

MINOT AREA CHAMBER EDC COMMUNICATOR



WWW.MINOTCHAMBEREDC.COM

IT'S MAGIC IN
MINOT

You're cordially invited to attend the

2022 ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, February 21, 2022

Sleep Inn & Suites Convention Center

2400 10th St SW, Minot

5:30 pm Registration | Social Hour

6:30 pm Program | Dinner

\$30 per person or

Reserve a Table for 8 for \$400

Please RSVP online
by February 18, 2022
any questions please contact
the office at 701.852.6000

[Click here to register.](#)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Steve Balaski

Interim Director, Business Development
The Northwest Seaport Alliance



Steve Balaski manages business development efforts for the Northwest Seaport Alliance, a marine cargo operating partnership of the ports of Seattle and Tacoma and fourth largest container gateway in North America.



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MINOT AREA CHAMBER EDC

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[Facebook.com/minotchamberedc](https://facebook.com/minotchamberedc)
[Instagram.com/minotchamberedc](https://instagram.com/minotchamberedc)

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Tammy Hanson, Clerk
Wendy Keldson, Clerk
Tracey Oja, Clerk
Kim Reedy, Clerk

CHAMBER EDC BOARD

Chair – Randy Hauck,
Verendrye Electric Cooperative

Chair Elect – Kevin Black,
Creedence Energy Services

Vice Chair – Cassidy Hjelmstad
SRT

Past Chair - Jonn Knecht, Bravera Bank

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Bucky Anderson, Ward County

Les Knudson, AGT Foods

Brekka Kramer, Odney

Randy Schwan, Trinity Health

Dr. Steve Shirley, Minot State University

Mayor Shaun Sipma, City of Minot

Dr. Mark Vollmer, Minot Public Schools

Jason Zimmerman, Minot Area Community
Foundation

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ACCREDITED



MINOT

*Join
Us*

2022 CITY OF MINOT

STATE OF
THE CITY

THE ROAD TAKEN

FEB 18
@ NOON

Former Cognizant Building
2000 21st Ave NW

Lunch available for \$15

RSVP @

WWW.MINOTND.ORG/RSVPSTATEOFTHECITY

CITY OF MINOT SCHEDULES STATE OF THE CITY FOR FEBRUARY 18

The fifth annual State of the City, featuring an address from Mayor Shaun Sipma, will be held Feb. 18. The noon luncheon event will take place at the former Cognizant building located at 2000 21st Avenue NW. The building is now owned by the Minot Public School District, and is scheduled to become the city's second public high school. The event is open to the public.

Tickets for the lunch portion of the event are available at www.minotnd.org/RSVPStateoftheCity. The cost for lunch is \$15. All other portions of the event are free.

"We're excited to hold the State of the City in-person again after being limited in 2021 by the pandemic," Sipma said. "We're thankful to work with great community partners to make this event a success. We look forward to reflecting on the events of 2021 and sharing our vision for 2022 with the residents of Minot."

Minot Area Chamber EDC is partnering with the City of Minot to organize the event; Minot Public School District is again providing the venue. The event will be streamed live on City of Minot social media platforms, including the City's Facebook page and YouTube channel. For additional information, contact the Public Information Office at 701-857-4727 or by email at pio@minotnd.org.



FEBRUARY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS TO BE HELD AT ARNY'S 2.0

Join us for one at Arny's 2.0 Lounge and Bottle Shop for the February Business After Hours! Enjoy delicious food, great networking and a chance at some prizes, and of course, a cash bar!

See you February 17 from 5 – 7 p.m. at Arny's 2.0 Lounge & Bottle Shop at 12 3rd St SE.
\$5 charge at the door

YP NETWORK OF MINOT

FINANCIAL WELLNESS WITH
SUSAN BERGMAN,
GEM FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

- February 15th, 2022 12p-1p
- Minot Public Library
North Meeting Room
- Power Hour
- Lunch will be provided

FREE FOR YP MEMBERS - \$5 FOR NON MEMBERS

YP MEMBER MEETUP
FEBRUARY 15TH | 5:30 PM
BADLANDS RESTAURANT AND BAR

WOMEN CONNECT TO HOST MIDWEST MURDER AT MARCH 23 EVENT

Women Connect is excited for their upcoming event featuring the podcast 'Midwest Murder', a Minot based podcast taking the country by storm. Dawn Palumbo and Jonah Lantto have seen over 100,000 streams of their series and will be giving Women Connect a look into their process. Join us on March 23 at the Arlene Theater in Downtown Minot for an evening recording of Midwest Murder followed by a question-and-answer segment about starting a podcast during a pandemic.

Tickets are \$30 and will go on sale for previous Women Connect attendees with the early bird code starting February 7 with tickets being available to the general public on February 14.

Doors for the event will open at 4 pm with the live recording starting promptly at 4:30 pm.

To learn more follow Women Connect on Facebook.

Women Connect is a program focused on developing female professionals through sessions that focus on topics important to a woman's professional and personal life.



WOMEN
CONNECT
SHARE • BUILD • GIVE



SAVE THE DATE

MARCH BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

WHISKEY NINE | 109 WEST CENTRAL AVE
MONDAY, MARCH 21 | 5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

MINOT AREA CHAMBER EDC TO CO-HOST MIDWEST ECONOMIC FORECAST SUMMIT

Featuring national and regional experts in agriculture, energy, healthcare, hospitality, manufacturing, and technology.

