

Communicator



THE MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND YOU

Vol. XVIII, Issue No. 11

www.minotchamber.org

November 2014



ACCREDITED

VOTE TUESDAY, NOV. 4:

Chamber offers ballot measure information

Inside the Communicator

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November 4 is fast approaching, and in preparation for the ballot issues, the Greater North Dakota Chamber (GNDC) has prepared a Voter Guide for its members. The text of that guide is attached and provides a good analysis of the pros and cons on each of the eight ballot measures. Please note that the State Chamber has taken a position on a number of the ballot measures; those positions reflect the State Chamber's stance and not that of the Minot Chamber.

Having said that, there are two ballot measures upon which the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce has taken a position. The first is on the proposed Constitutional Measure 3, which would change the governance of higher education. Your Minot Chamber believes that this proposal is wrong, and it will not serve the state of North Dakota or the university system. We urge a no vote on Measure 3.

Likewise, your Minot Chamber has been part of the

statewide coalition of organizations that oppose the passage of the proposed constitutional Measure Number 5. Much has been said about Measure 5. We believe in conservation, and clean water and parks, but Measure 5 is not the way to achieve this. For the proponents of Measure 5, it is all about the money, money which is needed for infrastructure and schools in all of North Dakota both today and in the future. We urge a no vote on Measure 5.

Finally, if you agree that Measure 5 needs to be defeated and would like a "Vote No on Measure 5" yard sign, they are available here at the Chamber.

Thanks for your consideration of our thoughts and please remember to vote either during the early voting period or on Nov. 4.

See ballot details on pages 3 and 4.



Annual meeting highlights successful year for Minot

The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce 91st Annual Meeting took place Oct. 16 at the Grand Hotel. The noon hour meeting was a time for outgoing Chair of the Board Randy Hauck (Verendrye Electric Cooperative) to reflect on the past year, and time for new Chair Alan Estvold (Ackerman Estvold) to fire up the membership for what's to come.

During the meeting, outgoing board members John Coughlin (Coughlin Construction & Development), Pam Karpenko (CleanTech and Mainstream Boutique), Maria Effertz Hanson (Black Butte Communications & Consulting), and Bruce Walker

(Coldwell Banker/1st Minot Realty) were recognized for their work on the board. Four other awards were given during the event.

Spirit of Growth Award: Peoples State Bank of Velva

The Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors awarded the 2014 Spirit of Growth Award to Peoples State Bank of Velva. This company, led by

Continued to page 5

Bet on a great time at the Showcase of Business Nov. 20

Booths are filling up fast for the 25th annual Showcase of Business set for Nov. 20 at the ND State Fair Center. The event is a great way for members to display their services and products to a casino theme.

Sponsored by KXMC CBS13, the Showcase of Business provides ample space with wide aisles, as well as special locations for automobiles, recreational vehicles, and other oversized merchandise. KXMC CBS13 is giving away the grand prize, which is a Sharp AQUOS 60-inch, 120 mhz LED Smart TV, and MLT Vacations will once again give away a trip for

two.

Booth sizes are 10' x 10' (\$175) or 15' x 15' (\$275). Booths will offer exposure to more than 1,000 potential clients. To register, visit www.minotchamber.org and sign up under the online calendar using your representative log-in.

Participants must be present to be eligible for the grand prizes. Most booths will have prizes as well. The cost to attend is just \$10. Expect to see great prizes, food and entertainment.

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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Jason Zimmerman (First Western Bank

NEW MEMBERS....

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

ANNE CARLSEN COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

1408 20th Ave. SW, Suite 7 • Minot, ND 800-568-5175

Development Director: Michelle Walker michelle.walker@annecenter.org www.annecarlsen.org

The Anne Carlsen Community Based Services office works with children, adults, and families to provide inhome, day support, and autism services.

CTS PROPERTIES, LLC

2412 N. Broadway • Minot, ND 852-1884 • Fax: 839-1211 Vice President: Shane Farstad

svf7897@gmail.com CTS Properties LLC is involved with all aspects of real estate land development, home, and commercial building, rental properties, etc. The company strives to pro-

estate land development, home, and commercial building, rental properties, etc. The company strives to provide quality and long-lasting developments that enrich the local community.

EZ PARK - OFF AIRPORT PARKING

3650 N. Broadway • Minot, ND • 6943 E. 5th Ave. Scottsdale, AZ 85251

701-818-4189 • 480-947-0822 • Fax: 480-947-0812 Managing Member: Jim Marsh jmarsh@themarshpartners.com

EZ Park will open Nov. 6 to provide an alternative for airport parking. This safe and secure facility will accommodate 168 vehicles just one mile north of the airport on Broadway. Free door-to-door shuttle service will be provided.

MINOT HEALTH CLINIC

1418 S. Broadway, Suite B • Minot, ND 837-1551 • Fax: 837-1540 Owner: Trisha Fennern, FNP trishafennern@minothealthclinic.com www.minothealthclinic.com

This nurse-practitioner owned clinic provides professional care with a personal touch. Services provided include DOT physicals, preventative wellness exams, same day sick appointments, and routine medical care.

RED DEER IRONWORKS

205 42nd St. SE, Suite 300 • Minot, ND 838-1044 • Fax: 838-1048 ND Area Manager: Brett Tinnes btinnes@rdironworks.com • www.rdironworks.com Red Deer Ironworks is a North American manufacturer of high- and low-pressure oilfield equipment.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL

1600 2nd Ave. SW, Suite 7 (Arrowhead Mall) Minot, ND • 839-1714 • Fax: 852-5121 Terry Voeller • Brian Eichhorn • Andy Leraas theresa.voeller@thrivent.com brian.eichhorn@thrivent.com andrew.leraas@thrivent.com

Thrivent Financial helps members/owners be wise with money and live generously through financial products and services that connect faith and finances for good.

VERCON, INC.

