



Communicator

THE MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND YOU!

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www.minotchamber.org

January 2019

Minot Area Chamber of Commerce to track legislative bills in 2019 session

The 2019 Legislative Session is fast approaching and the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce is looking to track several bills that could impact the area. The Prairie Dog Bill, introduced by Sen. Rich Wardner of Dickinson, would fund infrastructure projects with oil and gas tax revenue in areas outside of North Dakota's oil patch. The Legislature will also be discussing potential changes to the Legacy Fund that could help in funding local projects. Lawmakers will be discussing the Governor's proposal to allow military pay and pension to be tax exempt. As with most sessions, the Minot Chamber will monitor K – 12 funding, ND State Fair funding, support for our university

and other issues related to our area.

You can keep updated with what's happening in Bismarck and get answers first hand by attending the Saturday Legislative sessions. The sessions will begin Saturday, Jan. 12 at the ND State Fair Center Norse Room at 9 a.m. During the forum, those attending can provide a handwritten question to the moderator who will ask the legislators attending. The subsequent sessions will be Jan. 26, Feb. 2 & 16, March 9 & 23, and April 6. All meetings will be at the ND State Fair Center in the Norse Room at 9 a.m. Meetings are subject to change depending on the status of the Legislative session.

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Saturday Legislative Forums

Jan. 12 & 26

Feb. 2 & 16

March 9 & 23

April 6

9 – 11 a.m. | ND State Fair Center | Norse Room

State of the City event set for Jan. 31 at MCC

The City of Minot will host its second annual State of the City event Thursday, Jan. 31 at the Arvel Graving Theater at Magic City Campus. The event will highlight previous City activities and discuss Minot's future.

An open house will feature the City's department heads and informational displays. This will be followed by a main program featuring the color guard and the national anthem. City

Manager Tom Barry will give a welcome and introductions. Mayor Shaun Sipma will announce the winners of the Mayor's Youth Challenge. A social hour will follow the program in the Magic City commons area.

For more information, contact the Public Information Office at 857-4727 or by email at pio@minotnd.org.



Network with other chamber members, enjoy some delicious food, and take your chance at some great prizes, including a gift basket valued at \$350 and \$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 COMMERCE

P.O. Box 940 • Minot, ND 58702 • 852-6000
chamber@minotchamber.org • minotchamber.org

Material published in the *Chamber Communicator* expresses the viewpoints or policies of the *Communicator*, the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and its Board of Directors. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate with the membership of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce.

PublisherL. John MacMartin,CCE
EditorCarla Dolan, IOM
Managing EditorPatty Steele

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Shannon Webster (Town & Country
Credit Union)852-2018

New Members

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

NESS FAMILY DENTISTRY

1015 S. Broadway, Suite 20 • Minot, ND • 701-838-1123 • Fax: 701-838-1261

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Email: nessfamilydentistry@srt.com • Website: www.nessdental.com

Continuing a tradition spanning generations, Ness Family Dentistry provides quality dental care for the whole family in a friendly and comfortable environment.

EDWARD JONES: CAMERON J. STONE

1600 2nd Ave. SW, Ste. 28 • Minot, ND • 701-839-6113 • Fax: 866-500-2672

Email: cameron.stone@edwardjones.com

Website: <https://www.edwardjones.com/cameron-stone>

Cameron Stone is an Edward Jones financial advisor in Minot and the surrounding areas. He and his wife live in Minot. "I entered the financial services industry because I like helping people work toward achieving their long-term financial goals," Stone said. "Building relationships with my clients and in my community is key." Edward Jones financial advisors meet face-to-face with clients to build strong relationships. "And we do so by offering excellent client service through our convenient branch locations in the communities where our clients live and work," said Stone. Carissa Klimpel is the branch office administrator in Stone's branch office. She has been serving in this role for 16 years. Edward Jones, a Fortune 500 company headquartered in St. Louis, provides financial services in the U.S. and through its affiliate in Canada. Every aspect of the firm's business, from the investments its financial advisors offer to the location of its branch offices, caters to individual investors. The firm's 16,000 plus financial advisors serve more than 7 million clients and care for \$1 trillion in assets under management. Visit the website at edwardjones.com and recruiting website at careers.edwardjones.com. Member SIPC.

Renewals

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership from Nov. 27 through Dec. 20, 2018. 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
BeMobile
Central Machining & Pump Repair Inc.
Dakota Outdoor Advertising
Delta Vacations
Federal Express
Food Management Investors, Inc.
Green Brothers Landscaping &
Construction
Home Sweet Home/Dakota Sunrise
Brokers
JLG Architects
Magic City Garage Door & Awning
Minot Public Library
NewKota Services & Rentals
Newman Outdoor Advertising

North Country Mercantile
North Dakota Envelope Co.
North Dakota Living
Riddles Jewelry
Minot Dakota Square Scheels
Signal Management Corp.-SMC
Souris Valley Apartments
Sport Specialties Inc.
Swanston Equipment Companies
Tecta America Dakotas
TSC Farm Home Auto Store
Tuff Trucks
City of Velva
Western Plains Opera Co.
Zarr Financial Services

Annual Sportsmen's Feed celebrates community

The 54th annual Sportsmen's Feed is set for Sunday, Jan. 20 at the Jimmy Doolittle Center on 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.

Tickets are \$30, and when one is purchased,



one airman is able to attend free of charge. Tickets are available at the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce office. Contact the Chamber at 852-6000 or chamber@minotchamber.org today to buy yours.

Tickets: \$30

Purchase one ticket and an airman can attend free of charge.

Call 852-6000 for more information.