Event Postponed to March 24

The Minot Area Chamber EDC is proud to partner with the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber to bring the Midwest Economic Forecast Summit to our region on March 24, 2022. This summit is the first event in a four-part Midwest Summit series that will convene regional and national industry experts and thought leaders for crucial conversations on four significant regional topics:

Economic Forecast (March 24) | Agriculture (May 3)
Cybersecurity & Tech (August 2) | Energy (November 1)

The Midwest Economic Forecast Summit on March 24 is in partnership with chambers of commerce from across the Upper Midwest and will bring together leaders and experts from the following sectors to engage in a timely, in-depth and holistic discussion: agriculture, energy, healthcare, hospitality, manufacturing, and technology. Keynote speakers for the event will be Neel Kashkari, president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Dr. Scott Beaulier, dean of business at North Dakota State University, and Commissioner Steve Grove, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

Kashkari will address the economy on a national scale and touch on the impact of COVID-19, federal recovery dollars, housing and workforce challenges, and more. Dr. Beaulier has spent his career actively engaged in understanding and advocating for policies that foster dynamic, vibrant economies that best allow businesses and entrepreneurs to thrive. He will discuss how policies are integral to our economic success, and how people – innovative, creative and dedicated business leaders – are the lifeblood of any economy. Commissioner Grove is focused on empowering the growth of the Minnesota economy, and under his leadership, the department works on growing the state's workforce, closing the opportunity gap, and providing businesses and startups the support they need to grow and thrive in Minnesota's economy. Commissioner Grove was previously an executive at Google for 12 years. In addition to these three keynote speakers, there will be panel discussions featuring leaders in agriculture, energy, healthcare, hospitality, manufacturing, and technology.

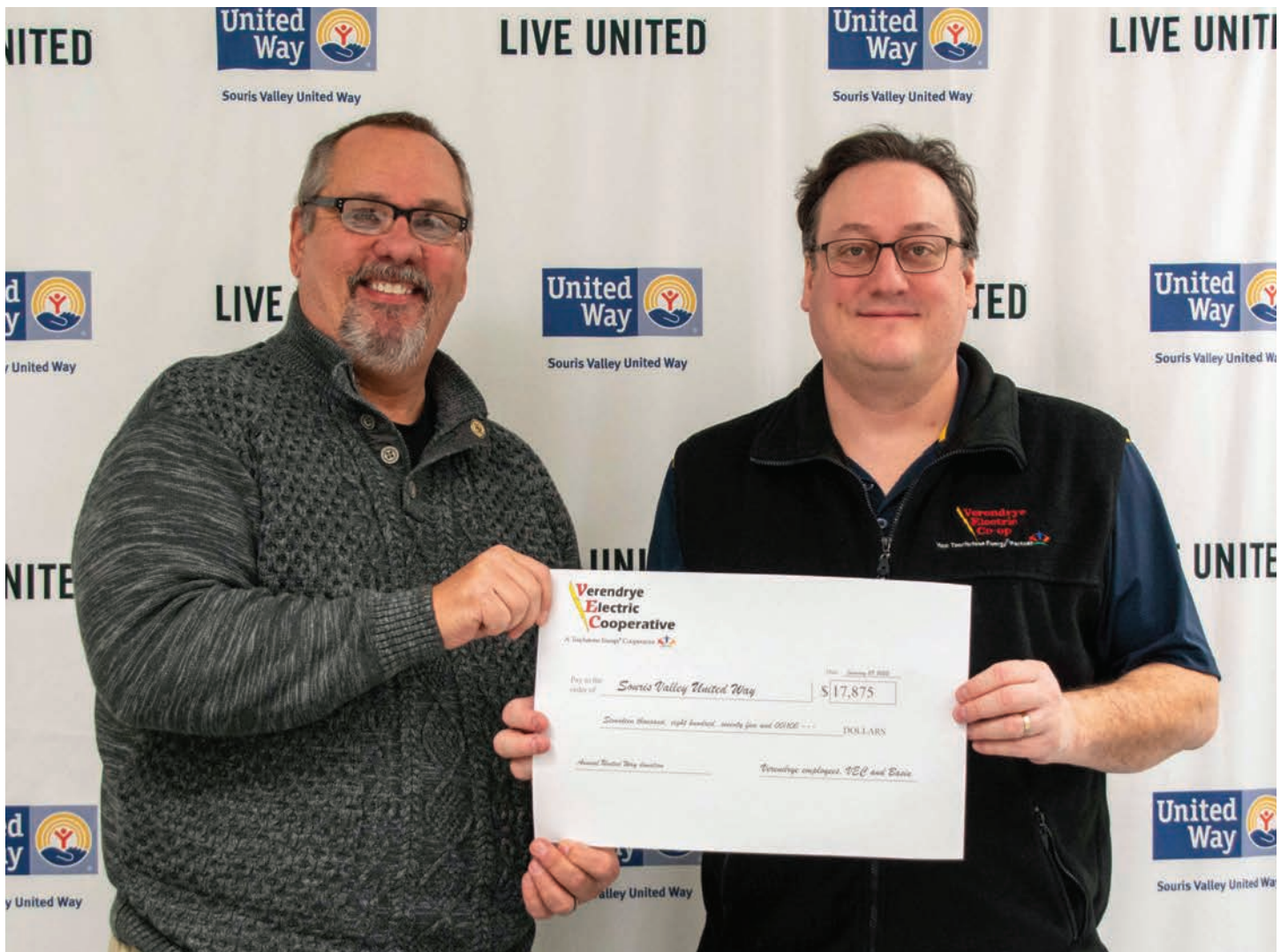
"This is going to be a big deal; we are excited to bring thought leaders and experts from all over the country to our community and to dive into this critical topic. We also have numerous partnering chambers from across the Midwest that are co-hosting the livestream of this event in an effort to inform and engage as many of their own area business leaders as possible on this important subject," remarked FMWF Chamber President & CEO Shannon Full.

Developing and maintaining a vibrant economy is essential to the continued growth of the Midwest; we hope you join us for this new, major event series and important discussion. Bremer Bank and Cass County Electric Cooperative are the presenting sponsors for the Midwest Economic Forecast Summit.

Midwest Economic Forecast Summit
Thursday, March 24 | 8 to 11 a.m.
Delta by Marriott, Fargo and Livestream

Who is invited: Members of the public, Chamber EDC members, business owners & operators, professionals in the aforementioned industries, college students and members of the media.

More information regarding the Midwest Summit series can be found [here](#).



COMMUNITY IS EVERYTHING.

At Verendrye Electric Cooperative, we are committed to giving back to our communities. It's one of our core values. We, our employees and our generation and transmission partner, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, donated \$17,800 to the Souris Valley United Way this year. Along with the affordable, reliable electricity we provide to homes and businesses, that's the power of human connections.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
www.verendrye.com



**Verendrye
 Electric
 Cooperative**

KEY PHASE OF FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT SECURES FEDERAL FUNDING

A key phase of the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project has received a major financial boost. Sen. John Hoeven announced this week that \$61.45 million has been secured to complete funding for Phase 4, also known as the Maple Diversion.

