



INSIDE THE COMMUNICATOR

*Page 2: Businesses
join and renew
Chamber support.*

*Page 3:
Lunch-N-Learn
offers tablet
training.*

*Page 4:
Eagle Award
winners recognized.
CVB launches new
brand.*

*Page 5:
Ambassadors help
celebrate business
events.*

*Page 6: Grants
available to flood
survivors*

*Page 7: Minot
Mayor offers
thoughts on year.*

*Page 8-9-10:
Members offer
updates.*

*Page 9: Get
involved in
Chamber activities.*

Minot Chamber monitoring legislative bills

The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce is keeping track of what's going on at the 2013 Legislature and how it affects our members. Currently, the Chamber is monitoring three bills in particular.

There are several bills affecting the ND State Fair dealing with funding for flood recovery and premiums. Chamber members are also working on a return of the military compact for children, and the Department of Commerce Appropriations bill has a line item for base retention.

The Chamber is part of the Business Federation led by the ND Chamber of Commerce helping to promote interests of business before the Legislature. The Greater North Dakota Chamber will host Business Days at the Legislature Feb. 5 and 6 at the Ramada Bismarck Hotel and the Capitol.

Business Days begins Tuesday, Feb. 5 at the Ramada with updates by Doug Loon of the United States Chamber of Commerce, Andy Peterson and Jon Godfread of the Greater North Dakota Chamber, and several state agencies on legislative issues at both the federal and state levels. The afternoon concludes with a message from Lt. Governor Drew Wrigley.

At the evening's social and dinner, business leaders can visit with state legislators about issues that are important to their business and to the state. After dinner, the Majority and Minority leadership will

take part in a panel discussion.

Wednesday, Feb. 6 begins with breakfast at the Ramada followed by updates from legislative committee chairs. Participants will then go to the Capitol to take part in legislative committee hearings and networking with their legislators.

The cost of the event is \$69 for members of the Greater North Dakota Chamber or Minot chamber. The registration fee for non-members of the state or Minot chamber is \$99.

Registration is available online. For additional information call 701-222-0929 or email carissa@ndchamber.com.

Locally, the legislators from districts 3, 5, 38 and 40 are on hand during the Minot Chamber's Saturday Legislative Forums. The mornings start at 9 a.m. at the ND State Fair Center's Norsk Room. Written questions for lawmakers can be submitted, and the moderator will ask them to respond.

Legislative Forum Schedule

9 a.m. • Norsk Room • ND State Fair Center

FEB. 2: Featuring special guest Sen. Rich Wardner, Majority Leader in the ND Senate

FEB. 9

FEB. 16: Featuring special guest ND Tax Commissioner Cory Fong

FEB. 23

MARCH 16 • APRIL 6

Thank you, Chet, for making Minot magic!

There aren't too many of us who haven't been affected by the works of Chester Reiten. Chester passed away Jan. 22 at the age of 89. In those years, he made quite an impact, as an entrepreneur, a business man, a lawmaker, a leader...the list goes on. Chester



In this 1985 picture, Chester Reiten cuts the ribbon for a local business during the time he was Mayor.

was the President of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors from 1966-67. In 1986 he received the Genie Award, the highest award given out by the Chamber. He was always thinking about Minot and working to make it a better place to live and to have fun. The Norsk Høstfest, Chester's creation, epitomizes his love for heritage and meeting new people: "Hi, and where are you from?" Minot is a much richer community because of Chester. We will miss him in so many ways.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Off the Vine (15 Main Street S)
Thursday, Feb. 21 • 5-7 p.m.

This is an opportunity to network with potential and established clients in a social, fun atmosphere. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and win a chance at \$500 in Chamber Bucks! If winner is not present, \$50 in Chamber Bucks is 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.

PublisherL. John MacMartin,CCE
EditorCarla Dolan, IOM
Managing Editor.....Patty Hildenbrand

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAFF

L. John MacMartin, CCEPresident
Carla Dolan, IOM.....Program Director
Cheryl WallenFinance Manager
Lisa MoldenhauerAdministrative Assistant
Carla Vannett.....MVD Manager
Cheryl Lynn LafontaineMVD Clerk
Destiny NogosekMVD Clerk
Allison ReiswigMVD Clerk
Billie Jo SalterMVD Clerk
Dorothy SannesMVD Clerk
Lacey ThomasMVD Clerk

MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD

MEMBERS:

Jonnn Knecht (American Bank Center)
Chair837-5000
Randy Hauck **Chair Elect**
(Verendrye Electric Cooperative)852-0406
Alan Estvold **Vice Chair**
(Ackerman Estvold Engineering)837-8737
Pam Karpenko (CleanTech) **Treasurer**839-8811
Brekka Kramer (Odney)
Past Chair857-7205
Bruce Walker (Coldwell Banker/1st
Minot Realty) **Past Chair**852-0136
Jeff Anderson (Excavating, Inc.)839-1817
Rob Buchholz (Lowe's Printing)852-1211
John Coughlin
(Coughlin Construction & Development)852-3401
David Fuller (Minot State University)858-3000
Linda Johnson (Home Sweet Home)852-5604
Fred Lien (Lien's Jewelry)838-5151
Julie Lizotte (SRT Communications, Inc.)858-1200
Jessica Merchant (Olson & Burns, PC)839-1740
Duane Poynter (Poynter Ag Supply)624-5315
Chad Schmidt (10 North Main)837-1010
Randy Schwan (Trinity Health)857-5635
Tim Vallely (Vallely Sport & Marine)852-1625
Dusty Wald (Magic City Beverage)852-4031

NEW MEMBERS

The Minot Chamber welcomes new members. Join us in thanking **Zimny Consulting** and **EconoLodge**. Please let them know how much of a value they are to our community.

