



UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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MINOT Chamber Communicator

The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and You!

Vol. XLIII, Issue No. 11

www.minotchamber.org

November 2020

Merger talks continue

We want to hear from our members!

The Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and Minot Area Development Corporation board of directors have been working on a plan of merger for the two organizations. The process includes work with a lawyer on bylaws, developing a dues structure to combine memberships, and determining an organizational structure. The process has been running smoothly, thanks to volunteer board members who have been working on committees, and thanks to the help of the Bismarck/Mandan

Chamber/EDC President Brian Ritter, who laid out all the pros and cons of merging a city's chamber and economic development arm.

The Chamber and MADC's next step is to see what members think of the change. Could you take a minute and fill out this five question survey? This will help in the process of working toward a merger.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HZBKWW6>

Intermodal rail service now operating out of Minot

Minot Area Development Corporation was joined by numerous partners to announce Rail Modal Group (RMG) Minot as the operator for intermodal rail service in North Dakota. This is an opportunity for intermodal service which allows producers and processors to load containers in Minot and ship them by rail to the ports for international destinations. The RMG facility will be served by BNSF Railway. For years, Minot has tried to identify partners willing to place containers in Minot, and RMG has made that commitment.

RMG has developed a network of privately-operated intermodal facilities providing services to inland containerized export shippers. In cooperation with BNSF Railway, RMG currently operates two other intermodal ramps located in Fremont, Nebraska and Amarillo, Texas. Multiple ocean carriers reposition trainloads of empty containers from surplus locations in Chicago Illinois, Memphis Tennessee, Dallas Texas, and other origins offering extensive export capacity.

"RMG is proud to support the producers and shippers throughout North Dakota and surrounding areas to provide international export capacity through our newly developed Port of Minot. Container source loading creates a vertical logistic solution that reduces transportation costs, reduces carbon footprint, and develops sustainable long-term International supply

chains. All of these factors support growth for jobs and market expansion, while improving environmental impacts within the local and regional markets served by this asset," said RMG President/CEO Greg Oberting. "Our partnership with BNSF continues to grow with this opportunity to develop intermodal solutions for Minot."

The state has been working to gain access to intermodal service to reduce shipping costs for the state's agricultural producers and other industries for nearly two decades. "This game-changing intermodal service will give North Dakota producers and processors much-needed access to competitively priced transportation, promoting the growth and diversification of our economy," Governor Burgum said. "We're grateful for the many partners at the local, state and federal level whose hard work and determination kept this effort on track and brought this critical service to our state."

Amy McBeth, BNSF Regional AVP Public Affairs added, "Rail transportation has always been integral to the Minot and state economies, and this new intermodal facility expands rail service even further. In addition to the intermodal facility, Minot hosts the only BNSF Certified Site in the state. The designation by BNSF identifies rail-served industrial sites that

Continued on page 3

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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Area Community Foundation)852-0646

Business After Hours on hold

Business After Hours is on hold due to the increased COVID-19 numbers in our area. Watch your Chamber email, newsletter and website for information on when we can get back together and network!



CLI students raise money for Horn of Plenty

Community Leadership Institute students completed the eight-week course on Oct. 22. There were some bumps and turns along the way due to COVID, but the group went with the flow.

This year's project was to raise money

for the Horn of Plenty, a longtime area program that provides meals and presents during the Christmas season to those in need. The class raised \$16, 546. Nice work, CLI class of 2020!



Renewals

The Chamber extends a big "THANK YOU" to our members who have renewed their membership from Sept. 26 through Oct. 23, 2020. Your continued support helps your Chamber promote the business community and do the work seen in the pages of this newsletter.

Accounting Solutions
Aggregate Construction Inc
Anne Carlsen Center
Boot Barn
Boppre Law Firm
Bray's Saddlery
CDM Smith
ChiroCare Family Center, PC
Clarion Hotel and Convention
Center
Clean Harbors Environmental
Services
Cognizant
Companions for Children, Inc.
CTS Properties, LLC
Dakota Business Lending
Edward Jones Financial
Advisor: Tom Miller
Edward Jones Financial
Advisor: Cameron J. Stone
Fire Extinguishing Systems, Inc.

Flower Box
Gemar Photography
Glik's
Globe Life-Family Heritage
Helgeson-Norton Agency
HighAir Ground
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KX News
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Minot Area Council of the Arts
Minot Commission on
Aging, Inc.

Minot Hockey Boosters
Minot Veterinary Clinic Inc.
ND Asia
Niess Impressions
North Highlands Apartments
and Villas
North Hill Bowl, Inc.
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Northwestern Mutual
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Primary Residential Mortgage -
The Dakota Group
PROCollect Services LLC
Ready Builders, Inc.
Ryan Nissan
St. Joseph's Community Health
Foundation
Stevick Business Specialties
Strata Corporation
Thrivent Financial

Intermodal rail, continued from page 1

have met stringent readiness standards intended to reduce development time and risk for companies seeking rail-served sites.”

Minot’s facility will provide service to The Northwest Seaport Alliance with on-dock trains to terminals in Seattle and Tacoma. Representatives from the Northwest Seaport Alliance highlighted the importance of the North Dakota intermodal operations. “This new rail service means lower costs for our export customers in the Great Plains shipping valuable agricultural commodities through our gateway,” said Peter Steinbrueck, Port of Seattle commission president and co-chair of The Northwest Seaport Alliance. “In the Puget Sound region, this service also supports new, additional cargo, which will help grow our market share and support more family-wage jobs.”

“As one of the top agricultural export gateways in North America, The Northwest Seaport Alliance congratulates BNSF Railway, Rail Modal Group, the

Minot Area Development Corporation, the City of Minot, and the State of North Dakota for their creative partnership in supporting the U.S. agricultural exports,” said John McCarthy, Port of Tacoma commission president and co-chair of The Northwest Seaport Alliance. “As our nation recovers from the global pandemic, this is a great example of how ports and agricultural sectors drive economic growth.”