48th Annual KMOT Ag Expo Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1

KMOT-TV is gearing up for its 48th annual KMOT Ag Expo to be held at the North Dakota State Fair Center Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1. The KMOT Ag Expo is the second largest indoor Ag Expo in the United States. When you come to the KMOT Ag Expo you will be amazed at all the equipment that can fit into the ND State Fair Center. Every bit of space available in six buildings is utilized, all under one roof, as well as the entire concourse. The KMOT Ag Expo has

exhibitors from ten different state and Canada; that tells you how large a show it is when you have exhibitors coming from that far away to be in this show.

The timing of the KMOT Ag Expo is perfect for farmers and ranchers due to it being a down time during the year for them. KMOT also has a Living Ag Classroom that educates area 4th grade students about production agriculture. The Living Ag Classroom has ten different station that student's circulate through

and learn about agriculture. These stations are put on by the commodity groups throughout North Dakota. On average, between 750-825 students each year attend the Living Ag Classroom.

The KMOT Ag Expo also offers informative seminars each day from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. where producers can learn about new agriculture related products and innovation for the upcoming year. This is the year to attend the KMOT Ag Expo – you will be happy you did.

December Business After Hours successful

Special thanks to Minot State University's Northwest Art Center for hosting the Dec. 13 Business After Hours. More than 200 people enjoyed delicious food, great conversation, and some even took home prizes. Everyone also enjoyed seeing the beautiful Northwest Art Center.



December Eagle Awards

The Eagle Award winners were recognized in December and thanked for superior customer service skills. If you would like to nominate someone for outstanding customer service, please call the Chamber at 852-6000 for a nomination form, or visit the website at minotchamber.org. A special thank you goes out to **Homesteaders Restaurant, Rainbow Photo Lab, Anytime Fitness, and Waxing the City** for providing gift certificates for each Eagle recipient.



TIFFANY SMITH
Trinity Health



ZACK MILLER
Marketplace Foods North Hill



CASEY CULVER
Verizon Wireless



CHRISTIN STOLL
Verizon Wireless



MIKE WERRE
Westlie Tire Center



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Marketplace Foods



ALLEGRA DAVIS
SuduWOK



JACOB JOHNSON
UPS



APRIL BALADAD
Minot Automotive Center



JULIE ERZ
Gate City Bank



LINDA LAVOIE-MCKINNEY
CHI St. Alexius Medical Center



KYLE CRAIG
Ackre & Craig Law Firm



MARISA HAMAN
*Ward County
Auditor/Treasurer's Office*



MELISSA HOFFART
North Hill Dairy Queen



MOSOPE OSIYALE
Minot State University nursing student



SARAH PRUITT
Primo Restaurant



ROGER WEISHAAR
Brokers 12



BILL DENNIS
Minot community supporter



Visit: [Lignite Energy Council](http://LigniteEnergyCouncil)

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.



Heritage Insurance Services: 2201 36th Ave. SW • Suite A • 701- 858-7100 • 701-833-4704 • www.heritageinservices.com
Tyler and Becky Bjerke, Owners

Heritage Insurance Services has been in Minot for five years, and the Minot Chamber Ambassadors celebrated their new location with a ribbon cutting. Heritage Insurance Services is a family-owned and operated independent insurance agency dedicated to serving customers with their insurance needs.



Dakota Safety Strategies: 3001 7th St. SW • Minot • 857-6019 • Lenny Brewer, Owner
Email: drugtest@dakotasafetystrategies.com • www.DakotaSafetyStrategies.com

Minot Chamber Ambassadors cut the ribbon at the new location for Dakota Safety Strategies. Dakota Safety Strategies is a premier safety training company that offers training to employees and managers in the construction, general, and oil and gas industries. They also conduct any type of testing a business would want or need.

Women Connect and Chamber sponsor event Feb. 13

Ashley Rae, owner of It's Her Brand Enterprises, will be the featured speaker at an event co-sponsored by Women Connect and the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce. This event is set for Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the Grand Hotel.

Women represent and master many roles in life. From roles within families, communities, careers, social circles, and even a faith life, women are often times stepping out of one role and into another, while trying to juggle the many responsibilities that each role requires. The life and journey of each individual woman is unique and should be valued and celebrated. There's no set imaginary timeline or method to representing and mastering these various roles, as everyone has different life experiences, abilities, opportunities, and passions. However, the roles

chosen, and how and when they are chosen to be mastered, will ultimately cultivate a personal brand unique to each woman. This personal brand will create a perception of who we are and what we have to offer the world around us.

Although taking a passive approach to cultivating a personal brand is common, *It's Her Brand Magazine* wants to empower every woman to proactively cultivate her own brand in an effort to be purposeful, intentional, and engaged in the life she's living and in the roles she represents and masters throughout her lifetime. By being proactive about her brand, each woman will be better equipped to become the woman she was created to be.

Through Rae's own personal life experiences and her developed methods, she will help audience members identify and

understand their current personal brand, and then equip them with the ability to proactively cultivate and promote that brand in a way that's unique to them, now and always.



Ashley Rae

Special thanks to location sponsor, the Center for Technology and Business. Cost for Chamber members is \$25, and non-members is \$35. Register today for this Women Connect event at the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce website: www.minotchamber.org. Go to the calendar and select February 13. You will need your login and password.

Airmen Cookie Drive successful in 2018



The cookie drive, an annual volunteer event where Minot community members, organizations and businesses donate cookies to TEAM MINOT members, brought in more than 15,000 cookies for Minot Air Force Base airmen.

Save the Date
February
Business
After Hours
Thursday,
Feb. 21, 2019
5 – 7 p.m.
Microtel Inn & Suites:
414 37th Ave. SW
Minot, ND

Medal of Honor Recipient Clint Romesha to speak Jan. 23

Minot Young Professionals will host a Leadership Luncheon featuring Clinton Romesha Jan. 23 at an 11:45 lunch at the Grand Hotel. Tickets are \$15 for YP members, active military and veterans, or \$20 for nonmembers. YP sponsors will receive discounted pricing as well. The event is open to any who would like to attend, though seating is limited. Registration is encouraged via a link on the Chamber calendar.