13805 1st Ave. N, Suite 600 • Plymouth, MN 55441 763-746-0962

Vice President, Sales & Marketing: Jay Helgren jay.helgren@verconinc.com www.verconinc.com

Vercon, Inc. is a commercial and custom home builder serving the upper Midwest. They are known for high quality, unwavering values and absolute integrity.

MINOT PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION

215 2nd St. SE • Minot, ND • 857-4555 Brittney Hogan, Executive Director foundation@minot.k12.nd.us www.minot.k12.nd.us

The mission of the Minot Public School Foundation is to preserve, promote, and enhance the quality of education of the Minot Public School district.

A&R ROOFING

7050 Hwy. 2 East • Minot 852-1446 • Fax: 282-4740 • mgilbertson@srt.com Mike Gilbertson, General Manager A&R has been in the roofing business for 40 years, specializing in commercial rubber roofs, free estimates, and roof inspections.

RENEWALS

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership Sept. 21 through Oct. 21, 2014. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

Accounting Solutions Ackerman-Estvold Advanced Business Methods Aggregate Construction Inc American Insurance Center Boston's Plumbing & Heating Bray's Saddlery Buffalo Wild Wings Capital Financial Holdings, Inc. Clean Tech **Comfort Suites** CompuTech, Inc. Concrete Mobile, LLC Cornerstone Bank Curves 2nd Chance Store Dakota Boys Ranch Days Inn

Dufner Construction, Inc.

eVision
Fairfield Inn by Marriott - Minot
Fire Equipment Company
4 Bears Casino and Lodge
Girl Scouts Dakota Horizons
Hess Corporation
Inspired Interiors
Integrity Viking Funds
Investors Real Estate Trust
Johnson Eyecare P.C
Blake Krabseth
Comedian/Magician
Dr. Curtis Kumpf
Liechty Homes
Magic City Networking

Liechty Homes
Magic City Networking
Maintenance Plus Inc.
Margie's Art Glass Studio
Minot Hockey Boosters
MLT Vacations

MSI Service & Solutions
Northern Plains Children's
Advocacy Center
Our Redeemer's Christian School
PROCollect
Refrigeration Equipment, Inc.
Salon 18
Satrom Travel
SCORE Chapter of Minot
SpartanNash
Spicy Pie
Super 8 Motel
United Community Bank of ND

Vision Source-Minot WE Integrate West Dakota Fox Minot Zimny Consulting, LLC

United Mailing Services Inc.



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CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE #1

Ballot language: This constitutional measure would create and enact a new section to Article I of the North Dakota Constitution stating, "The inalienable right to life of every human being at any stage of development must be recognized and protected."

- Yes: APPROVE the measure
- No: REJECT the measure

Supporters of Measure #1 (ND Choose Life): Failing to pass the Human Life Amendment will

encourage abortion rights activists to use the North Dakota Constitution, rather than the U.S. Constitution, to push for abortion on demand in our state.

Bottom line: Prevent on demand abortion in North Dakota.

Opponents of Measure #1 (North Dakotans Against Measure 1): Measure 1 is poorly written and the unclear language leaves it open to interpretation, which leads to more government intrusion in personal lives.

Bottom line: Government should not interfere in personal decisions.

GNDC Stance: Neutral

CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE #2

Ballot language: This constitutional measure would create and enact a new section to Article X of the North Dakota Constitution stating, "The state and any county, township, city, or any other political subdivision of the state may not impose any mortgage taxes or any sales or transfer taxes on the mortgage or transfer of real property."

- Yes: APPROVE the measure
- No: REJECT the measure

Supporters of Measure #2 (Vote Yes on Measure

2): Measure 2 is needed because, as property taxes are reduced, some municipalities are looking for other sources of revenue to replace them. Bottom line: Take the possibility for a future transfer tax to replace property tax off the table.

Opponents of Measure #2 (No formal organized opposition): It is too small an issue to be put into the North Dakota State Constitution.

Bottom line: The Constitution is the skeleton with which laws are based and this issue is too singularly focused to be placed in the constitution.

GNDC Stance: Neutral

CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE #3

Ballot language: This constitutional measure would create and enact a new section to Article VIII of the North Dakota Constitution creating a three-member commission of higher education,

effective July 1, 2015, with full executive responsibility for the management and operation of the North Dakota University System. The measure would repeal Section 6 of Article VIII of the Constitution relating to the current eight-member state board of higher education. Members of the new commission would be appointed by the Governor to four year terms from a list of nominees provided by a special committee, and would be subject to confirmation by the Senate. One of the commissioners must possess leadership experience in a private sector business, industry, or service and one member, at the time of appointment, must hold a professional position within the higher education sector. The commissioners could be reappointed to three consecutive terms.

- Yes: APPROVE the measure
- No: REJECT the measure

Supporters of Measure #3 (No formal organized support): There are a number of issues with the management of the Higher Education System. The workload is too large for volunteer board positions. The three person commission will create a better system for the students of North Dakota.

Bottom line: The University System budget has grown to over \$3 billion and warrants a full-time management structure.

Opponents of Measure #3 (No formal organized opposition):

- This could create problems with accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission and potentially jeopardize accreditation to all of our institutions.
- Due to the confusing language surrounding the universities themselves, some feel that removing the actual names from the constitution may be a step toward closing the constitutionally protected universities.
- 3. University presidents would have an inefficient report structure as they'd report to three different bosses. Most, if not all, major corporations are run under the current board model with a CEO (chancellor) that reports to a part time board that meets once a month or once a quarter.

Bottom line: This jeopardizes North Dakota University Systems' accreditation processes and is an inefficient structure.

GNDC Stance: Neutral

CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE #4

Ballot language: This constitutional measure would amend and reenact section 2 of Article III of the North Dakota Constitution. This measure would require that initiated measures that are estimated to have a significant fiscal impact must be

placed on the general election ballot. The measure would also prohibit the approval for circulation of any petition to initiate a constitutional amendment that would make a direct appropriation of public funds for a specific purpose or require the legislative assembly to appropriate funds for a specific purpose.