Minot Mayor Shaun Sipma and Minot leaders focused in on the collaboration between all involved with bringing intermodal to North Dakota, including a thank you to the North Dakota congressional delegation, Governor Doug Burgum, legislators from across the state, the North Dakota Trade Office, the state departments of Commerce, Transportation and Agriculture, private industry, BNSF and the Northwest Seaport Alliance. Mayor Sipma also highlighted businesses who have selected the Minot Area as their home for operations. An anchor tenant to

the MADC industrial park is AGT Foods. AGT Foods is one of the largest suppliers of value-added pulses, staple foods and food ingredients in the world and has been operating a facility in Minot, North Dakota since 2013. Eric Bartsch, Division Head Global Food Ingredients said, “AGT is excited for the intermodal service operations in Minot. Minot is a regional location that has served us well and the addition of intermodal service is a game-changer for producers opening up access to global markets.”

The first intermodal containers for the site arrived in Minot Tuesday, October 13 and are scheduled to make their way toward The Northwest Seaport Alliance in Washington state. Once the train arrives at the Port of Seattle, The Northwest Seaport Alliance will hold a press event and share more details on how this intermodal service provides access to the global market. The Northwest Seaport Alliance is a marine cargo operating partnership of the ports of Seattle and Tacoma.

October Eagle Awards

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



STEVE NYRE
Vision Galleria



DEBBIE SKAVHAUG
Dot's Pretzels



CHRISTINA RAMOS
Walmart Vision Center



VANESSA LATENDRESSE
*Farmers Union Insurance –
Ressler-Sipma-Beuchler Agency*



CASEY HOFFART
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25 complete CLI program Oct. 22

The following participants of the 2020 Community Leadership Institute (CLI) completed the CLI program in spite of limitations from the COVID-19 pandemic. Their final session was October 22 where they presented a check to the Horn of Plenty to help those less fortunate this Christmas season. More information is available on page 2.



BECKY ARMSTRONG
First Western Bank & Trust



MELISA BARNETT
*Community Action Partnership -
Minot Region*



NATHAN BECKMAN
Dacotah Bank



CAITLIN BELLET
*First International Bank &
Trust*



CARMEN BLOMS
Blue Cross Blue Shield



GABE BRIEN
Houston Engineering, Inc.



AMANDA DUCHSHERER
Minot State University



CARRIE FRASER
Ackerman-Estvold



JENNIFER GRAVES
First Light Home Care



LOGAN GUNDERSON
First Western Bank & Trust



SARAH HANSEN
Grand Hotel



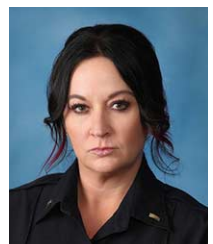
KRISTIE HOFF
Verendrye Electric Cooperative



MINDEE KOHLMAN
*Aspire Community Federal
Credit Union*



KARI KREMER
SRT Communications, Inc.



SHANNON LACKEY
Minot Police Department



DAKOTA LARSON
*First International Bank &
Trust*



MARIAH MCDONALD
GEM Federal Credit Union



RANDI MONLEY
Minot Public Library



WENDY PANK
*Enbridge Pipelines (North
Dakota) LLC*



COURTNEY PARDON
Bremer Bank



LINDSEY STENSON
Gate City Bank



KRYSTAL STOBER
Verendrye Electric Cooperative



RYAN TURNAGE
REMAX/BAKKEN REALTY



BRIANNA WEEKS
*Aspire Community Federal
Credit Union*



TOM WILSON
Cole Papers



It's Magic in Minot!

There's a positive movement going on in Minot. We're rediscovering that our community is full of energy and a spirit for being a better place to live, to visit and to love. We have friendly and helpful faces, big ideas, a can-do attitude and fun things to do everywhere. Get excited again about the Magic City. Join the conversation and share why you think it's #MagicInMinot.



MAGICINMINOT.COM

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.



Main Street Boutique:
2 South Main St • Minot, ND
837-7711

Owners: Dawn Gullickson
& Kristie Schwan

*Minot Chamber Ambassadors
cut the ribbon at
Mainstream Boutique
downtown to celebrate
their re-grand opening
with new owners.*

*Stop by
for all the latest
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**New Dawn
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Dr. Shelby Lee, D.C. - Owner

*Chamber Ambassadors helped
celebrate the opening
of New Dawn Chiropractic
& Acupuncture.
New Dawn's mission is to
empower patients through
"whole-body" care
with the use of chiropractic
and Minot's first full-time
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MinotStateU.edu/business/priorlearning

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Be seen. Be heard. Be inspired.



SRT Board of Directors remains the same after election

Four directors were elected to the SRT Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting on Oct. 1 at the ND State Fair Center in Minot. Directors elected to serve a three-year term include District 1: Stanley Vangsness from Berthold; District 2: Kristi Miller from Maxbass; District 3: John Marshall from Towner; and District 4: Deanna Klein from Minot.

The Board also held a reorganizational meeting in which the following board officers were named: president, Allan Engh; vice-president, Kristi Miller; secretary/treasurer, Deanna Klein; and assistant secretary/treasurer, Stacey Diehl.

“SRT congratulates the four directors that were re-elected to another term on Thursday,” said Steve Lysne, CEO/General Manager. “In these unique times, and for the safety of our members, we are grateful we were able to hold our annual meeting and election. Our board of directors continues to be advocates for the cooperative and we appreciate their hard work.”

The Annual Meeting was unlike traditional meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The member report and financial updates were posted on srt.com and a drive thru election was held to minimize contact.