“This is great news for Minot and everyone in the Souris River Basin,” Minot Mayor Shaun Sipma said. “With funding for this phase, we can finish design work and move toward construction of this critically important piece of infrastructure. It’s been a long process to reach this point, and we’re very thankful that our partners have stood strong with us along the way.”

The project will construct a high-flow diversion channel in southwest Minot to a location near the new Broadway pump station; the channel will divert water in times of high river levels instead of letting water flow through sections of Minot that previously flooded, including the area near the former Ramstad Middle School. Completion of phase 4 will connect four other phases and help protect approximately 60 percent of Minot from future flooding.

“We are grateful that our federal partners have delivered on their commitment to provide funding for flood protection in the Mouse River basin. Federal support allows us to stretch state and local funds further throughout the basin,” Souris River Joint Board Chairman David Ashley said.

North Dakota’s congressional delegation has been instrumental in moving this phase of the project forward, helping the Maple Diversion phase gain support from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and securing funding from federal partners.

“We’ve worked hard over the last decade to secure federal funding and approval to advance permanent flood protection in the region,” Hoeven said. “This \$61.45 million in federal funding will fulfill the federal commitment for the project and enable completion of phase 4. This is a big win for the community and will help to ensure the safety and well-being of those living in the Souris River Valley, as well as the region’s long-term economic stability and growth.”

City of Minot Public Works Director Dan Jonasson said the total cost of the Maple Diversion phase is approximately \$90 million. State and local funds will cover the remaining 35 percent of the project’s cost.

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

START UP MINOT

Join us for a free networking event at the Carnegie Center in Downtown Minot on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 a.m.

Listen to the stories of new and expanding companies and network with like-minded entrepreneurs and professionals.



Thursday, February 10

Thursday, March 10

Thursday, April 14

CYBERSECURITY FOCUS OF MARCH 2 LUNCH AND LEARN

Cybersecurity is on everyone's mind. Whether you are a small business or a large corporation, hackers can cause havoc for your business.

That's why the Chamber EDC has teamed up with SRT to provide some advice on how to protect your company. Shawn Grosz, SRT Chief Technology Officer, will provide an overview of the cybersecurity measures implemented at SRT to provide Internet services and business continuity. In addition he will provide additional actions local businesses can take to reduce cybersecurity risk and potential professional services available. Come enjoy lunch and learn about best practices from your local Internet and technology provider!

RSVP online at with your login and password | [Minot Area Chamber EDC \(chamberdata.net\)](https://chamberdata.net)

Cybersecurity Lunch and Learn

Wednesday, March 2 @ 11:30 a.m.

SRT – 3615 North Broadway

\$15 for lunch

Call the Chamber EDC with questions at 701-852-6000.

TAKE A 5-MINUTE SURVEY TO ENSURE ND IS INCLUDED IN FED RESERVE RECOVERY TRACKING

The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis is tracking the economic recovery among businesses across the Ninth District, a region that includes Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, parts of Wisconsin, and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. They are partnering with chambers, including GNDC, economic development associations, and other business groups in each state to collect your feedback.

Please take this 5-minute survey to help the Minneapolis Fed and President Neel Kashkari better understand effects on your firm. With other business voices from across the Ninth District, your input will help the Federal Reserve System shape monetary policy to help businesses thrive.

All responses are anonymous. They expect to share data and respondent comments to better spotlight challenges facing all businesses. We also share information publicly, and media frequently report on the survey's findings (see recent articles in the [Minneapolis StarTribune](#) and [Billings Gazette](#)), so your input helps inform a wide audience on current economic conditions.

Find the survey [here](#).



MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Everyone is invited to attend the Military Affairs Committee meeting on Thursday, February 3 at noon at the Sleep Inn & Suites at 2400 10th St SW where we will hear more about the Economic Impact of MAFB from 2021. [Click here to RSVP](#)

POST YOUR JOB WITH THE MINOT AREA CHAMBER EDC

Finding quality employees has always been one of the most complex challenges for employers, and it's proving to be even more difficult now. There are many options for employers to post jobs and receive applicants and resumes, and now our member investors can add another tool to their toolbox: the Minot Area Chamber EDC website.

Member investors can now post open positions (whether full-time, part-time, contract, internship) through their Chamber EDC account. This option is an exclusive free benefit to Chamber EDC member investors.

To search for jobs, or post a new job at MinotChamberEDC.com, access the Members Only page from the home page.

Questions or need help? Call us at 701-852-6000 or email Carla Dolan at carla@minotchamberedc.com for more information.

MINOT AREA CHAMBER EDC OFFERS MORE WAYS TO SELF-PROMOTE

Minot Area Chamber EDC member investors can access the online directory to include information on their business with a description on their profile page. Member investors are encouraged to provide this write up as another avenue for the public to learn all that they do. Logos can also be downloaded to provide consistent branding. "This is just one more way the Chamber EDC is promoting its members by offering the online description and logo in the directory," said Minot Area Chamber EDC president John MacMartin.

Member Investors will need to know their member number and password to gain access.

<http://www.chamberdata.net/MemLogin.aspx?dbid2=ndmin>

Contact the office if you need help, 701-852-6000.

THANK YOU BEMOBILE VERIZON

Thank you to BeMobile Verizon for opening their doors for the January Business After Hours!



Our focus, your success

Through economic ups and downs, FIBT is committed to the continued success of our area's small businesses. Our business banking professionals are always available to answer your questions and provide solutions for any challenge or situation.

It's good to know you have someone in your corner. Give us a call today, let's get started.