Medal of Honor recipient Clinton Romesha has taken extraordinary risks for his country and his fellow soldiers.



Drawing on his lauded service as a sergeant in the War in Afghanistan, Romesha's book, *Red Platoon*, and motivational speeches emphasize how the capacity for leadership and bravery resides within every one of us. Romesha is a former U.S. Army Staff Sergeant noted for his heroic actions during the Battle of Kamdesh, a key moment during the War in Afghanistan.

On Oct. 3, 2009, Sergeant Romesha took quick and selfless action while under aggressive fire from the Taliban. Despite taking shrapnel wounds to his neck, shoulders, and arms, he carried out a counterattack that not only eliminated Taliban machine guns but allowed for wounded soldiers to be taken to an aid station. Throughout the 12-hour battle, Romesha told himself he was merely doing what any soldier would have done for his comrades; everyone else, however, saw him as a hero.

In 2013 he was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Obama, making him

the fourth living recipient of the honor for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. In the same year, he was inducted into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes. Since receiving these accolades, Romesha has carried his Medal of Honor with him wherever he goes – not out of pride, but as a constant reminder that within every person lies the same qualities responsible for Romesha's own heroic actions.

His 2016 memoir, *Red Platoon: A True Story of American Valor*, was immediately recognized as an instant classic. It is not only admired for providing a clear-eyed account of one of the most crucial battles in recent military history, but also as a powerful account of how one person, committed to doing the right thing, can make a bigger difference than they ever imagined. Romesha revisited the story of the battle that made him a hero in the Netflix original series, *Medal of Honor*.

Go to www.minotchamber.org and click on January 23. You will need your login and password.

NONPROFITS GET MORE AT TOWN & COUNTRY



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- **Electronic Signatures:** No more chasing Board members! Securely sign account documents via email with DocuSign.
- **Volunteer Time:** Receive up to 40 hours of Town & Country employee volunteer time to be used throughout the year.
- **Meeting Space:** Sign up to use free meeting space at Town & Country's training and board rooms during business hours.
- **Free Perks Checking:** No minimum balance requirements, no service charges or transaction fees.



Learn more at www.townandcountry.org/nonprofit
701-852-2018



Chamber University:

Dale Carnegie offers free preview sessions Jan. 24

Dale Carnegie helps you and your organization master the skills necessary in today's demanding business environment. Time-tested skills and principles strengthen your inner voice, giving you the confidence to perform as a persuasive communicator, diligent problem solver, and focused leader. Gain techniques for developing a commanding attitude of

your role.

During this 60-minute session, you will experience Dale Carnegie in a real setting with real content. As with every Dale Carnegie program, you will walk away with tools you can apply immediately.

This event is called a preview, because it gives you an opportunity to experience a portion of The Dale Carnegie Course

and see all it has to offer!

It will be offered twice on Thursday, Jan. 24 at the Chamber: from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., and from noon to 1 p.m.

Register for the Dale Carnegie Course Free Session at: <https://www.dale-carnegie.com/locations/north-dakota/en/>

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- OR PERHAPS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR AN EQUITY PARTNER FOR YOUR BUSINESS?
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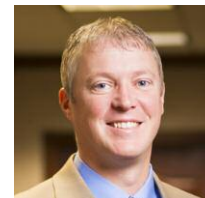
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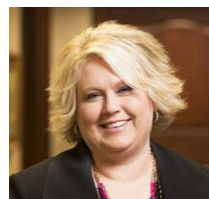
John Drady
Central Market President
(701) 837-2208



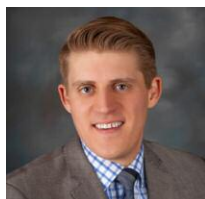
Stacey Diehl
SVP, Lending
(701) 837-2206



Kevin Vigested
VP, Arrowhead Br Mgr
(701) 837-2209



Karleen Houle
AVP/ Central Market Retail Supervisor
(701) 837-2211



Brock DesLauriers
AVP, North Hill Br Mgr
(701) 837-2237



Mathew Jensen
AVP, Lending
(701) 837-2267



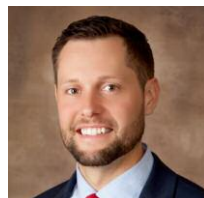
Preston Phillips
AVP, Commercial Lending
(701) 837-2221



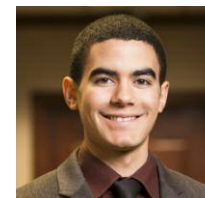
Perry Olson
Business Development Officer
(701) 837-2210



Karla Paurus
Cash Management Representative
(701) 837-2230



Joshua Wheeler
Commercial Loan Officer
(701) 837-2242



Kyle Stephens
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(701) 837-2256



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3 Convenient Minot Locations

Arrowhead

150 16th St SW
(701) 839-2170

Broadway

1600 S Broadway
(701) 837-1600

North Hill

2150 21st Ave NW
(701) 837-2050

GC Magazine names best general contractors in North Dakota

The top 10 were recently named in the online magazine, and two Minot companies made the list: Souris River Designs earned third place honors. These North Dakota general contractors, according to *GC Magazine*, have the knowledge and experience needed to renew the beauty of their client's home.

#3 Souris River Designs

701-852-7605

405 Railway Ave NE, Minot, ND 58701

Providing a complete design-build remodeling and home construction service in Northwestern North Dakota, Souris River Designs has over two decades of experience in the industry. The company has built and remodeled homes in areas as far north as Westhope, stretching all the way to the east to Rugby, to the west to Williston and as far south as Garrison.