Stanley Vangsness



Kristi Miller



John Marshall



Deanna Klein

Norsk Høstfest announces virtual Høstfest school

Norsk Høstfest is happy to announce a new resource now available online at

<http://hostfest.com/>. On Høstfest Schoolfest you will find Scandinavian performances, videos, slide shows, lesson materials and links to other resources created by twenty plus artists from all over the U.S. and Scandinavia. Learn how to bake Swedish cookies, do a Norwegian dance, sing a song, play a tune, help Sigrid, the brave Viking girl, face up to a dragon or just sit back and listen to a concert by leading Nordic musicians. The resource was especially created to be used by teachers and students in Minot Public Schools, but as the site developed it became evident the resource could be enjoyed by people of any age and anywhere around the world.

When Norsk Høstfest was cancelled this year because of the pandemic, musician Ross Sutter, who has been part of Høstfest in the Schools and Scandinavian Youth Camp since they were first started in the 1990s, reached out to Norsk Høstfest and Minot Public Schools in the hope that Scandinavian artists would still be able to visit. When it became evident that even school visits would not be possible, the online program idea was born. Funding was secured and the idea began to take shape. Many current and former artists who have been involved in the program responded and began submitting videos and links to other materials and as a result, the Høstfest Schoolfest web project became a reality.

The site is currently live and will be online through the month of October. It will be offline for editing and additions in November and December and then will reappear for the month of January. It is hoped that this site can become an archive for Norsk Høstfest — a record of the outstanding and great variety of programs that have been offered in Minot Schools over the years. There are many resources available right now but keep checking back for more artists being added soon. Danish fiddler Kristain Bugge, the Larssons of southern Sweden, Antti Järvelä of Finland and Stina Fagertun of Tromsø, Norway will all be submitting performances in the coming weeks.

Gate City Bank welcomes new team

Gate City Bank welcomes an entirely new team to its business banking department at its Dakota Square location.

Kim Bartsch is the new relationship banker and has been with Gate City Bank since August 2020.

Bartsch was born and raised in Langdon, ND, where she graduated from high school.



Kim Bartsch

She moved to Minot in 1998 and attended Minot State University, where she pursued a degree in advertising and broadcasting. During her time at MSU, Bartsch was on the women's basketball team and was very active in the MSU Student Association. After graduating from MSU, Bartsch worked as an advertising account executive for KMOT-TV. She then transitioned to her career in the financial services industry, working as a financial advisor with AIG American General and Freedom Financial Group. Prior to joining the Gate City Bank, Bartsch was the business manager for Clean Tech. She resides in Minot with her husband Troy and their three children.

Colton Bourquin is the new business banker at Gate City Bank

Bourquin was born and raised in Minot. He attended Minot State



Colton Bourquin

University and graduated with a degree in finance. He has been in the banking industry since 2009, having started at Gate City Bank right out of high school. Prior to his promotion to business banker, he held positions as a customer service representative, personal loan officer, and most recently, senior personal loan officer and assistant vice president. He resides in Minot with his wife Courtney and two sons. Bourquin enjoys spending time with family, playing with their golden retriever Cleo, getting out on the golf course, and going to the lake.



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City Council selects finalists for city manager position

The Minot City Council has chosen three finalists for the City Manager position.

The Council met Oct. 22 in executive session to choose finalists from a list of nine semifinalists. A recruitment firm hired by the City interviewed all 50 applicants and identified the pool of semi-finalists. The three finalists will be interviewed in Minot on Nov 4-5.

The finalists are:

- Shawn W. Hennessee, former county manager in Clark County, Wash.
- Harold L. Stewart II, current city manager in Warrensburg, Mo.
- Ray O. Agbabiaka, current director of community development in Matteson, Ill.

Meet-the-candidate videos will be provided through the City's Facebook page and Youtube channel, and a virtual open house will be held on Nov. 4. Residents will have the ability to submit questions to the candidates through Facebook or YouTube during the virtual open house.

On Nov. 5, the three finalists will take

part in two interviews and a tour of the city. Interviews will be conducted with the City Council and with a separate panel of stakeholders. Because of COVID-19 gathering restrictions, community members are encouraged to watch the interviews through the City's social media platforms or on local cable channel 19.

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

City of Minot seeking public input on Broadway study

The City of Minot is seeking public input on a Broadway corridor study to determine issues and concerns with the busiest roadway in the community.

City Engineer Lance Meyer said the Minot City Council approved funding in April 2019 for the Broadway study through the North Dakota Department of Transportation. The project will study the entire Broadway corridor.

"What we're really looking for now is input from the public on what their concerns

are and where they see issues because it helps us as engineers and planners design a better corridor," Meyer said. "Normally we would hold an open house to meet with the public, but with COVID-19 restrictions, we're instead conducting a virtual open house."

Anyone who wants to offer concerns or ask questions about Broadway can log on to movingbroadway.com, a website created to collect public input. Questions or suggestions can also be submitted through email at Bethany.brandt-sargent@kljeng.com or by calling 701-232-5353. The deadline for comments is Nov. 15.

"We encourage anyone with concerns or issues related to Broadway to use one of these methods to share their information with us," Meyer said. "We want and need public input to design the best corridor possible heading into the future."

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

Monthly interactive learning workshops presented by:



November 3, 2020

3:30 - 4:30pm

Building a Home Based Business

2020 has thrown many curve balls and we know that the future of work and businesses will look different in a new normal. As times are changing, home-based business are continuing to become a more favorable option. Whether you are looking to turn your hobby into a home-based business or you are looking to relocate your office to your home, this webinar is for you!

Wendy Klug, VBOC of the Dakotas Program Manager, will share with you some key points on what it takes to run a small business from home.

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/y2d9jyqk>

December 8, 2020

3:30 - 4:30pm

Business Plan Review: Get Ready for the New Year!