- Yes: APPROVE the measure
- No: REJECT the measure

Supporters of Measure #4 (No formal organized support):

- 1. With large spending initiatives on the ballot, more people would vote preventing an issue to "slip through" without the largest possible number of people weighing in.
- The measure prevents specific purposes to have a direct constitutional spending provision in the constitution.

Bottom line: Measures that seek direct spending authority would have to be statutory, which is a more reasonable place for them.

Opponents of Measure #4 (No formal organized opposition): Restricting direct democracy is not a North Dakota value. People have the right to govern themselves and voters have shown strong restraint through the passage of the Legacy Fund as well as the rejection of Measure 2 (the abolishment of property taxes).

Bottom line: This measure gives too much power to the legislature.

GNDC Stance: Vote YES

CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE #5

This measure would divert 5 percent of North Dakota's oil and gas extraction taxes into a fund managed by an appointed advisory board. The fund would be used for conservation purposes, which would include the option to buy land with the money. Based on oil production forecasts this measure would divert as much as \$150 million a year into this new constitutional fund. This measure also requires that at least 75 percent of those dollars be spent every year.

Ballot language: This initiated measure would add a new section to Article X of the North Dakota Constitution creating the Clean Water, Wildlife, and Parks Trust (the "Trust") and the Clean Water, Wildlife, and Parks Fund (the "Fund") to be financed by five percent of the revenues from the State's share of oil extraction taxes. Ten percent of that amount of annual revenues would be deposited in the Trust with the principal invested by the State Investment Board; the earnings from the Trust would be transferred to the Fund to be spent on pro-

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grams after January 1, 2019. Ninety percent of the annual revenues would be deposited into the Fund to be used to make grants to public and private groups to aid water quality, natural flood control, fish and wildlife habitat, parks and outdoor recreation areas, access for hunting and fishing, the acquisition of land for parks, and outdoor education for children. The Fund would be governed by a Clean Water, Wildlife, and Parks Commission comprised of the governor, attorney general, and agriculture commissioner. A thirteen-member Citizen Accountability Board would be appointed for three-year terms to review grant applications and make recommendations to the Commission. Every twenty-five years, the people would vote on the question of whether to continue the financing from the oil extraction taxes.

- Yes: APPROVE the measure
- No: REJECT the measure

Opponents of Measure (North Dakotans for Common Sense Conservation):

- This measure is driven by out of state interests looking to change North Dakota; they do not have the best interest of North Dakotans in mind.
- 2. Under the proposed amendment, the conservation fund would receive almost \$300 million per biennium (\$2.8 million per week) right now. Over the amendment's 25-year lifespan, that amount would get as high as \$400 million per biennium (\$4 million per week). It amounts to \$4.8 billion over the next 25 years. The amendment requires 75% of that massive conservation fund be spent each year, regardless of whether there are any relevant conservation needs or not. That is wasteful, irresponsible spending.
- 3. It would be the first-ever constitutionally mandated spending in the state of North Dakota. To change or repeal it will require another vote of the people. This constitutional measure will be the one and only state funding provision set in stone in our constitution at the expense of all other needs and sets a dangerous precedent.
- 4. The money mandated for the conservation fund is money that could be spent on schools, education, infrastructure, property tax relief, water issues, health and human services the list goes on all needs associated with our state's rapid growth.
- 5. The conservation funding provided by this proposed amendment could be used to purchase land. For the first time in North Dakota's history, non-profit groups would be able to purchase land and take it out of production agriculture, close it to hunters and fishers, essentially what-

ever they want.

Bottom line: As champions for business, the Greater North Dakota Chamber is leading the effort to oppose this measure and urges a NO vote. We care about conservation, but putting this into the constitution by an out-of-state group and mandating spending on one issue takes significant funding away from other needs.

GNDC Stance: Vote No

INITIATED STATUTORY MEASURE #6

Ballot language: This initiated measure would amend section 14-09-06.2 of the North Dakota Century Code to create a presumption that each parent is a fit parent and entitled to be awarded equal parental rights and responsibilities by a court unless there is clear and convincing evidence to the contrary; the measure would also provide a definition of equal parenting time.

Supporters of Measure (Shared Parenting in

North Dakota): This would give North Dakota family law attorneys an important legal advantage in helping fathers who seek to play a significant role in their children's lives.

Bottom line: It seems only in the best interest of children who are used to having their father actively involved in their lives that their involvement continue when their parents are no longer together.

Opponents of Measure (Keeping Kids First):

The initiative wrongly supposes that equal residential responsibility is in the child's best interest in every case, no matter the individual circumstances. The "presumption of a fit parent" can only be overcome by "clear and convincing evidence," but does not define criteria for "fit parenting" or the evidence necessary to overcome the presumption. Current law, including mandatory mediation requirements and the best interest of the child standard, fosters autonomy and cooperation wholly benefiting the child.

Bottom line: The Shared Parenting Initiative's cookie-cutter approach wrongly assumes that one arrangement is good for every child.

GNDC Stance: Neutral

INITIATED STATUTORY MEASURE #7

Ballot language: This initiated measure would amend section 43-15-35 of the North Dakota Century Code. It would repeal the requirement that an applicant for a permit to operate a pharmacy must be a licensed pharmacist, a business entity controlled by licensed pharmacists, a hospital pharmacy, or a postgraduate medical residency pro-

gram.

- Yes: APPROVE the measure
- No: REJECT the measure

Supporters of Measure (North Dakotans for Lower Pharmacy Prices): Opening up the market and adding additional pharmacy options will encourage economic development in the state, help keep additional dollars within the states borders. Under the current law, North Dakotans are paying hundreds of dollars more than neighboring states when it comes to pharmacy needs.

Bottom line: By repealing this antiquated law, North Dakotans will have more access to pharmacies and benefit from lower cost pharmaceuticals.

