



# Communicator

THE MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND YOU!

Vol. XXXIX, Issue No. 4

[www.minotchamber.org](http://www.minotchamber.org)

April 2016

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## Honors Banquet set for April 13

The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce annual event recognizing top area students is set for Wednesday, April 13 at the Grand Hotel.

This is a special evening that recognizes the hard work of graduating seniors from eight schools with a grade point average of 3.75 or higher. Nearly 100 students from Glenburn, Berthold, Bishop Ryan, Minot, Our Redeemer's, Sawyer, Surrey, and Des Lacs Burlington are featured during the evening along with staff and

teachers from the schools with 25 years of service.

Chuck Barney, Minot Mayor and director of the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy at Minot State University, will be the featured speaker.

The Honors Banquet is possible thanks to the generous support of Chamber members who sponsor students and teachers. There is still time if you would like to sponsor the meals of deserving recipients. Please contact the chamber at 852-6000.

## CITYWIDE CLEANUP DATE CHANGE

### Help make Minot shine May 13 & 14

The trash in our community is not a welcome sight to anyone, especially visitors. That's why Project CLEAN (Community Leaders Enhancing Area Neighborhoods) is gearing up for the annual clean up May 13 & 14. This is a week later than earlier planned due to some scheduling conflicts.

The group will concentrate on sprucing up the entrances to the city, so summer views will be at their best. Groups can stop by the Chamber and sign up for designated areas and

pick up trash bags up to and on May 13. There will be no trash bags or sign ups available on Saturday, May 14. Volunteers can feel free to come in any time, even now, to pick up trash bags.

Volunteers can help anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you have questions or suggestions call the Chamber at 852-6000 or email [chamber@minotchamber.org](mailto:chamber@minotchamber.org).

## Business After Hours

**JLG Architects, Mattson Construction Co., Wheeler Contracting, Inc. and Mowbray & Son, Inc.**  
**Ward County Office Building**

**Thursday, April 7 • 5–7 p.m. • 225 3rd St. SE**

*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 AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMERCIAL

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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## CHAMBER UNIVERSITY:

# Dale Carnegie executive workshop aims to create a culture that engages and retains millennials

Their work habits and values are different. They care more about work life balance and less about money. They are entering the workforce at record rates — they are the millennial generation.

Dale Carnegie Training has researched what drives engagement with this emerging workforce. Join us for a workshop as we learn how to better develop, drive and motivate millennials. Learn from Dale Carnegie Training of North Dakota President Tonya Stende on what it takes to build a top notch company culture.

Participants will learn:

- Why employee engagement matters
  - Understand the values important to millennials
  - What drives engagement in millennials
- Attend this executive employee engagement workshop sponsored by the

Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and the Dale Carnegie Business Group Thursday, April 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Grand Hotel. The event will be followed by a social with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Learn from Dale Carnegie instructor Tonya Stende on what it takes to build a top notch company culture. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cash bar follow.

Cost is \$49 per person. Register online at [Dale Carnegie: Managing Millennials](#). For more information, call Michelle Wall at 255-8476.



Tonya Stende

## What's on your mind?

### Coffee with the President starts April 20 at 9:30 a.m.

Everyone has something to say, and now's your chance to visit about it with your Chamber President. Every third Wednesday of the month, John MacMartin will be available in the Chamber's conference room for some coffee and conversation. Maybe you want to learn more about the Chamber or simply voice your concerns, gratitude, or provide some ideas. We are here to listen. We hope you will stop by at 1020 20th Ave SW on the third Wednesday of the month!



## Renewals

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership through March 16, 2016. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

Albertson Consulting  
All America City Glass  
Allstate Insurance Company,  
The Kim Albert Agency  
Brady, Martz & Associates, PC  
Broadway Bean and Bagel Co  
Burger King  
Dakota Fire Extinguishers  
Dakota Hope Clinic  
Digital Office Centre  
Eagles Wings Community  
Fellowship  
Farm Credit Services of North  
Dakota, ACA  
First Assembly of God Church  
Ms. Pat Gagnon  
Graham Construction Services  
HD Supply Waterworks

Jost Masonry Construction, Inc  
Liberty Business Systems, Inc.  
Lowe's Printing  
Magic City Apartment  
Association  
Magic City Garage Door &  
Awning  
Mainstream Investors  
Marco  
Marketplace Foods  
Minot Area Council of the Arts  
North Winds Truck Accessories  
Northwest Projector  
Party City  
Pringle & Herigstad, P.C.  
ProIT  
Signal Realtors – Donna R.  
Foster

Greg & Pam Simonson  
Small Business Development  
Center  
Souris River Designs & Home  
Improvements  
SRT Communications, Inc.  
Sublime Aesthetic Professionals  
Target  
TrainND Northwest  
TriMedia Environmental &  
Engineering Services  
Ward Warehousing &  
Distribution Co.  
Waste Management of ND –  
Minot  
The Welcome Table  
White Drug  
YWCA Of Minot

## Eagle Awards

The Eagle Award winners were recognized in March 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.



**KELLY SCHAEFER**  
*Minot Veterinary Clinic*



**ANNETTE FUNK**  
*Trinity Medical Group*



**PAUL LUETZEN**  
*Outdoor Living & Spas*



**BRYAN KORGEL**  
*Superior Auto Repair*



**CORY MEZA**  
*Target*



**AMY MONLEY**  
*White Drug*



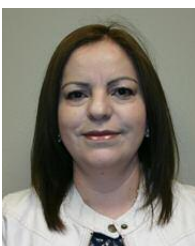
**CHERYL NEWCOMB**  
*Keycare Pharmacy*



**DANAE ANDERSON**  
*Edward Jones – Maye Jones*



**JOSH SANDY**  
*Minot State University*



**IRMA LOPEZ**  
*Mi Mexico*



**DR. ANDREA BURCKHARD**  
*Spine and Sport Chiropractic*



**CHERYL NITSCH**  
*Trinity Medical Group*

## International Military Ball April 9

The 28th annual International Military Ball, a formal event with a gourmet meal and entertainment, is set for Saturday, April 9 at the Grand Hotel.

