

Partners
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Communicator



THE MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND YOU!

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January 2012

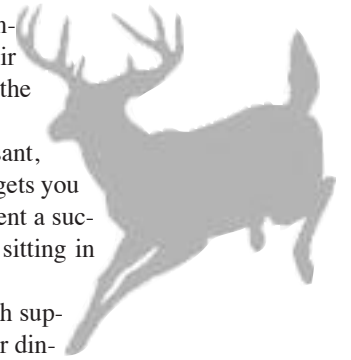


Annual Sportsmen's Feed celebrates TEAM MINOT

The 47th annual Sportsmen's Feed is set for Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012 beginning at noon at Minot AFB's Jimmy Doolittle Center. The event provides Air Force personnel and community supporters with a place to watch the NFC/AFC football playoffs, win some prizes, and eat some great food.

The day will be filled with tasty cuisine including venison, walleye, pheasant, duck, and turkey, along with all the trimmings. Tickets are \$30 each, which gets you in the door and sponsors an airman. Your support is needed to make this event a success and to provide a fun, relaxing day for airmen who may otherwise be sitting in the dorms alone.

The day starts at noon with appetizers and games throughout the day, with supper around 6 p.m. Help make this day special, come for appetizers, come for dinner, or come and spend the day. If you would like to donate door prizes or order tickets, call 852-6000, send a fax to 838-2488, or send an email message to chamber@minotchamber.org.



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Get involved in Chamber activities.

Cookie Drive brings holiday cheer to Airmen



TEAM MINOT volunteers collected cookie donations to be distributed to Minot Airmen living in the dormitories. More than 18,000 cookies were donated by base personnel, as well as companies and families from Minot. The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce teamed up with the Minot Air Force Base Officers' Spouses Club, which chaired the annual cookie drive. Thanks to all who helped make this Christmas extra special for those serving our country. After cookies are gathered and divided into bags, Minot first sergeants pass the cookies out to the dormitory Airmen. (Photo courtesy - U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Ashley N. Avecilla)

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS



A Dog-gone Purr-fect, Grand Ol' Time with the

Grand International and Souris Valley Animal Shelter

**Thursday, Jan. 12 • 5–7 p.m.
Grand International**

(1505 N. Broadway)

Enjoy appetizers provided by The Grand International

Door Prizes: Dog Lover Gift Basket, One Night Hotel Stay and Primo Dinner for Two, Cat Lover Gift Basket

Drawing for \$500 in Chamber Bucks!

If winner is not present, \$50 in Chamber Bucks guaranteed. (Must be present to win)

\$5 charge at the door

**MINOT AREA CHAMBER of COMMERCE
COMMUNICATOR**

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

chamber@minotchamber.org

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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NEW MEMBER

The Minot Chamber welcomes new members. Join us in thanking **American Financial & Automotive Services** and **Moore Engineering, Inc.** Please let them know how much of a value they are to our community.

AMERICAN FINANCIAL & AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES:

294 S Rice Lake Road • Douglas, ND 58735 • 720-2331 • Fax: 888-798-6193

szaun@afasinc.com • www.afasinc.com

Steven Zaun, Dealer Development & Manager

American Financial is an auto and power sports dealer development and training company that works with dealer sales, finance, and insurance departments to help improve sales.

MOORE ENGINEERING, INC.

315 South Main, Suite 100 • Minot, ND 58701 • 839-1590 • Fax: 839-1772

bstorrusten@mooreengineeringinc.com • www.mooreengineeringinc.com

Brock Storrusten, Branch Manager

Moore Engineering can find solutions to the everyday problems that affect your life. Offering full civil engineering and land surveying services, Moore has accepted more than 18,000 projects in North Dakota and Minnesota.

Minot Young Professionals sponsor "An Evening of Hope"

The Minot Young Professionals are partnering with community leaders to host An Evening of Hope Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Ann Nicole Nelson Hall on the Minot State University campus.