ZIMNY CONSULTING

305 37th Ave. SW, Suite C • PO Box 1207 • Minot, ND • 838-6884 • Fax: 838-9507
Alyssa Gamez, CAO

Email: alyssa@zimnyconsulting.com • Web: www.zimnyconsultingllc.com

Zimny Consulting is a local business that provides construction, oilfield and office services.

ECONO LODGE

3916 N. Broadway • Minot, ND • 838-3916 • Fax: 838-2648
Angie DeLorme, general manager

Email: gm.nd059@choicehotels.com • Web: www.econolodge.com

Econo Lodge is a newly-built 66 room hotel, offering complimentary breakfast and a fitness center. Each room also has a refrigerator and microwave.

***Souris Valley Animal Shelter and Grand International
host successful Business After Hours***



Thank you to the Souris Valley Animal Shelter and Grand International for sponsoring the January Business After Hours. About 100 people took in the great atmosphere, food, prizes and networking Jan. 17. The Souris Valley Animal Shelter had a special guest on hand to visit with those attending. Dookie and his owner Steph Perez were quite the hit!

RENEWALS

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership from Dec. 19, 2012, to Jan. 21, 2013. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| American Legion | Grizzly's Grill & Saloon | Norsk Høstfest Association |
| Artistic Floors & Lights Inc. | Gutter Topper of North Dakota | North Country Sportswear/School & Office Supply |
| Artistry Hairstylists & Day Spa | Team Resources Inc—dba H & R Block | Northwestern Mutual Financial Network |
| Avitus Group | Heartland Payment System | Papa Murphy's Take 'N' Bake Pizza |
| Behm Energy | Heritage Baptist Church | JC Penney |
| Micheal J. Berg | Hometown Elegance Catering | Pinkerton Animal Hospital |
| Bremer | Blake Krabseth Comedian/Magician | Professional Hearing Services |
| Clear Channel Communications Inc | Lafarge Dakota, Inc. | American Red Cross Mid-Dakota Chapter |
| Clute Office Equipment | Judge Gary Lee | Roger Ward North American |
| Conlin's Furniture | Lien's Jewelry | Royal Fork Restaurant |
| Construction Engineers | Mac's, Inc. | Ryan Chevrolet |
| Culligan Water Conditioning | Margie's Art Glass Studio | ServiceMaster of Minot |
| Dakota Inn | Mattson Construction Co. | Soltis Business Forms, Inc. |
| Dale Carnegie Business Group/Eide Bailly LLP | Judge Douglas L. Mattson | Sprung Instant Structures, Inc |
| Dawa Solutions Group | Mercer Engineering P.C. | Staybridge Suites |
| Dean Foods/Land O'Lakes | Minot Daily News | Taco John's |
| Denny's Restaurant | Minot Paving Co., Inc. | Thorsrud Supply Co., Inc. |
| Design Homes, Inc. | Minot Public School District #1 | Trinity Health |
| DFC Consultants, LTD | City of Minot | Verendrye Electric Cooperative |
| Farmers Insurance Latendresse Agency | Miracle-Ear | Watne Realtors |
| Firestone Store/GCR Tire Center | Monarch Products Company | Zaderaka Transport, Inc. |
| Gary's Hairstylists | Montana Dakota Utilities Company | |
| Gate City Bank | Muus Lumber and Hardware | |
| | Nash Finch Co. | |

Lunch-n-Learn:

Chamber offers tablet training

Tablets are part of today's households, education systems, and businesses. To learn how to take advantage of this productive and profitable tool, the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor Lunch-N-Learn training Wednesday, Feb. 20 at noon at the Grand International. Cost is \$10 and includes lunch.

Whether your business already owns a tablet computer or is considering purchasing tablets, this is the course for you.

To register, log onto www.minotchamber.org and sign up today under Feb. 20.

Lunch-N-Learn

Wednesday, Feb. 20 • Noon

Grand International

Visit www.minotchamber.org

and sign up today

Annual Sportsmen's Feed brings communities together

The annual Sportsmen's Feed was a great time for airmen at MAFB to watch the AFC/NFC playoffs and enjoy great food and games. Special thanks to Joe Quaglia, Ron Garcia, Bill Dennis and

those in the kitchen for all their help with this event, especially our annual Sportsmen's Feed planner and chief chef, Gary Brevig. Thank you also to the following sponsors for donating items to the event.

Badlands Grill House & Saloon

Capital RV

Don Bessette Motors

Grand International

Harley's Arrowhead

Holiday Inn

Homesteaders Restaurant

I. Keating Furniture World

Magic City Beverage

Marketplace Liquor

Mi Mexico

Minot Area Chamber of Commerce

Minot Daily News

Minot Park Board

Morelli Distributing

North Hill Bowl

Northern Tier Federal Credit Union

Pheasants for the Future

Ryan Chevrolet

Scheels

Souris Valley Golf Course

SRT Communications, Inc.