5th annual Cause to Rock Jan. 12

Domestic Violence Crisis Center (DVCC) will hold the fifth annual Cause to Rock at the Clarion Hotel Jan. 12, 2019. This is an evening of hope, heart, and rock and roll. Doors open for a social with appetizers at 6 p.m., and dinner begins at 7 p.m. featuring a guest speaker sharing her story of survival. Live and silent auctions will be held throughout the evening featuring jewelry, custom wrapped dorm fridge, Sabre Dogs merchandise, and more. Throughout the evening Soulshine will be rocking on the stage.

Tickets for this event are \$50 each, or you can purchase a table for eight for \$400. Tickets must be purchased in advance through the office or online at <https://courage4change.org/news-events/event-calendar.html/event-form/tickets/34090/tickets>.

"This is our largest fundraiser of the year," said Jill McDonald, executive director of the Domestic Violence Crisis Center. "The funds raised in this one night allow us to be available 24/7 for victims of violence when they need help. We receive grant funding, but these events fill in the gaps. In 2018, we were able to provide over 75 protection orders and over 3,400 nights of safety for victims and their children."

She continued, "when you purchase a ticket, not only are you going to have a fantastic time, you are helping provide a safe space for hope, healing and planning for survivors and their children in our region."

Through extensive programs and services, the Domestic Violence Crisis Center has helped raise awareness and helps people affected by domestic violence. Established in 1977, the DVCC provides services to a four-county area in north-central North Dakota, including Ward, Pierce, McHenry and Renville counties.

For more information on the center and/or the fundraiser, please call their office at 852-2258, or visit their website at: www.courage4change.org.

First International Bank and Trust congratulates Jessica Phillips

Jessica Phillips, trust officer at First International Bank and Trust, was recently awarded the Certified Trust & Financial Advisor (CTFA) professional certification from the American Bankers Association.

"Earning the CTFA certification validates Jessica's experience and depth of education in the wealth management industry," said Dean Zaderaka, FIB&T Central and Western Regional Trust Department manager.

The CTFA certification is awarded to individuals who demonstrate excellence

in the field of wealth management and trust. To qualify for the CTFA certification, individuals must have certain levels of experience and education in the trust profession, pass an exam, and agree to abide by a code of ethics. The CTFA exam covers many areas including fiduciary and trust activities, financial planning, tax law and planning, investment management and ethics.



Jessica Phillips

With more than nine years of financial experience, Phillips specializes in trust administration, investment portfolio management, retirement planning, and estate settlement. She holds accounting and finance degrees from Minot State University and is a graduate of the ABA National Trust School program. Phillips is active in her community serving as a member of the Young Professionals, Minot Red Coat Chamber Ambassadors, Junior Achievement teacher, and a Church Finance Council representative.

Financial services professionals, working through ABA, initiated the CTFA certification and seven others in order to establish meaningful standards of knowledge in specialty areas of the financial services industry. ABA Professional Certifications formally recognize those who meet these standards and meet professional continuing education and development requirements.

ABA Professional Certifications promote the highest standards of performance in the financial services industry by validating individuals' knowledge and expertise. For more information, call 202-663-5092 or visit www.aba.com/certifications.

Minot Mayor Shaun Sipma introduces Adopt a Sidewalk Program

Minot Mayor Shaun Sipma unveiled a new program at the Dec. 3 City Council meeting aimed at improving the walkability in Minot neighborhoods.

Sipma unveiled details of the Adopt a Sidewalk Program, with a goal of removing snow from sidewalks on property owned by the City. Sipma said the intent is to make sidewalks safer for the public and to improve the overall accessibility of the City.

“As a community, we want to work together to make our City accessible and safe to residents who use our sidewalks every day, and that includes many people who walk to work and many children who walk to and from school,” Sipma said. “We’re appealing to adjacent property owners and service clubs as examples of who might participate in this program.”

The majority of the sidewalks that need attention are located in the valley. A map of the locations will be available on the City of Minot website at minotnd.org.

For more information contact the Public Information Office at 701-857-4727 or by email at pio@minotnd.org.

Town & Country supports local nonprofits with new accounts

Town & Country Credit Union is on a mission to be the best they can be for the communities they serve. A big part of that is giving back to the nonprofit organizations that give so much within those communities. That’s why Town & Country launched exclusive Nonprofit Accounts this December designed to provide meaningful value and save these organizations time and money.

When creating these accounts, Town & Country team members spoke to those who know the sector best – nonprofit leaders in the Minot and Fargo markets – by conducting multiple focus groups to learn about their pain points and to gain input on what a valuable offering would include.

The new Nonprofit Accounts include:

- * Free Checking – Checking accounts are

North Dakota Women’s Business Center offers entrepreneurship course to inmates

Last month, the North Dakota Women’s Business Center (NDWBC) launched a new educational program designed specifically for the residents at the Dakota Women’s Correctional and Rehabilitation Center (DWCRC) located in New England, ND. This two-day, workshop-style training course entitled Introduction to the Entrepreneurial Experience covered entrepreneurship defined, conducting market research, the economics of starting a business, legal considerations, and personal branding.



Eighteen women participated in the voluntary training course and a number of them indicated previous involvement in entrepreneurial ventures.

“We enjoyed our time with the ladies,” said NDWBC Program Manager Renee Ottmar of their experience. “The women came to class prepared and eager to learn and were engaged throughout our presentations.”

Deidre Hillman, NDWBC program director, added, “I’m grateful and excited that we can offer this opportunity to help equip these women. Aside from the business education, we provided leadership training to encourage them and help build their confidence.”

DWCRC is dedicated to providing educational and vocational programs that fit the needs of the female resident population. They offer several different educational programs that are available to assist the residents with personal and career development. The NDWBC is proud to partner with them and provide another learning opportunity to residents there.

