

# Communicator

THE MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND YOU!

Vol. XLIII, Issue No. 4

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

April 2020

## A message from the Chamber of Commerce president

We are certainly in uncharted territory with the COVID-19 pandemic. These uncertain times call for a voice of business and we at the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce are that voice for you. We are doing our best to provide you with vital



information that can help your business survive,

whether it's through email, phone call, or social media. We encourage you to continue to check into the website our partner Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce has set up, as they consistently update their information on this page regarding COVID-19:

<https://www.ndchamber.com/covid19>

Please don't hesitate to call me at the office at 701-852-6000 or email [chamber@minotchamber.org](mailto:chamber@minotchamber.org). Let's continue to #MaximizeMinot!

## Inside the Communicator

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## Chamber responds in this time of unknowns

During this time of uncertainty as the community is social distancing in order to slow down the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), it's important we remember to support our local businesses that have always been here supporting us in Minot. Each of us can still do our part, whether it's ordering our food for delivery, purchasing gift cards to use later, or ordering online from the local, Minot company. Small businesses are hit hardest, so let's Maximize Minot the best we can! Many of you have creative ways to continue business; let us know and we will share it on Facebook. This pandemic will be a trying time for employees, employers, and the community. If we support one another, we can get

through this together.

As mentioned by John above, take a look at the resources available to help business, industry, and individuals with the impacts on a local level and beyond. Our partner, the Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce, has set up a hub page to help guide us. We greatly appreciate this because then we are not trying to duplicate something that has already been done. GNDC encouraged us to push this information out to our members. We encourage you to visit [www.ndchamber.com/COVID19](http://www.ndchamber.com/COVID19). This page has vital federal and state information on the coronavirus and resources available.

*Continued on page 3*

## Customer service workshop rescheduled for fall

*The customer service seminar sponsored by the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce, Visit Minot, and Small Business Development Center set for April 28 has been postponed due to the pandemic and a need for social distancing. That being said, customer service remains an important aspect of any successful business, and the seminar will be rescheduled for this fall. Please watch your Chamber email, website and social media for a date change.*

*The seminar will feature VJ Smith, of Brookings, SD. Smith is the author of The Richest Man in Town and Can You Hear What I See. Drawing on his 20+ years as a manager, which included a stint in a Fortune 100 company, Smith shares the qualities that separate the exceptional employee from the average employee. He has been a speaker for 20 years, has given more than 2,500 presentations from coast to coast, and has been named a favorite speaker of meeting planners in America by Meetings and Conventions Magazine.*

## MINOT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMERCIAL

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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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Ben Slind (Thompson Larson  
Funeral Home) .....852-3446  
Cathy Tweten (Dakota Square) .....839-7500

## New Member

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

### VIBRA HOSPITAL OF THE CENTRAL DAKOTAS

1000 18th St. NW • Mandan, ND 58554 • 701-204-2309

Email: cschweitzer@vhcentraldakotas.com • Website: www.vibrahealthcare.com  
Carolyn Schweitzer (Business Development Liaison) • Glynda Troyo-Sauviac (CEO)  
*Vibra Healthcare LTAC (Long Term Acute Care) hospital is located in Mandan, ND and is committed to caring, innovative solutions, patient focused programs and a reward-for-results culture. Our many services are focused on improving the lives and medical conditions of patients who need continued acute care for their recovery and who are not yet ready to be transferred to a lower level of care.*

## Public access to Motor Vehicle Department limited

The Minot Motor Vehicle Department in Arrowhead Shopping Center at 1600 2nd Ave. SW will have limited access to the public due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic; this high traffic area is among those recommended to close. If you need assistance, drop off your title work or vehicle renewals, with your name and phone number in the mail slot available, and you

will be contacted to process your credit card.

The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce manages the Motor Vehicle Department and encourages you to purchase your tabs, registration, and titles locally. If you purchase online, the service fees don't stay in Minot. If you have questions, call 857-8221 or email mvdclerks@srt.com.

## Renewals

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership from Feb. 22 through March 26, 2020. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

Affinity First Federal Credit Union  
All-State Contracting  
Ameripride Linen & Apparel Services  
Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.  
Ask Performance & Fitness, Inc.  
Broadway Bean and Bagel Co.  
Broadway Family Dentistry  
Broadway Liquor  
Burlington Northern Santa Fe  
Central Dakota Forensic Nurse Examiners  
Community Options, Inc.  
Dakota Inn  
Dakota Refrigeration Inc.  
Domestic Violence Crisis Center, Inc.  
Eagles Wings Community Fellowship  
Ebenezer's Eatery & Irish Pub  
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Fargo Glass & Paint Co.  
Forward Communication, Inc.  
Grand Hotel  
Gratech Company, LLC  
Home of Economy  
Horace Mann

