upon the motions filed by the parties.

With some area businesses being hit with annual bills of $5,000 to $8,000 or more, this is a critical business issue that the Chamber will continue to pursue in an effort to help create a favorable business climate in which to help grow the economy and jobs.

Letter To The Editor - GVDD
Dear Editor:

The Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce respectfully disagrees with the Sentinel’s assertion that “chances are slim” the Chamber and Mesa County will succeed in challenging the Grand Valley Drainage District’s storm water fee as an impermissible tax (“Pay the drainage bill,” 8/26/2016). The case’s only ruling thus far has been to deny a preliminary injunction. Declaring “chances are slim” now is akin to declaring a baseball game over after the first inning. Here’s why the Chamber will press on: News reports frequently mention the $36 annual assessment on homes, but rarely mention the $300, $1,500, and $6,000 assessments the Drainage District will impose on individual businesses and non-profits every year. The court’s initial ruling said that as long as the Drainage District invoked the right words when adopting this “fee,” then it’s not a tax. The result is a “fee” exception that swallowing the TABOR rule: What prevents another entity from imposing a new “technology fee” or “equipment fee” on businesses? What prevents the Drainage District from upping next year’s residential fee to $360, or pegging the fee for a business at $10,000?

The Chamber agrees the Grand Valley needs expanded capacity for drainage. But doing it this way sets a dangerous precedent that undermines Colorado’s constitution and threatens the ability of businesses to manage overhead costs. This harms business owners, their employees, and the customers they serve.

The Drainage District may prevail in this lawsuit if the courts eventually say it has the power to collect its “fee.” At the end of the day, though, power has the second to last word. Ideas have the last word. And the idea that citizens and businesses should not be taxed outside of the law is an idea the Chamber is proud to champion.

DIANE SCHWENKE, CEO
Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce

Energy Briefing with Xcel
September 14th
Mark your calendars for the September 14th Energy Briefing, 12:00 PM at the Workforce Center featuring Kelly Flennekin, Xcel Energy. Kelly, the Area Manager, Community & Local Government Affairs at Xcel Energy, will speak about the plans at Xcel to assure our future energy needs are met in the region. She previously served as the CEO of GJEP.

Visit www.gjchamber.org to register or call 970-242-3214. Cost is $15 for GJACC Members in advance, $20 for Non-Members/ At the Door. Registration does include lunch.

Business Connections Abound at Showcase
As countless membership surveys have found, the Business Showcase is one of the most beneficial business events that the Chamber offers. And this annual event happens on October 25th, 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM at Two Rivers Convention Center. Here are the top reasons you should exhibit:

• This event is not only open to Chamber members, but also the general public and we normally have over 1,000 people attend
• You only have to be there for three and a half hours so this is not a staff intensive event, but it does attract a substantial number of key decision makers
• The cost to exhibit is less than $50 per hour, much less than most trade shows
• Many buying decisions by households and businesses are made in the fall, the same time as this show

Because this is also Business After Hours you are assured that there will be good attendance and that people will “stick around.”
Meeting Our Future Energy Needs

Xcel Energy's Plans

Join us as Kelly Flenniken, Xcel Energy Area Manager of Community & Local Government Affairs, speaks about the plans at Xcel Energy to assure our future energy needs are met in the region.

Date:       Wednesday, September 14, 2016
Time:       Noon
Location:   Mesa County Workforce Center
            512 29 1/2 Rd
Cost:       $15/person GJACC Members
            $20/person General Admission

Four convenient ways to register: (Space is limited so register early)
Mail:       GJ Area Chamber, 360 Grand Ave., GJ, CO 81501
Phone:      (970) 242-3214
Fax:         (970) 242-3694
On-line:    www.gjchamber.org

*All events require pre-registration and pre-payment. Registration fees are non-refundable four business days prior to event. Substitutions may be made at any time. If special assistance is needed, you must notify the Chamber four days prior to the event.*
Don't Miss New Member Showcase in September!

The Chamber shines the spotlight on new members twice a year during a networking event called the New Member Showcase. Our next event will be held on **Thursday, September 15th under the “big top” in the Chamber parking lot from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM** and will feature businesses that have joined the Chamber since April.

New members will have an opportunity to display their products and services and current members can get to know these recent additions to our membership rolls and make connections. The setting is informal and free to all Chamber members. Coincidentally, this is the last Farmer’s Market for the season in downtown Grand Junction and members can make an evening of it by starting at the Chamber and then heading down the street to that event. Make plans now to attend and if you have someone who has been thinking about joining, encourage them to sign up now! Companies that join prior to September 15th will have the opportunity to be part of this showcase and networking event.

