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Two awarded Genie Award at annual meeting

More than 220 people attended the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Annual meeting. Held Oct. 12, the event featured Jerry Howard, CEO of the National Association of Home Builders. Outgoing Chair Brekka Kramer (Odney) handed over the reins to current Chair Bruce Walker, wishing him a better year, referring to the flood of 2011. The meeting also highlighted two people instrumental in helping the city through that tragic event. Chamber President John MacMartin presented two Genie Awards, the highest award given by the Chamber for community service. The recipients were Mayor Curt Zimbleman and Public Works Director Alan Walter for their commitment to the community during the flood and working to keep everyone safe.

The featured speaker, Howard, talked about the American dream of buying a home and how difficult it is in today's recession. Minot is facing a housing shortage, and Howard said, "I can tell you that there are builders probably in 46 states that would love to hear of having a labor shortage right now."

Carnival of Fun Showcase set for Nov. 17

Every year, nearly 1,000 participants at the Showcase of Business enjoy a unique opportunity to network with colleagues and shop products and services at the same time. In its 21st year, the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Showcase of Business offers all this set to a carnival theme, sure to put a smile on the face of an area undergoing transformation as the part of the recovery of summer flooding.

Area businesses have the chance to display their services and products, and the event encourages booth sponsors to decorate and participate with the



Chamber chair Bruce Walker (left) and outgoing chair Brekka Kramer (center) present Genie Awards to Minot Mayor Curt Zimbleman (top) and Public Works Director Alan Walter (left) for their work during the 2011 flood.



"Carnival of Fun" theme.

The event, sponsored by KXMC CBS13, is set for Thursday, Nov. 17 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the ND State Fair Center Magic Place. The grand prize from KX is a complete High Definition 60" LED television with a sound system and a Blue Ray disc player. A second prize is a trip for two from MLT Vacations. The trip includes two round-trip airfare tickets for a value up to \$800 from any city in the 48 continental United States serviced by Delta Airlines to any Delta Vacations destination in the United States, Mexico, or the Caribbean, \$800 to spend on hotel accommodations at the hotel of your choice for a minimum of two nights, for a value of up to \$1,600. Most booths will have prizes as well.

Booth spaces are quickly filling up, but are still available. A 10 x 10 square foot booth is \$150, and a 15 x 15 is \$250 for Chamber members. The cost to attend is just \$10. In addition to great prizes, expect to enjoy great food and entertainment. To register, visit www.minotchamber.org and sign up under the online calendar using your representative log-in.



MINOT AREA CHAMBER of COMMERCE COMMUNICATOR

P.O. Box 940 • Minot, ND 58702 • 852-6000

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minotchamber.org

Material published in the *Chamber Communicator* expresses the viewpoints or policies of the *Communicator*, the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and its Board of Directors. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate with the membership of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce.

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Business community should support factual information

by L. John MacMartin, Minot Area Chamber of Commerce President

At the Chamber Annual Meeting I spoke of how the flood of 2011 affected everyone, whether you lost your home, had partial damage, housed people, their pets, their things, or you were just there to listen to those in need — a sounding board for the frustration that followed — we all had roles to play. We still have roles to play and that has become even more evident to me as I deal with rumors here in Minot and as I helped the CVB at a Home Show in Regina last weekend. I will detail some of my thoughts and observations and suggest that we all have a responsibility to communicate with those we work with as well as those we come in contact with on a daily basis.

Here in Minot, we have to remember the fact that the entire basin flooded. Also, that the dams were never meant to be dry dams. The dams in Canada were in the process of being designed to retain water for industrial and municipal uses, before the purpose of flood control was added in the late 1980s. Minot, the state and the Corps were working on the flood control plan for our community and the state interceded with Canada to add in flood control to the design of its dams. Through the infusion of cash from Minot and the state and federal governments, we purchased 14 feet of free-board in those dams, and the 14 feet was available up until the last rain event in 2011.

At the Home Show in Regina we found out just how sensitive our neighbors to the north have gotten about all of the publicity and rumors surrounding Canadians in Minot. A very small minority indicated that they understood the rumors were just that — rumors and have continued to come to Minot. Another small group of

folks indicated that they have simply bypassed Minot for other locations. The vast majority were seeking information about Minot, how the recovery was going, and whether or not it was safe for them to come to our city. We assured everyone that there were no records on the police or sheriff's blotters that substantiated any of the rumors.

So what can the business community do about the rumors and concerns? I would offer that the business owner must become educated about the facts surrounding the flood event of 2011. Fact: the dams were never intended to be dry dams; fact: Canada didn't create the water, Mother Nature did and it simply flowed down the river channel; fact: it wasn't just Minot that flooded but rather places along the entire Souris River in Saskatchewan, North Dakota and Manitoba; fact: more water passed through the gauging station at Sherwood in a **single day** on June 24, 2011, than had passed through that station for an **entire year** for 45 out of the 83 years that records have been collected.