John Drady
Central Market President
(701) 837-2208



Stacey Diehl
SVP, Lending
(701) 837-2206



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



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



Mathew Jensen
VP, Lending
(701) 837-2267



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



Michael Larson
VP, Ag Lending
(701) 837-2262



Perry Olson
AVP, Business Development
(701) 837-2210



Brittany McCracken
Treasury Management
(701) 839-2175



Joshua Wheeler
AVP, Commercial Lending
(701) 837-2242



Ashley Hoerner
Treasury Management
(701) 751-8565



Kyle Stephens
AVP, Commercial Lending
(701) 837-2256



3 Convenient Minot Locations

Arrowhead
150 16th St SW
(701) 839-2170

Broadway
1600 S Broadway
(701) 837-1600

North Hill
2150 21st Ave NW
(701) 837-2050

FIBT.com

Member FDIC



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START UP MINOT HOLDS FIRST SHOWCASE EVENT

Dozens of excited business and community leaders now have new connections and additional entrepreneurial insights thanks to the first Start Up Minot business showcase and networking event held on January 13 in downtown Minot.

Mark Lyman, economic development specialist for the Minot Area Chamber EDC (MACEDC), kicked off the event and highlighted the mission and vision of the coalition supporting this new effort. The Start Up Minot business showcase/networking event featured two local speakers who shared their unique entrepreneur experience. Attendees heard from Kevin Black, founder and CEO of Credeence Energy Services and MACEDC board member, and Jazmine Schultz, co-owner of Prairie Sky Breads in Minot at the first event. Future monthly gatherings will feature speakers from the community as well as provide an opportunity for attendees to network and learn from each other.

“A large part of what makes us a great community and state comes from the success of new and existing businesses in our region. We are pleased that the first of many Start Up Minot business showcase and networking events was well attended, and we hope that anyone who is interested will attend future monthly events,” said L. John MacMartin, president of the Minot Area Chamber EDC.

Start Up Minot is designed to invigorate, encourage and entice entrepreneurs in the Minot region to execute their business idea. A regional coalition of support is in place for start-up companies, anyone with an idea for growing or starting their own business, or if an existing business is stuck and needs some help. Start Up Minot is two-pronged, with a cohort-based 10-week class called Start Up Minot Academy powered by CO.STARTERS, and a monthly business showcase/networking event under the name Start Up Minot that will focus on sharing the story of new and growing companies while connecting likeminded business leaders.

The coalition of support includes the following groups and businesses: ND Small Business Development Centers, Minot Area Chamber EDC, MSU Severson Entrepreneurship Academy, Strengthen ND, Credeence Energy, Souris Basin Planning Council, Dakota Business Lending and others.

A Facebook page is set up to communicate information about both the business showcase/networking event and the Academy class. Follow and like the page at www.facebook.com/startupminot.

The next Start Up Minot business showcase and networking event will be held on Thursday, February 10 at 7:30 a.m. at the Carnegie Center. The event is free and open to the public.



Jazmine Wolf Schultz



Kevin Black

EAGLE AWARDS

January recipients of the Minot Area Chamber EDC Eagle Award Program are:



Braden Bosch
Y's Men's PBR



Amber Wentz
Modern Dental



DeLane Krueger
Starving Rooster



Dr. Anthony Udekwe
Pediatrics Trinity
Health



Lindsey Erickson
Minot Automotive
Center



Patty Kettel
Mammography
Technologist Breast
Imaging Trinity Health



Dr. Tyson Williams
Trinity Health

Thank you to Homesteaders Restaurant, Waxing the City, and Anytime Fitness for providing gift certificates for award recipients.

RIBBON CUTTINGS



EYES ON BURDICK

1821 W Burdick Expressway
Minot, ND 58701
701-852-8807
www.eyesonburdick.com
Liza Stremick | Owner

Eyes on Burdick is a new optometry office opened by a Minot native that is focused on providing exceptional care for all your eye care needs including eye exams, glasses, contact lenses, and vision therapy. Minot Chamber EDC Ambassadors cut the ribbon to welcome Eyes on Burdick to the business community.



MURPHY MOTORS NEXT TO NEW MINOT

800 20th Ave SW
Minot, ND 58701
701-838-2222
www.murphymotorsnexttonew.com
Jason Soine | Owner

Locally owned for a little over 18 years, Murphy Motors Next To New recently moved, and Ambassadors were there to celebrate with a ribbon cutting. Murphy Motors Next To New Minot has been the number one used car dealer in Minot for the last 9 years in a row, voted on by the people of Minot. They mostly deal in next to new and quality used automobiles from all manufacturers. If they don't have what you are looking for they can usually find it. Stop in today and see what all the fuss is about and why they have been the best for almost a decade!

MEMBER RENEWALS

Ace's Lounge & Casino
Affinity First Federal Credit Union
Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC.
Bank of North Dakota
Border States Electric
Braun Intertec Corporation
Brite-Way Window Cleaning, Inc.
Buffalo Wild Wings
Randy Burckhard, State Senator
Central Machining & Pump Repair Inc.
Century 21 Action Realtors
Circle Sanitation, Inc.
Creedence Energy Services
Dale Carnegie of ND & NW MN
First International Bank & Trust
First International Insurance
Food Management Investors, Inc.
Focused Beam Engraving
Good Vibrations Modern Quilt Shop
Gooseneck Implement
Dr. Jaime L Haaland, Opt., PC
Helgeson-Norton Agency
Investors Mgmt. & Marketing, Inc.
Karen K. Krebsbach, State Senator
Landsiedel Heating & Air
Leingang Home Center
Magic City Courier
Magic City Garage Door & Awning

Meadowlark Homes
Microtel Inn & Suites
Minot Area Council of the Arts
Minot Builders Supply
City of Minot
Minot Paving Co., Inc.
Minot Public School District #1
MSI Service & Solutions
North Dakota Envelope Co.
Northland PACE
Northwestern Mutual
Pinkerton Animal Hospital
Precise Transport LLC
Ryan Chevrolet
Ryan Family Dealership
Schatz Crossroads Truck Stop
Jim & Vicki Soltis
Spartan Firearms
Spicy Pie MSU
Staybridge Suites
Superior Auto Repair
Taco John's
Thomas Family Funeral Home
Verendrye Electric Cooperative
The Wellington Assisted Living
Westlie Motor Co.

MEMBER NEWS

TRINITY HEALTH STRENGTHENS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Elliot Leinen, a graduate of North Dakota State University with a master's in Business Administration, has been named associate director of decision support for Trinity Health. He has worked at Trinity for a little over a year as an administrative resident.

As associate director of decision support, Leinen will work alongside ancillary and support services to help provide the highest quality services based on best practice. He'll also support Trinity's executive team in the decision-making process.