The black tie event begins with a social at 6 p.m. This provides an opportunity to take formal pictures and pass through the receiving line which includes the commanders of MAFB and our Canadian counterparts.

At seven, the dinner chimes will bring guests into a separate room for a formal seven-course meal. Enjoy the Canadian Bagpipers



and a program featuring a moving tribute to POW/MIA's. The evening will be capped off with dancing to Flash Bang, a component of the 188th Army Band.

Don't miss out! Contact the Chamber today to sign up. Cost is \$75 per person. For more information or to register, please call 852-6000 or email [chamber@minotchamber.org](mailto:chamber@minotchamber.org).

## Small Business roundtable Interactive Webinar set for April 6

The 2016 Small Business Roundtable Interactive Webinar is set for April 6, 2016, from 9 to 10 a.m. Central time.

Presenters from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Social Security Administration, and the Internal Revenue Service.

SBA topics covered will include financing options available for business, mentoring and training services available to start and grow business, and contracting services and set aside programs. Social Security topics covered will include an introduc-

tion to SSA Business Services Online (BSO), your personal my Social Security account, and tools for your use through the SSA Retirement Planner. IRS topics covered will include business use of the home, depreciation or expensing, business identity theft, and recordkeeping.

Attendees are invited to listen to the presentations and ask questions. Input is invited. No registration is required and the cost is free.

For the web (visual) portion of the meeting, click on this link: [https://cs.con-](https://cs.conferenceservers.com/brands/IRS/SBSE/irs_test.html)

[ferenceservers.com/brands/IRS/SBSE/irs\\_test.html](https://cs.conferenceservers.com/brands/IRS/SBSE/irs_test.html). The participant code is 15930577. Please also fill in your name, company or organization, and email. For the conference call (audio) portion, dial toll free: 888-331-8226. The participant access code is 5330951

Please note that the audio portion is ONLY offered via telephone. The audio will not come through your computer.

For more information, contact [Ann.P.Makres@irs.gov](mailto:Ann.P.Makres@irs.gov) or call 651-726-1596.



# *Water Treatment Plant project to close portion of 16th St. SW this summer*

The HMGP–Water Treatment Plant Project is designed to prevent future floods from contaminating and interrupting the potable water supply production and transmission at the Minot Water Treatment Plant and High Service Pump Station.

With the ongoing construction well under way, crews will need to shut down a few blocks of 16th Street SW this summer, from Burdick Expressway to Forest Road. This work is scheduled to happen between school years to minimize disruption.

“We recognize that closing down 16th Street this summer will make it more difficult for those traveling north or south on the west side of town,” said Dan Jonasson, Minot public works director. “Yet what this allows us to do is finish all the storm water improvements under the road, the base for the temporary road closures, and resurface the road. This is a critical component of long-term flood protection of our most precious resource, the clean water in our region.”

Jonasson said the closure of this two-block portion of 16th Street SW is part of the workflow transition from moving pipelines subgrade to forming flood-

walls above ground. In total, 1,720 linear feet of concrete floodwalls on the south side of the Mouse River will be installed on this project to protect against a 2011-level flood event, plus freeboard.

The exact road closure date for 16th Street SW hasn't yet been set, but residents can anticipate it taking place from about the end of the current school year until the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year.

The various storm water collection and pumping portions of the project are necessary to accommodate rain and melt events during a potential flood.

Residents with questions are encouraged to follow the City of Minot Facebook page, like the Mouse River Plan Facebook page, sign up for email alerts through the city's website or [www.mouseriverplan.com](http://www.mouseriverplan.com), or contact the public information officer for the project, Mark Lyman with Odney at 857-7205.



## *Public opinion sought during outreach phase of statewide rail plan*

Statewide stakeholders in the effort to develop a new North Dakota State Rail Plan are asking for the public's input on that plan through an online survey. The survey is designed to gather opinions and gauge the direction of rail systems and services utilized by North Dakota freight shippers and passengers. The overall goal of the plan is to provide an assessment of the rail system offering recommendations for policies, programs, processes and projects that will improve rail-related safety and service.

The online survey can be accessed through the North Dakota Department of Transportation's (NDDOT) website, at <http://railplan.dot.nd.gov>.

The NDDOT, the North Dakota Public Service Commission, North Dakota Department of Commerce, the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services, the North Dakota Pipeline Authority, and the Upper Great Plain Transportation Institute are collaborating to work on implementation of the stakeholder and public outreach phase of the North Dakota State Rail Plan. This process is moving forward with all stakeholders having recently participated in a visioning meeting to set the stage for the next phases of the project.

The stakeholder and public outreach phase of the State Rail Plan will include expert roundtable meetings, public meetings, and individual interviews. The effort will collaboratively establish a shared vision for North Dakota's rail system. Additional details about time and location for these statewide public meetings will be released over the upcoming weeks.

# *IRS alerts payroll & HR professionals to phishing scheme*

The Internal Revenue Service issued an alert to payroll and human resources professionals to beware of an emerging phishing email scheme that purports to be from company executives and requests personal information on employees.

The IRS has learned this scheme – part of the surge in phishing emails seen this year – already has claimed several victims as payroll and human resources offices mistakenly email payroll data including Forms W-2 that contain Social Security numbers and other personally identifiable information to cybercriminals posing as company executives.

“This is a new twist on an old scheme using the cover of the tax season and W-2 filings to try tricking people into sharing personal data. Now the criminals are focusing their schemes on company payroll departments,” said IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. “If your CEO appears to be emailing you for a list of company employees, check it out before you respond. Everyone has a responsibility to remain diligent about confirming the identity of people requesting personal information about employees.”