These and other facts are important because when you hear friends, fellow workers or employees spouting untrue facts, we need to correct them, especially if it is occurring in a service industry. Someone repeating rumors that are not factual may have their comments overheard by a Canadian guest, and then the rumors of Canadians not being welcome here in Minot are perpetuated. And why is it important to correct that rumor? Because those Canadian guests buy goods and services, and the proceeds from those purchases support your business and help pay salaries. By not educating yourself or allowing others to repeat rumors not based in fact, you may in fact cause your job and the jobs of your employees to disappear.

RENEWALS.....

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership through Oct. 29, 2011. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

Ackerman-Estvold Engineering & Mgt Consulting
American Bank Center
American Family Agency
Anytime Fitness
Best Buy
Bray's Saddlery
Capital Financial Holdings, Inc.
Checkers, Inc.
Clean Harbors Environmental Services
CompuTech, Inc.
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Dufner Construction, Inc.
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Mr. Larry Lane
Larson Law Firm, P.C.
Maintenance Plus Inc.
Margie's Art Glass Studio
McDonald's Restaurants of Minot
McGee, Hankla, Backes & Dobrovolsky, P.C.
Minot Area Human Resource Association

Minot Commission on Aging, Inc.
Morgan Printing
Nash Finch Co.
Our Redeemer's Christian School
Preferred Travel Inc.
Pro Tank Products, Inc.
PROCollect
Refrigeration Equipment, Inc.
Ryan Honda of Minot
SCORE Chapter of Minot
Jeff Stremick - Signal Realtors
Sleep Inn & Suites
Super 8 Motel
Swenson RV & Equipment
United Blood Services
United Community Bank of ND
WGoya International, Inc.
Wholesale Supply

Minot Young Professionals name leadership team

The Minot Young Professionals organization has announced the 2011-2012 Leadership Team.

"The next generation of leaders within the Minot Young Professionals is a group to keep your eye on," commented Shannon Pearson (North Dakota State Fair), outgoing president. "They are hard working, dedicated and full of great ideas that will ultimately enhance our community."

President: Kausha Bakk, Prudential Minot Real Estate; Vice President: Jessica Mickelson, MedCenter One; Treasurer: Nick Metzgian, Bremer Bank; Secretary: Veronica Meyer, Interstate Engineering; Website: Rhonda Jensen, Odney Advertising; Community Links Team: Tawnya Bernsdorf, Minot Area Community Foundation and Emily Huettl, Ackerman-Estfold Engineering; Outreach Team: Jessica Henderson, First Western Bank & Trust and Leah Bjerkie, FMI; Professional

NEW MEMBER.....

The Minot Chamber welcomes new members. Join us in thanking **Boston's Plumbing & Heating** and **Bakken Staffing**. Please let them know how much of a value they are to our community.

BOSTON'S PLUMBING & HEATING: 2009 Westfield Ave. • PO Box 576 • Minot, ND 58702
838-1412 • Mark & Sheila Mathieson, Owners • Email: bostonsplumbing@srt.com

Boston's Plumbing opened this summer and is owned and operated by Mark Mathieson. Boston's Plumbing & Heating is here to serve all your plumbing and heating needs.

BAKKEN STAFFING: 1309 N. Broadway • Minot, ND • 837-0904

Mandi Mayer, Assistant Director of National Accounts
Email: mandi.mayer@bakkenstaffing.com • www.bakkenstaffing.com

Bakken Staffing was created to address the unique workforce and staffing challenges in the Bakken Shale Play.

Development Team: Chelsea Kirkhammer, United Community Bank and Beth Odahlen, Minot State University; Social Team: Diane Herrmann, ND Public Courts; Members at Large: Brandyn Hendrickson, Northwestern Mutual Insurance; Sara Filipek, First International Bank & Trust and Cameon Eisenzimmer, Minot AFB; Past President: Shannon Pearson, ND State Fair

The Minot Young Professionals was organized in 2007 and has since grown to a membership of nearly 200 young professionals who live and work in Minot and the surrounding areas. Minot YP look to create social and business networking opportunities and community projects for their members. Membership is \$25 per year and is open to anyone ages 21 – 39. More information can be found at www.ypminot.com.

EAGLE AWARDS.....

The Eagle Award winners were recognized in October and thanked for superior customer service skills. If you would like to nominate someone for outstanding customer service, please call the Chamber at 852-6000 for a nomination form, or visit the website at minotchamber.org.

A special thank you goes out to Homesteaders Restaurant for the gift certificate provided for Eagle Award recipients.