"We've been pleased with Elliot's leadership the last few months," said John M. Kutch, president and CEO of Trinity Health. "His knowledge and experience will be an asset to Trinity Health. He's been engaged in the organization at every level and has been a valuable member of our transition team as we prepare to move to a new healthcare campus and medical district."

Originally from Bemidji, MN, Leinen received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from NDSU in 2017 and remained at NDSU to earn his MBA with a healthcare emphasis in 2019. While at NDSU he served as a research assistant on a project relating to organizational leadership and gained experience in supply chain matters working in a retail store.



Elliot Leinen

"I am very excited about this opportunity to work alongside various departments to continue meeting the needs of the patients we serve," Leinen said. "Most importantly, I look forward to being part of an organization that is continuously making more possible to the region."

Among his leisure time interests are playing sports and travel.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INVITES ALUMNI AND FRIENDS TO FEBRUARY EVENTS

The Minot State University Alumni Association will host two events in February to bring alumni and friends together.

The first event is the Alumni, Beaver Boosters, and Friends 2022 Appreciation Night held in conjunction with Minot State Athletics during home women's and men's basketball.

The appreciation night is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 11 starting at 5 p.m. at the Minot State Dome. The Alumni Association and Beaver Boosters have mailed cards for free admission and there will be free food on the third floor of the Minot State Dome. The Beavers will battle St. Cloud State with the women's game set for 5:30 p.m. and the men's tipoff at 7:30 p.m.

"Our alumni and friends appreciation night is a great chance to get on campus, enjoy dinner, and cheer on the basketball teams," said Janna McKechnie, director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving. "Minot State's alumni and friends are wonderfully supportive of the University and this is a chance for us to say thank you."

MSU President Steve Shirley and the Alumni Association will host a Florida Alumni and Friends Social Wednesday, Feb. 16 and Thursday, Feb. 17.

The socials are free with heavy appetizers and a cash bar and are open to all alumni and friends.

On Feb. 16, the Alumni Association will take over the Lighthouse Point Bar and Grille in The Villages, Florida. On Feb. 17, the location shifts to Downtown Social House in Fort Myers, Florida. Both events run from 6-8 p.m.

"We have MSU alumni all over the United States. It's a fun opportunity to reach them in their own backyard and bring our alumni and friends together in a unique atmosphere," McKechnie said. "It's great to connect with our alumni and friends that may not make it back to the University and gives us a chance to share all of the wonderful things happening on campus."

For more information on these events, please see the Minot State Alumni Association [WEBSITE](#) or contact McKechnie by [EMAIL](#).

MEMBER NEWS

TRINITY HEALTH FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES RETURN TO THE ROARING 20s FUNDRAISING GALA

Trinity Health Foundation is excited to announce the Return to the Roaring 20s Fundraising Gala on March 26, 2022. This premiere event will be an opportunity to raise funds for the Foundation's \$15m capital campaign towards Trinity's new Healthcare Campus and Medical District.

We're taking a trip back in time to honor the glory days of the 1920s when it all started here at Trinity. At this premiere Gala event we will reflect on Trinity's legacy serving patients in western North Dakota and eastern Montana for 100 years and celebrate the future of healthcare for area residents as we prepare to open our new Healthcare Campus and Medical District in 2023.

The Gala will be filled with 20s themed fun, music, opportunities for donating, auctions including the Purse-onalities auction, a VIP Speakeasy, and information about the new facility. Wear your finest formal, semi-formal or 20s themed outfit.

Social will begin at 6pm with dinner to be served at 7pm on March 26, 2022. The event will be held at the Sleep Inn & Suites event center.

To purchase tickets, sponsorships, make a donation, or for more information, visit trinityhealth.org/gala or contact the Trinity Health Foundation at 701.857.5432 or dusty.zimmerman@trinityhealth.org.



MEMBER NEWS

EMERGENCY SERVICES RECEIVE NEW NAME

Trinity Health Community Ambulance Service and NorthStar Criticair have integrated ground and air ambulance services under one division line, officially known as Trinity Health First Response.

Community Ambulance Service has served the region since 1981 and is the largest Advanced Life Support provider, responding to nearly 11,000 calls annually within a 2,000-square-miles area. NorthStar Criticair has provided critical care response and rescue for 30 years to northwestern North Dakota and eastern Montana through its Minot-based helicopter and fixed-wing services in Minot and Williston. A notable improvement will be the availability of First Response air ambulance services to transport patients to any facility within the United States.

"While the First Response helicopter can accept missions within 150 miles, the fixed-wing aircraft has the capacity to transport patients anywhere across the country," said Amy Thomas, director of Transport Services and First Response. "This capability allows us to streamline emergency transportation efforts, saving time and possibly the lives of those whom we are entrusted to deliver safely and quickly to their destination."

In addition to ground and air transportation, First Response services include First Call dispatch center and the EMS education center. First Call dispatch center receives and coordinates all incoming radio and telephone communications concerning air/ground medical transport, as well as provider consults and requests for transfers to Trinity Hospital from other facilities.

The First Response EMS Education Center provides certification as specified by the American Heart Association (AHA) and offers education from entry level CPR and first-aid, to advanced healthcare provider courses. The staff also teaches a variety of EMS classes designed for Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and Paramedics.

"Locating all services under the Trinity Health First Response umbrella provides a trusted name in patient care and supports a collaborative approach to resource allocation that better serves our partners and customers when they need us most," Thomas added.

Leaders within the service lines include: Amy Thomas, Transport Services and First Response director; Tami Petersen Ness, EMS education coordinator; Sharla Ramirez, chief paramedic ground ambulance; Heather Goff, First Call dispatch center supervisor; Eric Demory, nurse manager air ambulance.

WATCH NOW

**COAL MOVIE:
POWERING THE PAST,
PRESENT & FUTURE**

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=ABNT2BLM53K&T=3S](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABNT2BLM53K&T=3S)

MEMBER NEWS

WHITE COAT CEREMONY AT MINOT STATE

The Minot State University Department of Nursing, in partnership with Trinity Health, held its White Coat Ceremony in January for incoming Spring 2022 students.

