



## INSIDE THE COMMUNICATOR

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

*Page 3: Annual  
Sportsmen's Feed  
Jan. 19.*

*Page 4:  
Eagle Award win-  
ners named.*

*Page 5:  
Ambassadors  
celebrate with area  
businesses.*

*Page 6-9: Members  
offer updates.*

*Page 10:  
Calendar of events*

## ND Chamber supports North Dakotans for Common Sense Conservation group

The Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce (GNDC) has agreed to join the broad-based coalition supporting North Dakotans for Common Sense Conservation. Why? It's the best way to defeat the ill-conceived proposed constitutional amendment that would commit five percent of North Dakota's oil extraction tax – conservatively estimated at \$200 million a biennium – to a new fund with no clear idea of how it would be spent, yet mandate \$2 million a week be spent on conservation projects.

GNDC supports conservation efforts and safeguarding the environment, but this measure is the wrong approach. The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce has joined GNDC, and here are the reasons why the groups oppose it:

- The supporters of this proposed constitutional amendment are being funded by out-of-state special interest groups. A report filed with the Secretary of State's office at the end of last year showed the group received 95 percent of its money from outside our state.
- It would divert billions of dollars of state funding that could otherwise be spent on schools, education, infrastructure, emergency services and tax relief.
- The money from this fund can be granted to state agencies, tribal and local governments, political subdivisions and non-profit groups. Some of the

non-profits that will likely benefit from it would be the Sierra Club, the Nature Conservancy, the Dakota Resource Council and other radical environmental and wilderness organizations.

- Putting this in the state's Constitution is not the proper way to fund conservation programs. Any changes to this constitutional amendment could only be corrected by another statewide vote. Passing this would set a dangerous precedence where every special group could try to secure funding through a ballot instead of the Legislature.

- Its advisory board members would be required to have a background in land conservation and/or conservation activism – likely ensuring that only conservation groups would be represented without the input of business or taxpayers.

GNDC and the Minot Chamber are among more than 20 diverse groups that are part of this coalition backing the North Dakotans for Common Sense Conservation. We support them because we already invest over \$100 million per biennium in preservation and conservation in North Dakota.

As its name implies, supporting this effort is just common sense. There are better ways to support conservation programs than through an ill-advised constitutional amendment that would saddle the state with unnecessary mandated spending.

## 43rd KMOT Ag Expo to run Jan. 29 – 31

The 43rd Annual KMOT Ag Expo will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 29 and continue through Friday Jan. 31, 2014, at the State Fair Center on the ND State Fairgrounds. This event will feature over 360 exhibitors.

In past years approximately 30,000 to 40,000 people have attended the largest indoor agricultur-

al show in the upper Midwest.

You can expect to see the latest in agricultural technology and equipment, along with



*Continued on page 2*

## BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

*Minot Commission on Aging (21 1st Ave. SE)*

**Thursday, Jan. 16 • 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 a chance to win \$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.

Publisher .....L. John MacMartin,CCE  
Editor .....Carla Dolan, IOM  
Managing Editor .....Patty Hildenbrand

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAFF

L. John MacMartin, CCE .....President  
Carla Dolan, IOM.....Program Director  
Cheryl Wallen .....Finance Manager  
Lisa Moldenhauer .....Administrative Assistant  
Carla Vannett.....MVD Manager  
Diane Herzog.....MVD Clerk  
Cheryl Lynn Lafontaine .....MVD Clerk  
Tracey Oja .....MVD Clerk  
Allison Reiswig .....MVD Clerk  
Dorothy Sannes .....MVD Clerk  
Lacey Thomas .....MVD Clerk

### MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD

#### MEMBERS:

Randy Hauck **Chair**  
(Verendrye Electric Cooperative) .....852-0406  
Alan Estvold **Chair Elect**  
(Ackerman Estvold Engineering) .....837-8737  
Duane Poynter **Vice Chair**  
(Poynter Ag Supply) .....624-5315  
Pam Karpenko (CleanTech) **Treasurer** .....839-8811  
Jonn Knecht (American Bank Center)  
**Past Chair** .....837-5000  
Bruce Walker (Coldwell Banker/1st  
Minot Realty) **Past Chair** .....852-0136  
Jeremy Becker (SRT Communications, Inc.).....858-1200  
Rob Buchholz (Lowe's Printing) .....852-1211  
Dave Bussard (Staybridge Suites) .....852-0852  
John Coughlin  
(Coughlin Construction & Development) .....852-3401  
Maria Effertz Hanson (Black Butte Communications &  
Consulting).....626-2226  
David Fuller (Minot State University) .....858-3000  
Katie Harsaager (Enbridge) .....857-0800  
Doug Hollingsworth (Northern Tier Federal  
Credit Union).....727-6111, Ext. 116  
Linda Johnson (Home Sweet Home) .....852-5604  
Fred Lien (Lien's Jewelry) .....838-5151  
Chad Schmidt (10 North Main) .....837-1010  
Randy Schwan (Trinity Health) .....857-5635  
Cathy Tweten (Dakota Square) .....839-7500  
Dusty Wald (Magic City Beverage) .....852-4031

## NEW MEMBERS

The Minot Chamber welcomes new members. Join us in thanking **Kemmet Dental Design** and **Ringoen Financial Group**. Please let them know how much of a value they are to our community.

### KEMMET DENTAL DESIGN

1015 S. Broadway, Suite 42 • Minot, ND • 852-4789 • Fax: 852-7273

Email: info@kemmetdental.com • www.kemmetdental.com

Primary Contact: Lindell Kemmet, DDS

Kemmet Dental Design specializes in same-day crowns and state of the art digital x-rays.

### RINGOEN FINANCIAL GROUP

111 11th Ave. SW • Minot, ND • 839-5139 • Fax: 852-6088

Email: ringoenfinancial@srt.com

Primary Contact: Todd Ringoen

Ringoen Financial provides insurance and investment solutions to individuals and businesses in the Minot area, allowing them to plan for the present and the future.

### Continued from page 1

several other exhibits that cover all areas of agriculture in Western North Dakota. The show is guaranteed to have something for everyone, along with the finest livestock in the area as well as informative seminars. For more information call 852-5254 or email [agexpo@kmot.com](mailto:agexpo@kmot.com).

### KMOT Living Ag Classroom

Join area 4th graders as they learn how their food gets from the farmer's fields to the grocery store shelves. The Living Ag Classroom has hosted more than 16,000 students, plus teachers and parents, as they learn about the food chain. By taking a tour of the Living Ag Classroom you can learn about the production and distribution of our food along with the many by-products of crops and animals that are raised in North Dakota. The classroom is held in the Carousel beneath the grandstand and is open

to the public with sessions at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday. SRT Communications and North Dakota Farmers Union sponsor the Living Ag Classroom.

### See you at the KMOT Ag Expo

Parking and admission are free, and a heated shuttle bus offers transportation to the front door. Make sure to stop by the KMOT/Bremer Information Booth, where you can get a copy of the official program with exhibitor maps and listing, as well as seminar room schedule and livestock show schedule.

Come out and enjoy the 43rd Annual KMOT Ag Expo. Everyone can find something to enjoy. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

For more information contact: KMOT Ag Expo, 852-5254, or e-mail: [agexpo@kmot.com](mailto:agexpo@kmot.com).

## RENEWALS

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership Nov. 19 through Dec. 12, 2013. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership  
Lynn Aas  
Ackerman Surveying & Associates  
Alamo/National Car Rental  
All America City Glass  
Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.  
Anytime Fitness  
Border States Electric Supply  
Central Machining & Pump Repair  
Inc.  
Clute Office Equipment  
Dairy Queen West  
Dakota CDC  
Fire Extinguishing Systems Inc.