Did you know business planning makes newly formed businesses 60% more likely to succeed? Or that companies with a business plan grow 30% faster than a company without a plan? For every business and every stage, business planning creates success. Steve Moser and Marlan Helgeson, SCORE mentors will present the business plan materials. The webinar will cover all of the pieces of a business plan, explaining how it is done and how it should be updated at least annually.

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/y62lcbxk>

December 15, 2020

3:30 - 4:30pm

What's the Score? Credit Reports and Scores at a Glance

BUSINESS BUILDERS BONUS: Your credit report is a record of how you manage and repay debt. Credit scores are calculated based on what your credit report shows over time. Knowing what's on your report and how that information can affect your credit score is critical to personal and business financial planning. This presentation explains how information is reported, how scores are calculated, and what you can do to improve your credit score. The better the credit score you have, the more likely you are to be able to get personal or business financing at the best rates and terms.

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/yxj63gsx>

Find links for all upcoming sessions and previous recordings at ndsdbdc.org/online-training

SAVE THE DATE: Start the Year Off with a Financial Check-up
January 12 @ 3:30pm. Details and registration link coming soon.



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Marco acquires Advanced Office Systems in New Jersey

Marco announced its acquisition of Advanced Office Systems, a copier and printer company in Roselle, NJ. Marco's sales and service team will serve and support clients from Marco's current location in Somerset.

Marco first expanded its presence to the east coast in November 2018 with its purchase of Phillips Office Solutions in Pennsylvania. The company recently expanded to New Jersey in December 2019 with the purchase of Image Systems for Business. Marco's eastern region now includes three locations throughout Pennsylvania, Maryland and New Jersey.

Marco is a leading technology services provider with 53 locations throughout the United States. The company has acquired 47 companies since 2005. Marco has more than 1,100 employees and serves over 30,000 clients around the country.

NDFOP sponsors food drive for DVCC

Beginning next week, and continuing through the end of the year, the ND Fraternal Order of Police - Souris Valley Regional Lodge #7 is partnering with the Domestic Violence Crisis Center (DVCC) in Minot in a regional food drive. The collected food will be provided to the DVCC emergency shelter as their food pantry is experiencing extreme shortages due to increased demand for their services this year.

The mission of the DVCC is to "empower survivors to live a life free of violence; be innovative in how Domestic Violence Crisis Center provides services to the community; and educate across ages and gender in order to stop the cycle of violence."

The primary objectives of the NDFOP is to serve the over 1,100 current members by providing support, training and fellowship as well as enhancing the level of law enforcement service in North

Dakota. Lodge #7 recognizes the invaluable services provided by the DVCC, which directly serves the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. We are also grateful to the DVCC for nearly two decades of support and assistance in training area law enforcement officers in these topics vital to safety in our communities. Working with the DVCC for this purpose is a "no brainer" for Lodge #7.

The DVCC is requesting simple easy to prepare items that are "shelf stable", such as "mac and cheese, soup, ramen, hamburger helper, instant mashed potatoes, cereal, snacks, taco kits, etc."

Food donations can be dropped off at: Minot Police Department, Surrey Police Department, Velva City Hall, Ward County Sheriff's Office, Renville County Sheriff's Office, Bottineau County Sheriff's Office, Pierce County Sheriff's Office, and McHenry County Sheriff's Office.

JOHN STEWART, CPA

FINANCIAL CONSULTING

BUSINESS & PERSONAL



There isn't a plant or business on earth that couldn't stand a few improvements and be better for them. Someone is going to think of them. Why not beat the other fellow to it?

Roger W. Babson

701.833.8821 jstewart@srt.com

Member Business Briefs

First Western Bank & Trust offers employee updates

Ashley Roeder joined the First Western Bank & Trust team as a mortgage loan officer. She works in the main bank Minot location, joining First Western Bank and Trust in July 2020. She has worked in lending for the past 14 years.



Ashley Roeder

Ericka Larson has been promoted to mortgage loan processor. Larson is a Minot native who graduated from Minot High School and earned a bachelor's degree in finance from Minot State University in 2020. She first began at First Western in 2015 as a customer service representative. She works in the main bank Minot location.



Ericka Larson

Airport operations manager Stoddard earns national accreditation

Deanna Stoddard, airport operations manager at Minot International Airport,

has earned the Accredited Airport Executive distinction from the American Association of Airport Executives. Stoddard completed three phases of the accreditation process, including passing a 180-item examination, fulfilling a written requirement, and demonstrating in a final interview her knowledge of airport management, business administration, and general transportation economics.

"We're so proud of Deanna. Among airport professionals, this accreditation is really the gold standard and one relatively few attain in their careers," said Rick Feltner, director of Minot International Airport. Less than 10 percent of the AAAE's eligible members throughout the country hold the Accredited Airport Executive distinction. Its 7,000-plus members represent 870 airports and hundreds of companies that support the airport industry.

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

Artists invited to participate in "Festival of the Arts" sale at Taube

The Taube Museum of Art will hold the

Annual Festival of the Arts Sale Nov. 28 through Dec. 19, 2020. Artists may submit works in any medium and size, including photography, jewelry, prints, cards, ornaments, etc. This sale is open to any artist 18 and older. There are no fees to participate. The Taube Museum of Art will turn the Main Gallery into an exclusive holiday art venue for all artists meeting the criteria. All artwork and registration must be submitted by Nov. 24.

Artwork must be created within the last two years and not previously displayed in the Festival of the Season Art Sale. A limited number of mini booths are available. Artists may bring in their own 2' x 4' table with display materials to set up their own mini art booth. Appointments are required, so please contact the museum to schedule. Artwork will be accepted at the Taube Museum of Art from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. up to Nov. 24.

One artist from the exhibition will be selected for a solo exhibit in the Lower Gallery in 2021. Please call Rachel Alfaro, Executive Director at 838-4445 for further information.



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.



