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## BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

### *Ryan Chevrolet*

1800 S. Broadway • Minot, ND

**Tuesday, Dec. 15 • 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 prizes, as well as \$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 Air Force Base OSC

## Airman Cookie Drive

Benefiting the Minot AFB Airmen  
Sponsored by: The Minot Officers' Spouses' Club

Bake & donate cookies to benefit the Minot AFB Airmen and/or  
pledge home-baked cookies & volunteer to help package cookies at:  
[minotosc.com](http://minotosc.com) or email: [airmencookiedrive@gmail.com](mailto:airmencookiedrive@gmail.com)

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Minot AFB Cookie Drop-Off</u></b> | <b><u>In-Town Cookie Drop-Off</u></b> |
| Jimmy Doolittle Center                  | Chamber of Commerce                   |
| Dec. 10th, 1 - 3 p.m.                   | Dec. 7 - 10th, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.        |
| Dec. 11th, 8 a.m. - Noon                | 1020 - 20th Ave. SW, Minot, ND        |

## 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 Steele

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Carla Dolan, IOM.....Program Director  
Cheryl Wallen.....Finance Manager  
Lisa Moldenhauer.....Administrative Assistant  
Carla Vannett.....MVD Manager  
Diane Herzog.....MVD Clerk  
Amy Morse.....MVD Clerk  
Tracey Oja.....MVD Clerk  
Tabitha Strand.....MVD Clerk  
Lacey Thomas.....MVD Clerk

### MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Rob Buchholz (Lowe's Printing) .....852-1211  
Tige Engelhard (Gooseneck Implement) .....852-0767  
Missy Feist Erickson (People's State Bank) .....852-0328  
Tonya Harden (First International Bank & Trust) .....837-1600  
Debbie Harris (Fiancee).....838-9616  
Katie Harsaager (Enbridge).....857-0800  
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  
Shannon Webster (Town & Country  
Credit Union).....852-2018

## NEW MEMBERS .....

The Minot Chamber welcomes new members. Join us in thanking **Dyste Design, BHI, Probitas Promotions, LLC, and Rodan & Fields Independent Consultant**. Please let them know how much of a value they are to our community.

**DYSTE DESIGN:** Minot, ND • Deborah Miller Dyste, ASID, Registered Interior Designer  
678-641-6597 • Email: dystedesign@gmail.com • Website: www.deborahdyste.houzz.com  
*Dyste Design is an interior design business established in 1985, experienced with renovation plans and new home selections, as well as decorating projects, staging, and visual merchandising.*

**BHI:** 6008 U.S. Highway 2 East, Suite 300 • Minot, ND • 701-300-0896 • Fax: 701-837-0306  
Chris Hartenstein, Branch Manager • Email: chartenstein@BHico.com • www.BHico.com  
*BHI is a leader for all electrical, automation, instrumentation, excavation, tower, and utility needs.*

**PROBITAS PROMOTIONS, LLC:** 3524 East Burdick Expressway • Minot, ND • 838-4860  
Gary Lucy, Promotional Consultant, COO  
Email: g.lucy@probitaspromo.com • Website: www.probitaspromo.com

*Probitas Promotions will connect with you to explore your marketing and human resources needs in order to create logoed product solutions.*

**RODAN & FIELDS INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT:** 2600 75th St. NW • Minot, ND  
701-340-0821 • Brooke Clock, Owner

Email: brookeclockrealtor@gmail.com • Website: www.bclock.myrandf.com  
*Rodan & Fields is a business in the 3.9 billion North American anti-aging skin care market that provides the opportunity to redefine your future as they help others change their skin and change their lives.*



*Save the date*  
**January Business After Hours**  
**Thursday, Jan. 21 • 5 – 7 p.m. • Pinnacle Financial Group**  
**615 S. Broadway, Suite L3**

## RENEWALS .....

The Chamber extends a big “THANK YOU” to our members who have renewed their membership through Nov. 23, 2015. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

|                                  |                                   |                              |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| All America City Glass           | Harry's Tire Service/Dakota Truck | Paradise Spas & Motorsports  |
| Alliance Real Estate             | & Farm Services                   | The Prairie Bistro           |
| Ameriprise Financial Services,   | Howard & Associates, P.C          | Ritter Family Dentistry      |
| Inc.                             | Jeff Stremick - Signal Realtors   | Minot Dakota Square Scheels  |
| Best Buy                         | JLG Architects                    | Souris Valley Dental Group   |
| Boppre Law Firm                  | Lowe's Garden, Inc.               | SpartanNash                  |
| Boston's Plumbing & Heating      | Magic City Garage Door &          | Spicy Pie MSU                |
| Braun Intertec Corporation       | Awning                            | Michael E Braun - State Farm |
| Bray's Saddlery                  | Magic City Harley-Davidson-       | Insurance                    |
| Broadway Family Dentistry        | Minot                             | State Farm Insurance - Paul  |
| Circle Sanitation, Inc.          | Magic City Networking             | Siebert                      |
| Clean Tech                       | Minot Health Clinic               | Town & Country Insurance     |
| Cool Fish Refrigeration, Heating | Minot Symphony Association        | Agency, LLC                  |
| and Air                          | New York Life Insurance Co. -     | Tutti Frutti Minot           |
| CornerStone Chiropractic         | Betty Lewis CLU                   | United Community Bank of ND  |
| Dairy Queen West                 | North Country Mercantile          | United Mailing Services Inc. |
| Ebenezer's Eatery & Irish Pub    | Northern Plains Children's        | The Vegas Motel & Casino     |
| Embry - Riddle Aeronautical      | Advocacy Center                   | The View on Elk Drive        |
| University                       | The OBASA Group - Silver          | WE Integrate                 |
| Girl Scouts Dakota Horizons      | Springs Development, Inc.         | The WriteDesign              |
| Harley's Arrowhead               | Olson & Burns, P.C.               | Zaderaka Transport, Inc.     |