The Computer Store

Tires Plus Total Car Care

United Community Bank

Verendrye Electric Cooperative

Wal-Mart Super Center

Wells Fargo

YMCA

Annual MAFB Economic Impact Statement

The annual MAFB Economic Impact statement will be released at the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee meeting on Thursday, February 7 at noon at the Grand International.

RSVP by Feb. 5 to the Chamber if you are able to attend at 852-6000 or email chamber@minotchamber.org.

CHAMBER UNIVERSITY:

Dale Carnegie Skills for Success course begins Feb. 21

The Dale Carnegie course has transformed the careers of over 7 million graduates. The Dale Carnegie: Skills for Success Course begins February 21 in Minot. This 9-week course will meet once a week and will power you to move far beyond your comfort zone as you stretch for and attain ambitious new goals.

This course will teach you the five Drivers of Success:

- Build greater self-confidence
- Strengthen people skills
- Enhance communication skills

- Develop leadership skills
- Reduce stress and improve attitude

The Advanced Dale Carnegie Course is exclusively for organizational employees that have graduated from the Dale Carnegie Course. These classes will meet Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon, beginning Feb. 19.

Participants will be guided through a highly interactive program designed to build on the successes generated from the Dale Carnegie Course. Participants will further enhance the skills needed to build engage-

ment, manage without authority, and communicate with diplomacy and tact. This course offers everything your company needs to lower costs, stay ahead of the competition and increase profits.

Dale Carnegie Training® in North Dakota is offered locally by Eide Bailly Training. Pre-registration is required for both sessions. Contact Michelle Wall for a free Skills for Success assessment at 701-255-8476 or mwall@eidebailly.com.



Ryan GMC/Buick/Cadillac: 1111 20th Ave. SW • 852-1026
The newly renovated Ryan GMC/Buick/Cadillac dealership celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Ryan Family Dealerships owners Michael and Kathleen Gaddie recently finished a year-long renovation process, and is currently offering high-quality vehicles in the GMC, Buick and Cadillac premium, luxury brands.



Econo Lodge Ribbon Cutting: 3916 North Broadway • 838-3916
 www.econolodge.com • Owner: Casmir Nwaigwe
Ambassadors were on hand for the ribbon cutting of this newly-built 66-room hotel in north Minot.

Prairie Warrior Auction raises funds for MAFB competitions

The 27th Annual Military Affairs Committee Prairie Warrior Competition Auction is set for Saturday, March 23, 2013, at the Holiday Inn. Preview of auction merchandise begins at 5:30 p.m., with refreshments and hors d'oeuvres being served. The auction will begin at 6:30 p.m. There is a \$25

charge at the door.

Each year, the event raises thousands of dollars to help with the expenses for Minot Air Force Base competitions. Funds are also used to underwrite events designed to improve the morale of the men and women stationed at Minot AFB. Every year, dona-

tions by area businesses and individuals make this event successful. Donations for the auction can be serious, humorous, unusual, imaginative or creative.

For more information or to make a donation, please call the Chamber at 852-6000.



Ag Committee serves breakfast to KMOT Ag Expo exhibitors

Agribusiness Committee members rolled around coffee and doughnuts on carts provided by the committee for Ag Expo exhibitors as a way to say thank you for taking part in this major event.



Save the date:
25th Annual International Military Ball
is set for Saturday, April 13, 2013
6 p.m. • Holiday Inn

Income-eligible flood survivors encouraged to apply

The City of Minot's programs to help residents rehab or reconstruct flood-damaged properties are now open to all income-eligible residents, regardless of age or current living situation. Flood survivors who are homeowners and qualify as earning low to moderate incomes (see chart below) can begin applying immediately for programs to rehab or reconstruct flood-damaged properties in Minot. The City's programs are being funded through Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) dollars.

Current applications from those in the priority one group (seniors or disabled homeowners living in a FEMA temporary housing unit (THU)) and priority two group (anyone currently living in a FEMA THU) have not filled the available dollars in the two programs. Since the middle of

September, when the program first made applications available, 124 applications have been picked up and 84 individuals or families have undergone an intake appointment.

To be eligible for these CDBG-DR programs in Minot, a person must have been the owner of the damaged house at the time of the 2011 Mouse River flood (and have that house be their primary residence), be income eligible, plan to re-occupy the home as their primary residence after repairs (and remain for three years if a rehabilitation or five years if a reconstruction), maintain homeowner and flood insurance on the home during the compliance period and the home cannot be in a floodplain or within the footprint of the enhanced flood protection plan. The Minot Disaster Recovery Services office in Arrowhead Mall is administering the programs. Flood sur-

vivors may call 701-837-5813 or drop by their suite for more information and an application form.

The housing rehabilitation program and the housing reconstruction program are designed to assist approximately 140 low- to moderate-income (LMI) residents. Those who qualify for the programs may be eligible for up to \$60,000 for rehabilitation and \$150,000 for reconstruction.

The chart below shows the income levels a person or family must be at to qualify as a LMI earner in Ward County.

1 Person: \$35,750 4 Person: \$51,050 7 Person: \$63,350
2 Person: \$40,850 5 Person: \$55,150 8 Person: \$67,400
3 Person: \$45,950 6 Person: \$59,250

TrainND offers a one-day training for oil and gas industry

TrainND will offer an introduction to oil and gas operations Thursday, March 14 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This eight-hour course of classroom instruction is a comprehensive primer on oil and gas operations designed for administrative support staff and newcomers to the oil and gas industry in North Dakota. From basic geology and reservoir characteristics to regulations, tools, and procedures required throughout the life-cycle of a well — this course aims to provide participants

with resources, concepts, and terminology to more efficiently and productively function in an oil and gas environment. Learn the rules and regulations that govern and define the daily activities of an oil and gas administrative professional.