Keller Williams Inspire Realty  
Law Office of Diane K. Lutt, PLLC  
Dr. Tyrone Langager  
Liberty Business Systems, Inc  
Magic City Apartment Association  
Magic City Beverage  
Marketplace Foods  
Mattress Firm  
Judge Doug Mattson  
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Minot Air Force Base  
Minot Area Homeless Coalition  
Minot Housing Authority  
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Nelson & Sons  
North Coast Sanitation, LLC  
North Country Mercantile & Equipment  
Northern Brake Service  
Northridge Villas  
Northwestern Mutual  
OfficeMax  
Olson & Burns, P.C.  
Small Business Development Center  
Souris River Designs & Home Improvements  
SRT Communications, Inc.  
The Computer Store, Inc.  
The Starving Rooster  
Walmart Super Center  
Waste Management of ND - Minot  
Wingate by Wyndham  
Worthington & Schultz, PC

### *Continued from page 1*

The Chamber hopes to reschedule the Prairie Warrior Auction that had been planned for March 21.

*The following events/meetings are cancelled at the Chamber:*

April 2.....Military Affairs Committee  
and all MAC meetings until further notice  
April 2 ..... Ambassadors Committee

April 4 ..... International Military Ball  
April 8.....Honors Banquet  
April 15 ..... Coffee with the President  
April 16.....Governmental Affairs Committee  
April 23 ..... Energy Committee  
April 23 ..... Business After Hours  
April 28 ..... Customer Service Seminar - Postponed

### *City of Minot responds with State of Emergency*

## **City of Minot buildings closed unless by appointment**

The City of Minot closed most of its buildings to the general public unless visitors make an appointment, effective March 19, 2020. All City services will continue to operate at this time.

The decision in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic affects City Hall, Public Works, Police Department, all four Minot Fire Department stations, Minot Public Library, Water Treatment Plant, Rosehill Cemetery, and the Water and Sewer Department. The Minot International Airport and the landfill are not affected.

To make an appointment, members of the public should call 701-418-3011 or contact Tami Stroklund at

tami.stroklund@minotnd.org.

Residents are urged to pay water bills either online or by placing payments in one of the two drop boxes outside City Hall or other drop-off locations in Minot.

City Council and Planning Commission meetings will continue to be held in Council Chambers and are streamed live on Facebook and YouTube. Members of the public are encouraged to watch these meetings online unless they have business before the Council or Planning Commission. Anyone attending meetings in person should use the main doors to City Hall.

All non-essential public meetings have been cancelled for the next two weeks and

will be re-evaluated after that time.

In response to the growing COVID-19 pandemic, City Manager Tom Barry declared a state of emergency on March 16, and the City Council extended that declaration indefinitely. The declaration makes the City eligible for federal or state reimbursement of funds used in relation to the emergency.

More information can be found at the City of Minot's official website at minotnd.org.

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

## **Minot Area Community Foundation activates disaster response fund**

The Minot Area Community Foundation has activated its COVID-19 Disaster Response & Recovery Fund to accept charitable donations to support nonprofits affected by disruptions due to the coronavirus outbreak. The Disaster Response & Recovery Fund was established in 2017 to respond to community crisis or disaster. The Foundation will seed the fund with \$25,000.

Contributions to this fund may be from individuals, families, businesses, private foundations, and the like, to support community response initiatives.

All gifts to this fund are tax-deductible as charitable contributions. Additionally, MACF will waive all administrative fees to ensure the dollars have the largest reach possible.

As the scope of needs is identified, the Foundation will develop a grantmaking process to distribute funds to 501(c)3 non-

profit agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, and government entities. Per IRS regulations, the MACF works through recognized nonprofits and does not make grants directly to individuals.

How to Give: Individuals and business who would like to donate to the fund can mail a check with "MACF COVID-19 Fund" in the memo line to: Minot Area Community Foundation 606 Burdick Expy W Ste A Minot, ND 58701

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at 701-852-0646 or staci@centerforcommunitygiving.com.

The Minot Area Community Foundation is one of 23 community foundations and regional associations of grant makers across the Midwest participating in the Philanthropic Preparedness, Resiliency, and Emergency Partnership



(PPREP) since 2014. The program provides knowledge, skills, tools and resources about disaster and the unique roles that community foundations can play within the cycle of disasters: preparedness (including strengthening resilience and adaptation), response and recovery. The program includes four primary components: learning, tools and technical assistance, grants, and network stewardship. PPREP is a project of the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities. The Center for Disaster Philanthropy serves as the curriculum development and technical assistance partner for the program.



## For safety's sake, clinic facilities subject to entry restrictions

As part of its ongoing efforts to minimize the spread of COVID-19, Trinity Health is restricting entry to all its patient care facilities, including outpatient clinics.