## EAGLE AWARDS

The Eagle Award winners were recognized in November 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** and **Rainbow Photo Lab** for providing gift certificates for each Eagle recipient.



**TIM RAMIREZ**  
Simonson's Car Wash



**LIZ NELSON**  
Subway



**LORI JOHNSON**  
Marketplace Foods  
North Hill



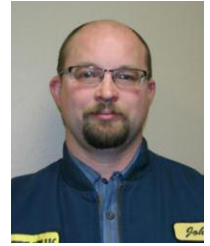
**IRENE GOUSHEH**  
Minot Commission on  
Aging



**JOY NEVROST**  
Minot Health &  
Rehab



**CLARENCE  
LUNDEEN**  
Tires Plus Total Car  
Care



**JOHN QUICK**  
Tires Plus Total Car  
Care

## SHOWCASE OF BUSINESS



Many thanks to KXMC CBS13 for hosting the 25th annual Showcase of Business. More than 1,000 people turned out, and more than 80 businesses showcased their services to the theme of "TV through the ages...what's on your channel?"

Businesses competed for best decorated booths, and top honors went to Kemmet Dental Design, second place went to First International Bank & Trust, and third place went to Coldwell Banker/Real Builders. The food booths selected were Homesteaders and Hometown Elegance.

The grand prize of a 60-inch television set, which was once again sponsored by KXMC CBS 13, went to Sara Abrahamson. MLT also sponsored a vacation package, which was awarded to Teylor Barnett.



## RIBBON CUTTINGS .....

*If you know of a business that's new to town or is having a milestone, like a renovation or addition, contact Carla at 857-8205 to schedule a ribbon cutting.*



**MSU Veteran's Center:** 500 University Ave. W. • Minot, ND • Minot State University • 858-4003  
*A ribbon cutting and open house commemorated the relocation of the Minot State University Veterans' Center into new facilities in Dakota Hall. Steven Shirley, MSU president, spoke at the ceremony.*



### Central Avenue & Main Street

*Downtown business professionals and Chamber Ambassadors celebrated the re-opening of Central Avenue which had been under construction since June. About \$14 million was spent replacing aged sewer and water lines, as well as adding aesthetic features.*



**Taco John's:** 623 North Broadway • Minot, ND • 838-5611 • Mike Sartwell, Owner • <https://tacojohns.com/>

*Ambassadors helped Taco John's celebrate their new location and new building on North Broadway in Minot. This new facility features a larger dining area, flat-screen TVs, and a double drive-through, and replaces the 1970s-era building.*



## RIBBON CUTTINGS .....

*If you know of a business that's new to town or is having a milestone, like a renovation or addition, contact Carla at 857-8205 to schedule a ribbon cutting.*



**BHI:** 6008 U.S. Highway 2 East, Suite 300 • Minot, ND • 701-300-0896 • [www.BHIco.com](http://www.BHIco.com)

*Employee owned BHI celebrated new facilities. BHI offers electrical, automation, instrumentation, power design, excavation, tower and utility needs.*



**Edgewood Senior Living:** 800 16th Ave. SE • Minot, ND • 852-1399 • [www.edgewoodseniorliving.com](http://www.edgewoodseniorliving.com)

*Edgewood Senior Living reopened its Memory Care following a fire. The remodel includes life stations and additional community living areas for residents. Edgewood's Memory Care has 20 private rooms and two companion rooms. Memory Care is supervised by Jodi Keller, LSW and certified Dementia Care Specialist.*



**Heartland Ag Showcase:** held at the ND State Fair Center • Greg Schaefer, Director • 701-822-2719

*Ambassadors helped to open the first ever Heartland Ag Showcase with a ribbon cutting Nov. 17.*



## RIBBON CUTTINGS .....

*If you know of a business that's new to town or is having a milestone, like a renovation or addition, contact Carla at 857-8205 to schedule a ribbon cutting.*



**Dakota Square Mall (CBL & Associates Properties, LLC):** 2400 10th St. SW • Minot, ND • 839-7500 • [www.shopdakotasquare.com](http://www.shopdakotasquare.com)  
*Ambassadors helped Dakota Square officially mark the completion of a multi-million dollar interior renovation. Dakota Square is proud to showcase the fresh, vibrant, and modernized mall interior to shoppers and the local business community.*