Participants will learn about:

- reservoirs
- geology
- ND Williston Basin
- mapping and surface issues
- drilling rig components

- well logging practices
- well completions
- common oil field tools
- workovers
- plugging a well
- spills and releases
- remediation

Cost is \$325 per person. To register, please call the TrainND office in Minot at 857-7594 or 1-800-322-2614.

You Are Invited to a New Member Reception

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2013 • 5 – 7 p.m.

Holiday Inn (2200 Burdick Expy. E.)

*As a new member of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce,
we want to say thank you!*

*Come and learn about the Chamber and have an opportunity
to tell us about your business.*

RSVP the Chamber by Feb. 22

852-6000 • chamber@minotchamber.org

Year-end editorial from Minot Mayor Curt Zimbleman

While it seems like an overused phrase, 2012 was truly one for the record books while also being a year of great change in Minot. With the ongoing flood recovery efforts and the energy impact due to the oil boom, our region has been through a lot in 2012.

Before I get too far, I want to thank all the many volunteers, businesses, friends, neighbors and even complete strangers who have helped the Magic City continue recovering from the 2011 Mouse River flood. You have proved to be a resilient, caring, resourceful, compassionate people willing to help when times are tough. As well, a pat on the back to all those who are working to manage the growth and change coming at us from every direction.

Flood Recovery

As I look back on 2012, I see a lot of key points to highlight when it comes to flood recovery. All intersection signals and street lights were repaired, the dead loops and main portions of the Mouse River were cleaned of garbage and flood debris was hauled away from homes - more than 56,500 tons! According to the City Assessor's Office, 80 percent of the homes with main-floor flood damage are now habitable; and a report released this summer showed 97 percent of businesses affected by the flood remain open one year later. In many ways our community made great strides in 2012.

State assistance from the November 2011 Special Legislative Session allowed for direct loans through the Bank of North Dakota, housing rehab and citizen retention grant dollars from the North Dakota Adjutant General's Office through the Souris Valley Long Term Recovery committee, millions through the State Water Commission for voluntary property acquisitions and infrastructure grants from the North Dakota Department of Trust Lands. We have much to be thankful for when it comes to state support toward key flood recovery initiatives.

We will need more support from our state to continue this process. A request is in the Governor's Budget for \$61 million from the 2013 State Legislature that would make a second round of voluntary property acquisitions a reality. These acquisitions would be made to homes within the footprint of the enhanced flood protection plan. The process of formulating guidelines, policies and procedures related to this round of acquisitions is currently under way.

An enhanced flood protection plan, with levees and floodwalls designed up to the flood of record, was adopted in April 2012 by the Minot City Council. Leadership continues with efforts to secure as much federal and state assistance as possible to help build this project. This is a long-term endeavor which will need a large portion of the \$820 million price tag to be paid for locally. Input from residents on how they would like to assist with paying for more flood protection is very important.

Minot residents received hundreds of millions in grants and low-interest loans from the federal government over the past 18 months. As well, the City has laid out an Action Plan for flood recovery that uses \$67.5 million in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funds.

Input from residents and the approval of City Council has laid out a plan that includes \$14 million

for rehab/reconstruction of flooded homes, an expansion of the City landfill, acquisition of empty flooded properties to develop affordable housing, new northern sewer and water lines that make it possible for those who were flooded and do not wish to return to the valley to have more choices on where to live, a fire station on the east side of town and other key projects.

As of the end of 2012 the number of Ward County residents living in FEMA temporary housing units shrank from nearly 2,000 families or individuals down to under 600. A lot of work is still left to be done to ensure all who are interested in a permanent housing solution as a result of having been flooded have a fair chance to find that housing. Conversations continue that would allow a portion of those least able to pay high rents or least able to afford a house get a chance to buy their FEMA temporary housing unit and keep it out on site, just off 55th Street.

In mid-December, the City Council decided unanimously to not push forward with the Advisory Base Flood Elevation that would have changed the floodplain in the valley. And while the floodplain, as determined by the federal government, will likely still change in the next three to five years, not implementing this now will allow the community to continue healing without the burden of a new floodplain and more restrictive construction regulations.

And while there is much good, much progress to recognize, we can't let up - we must finish the job; we must do all that is possible to help those who are helping themselves get back into permanent housing. I, and the City, remain dedicated to our long-term flood recovery and the stability that will bring to our neighborhoods and families.

Energy-related Growth

Recovering from the 2011 Mouse River flood isn't the only thing to be remembered from 2012, our region's reaction to and impact from the ongoing energy boom remains high on the list. With the greater Minot population likely at more than 50,000 (compared to a 2010 Census count of 40,888) our City is experiencing real and significant development pains.

Airport services are booming, with plans and funding on its way to support a terminal three times the size of the current facility. Enplanements over the last couple of years have grown from around 65,000/year to over 220,000/year. The Governor's Budget request shows \$60 million targeted for oil-impacted airports to address growth challenges - the Minot Airport would need to receive a minimum of \$25 million of this to ensure the expansion can be completed by the middle of 2015.