IRS Criminal Investigation already is reviewing several cases in which people have been tricked into sharing SSNs with what turned out to be cybercriminals. Criminals using personal information stolen elsewhere seek to monetize data, including by filing fraudulent tax returns for refunds.

This phishing variation is known as a “spoofing” email. It will contain, for example, the actual name of the company chief executive officer. In this variation, the “CEO” sends an email to a company payroll office employee and requests a list of employees and information including SSNs.

The following are some of the details contained in the e-mails:

- \* Kindly send me the individual 2015 W-2 (PDF) and earnings summary of all W-2 of our company staff for a quick review
- \* Can you send me the updated list of employees with full details (Name, Social Security Number, Date of Birth, Home Address, Salary) as at 2/2/2016.
- \* I want you to send me the list of W-2 copy of employees wage and tax state-

ment for 2015, I need them in PDF file type, you can send it as an attachment. Kindly prepare the lists and email them to me asap.

The IRS recently renewed a wider consumer alert for e-mail schemes after seeing an approximate 400 percent surge in phishing and malware incidents so far this tax season and other reports of scams targeting others in a wider tax community.

The emails are designed to trick taxpayers into thinking these are official communications from the IRS or others in the tax industry, including tax software companies. The phishing schemes can ask taxpayers about a wide range of topics. E-mails can seek information related to refunds, filing status, confirming personal information, ordering transcripts and verifying PIN information.

The IRS, state tax agencies and tax industry are engaged in a public awareness campaign – Taxes. Security. Together. – to encourage everyone to do more to protect personal, financial and tax data. See [IRS.gov/taxessecuritytogether](http://IRS.gov/taxessecuritytogether) or Publication 4524 for additional steps you can take to protect yourself.

## **Business After Hours - March**



*Thank you to the Grand Hotel for hosting the March Business After Hours. The hotel showcased its newly renovated rooms to the 130 people that attended. Additionally, those on hand enjoyed chances at prizes, delicious food, great networking and a chance at Chamber Bucks.*



## 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.*



**Minot International Airport:** Airport Road • Minot • 857-4724 • [www.whyflyminot.com](http://www.whyflyminot.com)

*The Ambassadors were up bright and early to mark the first flight out of the new Minot International Airport terminal on Monday, Feb. 29. A formal ceremony is set for May 6.*



**Sammy's Pizza:** 400 N. Broadway • Minot • 852-4486 • 852-4508 • Angie & Shannon Osborn, Owners  
[mysammys.com](http://mysammys.com) • Facebook: [SammysPizza Minot](https://www.facebook.com/SammysPizzaMinot)

*The Chamber's Ambassadors were on hand to celebrate with new owners Angie & Shannon Osborn. Sammy's Pizza has been a tradition in the community for almost 60 years. Angie, the daughter of former owners Tarryll and Dave Shomento, and her husband Shannon aim to keep the family tradition alive for many more generations to come.*



# Ribbon Cuttings



**55th Street Fire Station:** 1505 55th St. SE • Minot, ND 58701 • [www.minotnd.org](http://www.minotnd.org)  
*The Chamber's Ambassadors helped celebrate the opening of Minot's newest fire station.*

# Ambassadors Support Special Olympics



*The Chamber's Ambassadors escorted honored guests at the 2016 Special Olympics State Basketball Tournament, which was held at the Minot State University Dome in March.*

## 30th Annual Prairie Warrior Auction successfully raises funds for MAFB

Congratulations and special thanks to Betty Fedorchak (Esoterica), chairperson of the 30th Annual Military Affairs Committee Prairie Warrior Competition Auction, as well as her team of volunteers.

Also, a special thanks goes out to the many sponsors of merchandise. Support by area businesses, organizations and individuals has once again contributed to a successful event. Participants enjoyed refreshments and hors d'oeuvres while previewing the merchandise.

Base coordinators included MSgt Erica Robinson, Major Mike Middents, Trevor Hutchison, Susan Wagers, and Kathleen James. Also offering invaluable help was Petter Thunshelle, Auctioneer John Bearman, Niess Impressions Printing, and the staff of the Holiday Inn.

The Prairie Warrior Auction and the support of the local community will contribute significantly to the wings bringing home the top honors in Air Force competitions.

Fedorchak said donations from busi-

nesses, organizations and individuals, along with those who donate their time, make the auction a success.

Every year, this event raises thousands of dollars to help defray the expenses of bomb and missile wing competitions for Minot Air Force Base competitors. Additionally, funds raised are used to underwrite events designed to improve the morale and lessen financial burdens of the men and women stationed at Minot AFB.

10 North Main  
4 Bears Casino  
Ackerman-Estvold  
Affinity First Federal Credit Union  
All American Trophies & Screen  
Printing  
American Bank Center  
Anonymous donor, a true supporter of  
the military  
Artmain  
Badlands Restaurant & Bar  
Boppre Law Firm  
Bray's Saddlery  
Bremer Bank  
Buffalo Wings & Rings  
Burger King  
R. Capelli  
Central Power  
Clean Tech  
Culligan Water  
Dacotah Bank  
Dairy Queen 4th Ave.  
Dakota Fence  
Dakota Fire Extinguishers  
Ebenezer's Eatery & Irish Pub  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Fargo Glass & Paint Co.  
Farm Credit Services  
Fiancee Bridal  
First International Bank & Trust