**Minot International Airport Parking:** 25 Airport Road, Ste. 10 • Minot, ND • 857-4724 • [www.whyflyminot.com](http://www.whyflyminot.com)

*The new airport terminal parking lots are now open. The long-term lot was completed in 2014 with the Phase II short-term lot under construction in 2015. The short-term lot is located directly in front of the new terminal building. The original parking lot provided 440 paved parking areas with various overflow lots located throughout airport grounds. The new parking lot will have 800 spaces in the long-term lot with another 645 spaces in the short-term lot. The current parking rate is \$10 per day or \$45 per week. However, new parking rates are being proposed and will be reviewed by the City Council in the coming months. The amount of spaces now available will be able to handle peak holiday travel periods and are expected to last for years to come.*



## FIRST DOLLAR OF PROFIT PRESENTATIONS .....

*If you know of a business that's new to town or is having a milestone, like a renovation or addition, contact Carla at 857-8205 to schedule a ribbon cutting.*



**American Cabling Solutions:** 3410 13th St. NE • Minot, ND • 406-320-0564 • dreslinger28@yahoo.com • Dan Eslinger, Owner  
*The Chamber's Ambassadors presented American Cabling Solutions (ACS) with their First Dollar of Profit award. ACS specializes in industrial, commercial and residential data and phone cabling, video surveillance, access control, fiber installation and splicing, and troubleshooting.*



**Goldstars Chem Dry:** P.O. Box 3279 • Minot, ND • 721-6115 • 441-4138 • goldstarschemdry@gmail.com • www.goldstarschemdry.com  
*Ambassadors helped owners Jason and Amy Peterson celebrate with the First Dollar of Profit Award. Goldstars Chem Dry offers carpet and upholstery cleaning using carbonation and ingredients from Mother Nature to make your carpet and furniture fresh and clean again.*



## FIRST DOLLAR OF PROFIT PRESENTATIONS .....

*If you know of a business that's new to town or is having a milestone, like a renovation or addition, contact Carla at 857-8205 to schedule a ribbon cutting.*



**Elevation:** 1912 Valley Bluff Drive (located inside the Minot Country Club) • Minot, ND • 837-0338 • [www.elevationminot.com](http://www.elevationminot.com)  
*Ambassadors helped Elevation staff celebrate with a First Dollar award. The restaurant opened June 25 and is open year-round, seven days a week.*



**Dyste Design:** Minot, ND • 678-641-6597 • Deborah Miller Dyste, Registered Interior Designer  
[dystedesign@gmail.com](mailto:dystedesign@gmail.com) • [www.deborahdyste.houzz.com](http://www.deborahdyste.houzz.com)

*Ambassadors helped Dyste Design celebrate their First Dollar of Profit. Dyste Design offers renovation plans, new home selections, decorating projects, staging, and visual merchandising.*



# Annual Sportsmen's Feed brings groups together

The 51st annual Sportsmen's Feed is set for Sunday, Jan. 24 at MAFB. The event provides Air Force personnel with a place to watch the NFC/AFC football playoffs, win some prizes and eat some great food.

The day will be filled with delicious food ranging from venison to rocky mountain oysters along with all the trimmings. Tickets are \$30 each and allow an airman in for free. Your support is needed to make this event a success and to provide a fun, relaxing day for airmen who

may otherwise be sitting in the dorms alone. The day starts at noon with appetizers and games throughout the day with supper around 6 p.m. For more information, contact the Chamber at 852-6000.



# Community Leadership Institute wraps up another successful year

The 2015 graduating class of Community Leadership Institute ended their nine-week adventure on an up note. The group handed a check to the Souris Valley Animal Shelter for more than \$4,300. The shelter was the group's project for the session and they went all out, even handing out a Top Dog trophy to the person or group that donated the most money. Kathy Farstad was awarded that distinction.

The final day of CLI included information on how the group can get involved. Members learned about projects that have taken place in Minot through the effort of just one person or a small group of people hoping to make a difference. The luncheon featured Lt. Cornelius Hall, Nuclear and Missile Operations Officer with the 91st Missile



*Above: 2015 CLI graduates raised \$4,300 for the Souris Valley Animal Shelter.*



*Left: Lt. Cornelius Hall addressed the CLI graduates on good leadership skills.*

Force Base. He focused on the qualities of being a leader.

Congratulations to all who participated. For

those who would like to sign up for the 2016 session, contact the Chamber at 852-6000 as spots are already filling up.

## Cost of living 3% higher than national average

Minot's cost of living measured at 103%, or 3% higher than the national average in the third quarter of 2015, according to the Cost of Living Index, published by the Council for Community and Economic Research.

The ACCRA Cost of Living Index measures differences between areas in the cost of consumer goods and services, excluding taxes and non-consumer expenditures. It is based on more than 90,000 prices covering 60 different items, for which prices are collected quarterly by the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and other urban areas across the nation.