“The White Coat Ceremony is a wonderful opportunity to formally welcome our incoming nursing students to the nursing profession while also providing a unique opportunity to further exemplify our commitment in providing an education experience that is founded upon compassionate and patient-centered care,” April Warren, Minot State University nursing department chair. “The White Coat Ceremony highlights the importance of ‘Keeping HealthCare Human,’ in which holistic and high-quality nursing care is at the center of all patient care experiences. Each of these unique opportunities continues to foster our commitment to meet the needs of our ever-changing health care environment, while also graduating nurses who are caring, compassionate, and well qualified to transition into nursing practice.”

The University held its inaugural White Coat Ceremony for incoming Fall 2021 students. In conjunction with the Arnold P Gold Foundation/AACN grant, Trinity Health has sponsored the two ceremonies, covering the cost of the white coat for each nursing student.

“A white coat ceremony is symbolic of a transition or commitment to the nursing profession. It is a rite of passage — a visual reminder of a commitment to hold the nursing profession in high regard, a student’s obligation to a life of service and learning, and passion for what it means to answer the calling to be a nurse,” Karen Zimmerman, chief nursing office/vice president for patient care service at Trinity Health said prior to the inaugural event.

“Minot State University is incredibly grateful for our continued partnership and support from Trinity Health,” said Warren. “On behalf of MSU and the Department of Nursing, I wish to express our sincere appreciation to Trinity Health for making the White Coat Ceremony possible by sponsoring each White Coat for our nursing students.

“We are also very appreciative for being selected by AACN with a small grant to facilitate the White Coat Ceremony this academic year. This grant also offers ‘Keeping HealthCare Human’ pins, which are placed on each white coat. This pin serves as a visual reminder of the student’s oath and commitment to providing high-quality and compassionate nursing care.”

GIVING HEARTS DAY - YOU ARE INVITED!

Giving Hearts Day is a 24-hour event for charities in North Dakota, and northwest Minnesota held annually on the second Thursday of February. It has helped participating charities raise more than \$112 million since its founding and last year alone had over 42,000 givers.

Giving Hearts Day is more than a day, though. Over a decade and a half, it’s grown into a movement that’s igniting purpose, connectedness, generosity, and kindness throughout our region and beyond. Giving Hearts Day has exploded into a growing army of people connecting with causes bigger than themselves, uniting people of all backgrounds, and spreading kindness to help others.

Giving Hearts Day wouldn’t be where it is at today without the generous, supportive, and creative Giving Hearts Businesses! Charities involved are continually amazed at the business community creating healthy, purpose-driven cultures that do so much good for their employees and communities. Giving Hearts Day invites everyone to be part of this generosity movement and join the near 500 businesses already part of this incredible day.

Visit <https://www.givingheartsday.org/partners/businesses/> to get started as a Giving Hearts Business! Or reach out to Amber DeKrey, Director of Giving Hearts Day at adekrey@dakmed.org.



Giving Hearts Day

Help someone.

MEMBER NEWS

ASPIRE CREDIT UNION DONATES TO POWER OF THE PURSE BUS PASS CHALLENGE

Aspire Credit Union in Minot has donated over \$3,000 to the Power of the Purse Bus Pass Challenge. Power of the Purse had nearly reached their fundraising goal of \$5,040 when Aspire Credit Union made the contribution from their Employee Jeans Fund of \$3,523.15.

This donation will take the total raised so far to \$8,305.25. Donations will be matched from Power of the Purse up to \$5,040. The total at the end of January will be donated to Minot Public Schools to pay for bus passes for students.

“Annually we raise funds from our jeans days and this year we wanted to make a larger impact as a team by selecting one organization to donate to,” says Mindee Kohlman, CEO of Aspire Credit Union. “The Bus Pass Program is very impactful for the community, and we are pleased to contribute to it.”

The Minot Area Community Foundation’s Power of the Purse Giving Circle launched the Bus Pass Challenge in December 2021 to help get bus passes into the hands of students who may be struggling to get to school. The grant for bus pass funds was originally brought to Power of the Purse by Jim Hill Dean of students, Shannon Ostrom. The funds will be distributed throughout Minot Public Schools to assist students with transportation to and from school.



JOHN STEWART, CPA FINANCIAL CONSULTING BUSINESS & PERSONAL



The Coronavirus continues to bring about many very serious challenges.

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MEMBER NEWS

MILLER JOINS X-GOLF MINOT AS DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING

X-Golf Minot has hired Ross Miller as Director of Instruction and Training.

Originally from Minneapolis, Miller's experience includes playing golf at the collegiate and professional levels including the Dakotas Tour and the Korn Ferry Tour.

X-Golf, a state-of-the-art golf simulator company opened its first North Dakota location in Minot in October. X-Golf is located in the lower level of the Blu on Broadway, a new five story multi-use building in Minot.



Ross Miller

"Miller is a fantastic addition to the X-Golf Minot team. His experience playing professionally and passion for the game of golf will help us continue to provide the best indoor golf in Minot," said franchise co-owner Silas Sneed.

"X-Golf's high-tech simulators will allow me to give exceptional swing analysis for students of all levels," said Miller. "I have been fortunate enough to be coached and study under some very elite instructors throughout my playing career. I'm excited to help all skill levels improve their golf game!" In his role Miller will support the existing weekly X-Leagues and host tournaments and competitions year-round.

X-Golf Minot features six golf simulator stations, where golfers hit into a soft screen depicting one of over 50 golf courses, including Pebble Beach, Harbour Town, PGA National and more. The simulators are designed for golfers at all stages of their game and all ages. In addition to open golf and lessons, X-Golf hosts leagues, tournaments, charity events and corporate events.

X-Golf is the developer of a high-end golf simulator, the centerpiece of an entertaining indoor golf and bar restaurant concept. The technology is the most comprehensive indoor golf tracking system available, giving customers the ability to accurately replicate all golf shots, including short game. Measuring ball speed, launch, direction, and spin along with club path, impact, and speed, the X-Golf system performs over 6,000 calculations per second. Additionally, every location offers a full-service bar and restaurant serving beer, wine, liquor and a number of food options. For additional information, visit www.xgolffranchise.com.