BOBBI FONDER
Lowe's Printing



SGT. BRANDON ENANDER
HHC 164th Eng. Battalion



PETE LADENDORF
Minot Daily News



TROY BRATTELID
SRT Communications



CHRIS TOFTELAND
SRT Communications



KEITH KIDNEY
SRT Communications



KIM DEL REGO
Big Apple Bagel



JORDAN CLUTTER
Denny's



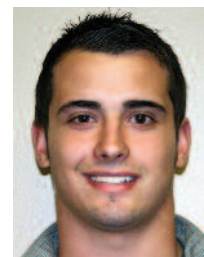
DEBBIE JUNDT
First Western Bank & Trust



ANGIE HANSEN
First Western Bank & Trust



LINNZI ABERLE
Trinity Hospital



VINCE PALLOTTA
Clean Tech



SYLVIA WILLIAMS
Marketplace Foods



KARA MCCABE
Menards



DEE FALKINBURG
City of Minot



CHAD KINZELL
Christianson Heating & Air LLC



DOUG CHRISTIANSON
Christianson Heating & Air LLC



MSU Slaaten Learning Center: Minot State University College of Business • 500 University Ave. W, Old Main, Third Floor • Minot, ND 58707 • 858-3110 • www.minotstateu.edu/business/index.shtml
To meet rapid changes in business professions, Doris Slaaten, professor emeritus, has funded renovations of the MSU College of Business Slaaten Learning Center for the third time. With this latest transformation, the center features formal and informal learning spaces, including a trading lab with a stock ticker board, a board room with complete video conferencing, and more.



MSU Herb Parker Stadium: Minot State University • 500 University Ave. W • Minot, ND • 858-3041
www.msubeavers.com
Minot State University Athletics officially opened the stadium seating section at the Herb Parker Stadium, completing phase two of a three-phase project.



Minotauros Hockey: 2501 Burdick Expressway W. • Minot, ND 58701 • 852-0101
 Ben Johnson, Owner • Website: minotauroshockey.com
The Minotauros are a new NAHL expansion team ready to bring the city of Minot the Junior A hockey entertainment in the league.

More Minot housing on its way

The Minot housing market will ease some in the coming month because of a new housing project west of Minot. About 30 homes that will house up to 175 people will be available as soon as Nov. 10.

All the homes will be built by Nov. 1, said Mike Harrison, owner and manager of the company in charge of the project, Big Dipper Housing, LLC, of North Dakota. The manufactured homes are being built in other areas of the country and shipped in to the Minot area.

The homes are built to stay warm during harsh North Dakota winters, Harrison said.

“The intended residents are construction workers and similar workers who are helping rebuild Minot who can’t find housing or hotel rooms in Minot’s tight housing market,” Harrison said. “There’s nothing in the state quite like this.”

The homes will go onto what was previously Talbott Mobile Home Park west of the Minot Country Club between Minot and Burlington.

The homes feature three, four or five bedrooms and a common living room and kitchen. Most bedrooms have individual vanities, and a safe is available in each room.

Space will be available on a flexible monthly lease. All applicants will go through some form of a background check, Harrison said. Right now, the best way to inquire formally about living there is to call 420-0996.

Harrison has more than 27 years experience in the manufactured homes industry and owns several parks and sales centers in the Midwest.

Alert directed to Chamber members:

A company called Premiere Impressions is selling space in a “city guide,” and to at least one Chamber member, noted that their company had been referred by the Chamber. The member indicated that the caller had a southern accent and pronounced Minot as “Minnow.” Neither the CVB nor the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce has been working with this business, and their guide has not been endorsed by either entity.



Bakken Staffing: 1309 N. Broadway • Minot, ND 58703
837-0904 • Fax: 837-6243

Mandi Mayer, Assistant Director of National Accounts
www.bakkenstaffing.com

Bakken Staffing was created to address the unique workforce and staffing challenges in the Bakken Shale Play.



Artistic Floors & Lights: 1717 South Broadway • Minot, ND • 858-7272
www.floorsandlights.com • Tammy Holen, Owner

Ambassadors were on hand to help celebrate the new location of Artistic Floors and Lights



Vision Source Minot: 1100 North Broadway, Suite 110 • Minot, ND
852-2020 • www.visionsource-drboznyre.com • visionsource@gmail.com
Dr. Bob Nyre & Dr. Carolyn Linster, Optometrists

Ambassadors cut the ribbon at the new location of Vision Source in the Beaver Ridge Plaza.



Trinity Health Advanced Imaging Center:

1015 S. Broadway in Town & Country Center • Minot, ND • 857-3220
www.trinityhealth.org

An open house and ribbon cutting for the Trinity Health Advanced Imaging Center was held Oct. 4 at the Town & Country Center. The center is home to many outpatient imaging services offering even better outpatient services than before.

Social Security, OASDI and SSI rates and limits available online

Using a one page format, this link provides basic SSA/SSI information for 2012. Both html and pdf versions are available. Note that lots of other SSA related statistics and publications are available there also. <http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/quickfacts>

The official Social Security cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) information for 2012 is now available: [COLA](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/quickfacts).

Please note: "Information about Medicare changes for 2012, when announced, will be available at www.Medicare.gov. For some beneficiaries, their Social Security increase may be partially or completely offset by increases in Medicare premiums."

COLA related frequently asked questions are at: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/cola/>.