The evening will provide an inspirational opportunity to lift the spirits of flood related victims and clients of the Souris Valley United Way Unmet Needs Committee. The event will include the debut of the award winning documentary "Man in the Glass," the Dale Brown Story. Each family in attendance will receive a copy of the DVD and a copy of Coach Brown's new book, donated by the Sleep Inn. It is the intent and hope that this event will lead to larger out of state events in the following months, based on the

response and success of the Minot debut. Businesses who are sponsors of the Minot Young Professional's Unity in the Community Campaign will be receiving two complimentary tickets within the next week to An Evening of Hope which they are encouraged to give to flood impacted employees or customers. For more information contact Emily Huettl at 721-2799.



RENEWALS

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership through Dec. 16, 2011. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Lynn Aas | Gooseneck Implement | Prairie Business Magazine |
| Ackerman Surveying & Associates | Investors Mgmt. & Marketing, Inc. | Riddles Jewelry |
| Affinity First Federal Credit Union | IRET Properties | Roll 'N Pin Restaurant |
| All America City Glass | Joan's Hallmark Shop | Ron's Transmission & Auto Repair |
| Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. | KMOT - TV, Channel 10 | Roughrider Harley-Davidson-
Minot |
| Anderson, Wade & Whitty, PC | Lien's Jewelry | Minot Dakota Square Scheels |
| Artistry Hairstylists & Day Spa | Lois Matson | ServiceMaster of Minot |
| Brite-Way Window Cleaning, Inc. | Maxson Law Office, P.C. | LaVonne Sorensen-Jackson |
| Catholic Charities North Dakota | Minot Area Council of the Arts | Thomas Family Funeral Home |
| Central Machining & Pump Repair
Inc. | Minot Chrysler & Toyota Center | Thompson Larson Funeral Home |
| Choice Hotels International | Minot Daily News | TSC Farm Home Auto Store |
| CornerStone Chiropractic | Minot Paving Co., Inc. | The Vegas Motel & Casino |
| Creative Memories | Muus Lumber and Hardware | Verendrye Electric Cooperative |
| Dairy Queen West | Newman Outdoor Advertising | The View on Elk Drive |
| Dawa Solutions Group | Niess Impressions | Westlie Motor Co. |
| Dean Foods/Land O'Lakes | North Country Mercantile | Wired |
| Ebenezer's Eatery & Irish Pub | North Country Sportswear/School
& Office Supply | |
| Federal Express | North Dakota Envelope Co. | |
| First Command Financial Planning | North Dakota Living | |
| 4 Bears Casino and Lodge | Northern Testing | |
| Gaffaney's of Minot, Inc. | Pizza Ranch | |

41st KMOT Ag Expo begins January 25

The 41st Annual KMOT Ag Expo will begin Wednesday, Jan. 25 and continue through Friday, Jan. 27, 2012. The KMOT Ag Expo will be held at the State Fair Center on the North Dakota State Fairgrounds in Minot.

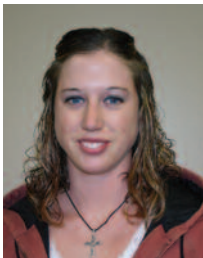
There will be over 360 exhibitors cover-

ing more than 950 booths. In past years approximately 30,000 to 40,000 people have attended the annual show. The KMOT Ag Expo is the largest indoor agricultural show in the upper Midwest. You can expect to see the latest in agricultural technology and equipment, along with several other

exhibits that cover all areas of agriculture in Western North Dakota. The show is guaranteed to have something for everyone. For more information call 852-5254 or email agexpo@kmot.com.

EAGLE AWARDS.....

The Eagle Award winners were recognized in December 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.