Food Management Investors, Inc.  
Gaffaney's of Minot, Inc.  
Tecta America/Greenberg Roofing  
Home Sweet Home  
Howard & Associates, P.C  
Mattson Construction Co.  
Minot Area Council of the Arts  
Minot Automotive Center  
Minot Paving Co., Inc.  
Newman Outdoor Advertising  
North Country Sportswear/School &  
Office Supply  
Pro Tank Products, Inc.  
Professional Transportation, Inc.

Quality Landscaping, Inc.  
Riddles Jewelry  
Schatz Crossroads Truck Stop  
Minot Dakota Square Scheels  
Select Ford / Mercury  
Thomas Family Funeral Home  
Thompson Larson Funeral Home  
TSC Farm Home Auto Store  
Tutti Frutti Minot  
City of Velva  
Westlie Motor Co

# *Annual Sportsmen's Feed set for Jan. 19*

The 49th annual Sportsmen's Feed is set for Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014 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.

Participants will enjoy specially prepared wild game, including venison, walleye, pheasant, duck, and turkey, along with all the trimmings.

Tickets are \$30 each, which gets you in the door and also sponsors an airman. Your support is needed to make this event a success. Plus, it will 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.

Enjoy this special day — come for appetizers, come for dinner, or come and spend the



entire 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](mailto:chamber@minotchamber.org).

## *GNDC signs amicus brief to U.S. Supreme Court*

The Greater North Dakota Chamber (GNDC) joined with 74 other state and local business associations from 33 different states in filing an amicus brief in the U.S. Supreme Court outlining the devastating economic effects of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) greenhouse gas regulations. In issuing these regulations, the EPA purports to have the authority to regulate over 6 million new facilities including factories, power plants, bakeries, office buildings, hospitals, multifamily residential buildings, and other "small sources" of greenhouse gases.

"This is an extremely onerous burden for any business to bear, but it will be particularly devastating for small businesses," said Andy Peterson, president and CEO of GNDC. "Additionally, these regulations will certainly raise energy costs throughout the entire supply chain. And, ultimately, these increased costs will be passed along to consumers in the form of price increases."

The GNDC argued in its amicus brief that the threat of these invasive and intrusive regulations produce a "chilling effect" that impacts plans for expanding operations,

entering into new markets, and developing new products. The GNDC explained that both large and small enterprises will understandably hesitate if growth entails the complexities and costs of regulatory compliance. And, those that do decide to grow will necessarily pass those costs onto their customers. The businesses that cannot do so will suffer decreased profits in the midst of the current economic crisis — a setback that can ultimately threaten their survival.

## *Volunteers distribute 16,000 cookies to airmen living on base*



*Thank you to those who contributed to the cookie drive. TEAM MINOT volunteers collected and created about 16,000 cookies, which were packed for distribution to Minot Airmen living in the dormitories. 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.*



## 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](http://minotchamber.org).

A special thank you goes out to **Homesteaders Restaurant** for providing a gift certificate for each Eagle recipient.



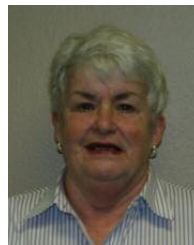
**HEIDI BERTSCH-NORDSTROM**  
*Vintage Homes*