**May the Force Be with You on the Course!**

September has arrived and with it comes the Chamber’s Annual Golf Tournament, an interstellar event, on September 30th sponsored this year by Shaw Construction and Caliber Home Loans.

Are you golfing with the “rise and shine” bunch or the “out to lunch and not coming back” group? We still have limited space available in both flights for this gorgeous day of networking at the Golf Club on Redlands Mesa. There will be friendly rivalries, goody bags, and eighteen holes of golf along with food, beverages and the chance to leave with some great prize items. All proceeds will benefit the Chamber’s small business resource programming which includes: Tools for Business Success, Business Connect and SizeUP.

To sign up as an individual or as a team, visit [www.gjchamber.org](http://www.gjchamber.org) or call 970-242-3214.

**New Directors Proposed**

The Chamber’s Board Nominating Committee met and is presenting a slate of directors who will be appointed to serve a four-year term on the Board with approval from the members. They are shown below:

- **Ryan Ellington**  
  Edward Jones Investments

- **Chris Higgins**  
  StarTek USA, Inc.

- **Matt Rosenberg**  
  RoseCap Investment Advisors

- **Stacey Stewart**  
  KKCO - NBC TV

According to the Chamber by-laws, "Any member in good standing may nominate additional candidates for Directors by petition as follows: The petition form shall state the name of the individual who is being nominated. The candidate must be a person who is 18 years of age or older and who is a member in good standing or associated with a member in good standing. The petition shall identify the name of the member with whom the candidate is associated and shall affirm that the candidate is willing and able to serve a full term as director, if elected. The petition must be signed by at least five percent (5%) of the current members in good standing indicating their desire that the named individual be included in the slate of candidates for Director. Each individual signing the petition must be a member in good standing or associated with a member in good standing. Multiple signatures of individuals representing the same member shall be counted as one nomination. The petition must be on a form provided by the Chamber and available to members at the Chamber office. The petition must be received at the Chamber office by no later than three business days before the Board meeting at which the Board is scheduled to certify the nominating committee’s candidates (in 2016 that is September 20th)."

If petitions are filed, an election will occur.
Candidate Forum 2016

The Chamber’s Quarterly Luncheon, sponsored by ANB Bank, on September 19th, 12:00 PM at Grand Vista Hotel will focus on the upcoming election and feature local candidates running for office.

Two of the three seats on the Mesa County Board of Commissioners are up for grabs along with several other key positions. The Chamber will limit the forum to those candidates that have opponents. Additionally, a brief overview of the ballot issues will be presented as time allows.

Date: September 19, 2016
Time: 12:00 Noon
Location: The Grand Vista Hotel
2790 Crossroads Blvd,
Grand Junction, CO 81506
Cost: $18/ GJACC Member in Advance
$23/ At the Door | Non-Members

Four convenient ways to register: (Space is limited so register early)
Mail: GJ Area Chamber, 360 Grand Ave., GJ, CO 81501
Phone: (970) 242-3214
Fax: (970) 242-3694
On-line: www.gjchamber.org

*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 four days prior to the event.* Photographs will be taken at all Chamber events.
Quarterly Luncheon Features Commissioner Candidates

The Chamber’s next Quarterly Membership Luncheon, sponsored by ANB Bank is **Monday, September 19th at the Grand Vista Hotel.** Candidates for the two Mesa County Commissioner seats will be on hand to share their perspectives on business issues in the community. Confirmed to attend are:

**District 1 Candidates**
- John Justman (incumbent) *R*
- Mel Mulder *D*
- Jim Doody *Independent*

**District 3 Candidates**
- Rose Pugliese (incumbent) *R*
- Dave Edwards *D*

Growing businesses will also be recognized and networking with fellow Chamber members will be featured. Registration is available online at [www.gjchamber.org](http://www.gjchamber.org).

Is Your Business Growing?

Did you build a new building, open a second location or add employees in the past year? The Chamber wants to know! If your business is growing and adding employees, we want to congratulate your company on that singular achievement and buy you lunch! Every three months during our Quarterly Membership Meeting we take time to share the good business news and present a small award to company representatives that tell us they have grown. It is good publicity for the businesses being recognized and good news for the rest of us as we look for signs of a strengthening economy. Please take time to submit the expansion form you can find at online at [www.gjchamber.org](http://www.gjchamber.org) or by calling 970-242-3214 and letting us know how your business has expanded and who from your company will be joining us for lunch on **Monday, September 19th at the Grand Vista Hotel.**
**Mark Your Calendar ~ Details & Registration online at gjchamber.org**

- 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
  Quarterly Membership Lunch/Candidate Forum
  Grand Vista Hotel
  Advance Registration Required: $18 for GJACC members.