Center for Technology & Business operates the North Dakota Women’s Business Center, which is part of a national network of more than 100 centers that offer one-on-one business counseling, training, networking, workshops, technical assistance and mentoring to women entrepreneurs on many business development topics, including business startup, financial management, marketing and procurement. Specific NDWBC programming opportunities include, the Women’s Leadership Program, the Women’s Business Summit and the North Dakota Leading Ladies Luncheons.

free with no minimum balance, plus account holders can earn increased dividends or cash back through Star Rewards.

- * Nonprofit Money Market – With no fees and no minimum or maximum balances, the Nonprofit Money Market gives organizations the ability to earn above market rates without the limitations of a CD.
- * Electronic Signatures – Say goodbye to chasing board members! Signatures are collected electronically with forms being securely signed online via email.

- * Volunteer Time – Organizations receive up to 40 hours of Town & Country employee volunteer time to be used

throughout the year.

- * Meeting Space — Organizations can sign up to use free meeting space in Town & Country’s training and board rooms during business hours.

In addition to these exclusive benefits, nonprofit account holders also have access to credit cards with controls, cleared check images and more, as well as preferred sponsorship consideration.

After giving back over \$100,000 and investing over 5000 hours into their communities this year, the Nonprofit Accounts are just one more way Town & Country is committed to making a Positive Impact on those they serve.

North Dakota State Fair recognized for excellence through IAFE

The North Dakota State Fair earned international and regional recognition at industry conferences. At the 128th annual International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) convention, fairs from around the world submit entries. This year NDSF received eleven IAFE Awards of Excellence.

Each category being judged at the IAFE convention focuses on a different aspect of specific events and event planning. NDSF was also recognized regionally at the Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs convention. The Summit Awards Program recognizes the outstanding achievements for fair members from 12 States and 2 Canadian Providences.

The North Dakota State Fair earned these awards:

- 3 IAFE Competitive Exhibits Awards
- 3 IAFE Agriculture Awards
- 1 IAFE Innovation in Sponsorship Awards
- 4 IAFE Hall of Honor Communications Awards
- 4 Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs Summit Awards

General Manager of the State Fair Renae Korslien stated, “We are so honored to be recognized on both levels for the work we love to do for the North Dakota State Fair. Each year we do our best to create an event that is the showcase for North Dakota. With just under 47,000 competitive exhibits on display in 2018, we have so much to be proud of as a Fair.”



Left to right: Shelly Parish, Renae Korslien, Aaron Ottmar, Tracy Pelzer, and Craig Rudland.

Aaron Ottmar graduates from IAFE Institute of Fair Management

Aaron Ottmar of the North Dakota State Fair was recognized at the 128th Annual Convention of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) as a graduate of the Institute of Fair Management.

Launched in 2007, the Institute consists of a multi-year series of courses covering the areas of core competency necessary for today’s industry professional and volunteers involved in the operations of today’s fairs, large or small. Courses include management, risk management, marketing, programming, operations and year-round facility usage.

North Dakota State Fair Manager, Renae Korslien said, “We are proud to have four employees that have completed the Institute of Fair Management. That advanced training helps us do our jobs better every day. Aaron has worked hard on the program and I commend him for his dedication.”

Ottmar enrolled in the program in 2014 and was one of 38 graduates honored at the IAFE Convention in San Antonio, TX, in November. “Over the past few years, I’ve received advanced training from several experts in the industry. The Institute covers topics in multiple core competencies for operations,” he said. “I’ve learned a lot and I appreciate the opportunity to be part of it.”

Ottmar is a graduate of Minot High and Minot State University. He’s been employed with NDSF for 16 years.

STYX and Larry the Cable Guy offer “Laugh. Rock. Seriously.” March 22

For one night only, STYX and Larry The Cable Guy will put on one helluva show March 22 at the North Dakota State Fair Event Center, billed as “Laugh. Rock. Seriously.” One of the greatest rock bands of all time combined with a comedy legend together for the first time ever to

rock and GIT-R-DONE. Two forces come together on stage for one unforgettable night of hits and jokes.

“We first ran into Larry the Cable Guy at a convenience store in Sarasota, Florida many moons ago,” says STYX guitarist/singer Tommy Shaw. “Now we are pairing up for a fun night of music and comedy, something we could all use a big dose of! I’m ready! Are you? Let’s do this!!!”

Larry the Cable Guy, on the other hand, has a hidden agenda as to why he is performing the shows. As he explains, “Ever since I ran into Tommy at a convenience store in Florida, I’ve always wanted to work some shows with the iconic band STYX. Not only because their music has been a soundtrack to my life, but also to try and get back the 18 bucks I loaned him for honeybuns and coffee from that day in Florida.”

STYX has the unique distinction of being the first band in rock history to have four consecutive certified multimillion-selling albums in a row. STYX draws from over four decades of barn burning chart hits, joyous singalongs, and hard-driving deep cuts. STYX set covers a wide range of stylistic cornerstones. After 14 years, STYX’s 16th studio album and its most ambitious, most challenging, and most rewarding album to date, *The Mission*, was released June 2017.

Larry the Cable Guy is a multi-Platinum recording artist, Grammy® nominee, Billboard award winner and one of the top comedians in the country. He has his own line of merchandise and continues to sell out theatres and arenas across the United States. In addition, Larry has his own comedy channel, “Jeff and Larry’s Comedy Roundup” on SIR-IUSXM, a partnership with SIRIUSXM and Jeff Foxworthy which showcases the best in great American comedy.

Tickets are available at JadePresents.com, at the ND State Fair Event Center box office (2005 E Burdick Expy; open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday), or by calling 866-300-8300.

TIM SAVES LIVES

For most commuters near New Town, ND, taking the HWY 23B bypass will save some time, but when Senior Transportation Engineer, Tim Arens, PE, designed this route, he was more concerned with saving lives.

Developed to relieve heavy truck traffic through town, this highway provides a safer route protecting motorists and pedestrians alike.

Tim's passion is protection; for the residents of New Town and those in every community we serve.