Effective March 30, access to clinic buildings in Minot and at Trinity's rural health clinics will be limited to a single entry point. Patients and those accompanying them will be screened as they enter for respiratory illness and travel.

Randy Schwan, vice president of mission integration, says patients with appointments will be allowed to enter, but they may be asked to wear a mask.

"It's important that people understand we are still open and eager to take care of our patients," Schwan said. "Judging by the support we are receiving, it's clear that people appreciate the need to be vigilant and monitor access to our facilities. This is to protect the people we care most about – our patients and our staff who take care of them."

The majority of visitors accompanying patients will be restricted from entry with a few exceptions, including a caregiver providing wheelchair transport, a power-of-attorney representative, and a parent accompanying a minor child.

Outpatient facilities implementing the new outpatient guidelines include Health Center – Medical Arts, Health Center – East, Health Center – West, Health Center – Town & Country, Health Center – Riverside, Plaza 16, Trinity Health South Ridge, Trinity Health East Ridge, dialysis clinics at Trinity Hospital – St. Joseph's and Belcourt, and community clinics in Williston, Velva, Mohall, Kenmare, Garrison, and New Town.<sup>1</sup>

### COVID-19: HOW TO SEEK CARE



Fever



Cough



Shortness  
of Breath

If you are experiencing any of the symptoms above or if you have recently traveled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of COVID-19, call us at:

**701-857-5000**

prior to going to the ER, FirstCare, or your provider's office.



## For the safety of patients and staff, FirstCare Walk-In Clinic has implemented a call-first policy: 701-857-7817

## First responders need to know about residents in quarantine

The City of Minot's police and fire departments are asking members of the public to inform dispatchers and first responders if anyone in their home is experiencing any COVID-19 related symptoms or is in coronavirus-related quarantine or self-isolation to help protect personnel responding to an emergency.

If Minot Police Department officers and Minot Fire Department personnel are properly and responsibly informed, they can help reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 by wearing personal protective equipment while at the scene of an emergency. Officials from both departments say their employees must be kept safe in order to maintain proper levels of service to residents.

"The Minot Police Department is com-

mitted to serving the community and we take many risks daily. That being said, we try to mitigate risks to officers to ensure we have a strong and healthy workforce to respond to the needs of the people of Minot," Police Chief John Klug said. "We ask that people share any COVID-related symptoms, isolation or quarantine information so officers can take proper measures to ensure they are safe from exposure and still provide appropriate services."

Klug and Assistant Fire Chief Lonnie Sather encourage the public to continue seeking emergency assistance when necessary, but strongly urge residents to inform dispatchers and crews on the scene if someone at the location is showing any COVID-related symptoms or has been quarantined or isolated because of

COVID-19.

"If you've been ordered or asked to self-isolate because of recent travel or potential exposure, please tell the dispatcher and share that information with the first responders who show up at your residence," Sather said. "If you are experiencing any COVID-related symptoms or if you've recently returned to Minot from being down south for the winter and are self-isolating as a precaution, please let us know that information before we enter your residence. We want to make sure our crews have the proper personal protective equipment to minimize risk to everyone."

For more information contact the Public Information Office at 857-4727 or by email at [pio@minotnd.org](mailto:pio@minotnd.org).

## Minot parks and trails to remain open for physical and mental health

The Minot Park District supports the power of parks and open spaces as essential resources for health and wellness and understands that people may have questions and concerns about visiting parks, trails or open spaces at this time.

“We believe keeping our parks and trails open is imperative for our community to remain active for both our physical and mental health during this time.” Says Ron Merritt, Executive Director of the Minot Park District.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has flagged mental health as a top concern associated with the COVID-19 outbreak. Social distancing may take a toll on our mental health, especially during high-stress and anxiety-producing global public health emergencies. Parks and open spaces provide a connection to the outdoors as well as opportunities for physical activity which studies demonstrate reduces stress and improves mental health.

Parks, trails and open spaces can continue to be used in a safe manner. At this time, there are no restrictions on the use of local parks, trails and open spaces.

The Minot Park District encourages all outdoor space enthusiasts to take part in

outdoor recreation and to follow these recommendations:

- Refrain from using parks or trails if you are exhibiting symptoms.
- Follow CDC’s guidance on personal hygiene prior to and during use of parks or trails.
- Prepare for limited access to public restrooms, portable restrooms or water fountains.
- While on trails, warn other users of your presence and step aside to let others pass.
- If you are on a playground or are using outdoor fitness equipment, please practice social distancing and use your own hand sanitizer when you are done. You may also choose to use your own bacterial wipes to wipe off any surfaces prior to playing.
- Having dogs in a park, trail, boat ramp or open space is allowed, but residents are reminded that dogs are required to be on a leash at all times in

accordance with local ordinances.