- SEP 21 | 12:00 Noon
  Networking@Noon
  *Career Center Coyote Cafe (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 28 | 7:30 AM
  Work Ready Communities
  Mesa County Workforce Business Center
  RSVP to: jobservice@mesacounty.us

- SEP 28 | 6:30 PM
  Young Professional Network - General Election Candidate Forum
  CMU Meyer Ballroom
  Admissions is free. Register online at www.ypnmc.org

- SEP 30 | 7:30 AM
  Golf Tournament 2016
  Golf at Redlands Mesa
  Limited Number of Teams Still Available
  Sponsored by: Shaw Construction & Caliber
  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
  Advance Registration Required: $18 for GJACC members.

- OCT 25 | 4 - 7:30 PM
  Business Showcase
  Two Rivers Convention Center
  Sponsored by: Alpine Bank
  Booth spaces starting at $385 for GJACC members.

- NOV 9 | 12:00 Noon
  Energy Briefing
  TBD
  Advance Registration: $15 for GJACC members.

- NOV 16 | 12:00 Noon
  Networking@Noon
  Rib City Grill
  Advance Registration Required: $18 for GJACC members.

- NOV 16 | 2 - 4 PM
  Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
  GJACC Conference Room
  Advance Registration Requested. No cost for GJACC members.

- NOV 29 | 5:30 PM
  Business After Hours
  Courtyard by Marriott
  Advance Registration: $10 for GJACC members.

**SAVE THE DATE**
JAN 27, 2017
Chamber Annual Banquet
Two Rivers Convention Center

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**GJACC Events Registration Form: September, October & November 2016**

- Energy Briefing - 09/14/16
- New Member Showcase - 09/15/16
- Quarterly Luncheon - 09/19/16
- Networking@Noon - 09/21/16
- Business Connect - 09/21/16
- Business After Hours - 09/27/16
- Golf Tournament - 09/30/16
- Energy Briefing - 10/12/16
- Networking@Noon - 10/19/16
- Business Connect - 10/19/16
- Business After Hours - 10/27/16
- Golf Tournament - 10/30/16
- Energy Briefing - 11/9/16
- Networking@Noon - 11/16/16
- Business Connect - 11/16/16
- Business After Hours - 11/29/16

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: ________________________________

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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.*
You are invited to attend our Business Breakfast on Work Ready Communities!

When: Sept. 28, 2016 from 7:30 am to 9:00 am

Where: Mesa County Workforce Center - Business Center

- Learn how your business can hire smarter and reduce turnover while using ACT Assessments to help create a Work Ready Community!
- Enjoy a complimentary breakfast while networking
- Space is limited, RSVP by Sept. 21!
- As always, there will be no fee!!

To register, please complete the box below and fax or email back to Employment Services

Business Name: ________________________________
Address: __________________________________
Contact Name: ______________________________
Phone Number: ______________________________
Email: _____________________________________
Number of Attendees: ________________________
Special Dietary Needs: ________________________

Email: jobservice@mesacounty.us
Fax: 970.255.3643

Mesa County Workforce Center
512 29 1/2 Road, Grand Junction
970.248.7560
www.mcwfc.us
Upcoming YPN Events

YPN Before Hours
September 7th, 7:00 - 8:30 AM
Location: Daylight Donuts
A relaxed networking opportunity to get to know and network with other Young Professionals in Mesa County.

Conversation with District Attorney, Dan Rubinstein
September 22nd, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
YPN members and guests 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.

General Election Candidate Forum
September 28th, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Location: Meyer Ballroom at Colorado Mesa University
The Young Professionals Network of Mesa County is hosting a nonpartisan General Election Candidate Forum. Admission is free. YPN membership is not required.

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

Student Entrepreneurial Academy Starts October 11th

Imagine if you could have taken a class and started your first business at the age of 13 or 17 rather than 25 or 35 or even 65! Where would that knowledge have taken you? That is what the Young Entrepreneurs Academy does for up to 24 lucky middle and high school students each year.