Member Business Briefs

Wells Fargo teams up with Habitat for Humanity Northern Lights

The Wells Fargo Foundation has awarded Habitat for Humanity Northern Lights a \$15,000 grant to build an affordable home in Minot. The funding is part of an \$8.1 million donation to Habitat for Humanity International for capacity building and direct mission support to build, renovate and repair more than 350 affordable homes across the United States. The grant is provided through Wells Fargo Builds? and is part of the Wells Fargo Foundation's \$1 billion philanthropic commitment to create more housing affordability solutions by 2025.

"We are proud to work with Habitat for Humanity Northern Lights to strengthen our neighborhoods through philanthropy and volunteerism," said Melissa Kubasta, region bank president for Wells Fargo in North Dakota. "Safe, stable housing enables people to build upon the rest of their life and, together, we can shift the

narrative to help others understand that housing affordability is both an economic and humanitarian crisis that's taking a toll on millions of people."

Wells Fargo Builds provides philanthropic financial assistance from the Wells Fargo Foundation to support the construction, renovation, painting or repairing of homes with low-to-moderate income households. In 2019 alone, Wells Fargo employees volunteered more than 1.9 million hours of service to strengthen their communities, including building, repairing and improving 674 homes across the U.S. with several organizations through Wells Fargo Builds.

Habitat for Humanity Northern Lights and many volunteers recently completed Minot's 12th Habitat house, and it will become the new home of Kyra Hansen and her children. Families are chosen based on their need for housing, their ability to pay and their willingness to become active partners with Habitat in accomplishing the

organization's mission to provide decent, affordable housing to low-income families in Minot. Kyra and her family members, friends and many other volunteers have dedicated extraordinary hours to make this a dream come true for her.

"Kyra has waited a long time to make this home her own and is excited to be a homeowner," said Roxy Volk, Habitat for Humanity Northern Lights executive director. "We wish her well in this new chapter in her life and know she will make Habitat for Humanity proud."

Volk continued, "Habitat for Humanity Northern Lights is honored to have the support of Minot, many generous sponsors such as Wells Fargo, Kum & Go, Thrivent Financial, IRET, Moose Lodge, ND County Records as well as countless businesses who donated materials. We're fortunate that Habitat homeownership is made possible by the great people in our community."

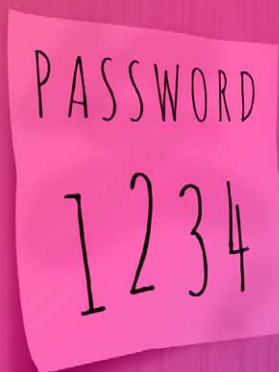
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DEFEND



Kramer and Feldner join the Odney Minot Team

Odney, a full-service communications agency, welcomes the addition of two communications professionals to the Minot office. Haley Kramer joined the team as an account assistant in March and Beth Feldner began as a public relations specialist in September.

"We take pride in having a team of professionals who are committed to bringing the best results to the clients we serve," said Brekka Kramer, vice president and Minot general manager. "Haley and Beth are great additions to the team of specialists we have at Odney."

Kramer is a graduate of North Dakota State University with a degree in strategic communication and sociology. She most recently worked with children with disabilities at Easter Seals in Fargo, ND, as well as working as a marketing intern at Creative Care for Reaching Independence in Moorhead, MN, before joining Odney. As an administrative assis-



Haley Kramer

tant serving the Minot office, Kramer assists with project management, tracking, and communication.

Feldner's most recent experience is in developing and implementing branding strategies for financial institutions. Prior to that her experience was in creating, coordinating, and executing high-impact events working with Scheels and the North Dakota State Fair. Feldner grew up in Ray, ND, and studied mass communications at the University of Jamestown. At Odney, Feldner will serve as a public relations specialist in Minot helping clients with communication strategies and building relationships in the community. Feldner lives in Minot with her husband and daughter.



Beth Feldner

In addition to the new team members in Minot, Odney has added four professionals to the team. Taylor Bjork joined as an account executive, Rachel Fischer joined as deputy CFO, Madi Albers joined as a digital media strategist and Jackie Miller joined as an administrative assistant.

Lauinger earns CFP® designation

American Trust Center (ATC) is pleased to announce that Cole Lauinger, financial advisor, has earned a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNERTM (CFP®) designation. This designation requires experience, successful completion of seven unique courses, a demonstration of ethics and a formal education. As a CFP®, Lauinger now has the fiduciary duty of guiding clients and making decisions in the areas of retirement, investing, education, insurance and taxes.



Cole Lauinger

Lauinger began with American in 2017 as part of the American Wealth Management department. "With this new designation we look forward to the growth and perspective he can provide clients within our market," said Pam Andrist, ATC market manager.

Lauinger was raised in Velva, ND, and is a graduate of Jamestown College. He and the Minot ATC team can be found in the lower level of United Community Bank of ND, located on 20th Avenue Southwest.

Learn Life-Saving Steps STOP THE BLEED® Training

Someone who is severely bleeding can bleed to death in as little as 5 minutes. In fact, bleeding is the #1 cause of preventable death after an injury. That's why bleeding control—keeping the blood inside the body—is the purpose of STOP THE BLEED® training. This course empowers trained bystanders to take life-saving action if quickly needed—regardless of the situation or cause of severe bleeding. STOP THE BLEED®, a national public awareness campaign, was launched in 2015 to train people as immediate responders until professional help arrives.

We continue to witness or experience unexpected violence and injuries in our daily lives—on the highway, in the workplace, on the farm, at schools, at sporting events, and in other public places where we gather with an expectation of safety. **Let Trinity Health Trauma Services train you in the life-saving steps to stop severe bleeding. STOP THE BLEED® and save a life.**

This one-hour course is available for your business, your school, your coaches, your family, and your community.

Please call Trauma Services at 857-5700 for more information and to schedule a class. The class is free; STOP THE BLEED® kits are available to purchase for \$20 or you can receive a list of items needed to make your own kit. Safety depends on everyone wearing a face covering. Please remember to bring yours.