(released October 2011)

21 graduate from Leadership Institute

The following participants of the 2011 Community Leadership Institute (CLI) graduate Nov. 3 at a luncheon ceremony at the Grand International. Congratulations to all — we look forward to seeing you in action in the community.



ANN BODINE
Investors Real Estate Trust



MELANIE DEBOER-BRUNSDON
Minot State University



JESSICA DONAMARIA
Preferred Travel Inc.



MATT EVERSMANN
ING Minot Service Center



NICHOLE FARR
Trinity Health



JUSTIN FISK
Investors Real Estate Trust



KATIE HAARSAGER
Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC



STUART HAUGEN
ING Minot Service Center



KIM HEIL
First International Bank & Trust



MIKE HEIL
Investors Real Estate Trust



BRANDYN HENDRICKSON
Northwestern Mutual Financial Network



SHERRIE LEIER
Peoples State Bank of Velpa



LAURA LOCK
The Village Family Service Center



ELI MIHALICK
Investors Real Estate Trust



DARLA MILLER
KK Bold



PRESTON PHILLIPS
First International Bank & Trust



RHONDA SCHNEIDER
First International Bank & Trust



PAUL SIEBERT
ING Minot Service Center



GRANT WENTZ
Wells Fargo



PATTI WILSON
Investors Real Estate Trust



AUDRA WYMAN
United Community Bank of ND

CLI class of 2011 raises funds for Salvation Army

During the devastating flood this summer, the Minot Salvation Army was there to help flood victims, evacuees and families get much needed supplies, food and shelter when they needed it most. All of the supplies and food that were given to victims need to be replaced as supplies are very low.

The Chamber's 2011 Community Leadership Institute class was tasked to raise

money for the Salvation Army so this organization can continue the tradition of giving Thanksgiving Day baskets to Minot families in need. There will be many more people in need this year than in previous years in our community.

The CLI class has set a goal of \$15,000. If each Chamber member committed as little as \$20, we would surpass our goal! Group

members have already sponsored four fundraisers in the community and hope to make this year a successful one for the Salvation Army. Presentation of funds to the Salvation Army will take place Nov. 3 during the CLI graduation ceremony. Please send your donations payable to the Salvation Army to Minot Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 940, Minot, ND 58702.

MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

Real Deals on Home Décor relocates

Real Deals on Home Décor has relocated to 1515 24th Ave SE Suite 7. (West of Target in the Blimpie's mall; entrance faces Wells Fargo's ATM). Come in and see the new store and indulge in some retail therapy. Hours are Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Real Deals on Home Décor will also be open Friday, Nov. 4 as part of a three-day open house event. For more information, call 852-0600. Call now to book your group's private night of socializing and shopping.

Ackerman-Estvold and partners present check to area Boy Scouts

Ackerman-Estvold Engineering & Management Consulting, Inc., along with several partners, presented the Big 4 Boy Scout Camp and local Boy Scout chapters \$8,000 to aid in flood recovery efforts. The contribution stems from the Take This Job and Love It campaign conducted in August.

At the onset of the project, Ackerman-Estvold employees each received \$1,000 from the company to contribute to a flood impacted organization, entity or person of their choice. Several of the employees selected the local Big 4 Boy Scout Camp as the recipient of their funds. In addition to the initial company contribution, Steve Eberle of Ackerman-Estvold recruited several other donors to contribute and was able to increase the total monetary contribution to \$8,000, which will be used to repair the camp as it suffered significant damages during the summer flooding.

Also on hand to assist in the check presentation were Boy Scouts of America National Chief Scout Executive, Bob Mazzuca, Mark Holtz, Northern Lights Council CEO and Steve McLister, Council President of the Northern Lights Council. As Chief Scout Executive, Bob Mazzuca directs the administration of the organization, which includes approximately 1,100 National Council employees, 5,800 local council employees, and almost 1.2 million adult volunteers who serve more than 4.5 million youth across the nation. This visit marks his first trip to the state of North Dakota and the Northern Lights Council. Mark Holtz oversees the Northern Lights Council which serves North Dakota, northwestern Minnesota, and parts of South Dakota and Montana, including nearly 15,000 youth and approximately 3,900 adult volunteers. There are approximately 900 Boy Scouts in the Minot and surrounding areas that utilize the camp throughout the year.

Other contributors to the project include Ackerman-Estvold staff members Alan

Estvold, Nathan Chilson and Justin Froseth, Post Construction, Qualex Construction Inc., Ole Olson's Towing, Precision Landscaping, Mattson Construction, Dean Hildenbrand, and Gateway Building Systems.

For more information about Ackerman-Estvold Engineering & Management Consulting, Inc. visit ackerman-estvold.com.

Ackerman-Estvold hires Arens as project engineer

Tim Arens, PE, has joined Ackerman-Estvold Engineering and Management Consulting, Inc. as a project engineer. He has spent the past eight years working for the Missouri Department of Transportation in the areas of traffic and construction engineering. Arens has a degree in Civil Engineering from North Dakota State University and is a North Dakota native.