Applications were pouring in as of press time from eager young students (deadline for applications is September 15th) and the first class is slated to begin on Tuesday, October 11th at Western Colorado Community College. The Chamber is grateful to the many workforce partners, financial sponsors and business volunteers that make this dynamic and powerful opportunity available to youth in our community. In particular this month we want to thank our three business instructors who have committed to ten weeks of instruction each: Christian Herrera, X106.9 KMZK, Heather Lambeth, New Image Realty, and Steve Hudson, OfficeMax. We still have multiple volunteer opportunities available including mentors, guest speakers, field trip hosts and much more. For information, contact Terri Smatla (terri@gjchamber.org).

We wish to thank our program partners: Western Colorado Community College, Mesa County Valley School District 51, Mesa County Workforce Center and Business Incubator Center.

We could not do this without our program sponsors. They include:

Presenting Sponsor:
City of Grand Junction

Premier Sponsors:
CAPCO, Home Loan, Mesa County Workforce Center

Scholarship Sponsor:
Mesa County Business Education Foundation

Investor Panel Sponsors:
Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce
23rd Annual Golf Tournament
Friday, September 30, 2016
The Golf Club at Redlands Mesa

Corporate Team Toussome                            $600
Includes 1 Hole Sponsorship. Double shotgun format: 7:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. (Preferred time is on first come basis) Includes cart, green fees, lunch, two drinks during the course of play and award dinner. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Individual Player                          $125

Beverage Cart Sponsorship (2 available)                         $550
One individual player. Your company name and logo prominently displayed on beverage carts. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Golf Cart Sponsorship (2 available)                                                          $1,250
Two individual players. Your company name prominently displayed on a sign placed on each golf cart. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Standard Hole Sponsorship                        $200
Your company name prominently displayed on a sign placed at either a tee box or green for the duration of the tournament. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Swag Bag Sponsorship
Sponsor to provide 200 items to be placed in goody bags for golfers. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Range Ball Sponsorship                        $400
One individual player. Inclusion in all event marketing. Your company name and logo prominently displayed near range ball machine and on driving range. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Keg Hole Sponsorship (2 available)                                             $500
One individual player. Your company name prominently displayed on a sign placed at either a tee box or green for the duration of the tournament. **This sponsorship requires you to provide a keg to be served by staff and interact with golfers during the duration of the tournament. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Meal Sponsorship                                          $1,100
Two individual players. Your company name prominently displayed on a sign placed in the clubhouse during duration of breakfast, lunch, & dinner. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Dice Game Hole Sponsorship                                    $500
One individual player. Your company name prominently displayed on a sign placed in clubhouse during duration of lunch. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

Prize Donation (Items Valued at $45 or more)
Prizes to be given for Longest Drive, Longest Putt, and Closest to the Pin. Your company will be recognized in the Tournament Program, Chamber Newsletter, and the Daily Sentinel as a Sponsor.

**Golf Tournament Sponsorships are offered on a first-paid, first-served basis**

Select from the following participation/ sponsorship choices:

- Corporate Team - $600
- Individual Player - $125
- Beverage Cart - $550
- Golf Cart - $1,250
- Standard Hole - $200
- Range Ball - $400
- Keg - $500
- Meals - $1,100
- Dice Game Hole - $500
- Prize Donation ($45+ value)
- Swag Bag (200 items required)

Business Name:__________________________________________________________

Contact Person (Team Player 1):______________________________________ Phone:______________________

Player 2:____________________ Player 3:______________________ Player 4:___________________________

- Early Bird Shotgun at 7:30 a.m. (sign-in 6:30-7:30 a.m. with continental breakfast)
- Afternoon Shotgun at 1 p.m. (sign-in 12:00-1:00 p.m. with hot dogs & drinks)

**Cart, green fees and two beverages included for all golfers**

- Number of Additional Dinner Guests Attending ($15/person)_______________

- Enclosed Check $____________________
- VISA/MC/DISCOVER/AMEX #:________________________________________EXP.___________

Authorized Signature____________________________________ Email:_________________________________

RETURN TO: THE GRAND JUNCTION AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | 360 GRAND AVE. | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501
FAX: 970-242-3694 | TEL: 970-263-2919 | EMAIL:candace@gjchamber.org

All events require preregistration and prepayment. Registration fees are nonrefundable four business days prior to the event. Substitutions may be made at any time.
**Employer Business Breakfast Planned**

Are you having difficulty getting the right employees with the right skill sets to move your company forward? Who doesn’t? If so, it is worth your time to join fellow employers and representatives of the Mesa County Workforce Center for breakfast on **Wednesday, September 28th, 7:30 AM at the Workforce Center, 512 29 ½ Road.** Representatives will present information on the ACT Workforce Ready Initiative and the WorkKeys program that can help you screen prospective employees and create a profile of exactly what is needed to perform the jobs in your company. Armed with that knowledge you can hire smarter and better.