Opponents of Measure: North Dakota Pharmacist Association: Repealing the existing law would not increase competition and consumer choice; the exact opposite happens. The market becomes dominated by the three large chains (Wal-Mart, CVS, and Walgreens).

Bottom line: Pharmacy giants will drive smaller, independent pharmacists out and, therefore decrease the very thing they're suggesting – competition.

GNDC Stance: Vote Yes (The Greater North Dakota Chamber is a coalition partner with North Dakotans for Lower Pharmacy Prices and urges a YES vote on this measure.)

INITIATED STATUTORY MEASURE #8

Ballot language: This initiated measure would amend section 15.1-06-03 of the North Dakota Century Code to require school classes to begin after Labor Day.

- Yes: APPROVE the measure
- No: REJECT the measure

Supporters of Measure (Start ND Schools after Labor Day): Currently, most North Dakota schools start mid- to late August and finish the school year before Memorial Day. Starting so early in the year cuts many families' recreational options short to accommodate the school schedule.

Bottom line: If school started after Labor Day and went further into May to complete the requisite amount of days, many families would be able to enjoy the warmer August weather for outdoor activities.

Opponents of Measure (No formal organized opposition): The school schedule is set by local school boards.

Bottom line: There is no valid reason to take away local control of the school schedule.

GNDC Stance: Neutral



Continued from page 1



People's State Bank employees accepted the Spirit of Growth award.

President Rick Beall, has helped to make Minot a great place to live and work.

The Spirit of Growth award honors a small business that sees more than success, growth, and longevity as a way to measure. This award looks at small businesses of the Minot area and their employees that are active in the community in addition to having a strong, positive impact on our community. The management team has a vision for the future and encourages growth in other business professionals.

Peoples State Bank of Velva supports the Domestic Violence Crisis Center, as well as the activities of the St. Joseph's Community Health Foundation. Two chairs of the Chamber's Ambassadors have come from the bank, which has also hosted two Business After Hours. The employees support Project CLEAN's city-wide cleanup, Junior Achievement, Community Leadership Institute, and the Young Professionals group.

Impact Award: CHS SunPrairie



CHS SunPraire received the Chamber's Impact Award.

The 2014 Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Impact Award goes to CHS SunPrairie. The Chamber of Commerce chose to name this award — the Impact Award — to showcase a Chamber member that influences the Magic City in a positive way. The impact of this business is not its business activity, nor is it just a simple program or words, but rather something core to their values. You can see this company's employees active in the community. Their mission for success is closely woven into the same fabric and spirit that makes Minot the Magic City. They are proud to be a part of this community, and that pride is on display daily. Helping to educate, encourage, and

support the next generation of community leaders is what they do, and they do it well.

CHS SunPrairie is deeply invested in the agricultural community and its support for that community is demonstrated daily. When the Chamber has an ag-related event, the first offer of help comes from CHS SunPrairie. Whether it is an Ag breakfast for young livestock producers, the Ag Golf Scramble, or sponsoring lunch for a committee meeting, you can count on CHS SunPrairie.

Area youth also benefit from a strong commitment to the programming of 4-H and Future Farmers of America. The ag-related career and technical programs in the area also benefit from CHS. The Farm Rescue program is another way CHS gives back and pays forward its commitment to community. Their employees can also be seen out helping clean up a large stretch of roadway with Project CLEAN during the city-wide cleanup.

Business Stewardship Award: F. Bruce Walker

A simple definition of Stewardship is the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving. The Business Stewardship award goes to F. Bruce Walker (Coldwell Banker/1st Minot Realty). The community is fortunate to have someone like Walker who invests time and talent, simply because he sees where we have been and more importantly, where we are going. The Business Stewardship Award is for one who has a definition of what the Magic City means. His investment in this community goes way beyond bricks and mortar, and truly is of time and talent. Walker's career has ranged from teaching, to real estate, to construction and to community building. He has always been working hard — in all areas of his life and business — to help shape Minot into what it is today.

Walker first worked to help shape the next generation of community leaders in the public school system. He then added his own unique twist to Minot in the real estate industry. In the Home Builders arena he led the way through his involvement at the local, state and national levels. He helped to establish the local Habitat for Humanity chapter. He has been at the forefront of helping to foster a climate to support and build moderate income housing, not only



in Minot, but throughout North Dakota. Walker has a special pas-

Bruce Walker received the Stewardship Award. sion for ALS research and leads the way in fund raising efforts. He has presented Junior Achievement material in Minot classrooms, been active in the Chamber, and is a past Chair of the Board.

Genie Award: Bob Gross



Bob Gross received the Chamber's highest honor, the Genie Award, for his unselfish efforts to provide yearly give-aways to area youth.

The Genie Award is the Chamber's Outstanding Citizen Award and the highest recognition awarded to an individual who has given unselfishly of time and talent toward the bettering of the Minot Community. The award was started in 1971 and to date, 56 have been presented.

The Chamber is pleased to present a Genie Award to Bob Gross in appreciation of his commitment to the youth of Minot. He has instilled the importance of giving back and paying forward to help make Minot a better place to live and work.

Gross grew up in Minot to humble beginnings and he attributes this to his appreciation of things in life. He has said he never forgets the lessons learned while growing up. Today Gross is a painter and a handyman, but he never forgets the feeling of wondering whether or not he'd have a bicycle to ride in the summer or warm enough clothes to get through the winter.

Fueled by the memories of his late nephew and his own experiences growing up in Minot, Gross has supplied the energy and resources for his annual give-a-ways. Some years he has had help, and some years it has been only him. Each year, hundreds of bikes have been given out. In addition, nearly a thousand coats, along with hats and backpacks, have found new owners. He clearly demonstrates to the youth of Minot the importance of giving back and paying forward.