SLEEP INN & SUITES DONATES TO TRINITY HEALTH FOUNDATION NURSING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Trinity Health Foundation was recently presented a \$2,000 donation for the Nursing Scholarship Program from Minot's Sleep Inn & Suites.

"We are so thankful for partners like Sleep Inn & Suites Minot who support our efforts here at Trinity Health Foundation. With a nationwide nursing shortage, this gift will help us continue our mission in assisting the next generation of healthcare workers," said Dusty Zimmerman, Trinity Health Foundation Director.

This year's nursing scholarship had a record 68 applicants with 17 students receiving \$3,000 scholarships. A recognition banquet is planned this spring.

Trinity Health Foundation was established in 1922 to assist in the establishment of the Trinity Hospital. Over the last 100 years, the foundation has been supported through the financial stewardship of individuals, families, foundations, corporations, civic clubs, and other organizations, with the purpose of significantly impacting healthcare and the quality of life in the region. Through generous donations, we are able to fulfill our mission of creating a system of care that provides the most significant impact on health and wellness throughout northwest North Dakota.



Trinity Health Foundation Director Dusty Zimmerman receives a donation from Sleep Inn & Suites Sales Director Andrea Ziemer

MEMBER NEWS

TOWN & COUNTRY ANNOUNCES 2021 IMPACT AWARD WINNERS

Each year, Town & Country Credit Union recognizes at least two employees who were nominated by their peers for exemplifying the credit union's mission of Positively Impacting their members, employees and communities. The 2021 Impact Award winners are Austin Deavy and Jennifer Jerauld.

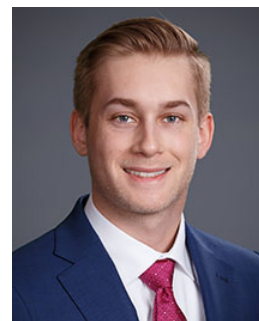
Austin Deavy joined the credit union in 2017 and is currently the Assistant Branch Manager at Town & Country's West Fargo location. Deavy was nominated for his team spirit, servant leadership and commitment to excellent member service.

"Positive Impact to me is all about making a difference for others. I have been fortunate enough in my time at Town & Country to be encouraged to volunteer and select local organizations to make donations to and make a positive impact that way," said Deavy.

Jennifer Jerauld joined the credit union in 2019 and is currently the Member Services Manager at Town & Country's Minot Main location. Jerauld was nominated for her incredible commitment to the credit union's members, willingness to learn new things, and showing up each and every day for her team.

"To me, Positive Impact is affecting those around me in a positive way, whether it's answering a question, researching a problem, or putting a smile on someone's face. It is the little things we do each day that make the biggest impact on people," said Jerauld.


Town & Country Credit Union made a \$500 donation on behalf of each Impact Award winner to a local charity of their choice. This year, the winners selected Cat's Cradle Shelter and On the Water, Inc.



Austin Deavy



Jennifer Jerauld



“To me, Positive Impact means affecting those around me in a positive way, whether it's answering a question, researching a problem, or putting a smile on someone's face.

It's the little things we do each day that make the biggest impact on people.”

Jennifer Jerauld | Member Services Manager
2021 Impact Award Winner

**We're on a mission to
Positively Impact
those we serve. Join us.**

www.townandcountry.org



MEMBER NEWS

TAUBE MUSEUM OF ART FEATURED LOCAL ARTIST

The Taube Museum of Art will be exhibiting watercolor paintings by local artist Erica Jespersen. Jespersen's exhibition Portraits of Furniture will be on display at the Taube Museum of Art through February 11.

Erica Jespersen is a wife, mom, and studio artist, based out of Bowbells, ND. She has featured several of her pieces in the Minot State University Student Juried Show, and won best of show in 2015. She has participated in area small works shows, and previously exhibited at the James Memorial Art Center in Williston. Although she enjoys creating with a variety of mediums, she primarily uses watercolor.

Erica says, "The things we use and surround ourselves with everyday have certain styles that almost give them a personality. My favorite things with character are furniture. I find that all of the furniture I surround myself with in my house has wonderful character that gives it a personality. In my watercolor paintings I try to capture that personality the best I can. I want the viewer to be able to picture the type of person I see behind the furniture pieces. To personify the furniture further I aimed for a portrait look and less like a still life style painting.

Museum and Gift Shop hours: Tues – Fri 10:30 – 5:30pm and Sat 11-4pm, or by special appointment. There is no charge for admission, but contributions are accepted to help the Taube Museum fulfill their mission of enriching lives through the visual arts.

This exhibition is made possible with support from the North Dakota Council on the Arts.
For more information - 838-4445: Rachel Alfaro, Executive Director

SOURIS VALLEY UNITED WAY RIDE UNITED: LAST MILE DELIVERY PROGRAM LAUNCHES IN MINOT

The Souris Valley United Way announced the launch of the Ride United Last Mile Delivery (RULMD) program, in partnership with DoorDash, after large-scale program success fulfilling critical needs among vulnerable populations. RULMD provides a local home delivery program that brings food and essential supplies to under-invested neighborhoods to help address hunger and other complex community challenges. People who need deliveries include seniors, people with health issues, neighbors who live in food deserts, as well as others who may be dealing with the economic impact of COVID-19.

Utilizing Dashers, delivery drivers for DoorDash, RULMD provides a safe and reliable way to get food and supplies to households in need and relieve stress and lines at food pantries and other programs. In 2021 alone, DoorDash provided over 507,000 free deliveries that emphasize dignity and convenience.

Director Rich Berg stated that, "This program will allow local people with transportation challenges to have equitable access to the things they need to live their best lives!" We are so proud to partner with United Way Worldwide and DoorDash to meet this need.

"DoorDash is honored to partner with the Souris Valley United Way to broaden food access as part of the Ride United Last Mile Delivery program," said Brittany Graunke, DoorDash Drive Director of Government and Nonprofit. "Local delivery has helped food banks and food pantries provide food and other essentials to their clients in a way that emphasizes convenience and dignity. We're excited to continue growing this work in a sustainable way for our food bank and food pantry partners across the country to continue to meet the ongoing need."