To learn more about the New Town Northeast Truck Reliever Route, visit our website at www.ackerman-estvold.com/projects

SAFETYFIRST

Mouse River flood project (MREFPP) announces significant milestone

As work continues on Phase MI-2 of the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project (MREFPP), a major milestone for the Perkett Ditch Pump Station will be reached next week.

On Monday, Dec. 3, crews will begin to place the pre-cast concrete wall panels for the new Perkett Ditch Pump Station near the intersection of 7th Ave SW and 21st St SW. The foundation work was completed over the summer allowing the walls to be set before winter settles in. Crews are anticipating the wall placement work to be completed within a few days. Once the walls are set, work will begin on the placement of the roof. Construction on the interior portions of the building will continue throughout the winter months. The Perkett Ditch Pump Station is expected to be fully operational in the summer of 2019.

The Perkett Ditch Pump Station is responsible for removing interior drainage from NW Minot that occurs on the dry side of levee and transferring that water into the Mouse River. During low water conditions a series of box culverts and gates will allow for the ditch system to be drained via gravity flow. However, during periods of high flow in the Mouse River, the pump station will be utilized to pump storm water from the dry side of the levee into the river. The pump station features three 250 HP pumps and will be capable of pumping 45,000 gallons per minute at maximum capacity.

Media visits to the site can be scheduled by contacting Dusty Zimmerman at 701-837-8737 or info@mouseriverplan.com.

For more information about the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project, visit www.mouseriverplan.com, or visit us on Facebook at Mouse River Plan.

United Community Bank offers 2nd year of scholarship program

United Community has launched their 2nd Annual Our Community Scholarship Program which focuses on students who believe in giving back to their school and community.

The Our Community Scholarship Fund has been put in place to recognize and award area high school seniors who have given their time through non-profit and community service organizations to help

make our communities a better place. All UCB locations (Minot, Burlington, Drake, Leeds) will be awarding students in their area. In total, eight \$1,000 scholarships will be given. Applications for each can be found at www.ucbnd.bank. In addition to the scholarship, each awarded student has the opportunity to choose a local non-profit organization to receive a \$500 donation on the student's behalf.

"The students applying for this scholarship are truly passionate about their school and community. They can choose an organization within their school, church or town in which they live," said Jennifer Hubrig, UCB VP of marketing.

Last year, winning students chose to give to the following organizations: Dream Catchers, American Red Cross, Turtle Lake Lord's Pantry, Boy Scout Troop 433 and Domestic Violence Crisis Center.

Local and national scholarships available to area students

The 2019 SRT College Scholarship Program applications are available. With five local scholarships awarded, a total of \$8,500 will be given to students in 2019. In addition to SRT's opportunities, SRT partners with the Foundation for Rural Service to offer national scholarships.

Four winners will be selected to each receive a \$1,500 SRT general scholarship. The SRT scholarship program highlights community involvement. However, applicants are also judged on school activities, an essay response, and GPA.

The SRT Technical Scholarship will award \$2,500 to one student. This scholarship is open to graduating high school seniors or undergraduate students studying telecommunications or other computer technology related fields.

SRT is also proud to partner as a member of the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) to participate in a national scholarship program that could provide local students with scholarships. Students submitting an FRS application are eligible for multiple national scholarship opportunities.

"Last spring, SRT increased the scholarship dollars awarded to students. Our board of directors felt it was important to assist students working to further their education," said SRT CEO/General

Manager Steve Lysne. "In addition to our local dollars given out, two students from our area were both awarded a national scholarship through FRS. Those two were chosen from 1,400 applicants from across the country, so we strongly encourage students to apply for all our scholarship opportunities."

Applications are available at area schools, SRT offices, and online srt.com/srtcares. Applications for FRS Scholarships are due February 22nd, and SRT Scholarship applications are due March 1st. Scholarship recipients will be announced in April and an awards lunch will be held for the winners.

Community needs exceed available United Way Resources

Souris Valley United Way is nearing the end of the 2018 Fall Campaign, and they need help from the community to reach this goal. Danielle Rued, campaign coordinator, announced the campaign has reached 63.9% of the goal with one more month to go. Contributions to Souris Valley United Way stay right here in our community to make Minot a better place to work, live and play.

Souris Valley United Way is seeing a decrease in donations while the needs of the community continue to grow. The decrease in annual giving will have a significant impact on the funding available to twenty-four local non-profit programs which rely on support from the United Way.

"Everyone needs a place to turn when faced with tough times, and United Way is at the core of our community's most important programs to help people in need," said Rued.

A donation of \$25 will support one child for a year to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program.

A gift of \$360 gives a child in need six meals and three snacks each week during the school year to the Minot Backpack Buddies program.

To make a 2018 tax-deductible donation, please send it by December 31st or donate online."

Donations can also be mailed to 1941 4th Street SW, Minot, ND 58701. For more information visit www.svunited-way.com or call 839-2994.

Member Business Briefs

Blumhagen named VP and general manager of KXMB-TV

Nexstar Media Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: NXST) announced today that Tammy Blumhagen has been promoted to vice president and general manager of KXMB-TV (CBS), KXMC-TV (CBS), KXMD (CBS), KXMA-TV (CW) and associated digital services including myndnow.com, serving Minot, Bismarck, Dickinson and Williston, ND. Prior to her promotion, she most recently served as director of sales at Nexstar's central and western North Dakota television and digital operations. Blumhagen will assume her new responsibilities immediately and report to Julie Pruett, senior vice president and regional manager for Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc.