Ackerman-Estvold Engineering and Management Consulting, Inc. is a professional engineering firm headquartered in Minot. The firm provides planning, design, and construction services for public and private clients throughout North Dakota and the surrounding states.

Anytime Fitness offers special deal for Chamber members

Anytime Fitness is offering a very special benefit to all Minot Area Chamber of Commerce members! Anytime Fitness will provide all Chamber members with a set of free 7-day guest passes. These passes entitle your employees to seven free days of fitness and a great chance to check out what the club has to offer. What's more, this offer extends to entire families. If any employees choose to join Anytime Fitness, they will receive free enrollment and their first month free.

There is no cost to your company. With Anytime Fitness as your partner, you can promote a healthy workplace and not spend a penny! To order your free passes, call at 852-3333. Your company will receive a corporate activation form to identify how many passes your business would like to receive.

Anytime Fitness is the innovator of the 24-hour, key card access fitness club. As the world's fastest growing co-ed fitness franchise, we are conveniently located close to work and home! We are excited to offer cutting-edge cardio & strength-training equipment, free weights, private shower/dressing facilities, tanning suites, personal training, and much more! And now soon with two locations to serve you even better, we are very excited to offer this to your employees.

KK Bold Updates:

Darla Miller returns to KK BOLD

KK BOLD is pleased to announce that Darla Miller has rejoined the agency as business development director.

Miller joined KK BOLD as an account executive in 1999. Earlier this year, she relocated with her family to Minot where she accepted a new position outside the agency. Miller has now returned to head up KK BOLD's new business development division where she will be based out of the Minot office.



Darla Miller

During her 11 years with KK BOLD, Miller established herself as one of the most effective and talented account professionals. In her new role as business development director, Miller will focus on securing new clients, along with developing strategic plans and new business solutions for new and existing clients. Miller is originally from Sawyer, ND, and earned a bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis in public relations from the University of North Dakota.

Website named best in the country

KK BOLD is pleased to announce that the website the agency designed for the North Dakota Education Association (NDEA) has been named "Best Web Site." It is the second year in a row that NDEA has taken home top honors for its website.

The honors were announced at the annual meeting of the National Education Association's (NEA) State Education Editors in Chicago. An independent panel of private-sector professionals with expertise in advertising, communications, web design, social networking, graphic design, photography and writing, judged sites from education associations across the nation.

The NDEA website can be found at www.ndea.org.

MSU receives Otto Bremer grants

Minot State University was recently awarded two grants totaling \$207,450 from the Otto Bremer Foundation. One grant gave MSU's Department of Nursing \$157,450 to support a project to improve the health of residents in rural northwest North Dakota through high-fidelity simulation scenarios. The second grant of \$50,000 funds the Victim Assistance Academy of North Dakota, which provides comprehensive training and quality services to crime victims.

MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

KMSU to donate funds to flood recovery

For the first time ever, all funds raised by the Dec. 6 KMSU live television auction are to be given away. The Mouse River Flood left irrevocable damage to Minot. KMSU Auction organizers, a class of 15 local broadcasting students, knew their show had to change as well. The Minot State University Program of Broadcasting added a "Beavers Rebuild" fundraiser to the auction as a new and inspiring way to help flood victims.

"We are so excited to bring this opportunity to the community. Along with extraordinary generosity of Minot Chrysler Center's \$10,000 matching donation we hope to make a real difference," said Janna McKechnie, KMSU Auction coordinator.

Applicants for the KMSU Beavers Rebuild fundraiser may submit a three-to-five minute YouTube video of their damaged property along with a 1,000-character essay and picture; the opportunity is not limited to personal or business property. The KMSU Auction Committee will view the submissions, and the recipients will be determined based on a needs assessment. The fundraiser will be open from Oct. 21 through Nov. 15. Eligibility rules and applications are at www.minotchrysler.com. Minot Chrysler Center, the proud corporate sponsor of the Beavers Rebuild fundraiser, is matching donations up to \$10,000.

The KMSU Auction, in its 13th year, is broadcast live on channel 19 on Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m. to over 20,000 homes. Traditionally, students gathered donations, auctioned them off with the funds going to the broadcasting program and a local charity.

For questions, contact McKechnie at 720-0089 or jannalynn51@yahoo.com or Audra Myerchin, KMSU Auction advisor, at 858-4238 or audra.myerchin@minotstateu.edu.

Donated items available to flood victims

Flood victims are invited to shop the many "warehoused" items collected by Jamie Schepp in the Bottineau area. Since June 24, she has been collecting, managing, and inventorying donated items from people in Bottineau, Pierce and Rolette counties who want to help flood victims get back on their feet.

Items range from curtains and bedding to microwaves, ranges and furnaces to doors and windows. Most items are used but in good shape, while a few items are brand new. The list grows and changes daily. For more information, contact jschepp@utma.com or call 721-9224.