## Cost of Living Index: 3rd Quarter 2015

U.S. Average Composite Index: 100%

|                        | Minot<br>ND  | Bismarck<br>ND | Fargo/Moorhead<br>Metro | Denver<br>CO | Minneapolis<br>MN | Pierre, SD   |
|------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| <b>COMPOSITE INDEX</b> | <b>103.0</b> | <b>100.6</b>   | <b>101.9</b>            | <b>110.2</b> | <b>105.9</b>      | <b>106.6</b> |
| <b>GROCERY ITEMS</b>   | <b>109.6</b> | <b>109.7</b>   | <b>118.7</b>            | <b>96.9</b>  | <b>108.6</b>      | <b>108.3</b> |
| <b>HOUSING</b>         | <b>107.9</b> | <b>104.5</b>   | <b>95.2</b>             | <b>133.1</b> | <b>108.1</b>      | <b>120.2</b> |
| <b>UTILITIES</b>       | <b>87.4</b>  | <b>85.0</b>    | <b>88.4</b>             | <b>95.1</b>  | <b>93.5</b>       | <b>91.2</b>  |
| <b>TRANSPORTATION</b>  | <b>86.4</b>  | <b>105.0</b>   | <b>104.4</b>            | <b>101.7</b> | <b>102.5</b>      | <b>113.3</b> |
| <b>HEALTH CARE</b>     | <b>109.9</b> | <b>112.5</b>   | <b>116.7</b>            | <b>107.1</b> | <b>105.9</b>      | <b>99.9</b>  |
| <b>MISC. GOODS</b>     | <b>106.3</b> | <b>94.7</b>    | <b>101.6</b>            | <b>104.6</b> | <b>108.2</b>      | <b>96.2</b>  |



## MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

### ***SVUW awards luncheon set for Feb. 3***

Save the date for the 2nd Annual Donor Recognition Awards lunch. Join the Souris Valley United Way in celebrating those who give. A luncheon will be held at the Grand Hotel Wednesday, Feb. 3 at 11:30 a.m. For more information, tickets or sponsorship information, please call 839-2994 or visit the website at [www.svunitedway.com](http://www.svunitedway.com).

### ***Sandstrom named plastics loan coordinator***



***Brenda Sandstrom***

card programs.

Town & Country Credit Union has hired Brenda Sandstrom as a plastics loan coordinator. Originally from Grenora, Sandstrom has ten years of technical experience on financial services products. In her current role, she will be managing the credit union's ATM, debit and credit

### ***American Bank Center supports affordable housing development***

American Bank Center contributed \$300,000 to the state's Housing Incentive Fund (HIF) in November to support the development of affordable housing projects in Dickinson and Minot.

"As a local bank, we see first-hand the housing challenges being faced in the communities we serve. We are proud to partner with the Housing Finance Agency to support its goal of providing safe and affordable housing for all North Dakota residents," said Stan Koppinger, American Bank Center president and CEO.

Since the HIF program began in 2011, American Bank Center has contributed \$770,000 to the fund. The bank split its most recent contribution between Lincoln Park Townhomes in Dickinson and Park South Apartments in Minot.

"We are grateful for American Bank Center's continued commitment to HIF," said Jolene Kline, NDHFA executive director. "With their support, we are able to advance the state's efforts to provide housing for all North Dakotans. I encourage more businesses and individuals to make a contribution this year, so we can move all of our HIF projects forward."

Capitalized by contributions from state taxpayers, HIF provides developers of affordable rental housing with low-cost financing if they agree to set-aside units for essential service workers and low- to moderate-income households. Individuals and businesses that contribute to HIF receive a dollar-for-dollar state tax credit. Contributions can be targeted to a specific project or community.

To honor the commitments it made in July, NDHFA must raise \$30 million by Dec. 31, 2016. More information on HIF is available online at [www.ndhousingincentivefund.org](http://www.ndhousingincentivefund.org) or by contacting NDHFA at 800-292-8621 or [hfainfo@nd.gov](mailto:hfainfo@nd.gov).

### ***Full-year enrollees saved money on premiums after tax credits***

Full-year enrollees saved \$226 on premiums after tax credits for the same level of coverage in 2015. Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell announced the findings of a new report that shows that North Dakota consumers who re-enrolled in the Health Insurance Marketplace last year and who switched to a plan with the same level of coverage saved \$19 per month after tax credits, or \$226 annually, relative to what they would have paid had they remained in the same plan as in 2014. In total, returning Marketplace consumers who switched in North Dakota saved \$449,633 annually in premiums by shopping around last year.

The report shows North Dakota Marketplace consumers were active shoppers last year, with 32 percent of re-enrollees from 2014 switching to a new plan for 2015.

"Our message to returning Marketplace customers in North Dakota is simple: shopping may save you money," Burwell said. "North Dakota consumers who visited HealthCare.gov last year to comparison shop for the best plan saved \$226 a year in premiums for the same level of coverage, and we expect people to be able to find similar deals for 2016. Consumers can visit HealthCare.gov to review plans in their area because open enrollment began Nov. 1."

The report's findings underscore that the Marketplace offers a competitive insurance market from which consumers can choose affordable health plans based on their specific needs and budget. It also shows that consumers using HealthCare.gov are smart shoppers, who pay close attention to plan costs when making selections.

According to the report, historical estimates of plan switching among enrollees in employer sponsored insurance (2.8 percent), the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (12 percent) and Medicare Drug Plans (13 percent) are low compared to Marketplace consumers.