Growth on North Hill, the northeast side of Minot and the south side of town continues to exceed even the boldest of predictions. Everything from new grocery stores to large neighborhoods to small businesses opening up has been the talk of 2012 and will, no doubt, continue into the New Year. Upcoming improvements to Downtown Minot thanks to likely EDA disaster grant funds, city funding and private investments totaling more than \$100 million are due to a combination of factors and should continue to strengthen the heart of our City.

The hotel sector of our economy experienced a boom in 2012 as at least 10 new hotels opened their

doors, adding nearly 800 rooms in just 12 months.

The number of oil or energy-related businesses and employees calling the Magic City home is on the rise. In 2010 the City tracked 15 new businesses with around 500 employees. Today, more than 50 companies proudly employ nearly 3,000 people.

A quick look at annual statistics in building permits shows a huge jump in recent years, largely attributable to the energy boom. Let's compare the past couple of years: for total building permits issued by the City; 2010 was a record-setting year with \$100 million, and 2011 doubled that record as Minot permitted \$204.5 million in construction. 2012 shattered the record, as we issued over \$300 million in residential and business building permits. \$600 million in just three years! That's what a City of our size, experiencing modest three percent growth, would normally see in 10 to 12 years.

In response to our City's increasing needs, staffing within City personnel will grow in 2013 by ten percent. Minot's police force, firemen and support staff in areas like public works, engineering and city planning will get a boost from additional personnel to better serve the City; 31.5 new positions will be added in 2013. Given Minot's growth, the extreme level of stress on water, sewer, roads, landfill and all other city functions is no surprise. The Governor's budget for 2013-2015 includes a \$214 million statewide funding request for oil-impacted needs in the western part of the state, just like what we are experiencing. The City is requesting at least \$15 million of these Oil & Gas Impact Grant Funds to assist our community so the cost of this dramatic growth isn't supported solely by utility rates and property taxes.

Running a city of 50,000 people isn't just about the roads, garbage collection or keeping up with incredible growth - it's also about maintaining a high quality of life. While our public schools and park system are run by other professionals and elected leaders, I would be remiss not to mention some of what 2012 meant to them. Like all of us, the Minot Public Schools and the Minot Park District are bouncing back from the flood as fast as can be expected and managing growth as well as can be expected. With assistance from FEMA, the State of North Dakota, the City's community facilities sales tax fund and thousands of volunteers, our parks, schools and all those many things that make us who we truly are continue to improve. 2012 programs such as the "Weekend of Hope: Return to Oak Park" first anniversary commemoration, Stars of Hope and the Minot air show "Soaring over the Souris" are great efforts to not only maintain, but improve the quality of life in Minot.

Thanks for all you do to help the Magic City be what it is today. We are likely to continue seeing change in many ways in our community. Please know that your elected leaders and city staff will continue to work hard to do everything possible in flood recovery, oil impact and all other areas of need. Happy New Year!

Curt Zimbleman

Letter to the Editor

January 6, 2013

MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

Giving Hearts Day Feb. 14

Five Minot non-profits were selected to participate in Giving Hearts Day, a fundraiser sponsored by the Dakota Medical Foundation and Impact Foundation. The selected non-profits are Domestic Violence, Høstfest-Heritage Foundation, Kalix, Minot Public School Foundation and YWCA. This is a first-time entry into this activity by Minot charities.

Giving Hearts Day is a 24-hour online fundraising event to take place on Valentine's Day. Giving Hearts Day had its beginning in 2008 by the Dakota Medical Foundation and Impact Foundation. The Dakota Medical Foundation and other generous sponsors match up to \$4,000 in donations for each charity. In 2012, the one-day event raised \$1.6 million for 140 charities in North Dakota and western Minnesota.

These five organizations are working together for the greater Minot area, providing a wonderful opportunity for the community to "give from the heart" on Valentine's Day and make a huge difference in the lives of many, especially with all the Matching Funds available.

How You Can Help

Your \$25 donation becomes \$50 for the organization of your choice, \$100 becomes \$200. Many individuals and groups provide the dollars to be matched. Donations between \$10 and \$4,000 will be matched and are tax deductible.

To contribute online in 3 easy steps, go to

1. impactgiveback.org

2. Select the organization of your choice.

3. Click on "Donate"

Wish to honor someone? Send an e-Valentine card to a friend or family to let them know a gift has been made in their honor!

Have a Heart Food Drive to benefit Minot

The month of February marks the 10th annual "Have a Heart" Food Drive. Coordinated by the Minot Area Homeless Coalition, the food drive benefits soup kitchens and food pantries throughout the area. During the month of February community members are asked to donate non-perishable foods as well as cleaning and personal hygiene products. Donations are being accepted at Cross Roads Baptist Church, Little Flower, Christ Lutheran Church, Bethany Lutheran Church, Gate City Bank, KMOT, Old Navy, First Presbyterian Church, North Central Human Service Center and at each Town & Country Credit Union branch. Monetary donations can be sent to the Minot Area Homeless Coalition, P.O. Box 1062, Minot, ND 58702. For more information, call the MAHC office at 852-6300.

Noble Inn open house Feb. 28

The Noble Inn, located at 1009 20th Ave SE, announces the opening of their newly constructed



66 all-suite hotel. Owner, Peter Stalland, invites you to attend the Noble Inn's Grand Opening, Thursday, February 28, 2013, from 4 to 7 p.m. for tours, food and beverage. Door prizes will be drawn throughout the event.