First Western Bank & Trust  
Flower Central  
FMI  
Gate City Bank  
Gideon's Trumpet  
Gourmet Chef  
Grand Hotel  
Ground Round  
Hampton Inn & Suites  
Harley's Arrowhead  
Hight Construction  
Home of Economy  
Home Sweet Home  
Homesteaders Restaurant  
I. Keating Furniture World  
Inspired Interiors  
Integrity Viking Funds  
Interiors Plus  
Investors Management & Marketing  
Kalix  
Knowles Jewelry of Minot  
Karen Kresbach  
Lalee Cakes  
Lowe's Floral and Garden Center  
Lowe's Printing  
Magic City Beverage Co.  
Margie's Art Glass Studio  
McGee, Hankla, & Backes, P.C.  
Minot Area Development Corp.  
Minot Area Homeless Coalition

Minot Daily News  
Minot Family YMCA  
Minot Park District  
Minot Restaurant Supply  
Minot State University  
Minot State University Veterans Ctr  
Minot Symphony Orchestra  
ND Envelope Company  
Norsk Høstfest  
North Dakota State Fair  
North Hill Bowl  
Northern Bottling  
Northern Tier Federal Credit Union  
Northwest Tire & Auto Service  
Odney  
Off the Vine  
Olive Garden  
Otis & James Photography  
Papa Murphy's  
Perkins  
Pietsch Aircraft Restoration & Repair  
Pinkerton Animal Hospital  
Duane Poynter  
Prairie Federal Credit Union  
Project Paper Company  
QPI Nail & Spa  
Reiten, David & Carla  
Rolac Contracting  
Betty Routledge  
Ruby Tuesday

Scheels  
Sevens Bar & Restaurant  
Simonson's Station Stores  
Souris Valley Golf Course  
Souris Valley Suites  
Sportan Firearms & Dakota Outdoor  
Advertising  
SRT Communications, Inc.  
State Farm Ins. - Paul Siebert  
Susan Davy Pottery  
Taco John's  
Taube Museum of Art  
Tesoro  
The Computer Store  
The Vegas Motel  
Thomas Family Funeral Home  
Thomas, Brad and Jackie  
Tilman Jones  
Tires Plus  
Town & Country Center  
Trinity Health  
United Community Bank  
Vardon Golf Club  
Verendrye Electric  
Visit Minot  
Wendy's  
Western Steel & Plumbing  
Westlie Motor Co.  
Willow City Mission Quilters

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Coffee with the President | April 20 | 9:30 a.m. | 1020 20th Ave. SW**

**Business After Hours | May 12 | 5-7 p.m. | Fireside Bistro at Edgewood Senior Living  
Corner of 16th Ave. SE & Hiawatha**

**Citywide Cleanup | May 13 | 9 a.m.-5 p.m. | City Entrances**

**Citywide Cleanup | May 14 | 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | City Entrances**



# Your Area's Only DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACTOR

Realize the benefits of single responsibility with Minot's only full-service Design-Build contractor! Discover for yourself how Fast Track Construction and Critical Path Management can help you dramatically improve construction schedule timelines and reduce building cost overruns.

When you work with Hight Construction, you partner with a company whose roots and values trace back three generations in North-Central North Dakota. We pride ourselves in giving back to the community that shares so many of our own passions. That is why we will continue to pioneer ways to help our clients find ways to reduce costs and build a better building.

Our team is diversified, experienced and trusted. We look forward to serving YOU!



Jay Hight  
President



Michael Oakleaf  
Architect AIA



Steve Saucerman  
Chief Estimator & PM



Allied Building Products  
Minot ND



Domestic Violence Crisis  
Center Campus - Minot ND



Westlie Tire & Service  
Center - Minot ND



Pizza Ranch - Minot ND



Holiday Inn Express  
Minot ND



Ryan GMC - Minot ND

PHONE: (701) 839-5819 | FAX: (701) 839-1094 | EMAIL: [jhight@srt.com](mailto:jhight@srt.com)

**HIGHT**  
CONSTRUCTION

*Experience Built Into  
Every Project*



## Minot Young Professionals host leadership expert April 19

The Minot Young Professionals would like to invite you to their April Power Hour. Leadership expert, Danita Bye, will be the featured speaker. She is a catalyst for visionary business leaders of character who are committed to investing into emerging leaders as a key business growth or succession strategy.



Bye's practical, rubber-meets-the-road, values and character-based success in leadership and management underlie her com-

mitment to support the strategy to develop emerging leaders in S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Manufacturing and Medical Device) industries.

Her track record is rooted in the valuable lessons she learned growing up in a homestead shack on the TTT Ranch in Stanley, ND. In addition to farming and ranching, she's involved in both TTT Minerals and TTT Corp, an oil and gas company. She returned to her hometown, Stanley, in May 2014.

This lunch event will be held at

Verendrye Electric Cooperative, 1225 Highway 2 Bypass East, and will cost \$10 for YP members and \$15 for non-members. Visit the link below for more details and to RSVP by April 15: [YP Power Hour](#). You may also email [becky.dolley@fwbt.com](mailto:becky.dolley@fwbt.com) with your organization and number of attendees.



*Danita Bye*

## New Member Reception



*Twenty new members attended a new membership reception March 17 at the Holiday Inn. The group learned how to get involved in the Chamber.*

## Grain Marketing Seminar well attended



*The "5 Common Mistakes in Grain Marketing" seminar held March 17 at the North Central Research Center was successful, with 110 farmers and ag industry professionals in attendance. Farmers heard from Ed Usset, a grain marketing economist for the Farm Financial Management at the University of Minnesota.*





A HUSBAND. A HANDYMAN.  
A FISHERMAN. A GARDENER.  
A FATHER. AN ARCHITECT.  
**ACKERMAN-ESTVOLD.**

Meet Ryan. He's a creative and enthusiastic architect. As a member of our team, he's busy building on the groundwork laid by our engineers. But we understand there is more to Ryan than floor plans and elevations.

He's a dad that enjoys exploring North Dakota with his wife and son; someone who understands a remodel project because he's most likely doing the same in his own home. As a Minot native, he takes pride in growing this community. So when Ryan designs the next church, bank or medical facility, he's not only shaping our future, he's building his.