More than 1 million people around the world have been trained to save a life through the STOP THE BLEED® program.

Source: stopthebleed.org

Minot State Alumni Association to honor five with Golden Award

The Minot State University Alumni Association will honor four individuals with the Golden Award and one with the Young Alumni Achievement Award in 2020.

The 2020 honorees include Chuck Barney, Josh Duhamel, Terry (Ferebee) Eckmann ('81/'82), and John Schwan ('82). The Young Alumni Achievement Award winner is Joseph Brewer ('04).

Honorees will receive their awards at a dinner along with the 2021 award winners next year as MSU has decided to forego large in-person events due to COVID-19.

The Golden Awards are the highest award bestowed by the MSU Alumni Association. Selections are based on outstanding service to the university or alumni association and distinguished leadership in the recipient's career or community.

Barney is originally from rural New York, graduating from the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, NY, then from Indiana University with a master's in instructional systems technology. He and his wife Leslie Metz ('80) have been involved in several business ventures. Barney joined the MSU College of Business as director of the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy in 2012.

Barney has served on various boards including the Minot Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Minot Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Minot Area Development Corporation. In addition, he has served as 4th Ward alderman, two terms as city council president, seven years as finance committee chairman, and one term as mayor of Minot.

Duhamel, from Minot, is a dynamic and versatile actor who most recently, starred as James O'Connor in *The Lost Husband*, and portrayed Lukas in Lionsgate's *Think Like a Dog*. Duhamel made his directorial debut at the 2019 Mammoth Film Festival with *The Buddy Games*, which he co-wrote, co-produced, and in which he also starred.

He spent three years at MSU and was a member of the MSU football program. He chose to pursue an acting and modeling career and later returned to finish his

degree.

Duhamel starred on the series *Las Vegas*, as well as several seasons of the ABC soap opera *All My Children*, in which he received three Daytime Emmy nominations. He starred in the big screen *Win a Date with Tad Hamilton!* and *Transformers*, followed by three of the sequels.

Other recent credits include *Unsolved: The Murders of Tupac* and the *Notorious B.I.G.*, *Love, Simon*. Additionally, Duhamel starred in *Safe Haven*, the thriller *Scenic Route*, as well as *Life as We Know It*, *Ramona and Beezus*, *When in Rome*, *Lost in the Sun*, *Bravetown*, *Misconduct*, *Spaceman*, and *The Romantics*.

Duhamel currently resides in Los Angeles.

Eckmann is a professor and chair of teacher education and kinesiology (TEK) at MSU. Eckmann is an award-winning presenter, author, and researcher, presenting internationally on topics related to effects of lifestyle choices on the brain, movement that matters, healthy aging, brain and learning, stress management, worksite wellness, and the power of choice.

She partnered with Trinity Heath and the UND Family Practice Center to complete her University of Montana master's project on the benefits of exercise on older adults in 1988. This resulted in the founding of the Trinity Wellness Center and seniorcise.

Eckmann and her daughter coauthored *101 Mindfulness and Meditation Practices*. Another of her works, *101 Ways to Age Gracefully*, was published in May 2016, and *101 Brain Boosters* came out in 2013.

She has been active in the fitness and wellness industry for over 30 years, receiving multiple honors over the years. Eckmann serves on the advisory board of the International Council on Active Aging.

She and her husband, Bock, have two children, Cole and Katie, and two grandchildren, Nixon and Nellie.

Schwan is the founder and CEO of Schwan Financial Group (SFG); a financial, estate and business succession planning firm based in Aberdeen, SD. Since its founding in 1984, SFG has developed into a national multi-family private office serving

valued clients at the highest level.

Schwan's passion for helping people has garnered him recognition as a leader in the industry, including speaking events across the country, publications in *Investment Advisor*, *Financial Planning Magazine*, and *US News*. SFG has also been recognized as a top planning firm by Forbes.

Schwan participated on the MSU basketball team during his college career and carried his knowledge and appreciation for the sport into a coaching career at Roncalli High School in Aberdeen while operating SFG. Schwan has always considered himself a coach, now developing his SFG team and working with financial professionals across the country, teaching them what has brought him success.

Schwan is active in the development of the Aberdeen community, serving on boards and associations, as well as contributing to campaigns and fundraisers.

He and his wife, Laurie, have four adult children and four grandchildren. Three of his children are active leaders in the SFG business. Schwan is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys sharing in it with his children and grandchildren.

Brewer is a 2000 graduate of Velva High School. He graduated from MSU with a degree in chemistry, then finished graduate school at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He also finished his doctorate in inorganic chemistry.

During the start-up of what became Rare Earth Solar, the trade war with China led to the collapse of both the rare earth markets and solar markets in the U.S. Brewer and another scientist started a new company, Rare Earth Salts; this extraction company had the aim to stabilize the Western rare earth supply chain to mitigate future damages from trade wars. As the company began to grow, work with large scale mining companies led to the development of a rare earth separations process that was co-invented by former MSU faculty member and Brewer's undergraduate advisor, Ryan Winburn.

Rare Earth Salts is operating out of Beatrice, NE, with 13 full-time employees and an internship program which has provided positions to two MSU alumni and one current MSU student. The company is active in research and development, and is working with the University of North Dakota on producing rare earth oxides from coal.

Brewer and his wife Kayla have five children with another due in January.



Chuck Barney



Josh Duhamel



Terry Eckmann



John Schwan



Joseph Brewer

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First International Bank & Trust announces Live First Community Campaign awards

First International Bank & Trust is proud to announce the winners of the Sixth Annual Live First Community Giving Campaign. A program record-breaking 134 community organizations applied for, attracting more than 100,000 interactions on social media.