EAPC recognized as fastest growing firm

EAPC Architects Engineers was ranked 137 on The Zweig Letter Hot Firm 2011 list

of the 200 fastest-growing architecture, engineering and environmental consulting firms in the country. This placement is based on their percentage of revenue growth as well as absolute dollar revenue growth over a three-year period in relation to the hundreds of other participants. EAPC has been selected to the Top 200 list three out of the last four years.

EAPC president and CEO Alan Dostert will accept the award at the Zweig Letter Hot Firm 2011 Conference in Laguna Beach, CA, later this month.

Going on its 12th year, The Zweig Letter Hot Firm Conference has become the premier industry event for progressive thinking A/E/P firm leaders from around the country who are interested in sustainable growth and success for their companies. This annual two-day program features top design and environmental industry executives, entrepreneurs, and authors as well as leaders from the fastest-growing companies in the industry.

American announces employee updates

American Bank Center announces Lori Moya as part-time teller. Moya recently returned to American; she previously was employed with American from May 2009 to August 2010.



Lori Moya

Sedler receives award

Jeff Sedler of Midwest Business Systems recently achieved the prestigious Outward Professional Achievement award from Konica Minolta. This distinction recognizes



Jeff Sedler

Jeff Sedler as a Certified Konica Minolta Professional. The Outward Professional Program is a global system that provides assessment to skill and technical knowledge of Konica Minolta office products, and also qualifies learners according to their technical levels. This worldwide tech program is targeted at technical support staff of authorized service providers involved with technical support of MFP/printer products Konica Minolta manufactures/sells. The Outward Professional Program indicates proficiency in digital printing, color printing, network fundamentals, and document workflow.

Zietlow joins The View

Minot native David Zietlow has joined the management team of The View assisted living facility. In his role as maintenance manager, Zietlow is responsible for the day-to-

day upkeep necessary to maintain The View facility and grounds.

Zietlow has worked in the maintenance arena for over 20 years, most notably at Trinity Nursing Home where he performed various handyman tasks and custodial duties, inside the facility and out.

"David's positive attitude and diverse skills make him a great fit for our team," said Lori Soltis, director.

The View is located at 2905 Elk Drive in Minot. For additional information, call 852-7700 or visit www.LifeAtTheView.com.

North Dakota woman earns national honor

Experience Works, the nation's largest nonprofit training and employment organization for older workers, has honored Rose Greaves of Minot for her outstanding service to local older workers.

Greaves recently received the organization's Changing Lives Award, which recognizes her efforts to help low-income older workers obtain the training they need to find good jobs in their communities.

"We're very proud to recognize Rose's outstanding efforts to assist older individuals," said Billy Wooten, executive director of program operations for Experience Works. "The current economic situation has forced many older people to look for employment, and Rose is dedicated to helping them re-tool and re-enter the workforce."

A nonprofit organization, Experience Works offers community service and employment services in North Dakota, 29 other states, and Puerto Rico through the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). For more information, visit www.experienceworks.org and Facebook.

Vogel joins Bremer Bank

Bremer Bank announces the hire of Chad Vogel as a loan officer in the Minot location. Vogel joins Bremer with more than seven years of mortgage financing experience. He will be working with individuals and families on servicing their mortgage lending needs in the Minot area.



Chad Vogel

Prior to joining Bremer, Vogel spent seven years as a mortgage loan officer at eLendingNow, Premier Mortgage Corp. in Minot. Vogel has a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in finance and a masters of science degree in business from Minot State University.

"Chad has extensive experience and knowledge working with clients on mortgage lending needs," said Brian Stousland, senior vice president in residential real estate for Bremer.

Minot Area Recovery Fund addresses questions regarding Minot Recovery Funds

Getting the right answers to your questions about the Minot Area Recovery Fund is a top priority for the Minot Area Community Foundation (MACF), as a timeline for assisting those impacted is taking shape.

"We know the needs of thousands in our area are great – and thousands of donations have shown that people want to help residents restore and rebuild their homes so they can remain in our community long term," said Ken Kitzman, president of the Minot Area Community Foundation. "We are committed to returning every dollar, of the more than \$6 million raised, back to the people who need it. In great part, our decisions will be guided by the surveys returned to us from those in the flood zone."

2,800 surveys were returned to the MACF in the past month and the data is currently being organized to ensure decisions are made based on what those impacted have told the MACF through the questionnaires. While this process is a labor intensive one, the MACF is hopeful that 85 percent or more of the information will be properly gathered by Oct. 15.

It is critical that decisions related to the donations are made to meet the intent of the donors. While no final decisions have been made as to who will receive what amount of money and at what time, in early November the MACF plans on announcing the first phase of expense reimbursement for rebuilding costs.

"Part of the process in distributing these funds is ensuring that it is done correctly, the

first time," said Kitzman. "We have to remain true to the focus of the fund and intent of those who generously donated. Due diligence is needed to ensure verification of recipients and expenses, the requirements from the IRS are stringent and the sheer logistics of handling hundreds of various requests has proven to be more time consuming than expected. So, we appreciate your continued patience."