- Follow CDC guidance on the recommended size of social gatherings including outdoor picnicking, pick-up sports and other group hangouts, and maintain proper physical distance at all times.
- Observe CDC’s minimum recommended social distancing of six feet from other individuals at all times. If this is not possible, users should find an alternate location or depart that space.  
[www.facebook.com/MinotParks](https://www.facebook.com/MinotParks)

For more information please contact Elly DesLauriers, director of marketing & development by calling 857-4136, 240-4126, or emailing [elly@minotparks.com](mailto:elly@minotparks.com).



## City taking precautions after employee tests positive for coronavirus

The City of Minot is taking additional precautionary measures after an officer in the Minot Police Department tested positive for coronavirus. The employee has not been hospitalized and is in quarantine at home. In addition, five other City of Minot employees are in quarantine at home because of potential exposure to the officer who tested positive.

“We have been taking extra measures to protect our workforce, but our officers are in daily contact with members of the public due to the nature of their job,” Police Chief John Klug said. “We are following

guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control regarding quarantine and we continue to discuss other ways to protect our employees and the public.” Minot Fire Chief Kelli Kronschnabel said one firefighter is self-isolating at home as a precaution after being exposed to residents who recently returned to Minot from another state during a call for service late last week.

“We’re taking this potential exposure seriously because our firefighters live together at work so we need to ensure that everyone is virus

free. We’re following isolation guidelines established by healthcare experts,” Kronschnabel said. “This reinforces the need for members of the public to let us know before we arrive on the scene if anyone in the residence is in isolation or quarantine or has potentially been exposed to the COVID-19 virus so we can properly protect ourselves. First responders can’t protect the public if they’re home in isolation.”

For more information contact the Public Information Office at 857-4727 or by email at [pio@minotnd.org](mailto:pio@minotnd.org).



## March 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**, **Anytime Fitness**, and **Waxing the City** for providing gift certificates for each Eagle recipient.



**MELISSA HOFFART**  
*Dairy Queen*



**LACEY SWENSON**  
*Mattress Firm*



**LUKE SHATTUCK**  
*NOVA Fire Protection*



**BRENDEN MORIN**  
*Simonson's Station Stores*



**GAGE FEIST**  
*Papa Murphy's Take 'N' Bake Pizza*



**MARTI MISURACA**  
*Edward Jones*



**CODY LANDPHERE**  
*Johnson Eyecare & Eyewear*



**The Eagle presentations will be suspended until further notice.**

# PROJECT CLEAN CHALLENGE


*We NEED your HELP to KEEP our city CLEAN!*

**FRIDAY, May 1, 2020  
9AM—5PM  
AND  
SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020  
9AM—1PM**

**REGISTER YOUR TEAM BY CONTACTING:  
Minot Chamber of Commerce  
[chamber@minotchamber.org](mailto:chamber@minotchamber.org)  
OR 852-6000**





**Community Leaders ENHANCING Area Neighborhoods!**



**Trash bags available up to May 1  
at the Chamber office  
1020 20th Avenue SW**

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING GLOVES!**



***This event may still be able to proceed, even with social distancing in place.***

***Save the Date  
(and keep your fingers crossed)  
for the May  
Business After  
Hours***

**Thursday, May 28  
5 – 7 p.m.  
Business After  
Hours  
Vardon Golf Course  
7107 Co. Hwy. 15**



CONCEPTUAL RENDERING MHA AQUATICS CENTER, NEW TOWN, ND



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# Chamber Ambassadors act as VIP Escorts for ND Special Olympics Basketball Tournament

As is tradition, The Minot Area Chamber of Commerec Ambassadors escorted the VIPs during the opening ceremony of the ND Special Olympics State Basketball Tournament at the MSU Dome in March.



## Fill out your census form

The 2020 United States Census forms were mailed out the second week of March. All residents are encouraged to fill out and return the census form. People can participate via telephone and internet. If you do not self-respond by the end of April, a census bureau employee will visit your place of residence to obtain your census information during the month of May. Your personal information will not be released until the year 2092. For more information on the census, please visit <https://www.census.gov/>.

### How to answer the 2020 Census without a Census ID

**STEP 1- Click Start**

**STEP 2- Click blue link**

**STEP 3- Answer Question 1**

**STEP 4- Enter Address**

## The bank we count on.

There is a lot to consider when choosing a financial institution - such as convenience, technology, products and community involvement. We chose our bank for all these reasons. But more than anything, we wanted a bank with familiar, friendly people that we knew we could count on any time of the day. First Western Bank & Trust is all these things and so much more.