The keynote speaker, Joel Noyes of Hess Corporation, finished out the meeting with a talk on the oil industry and what's to come. Noyes said people in the community can expect to see oil activity for many years to come. The Eagle Award winners were recognized in October and thanked for superior customer service skills. If you would like to nominate someone for outstanding customer service, please call the Chamber at 852-6000 for a nomination form, or visit the website at minotchamber.org.

A special thank you goes out to **Homesteaders Restaurant** and **Rainbow Photo Lab** for providing gift certificates for each Eagle recipient.



TONY EMERSON Maintenance Plus



BOB RODGERS *Minot Winnelson Co.*

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE

ANDY LESMEISTER
White Drug



LAUREL BUCHHOLZSouris Basin Transportation



RYAN ENGLISH Scheels Dakota Square



MERLIN SCHMIDTAlley's Repair and Alignment, Inc.

Construction bids and new phasing released for downtown

Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2015 on the City of Minot Downtown Infrastructure Improvements project, as bids for the project are being publicly advertised.

"With this step, the project continues to move forward as the City of Minot will be opening bids for this milestone revitalization in early December," said Dave O'Shea, project manager from Houston Engineering. "Along with the public bidding process, we have also released new phasing maps for the work as we are planning for construction in 2015, 2016 and 2017."

In coordination with the City of Minot, scheduling for the three-phase project has been adjusted based on starting construction in spring of 2015, according to O'Shea. If all goes as planned, construction would wrap up in late 2017.

During the three construction seasons, the project will replace miles of water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer pipes, concrete paved streets, curb and gutter, sidewalks, and street lighting within roughly 26 city blocks of Downtown Minot.

Phase 1 (2015): Construction is planned in the following locations: on Central Avenue between Broadway and Third Street NE; on First Avenue SE between Main and Front Street; on Second Street SE between First and Third Avenue SE;

and on Third Street SE between the Canadian Pacific railroad tracks and Third Avenue SE. There will also be some work done along Front Street, Second Avenue SE, and First Street SE.

Phase 2 (2016): Construction is planned in the following locations: on Main Street between Burdick and First Avenue NE; on First Street SE between Burdick and First Avenue SE; on First Avenue SW from Main to Broadway; and on Second Avenue between Broadway and Third Street SE. No work will be done on Main Street during the North Dakota State Fair.

Phase 3 (2017): Construction is planned in the following locations: on Third Avenue between Broadway and Third Street NE; and on First Street SW between Fifth Avenue SW and just north of Central Avenue. There will also be some work done on First Street NE, Second Street NE and Second Street SE.

Information will be provided through the website, www.downtownminotisopen.com. You can also contact the public information team for the project at 857-7205, and ask for Mark Lyman or Bryan Obenchain.

Lunch & Learn: Nov. 4

Improving personal brand improves professional image

U.S. Bank and the Center for Technology and Business will sponsor a "Personal Branding Lunch & Learn" Nov. 4 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the North Central Research Extension Center. A \$10 registration fee includes lunch.

A strong personal brand can help you never have to look for another job or client again — be the person in demand that everyone wants to work with!

Your personal brand is a reflection of how people perceive you and what you are known for. Whether you're a business owner or not, a strong personal brand and professional image is important for professional success.

In this Lunch and Learn, we'll discuss how you can leverage the same strategies that make corporate brands appealing and build brand equity just like companies do. We will dive into making the most of your web presence and developing a reputation as an expert in your industry.

For more information, call 223-0707. Register at http://trainingnd.com/event/personal-branding-lunch-and-learn-minot.

Airmen Cookie Drive donations accepted Dec. 8-11

The Minot Air Force Officers Spouses' Club will once again collect and package seasonal treats for the Airmen Cookie Drive. You may start dropping off your cookies at the Chamber office Dec. 8 through 11, and airmen will receive the cookies around Dec. 12.

For more information, please contact Gene Brandt at 719-433-2880 or through email: airmencookiedrive@gmail.com.

GNDC president featured speaker at Governmental Affairs meeting Nov. 21

The Governmental Affairs Committee will hear from Greater North Dakota Chamber President Andy Peterson on Friday, Nov. 21 at 11:30 a.m. at the Vegas Motel. The discussion will center around GNDC legislative positions for the 2015 session and a review of the Nov. 4 election results.

24 graduate from Leadership Institute

The following participants of the 2014 Community Leadership Institute (CLI) graduate Nov. 6 at a luncheon ceremony at the Holiday Inn. We look forward to seeing these community-minded participants in action to better our community.



AMBER ALEXANDER Coldwell Banker-1st Minot Realty & Management



JANET ANDERSON Minot Public Library



BOB BARNARDWard County Sheriff's Office



STEVE BORJESON City of Minot



ALAINA CARDINAL Investors Real Estate Trust



VICTORIA COFELL Helegeson-Norton Agency



JIM COFFIN Trinity Health



ANGELE' CURTISThe Village Family Service Center



TEONA HAGERPeoples State Bank of Velva



HOLLY HAMAN Investors Real Estate Trust



JORY HEAD Souris Basin Planning Council



AMY JO HOHERZ Investors Real Estate Trust



SUYI HOU *Karvakko Engineering*



BETH MAYER *Minot Multiple Listing Service*



BRUCE METTIN Trinity Health



 $\underset{\mathit{KLJ}}{\mathbf{BRICE\ NELSON}}$



TAMMY OLSON Dacotah Bank



JOSH REINER *Moore Engineering, Inc.*



KALLI SCHELLTown & Country Credit Union



SARAH SCHMALTZPeoples State Bank of Velva



JODI SMITH Trinity Health



NATHAN STREMICK Coldwell Banker-1st Minot Realty & Management



SYBIL TETTEH
City of Minot



JOSHUA WHEELERFirst International Bank & Trust

RIBBON CUTTINGS



Souris River Designs

405 Railway Avenue NE • Minot, ND 852-7605 • www.sourisriverdesigns.com/
Ambassadors helped celebrate the re-grand opening of Souris River Designs to display a showroom expansion. Souris River hosted a week of free lunches, refreshments, and giveaways to highlight their products and services.