JULIE DICK
Rademacher Farms & Trucking



KIM BLOMS
CVS Pharmacy



PAYTON WEGNER
Minot Daily News



CHRIS WARNER
Subway of Minot



LAYTON FOLTYN
Magic City Glass



CARLA VANNETT
Motor Vehicle Department



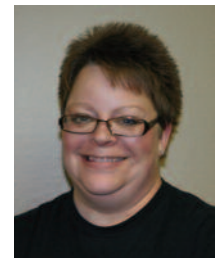
ASHLEY GOMEZ
Pumpco Energy Services



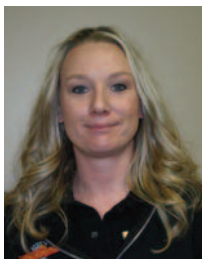
PETE LARSON
Starbucks



JAY CROW
701 Customs



KRISTA CORY
JR Rockers



ANNA DORRELL
JR Rockers



DIANE THOMPSON
Wal-Mart Super Center



MARK KEMMIT
Westlie Tire & Service



NICOLE KIDWELL
Professional Hearing Services

Social Security issue available online

The current issue of *W-2 News*, the electronic newsletter for employers who submit W-2s to Social Security is now available at: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/employer/w2news>.



Moore Engineering

315 South Main, Suite 100 • Minot, ND 58701 • 839-1590 • Fax: 839-1772
 bstorrusten@mooreengineeringinc.com • www.mooreengineeringinc.com
 Brock Storrusten, Branch Manager

Ambassadors helped Moore Engineering, Inc. (ME) celebrate the opening of its Minot office, expanding the 50-year-old North Dakota civil engineering company's ability to serve clients in the Minot region.



Independence, Inc.

300 3rd Ave SW, Ste. F • Minot, ND 58701 • 839-4724 • Fax: 838-1677
 agency@independencecil.org • www.independencecil.org
 Scott Burlingame, Executive Director

Independence, Inc. is a non-profit disability rights organization that has recently expanded and remodeled their Minot office.



Oral & Maxillofacial Reconstruction Center, Trinity Regional Eyecare - Minot Center, and Vision Galleria

2815 16th St. SW • Minot, ND 58701 • 857-5000 • www.trinityhealth.org

This facility represents an expansion of Trinity's oral/facial, eye, and optical services in a setting convenient for patients.



MEMBER NEWS

MSU students combine a cemetery, archaeology and service

Mark Timbrook, Minot State University Office of Instructional Technology design specialist, adjunct history faculty and author, was notified by the State Historical Society of North Dakota that it had accepted MSU's study and cultural resource survey update for the First Lutheran Church Cemetery of Minot. The university's "History and Preservation of American Cemeteries" class completed the CRS over a two-year period.

"The history of the site has been officially updated. These students made a difference in

the cemetery's preservation and in correcting the site's poorly documented past," said Mark Timbrook, the project's primary investigator and historian. "Previous surveys noted the cemetery's creation in 1908 and reported it was of no significance to the history of the community."

"The class discovered the cemetery was originally sited in 1886 in present day Roosevelt Park. In 1892, Erik Ramstad placed land in trust with the First Lutheran Church and created a new cemetery at the current site," Mark Timbrook said. "The property was deeded to the church in 1900. In 1908, the cemetery

was surveyed a second time with significant changes made in landscape and orientation due to community growth and road changes."

Besides Erik Ramstad, other prominent Minot area pioneers buried in the cemetery include Julius Fauchard, Honorable John J. Lee, Peter Ramstad, George and Gunder Reishus and Ole and Gunhild Sundre and long-time Minot legislator Brynhild Haugland.

A copy of the report is also available in the Gordon B. Olson Library's special collections area.

Rudland elected to ND Association of Fairs Board

Craig Rudland, assistant general manager of the North Dakota State Fair, has been elected to serve as District 6 Representative on the North Dakota Association of Fairs Board of Directors. Rudland was elected to this position at the Dakota Fairs and Celebration Annual Convention in Rapid City, SD, in November. Rudland will represent fairs and events located within Renville, Ward, Bottineau, Sheridan and McHenry counties.

The North Dakota Association of Fairs seeks to provide services as well as a network for fairs, celebrations and associates within North Dakota. The association's membership currently includes 35 fairs and events as well as 60 associate members. Associate members include corporations, entertainers, vendors and other individuals who are interested in providing products and services to the association's members.