Some of the commonly asked questions, based on phone calls and emails to the MACF, are as follows:

Q. How can I verify that my questionnaire was received? How do I know that I am on the MACF list?

A. MACF will have a master list of all those who have submitted their paper or electronic survey by October 15. You can call 852-1840 to verify you are on the MACF list. Please leave the following information: name (clearly spelled out), phone number, address of flooded home and email address. The MACF will contact you if you are not on the list.

Q. What is the funding decision going to be based on?

A. No final decisions have been made at this point on exactly how the funds will be distributed. The data collected from the surveys, combined with the donor intent and the mission of the fund, will guide how and when expense reimbursement for rebuilding costs are given out to individuals. The due diligence to make sure this is

done right, the first time, along with critical IRS charitable giving guidelines and the logistics of handling thousands of varied requests and concerns make this a long process.

Q. What is the timeline for this program?

A. The MACF plans to finish the majority of the data collection portion of the project by mid-October. MACF will analyze the responses and discuss fund allocation decisions from October 15-31. A first phase of expense reimbursement will be released in early November, for those identified as having the greatest need. The process will take weeks to verify recipients as MACF works to help citizens restore and rebuild their homes. The distribution process will occur over a period of approximately one year.

The Great Plains Center for Community Research and Service at Minot State University is assisting in the data collection and analysis of the submitted surveys as a community partner in the project.

The Minot Area Recovery Fund, established by MACF, will play an active role in flood recovery by supporting relief and restoration throughout the greater Minot area, including the counties of Ward, Renville, Bottineau and McHenry.

For more information about the Minot Area Community Foundation or the Minot Area Recovery Fund, visit www.centerforcommunitygiving.com.

Oil & gas charity golf event in Denver raises \$250,000 for the Minot area

A charity event that typically takes nearly a year to organize, took a group of North Dakota natives only five weeks to put together — leading to a \$250,000 donation today to the Minot Area Recovery Fund.

Representatives for the "Sanctuary from the Souris" charity golf event presented the donation to Ken Kitzman of the Minot Area Community Foundation. "Sanctuary from the Souris" was held at Sanctuary Golf Course, just south of Denver, on September 18. Along with a handful of North Dakota-based companies, representatives of roughly 20 oil and gas companies from the Denver area participated in the fundraiser.

"In the aftermath of the catastrophic Souris River flooding a group of industry colleagues kept asking me, 'How can we help Minot recover?' The city has become a gateway to the Bakken for many energy firms and employees based in Denver, so we began to

bounce around ideas for a fundraiser in their backyard," said John Zimmerman, Minot native and event co-organizer. "The event came together quickly through a confluence of North Dakota connections. First, Rudy Zupetz, Jr., another Minot native and high school friend of my older brother, Pete, is the head golf professional at Sanctuary. The second connection was Jim Powers, a Williston native and Denver resident who has been involved in the oil and gas business for nearly three decades and provided the key link to many of the participating companies."

Zimmerman said the typical charity golf event at the Sanctuary is organized about ten months in advance. "Rudy's roots, including the fact his parents still live in Minot, were a critical factor in fast-tracking the approval process for the event," he added.

According to Zimmerman, the event was anchored by a handful of founding sponsors,

including Intervention Energy, LLC and Copperhead Corporation, both based in Minot. Other founding sponsors included Powers Energy Company, Chandler Energy, Slawson Exploration Company and Calfrac Well Service Corporation.

Since opening in 1997, the Sanctuary Golf Course, designed by Dickinson, N.D. native Jim Engh and specifically established to host charitable events, has raised more than \$62 million for a wide variety of groups. A list that now includes 2011 flood victims in the Minot area.

The \$250,000 donation will be combined with the more than \$6 million already gifted to the Minot Area Recovery Fund.

Oak Park receives \$100,000 and title of "America's Favorite Park"

After a groundswell of community and nationwide support, Oak Park was officially named "America's Favorite Park!" With support from ND Governor Jack Dalrymple, Sen. John Hoeven, Minot Mayor Curt Zimbelman, Minot Park District Executive Director Ron Merritt and other officials, Coca-Cola officially presented the \$100,000 recreational grant to Oak Park. Attendees were treated to music by Minot's own Ramstad Middle School Band.

"Being named America's Favorite Park is a real honor for Oak Park, the community of Minot and our state," said Gov. Dalrymple. "The park has been an important part of the community, and now, thanks to Coca-Cola and all those who voted, it will again provide a cherished sanctuary for the residents of Minot."

Xcel Energy Foundation announces \$20,800 in grants

The Xcel Energy Foundation announces grants totaling \$20,800 to non-profit programs advancing economic sustainability and arts and culture in Minot. This funding will benefit five non-profit organizations.

"This funding will assist Minot non-profits in helping citizens become self-reliant, and enrich their lives with cultural opportunities," said Kathy Aas, Community Relations Manager.