Help provide dollars for scholarships

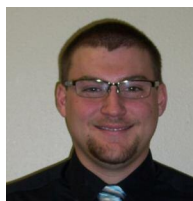
Minot Area Dollars for Scholars® is a local organization with the primary purpose of providing scholarships to students from Minot High, Bishop Ryan and Our Redeemer's Christian School as they pursue a post-secondary education. Since 1994, Minot Area Dollars for Scholars has awarded 167 scholarships worth more than \$84,500.00.

As an all-volunteer organization, Minot Area Dollars for Scholars® relies on members of the business community to serve on its governing board. Board members commit to serve for a three-year term with a monthly commitment of two to three hours. If interested in learning more about helping students achieve post secondary education goals and becoming a part of the local board please contact Kathleen Henjum at jhenjum@min.midco.net or call 420-6716.

Minot Area Dollars for Scholars is a chapter of Scholarship America's Dollars for Scholars® program, which serves over 3,000 communities throughout the United States.

American welcomes Murphy

American Bank Center announces Shawn Murphy as Ag Banking Officer at the Minot location. Murphy is a graduate of North Dakota State University and holds a degree in Agricultural Economics.



Shawn Murphy

Home & Garden show set for March 16-17

The Minot Association of Builders (MAB) will present its 38th Annual Home & Garden Show at the Magic Place, ND State Fair Center Saturday, March 16 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, March 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Exhibitors displaying the newest in products, materials and services from the home construction/remodeling industry, gardening/landscaping and many other associated businesses can be seen in over 50,000 feet of exhibit area. Interesting and useful seminars will be held both days.

This year the Dream Catchers will be the beneficiary of funds raised in a raffle for lawn furniture constructed by Burdick Job Corps Facilities Maintenance students and instructors and sponsored by MAB. Tickets are available from Dream Catchers families, the Minot Association of Builders as well as at the Show.

For more information call the MAB office at 852-0496.

"Love Without Fear" Walkathon Feb. 23

The Domestic Violence Prevention Foundation is sponsoring its 12th 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 Walk-a-thon will be held Feb. 23, 2013, 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 for the children of the walkers. This is a great way to spend a fun day with your family as well as contributing to a worthwhile cause.

There will be a prize given to the team that raises the most money. Each walker will be given a "Love Without Fear" T-shirt for participating.

Please call Kari at the Domestic Violence Crisis Center at 852-2258 for more information. Walk-a-thon team packets are available at 3331 Burdick Expressway East in Minot.

Taube Museum sponsors Soup It Up

The Taube Museum of Art in Minot will host the sixth annual Soup It Up! fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 2, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. What better way to spend a chilly Saturday than with friends surrounded by art and enjoying mouth-watering soups from Minot master chefs. For the price of a ticket, the first 200 attendees will take home a hand crafted ceramic soup bowl created by the MSU Ceramics Department, Hi-Performance Ceramics, or the Magic City Campus Ceramics Department!

Master Chefs from 10 North Main, Primo's, Spicy Pickle, Big Time Bistro, Olive Garden, Ebeneezers, and Taube Museum of Art are contributing their time and soup for this heartwarming event. Breads and desserts will be provided by Marketplace Foods and Museum members.

Live music by Leonard Haabak and a silent auction featuring gift baskets, pottery, and art items will also be offered. A portion of the proceeds from the silent auction will benefit the MSU Ceramics Department Scholarship Fund. MSU Ceramics Department faculty and students and Jim Bailey with Hi Performance Ceramic Studio will have pottery available for purchase and in the Museum Gift Shop.

Tickets are \$16 for nonmembers; \$12 for members and MSU students; and half price for children 8 or younger (which does not include ceramic bowl). Not a member? Join by Feb. 2 and receive a half-price ticket! Proceeds support the Taube Museum of Art, a non-profit art organization.

Museum and gift shop hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Please call 838-4445 for more information.

MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

Ackerman-Estvold welcomes new employees

Emory Shafter recently joined Ackerman-Estvold Engineering and Management Consulting, Inc. as a senior civil designer.

Shafter earned an associate of science degree in Civil Design and Drafting Technology from the Design Institute in Las Vegas, Nevada. He brings over 12 years of design experience to the Ackerman-Estvold team. Shafter previously worked for HB Consulting in Nevada, where he was instrumental in designing civil improvement plans for residential, commercial and municipal development projects.



Emory Shafter

Ackerman-Estvold Engineering and Management Consulting, Inc. is pleased to introduce Dan Larson, PE, as a project engineer. Larson earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the University of Minnesota. Larson brings over 15 years of experience in land development, site design, and municipal engineering to the Ackerman-Estvold team. His experience includes serving as Project Engineer for consulting firms in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota.



Dan Larson, PE

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 surrounding states.

Fuller joins KK BOLD account team

KK BOLD is pleased to announce that Cathy Fuller has joined our agency's account team.

Fuller has 18 years professional experience, including 12 years experience in marketing and management. She began her career as a graphic artist having earned an AAS degree in Graphic Communications from Bismarck State College (BSC). Her professional background, coupled with her perspective from both the marketing and creative spheres, perfectly suits her for her new role as account manager where she will be working with KK BOLD's growing clientele in developing marketing strategies that increase their brand's visibility and improves their bottom line.