**MELISSA EGGEN**  
*Trinity Surgical Associates*



**TIFFANY DIXON**  
*Trinity Health*



**NARDA SCHIEFERDECKER**  
*JC Penney*



**BRIAN GREEN**  
*United States Postal Service*



**TIM HILL**  
*SRT Connections*



**BRYAN THOMAS**  
*Thomas Family Funeral Home*



**MARY NEW**  
*Town and Country White Drug*



**IGGY DORSCHER**  
*SRT Communications, Inc.*



**MARGIE BANGEN**  
*Our Redeemer's Christian School*



**PATRICIA URWILLER**  
*Applebee's*



**PHIL STACH**  
*Ryan GMC/Buick/Cadillac*



**SANDRA JUNDT**  
*Dollar Market*



**JOCELYN SWEENEY**  
*Longhorn Steakhouse*

## NORTHWEST TIRE SPONSORS SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS AFTER HOURS



*Thank you to Northwest Tire & Auto Service for sponsoring the December Business After Hours. Pictured from left to right: Larry Schmidt (winner of the \$100 gift certificate from Northwest Tire); Randy Hauck (Verendrye Electric Cooperative), Chamber Board Chair; Lisa Hoffman (Rolling Thunder Games), winner of \$50 in Chamber bucks; and Chad Hoff (Northwest Tire).*





## Corpus Clinics

2400 10th St. SW, Suite 418 • Minot, ND 585-7588

Website: [www.corpusclinics.com](http://www.corpusclinics.com)

*This father-son medical clinic specializes in treatment of varicose veins using the latest Sciton laser and sclerotherapy. Ambassadors were on hand to mark the occasion of Ian Corpus joining his father, Ed, in business during an open house.*



## Inspired Interiors

119 Main Street S. • Minot, ND • 838-3636

*Ambassadors were on hand to cut the ribbon at the new location for Inspired Interiors in downtown Minot. Check out their beautiful furniture, flooring, decorations and more.*



## Infinite Vapor E-Cig & Supply

317 3rd St. NW • Unit A • Minot, ND

Bill Boldenow • 857-0285

Website: [www.infinitevapor.com](http://www.infinitevapor.com)

*Ambassadors helped celebrate with Infinite Vapor as it joins the Minot community and surrounding area. Infinite Vapor offers a healthier option to help people stop smoking.*

## MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

### **Clean Tech employees receive certification**

Clean Tech is proud to announce that Marshall Howard and Vince Pallotta have recently qualified by education and examination as Certified Water Restoration Technician status through the Clean Trust (IICRC). This course provided hands-on training combined with extensive classroom education. The Clean Trust



**Marshall Howard**



**Vince Pallotta**

is a nonprofit, standard-setting organization dedicated to raising industry standards through technical proficiency. Consumers benefit with certified technicians by receiving the highest quality of care, knowledge, and professionalism.

### **American Bank Center supports nine affordable housing projects**

American Bank Center has contributed \$220,000 to the North Dakota Housing Incentive Fund, dividing the dollars between nine affordable projects that will provide housing for elderly and disabled individuals and families, and will create workforce housing, according to a press release.

The Housing Incentive Fund provides developers of affordable rental housing with low-cost financing if units are set aside for essential-service workers and low- to moderate-income households. The fund is capitalized by contributions from state taxpayers.

This is American Bank Center's fourth and largest contribution to fund. The bank has contributed \$420,000 to it altogether.

American Bank Center's most recent contribution was directed to projects in Dickinson, Bismarck, Burlington, Devils Lake, Mandan and Minot.

The North Dakota Industrial Commission recommended that the Legislature re-authorize the Housing Incentive Fund during the 2013 session. The North Dakota Housing Finance Agency, which administers the fund, received a \$15.4 million general fund appropriation and was authorized to further capitalize the program by issuing \$20 million in state tax credits.

In early November, the Housing Finance Agency announced it has committed all of its authorized Housing Incentive Fund money to a total of 34 projects, leveraging \$150 million in construction financing. The agency is now focused on fully capitalizing the fund so the units created are affordable.

Housing Incentive Fund contributions can be targeted to a specific project or designated for general use in a community or region. Individuals and businesses contributing to the fund receive a dollar-for-dollar state tax credit. The Housing

Finance Agency has until Dec. 31, 2014, to fully capitalize the fund.

### **Tharaldson and Cline join AE2S**

AE2S (Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.) has hired Gary Cline, PE, as chief development officer, and Trevor Tharaldson as an engineer in training in the firm's Minot office.

In his new role, Cline will develop strategies to ensure the firm's continued growth and stability by broadening the services and client base of AE2S and its affiliated companies. This will include the development and execution of strategic marketing and business plans through collaborative efforts with the Executive, Marketing, and Operations teams and the sales staff.