Families who encounter an emergency that leaves them unable to pay energy bills and those whose homes need energy improvements are among those who will benefit from grants awarded by the Xcel Energy Foundation. Through Economic Sustainability Grants the Xcel Energy Foundation aims to help communities in developing economic opportunities for all citizens.

Locally, the Foundation awarded two Economic Sustainability grants totaling \$11,000 to the following organizations:

- Young Women's Christian Association, Minot
- Energy Share of North Dakota, Inc.

Arts and culture focus area grants support efforts to increase accessibility to artistic and cultural activities by providing free and reduced admission for people who otherwise could not attend. In addition, grants will fund non-profit programs that enhance music education and performing

"The appeal to vote for Oak Park rang out not just in Minot and North Dakota, but across the entire nation, and the response was tremendous," said Sen. John Hoeven. "That reflects both the spirit and fortitude of the people of Minot, who are determined to rebuild their city better than ever, as well as the good will of their friends and neighbors. We're grateful to the Coca Cola Company for giving us all such a great opportunity to support this community."

Oak Park is owned and operated by the Minot Park District. Before it was damaged by a flood in 2011, it served as a gathering place for families, with a splash park, picnic shelters, walking trails, an accessible playground (Magic Smiles Playground), sand volleyball court and other amenities. The park plans to use the \$100,000 recreation

arts in schools by offering concerts, performer visits and family workshops.

Locally, the Foundation awarded three Arts and Culture grants totaling \$9,800 to the following organizations:

- Norsk Hostfest Association
- Lillian and Coleman Taube Museum of Art
- Minot Area Council of the Arts, Inc.

Xcel Energy, its employees and retirees support non-profit organizations in their communities through grants, matching gifts and volunteer initiatives. The Xcel Energy Foundation provides focus area grants to nonprofit 501(c) (3) organizations that improve science, technology, economic and math education, improve and enhance the natural environment; help individuals achieve economic self-sufficiency, and that provide access to arts and culture. Foundation grants are determined annually and help meet the

grant to help restore the park so families can be active together again.

"America's parks are cherished places where families and friends can enjoy the natural beauty of the outdoors while being active and having fun," said John Glotfelty, vice president, Coca-Cola Refreshments. "This year, our friendly competition saw a number of communities come together to rally support for parks affected by natural disasters. We are honored to have been able to play a role in helping local communities give back to their favorite parks through the America Is Your Park campaign."

Second and third-place winners also received grants – Soudan Underground Mine State Park in Minnesota and Cunningham Park in Joplin, MO received \$50,000 and \$25,000 grants, respectively.

needs of communities across the states in which Xcel Energy serves. For more information, visit www.xcelenergy.com.

Minot Area Homeless Coalition, Inc.

If you can't go home,
Where can you go?

6th Annual Banquet & Fundraiser

Celebrating our 25th Anniversary

Thursday, November 10, 2011
WHERE: Grand International Inn 1505 N. Broadway, Minot 58703
Tickets: \$30 Per Person

Social Hour: 6:00pm Buffet Dinner: 7:00pm
Silent Auction: 6:00pm-8:00pm

Signed Celebrity Memorabilia by:
Hugh Jackman Hector Elizondo
James Earl Jones Ryan Newman
Drew Carey and more!!!!

Get a jump on your holiday shopping with some of these great auction items: Custom quilt, "Tornal" Flood Fight 2011
Children's Holiday Gift Baskets Gift Certificates YMCA
Memberships, Swimming Lessons And much more!!!!

For more information contact:
Minot Area Homeless Coalition, Inc.
852 6300

Guest Speaker: Jake Reuter
Money Follows the Person Grant Program Administrator with the Medical Services Division of the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

Master of Ceremonies:
Pastor Mike McGee
Covenant Reformed Church,
Watertown, SD

MAHC
Fighting for
those in need

Serving: Bottineau, Burke, McHenry, Mountrail, Mercer, Renville, and Ward Counties.

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 First Dollar of Profit Presentation, 10 a.m., Various locations	2	3 CLI Final Session, 7:30 a.m.; Graduation, Noon, Grand Inter'l. Ribbon Cutting, 9 a.m., Real Deals on Home Decor, 1515 24th Ave SW, Suite 7 Military Affairs, Noon, MAFB Ambassadors, 4:30 p.m., Vegas	4	5
6	7	8 Eagle Awards Presentation, 10 a.m., Chamber office	9 Right Start Presentation, 12:30 p.m., MAFB	10	11 Infrastructure Committee, 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders Restaurant	12
13	14 Right Start Presentation, 12:30 p.m., MAFB	15 Board of Directors, 7:30 a.m., Minot State University	16	17 Diplomats Committee, 9 a.m., Parker Center Showcase of Business, 5 – 8 p.m., ND State Fair Center	18	19
20	21	22 Agribusiness Committee, 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders Restaurant	23 Right Start Presentation, 12:30 p.m., MAFB	24 Thanksgiving Day, Office Closed	25	26
27	28	29	30			

To view meeting changes or community events, log on to www.minotchamber.org