**FIRST WESTERN**  
BANK & TRUST  
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CONTACT THE CHAMBER TO PLACE YOUR AD: 701-852-6000 • CARLA@MINOTCHAMBER.ORG

Minot Area Chamber of Commerce  
April 2020 8



## 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.*



**Circle Sanitation:** 105 34th Ave. NE • 701- 838-1182 • Toll free: 866-839-1868 [www.circlesanitation.com](http://www.circlesanitation.com)

Owners: Dan Ruby, Trina Holter, Brian Ruby, Joe Ruby, Jacob Ruby, David Ruby, and Paul Ruby

*Circle Sanitation is a family owned local company that has provided waste hauling services for nearly 40 years and is pleased to announce a new, more convenient location to accommodate future growth.*



**Prairie Sky Breads:** 3 1st St. SE, Suite 1 • 701-858-0612 • [www.prairieskybreads.com](http://www.prairieskybreads.com)

Owners: Travis & Brandy Gerjets, Jazmine & Zach Schultz

*Minot Chamber Ambassadors cut the ribbon during the grand opening of Prairie Sky Breads. Launched in 2014 selling freshly-baked breads at the Minot Farmer's Market, Prairie Sky Breads is now in their new home in downtown Minot.*

*Foster and Cymbaluk named to list:*

## ***Prairie Business Magazine* presents its top 25 Women in Business**

Two Minot women are listed among the top 25 Women in Business in the March issue of *Prairie Business Magazine*. The article states these women are leaders in their careers and communities, women who truly stand out in their profession. Brenda Foster (First Western Bank & Trust) and Heather Cymbaluk (Companions for Children) are featured in that article.

Brenda K. Foster, Chairwoman, President and CEO of First Western Bank & Trust, began her career at First Western as a high school intern and hasn't looked back. Over the past 39 years, she has worked in all areas of First Western Bank & Trust and now serves as board chair, president, and CEO.

Foster reflected on her early career when

computers were nonexistent in banking, to today, when banking can be done from a smartphone. She remains passionate about participating in the success of customers, employees and the communities First Western serves.

Foster was recently elected as a Class A director of the Federal Reserve Board of Minneapolis' board of directors. She is chair of the Large Community Bank Council for the Independent Community Banks of America, a member of the Minot State University Board of Regents, volunteer for Junior Achievement, and past president of the Independent Community Banks of North Dakota. Foster is a graduate of Minot State University. She and her husband, Wayne, have two children.

Heather Cymbaluk, Executive Director of Companions for Children, has served as the executive director of Companions for Children since 2013. She is a graduate of Minot State University with bachelor degrees in both marketing and management information systems. She continued her education at the University of Mary, graduating with a master's degree in business administration.

Cymbaluk is passionate about making a difference in her community, currently serving as president for both the Minot Optimist Club and the Minot Alliance of Nonprofits.



# THANK YOU

Without **YOU**, wishes aren't possible.

In honor of National Volunteer Week, we recognize our more than 150 volunteers for the time, care and dedication that has allowed us to grant more than **950 wishes** since 1985.

**Make-A-Wish®**  
NORTH DAKOTA  
[northdakota.wish.org](http://northdakota.wish.org)



# Happy Easter



## We Wish You A Happy Easter From Our Family To Yours

### 3 Convenient 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



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0455\_3-20

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### **Minot PD warns of scammers**

During times of emergency like the one we are in the midst of with the COVID-19 Coronavirus fight, anxiety and uncertainty can lend themselves to people being more easily scammed. Scammers prey upon victims' fear for their health in hopes of an easy payday or obtaining personal identifying information.

The Minot Police Department has not received reports of successful scam attempts related to COVIN-19/ Coronavirus, however we are sharing this information with the community to help residents protect themselves from these unscrupulous opportunists.

The North Dakota Attorney General's Office warns of the following types of scams:

1. Watch for "phishing" emails – ones that appear to come from legitimate government agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control, especially if the email encourages you to click on a link for more information. Simply delete them without response.

2. Ignore phone calls, emails, advertising or mail items offering a miracle cure for, or protection against, Coronavirus. These are scams. There currently is no vaccine or cure. When one is available, residents can be sure that the appropriate government agencies will promptly provide information to the public.

3. Don't be fooled by calls or text messages claiming that you are required to pay for testing or to provide personal information as part of a government

response to the Coronavirus. These are scams.

4. Beware of unauthorized or fraudulent charities or solicitations. Bogus charities will try to solicit donations during these emergencies. Do not donate any funds without doing your homework. Check the Secretary of State's website to confirm if the entity is registered and contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at 1-800-472-2600, or email [ndag@nd.gov](mailto:ndag@nd.gov) if you have concerns or suspect fraud.

Link to the ND AG office: <https://attorneygeneral.nd.gov/news/stenehjem-cautions-north-dakotans-about-coronavirus-related-scams>

**While it seems like the world is changing by the day, one thing you can count on — Town & Country Credit Union is here for you.**

Our lobbies are temporarily closed, but you can still connect with us.