And the best part? **Both the program and the breakfast are free!** Give us 60 minutes of your time and register to attend now at jobservice@mesacounty.us.

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**Xcel Plans Service Day**

For the last six years, Xcel Energy has held an annual Day of Service to honor the anniversary of 9/11 by donating our time to our communities. We invite you to join Xcel employees and other community volunteers for this fun and meaningful day. **Work is scheduled for Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 8am-11am.**

This year there are three (3) projects to choose from in Grand Junction:

- **Riverside Educational Center:** this group will work with representatives of the center to spruce up the neighborhood by removing graffiti
- **Strive:** this group will be planning and providing maintenance of the Botanical Gardens
- **Tamarisk Coalition:** this group will help remove weed barrier from cottonwood trees

In order to sign up for any of the above, please visit http://xcelenergydos.ivolunteer.com.

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**What Colorado Loses if Energy Development on Public Lands Banned**

The first report in the Energy Institute’s *Energy Accountability Series* finds that proposals from Hillary Clinton and other politicians to ban oil, gas, and coal production on federal lands and waters would cost Colorado thousands of jobs and millions in revenue.

The *Energy Accountability Series* takes a substantive look at what would happen if energy proposals from candidates and interest groups were actually adopted. Over the past year, a growing number of politicians and interest groups—and the Democratic Party itself—have called for an end to oil, natural gas and coal extraction from federal lands and offshore waters. That concept is the basis of the “Keep it in the Ground Act,” a House bill with over 20 co-sponsors.

If these policies were to be enacted, the Energy Institute’s new report found that it will cost Colorado 50,000 jobs, $124 million in annual royalties, and $8.3 billion in GDP.

“Colorado voters deserve to understand the real-world impacts of the proposals that candidates and their allies make,” said Karen Harbert, president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber’s Institute for 21st Century Energy. “In an effort to appeal to the keep it in the ground movement, a number of prominent politicians have proposed ending energy production on federal lands. Their proposals will have a direct, harmful effect on Colorado’s economy and quality of life. For instance, $62 million in oil and natural gas royalties from federal lands were earmarked for education, while another $50 million was distributed to local governments to provide essential services.”

Harbert’s concerns were echoed by the leader of the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry.

“The U.S. Chamber’s new report demonstrates how vital energy production on federal lands is to Colorado’s economy,” said Chuck Berry, president of the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry. “It is critically important that those who seek to be our leaders understand the impact of their proposals and allow our state to maintain its position on leadership when it comes to energy production.”

The Energy Institute’s report provides two scenarios. The first examines the economic output that would be lost or placed at risk if energy development was immediately stopped on all federal acreage. The second scenario analyzes the cumulative impacts of immediately ceasing new leasing while leaving existing leases in place. While the above-mentioned figures apply to scenario 1, scenario 2 also has major impacts, with $6 billion in lost revenues over the next 15 years, and nearly 270,000 impacted jobs nationally.
Over 90 vendor booths, food, beverage, prizes, and more!

OCTOBER 25, 2016 4:00PM - 7:30PM
TWO RIVERS CONVENTION CENTER

** BOOTH SPACE NOW AVAILABLE **

Booth - $385/Mbr  $685/Non-Mbr  
Endcap - $485/Mbr  $755/Non-Mbr

(Non-Member pricing includes your 1st year membership in the GJACC at the Business Level)

SPACE IS LIMITED, CALL TODAY!

Contact Candace at candace@gjchamber.org or 970-263-2919
CMU’s Admissions Office Presents . . . Power in Pursuing

CMU desires to help members of our community realize their dream of achieving a college education, whether for career advancement or personal satisfaction. The opportunity exists and it’s more accessible than ever before. Currently, CMU offers 74 majors at the certificate, associate, baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral level with 50 areas of concentration and 46 minors. Several of our degree programs are completely available in an online learning format, including:

- Professional Certificate: Health Information Technology Systems
- Technical Certificate: Supervision
- Associate of Art, Liberal Arts: Social Science Emphasis
- Associate of Art, Liberal Arts: Humanities Emphasis
- Associate of Art, Liberal Arts: Sport Management
- Associate of Art, Liberal Arts: Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science: Nursing degree completion (RN to BSN)
- Bachelor of Science: Sport Management
- Bachelor of Applied Science: Radiologic Technology – degree completion
- Bachelor of Art, Liberal Arts: Elementary Education licensure

The University will be offering several “Power in Pursuing” Information Sessions over the next several months with the first one scheduled for September 6th, 5:30 PM at the Admissions Center on campus. During the sessions, general information about CMU will be presented, as well as, current scholarship opportunities, academic programs and the formats in which the programs are available. Most importantly, Admissions Counselors will be available to provide personalized advising sessions for individuals who are ready to commit to achieving their goal of completing their college education at CMU.