"Love Without Fear" Walkathon Feb. 18

The Domestic Violence Prevention Foundation will sponsor the 11th annual "Love Without Fear Walk-a-thon." The funds raised from this event will be used to ensure that services will continue to be provided to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in this area.

The Walkathon will be held Feb. 18, 2012 at the MSU Dome from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Music and refreshments will be provided throughout the day. Children's activities will also be taking place. There will be a prize given to the team which raises the most money. Each walker will be given a "Love Without Fear" T-shirt for their participation.

Please call Kari at the Domestic Violence Crisis Center at 852-2258 for more information. Walkathon Team packets are available at the 3331 Burdick Expressway East, Minot, ND.

Moore Engineering opens Minot office

Moore Engineering, Inc. (ME) has opened an office in Minot, expanding the 50-year-old North Dakota civil engineering company's ability to serve clients with municipal, transportation, environmental, water resource, GIS and land surveying projects located in the Minot region of the state.

The Minot office will be managed by Brock Storrusten, PE, who is returning to North Dakota and to ME after briefly working on the east coast. During his 17 years with ME, Storrusten served as the assistant city engineer for West Fargo during the city's growth and expansion. Storrusten will bring that same expertise to Minot area clients as senior project manager.

"Our engineering staff based here will focus on supporting the advancement of municipal and water resources infrastructure for Minot and smaller communities in the area," stated Storrusten. "This location will allow us to be highly accessible and responsive to those clients. I'm thrilled to return to North Dakota and Moore, because a commitment to quality — and quality of life — are hallmarks of both."

Throughout the engineering firm's history, offices have been established as necessary to deliver on the company's client-centered philosophy. The Minot expansion follows the addition to the company's West Fargo headquarters that was announced earlier this year.

"We recognized that an additional office was the next step for us in assisting clients in and around Minot who are dealing with significant changes when it comes to water and infrastructure issues," said Jeff Vok, president and CEO of the employee-owned company. "This location, together with Brock's expertise and management, will allow us to be highly accessible and responsive to our client base — many who have been with us for decades — as well as assist new clients with transportation, water resource and infrastructure projects."

During the company's 50 years, it has completed more than 18,000 projects in North Dakota and Minnesota. ME has headquartered in West Fargo since 1964. In addition to the new Minot location, the firm maintains a branch office in Fergus Falls, MN, to better serve clients.

Gate City Bank donates \$218,500

In the past several months, Gate City Bank has donated \$218,500 to area organizations as part of its commitment to support communities and causes.

Local donations included contributions to the Minot Area Community Foundation, Scandinavian Heritage Association, YWCA, and Minot Area Homeless Coalition.

Additional donations were made to regional organizations including Special Olympics of North Dakota, Arthritis Foundation, Alzheimer's Association, Huntington's Disease Society of America, March of Dimes North Dakota Chapter, North Dakota High School Rodeo Association, North Dakota Knights of Columbus, Boy Scouts of America Northern Lights Council, Pheasants Forever, The Outdoor Adventure Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, Children's Miracle Network and Make a Wish Foundation of North Dakota.

A \$1.3 billion mutual community bank, Gate City Bank has been providing complete banking services to its customers since 1923. Gate City Bank has 32 convenient banking offices across North Dakota and Minnesota, and

employs more than 400 people.

North Dakota State Fair receives ten international awards

The North Dakota State Fair has received four first place Awards of Excellence from the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) headquartered in Springfield, MO.

The North Dakota State Fair brought home three first place Advertising Awards for its 2011 advertising campaign created by KK Bold. First place awards received were for Color Newspaper Advertisement, Magazine Advertisement and TV Advertisement. Second place advertising awards were for Black and White Newspaper Ad and Poster. Third Place awards were won for Brochure and E-Newsletter.