HealthCare.gov offers detailed information about each health insurance plan sold in an area, including out-of-pocket costs, customer service and more. Consumers can visit the 2016 health insurance plans and prices tool on HealthCare.gov and use the new total yearly out-of-pocket cost estimator to learn more

about their specific costs. Health insurance plans on the Marketplace are classified by metal level, which range from bronze, with the lowest premiums but the highest deductibles and co-pays, to platinum with the highest premiums and lowest deductibles and co-pays.

Neil Scharpe, Navigator project director, explained open enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace started Nov. 1, 2015, and runs through Jan. 31, 2016. Individuals must sign up by Dec. 15 to have coverage that starts Jan. 1, and they can find help by calling 1-800-233-1737 or find free, confidential in-person assistance in your local area by visiting [www.ndcpd.org/navigator](http://www.ndcpd.org/navigator).

Six tips for returning consumers to shop and save are:

- **Renew coverage** — As of Nov. 1, individuals can come back to the Marketplace, update their information and select a plan for 2016. They can choose to stay in their current plan if it's still available – or – pick a new plan.
- **Plans change every year** — Plans on the Marketplace change every year and because of that, new, better and more affordable plans might be available in a consumer's your area. The consumer can visit HealthCare.gov to check out your plan options for 2016 and prices through the recently launched window shopping feature.
- **It pays to shop** — Even if none of an individual's information has changed, the person may still be able to get a better deal. Marketplace consumers have the option to switch plans annually. This means that during open enrollment individuals can shop to see if there is a plan available that saves them more money, offers them more services or includes more doctors.
- **Lower premiums are available** — Last year, consumers who shopped and switched plans saved an average of nearly \$400 nationwide. And this year, more than 7 out of 10 current consumers will be able to find a plan with premiums less than \$75.
- **Make changes by Dec. 15** — If individuals want updates to their coverage to start on Jan. 1, they should update their information and make sure they have the best plan to meet their health and budget needs before the Dec. 15 deadline.
- **Ask a Navigator for assistance** — There is free assistance across the state to help individuals through this process. Contact a Navigator by calling toll free 1-800-233-1737 or find help on line at [www.ndcpd.org/navigator](http://www.ndcpd.org/navigator). For questions, contact Scharpe at [neil.scharpe@minotstateu.edu](mailto:neil.scharpe@minotstateu.edu) or 858-3580.



## MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

### ***Minot architect Don Davison set to retire***

After four decades serving Minot and the surrounding communities, JLG Principal Architect Don Davison will be retiring at the end of 2015.

Davison spent the first few years of his life in Washburn, Devils Lake, Jamestown, and Bismarck before moving permanently to Minot in 1966 when his father changed jobs. While his favorite academic subject was mathematics, a love of art and a chance to draft a footstool in high school first led Don to consider a drafting degree until his father challenged him to set his goals higher by becoming an architect.

He married his high school sweetheart, Vicky, in 1975. They celebrated their 40th anniversary last August. His driving force at North Dakota State University was to build a career that would support his family. He worked his way through college, graduating entirely debt-free and with enough money in savings to put a down payment on a house in Minot. His first child was born just as he started his new career at Brunner Hoeffel Torno Nester Architects, which would later become JLG Architects in 2012.

A few of his proudest professional achievements:

- At Minot State University, he renovated three landmark historic buildings. He transformed Model Hall, Main Hall, and Swain Hall from the past into the future of the University's academic programming. "Swain Hall, the original athletic facility, became laboratory spaces for Education and Human Performance," said Davison. This was the most amazing conversion I have ever worked on, as we completely restructured and added onto a building that the campus could have easily torn down."
- He worked with a committee of veterans to build a Medal of Honor Memorial for Roosevelt Park in Minot. "It was very humbling to work with such dedicated veterans and artisans to complete the project," said Davison. "It stands today to represent all of the Medal of Honor recipients in the State."
- A core addition and renovation to Trinity Nursing Home closed down an avenue in northeast Minot and created a connection from the current nursing care facility on the north side of the avenue to a retirement

home on the South side without making it look like an addition. "At the time, this was one of the most modern and innovative solutions in the area," he said.

- Don led a master plan for an expansion and renovation of South Prairie School, which turned a small 1960's country school into a modern K-8 middle school. The additions complimented the existing structure and, according to Don, "turned a meek building into a dynamic school that made the District very proud."

"I have always approached a project without preconceived ideas and instead, let the design develop from continuous client input," he said. "Our firm has always been one where the function of the design needs to rule the appearance, and the appearance will take on the intent of the function. Attention to detail is what I valued most, and a happy client was all of the reward that I expected at the completion of the project."

While Davison's architectural thumbprint can be found all over Minot, his longest-standing accomplishment doesn't actually have walls. Don began volunteering for the Norsk Høstfest in 1978, shortly after graduating from NDSU.

While he will be greatly missed at JLG, Don will now have the opportunity to spend time with what he deems "his greatest achievement" — his family. Davison and his wife have three children and seven grandchildren (ranging from ages 3-10), who will hopefully see much more of them between adventures to travel destinations on their extensive bucket list.