Grant Workshop Offered

The Business Incubator Center and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants workshop in Grand Junction, October 6-7, 2016. This training is applicable to grant seekers across all disciplines and Grand Junction Chamber members will receive a special discount tuition of $425 which includes instruction, workbook, access to the Alumni Forum and more than 200 sample grant proposals. Use the discount code “Chamber” to receive the discount when registering. Click here for full details, http://grantwritingusa.com/grants-training/grant-writing-workshops/grand-junction-colorado-october-2016.html

Let’s All Go to the Lobby!

That is where you will find brochures from our many members because membership has its privileges! Yes, we all spend a lot of time on our smart phones and our portable devices, but you would be surprised how often people enter the Chamber lobby and head over to our brochure racks. These are a combination of visitors, new and current residents along with businesses that may be contemplating moving to the area.

Only Chamber members are allowed to display in our lobby so if you are not taking advantage of this member benefit consider bringing us some information about your business. Space is allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

New Members!

Apple Business Works
700 Belford Ave, Ste 100
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Michael Miller
(970) 985-5582
applebusinessworks.com

Computer: Products & Service

Ardent Leadership and Technology Solutions
PO Box 763
Craig, CO 81626
Terry Barber
(970) 329-1731
www.ardentllts.com

Business Coaching

Ready Solutions
Bob Confoy
www.theflagshipper.com

Consultants: Business/Management/Development

Warehouse 25 Sixty-Five, Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Noel C. Hayward
(970) 628-4321
www.warehouse2565.com

Restaurants

John Crouch
Friends of Business
Recent Ribbon Cuttings

The Law Office of Ashley N. Whitham, LLC
150 W Main St Ste B, Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 712-1152 - New Business
Attorneys

Colorado Wash Services, LLC
PO Box 2631, Grand Junction, CO 81502
(970) 712-7937 - New Business
Pressure Washing

Elegant Balloon Creations
(970) 261-2338 - New Business
Party Supplies/Party Planning Service

Pathways Village Apartments
564 29 Rd, Grand Junction, CO 81504
Low Income Housing

R-5 High School
455 N 22nd St, Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 254-6880 - New Location/Expansion
Education

VR Business Brokers
400 W Main St Ste 110, Aspen, CO 81611
(970) 429-8220 - New Business
Business Brokers
Business Barometer

July 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 2016</th>
<th>July 2015</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Grand Junction</td>
<td>$3,877,456</td>
<td>$3,811,153</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total YTD</td>
<td>$28,924,819</td>
<td>$24,457,765</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MESA COUNTY Building Permits Issued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 2016</th>
<th>Total Value 2015</th>
<th>Total Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Single Family Residence</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>$10,501,913</td>
<td>$9,207,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Commercial</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,027,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>$18,428,642</td>
<td>$23,457,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>$28,930,555</td>
<td>$34,639,316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Totals</td>
<td>1749</td>
<td>$147,739,251</td>
<td>$136,836,762</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>2013</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Mesa County Public Trustee

### Sales Tax Revenue Collections

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</tbody>
</table>

### Hotel/Motel Occupancy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 2016</th>
<th>July 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Occupancy Rate</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
<td>73.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Daily Room Rate</td>
<td>$88.41</td>
<td>$85.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### G J Regional Airport

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 2016</th>
<th>July 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enplaned Passengers</td>
<td>20,774</td>
<td>21,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deplaned Airfreight</td>
<td>596,973</td>
<td>640,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enplaned YTD Passengers</td>
<td>126,576</td>
<td>123,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deplaned YTD Airfreight</td>
<td>3,942,000</td>
<td>4,010,557</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Labor Market Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 2016</th>
<th>July 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civilian Labor Force</td>
<td>73,233</td>
<td>73,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Employment</td>
<td>68,452</td>
<td>68,332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Unemployment</td>
<td>4,808</td>
<td>4,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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
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

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

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