Cathy Fuller

KK BOLD provides services in advertising, branding, interactive, media, public relations,

and casino marketing for clients across the upper Midwest and western United States. KK BOLD is dedicated to helping our clients build more effective brands by integrating brand strategy and brand identity. Our clients come to us with a wide range of challenges that share one common objective: build a more effective brand by managing consumers' expectations for their company's competitive advantage. Headquartered in Bismarck, KK BOLD also has offices in Minot and Las Vegas, Nevada.

U.S. News ranks MSU online business programs among the best

The *U.S. News & World Report* reported in January that Minot State University's College of Business online graduate programs and MSU undergraduate online programs rank among the country's best online education programs. Recognizing the growing significance of online education in the university experience and the unique, numerous factors involved in making online degree programs successful, *U.S. News* released its annual "Top Online Education Programs" rankings.

Among universities reporting their graduate business program practices, the CoB's online Master of Science in management and Master of Science in information systems ranked 18th in the nation (top 7 percent) for "Faculty Credentials and Training." They also ranked 44th (top 20 percent) for "Student Services and Technology," 64th (top 30 percent) for "Admissions Selectivity" and 81st (top 38 percent) for "Overall Rank." In addition, the programs are among the most affordable online master's programs in the nation.

"We are thrilled to rank so well among our national peers who offer similar degree programs," said JoAnn Linrud, College of Business dean. "Our faculty have been committed to online education for over a decade, and our best feedback comes from our students."

For the overall performance of its online undergraduate programs, MSU ranked 54th for "Faculty Credentials and Training," 62nd for "Student Engagement" and 51st for "Overall Rank." MSU's online bachelor's degree programs include management, management information systems, marketing, international business, nursing for registered nurses, general studies, applied management and applied business information technology.

According to Linrud, about 16 percent of CoB students take their major business program completely online, while approximately 80 percent take at least one course online.

U.S. News ranked online bachelor's degree programs and online master's degree programs in business, engineering, nursing, education and computer information technology. Programs

needed to have at least 80 percent of their course content available online.

For questions, contact Linrud at 858-3110 or joann.linrud@minotstateu.edu.

MSU art offers open-studio opportunities

To combat winter doldrums, the Minot State University Program of Art is offering a variety of open-studio workshops to the public during spring semester.

"To address an often-expressed community need, we have organized open-studio opportunities," said Linda Olson, Division of Humanities chair. "We look forward to working with community members."

The open-studio workshops are:

- Feb. 20: "Introduction to Airbrushing" with art professor Bill Harbort
- March 6: "Image Transfers" with art instructor Ryan Stander
- March 27: "Monotype Night!" with Micah Bloom, assistant art professor
- April 10: "Photograms" with art instructor Ryan Stander

Class sizes are limited, and each class has costs associated with it. Please register online: minotstateu.edu/cel/OpenArtStudioClasses.shtml

For additional information, contact Amy Woodbeck, professional and community education coordinator, at 858-3989 or amy.woodbeck@minotstateu.edu.

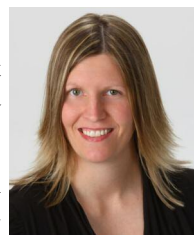
Bobylev granted MSU's first patent

In December, Mikhail Bobylev, associate professor of chemistry, obtained a United States patent for a method of synthesis of new agrochemicals and pharmaceuticals. Because of his research, what previously took hours in the laboratory can now be completed almost instantly.

Before coming to the U.S. 20 years ago from Russia, Bobylev obtained 16 to 18 patents in his homeland and one in Finland. This is his first U.S. patent, and Bobylev is the first MSU faculty member to secure a patent.

Thuner promoted to executive mortgage officer

Town & Country Credit Union has promoted Lisa Thuner to executive mortgage officer. She is originally from Kenmare and earned a degree in finance in 2002 from Minot State University. Thuner has been with Town & Country Credit Union since 2011 and has eight years of experience working with mortgage borrowers as a loan originator. As an executive mortgage officer, Thuner's primary focus will be helping borrowers secure financing for their home purchasing or refinancing needs.



Lisa Thuner

MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

New arts and cultural website aims to connect and grow the local creative community

As emerging artists, performers, event coordinators, arts organizations and vendors discover their role in economic vitality, myNDarts.com positions itself as the go-to source for Minot's cultural events and artistic experiences.

Whether you're a jazz band looking to land a gig in the 6th Annual Jazz Festival, a craft maker looking to showcase your work, an emerging artist trying to make a name for yourself or an arts' enthusiast looking to add to your collection, you need to be in-the-know about Minot's cultural happenings and artistic experiences. Now the creative community can discover local events and reach more audience members with www.myNDarts.com, a joint collaboration between Arts North Dakota and arts councils in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot.

MyNDarts.com, previously culturalpulse.org, represents a next generation approach to establish a fresh and exciting destination where emerging and established artists, performers, musicians, arts organizations, vendors, and event coordinators can connect and find more information on the latest artistic and cultural happenings.

A survey of the local creative community and influential at various arts' councils around the state indicated that the previous website needed to make vast improvements to keep up with the rapidly changing web and social media environments of the arts' community to stay relevant. MyNDarts.com represents that refreshing change by emphasizing user personalization and interactive features, ultimately putting visitors in command.