### ***Strege joins Cornerstone Bank***



***Kevin Strege***

Kevin Strege has joined Cornerstone Bank as a vice president of business banking, with responsibilities in the Watford City, New Town, and Bismarck markets. Strege has 30 years of experience in the financial services industry, 26 of that in the Bismarck-Mandan community. Strege currently serves as the chair of the Bismarck-Mandan Chamber Local Issues Committee and is on the Bismarck-Mandan Development Association

Executive Committee. He has held various other community leadership positions over the years, including the Missouri Valley Family YMCA and Bismarck Vision Fund.

### ***Sertoma Club sponsors Christmas in the Park tickets — great gifts!***

The Minot Sertoma Club will bring light once again to Oak Park in Minot through its display of Christmas-themed lights for the community to enjoy. The Christmas lights are displayed from Nov. 27 through Dec. 31 from 6 to 10 every evening. The cost for viewing Christmas in the Park is \$5 per car with a rate for limos and buses. Christmas in the Park is a way for Sertoma to earn money and give back to the community by supporting local businesses with beautifully lighted Christmas displays.

Sertoma is again offering discounted tickets. The current price is \$5 per car, but if you pre-purchase tickets from Visit Minot or by calling the number below, you can get 5 tickets for \$20. The tickets make great gifts and stocking stuffers for your employees, coworkers, friends and family.

Sertoma is a community service group with the ultimate purpose of meeting the needs of communities through service. Minot Sertoma, which is short for "service to mankind," has served the Minot community for 56 years. Membership consists of more than 80 area business men and women who are committed to giving back to their community.

Minot Sertoma serves the Minot community in a variety of ways. Areas of interest and service include speech and hearing disorders and youth-related activities. Sertoma supports local education through scholarships; supports organized activities such as Dream Catchers, Minot Family YMCA and MAYSA Arena; financially supports the ND Center for Persons with Disabilities, Hands & Voices, and the Induction Loop at Ann Nicole Nelson Hall at Minot State University; and provides assistance to those with very specific needs.

If you have any questions about pre-purchasing tickets or would like to purchase some, please contact Kathleen White at [kathleen.white@trinityhealth.org](mailto:kathleen.white@trinityhealth.org) or 240-4458.



## MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

### ***Tesoro contributes \$5.3 million to HIF***

Tesoro Corporation announced a substantial contribution to the North Dakota Housing Incentive Fund (HIF). Company representatives presented Gov. Jack Dalrymple with a check for \$5.3 million, the single-largest contribution in the program's history, to support affordable housing projects in Bismarck, Mandan, Dickinson and Watford City. Tesoro's contribution has pushed the state program to more than 70 percent of its \$30 million capitalization goal.

The check was presented during an event at the state capitol by Tesoro executives, including Executive Vice President of Operations Keith Casey, Senior Vice President of Refining Brian Coffman, Vice President of Mandan Refinery Todd Dixon; and Government and Public Affairs Director Ron Day. Dalrymple was also joined by ND Housing Finance Agency (NDHFA) Executive Director Jolene Kline.

"Thank you to Tesoro Corporation for this generous contribution and for their support of affordable housing development across North Dakota," said Dalrymple. "The Housing Incentive Fund is an important tool for ensuring the availability of affordable housing for essential service workers and those on fixed incomes, and Tesoro's contribution will make it possible for additional development projects to move forward."

The HIF provides low-cost financing to developers of affordable rental housing. The Industrial Commission, consisting of Dalrymple as chairman, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, oversees NDHFA, the fund administrator.

"We are proud to support North Dakota Housing Finance Agency and its mission to make housing safe and affordable for the state's workforce and its aging population," said Casey.

"We are very appreciative of Tesoro's support and pleased that we've had such great progress in reaching our capitalization goal," said Kline. "Fourteen of the 24 projects that received conditional commitments from the agency this summer are now fully funded thanks to Tesoro's and our other partners' contributions to the HIF."

NDHFA began accepting HIF contributions in July. To date, the agency has received \$21.5 million.

While NDHFA has until Dec. 31, 2016, to reach its goal, agency officials continually stress that the sooner the HIF is fully capitalized, the sooner the housing it supports can begin construction.

More information on the HIF is available online at [www.ndhousingincentivefund.org](http://www.ndhousingincentivefund.org) or

by contacting NDHFA at 800-292-8621 or [hfainfo@nd.gov](mailto:hfainfo@nd.gov).

### ***Social Security Business Services online***

The Social Security Business Services Online (BSO) is free and available for use. After registering to use BSO, two very useful services are the Social Security Number Verification Service (SSNVS) and the ability to transmit W-2 data electronically to Social Security. Linking from your website to the BSO homepage would be appreciated.

Routinely using SSNVS for new employees helps simplify your paperwork. You immediately know if the employee name and SSN match, resulting in more accurate wage reports and less problems for you. If employee information does not match, refer him or her to Social Security to resolve the problem. This is not an immigration screening tool. SSNVS is especially helpful for businesses with high employee turnover.