   [www.ackerman-estvold.com](http://www.ackerman-estvold.com)

# *Chamber supports lawsuit against EPA's plan to reconfigure state's electricity systems*

The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce joined 166 other state and local business associations from 40 different states in an amicus brief filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit explaining the devastating economic impact posed by the EPA's carbon regulations.

The lawsuit, which will be considered by a federal appeals court this summer, involves EPA's "Clean Power Plan" rules, which aim to reconfigure state electricity systems. It is expected to be a landmark case that could shape North Dakota's energy and economic future.

In issuing these regulations, the EPA purports to have discovered the authority to regulate how states generate, transmit, and use electricity, without any authority from Congress to do so.

The coalition's brief outlines major legal and economic concerns with the rule, arguing that EPA has trampled on the rights of states to determine their own energy mix and implement environmental standards in a manner tailored to their own circumstances.

The availability of affordable electricity is a key feature of keeping America competitive in a global economy. The brief explains that EPA's challenged rule will pose significant harm to regional and local communities, particularly in economically challenged rural areas.

Affordable, reliable energy provides our members a critical advantage in today's intensely competitive economy. If the courts uphold EPA's rule, that advantage could be lost and American consumers will be left footing the bill, leading to adverse ripple effects throughout the economy, which will threaten individual businesses, countless jobs, and entire communities.

By prematurely and unnecessarily forcing power plants to close, EPA's regulation will result in higher costs for electricity and all the goods and services that depend on it, which means less money remaining for health care, food, education and other critical needs.

The Chamber's brief echoes the call from nearly 160 challengers that have filed suit against EPA, including 27 states, and a host of business, labor and consumer groups.

A decision in the case is likely to be issued by the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit later this year. From there, the challenge is expected to make its way to the Supreme Court, which has ordered EPA to halt all implementation and enforcement actions on the rule until it has the opportunity to consider the case.

For example, EPA is requiring North Dakota to reduce its electricity sector carbon emissions rate 44.9 percent by 2030. An independent analysis by NERA

Economic Consulting has projected that this will increase state electricity prices by an average of 27 percent and up to 38 percent in peak years.

Currently, electricity rates in North Dakota are 8.19 cents per kilowatt-hour—about 19.2 percent less than the national average.

"These 166 state and local business organizations, representing business interests in 40 different states, have expressed their commitment to the development of sound energy policy and economically responsible environmental regulations," said William Consovoy, attorney for state and local business organizations. "Yet as this amicus brief explains, the companies represented by these associations will bear the brunt of the enormous economic and social disruptions caused by EPA's new carbon regulations for power plants. These state and local business organizations believe that EPA's blunderbuss approach compels States, utilities, and suppliers to adopt EPA's preferred sources of power and fuel and to redesign their electricity infrastructure. As amici explain, the rushed, centrally-mandated redesign of the electricity grid will raise the cost of operations for countless businesses, driving jobs overseas and forcing businesses to close."



## Trinity Health achieves Blue Distinction for Maternity Care

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Association has designated Trinity Health's Family Birth Center a Blue Distinction Center for Maternity Care. The Blue Distinction program recognizes healthcare facilities that demonstrate expertise in delivering specialty care.

Lorrie Antos, Trinity's director of Women's and Children's Services, said Blue Distinction is awarded on the basis of quality, cost effectiveness and access to care. She said this recent recognition confirms that Trinity Health is committed to providing quality care for women and newborns.

"Our family centered care and rooming in policies support breastfeeding and bonding between mothers and infants," Antos said. "In addition, our open access and delivery of evidence based care with transparency of data are essential elements of our philosophy and provide the basis for why we received this distinction."

To receive Blue Distinction, each facility must have a program that meets all five of the following criteria:

- \* Family centered care
- \* Care processes that protect, promote and support physiologic (natural) childbirth
- \* Evidence based care that is aligned with established guidelines

\* Reporting and disclosure of quality performance measures

\* Clinical drills/simulation training for high risk events

"We're excited that we were able to meet the criteria," Antos said. "Birthing is a special event because it involves bringing a new life into the world. This shows that our physicians, nurses and staff are dedicated to delivering top-notch care that earns recognition as part of a national initiative."

## First Baptist hosts women's retreat

SHE Ministries of First Baptist Church, Minot, is hosting the 2016 Women's Retreat "Come As You Are" April 8 and 9 at the Holiday Inn Riverside, Coliseum Room. The retreat schedule is Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

The featured speaker will be Jennie Allen, an award winning and bestselling author. Allen also serves women through her ministry, If: Gathering. For more information on Jennie Allen, please visit her website at [www.jennieallen.com](http://www.jennieallen.com).

Registrations are required. The retreat fee is \$35 after March 15. For a registration brochure, please contact First Baptist Church at 852-4533 or [first-bap@srt.com](mailto:first-bap@srt.com). Please register online at [www.fbcminot.org](http://www.fbcminot.org).

## Country Inn & Suites receives President's Award

The Country Inn & Suites By Carlson (Minot) was presented with a 2014 Country Inns & Suites President's Award.

The President's Award is presented to the hotels that achieved top scores in guest satisfaction as measured by guest feedback for cleanliness and consistency in meeting (and often exceeding) the brand's product quality standards. Scott Meyer, senior vice president for Country Inns & Suites By Carlson, presented the award to Cheryl Stanley, general manager of the Country Inn & Suites By Carlson Minot, ND for the achievement.

"I was happy to accept the President's Award for our Country Inn & Suites in Minot and want to thank our guests for their fine reviews and comments. It is our valued guests and staff dedication that made this possible."