Fairfield Inn by Marriott

900 24th Ave. SW • Minot, ND 838-2424 • Fax: 838-2424
Sales Manager: Christine Metzler
Email: christine.metzler@pillarhotels.com
Website: www.marriott.com/MOTFI
Ambassadors helped the Fairfield Inn by
Marriott celebrate during their re-grand opening. The hotel updated guest rooms, spruced up the facility throughout, and held an open house Oct. 21.



Minot Area Community Land Trust: First Home

218 19th St. SE • Minot, ND Minot Area Community Land Trust is a non-profit organization whose main mission is to provide affordable, quality homeownership for low to moderate income families in Ward County. Ambassadors helped celebrate by cutting the ribbon on the recently completed first home. A second home is being built and a third is being planned.

RIBBON CUTTINGS •



Jessie Seideman Edward Jones

1829 South Broadway, Suite 3 • Minot, ND 837-8432 • jessie.seideman@edwardjones.com www.edwardjones.com

Ambassadors were on hand to celebrate the new location of Jessie Seideman's Edward Jones office.



ND Asia Restaurant & Lounge

3400 16th St. SW • Minot, ND • 852-1240 Website: www.nd-Asia.com
Ambassadors helped open ND Asia with a ribbon cutting. ND Asia is Minot's newest Japanese and Chinese cuisine restaurant, offering a full bar and live Hibachi shows all day.



North Highland Apartments and Villas

1100 27th Ave. NW • Minot 418-0100 • 340-2911 • North Highlands, LLC www.northighlandliving.com Ambassadors were on hand to cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the North Highland Apartments Villas, which offers apartment living.

Social Security announces 1.7 percent benefit increase for 2015

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for nearly 64 million Americans will increase 1.7 percent in 2015, the Social Security Administration announced.

The 1.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits that more than 58 million Social Security beneficiaries receive in January 2015. Increased payments to more than 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 31, 2014. The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Some other changes that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$118,500 from \$117,000. Of the estimated 168 million workers who will pay Social Security taxes in

2015, about 10 million will pay higher taxes because of the increase in the taxable maximum.

Information about Medicare changes for 2015 is available at www.medicare.gov.

The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. To read more, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/cola.

A fact sheet showing the effect of COLA relatchanges for ed automatic is http://www.socialsecurity.gov/.

MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

First International Bank & Trust hires Olson

First International Bank & Trust (FIB&T) is excited to add Perry Olson to its team as a business development officer. Olson will be responsible for providing customer relations and service to help better serve and identify the needs of potential and current FIB&T

clientele.



Perry Olson

Prior to joining FIB&T, Olson spent 14 years at KXMC-TV in Minot with the last 10 serving as producer and anchor of a morning news program. Olson received his bachelor of arts degree from Minot State University.

In his spare time, Olson enjoys officiating high school and college football and basketball, golfing, church activities, and spending time with his wife and their three children.

Ackerman-Estvold hires Marx, Kyllo

Ackerman-Estvold is excited to welcome two new staff members to the Minot headquarters location. Ron Marx has joined the organization as a civil engineer and Adam Kyllo has

Ron Marx

been hired as a civil design-

Marx, EIT, earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering Cleveland State University, College Fenn Engineering, Cleveland,

OH. Marx has joined the municipal division and has significant experience in design and construction management.

Kyllo earned an associate of science degree in mechanical drafting and design from Minnesota State College Technical, South East Winona, MN. Kyllo brings with him significant experi-



Adam Kyllo

wastewater plants. As a member of the design team, Kyllo will be responsible for plan production.

ence in the design of conveying systems for

Krazel joins DFC Consultants

Shari Krazel has joined DFC Consultants as

a business solutions consultant, specializing WennSoft and Microsoft Dynamics GP. Krazel has 19 years of experience in accounting and software and is a Microsoft Certified Trainer. She will be supporting customers' WennSoft



Shari Krazel

functionality including job cost, service, equipment and mobile tech. Krazel graduated from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI.

DFC Consultants services the Midwest with four offices across North Dakota Michigan.

Take advantage of income tax credit now

With the 40% North Dakota Charitable Income Tax credit, there has never been a better time to give the sustainable, lasting gift of an endowment fund. By taking advantage of both the state tax credit and federal tax deduction, donors can significantly lower the net cost of their contributions and triple their impact. Donors who decide to create or add to an endowment fund do so because they understand the importance of supporting the causes in their community not only during their lifetime, but for generations to come. For more information and tools for endowment giving, please contact the Minot Area Community Foundation at 852-0646, ken@centerforcommunitygiving.com, or megan@centerforcommunitygiving.com.

Minot State offers Northern Lights Film Series to public

With a grant from the North Dakota Humanities Council, Minot State University's Department of Foreign Language is rechristening its international film series, the Northern Lights Film Series.

"The grant allows us to screen films in the Global Lens Film Series, which has only rarely made an appearance on university campuses, almost always being hosted at museums and arts centers," said Scott Sigel, assistant professor of Spanish. "This provocative film series will be a community event, not simply an extension of the classroom. Attendees will experience other points of view through seeing and discussing movies from many different countries and cultures."

Aleshire Theater remains the screening venue for the films, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. This semester's remaining films, which will be introduced by a foreign language faculty member, are:

"Border Café," will be aired Nov. 17, is a 2005 Iranian film by director Kambozia Partovia. In a village near Iran's border with Turkey, Reyhan, a young widow chooses to support her two children by re-opening her late husband's restaurant. Reyhan struggles for self-sufficiency in a rigidly traditional environment and is constantly pressured to move into her brother-in-law's home and become his second wife.

A discussion period will follow the films, which are free and open to the public. To learn more about the Northern Lights Film Series, visit http://www.minotstateu.edu/language/. For questions, contact Sigel at 858-4265 or scott.sigel@minotstateu.edu.

MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

MSU new faculty and staff aboard

Minot State University welcomes new employees, Clayton "Clay" Bayard, Renee Duncan, Joseph Engler, John Ferderer, Stacey Flaten, Janet Gerken, Kaycee Grochow, Alicia Hansen, Tricia Melfy, Baljit Pannu, Thomas Rakness and Diane Sjol.

Bayard, assistant football coach, comes to MSU from Snow College, Ephraim, Utah. He completed an associate degree at Snow College and a bachelor's degree in economics at Utah State University, Logan.

Duncan, nursing instructor, previously worked for Dakota Travel. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at MSU and her Master of Science in nursing from the University of Mary.

Engler, assistant professor of psychology, previously taught at Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan. He received a bachelor's degree from MSU and a doctorate from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion. His wife, Calissa, teaches third grade in Surrey, and they have a 17-month-old daughter.

Ferderer is Information Technology Central's desktop and lab coordinator, and he was previously in the United States Air Force. He and his wife, Megan, have one child.

Flaten, nursing instructor, previously worked at Trinity Hospital. She earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from North Dakota State University and is working toward a Master of Science in nursing from U of Mary. She expects to graduate in November 2014.

Gerken, nursing instructor, was previously employed by Sweetwater County District Board of Health in Rock Springs, Wyo. She holds an associate degree from Western Wyoming Community College and a master's degree in nursing leadership and management from Walden University, Minneapolis. She and her husband, Corey, have been married for 24 years and have one daughter, one son and one grandson.

Grochow, office manager for the Office of Enrollment Services, graduated from MSU with a Bachelor of General Studies in May 2014. She is in the third generation of her family to graduate from Minot State. Her hobbies are playing sports.

Hansen, a custodian, previously worked for Environmental Services. She has an eight-year-old son and enjoys reading.

Melfy, assistant volleyball coach, was previously employed by Campo Verde High School, Gilbert, Ariz. She possesses a bachelor's degree in exercise science from Arizona State University and a master's degree in educational leadership.

Pannu, nursing instructor, previously worked for Trinity Health in labor and delivery. She earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Langara College, Vancouver, British Columbia. She is currently working toward a master's degree in nursing from the University of Victoria, British Columbia.

Rakness, certified proctor for the Center of Extended Learning, comes to MSU from the Minot Daily News. He completed a bachelor's degree in communication arts at MSU and a Master of Fine Arts in theatre from Western Illinois University, Macomb. Still engaged in theatre arts, he performs with MSU Summer Theatre and Mouse River Players.

Sjol, associate professor of nursing, joins MSU after teaching at Dakota College at Bottineau. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from MSU and a master's degree in nursing from Walden College. She and her husband, Scott, have a blended family of seven grown children, 10 grandchildren and two rescue dogs. They love spending time at their Lake Metigoshe cabin. She enjoys traveling, playing guitar, reading and walking.

Small Business Workshop Nov. 4

Impact PTAC, which works with the basics of government contracting, is partnering with the Small Business Administration, the Small Business Development Council, the State of North Dakota, and other organizations to offer small business training.

This Small Business Workshop will be held Tuesday, Nov. 4 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Holiday Inn (Riverside). This workshop will help business owners expand business markets, as well as discover useful resources and financing options. Cost is free, but registration is required. To register, please visit impactptac.com.

St. Alexius Medical Center Now CHI St. Alexius Health

St. Alexius Medical Center is now CHI St. Alexius Health, a change that is part of a system-wide branding strategy by parent organization Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the nation's largest nonprofit health systems.

A new name and logo will be embedded in each of Catholic Health Initiatives' markets over the next several months, highlighting a unified brand that strengthens local links to a nationally recognized health system that operates 89 hospitals and hundreds of outpatient centers, assisted living and other facilities in 18 states.

CHI's new symbol is the image of a guiding star and cross – four shapes that come together

to create a visual representation of the organization's passion around its common mission to create healthier communities. The varying shapes, which signify the diversity of the national health care system, also exemplify the seamless integration of St. Alexius with Catholic Health Initiatives – together with all of its partner organizations across the nation.

In addition to the new name and logo, the new brand for CHI St. Alexius Health includes the theme line: Imagine better healthSM.

The new approach, in development for more than a year by CHI, is the first change in the branding strategy of Catholic Health Initiatives since it was formed in 1996. The organization celebrated its 18th birthday May 1.

With its focus on unity, the common brand underscores the fact that local hospitals such as St. Alexius are part of a national system with the vast scale, scope and resources to improve health and lower costs. It also retains the familiar names of valued local health care facilities while simultaneously elevating the national brand across CHI's far-reaching network.

"This new branding strategy reflects CHI's commitment to building the Next Era of Healthy Communities through bold approaches, new services, a strengthened system and greater focus on consumers," said Joyce Ross, Catholic Health Initiatives' senior vice president for communications.

With the revised brand, three characteristics – unity, innovation and synergy – reflect the organization's dedication to health and wellness. They combine a united focus on patients and consumers; innovative methods to connect patients to services and providers; and a synergy that springs from integrated systems of care to promote excellence and improve efficiency.

Schaefer named director at CHI St. Alexius Health

CHI St. Alexius Health recently named Jim

Schaefer director of The Clinics of St. Alexius and Outreach. As director, Schaefer is responsible for budgeting and managing all aspects of the physician specialty clinics, CHI St. Alexius Health's Mandan and Minot clinics and out-



Jim Schaefer

reach which includes four managed hospitals.

Schaefer holds a bachelor's degree in business administration – financial management from University of North Dakota. He comes to CHI St. Alexius Health with more than 21 years of healthcare experience.

MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

Anne Carlsen Center now offers services in Minot area

A distinguished provider of supports and services for individuals with special needs is coming to Minot. The Anne Carlsen Center, whose mission is to "make the world a more inclusive place where independence is a gift to all," is excited to offer autism, in-home, and day support services to individuals and families in Minot and the surrounding areas.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Minot Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for Nov. 5 to commemorate the introduction of lifechanging resources, supports, and services to an expanding population in Western North Dakota.