Online W-2 filing is by creating a data file from your own payroll system or by using a Social Security template. With online W-2 filing, submission deadlines are extended to the end of March. Businesses performing payroll services need only register once to report for all clients.

The direct link to Social Security Business Services Online (BSO) is <https://www.socialsecurity.gov/thirdparty/business.html>. From there, clicking on the Employer link (Choose Your Business Group) brings you to more information, tutorials and support services, including customer support contacts just for Business Services help.

Customer support for Business Service Online questions is specifically for BSO and separate from other Social Security help lines. Local SSA offices generally cannot answer BSO questions.

Advance registration, at no charge, is required to use Business Services Online. For security, the person registering for your business will be asked personal information.

For more information, contact Howard I. Kossover, Public Affairs Specialist for ND & Western Minnesota, Social Security Administration, 402 DeMers Ave, Suite 300, Grand Forks, ND 58201 or email [mailto:howard.kossover@ssa.gov](mailto:mailto:howard.kossover@ssa.gov).

### ***ND Voc Rehab employees recognized***

The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) recently recognized employees from its regional offices across the state for their work helping people with disabilities become employed.

The division presented Brenda Vennes of the

Minot DVR office with the Director's Award for Excellence. Peers nominated Vennes for this prestigious award for demonstrating dedication, productivity, and dependability while leading the division's ongoing business services effort.

Jennifer Moldenhauer of the Jamestown DVR office and Kyle Peterson of the Minot office received the Award for Counselor Achievement. This award recognizes the top 10 percent of counselors who helped the most people become employed.

Minot office employee Tanya Ide, Fargo employee Rebecca Martin, and Jamestown employee Heather Haugan-Messmer received the Award for Counselor Achievement-Honorable Mention, which recognizes counselors who had the second highest number of clients placed into employment.

DVR presented Bev Turbiville and her colleagues in the Dickinson DVR office with the Exemplary Service Award for providing outstanding case service to clients. Dickinson office employees also received the VR Team Participation Award for their involvement in community activities.

The division named Minot office employee Rebecca Schmaltz Rookie of the Year. The division also presented Career Achievement Awards, which are based on the number of people with disabilities placed into employment over the course of a vocational rehabilitation counselor's career. This recognition begins at the 100 Club Award level and increases in increments of 100.

Derek Kimmes, of the Jamestown office, and Ann Yatskis of the Fargo office, received the Career Achievement-100 Club Award, and Lori Petrick and Frank Strom of the Grand Forks DVR office received the Career Achievement-300 Club Award.

Vocational rehabilitation professionals help individuals with disabilities achieve their employment goals. Division staff members provide assessments and counseling to help clients identify strengths and goals, connect individuals to training, education, assistive technology, and supportive services, and provide job placement assistance.

DVR also connects businesses to new employees to meet their workforce needs, and provides assistance so businesses can retain employees affected by disabilities and find solutions to other disability-related issues.

Information on vocational rehabilitation services is available online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/index.html) and by contacting the division at 701-328-8950, toll-free 800-755-2745, TTY 701-328-8968 or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

## MEMBER BUSINESS BRIEFS

### *'Tis the season for glitz & glamour with the Annual Holiday "Twilight" Tour of Homes*

'Tis the season for the Taube Museum of Art's Holiday Tour of Homes Fundraiser. The Taube Museum of Art is happy to present the all-new Holiday "Twilight" Tour of Homes for 2015. It will be Dec. 5, 2015, from 2 to 7 p.m., with lots of lights, glitz, and glamour. Each of the homes and businesses have something special to offer and are a must see.

Enjoy a day of dazzling fun with your \$15 ticket. Tickets are available at the Taube Museum of Art, Real Deals, Artmain, Interior's Plus, I. Keating Furniture World, and all Marketplace Foods locations.

Take your time and enjoy your stop at the Taube Museum for desserts, hot chocolate, coffee, holiday music, and the Cookie Walk Comeback, which includes homemade cookies and treats available for purchase by the pound. The Taube Museum of Art and Gift Shop will feature local and regional artwork as part of the Festival of the Season Art Sale. Register for over \$1,000 worth of door prizes, which includes two \$250 gift certificates from I. Keating Furniture World. Each ticket will include an entry blank and every participant will need to drop it off at the Taube Museum of Art during the Holiday Tour of Homes. You do not need to be present to win. We also ask our participants to please wear slip on shoes during the tour for easy on and off. Homes featured on the tour this year:

- The DeEtt and Laddie Long home (6020 27th Ave SE in Eastside Estates) features four levels of Christmas decor. DeEtt delights in decorating her home to the hilt; be sure and take note of all the garlands on the stair railings. DeEtt is not satisfied until everything is perfect. She never quits fussing until it is just right, just ask her mother. She and her husband are happy to share their brand new 2,000 square foot addition with everyone.
- Tim and Kathie Eslinger have a "wow" factor home (11401 Larson Lane), and although it's located approximately 10 miles southeast of Minot on Highway 52, it is definitely worth the drive. Their home will make your eyes pop, taking in all the decorations from top to bottom; such as the exquisite metal lighting fixture that Tim designed and

created, which hangs from their 20 foot ceiling. Kathie has a fantastic talent for decorating and her inspiration comes from a pinecone square on the quilt from their bed. Kathie has enjoyed finding treasures from Real Deals, which she has incorporated into her décor. Tim has enjoyed furnishing the garage, so the men will not want to miss the opportunity to check it out!