Due to the overwhelming response and overall quality of nominations, the decision was made to award two grand prize grants of \$10,000, increasing the total dollar amount given away to \$32,000.

Please join us in congratulating the following community groups selected as recipients for our 2020 Live First Community Grants!

\$10,000 Grand Prize Award

Jessy's Toy Box, Fargo, ND

Jessy's Toy Box is a non-profit that collects new toys, games blankets, and gift cards. With our monetary donations, we help provide children who are in the hospital or who are staying away from home activities, I-Pads, and other items to help make their stay a little easier. We are bringing smiles one toy at a time.

\$10,000 Grand Prize Award

Ryan House, Phoenix, AZ

Ryan House embraces all children and their families as they navigate life-limit-

ing or end-of-life journeys. Our goal is to provide coordinated care and improve the quality of life for medically fragile children and their families in Arizona. Ryan House serves families of all cultures, income levels, and family sizes each year. All services at Ryan House are provided at no cost to families.

\$2,000 Rising Star Award – Watford City Fire Department, Watford City, ND

WCFD is a volunteer fire department which serves not only the city of Watford but also rural surrounding areas. It is a huge part of the McKenzie County Rural Fire protection district. Protecting and serving Watford City and rural communities.

\$2,000 Rising Star Award – Haaland Estates Basic Care and Assisted Living, Rugby, ND

Haaland Estates provides basic care, memory care and assisted living for 43 individuals residing in our care facility. Haaland Estates is part of the Good Samaritan Hospital Association, which also include the Heart of America Medical Center, Heart of America Long-Term Care Center, Heart of America Johnson Clinics and the Rugby Ambulance Service.

\$2,000 Rising Star Award – TruNorth Theatre, Bismarck, ND

TruNorth Theatre is a Non-Profit locat-

ed in the Frances Leach High Prairie Arts and Science Complex. The mission of TruNorth Theatre is to offer a venue where the people of Bismarck / Mandan and the surrounding area may grow their talents in the crafts and enjoy theatrical productions which are reflections of the people, places and cultural heritages of the upper Mid-West.

\$1,000 Social Media Stars

- Addie's Royal Cupcake Stand – Fargo, ND

- Minot Youth for Christ – Minot, ND

- Hairball Haven – Minot, ND

\$500 Additional Awards

- Angel's Wish

- Cancer Support Community

- Kidz Clubhouse Childcare

- Ben's Helping Hand

- Haley's Hope

- Elk Camp Grassick

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 2020 Live First Community Grant Program! Whether you were an applicant, or participated in our social media awareness campaign, your interest is what makes this program a success, and keeps these vital programs running in our communities.

If you have any questions, reach out to Chloe Reichel at creichel@FIBT.com or (701) 499-7561

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Jessi Erdmann named Business Partner of the Year

Congratulations to Jessi Erdman, mortgage loan officer at First International Bank & Trust, who was named Business Partner of the Year from the Minot Board of Realtors.



Jessi Erdmann

Erdmann is well known in her profession as someone who goes above and beyond to ensure her clients and business partners are informed in an ever-changing industry. Erdmann is involved in the Minot Young Professionals, Minot Board of Realtors, Minot Association of Builders 40 Below committee, Northern Plains Children's Advocacy Center, Companions for Children Lunch Pal, and the Junior Achievement Program.

She graduated from Minot High School in 2011 and then attended Minot State University, graduating in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in management. She has been employed at First International Bank & Trust for the past nine years.

She and her husband Jake have an infant daughter, Allie Ann.

Minot State Phi Beta Lambda chapter receives national awards

Minot State University College of Business students received recognition at the Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA-PBL) 2020 National Leadership Experience.

Walking away with awards were Zachary Keller, with an eighth-place finish in Networking Concepts; Katherine Klemetsrud, fourth place in Insurance Concepts; Linh Le, second place in Accounting for Professionals and third place in Cost Accounting; Jodi Spangler, Who's Who; and Tanner Thompson, First Place National Champion in Local Chapter Annual Business Report.

The event, which connects middle



Pictured left to right: Zachary Keller, Tanner Thompson, Linh Le, and Jodi Spangler. Also recognized, but not photographed, is Katherine Klemetsrud.

school, high school, and collegiate-level students through competitive events, leadership sessions, and networking, convened online with more than 10,000 participants.

"Attending PBL Nationals Leadership Experience in June was nothing ordinary," Le said. "Unlike other years, when we could travel to another city and connect with other students and professionals, this year we had to do it all online. Despite that, the national team pulled their best effort into creating an online experience for us with opening and closing sessions, competitive events, and social networking meetings, just like in-person — props to them for that."

"I was glad to have a chance to virtually meet new people, hear career advice from professionals, and especially, compete against other students in different states."

In addition to an impressive showing at the National Leadership Experience, Minot State PBL chapter members are also heavily involved in the North Dakota PBL.

"MSU is proud to have three members hold state officer positions for the 2020-21 year: Hannah Heisler, vice president of communications; Melanie MacPherson, vice president of finance; and Tanner Thompson, vice president of operations," said Jan Repnow, MSU PBL chapter co-advisor and College of Business assistant professor.

The Upsilon Sigma chapter of Phi Beta Lambda at Minot State was chartered in 1971, with Doris Slaaten and John Doering serving as the first advisors. Other faculty advisors have included Gary Ross, Sharon Reynolds, and Dean Frantsvog.

Slaaten, who passed away Oct. 11 at the age of 100, continued as advisor until her retirement in 1984. She was a long-time MSU business instructor and benefactor whose many contributions included the College of Business Slaaten Learning Center.

"Recently, I visited with Doris," said Repnow. "Doris exemplified 'active' advising by showing that she worked with the students to accomplish their goals."

Slaaten also established the Doris A. Slaaten Scholarship, awarded to a full-

time College of Business student every year.