**Online Loan Approval | Drive-up | ATM | Online Account Access**

### **Has COVID-19 negatively impacted you?**

Whether you need to skip a loan payment,\* withdraw from a CD early or apply to refinance your home or auto loans to save on your monthly payments, we're here to help with those and more.



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

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### ***Housing agency honors outstanding partners with Champion Awards***

North Dakota Housing Finance Agency recognized ten of the lending institutions, loan officers and real estate agents who promote its homeownership program as Champions of Affordable Housing. The state agency provides individuals and families, primarily first-time buyers, with low-cost financing, and down payment and closing cost assistance.

“North Dakota Housing Finance Agency’s Champion Awards recognize and celebrate the work of the individuals and businesses who go above and beyond to provide North Dakotans with an affordable home,” said Dave Flohr, the agency’s interim executive director/homeownership division director.

Dakota Community Bank & Trust and Town & Country Credit Union were recognized with Homeownership Awards of Excellence for their best practices and outstanding delivery of the agency’s programs.

Dacotah Bank and TCF Home Loans received Homeownership Rising Star awards. The award recognizes a financial institution for a significant increase in loan volume over the previous year.

Two loan officers, Travis Lang of Bismarck and Pam Montee of Dickinson, and four real estate agents, Karen George of Watford City, Tyler Lindell of Fargo, Christine Rivinius of Bismarck and Sandra West of Dickinson, were recognized with Homeownership Performance Awards for loan production.

“In 2019, North Dakota Housing Finance Agency helped 1,725 households purchase a home – first-time buyers, families who previously owned a home and needed assistance to buy again, and special needs households,” said Flohr. “All of these North Dakotans learned about our programs from the individuals and businesses employed in the private sector who collaborate with NDHFA to promote and originate our affordable home loans.”

A self-supporting state agency, NDHFA is dedicated to making housing affordable for all North Dakotans. The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Governor Doug Burgum as chairman, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, oversees the agency. For more information on the awards or the agency’s programs, contact (800) 292-8621 or [www.ndhfa.org](http://www.ndhfa.org).

### ***Warning sirens begin testing May 11***

Beginning May 11, Minot Central Dispatch will begin running regularly scheduled audible tests for the Minot Area Outdoor Warning System, as well as the sirens within Ward County. These tests will be run on the second and last Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. The audible tests will continue through the summer months and are scheduled to conclude in October. The final date is weather permitting, as cold weather conditions are hard on the equipment.

There will be one variation to the regular schedule in May when the last Monday of the month falls on Memorial Day. To avoid any interruption to the Memorial Day ceremonies on May 25, the test will be run the next day, on Tuesday, May 26 at 9:30 a.m.

During the regularly scheduled tests, residents will hear ten-second high/low tones, followed by a voice message given over the public address system. The tones and message will be repeated three times. The Cable TV interrupt system will also be tested as the outdoor warning system audible test is being sounded.

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## Member Business Briefs

### ***Shane D. Zaback named to Forbes' list of Best-in-State Wealth Advisors***

Shane D. Zaback, branch manager of Zaback Wealth Management (1408 20th Ave SW, Suite 2 in Minot), was among the Raymond James-affiliated advisors named to the Forbes list of Best-In-State Wealth Advisors. The list, which recognizes advisors from national, regional and independent firms, was released online in January 2020.



*Shane D. Zaback*

The Forbes ranking of Best-In-State Wealth Advisors, developed by SHOOK Research, is based on an algorithm of qualitative criteria, mostly gained through telephone and in-person due diligence interviews, and quantitative data. Advisors that are considered have a minimum of seven years' experience, and the algorithm weights factors like revenue trends, assets under management, compli-

ance records, industry experience and those that encompass best practices in their practices and approach to working with clients.

Zaback, who joined Raymond James in 2017, has more than 22 years of experience in the financial services industry. He offers comprehensive investing and planning solutions for his client's individual goals. His process helps clients adapt their strategy in a way that can best reach their goals and respond to changes in the market or in their life.

To reach Zaback or the advisors at Zaback Wealth Management, call 852-5566.

### ***MCEF accepting applications***

The Minot Community Endowment



Fund is currently accepting applications for the 2020 grant cycle. Applications are due May 31. Any 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or government agency that serves the Minot community is eligible to apply. Visit [www.NDCF.net/Minot](http://www.NDCF.net/Minot) to apply.

### ***First Baptist cancels SHE Ministries 2020 Women's Conference***

SHE Ministries of First Baptist Church in Minot was scheduled to host the 2020 Women's Conference "More Than Enough" April 17-18, 2020. This event has been cancelled.

For more information visit [www.fbc-sheconf.org](http://www.fbc-sheconf.org) or contact First Baptist Church by calling 852-4533 or emailing [office@fbcmilot.org](mailto:office@fbcmilot.org).