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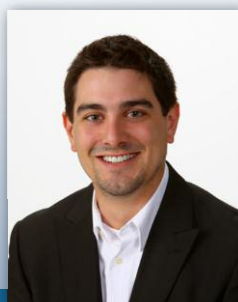


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## **Cornerstone Bank announces promotion for Eric Carlson**

Cornerstone Bank has announced that Eric Carlson, SVP/Finance Director, will now oversee the Audit, Finance and Compliance Teams. Additionally, he will be joining the Bank Management Board. Carlson joined Cornerstone Bank in September 2015 and has over 21 years of experience in the financial services industry. He earned his B.S. in Business Administration and MBA from North Dakota State University and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.



**Eric Carlson**

## **Ackerman-Estvold announces employee updates**

McKenna Larson recently earned her Certified Professional designation from the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM - CP). For over 65 years SHRM has been serving the Human Resources industry by providing education and certification opportunities for HR professionals. The Certified Professional credential recognizes recipients as experts and leaders in the field.



**McKenna Larson**

Larson has been a team member at Ackerman-Estvold since 2010 and currently serves as the human resources specialist. In this role she oversees all recruiting and educational outreach programs for the organization.



**Ashley Hynson**

Ashley Hynson has joined the Ackerman-Estvold Minot office as finance administrator. Hynson earned a bachelor of science in business administration from Minot State University. Her responsibilities will include accounting, finance and payroll duties.

## **U.S. News ranks MSU online business programs among best**

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

Among universities reporting their graduate business program practices, the CoB's online Master of Science in management and Master of Science in information systems ranked 78th in the nation for "Best Online Graduate Business Programs." CoB ranked 191st for "Best Online Bachelor's Programs."

"*U.S. News* ranked 1,200 programs, and Minot State's standing confirms that the College of Business has strong online management information systems and management programs on both undergraduate and graduate levels. This ranking is nationwide, where all institutions participate. When we compare our result to peer institutions of our size and from our region, it is considered an achievement," said Jacek Mrozik, College of Business dean. "It shows that our presence in this important and growing segment of online education is significant from the regional perspective, and MSU is one of the leaders for institutions of its size in this part of U.S."

MSU's online bachelor's degree programs include management, management information systems, marketing, international business, nursing for registered nurses, general studies, applied management and applied business information technology.

*U.S. News* ranked online bachelor's degree programs and online master's degree programs in business, engineering, nursing, education and computer information technology. Programs needed to have at least 80 percent of their course content available online.

For questions, contact Mrozik at 858-3110 or [jacek.mrozik@minotstateu.edu](mailto:jacek.mrozik@minotstateu.edu).

## **Dacotah Bank updates regional management**

Dacotah Bank has announced a new regional management structure that positions the company for the next stage of growth. The roles of the four regional presidents have expanded to include additional oversight and strategic guidance of their respective geographical regions of the growing company.

President and CEO Joe Senger shared the strategy behind the new managerial framework. "To meet the needs of our customers, our four regional presidents are being tasked with more active engagement with their markets. Four new market presidents have been promoted from within the company to concentrate on personalized attention to our clients and core values. The enhanced structure allows Dacotah Bank to innovate and expand while maintaining the local customer experience on which we have built our brand," Senger said.

Regional presidents Dave Bangasser of Sioux Falls, Brad Moore of Aberdeen, Rick Rylance of Rapid City, and Dan Vollmer of Minot have all assumed their new responsibilities.



**Dan Vollmer**

Dacotah Bank locations with newly appointed market presidents are Kelly Bursinger in Rolla, Kip Hansen in Aberdeen, Randy Silver in Rapid City, and Matt Smith in Sioux Falls.

Bursinger graduated from the University of North Dakota with a degree in business management and the Colorado School of Banking. An agricultural banker with Dacotah Bank since 2002, Bursinger is also the mayor of Bisbee, ND. He began his banking career at Merchants Bank of Rugby in 1995 as a loan officer. He also owns a small farming operation in the Bisbee area.



**Kelly Bursinger**



## First Western Bank & Trust offers employee updates

First Western Bank & Trust is pleased to announce the promotion and hiring of a number of employees.

Becky Dolley has been promoted to the position of credit review officer. Dolley joined First Western Bank & Trust in 2007 and has served various roles including credit analyst and most recently accounting assistant. She earned a master's of science degree in accounting and finance from Southern New Hampshire University and a BFA in fashion design from Moore College of Art & Design. She is currently working on completing her CPA. Dolley has served as chair of the Professional Development Team for the Minot Young Professionals and as finance committee chair and board member for Pathfinder Parent Center.



**Becky Dolley**

Candi Ziegler has been promoted to the position of network and systems administrator. She joined First Western Bank & Trust in 2015 as the network and systems assistant. Ziegler completed her bachelor's degree from Minot State University in computer science and mathematics and has over 10 years of experience in information technology. She also volunteers for Souris Valley Animal Shelter and Mile High Weimaraner Rescue.



**Candi Ziegler**

Doug Fredrich has been promoted data processing administrator. Fredrich joined First Western Bank & Trust in 2014 in the position of computer operations. He completed his bachelor of science degree in computer science from Minot



**Doug Fredrich**

State University.

Penny Chole joined First Western Bank & Trust in March of 2016. Chole will be working as a customer service representative. She has 35 years of banking experience.



**Penny Chole**



**Jackie Grosz**

Kristen Wick was hired in January of 2016, and will work as a customer service representative.

Jackie Grosz joined first Western Bank & Trust in January 2016 in the facilities area as a custodian.



**Kristen Wick**



**Garrett Mayer**

Garrett Mayer was hired in the IT area as a computer technician. Mayer joined First Western Bank & Trust in January 2016.

## 2nd Story social club awarded Community Wish List Grant

United Community Bank of ND announced that the 2nd Story Social Club has been awarded the UCBND Community Wish List Grant, which will provide them with \$2500.