The Minot State PBL chapter is currently meeting on campus and via Zoom due to the coronavirus. Students interested in joining the organization should contact the club president, Hannah Heisler at hannah.heisler@MinotStateU.edu, for more information.

"During the pandemic, PBL has had to adapt to a new way of doing things," said Megan Fixen, Minot State PBL chapter co-advisor and College of Business assistant professor. "However, the group has risen to the occasion. The transition has sparked creative modifications and efforts to stay connected."

Rotary Club announces Rotary 4 Recreation campaign

The Rotary Club of Minot-Noon recently embarked on a new campaign called Rotary 4 Recreation. Especially now, Minot Rotary members have been looking for ways to give back to the region and help our fellow residents enjoy all that the outdoors offers during this unprecedented pandemic.

Club members worked with an area graphic designer to create a unique graphic design that represents the Minot region. Rotarians then worked with a Minot vendor to turn this graphic into a recognizable apparel line. The Rotary Club will be selling adult t-shirts for \$25, youth t-shirts for \$15, and adult sweatshirts for \$40, depicting this graphic. All items are available to order online at <https://rotaryminotnoon.org>. T-shirts are also being sold at Visit Minot located in the Scandinavian Heritage Center.

Proceeds from the apparel sales will go toward the purchase of recreational items such as snow tubes, kayaks, kayak launch systems, ice skates, and corn hole boards that will be donated to the Minot Park District for community use throughout their system.

"We're hoping that the community embraces the graphic as a way to unite us in Minot pride with the benefit of enhancing the recreational opportunities available to all citizens of the Minot region. Our desire is that this graphic apparel is worn by locals and given to family near and far," said President Monica Peterson.

Member Business Briefs

701 Realty, Inc. adds to their team

701 Realty has added four new people to its staff since March. Jordan Martinson is a licensed realtor with the company. The Minot native and MSU graduate spent two years substitute teaching and coaching before starting as a damage prevention coordinator with an oil company. Martinson started with 701 Realty in early 2020 as a licensed REALTOR® and has closed nearly \$1 million dollars in real estate in six months.



Jordan Martinson

Levi Kraft, REALTOR® and real estate developer, joined 701 Realty, Inc. in June. Kraft and his wife Lindsey have been fixing and flipping homes since 2009, completing 15 homes to date. Kraft is owner of LGK Holdings and Kraft



Levi Kraft

Renovations. His businesses offer design and renovation services, as well as focus on new construction homes. Kraft is the previous owner of Ideal Auto in Minot.

Tanner Dockter is a proud Minot native that has spent the past 16 years in the service industry, managing numerous restaurants and bars. Since 2014, Dockter has served as a sales representative for Republic National Distributing Company, managing multiple accounts across western ND. Dockter joined 701 Realty, Inc. in 2020 in July.



Tanner Dockter

Ashley Lawson joined the team at 701 Realty, Inc. in August. Lawson was born and raised in Minot, and enjoys everything that the Magic City has to offer! She brings over three years of real estate marketing experience, eight years of graphic design experience, and four years of digital marketing experience. Her responsibilities include

overseeing all advertising and providing administrative team support. Lawson currently sits on the Minot Association of Builders 40 & Below Board, volunteers with the non-profit



Ashley Lawson

Companions for Children, and enjoys any opportunity to do anything within in the community.

701 Realty, Inc. is a locally owned and operated real estate agency in Minot that started in 2018 by Broker Associate Andrew and REALTOR® McKenna Gudmunson. With combined experience in both real estate and marketing, they have assembled a team that is more than your average real estate agents looking for real estate listings. Along with the four new members, the team is complete with Chad Thompson, a commercial real estate agent, and Ashley Deschamp, a commercial and residential agent.



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Member Business Briefs

Local Signal Realty welcomes two new realtors

Signal Realty would like to welcome Hanna Howell and Jacob Collins to the Signal team! Howell and Collins join 20 real estate professionals across the Minot area. As Signal Realtors, they both recognize and value the trust clients place in them and they strive with every sale to exceed expectations. They are both highly recommended, eager and ready to help you in the buying and selling process. Join Signal Realty in welcoming Hanna and Jacob to the team!



Hanna Howell



Jacob Collins

Zaback named to executive council for third consecutive year

Shane D. Zaback, branch manager of Raymond James Financial Services (1408 20th Ave SW, Ste 2, Minot, ND), was recently named a member of the 2020 Executive Council. This marks the third consecutive year that Zaback has qualified for this important recognition.

Zaback, who joined Raymond James in 2017, has more than 22 years of experience in the financial services industry. Zaback 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.

For more information, contact Shane D. Zaback at 852-5566.

SBDC Resiliency Fund provides financial assistance to small businesses

The Souris Basin Planning Council created the Souris Basin Resiliency Fund (SBRF) to serve new and existing businesses needing access to much needed capital for entrepreneurial recovery and resiliency efforts during and after the COVID-19 global pandemic.

The SBRF will help the lending area to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus by providing financial assistance to maintain and create jobs for: businesses and organizations working to recover from and respond to economic and financial injury; existing businesses and organizations working to pivot and/or expand current operations in order to better prepare and respond to future disasters; start-ups responding to the needs of communities during and after global pandemics and natural disasters, and start-ups taking on additional risk by starting a business during times of economic uncertainty.

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November 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 Military Affairs Committee , Noon, Zoom	6 Ambassadors Committee , 8 a.m., Zoom	7
8	9	10 CLI , 8:30 a.m., MAFB Eagle Awards Presentation 10 a.m., Chamber office	11	12	13 Infrastructure Committee , 7:30 a.m., Zoom	14
15	16	17 Board of Directors , 7:30 a.m., Zoom	18 Coffee with the President , 1:30 p.m., Zoom	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Right Start Presentation , 9:30 a.m., via Zoom	26 Office closed, Thanksgiving Day 	27	28
29	30					

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