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



### *Minot residents assist City of Fargo with sandbagging efforts*

Minot Mayor Shaun Sipma and City Council member Shannon Straight led a contingent of 36 Minot residents to Fargo on March 11 to assist with sandbagging efforts as Fargo braces for potential spring flooding.

The Minot group, which included a large number of Minot Air Force Base personnel, spent four hours at Fargo's Sandbag Central. The City of Fargo is working to produce 400,000 sandbags as part of this year's flood preparation. The center averages approximately 550 volunteers per day. There were 72,500 sandbags produced the day Minot residents volunteered.

"As a City, we've been through our own natural disasters and we wanted to let the residents of Fargo know that we support them as they prepare for potential spring flooding," Sipma said. "We're extremely grateful for everyone who made the trip to Fargo, especially our friends from Minot Air Force Base and the members of our local

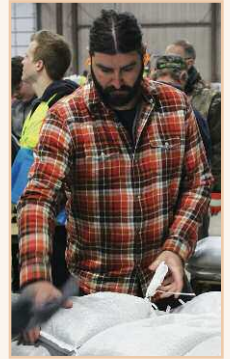


business community who volunteered their time and efforts. Thank you."

Sipma and Straight also met with Fargo City Administrator Bruce Grubb, Deputy Mayor/City Commissioner Dave Piepkorn and other staff members to discuss Fargo's 2020 flood preparations and the city's ongoing flood protection project.

"It was a quick opportunity to discuss common challenges that we share with the City of Fargo," Sipma said. "Both of our cities are working through enormous flood control projects, so it was good to communicate with Fargo officials and get an update on their project."

Sipma also met with Gov. Doug Burgum, who visited Sandbag Central to tour the operation. For more information contact the Public Information Office at 857-4727 or by email at [pio@minotnd.org](mailto:pio@minotnd.org).



### *City postpones spring cleanup week, HHW collection days*

The City of Minot has postponed its spring cleanup week and household hazardous waste/E-

waste collection in response to the coronavirus pandemic. The spring cleanup week that was scheduled for April 27-May 1 will be replaced with a week of free dumping at the landfill for residents with a City of Minot water bill, according to Sanitation/Landfill Superintendent Josh Kraft.

The HHW/E-waste collection that was scheduled for May 1-2 has also been postponed.

"We recognize these cleanup events are important to our residents, and we hope to reschedule them when the situation surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak improves," Kraft said. "But to protect the health of our employees and members of the public, it's in everyone's best interests if we postpone these events."

Kraft said when the outbreak situation improves, officials from the Sanitation Department and the Street Department will coordinate with other partners to reschedule the spring cleanup week and the HHW/E-waste collections.

For more information contact the Public

Information Office at 857-4727 or by email at [pio@minotnd.org](mailto:pio@minotnd.org).

### *PPE donation drive scheduled*

Habitat for Humanity Northern Lights and the Minot Association of Builders are partnering together to hold a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) donation drive this week with pick-ups on April 1-2 in Minot, Surrey, Burlington and Ruthville.

Items they are looking to collect:

- They will be accepting face masks/surgical masks—preferably N95
- Tyvek suits/disposable coveralls (neoprene, rubberized, plastic)
- Rubber gloves/neoprene gloves (preferably latex-free)
- Safety glasses/goggles

Habitat for Humanity Executive Director, Roxy Volk, will LITERALLY come to your home or business. The items can be put into her vehicle without personal contact or left on your doorstep. So, if you have some extra items that you are willing/able to donate, please call or text 852-0486 or email [minot.habitat@hotmail.com](mailto:minot.habitat@hotmail.com). Please stay safe and thank you in advance!

### *Symphony cancels April 24, 25 events*

Due to concerns of the coronavirus, COVID-19, for the health and safety of the musicians and patrons, the Minot Symphony Orchestra (MSO) announces the cancellation of the season finale, "The Titan," scheduled for April 25. The Day of Percussion with the Heartland Marimba Quartet scheduled for April 24 is also cancelled with plans to re-schedule for the fall.

Options are being explored to coordinate an online experience to showcase MSO musicians on April 25. Please follow Minot Symphony Orchestra on Facebook for more details.

"As we start planning the upcoming season, we ask ticket holders to please consider donating the cost of their ticket to help defer cost during this challenging time. We will be reaching out directly to every ticket holder," explained Executive Director Ellen Fenner.

The symphony will celebrate its 95th season in 2020-2021: Sept. 26, Nov. 7, Dec. 12, Feb. 6, March 6 and April 24. Season tickets are available for renewal now by calling 858-4228 and new subscribers starting May 1. More information can be found at [www.minotsymphony.com](http://www.minotsymphony.com).