The Anne Carlsen Center has offices in Jamestown, Grand Forks, Fargo, Devils Lake, and Bismarck.

For more information on the Anne Carlsen Center's legacy of compassionate and innovative care, please visit annecarlsen.org.

Taube sponsors "Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art" gallery exhibitions

What do monster fish, haunted houses, duck decoys, and sunflower pie have in common? They all represent folk art and folklore that is part of the rich history of the Northern Great Plains. The Sundogs and Sunflowers exhibition will be on display from Oct. 21 to Nov. 21 in the Main Gallery at the Taube Museum of Art, 2 North Main St., Minot. The Lower Gallery, In the Folk Manner, features current and past local artist's works in the folk art style, such as painting, rosemaling, quilting, wood carving, and more. There will be a public reception Thursday, Nov. 6 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Refreshments will be served.

The exhibition is based on the award-winning book, Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art of the Northern Great Plains. This groundbreaking compilation, thirty years in the making, celebrates the proud folk heritage of the Northern Great Plains. Published by the North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA), the book was compiled and edited by North Dakota State University Professor Emeritus Dr. Timothy J. Kloberdanz and NDCA folklorist Troyd A. Geist. The book has received great praise and won first place in the North Dakota Library Association's 2011 Notable Document Awards.

Most of the book's content comes from North Dakota with every single one of the state's fifty-three counties represented. Traditions from the prairies of South Dakota, western Minnesota, eastern Montana, northeastern Wyoming, and the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan are also included. From 2010 to decades past, the book covers ghost stories and other strange

tales, legends, blizzard stories, weatherlore, proverbs, folk expressions and folk speech, folk beliefs, folk medicine, holiday celebrations, hunting, fishing and trapping traditions, and folk art.

The exhibit includes 28 full-color photographic panels that provide a sampling from each of the book's ten chapters. Like the book, the exhibit includes some stories and images people will recognize from their own family members, friends, and neighbors while other, less familiar selections will provide fascinating revelations. To enhance the exhibition's new gallery tours, 21 original folk art objects drawn from the collection of the North Dakota Council on the Arts have been added. Many of these pieces are representative of the artists highlighted in the Sundogs and Sunflowers publication.

If you enjoy the exhibit, information on how to purchase the book will be available. It is the perfect book to share with anyone who wants to get to know more about North Dakota. The 352 page, coffee-table-size, full color, hardcover volume features more than a thousand examples of folklore and folk art, as well as more than three hundred images.

The North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA) is a service and program agency of the state, established in 1967 by the State Legislature to develop the arts and to promote and support the arts in North Dakota, Grant funds are provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and appropriations from the state of North Dakota. The mission of the North Dakota Council on the Arts ensures

that the role of the arts in the life of our communities will continue to grow and will play a significant part in the welfare and educational growth of our citizens. Website: www.nd.gov/arts/

For more information please contact Doug Pfliger, gallery manager at 838-4445, www.taubemuseum.org.

Minot High students and staff encourage safe driving with Celebrate My Drive® powered by State Farm®

Minot High School Magic City Campus staff and students are committed to keeping teens safe on the road. Learning to drive is a big step in life. State Farm and Minot High School Magic City Campus recognize getting a driver's license is an important and joyous time. Celebrate My Drive celebrates this milestone with new drivers by encouraging them to make positive choices like driving 2N2®: 2 eyes on the road and 2 hands on the wheel.

About Celebrate My Drive®:

Celebrate My Drive is a different approach to a leading public health risk. Car crashes are the number one killer of teens, and a teen's first year on the road is the most dangerous. Using research as a guide, State Farm is approaching teen driver safety, a winnable public health battle, by engaging teens while they learn to drive in a supportive and positive way. It's a community celebration of safe driving habits emphasizing the benefits of safe choices as teens celebrate the freedom that comes with getting a drivers' license. Learn more about the initiative at www.celebratemydrive.com.

Y's Men's Business After Hours



the ND State Fair Center. About

250 people attended the event and enjoyed good food, networking, silent and live auctions, and more. Pictured are Chamber President John MacMartin, Chamber Chair Alan Estvold and Y's Men's Rodeo Chair Rob Buchholz.

NOVEMBER 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Right Start FTAC Presentation, 9:30 a.m., MAFB	4 First Dollar of Profit Presentation, Various locations Election Day	5	6 CLI, 8 a.m., Holiday Inn CLI Graduation, Noon, Holiday Inn Military Affairs Committee, Noon, MAFB Ribbon Cutting, 12:15 p.m., EZ Park, 3650 N. Broadway	7 Ambassador's Committee, 7:30 a.m., Schatz Crossroads Truckstop	8
9	10 Ribbon Cutting, 11 a.m., Magic City Hoagies, 1515 24th Ave. SW Ribbon Cutting, 2:30 p.m., Pinnacle Financial Group, 615 South Broadway, Suite L3	11 Eagle Awards Presentation, 10 a.m., Chamber office	12 Right Start Presentation, 10 a.m., MAFB	13 Honorary Commanders Social, 5:30 p.m., Jimmy Doolittle Center Ribbon Cutting, 2 p.m., Satori Skin & Body Center, 1360 20th Ave. SW	14 Infrastructure Committee, 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders Restaurant	15
16	17 Right Start FTAC Presentation, 9:30 a.m., MAFB	18 Board of Directors, 7:30 a.m., Grand Hotel	19 Ribbon Cutting, 4 p.m., Taney Engineering, 3524 Burdick Expy. East	20 Showcase of Business, 5-8 p.m., ND State Fair Center	21 Governmental Affairs Committee, 11:30 a.m., Vegas Motel	22
23	24	25	26 Right Start Presentation, 10 a.m., MAFB	27 Thanksgiving Office closed	28	29
30						