**Gary Cline, PE**

Cline brings more than 30 years of water and wastewater experience from Malcolm Pirnie, one of the leading water and environmental consulting firms in the nation, and ARCADIS US, a global engineering and consulting firm. He served in various roles including Director of Planning and Process Engineering, Strategic Business Development Leader, and Director of Technical Knowledge and Innovation (Water).

"Gary possesses the kind of technical expertise that's ideal for our clients. He also brings extensive experience with strategic planning, leadership development, strategic growth initiatives, and pursuit strategies," said Steve Burian, PE, AE2S Chief Executive Officer.

Cline is an Environmental Engineer certified by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers, and is an active member of the American Water Works Association. He holds a Master of Science degree in Civil and Sanitary Engineering and a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Michigan State University.

Tharaldson is part of AE2S' Municipal Group and provides Resident Project Representative (RPR) services in Crosby, ND. He will also work on utility improvement projects, which will be constructed in 2014 in Crosby, Surrey, and Minot.

"We have a lot of exciting work underway in cities like Crosby, where we are working on a wastewater lagoon improvement project, water and sewer main improvements in the newly-platted Southridge Acres, a water tower replacement, and street and sidewalk lighting additions," said Antonio Conti, PE, AE2S Project Manager. "Trevor's observational skills and attention to detail serve to ensure work is completed to the highest standards for our clients."

Originally from Fargo, Tharaldson holds a bachelor of



**Trevor Tharaldson**

science degree in civil engineering from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND.

### **US Bank hires Westby as small business relationship manager**

U.S. Bank has hired Clarissa Westby as small business relationship manager in Minot. Westby is based at U.S. Bank's downtown Minot office, located at 17 1st Ave. SW.

In her new role, Westby will help local small business clients with credit and non-credit needs. U.S. Bank is a leader in small business banking, providing a comprehensive suite of products and services, including equipment and real estate loans, business lines of credit and deposit and treasury management products.

A Minot area native, Westby earned a bachelor's degree in finance from Minot State University. She previously served as a credit analyst and mortgage originator for Bremer Bank.

### **Fourth generation Tollefson joins company**

Brandon Tollefson, a fourth generation descendant of Ole Tollefson, was recently promoted to the position of store manager of Tollefson's Carpetland. Tollefson is the fifth Tollefson to manage the store and continue the family heritage of servicing Minot and the surrounding communities. He is a 2010 graduate of Minot State University.

In business since 1925, Tollefson's Retail Group Inc. owns and operates nine Carpet Garage's throughout North Dakota, Montana & Minnesota, 11 Slumberland Furniture franchises in North Dakota & Minnesota, and Tollefson's Carpetland & Tollefson's Contract Flooring in Minot.

### **Builders select Schneider**

The North Dakota Association of Builders has selected Kim Schneider as the new state executive officer. Schneider previously was director of the American Lung Association in North Dakota and worked in advertising firms in Fargo and Minneapolis.

"Kim Schneider is an excellent addition to our Builders team and will work closely with our members and elected leaders to represent our industry," NDAB President-elect Ken Callahan said.

The North Dakota Association of Builders is located in Bismarck and represents six local associations in Bismarck-Mandan, Williston, Minot, Dickinson, Fargo and Grand Forks, along with over 2000 members. Their mission is to represent the professional building industry through legislation, information and education. Schneider is a graduate of Minnesota State University Moorhead and makes her home in Bismarck.



**Kim Schneider**



## MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

### *EAPC receives Outstanding Design Award*

EAPC Architects Engineers, with design consultant OLC, received the Outstanding Design Award for the Minot State University Wellness Center. This award was recognized in the Sports Stadium/Athletic Facility category from American School & University, the information source for education facilities and business professionals.