"The launch of myNDarts.com comes at a unique time for our city," says Minot Area Council of the Arts', Executive Director Terri Aldrich. "We wanted to start 2013 with an uptick because we have a growing population of people who want to discover more about artistic and cultural events in Minot, as well as artists, performer who want to showcase their talents."

"That's why we prioritized revamping the website so that it allows visitors to find and rate Minot events, discover more opportunities to connect with each other, and reach out to new audiences," she adds.

Visitors can expect to discover all the latest events and news about Minot's music, dance, live theatre, art exhibits, culinary arts, and fashion. New and intuitive features on myNDarts.com put visitors in control so that they never run out of things to do. A new home page, a Featured Artist section, and a personalized Featured Events section can give myNDarts.com users an interactive experience that makes it feel personable and relevant to every visitor.

In addition to these updates, myNDarts.com can make it possible for visitors to search for special events and opportunities via an intuitive search bar. For example, if a visitor wants to discover what events are occurring downtown, the keyword entered can be just "downtown" or "events downtown" This new and flexible search will consistently provide visitors with the reliable results they need.

Other website features include a blog, social media and sharing tools, and an "Audience Connect" dashboard where users can manage their own content, promote themselves via myNDarts.com, and access reports on how users are engaging with their content.

It's not just the goal of designing a feature-rich and user-friendly website that's driving the folks behind myNDarts.com. After all, in the words of Aldrich, "our revamped website was created to highlight and meet the unique needs of the local creative community!"

Minot clinic hires additional physician

St. Alexius Medical Clinic in Minot has hired an internal medicine physician to join its staff. Lance Monteau, MD, specializes in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases in adults. As an internal medicine physician, he is skilled in the management of patients who have diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and similar or multi-system diseases.

Dr. Monteau completed his residency in internal medicine and received his doctoral degree at University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine. He spent time at University of Northern Norway Medical School as an exchange student and completed a mentorship at Mayo Clinic. Prior to coming to St. Alexius Medical Clinic, Dr. Monteau worked as an internal medicine physician in Bismarck.

Dr. Monteau attended Bishop Ryan High School in Minot and considers Minot his home. He is licensed to practice medicine in North Dakota.

Health Trades and Technology Career Fair set for April 9 at State Fair Center

The Region II Transition Community of Practice Committee is presenting a Health, Trades and Technology Career Fair Tuesday April 9, 2013, at the North Dakota State Fair Center in Minot. This is being offered to students in grades 9-12 who are planning on attending two years of post-secondary training or less. This is a "hands on" career fair as well so the students will be able to participate in an activity that is required as part of that career. The committee is looking for employers to be a part of this career fair. There is no charge for the employer to attend; just a matter of visiting with students.

For more information, call 857-8645.

This career fair is being made possible through the North Dakota College Access Challenge Grant which is administered by Bank of North Dakota.

Rasmussen College offers reduced tuition

Rasmussen College announced a tuition reduction that will save students thousands of dollars and help decrease student debt upon graduation. In an effort to continuously provide students with the best college investment possible, Rasmussen College is lowering tuition costs an average of 12 percent nationally for full-time students. Depending on each student's location and program, this reduction can be up to 24 percent. The regionally accredited college has not increased tuition since 2010.

Rasmussen College is also locking in tuition rates for students who are continuously enrolled. It is also an incentive for students to stay enrolled, a critical element in on-time graduation, which also helps minimize education debt. The new tuition structure was developed to help students maximize the value of their academic investment and was made possible through reductions in the College's overall operating expenses.

To learn more, go to www.Rasmussen.edu/FACT.

NDSC'S ANNUAL SAFETY & HEALTH
CONFERENCE
CELEBRATING 40 Years
FEBRUARY 5-7, 2013 • BISMARCK CIVIC CENTER

- Huge selection of courses
- Affordable as always

NDSC Members and WSI Policy Holders receive HUGE discounts!

LEARN MORE OR REGISTER NOW!

Register at www.ndsc.org

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Ambassadors Committee , 7:30 a.m., Burdick Job Corps Center	2 Legislative Forum , 9 – 11 a.m., ND State Fair Center
3	4 Right Start Presentation , 12:30 p.m., MAFB	5 First Dollar of Profit Presentations , 10 a.m., Various locations	6	7 Military Affairs Committee , Noon, Grand Int'l.	8 Infrastructure Committee , 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders Restaurant	9 Legislative Forum , 9 – 11 a.m., ND State Fair Center
10	11 Ribbon Cutting , 11 a.m., PATH, 1425 21st Ave. NW	12 Eagle Awards Presentation , 10 a.m., Chamber office	13 Right Start Presentation , 10 a.m., MAFB	14	15	16 Legislative Forum , 9 – 11 a.m., ND State Fair Center
17	18 President's Day - Office Closed	19 Board of Directors , 7:30 a.m., Grand Int'l.	20 Lunch & Learn , Noon, Grand Int'l.	21 Diplomats Committee , 9 a.m., Parker Center Off the Vine Business After Hours , 15 Main Street South, 5 – 7 p.m.	22	23 Legislative Forum , 9 – 11 a.m., ND State Fair Center
24	25	26 New Member Reception , 5 p.m., Holiday Inn	27 Right Start Presentation , 10 a.m., MAFB Junior Achievement Committee , Noon, Chamber	28 Energy Committee , 11:30 a.m., Vegas Motel Noble Inn Ribbon Cutting , 1009 20th Ave SE, 4 p.m.		

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