A North Dakota native and accomplished sales management executive, Blumhagen has over 17 years of experi-

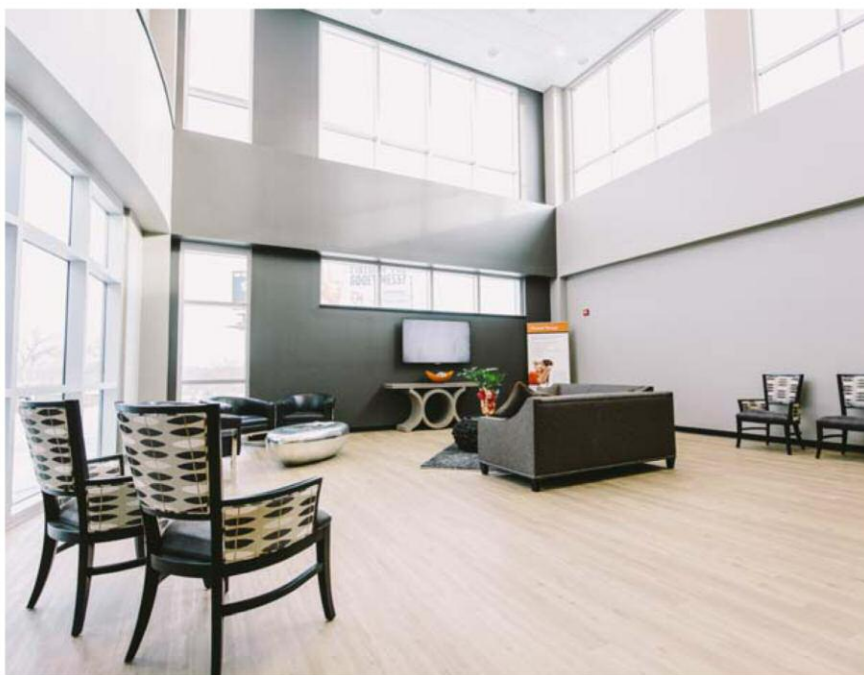
ence in the broadcast industry and has spent the majority of her career serving local communities in the Minot, Bismarck, Dickinson and Williston market. As director of sales at KXMB-TV, KXMC-TV, KXMD, KXMA-TV and myndnow.com, Blumhagen developed and led highly effective sales teams and implemented multi-platform marketing initiatives that resulted in increased broadcast and digital revenues. In addition, she established unique programming partnerships and launched innovative mobile content strategies that generated positive results for advertisers, while further enhancing audience engagement and improving top line performance.

Before Nexstar's acquisition of Reiten Television's central and western North Dakota CBS station affiliates in early 2016, Blumhagen served as corporate

sales manager for Reiten. Prior to that, she served as owner and principal consultant for Blueprint Media where she provided strategic direction, branding, media planning and creative concept development services to local businesses. Earlier in her career, Blumhagen served as a local sales manager for Reiten. She began her broadcast career in 1999 as an account executive for Forum Communications.

Blumhagen is a graduate of the Bismarck Mandan Chamber Leadership Program and previously served as board president of AdFed. She also served on the board of directors for MSA United Way and as the former Communications Chair of MSA Women United.

Blumhagen and her husband Bill live in Bismarck with their two sons Braydon and Benjamin.



Thinking of building or remodeling?

How will you heat or cool your space? What kind of lights will be used? Will these systems be efficient? Will you have enough outlets or network jacks? Have you thought about security? Do you know what you're paying for? Let us help you answer those questions and provide solutions specific to your needs!

Prairie Engineering, P.C.

Minot, North Dakota
(701) 852-6363

www.prairieengineeringpc.com

Bismarck, North Dakota
(701) 258-3493

Minot Area Community Foundation's Power of the Purse donates gifts to children of Domestic Violence Crisis Center

The Minot Area Community Foundation's Power of the Purse Giving Circle granted \$2,000 to the Domestic Violence Crisis Centers' "Happier Holiday" to purchase gifts for children of all ages.

The DVCC's "Happier Holiday" is part of their goal to provide something extra to victims and their children during the Holiday season. Anyone who has received services from DVCC throughout this past year is invited to participate and receive gifts for both the survivor and their children.

Members of Power of the Purse used the \$2,000 to purchase gifts for the children from local stores and then donated the items to the Domestic Violence Crisis Center's "Happier Holiday" event.

"Power of the Purse is a group focused on women and children in Minot, so this opportunity was a perfect fit for us. We were all so excited to be able to help DVCC provide Christmas gifts for their families," said Jill Wald, Power of the Purse member. "Local retailers, Nature's Nook and Main Street Books, worked with us to make sure we were able to achieve our goal with the funds available."

"On behalf of everyone at Domestic Violence Crisis Center, we are so grateful to the Power of the Purse Giving Circle," said Jill McDonald, DVCC executive director. "Over the years, this dynamic group has been instrumental in bringing a little bit of magic into the lives of families impacted by domestic violence. They are helping bring the magic of Christmas to the families that may not experience a happy Christmas without a little help."



Delivery of the items purchased by Power of the Purse was Dec. 5 at the Domestic Violence Crisis Center.

ND Association of Telecommunication Cooperatives celebrates new brand

The North Dakota Association of Telecommunication Cooperatives (NDATC), an organization representing members of North Dakota's independent telecommunications industry including Minot-based SRT, announced today the launch of a new brand and identity. The organization will now be known as BAND: Broadband Association of North Dakota.

SRT is one of 18 member organizations that are part of BAND. The change in name reflects the commitment of the member organizations to evolve with the communication needs of North Dakotans, with an important shift from telephone to broadband.

"As telecommunications providers across the state, we have collaborated before and this name change continues to show the strength of those partnerships," said Steve Lysne, CEO/General Manager. "Broadband is a necessity in today's world and as we continue to deliver high speed Internet service to our member owners, we recognize that the name change reflects our companies' missions more accurately. It's no longer about telephone – it's about broadband and the future."

BAND was formed sixty-five years ago when a group of North Dakota telephone cooperatives met at the Patterson Hotel in Bismarck. Their mission: to guard against unfavorable legislation, and to ensure the highest quality communication systems were available across North Dakota.