The Student Wellness Center is a 60,000 square foot facility featuring a gymnasium, multi-activity court, 35-foot pinnacle climbing wall, large cardio and weight areas, open fitness, group exercise room, new locker rooms, assisted changing rooms, conference and meeting areas, and administrative areas for fitness testing and nutritional counseling.

The design team that worked with Brian Beckler, OLC facility designer, included Alan Dostert, principal in charge, and Gloria Larsgaard, project manager.



Minot State University  
Wellness Center

### *Engleman promoted at ND Guaranty*

Andrew S. Engelman, commercial title officer, has been promoted to vice president of the Commercial Services Unit at North Dakota Guaranty & Title Co., Bismarck.

Engelman's promotion coincides with the launch of the new Commercial Services Unit created to address the growing title needs of the commercial, industrial and energy segments of North Dakota's economy.



Andrew Engelman

"Andrew brings significant expertise to this new position," said Tim Pearson, president of North Dakota Guaranty & Title Co. "As we expand this line of business, we will rely heavily on his broad base of experience here at North Dakota Guaranty & Title, as well as his background in banking. Andrew has played a key role in the creation of our Commercial Services Unit and has built a diverse portfolio of state, regional and national clients in advance of the

unit's official launch."

Engelman earned a bachelor's degree from St. John's University, St. Cloud, Minn., and an MBA from the University of Mary, Bismarck. He worked in the financial/banking industry for seven years before joining NDGT in 2009 as a Residential Title Officer. In 2010, he was named a Commercial Title Officer.

Known as "The Title Team," North Dakota Guaranty & Title Co. was founded in 1955. NDGT offers complete title services in each of its eight offices in North Dakota and one in Sidney, Mont. The Commercial Services Unit includes four commercial title officers and a commercial closing officer.

### *Artcobell announces distribution changes in North & South Dakota*

Artcobell welcomes Brown & Saenger as our exclusive dealer partner in North and South Dakota. They will represent our complete line of products, including classroom furniture, mobile cafeteria tables and general line tables.

Brown & Saenger was established in 1889 in Sioux Falls, SD and represents a wide range of quality furniture manufacturers in numerous locations. Lyle Dabbert, President of Brown & Saenger, has over 40 years' experience in the school furniture industry working on redefining education spaces. Mr. Dabbert



and his team have quickly earned a reputation for providing quality education solutions and being responsive to their clients' needs. Brown & Saenger has achieved several awards for providing exceptional customer service. "We at Artcobell look forward to having Brown & Saenger work with our customers and the design community to grow our business in North and South Dakota" said Eric Jackson, President of Artcobell Corporation.

Artcobell takes pride in aligning with the right distribution partners to enhance our customers buying experience by offering them current and relevant solutions for their unique learning environments. For any future needs, please contact Brown & Saenger at (800) 952-3509 located in North & South Dakota.

About Brown & Saenger

Brown & Saenger is your complete source for all your everyday office needs, since 1889. They offer Business Products, Office Furniture, Professional Printing and Promotional Products to businesses and homes. Their headquarters is out

of Sioux Falls, SD and they have branches in Mitchell and Huron, SD and Bismarck, Fargo, Jamestown, Mandan, and Minot, ND. For more information go to [www.brown-saenger.com](http://www.brown-saenger.com).

About Artcobell Company

Artcobell is a leading manufacturer of quality school furniture. Located in Temple, Texas, the company has supported educators with quality classroom furniture since 1927, seating five generations of American students over the past century. Artcobell continues to evolve its products to address customer's unique needs. We were awarded the stringent GREENGUARD® Indoor Air Quality for Children and Schools certification, in June 2007 for our entire product line. Artcobell is part of HNI Corporation, which is the second largest office furniture manufacturer in the world, and the nation's leading manufacturer and marketer of gas and wood-burning fireplaces.

### *Haws promoted*

Kevin Haws has been promoted to full-time survey technician at Houston Engineering, Inc (HEI). He previously worked part-time in the same position.