- Toni and Gary Meyer's home (1301 11th St SW) includes a panoramic view of Minot. As you walk up to their front door you see the atrium with an 18 foot real ficus tree in all its magnificent glory. The entry way glassed area can be seen from the living room, dining room, and kitchen. Toni describes her decorating as "modern rustic." The openness will draw your eye onto the next beautiful destination. Upstairs you will find a comfortable private master suite. Be sure to take it all in and you will be delighted with what you see.
- Shannon and Steve Berens home (1931 21st St. NW) is "electric and weird," according to Shannon. Make sure you take note of the interesting photography on the walls. There is a uniqueness to each of the kids' rooms, and a sports theme can be found downstairs. Shannon loves being creative in her home, it is where her creativity flows. She currently has several projects in progress. Her collections have special meaning to her, and her talents will shine for the tour. Shannon and Steve's home is truly a family-centered home. Look for things to see inside and out, and even the garage is party, party, party.
- Shirley and Myron Thompson are sharing their beautiful, open concept home (1935 66th St. SW), which sits along the edge of the Vardon Golf Course. Shirley described her home as minimal, simple, and elegant. It's a home that offers much to see all by itself. The decorations of nativities and Santas are frosting on the cake. The kitchen pantry is to-die-for, and the master bedroom closet is a must see, as well as the master bathroom. Men your wives are not going to have to ask you to redo your bathroom, you are just going to want to. The home is heated with geo-thermal heating. How many people do you know that have a "lift" (elevator) in their garage; come and find out

where it goes!

The Taube is partnering with the following businesses to add more to your Holiday Tour experience. The Noble Inn is bedecked to show off beautiful European style décor, Dennis Gumke and his staff will be in costume, and enjoy the Fox and the Hound Pub, which is a large, wonderful gathering area. Also included in the tour will be a decorated guest room and court yard. They will serve mulled wine and goodies for your enjoyment. Noble Inn will also offer a special give-away for a one-night stay, so be sure to register during the tour.

Somerset Court is the place to be, with its beautiful Scandinavian Room filled with Scandinavian heritage, charm, interest, and sweets for your pleasure. Be sure and check out the theatre and try the popcorn. The Club is a handsome room for cards, a game of pool, or a drink. The auditorium, where dances are often held, and an apartment all in its finest splendor of the Christmas season, will also be open. Your last stop at Somerset, the Transition Room, will be decorated with flourishes of the holiday and the hospitality of sweet ice cream and savory treats.


Additional stops during your day of fun can include Real Deals, Main Street Books, Mainstream Boutique, Original Comics & Collectibles, Century Eyewear, Grow With Me, and Lillians. Each of these businesses will have special discounts the day of the tour for attendees with their ticket.

If you are interested in having your home considered for the 2016 tour, please give Mary Graner a call at 838-6719. It's never too early to start planning!

Contact the Taube Museum of Art for additional information or visit the website at [www.taubemuseum.org](http://www.taubemuseum.org). Museum and Gift Shop business hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by special appointment. Admission is free, although contributions are accepted to help the Taube Museum fulfill its mission of enriching lives through the visual arts. This fundraiser is brought to you by the Taube Museum of Art, a 501c3. For further information, call Nancy F. Walter, executive director, at 838-4445.



# DECEMBER 2015

| SUNDAY | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY |
|--------|---|--|---|---|---|----------|
|        |   | 1  | 2   | 3 <b>Military Affairs Committee</b> , Noon, Grand Hotel | 4 <b>Ambassadors Committee</b> , 7:30 a.m., SRT Communications, Inc.  | 5        |
| 6      | 7<br><br><b>Operation Thank You</b> ,<br>Delivery of 2016<br>Chamber Directories<br><b>MAFB Cookie Drive</b> ,<br>Drop off at Chamber | 8 <b>Eagle Awards Presentation</b> ,<br>10 a.m.,<br>Chamber office   | 9 <b>Right Start Presentation</b> ,<br>10 a.m., MAFB<br><b>Junior Achievement Committee</b> , Noon,<br>Chamber office | 10  | 11 <b>Infrastructure Committee</b> , 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders Restaurant   | 12       |
| 13     | 14 <b>Right Start FTAC Presentation</b> ,<br>9:45 a.m., MAFB  | 15 <b>Board of Directors</b> ,<br>7:30 a.m., Grand Hotel<br><b>Business After Hours</b> , 5 to 7 p.m.,<br>Ryan Chevrolet,<br>1800 S. Bdwy. | 16 <b>Right Start Committee</b> ,<br>Noon, Chamber office   | 17  | 18 <b>Governmental Affairs Committee</b> ,<br>11:30 a.m., Vegas Motel   | 19       |
| 20     | 21  | 22   | 23  | 24  | 25 <b>Christmas Day</b> ,<br>Office closed<br><br> | 26       |
| 27     | 28  | 29   | 30  | 31  |   |          |

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