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## Ackerman-Estvold hires Andre as operations & maintenance technician

Justin Andre has joined the Ackerman-Estvold Minot office as a full-time operations & maintenance technician. Andre earned an associate's degree in water technology from the Dakota College at Bottineau, Bottineau, ND. Andre also holds certifications in Class III Water Distribution, Class II Water Treatment, and Class I Waste Water Collection. He has provided utility management and maintenance for several local agencies over his 20+ year career. Andre will be developing our operations & maintenance team putting his experience and certifications to work for our clients throughout North Dakota.



**Justin Andre**

## Minot Area Community Foundation names Zimmerman new president

The Minot Area Community Foundation is excited to announce the hire of the new President Jason Zimmerman.

Zimmerman is a third generation Minot native and comes to The Foundation with several years of community experience. He is a past partner of The Holiday Inn & Holiday Inn Express in Minot, the former Flood Recovery Coordinator with The City of Minot & Ward County, and was most recently employed with First Western Bank & Trust as a business banking officer.



**Jason Zimmerman**

Zimmerman is active in and around the Minot community. He is a past chair and current board member of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and a commissioner of the ND State Water Commission.

Zimmerman will replace Ken Kitman, who retired at the end of March.

## Minot Daily parent company offering grants for print advertising

Ogden News, the parent company of *The Minot Daily News*, is offering a community grant for local businesses during this uncertain time.

- Grant funds can be used towards run of press print ads or digital advertising with *The Minot Daily News*.
- This is open to locally owned and operated businesses impacted by COVID-19. Applications must be submitted via the online form.
- Grants are available for a minimum of \$200 and a maximum of \$5,000 of matching funds each month.
- Grants will be awarded in April; the matching grant must be used within that month. Re-apply for another grant in May and June. Apply online at: [www.ogdennews.com/community-grant](http://www.ogdennews.com/community-grant)

Fill out the form with information about how additional advertising can help your business. Please indicate which Ogden newspaper (*The Minot Daily News*) would serve as your partner. Once you submit, you will be contacted within one to two business days. For more information, contact Elaine Gunderson at 857-1918 or [egunderson@minotdailynews.com](mailto:egunderson@minotdailynews.com).

## North Dakota State Fair offers update

We know there are a lot of questions and uncertainty in our communities right now. Like you, we also have many concerns, but the wellness of our guests, our staff, and our partners is at the top of the list. We are closely monitoring all aspects of the coronavirus situation and making daily, and sometimes hourly, decisions on how to best proceed. With that being said, at this time we are diligently moving forward to bring you a great 2020 fair.

When the concerns over large public gatherings end, people are going to be ready to get out, see their friends, and have some fun, and there is no better place to do that than at the North Dakota State Fair. If by chance this does continue into the summer months and we are forced to cancel, all tickets purchased from the North Dakota State Fair will be refunded.

The North Dakota State Fair is continuing daily operations, but the office is closed to the general public. To contact us, please call 857-7620 or email us at [ndsfa@minot.com](mailto:ndsfa@minot.com).

## Schweitzer joins Vibra Hospital

Carolyn Schweitzer has joined Vibra Hospital of the Central Dakotas as the Business Development Liaison.

Schweitzer has over 25 years of dedicating her efforts to networking, promoting, building and maintaining relationships. In the healthcare industry, she has been a community relations director, as well as an admissions director and marketing liaison. She has served as a board member and sponsorship chairperson for the Minot Senior Coalition and been involved in the Companions for Children program.



**Carolyn Schweitzer**

Schweitzer currently serves as a member of the Minot Senior Coalition, Medicare open enrollment for the ND Department of Health, and an Ambassador for the Minot Chamber of Commerce.

## Enerbase awards scholarships

Each year Enerbase Cooperative Resources awards \$1,000 scholarships to area students who are entering their first semester of college. This year there are eight students who received a \$1,000 scholarship. Applicants were chosen strictly based on their community involvement, school activities, GPA, and an essay submission that explains how they are associated with cooperatives and how cooperatives have benefitted their families.

This year's recipients are Grace Mogen (Washburn), James McElwain (Minot), Rayna Rice (Minot), Erika Neshem (Berthold), Mackenzie Woodall (Granville), Jericho Limke (Carpio), Maggie Eng (Underwood), and Shelby Meckle (Center).

Congratulations to this year's recipients and all graduates of 2020.

## iMagicon sets new dates

iMagicon has been rescheduled for Aug. 21-23, 2020, at the Minot Municipal Auditorium. All Star Trek Discovery guests (Doug Jones, Sara Mitich, Ronnie Rowe Jr., Hannah Cheesman, and Patrick Kwok-Choon) will attend this fall. Tickets sold and vendor applications for the April event will be honored at the August event.

Tickets are available now for iMagicon at [www.imagiconnd.com](http://www.imagiconnd.com).





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