Haws is a native of Chanhassen, Minn., and attended ITT Tech studying software engineering. He has previous experience working in HVAC and landscaping. He will work out of HEI's Minot office.



Kevin Haws

Houston Engineering provides engineering, surveying and environmental consulting services. Established in Fargo in 1968, the company also has offices in Bismarck, Dickinson and Minot, ND, as well as Barnesville, Maple Grove and Thief River Falls, MN.

### *United Community hires Fuller as senior vice president*

United Community Bank of Minot announces the recent hiring of Rob M. Fuller as senior vice president of commercial lending. Fuller grew up in Minot and spent 16 years in Colorado before returning to his hometown in 2012. He comes to United Community Bank with 11 years of experience in the financial industry. He currently serves on the board for the Domestic Violence Prevention Foundation.



Rob Fuller

## MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

### **Huck new MSU director of public information**

Alysia Huck has been named director of public information at Minot State University, effective Dec. 9.

"Ms. Huck has an impressive background in communications, broadcasting and civic involvement and possesses a genuine commitment and understanding of the people in our community," said David Fuller, MSU president. "Alysia brings those abilities to our university to publicize its critical role in Minot and the region."

A Velva native, Huck received her bachelor's degree in music with a minor in speech, communication and theatre arts from Valley City State University in 2000. While living in Fairbanks, Alaska, she completed coursework toward a Master of Music degree and was a teaching assistant, teaching vocal class. She earned a professional arts certificate in broadcasting from Broadcast Center in St. Louis and worked as a regional sales manager at IMC from 2004 to 2009 and was an on-air personality for iChannel.fm, Bonneville St. Louis Radio Group, 2007-2008. In 2009, Huck and her husband, Aaron, returned to North Dakota, and she started as the evening weekday news anchor and producer for KXMC Television in Minot.

"So many great things are happening at MSU, and I am grateful and excited to be a part of it all," Huck said. "The interaction between students, staff, faculty and the community is amazing and I look forward to strengthening that communication."

Huck has been a member of Kiwanis since 2009.

For questions, contact Huck at 858-3065 or [alysia.huck@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alysia.huck@minotstateu.edu).



*Alysia Huck*

### **Benefis Health and Sanford Health to collaborate**

Benefis Health System, based in Great Falls, MT, and Sanford Health, based in Sioux Falls, SD, have announced a strategic alliance to collaborate on clinical initiatives, physician recruitment and services, information technology, quality programs, research potentials, and healthcare cost reduction.

The alliance, which will maintain the independence of both organizations, will enable both health systems to bring to bear their respective strengths and areas of expertise without impacting ownership or control. With the challenges of healthcare reform, healthcare organizations need to be innovative and this new strategic alliance is an example of relationship innovation.

"Sanford Health, like Benefis, is a not-for-profit healthcare system serving a large rural area," said Benefis CEO John Goodnow. "The cultures

of both organizations are similar and we have many shared values, goals and challenges. Our strategic alliance will provide the framework for us to collaborate in key areas, from highly specialized clinical services to exploring additional technology avenues, including some exciting opportunities in telehealth."

Sanford Health CEO, Kelby Krabbenhoft said, "continued dynamic forces surrounding the healthcare industry make alliances like this more important than ever. Montana's geographic location is contiguous to Sanford's, they are next door to the Dakota's making Benefis a logical partner in working together to improve care for the people of the upper Midwest."

The strategic alliance does not impact the governance or financial structure of either organization.

#### *About Benefis*

Established by Christian missionaries beginning in 1892, Benefis Health System has a long history of caring for our region. Today Benefis serves more than a quarter of a million people across a 15-county area in rural Montana. Located in northcentral Montana, Benefis is home to the state's premier programs for general surgery, neurosciences, women's health, pulmonary care and stroke care, just to name a few areas of excellence in more than 40 specialties. In fact, Benefis was recognized as one of America's 100 Best Hospitals in 2013 by HealthGrades, the nation's leading health ratings organization.