Additional awards won include a first place award for Promotional Out of Home Advertising for the North Dakota State Fair's partnership with the Dakota Square Mall and the Fair's ticketing kiosk. The Fair also took home second place awards for the North Dakota State Fair Tabloid that is created each year with the help of the Minot Daily News and distributed in newspapers state-wide. The final second place award was for the Fair's quarterly printed newsletters.

Even though the 2011 North Dakota State Fair was cancelled the Fair was able to submit its advertising and communication pieces to be judged. The awards were presented during the 121st annual IAFE Convention held in Las Vegas, Nevada. There were a total of 16 Communication Awards, divided into five divisions based on attendance. The entries are evaluated and judged by a team of industry leaders, selected from the membership of the IAFE.

For more information on the North Dakota State Fair visit www.ndstatefair.com or call 857-7620. Dates for the 2012 North Dakota State Fair are July 20-28.

Midwest Business Systems adds Kristie Miller to Minot team

Midwest Business Systems welcomes Kristie Miller. Miller is an administrative assistant possessing over three years of office experience. She graduated in 2011 from Dakota College of Bottineau with an associate's degree. Miller previously worked for West Publishing, in Eagan, MN.

Her expertise makes it possible for our clients to employ digital high-speed copying, faxing, printing, and scanning technologies in their businesses.



Kristie Miller

American Trust appoints new employees Torske named Chief Executive Officer

American Trust Center is pleased to announce Kathy Torske as Chief Executive Officer. Torske joined American Trust Center in May of 2005 as an administrative officer and was later promoted to assistant vice president of safety and soundness. In addition, she was designated as the human resources officer and oversaw the corporate accounting functions. The past several months, she has been serving as interim president/CEO of American Trust Center.



Kathy Torske

Torske holds bachelor of science degrees in accounting and business administration from Dickinson State University. She received her designation of Certified Public Accountant in 2001 and certification as a Fiduciary & Investment Risk Specialist in 2009. Torske also has several years of Auditor experience prior to joining American.

American Trust Center is pleased to announce Gerald Galloway as president. Galloway joined American in 1999, serving as a trust officer and later as senior vice president of administration with American Bancor, Ltd. He is currently semi-retired and serves as a member of the Trust Committee and Board of Directors. Prior to American, Galloway was in the general practice of law in Dickinson for 33 years.

Eva Biddinger has been hired as a full-time teller for the Minot location. She started with American in December of 2007 and most recently worked at American Insurance Center as an account manager.



Eva Biddinger

Funding available for hiring summer interns

North Dakota businesses looking for summer employees can receive up to \$6,000 in matching funds by tapping an underused pool of candidates: high school and college interns. Operation Intern, administered from the North Dakota Department of Commerce, is designed to expand the number of internship, work experience and apprenticeship positions with North Dakota employers. The program's primary focus is employers in the state's targeted industries: energy, advanced manufacturing, value-added agriculture, tourism and technology-based.

In addition to students registered at North Dakota colleges or universities, the program

has expanded eligibility to include high school students and registered apprenticeships.

The Department of Commerce is accepting applications for internships. For more information, visit www.operationintern.com.

Minot Public Schools seeking summer internships for high school students

Minot High School is in its second year of a pilot program placing high school students in internship positions for the summer. Students earn high school credit working a minimum of 75 hours advancing their knowledge and skills while exploring a future career interest.

Business and industry partners are needed in all areas to provide internship opportunities. Work with energetic young adults to gain fresh new ideas, increase your productivity, and train a potential future employee. Employers are asked to orient an intern to company policies and specific work tasks, assign sufficient quality work, and provide safe training, guidance, and supervision of the intern.

Students are selected for an internship through an application and interview process and are covered by Worker's Compensation once placed on the job. All internship opportunities will be posted for students to review.

If you are interested in providing an internship experience or would like more information, contact Pam Stroklund, Career & Technical Education Director, at 857-4458 or pam.stroklund@minot.k12.nd.us.

Park District receives \$300,000 donation

A group of three local contracting firms comprised of Rolac Contracting, Mattson Construction and Real Builders presented the Minot Park District with a check for \$300,000 at the monthly parks committee meeting. The group asked that the contribution be used for projects and facilities that promote the health, wellness and quality of life for people of Minot Air Force Base and the Minot community.