Non-profit organizations were given the opportunity to apply for the grant throughout the month of February. Grant recipients needed to focus on a project or event that will benefit the Minot and surrounding communities.

Three organizations were chosen as finalists:

1. 2nd Story Social Club, Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program – This program was designed to assist downtown businesses and residents during the upcoming summer construction season.

Three dates will be chosen for Second Story members to meet with downtown businesses and residents to help continue clean, inviting access to downtown residents and area businesses during the 2016 road construction.

2. Pathfinder Services, iCan Bike Project – A one-week camp for children and adults with developmental disabilities to learn how to ride a two-wheel bicycle without training wheels. The camp runs Aug. 1-5. Each rider is given 75 minutes a day to transition from a specialized stability bike to their own two-wheel bicycle.

3. Taube Museum of Art, Family Night at the Museum – This event will feature multi-dimensional art and family activities in a unique setting, and is scheduled for May 6. Throughout the evening participants can enjoy entertainment, art project stations, story time, photo opportunities, refreshments and more.

The finalists were then voted on by the community via the United Community Bank Facebook page. It was a close race, but the Second Story Social Club pulled ahead at the end. "2nd Story is thrilled to be the recipient of the UCB Community Wish List Grant," said Alayne Okland, 2nd Story Executive Director, "Thank you to all who voted. The members are eager to get out and do their part to improve the look of Downtown Minot."

In addition, the Minot Area Community Foundation will be awarding the remaining finalists with funding. The runner up of the Facebook vote, Pathfinder Services – iCan Bike Project, will receive \$1500, and third place, the Taube Museum of Art, Family Night at the Museum will receive \$1000.

For more information, contact Jennifer Hubrig with United Community Bank at 839-3500 or [jhubrig@ucbnd.com](mailto:jhubrig@ucbnd.com).



## **Brown & Saenger adds sales veteran**

Brown & Saenger announced that Troy Kleinjan has joined the Brown & Saenger sales team. Troy will be working out of Bismarck, ND, as the Educational Division Manager and will focus on educational sales efforts in the ND region.



**Troy Kleinjan**

He was most recently with School Specialty in sales for the past two years, working territories in North Dakota and South Dakota. Troy brings over 20 years of sales and management experience to Brown & Saenger.

## **MSU students ask community to Pause for Paws**

Pause for Paws, an animal therapy and shelter awareness event, will be April 5 on the Old Main lawn from 1 to 5 p.m. Hosted by Minot State University students from Honors 391 class (Community Problem Solving), community members are welcome to play with cats and dogs as well as learn more about the Souris Valley Animal Shelter.

"We researched community problems and learned how to coordinate a charity event from beginning to end," said Nina Coster, a student in Honors 391. "Most importantly though, this class taught us how to become better people by giving back."

The community problem solving course is a seminar in civic engagement; the students work with community leaders and agencies to identify problems and formulate solutions to real-life community challenges. A goal is to make a long-term positive impact toward this problem.

This year, the class is focusing on the Souris Valley Animal Shelter, hoping to raise awareness of its need for supplies and volunteers.

"The Souris Valley Animal Shelter is guided by the principle of 'caring for the

world around us by caring for the animals under our care,'" Coster said. "Caring for animals is no easy feat, and too few people in Minot know about the Souris Valley Animal Shelter, and even fewer understand the costs and challenges it faces."

All parts of the event are free and open to the public. However, donations in the form of pet food, toys, and money are appreciated and will be accepted throughout the event. Adoption information will also be available. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the Student Center Atrium.

For questions, contact Coster at [nina.coster@my.minotstateu.edu](mailto:nina.coster@my.minotstateu.edu) or Jessica Smestad, advisor, [atjessica.smes-tad@minotstateu.edu](mailto:atjessica.smes-tad@minotstateu.edu).

## **Bakken named to Top 25 Women in Business**

Lori Bakken, marketing director for EAPC Architects Engineers, has been named to the Top 25 Women in Business by Prairie Business magazine. The award is to



**Lori Bakken**

draw attention to the many creative, successful businesswomen in North Dakota, South Dakota and western Minnesota. Honorees were selected through a nomination process that emphasized professional achievement, community contributions and work-life balance. These 25 women, chosen from a pool of about 150 nominees, come from a wide range of industries and have made significant impacts in their chosen professions, industries and communities. Bakken has been the Marketing Director at EAPC for eight years.

## **Marco named winner of the 2016 BOLD awards**

Marco is excited to announce that it is the recipient of the 2016 BOLD Award in the Middle Market Category, presented by the Minnesota Chapter of the

Association for Corporate Growth® (ACG). The program celebrates the corporate leaders and teams that are behind successful mergers and acquisitions, financing and extraordinary strategies that led to sustainability, remarkable performance and/or accelerated growth in 2015. All nominations were reviewed, ranked and awarded by a peer panel of judges representing the middle market community. Judges included corporate executives, service professionals and entrepreneurs.

In October 2015, Marco was sold to Norwest Equity Partners (NEP), a leading Minnesota equity investment firm. Marco was an employee-owned company through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) for almost 30 years. This transaction created a significant realization of retirement assets for its ESOP participants. Following the transaction, the company remains as Marco, a privately-held company and all employees retained their jobs.

## **Skinner named president of professional surveyors**

Dan Skinner, professional land surveyor and survey team leader at Karvacko Engineering, has been named president of the Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors (MSPS). For more than



**Dan Skinner**

50 years, MSPS has provided surveyors with a wealth of resources and professional benefits.

"Dan's extensive knowledge in surveying is a great advantage to MSPS. We at Karvacko Engineering are proud of his contributions to the board of directors," said Mike Karvacko.

Dan's term as president will last throughout the 2016 year.