Benefis Health System's comprehensive services and facilities include two hospitals in Great

Falls, Benefis Medical Group offering more than 100 employed providers across more than 20 specialties, a free-standing cancer center, a hospice residential facility, a freestanding orthopedic center, the new Grandview at Benefis senior continuing care community as well as another nursing home, a state-wide home care and durable medical equipment company serving much of the State, Benefis Spectrum Medical, a charitable foundation, the Benefis Health System Foundation, and a network of rural affiliated hospitals. Benefis has more than 2,800 employees and 500 volunteers.

#### *About Sanford*

Sanford Health is an integrated health system headquartered in the Dakotas and is now the largest, rural, not-for-profit health care system in the nation with locations in 126 communities in nine states.

Sanford Health includes 39 hospitals, 140 clinic locations and 1,360 physicians in 81 specialty areas of medicine. With more than 26,000 employees, Sanford Health is the largest employer in North and South Dakota. Denny Sanford's gifts of nearly \$700 million in gifts, are making possible the implementation of several initiatives including global children's clinics, multiple research centers and finding cures for type 1 diabetes and breast cancer. For more information, please visit [sanfordhealth.org](http://sanfordhealth.org).

### **SCHEELS donates to area organizations in Minot**



**SCHEELS is excited and proud to give back to each community of which they are a part. The annual "Year End Day of Giving" was held Thursday, Dec. 19. More than \$140,000 was donated to 35 area organizations. Pictured is Junior Achievement Board Chair Kelly Duchsherer (Affinity First Federal Credit Union), receiving a check for the program from Scheel's Store Manager Aaron Schmitz.**





NORTHERN PLAINS CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

◆ PRESENTS ◆

# CHAMPAGNE *AND* ICE

★ DIAMONDS, BUBBLES & BIDDING ★

\$25

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2014**  
**THE GRAND HOTEL BALLROOM**

ENJOY COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE & HORS D'OEUVRES

COCKTAIL HOUR BEGINS AT 6:00 PM WITH A SILENT  
AUCTION, LIVE AUCTION, AND DANCE TO FOLLOW  
**WITH LIVE MUSIC BY SOULSHINE**

— EMCEE'D BY MINOT'S OWN SHAUN SIPMA —  
EVENTS INCLUDE A DIAMOND RAFFLE SPONSORED BY  
LIEN'S JEWELRY AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY OTIS & JAMES

PURCHASE TICKETS AT: NORTHERN PLAINS CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER, LA DI DA,  
BROADWAY BEAN & BAGEL & SOS IMAGE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT 852-0836



# JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Office Closed <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Right Start Presentation, 10 a.m., MAFB	9 Military Affairs Committee, Noon, MAFB Ambassadors Committee, 4:30 p.m., Vardon Golf Club	10 Infrastructure Committee, 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders	11
12	13 Right Start Presentation FTAC, 12:30 p.m., MAFB	14 Eagle Awards Presentation, 10 a.m., Chamber office	15 Ribbon Cutting, 10 a.m., Mainstream Investors, 1809 S. Broadway, Suite EE	16 Diplomats Committee, 9 a.m., Parker Hotel Ribbon Cutting, 9 a.m., Home Depot, 3425 S. Broadway Business After Hours, 5 – 7 p.m., Minot Commission on Aging, 21 1st Ave. SE	17 Governmental Affairs Committee, 11:30 a.m., Vegas Motel	18
19 Sportsmen's Feed, Noon, MAFB	20	21 Board of Directors, 7:30 a.m., Grand Hotel	22 Right Start Presentation, 10 a.m., MAFB	23 Energy Committee, 11:30 a.m., Vegas Motel	24	25
26	27 Junior Achievement Committee, 7:30 a.m., Chamber office	28	29	30 Ag Committee Serving Coffee, 7 a.m., Ag Expo	31	

To view meeting changes or community events, log on to [www.minotchamber.org](http://www.minotchamber.org)