This mission has carried the organization through a revolutionary era of communication. At the time of the association's creation, a majority of rural North Dakota residents had party-line service, wires were strung from pole to pole and "long distance" calls were prohibitively expensive. Today, rural areas of the State have access to some of the fastest and most affordable broadband technology found anywhere in the United States.

As communication methods evolved around the world, BAND and its member organizations have evolved with them. In the past decade, SRT has laid nearly 7,000

miles of fiber across its service area. And, SRT continues to place more fiber optics to serve even more customers with this technology.

"BAND and our member organizations have changed a lot in the past 65 years," said Lysne. "But what hasn't changed is our commitment to working together, staying innovative, and providing unparalleled service."

Today, BAND and its member organizations continue to build off of their 65-year-old promise: to evolve with the needs of its subscribers "at the end of the line." Together, they are ensuring North Dakota is the most connected state in the U.S.

"We don't know what services and technologies customers will use in the future," said BAND Executive Vice President David Crothers, "but we do know that it will be broadband and Internet-based and it will require more capacity and more speed in more places. SRT and the other independent broadband providers in North Dakota are committed to meeting that challenge just as we have done for the last 65 years."

Jocelyn Walz joins T&C mortgage team

Jocelyn Walz recently joined the Town & Country team as an executive mortgage officer. Born and raised in Williston, Walz



received her degree from Minot State University and recently moved back to Minot. She brings previous experience in mortgage lending in the Williston market to this

Jocelyn Walz position.

In her new role, Walz will join the experienced mortgage team in the Minot area. She specializes in first-time homebuyer loans, conventional loans and refinancing, with a focus on exceptional customer service from beginning to end. Walz is located in Town & Country's main office in Minot.

Taube hosts “Prairie Print Portfolio”

The Taube Museum of Art’s Main Gallery will feature the work of Jackie McElroy titled *Prairie Print Portfolio*, a series of silkscreen prints that juxtapose unnatural elements with landscapes of Eastern North Dakota.

McElroy’s work is about place. She states that “when forced to look back at the whole collection of pieces created over 25 years,” she came to the realization that she is “indeed a “regionalist” with a small “r.” She works in series, using similar images repeated throughout her prints. “It’s a matter of seeing things from several points of view. If an “elevator” print works, there must be other ways to play with the same notion,” she states. More than 30 prints done between 1973 and 1980 were elevator images.

Besides elevators, over the years she has



played with drains, rainbows, hot air balloons, and, now, ships. Many of these things have nothing directly to do with the Red River Valley, especially ships, but by juxtaposition of these unrelated elements with this improbable landscape, she hopes to stimulate thought and response. “Eastern North Dakota is not an “easy” landscape. I hope that my fantasy landscapes help viewers invest time in appreciating the subtle beauty of the open plains, the dazzling skies and color schemes. To do so is certainly rewarding. Most things worth doing take some effort.”

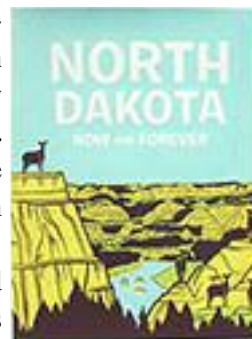
The Taube Museum of Art’s Lower Gallery will feature poster art made by NOTSTOCK printmaking artists. Guests have ranged from newcomers to those who are nationally recognized and honored for their work. Artists have come to Minot State University to work, collaborate, and share their knowledge, talents and experiences. NOTSTOCK is an annual live, hands-in, hands-on arts event held at Minot State University every fall since 2007. NOTSTOCK is a portmanteau

derived from the words Woodstock, Flatstock, and Minot’s mantra, “Why not, Minot?”

Both exhibitions will run concurrently from Jan. 3 – Feb. 15, 2019 at the Taube Museum of Art.

Museum and gift shop hours are Tuesday to Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by special appointment. There is no charge for admission, but contributions are accepted to help the Taube Museum fulfill their mission of enriching lives through the visual arts. Exhibitions are made possible with support from the North Dakota Council on the Arts.

For further information contact Rachel Alfaro, Taube Museum of Art gallery coordinator, at 701-838-4445.



January 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 New Year's Day Office closed	2 Ribbon cutting, Vision Source, 1100 N. Bdwy., Suite 110, 11:30 a.m., Chamber office	3 Military Affairs Committee, noon, Jimmy Doolittle Center, MAFB Ambassadors Committee, 4:30 p.m., The Spot Pool Hall	4 Ribbon cutting, 4:30 p.m., Aces Lounge & Casino, 1524 S. Broadway, Suite 8	5
6	7	8 Eagle Award Presentations, 10 a.m., Chamber office	9 Right Start Presentation, 9:45 a.m., MAFB Junior Achievement Committee, Noon, Chamber office	10	11 Infrastructure Committee, 7:30 a.m., Homesteaders Restaurant	12 Legislative Forum, 9 a.m., ND State Fair Center Norse Room
13	14 Honorary Commanders Induction, 6 p.m., Jimmy Doolittle Center, MAFB	15 Board of Directors, 7:30 a.m., Grand Hotel	16 Coffee with the President, 1:30 p.m., Hyatt House, 2301 Landmark Drive NW	17 Business After Hours, 5 - 7 p.m., SRT Communications, Inc.	18	19
20 Sportsmen's Feed, Noon, Jimmy Doolittle Center, MAFB	21	22	23 Right Start Presentation, 9:45 a.m., MAFB YP Power Hour featuring Clint Romesha, 11:30 a.m., Grand Hotel	24 Dale Carnegie Free Workshop, 8:30 a.m. & Noon, Chamber office Energy Committee, 11:30 a.m., Buffalo Wings & Rings	25	26 Legislative Forum, 9 a.m., ND State Fair Center Norse Room
27	28	29	30	31		

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