## ***First International Bank & Trust donates \$5,500 to local organizations***

First International Bank & Trust (FIB&T) is proud to announce all the winners of its 2nd Annual Live First Community Grant campaign. FIB&T invited all of their customers and community members to apply for the \$3,000 grant which can be put towards a project or cause that makes a difference in their community. This year, they also chose two runner-ups, who also received \$500 each. In addition, FIB&T also gave away three \$500 grants to the applicants with the most votes from their Facebook fans.

The winners of the Live First Community Grant are as follows:

- \* Grand Prize:  
GiGi's Playhouse (Fargo)
- \* Runner-Up:  
Special Olympics North Dakota (Grand Forks)
- \* Runner-Up:  
Youthworks North Dakota (Bismarck)
- \* Fan Favorite:  
Fargo Public Schools Foundation (Fargo)
- \* Fan Favorite:  
Minot Park District (Minot)
- \* Fan Favorite:  
4 Luv of Dog Rescue (Fargo)

For more information, please read through the comprehensive blog post that details each of these organizations: <https://firstintlbank.com/blog/live-first-community-grant-winners/>.



## ***DFC hires Goodrich as consultant***

DFC Consultants has hired Roy Goodrich as a Senior Solutions Consultant. Goodrich has over 20 years of experience working with Microsoft Dynamics GP and Key2Act software. He will offer software support and training to customers with a focus on those in the manufacturing and mechanical industries. Prior to joining DFC Consultants, Goodrich was a Senior Consultant for Key2Act for nearly 10 years.



***Roy Goodrich***

## ***Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch 11th Annual BLT Day set for May 7***

The Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch annual BLT Day will not only have delicious food and music but also will offer a chance to purchase your spring plants. The event, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 7 will feature Music by Zelda. The plants include vegetables, herbs, ornamental grasses, flowers, succulents, along with fairy gardens and a potting station. You can bring your own pots and buy their plants, and they will pot them for you. There is also a birdhouse planter sale. Take a moment for some campus tours as well. Proceeds benefit the Verendrye Electric Cooperative Greenhouse Technology Program on the Dakota Girls and Boys Ranch Campus.

## ***MSU open house offers glimpse of student experience***

On April 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Minot State University invites prospective students and their families to "test drive" the university at a Spring Open House. They will experience what it feels like to be an MSU student.

"Minot State offers students, the most important component of any school, a unique opportunity to be learning on a dynamic campus and interacting with quality faculty and staff," said Katie Tyler, director of enroll-

ment services. "Our faculty and staff members care about our students. The open house's events are designed to bring together prospective students and their families and introduce them to our people who make a difference every day."

MSU's open house allows prospective students and their families to explore university life. They can spend time learning from faculty and staff members by choosing two mock classes to attend and by touring the campus. The four classes are "Great Minds Think Alike. Or Do They?" "To Play or Not to Play? The Psychology of Injury," "Balancing Instinct" and "Stop Wondering and Start Making!"

Visit [www.ASKMSU.COM/OpenHouse](http://www.ASKMSU.COM/OpenHouse) to RSVP or view details on speakers and events. For more information, contact Tyler at [katherine.tyler@minotstateu.edu](mailto:katherine.tyler@minotstateu.edu) or 858-3367.

## ***Help develop leadership skills program by taking survey for Strengthen ND***

Strengthen ND has forged a partnership with Minot State University's Center for Extended Learning to meet the capacity building needs of western North Dakota nonprofits. Strengthen ND and MSU will work together in 2016 to create a Nonprofit Executive Education and Leadership Certificate Program specifically for nonprofit professionals and members of boards of directors in western North Dakota. This six- to nine-month program will provide nonprofit leaders the opportunity to gain leadership skills while receiving detailed nonprofit management training.

Because so many Chamber members interact with nonprofits in varying capacities, including serving as volunteers and members of boards of directors, we would like to have your input. Please help us to design this program by providing your feedback through the survey link provided here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CertificateProgram>. This survey will take approximately five minutes of your time.

# April 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <b>Ambassadors Committee</b> , 7:30 a.m., Perkins	2
3	4 <b>FTAC Right Start Presentation</b> , 9:45 a.m., MAFB <b>Ribbon Cutting</b> , 9 a.m., Fast Positivity Life Coaching, 315 S. Main St., Suite 209	5 <b>Ribbon Cutting</b> , 2 p.m., Classic Rock Coffee House, 1408 2nd Ave. SW	6	7 <b>Ag Committee</b> , 7:30 a.m., Chamber <b>Military Affairs Committee</b> , Noon, Grand Hotel <b>Business After Hours</b> , 5–7 p.m., Ward County Administration Building, 225 3rd St. SE	8 <b>Infrastructure Committee</b> , 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders Restaurant	9 <b>International Military Ball</b> , 6 p.m., Grand Hotel, 1505 North Broadway
10	11	12 <b>Eagle Awards Presentation</b> , 10 a.m., Chamber office	13 <b>Right Start Presentation</b> , 10 a.m., MAFB <b>Honors Banquet</b> , 6:30 p.m., Grand Hotel	14 <b>Ribbon Cutting</b> , 11 a.m., Enerbase Corporate Offices, 205 46th Ave. NE <b>CLI Planning</b> , Noon, Chamber office	15 <b>Governmental Affairs Committee</b> , 11:30 a.m., Vegas Motel	16
17	18 <b>FTAC Right Start Presentation</b> , 9:45 a.m., MAFB	19 <b>Board of Directors</b> , 7:30 a.m., Grand Hotel	20 <b>Coffee with the President</b> , 9 a.m., Chamber office	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 <b>Right Start Presentation</b> , 10 a.m., MAFB	28 <b>Energy Committee</b> , 11:30 a.m., Vegas Motel <b>Creating a Culture That Engages and Retains Millennials</b> , 2 – 4 p.m., Grand Hotel	29	30

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