The contractor's group formed seven years ago, named RMR Joint Venture, combined their labor forces to construct new housing at Minot Air Force Base.

"With this fall bringing the completion of our multi-year projects at the base we wanted to do something to show our appreciation to Minot Air Force Base and local residents" stated Joel Feist of Real Builders. "The Minot Park system provides for such an enhanced quality of life for so many in our area that we thought the best way to give back to the community was with a gift to enhance the parks."

"This was such a tremendous surprise" says Ron Merritt, park district director. "At a time when we are so focused on flood recovery it was very uplifting to receive this generous donation that will be used to develop our parks and facilities beyond returning them to pre-

flood conditions. We are looking forward to working with Minot Air Force Base in identifying ways we can further the goodwill between their members and the park district with these funds."

For more information please contact Ron Merritt at 857-4136 or Joel Feist at 839-4328.

Digital Office Centre announces merger of Bismarck-based subsidiary

Digital Office Centre, Inc., a Xerox Authorized Sales Agent, announced that Office Edge, Inc., the firm's Bismarck-based subsidiary, will become a Digital Office Centre branch location on Jan. 1, 2012. Office Edge is a Xerox Authorized Sales Agent covering south-central North Dakota. Following the merger, Digital Office Centre will have offices in Minot and Bismarck, with sales territories covering all of central North Dakota.

"We are always looking for ways to better serve our customers' needs and this change will allow us to more effectively leverage our efforts and our resources to meet that goal," said Director of Operations, Mark Anderson.

"Since launching Office Edge in 2004, the Bismarck-Mandan and surrounding service area has become an increasingly important part of our overall business," said Tom Rostvedt, Founder and President of Digital Office Centre and Office Edge. "It makes sense to standardize our sales and marketing efforts to better serve those markets."

DCM Scholars reach out to community

Music professors Erik Anderson and Jon Rumney developed the Dakota Chamber Music Scholars project to expand Dakota Chamber Music's impact. Funded by the Great Plains Center for Community Research and Service, one Minot State University student string quartet received training in performance and presentation. These Dakota Chamber Scholars will travel and share their love of chamber music in an "informance" format: an informative, outreach performance for young musicians in area schools.

The Dakota Chamber Music Scholars have performed for music classes in Devils Lake and in Minot at the Erik Ramstad Middle School orchestra class. DCM Scholars will travel to high schools and middle schools with string programs and guide younger musicians toward a deeper understanding of chamber music. The MSU students will perform excerpts and lead discussions to expand public school students' musical experience. If schools with music programs want DCM Scholars to visit, they should call Rumney at 858-3304 for more information.

For further information, contact Anderson at 858-3576 or erik.anderson@minotstateu.edu or visit www.minotstateu.edu/dcm.

JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Happy New Year!	2 Office closed	3	4	5 Military Affairs Committee, Noon, MAFB	6 Ambassadors, 7:30 a.m., Holiday Inn Military Ball Planning Committee, Noon, Holiday Inn	7
8	9	10 Eagle Awards Presentation, 10 a.m., Chamber office	11 Right Start Presentation, 10 a.m., MAFB	12 Souris Valley Animal Shelter Business After Hours, 5 –7 p.m., Grand Int'l	13 Infrastructure Committee, 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders Restaurant	14
15	16	17 Board of Directors, 7:30 a.m., Grand Int'l	18 Junior Achievement Committee, Noon, Chamber office	19 Diplomats Committee, 9 a.m., Parker Center	20	21
22 Sportsmen's Feed, Noon, MAFB	23	24	25 Right Start Presentation, 10 a.m., MAFB	26 Ag Committee serves coffee at KMOT Ag Expo, 7:30 a.m., ND State Fairgrounds Energy Committee, 11:30 a.m., Vegas	27	28
29	30 Right Start Presentation, 12:30 p.m., MAFB	31				

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