About Souris Valley United Way:

Souris Valley United Way has been serving Minot and surrounding areas since 1930. Their mission as an organization is to mobilize people, organizations and resources in an impactful effort to advance Education, Financial Stability and Health while addressing basic human needs.

About DoorDash:

DoorDash is a technology company that connects consumers with their favorite local and national businesses across the United States, Canada, Australia, Japan, and Germany. Founded in 2013, DoorDash enables local businesses to address consumers' expectations of ease and immediacy and thrive in today's convenience economy. By building the last-mile logistics infrastructure for local commerce, DoorDash is bringing communities closer, one doorstep at a time.

MEMBER NEWS

WALL RECEIVES DALE CARNEGIE MASTER TRAINER CERTIFICATION

Michelle J. Wall earned the Dale Carnegie Master Trainer Certification. This designation is held by only 150 Dale Carnegie Trainers in the world. Master Trainers play a crucial role in developing trainer candidates in addition to partnering with clients for impactful organizational and employee development solutions.

Just to be considered for Master Trainer, candidates need to hit these minimums:

- 1250 Hours of Dale Carnegie program delivery (357 classes)
- 96 hours of Master Trainer Preparation
- Trainer quality standards above global average
- Deliver Public and In-House programs
- Demonstrate and explain Dale Carnegie's methodologies
- Pass the two full-day Certification event with a Carnegie Master



Michelle J. Wall

Wall also serves as the International Training Quality Board President and on the Minot Women Connect team. If you ever wondered why Dale Carnegie delivers such transformational results for you and your company – these are just a few of the KEY reasons! Connect with her at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/michellejwall/> or michelle.wall@dalecarnegie.com.

About Dale Carnegie

Dale Carnegie emphasizes practical principles and processes by designing training programs that offer people the knowledge, skills, and practices they need to add value to a business. Connecting proven solutions with real-world challenges, Dale Carnegie helps people discover the unsuspected strengths they have to improve their lives personally and professionally. For more than a century, the company has helped millions of individuals tap capabilities they did not know they had and achieve results they did not imagine were possible.

ASPIRE WELCOMES METZ – CONGRATULATES BLOMS ON PROMOTION

Jason Metz joined the Aspire Credit Union team as the Information Technology/Security Officer in late December. Metz has two bachelor's degrees from both the University of North Dakota and Ferris State University in Michigan. "I'm excited to work for an organization that has been serving and supporting members in the area for more than 80 years," he shared.

Before Aspire Credit Union, Metz spent seven years in the IT Department for Centerspace (formerly IRET). Metz, a North Dakota native, moved back to Minot two years ago after spending several years in Minnesota with Centerspace maintaining his employment as he transitioned to the Minot headquarters. Outside of work, he is actively involved in his children's school and their sporting activities.

Lavonne Zafft, Operations Manager stated "Metz joins our credit union with robust knowledge in IT and security protocols. His expertise will continue to keep our members' information safe while elevating our entire security operation."

Aspire Credit Union announced Kim Bloms at the start of the year as the newest Loan Processor. Bloms had served as the company Receptionist and Assistant Loan Processor before her promotion. Celebrating five years at Aspire Credit Union this February, Bloms is an industry veteran with over 15 years in the banking industry.

"I am excited for this new opportunity," stated Bloms, "Working in my previous position as the Receptionist/Assistant Loan Processor, I have diverse knowledge of all other departments in the credit union." Bloms is confident in her new position responsibilities as she has assisted the loan department for years. Bobbi Hansen, Loan Department Manager was glad to add Bloms to her team, sharing "having done many of the aspects of this position before, I am positive Kim will be successful." Bloms jumped right into the new position ready to assist members.

Aspire Credit Union is a community-chartered credit union serving Bottineau, McHenry, McLean, Mountrail, Renville, and Ward Counties.



Jason Metz



Kim Bloms

MEMBER NEWS

E.J. KUIPER NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO OF CHI HEALTH

CHI St. Alexius Health is pleased to announce that E.J. Kuiper is the new CEO of CHI Health and President of CommonSpirit Health's Midwest Division. Monday, Jan. 17, Kuiper began providing strategic leadership and overall operational oversight to the health system's 28 hospitals, two stand-alone behavioral health centers, and more than 150 employed physician practices in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska and North Dakota. CHI St. Alexius Health is part of CHI Health, the Midwest Division of CommonSpirit Health which includes locations in North Dakota, eastern Minnesota, Nebraska and southwest Iowa.

Kuiper comes to CHI Health with significant health care experience, most recently serving as president and CEO at Hospital Sisters Health System Illinois--a nine-hospital division totaling more than 1,150 acute care beds. He received his bachelor's degree in physical therapy from the Academy for Physical Therapy in the Netherlands; a master's degree in health science, health services administration from Florida Gulf Coast University; and a doctor of physical therapy degree from St. Augustine University.

Kuiper's commitment and the health systems' mission--transforming health care and building healthy communities--align. With a comprehensive approach to team building and collaborative problem solving, Kuiper hopes to further strengthen, engage and empower the health systems' 16,000+ employees who he says are instrumental for growth and success.

"I believe that as a health care system, our most precious asset is our people," Kuiper says. "Without a highly engaged workforce, our hospitals, our clinics, our office buildings are just real estate."

Kuiper's top priority in life and work, from starting out as a staff physical therapist to CEO, remains kindness.

"We are all in this together. Genuine and sometimes random gestures of kindness and love can make such a difference in someone's day," he says. "It is so important that we create a caring environment in which human kindness is evident from the moment our patients enter our facilities."

When asked about the challenges presented by the pandemic today, he says, "Without a doubt, the biggest challenge is the significant strain on our health care workers. Whether directly at the bedside or a few steps away supporting caregivers behind the scenes, everyone has felt the impact of the pandemic. Turnover in health care across the nation is too high, engagement levels are too low and too many of us feel burned out. Working on workforce wellness at CHI Health will be my focus going forward."



E.J. Kuiper

GLEICH PROMOTED AT TOWN & COUNTRY CREDIT UNION

Chelsea Gleich was promoted to Senior Communications & Digital Services Specialist at Town & Country Credit Union. Gleich joined the credit union in 2016 and most recently held the position of Senior Communications Specialist. Gleich holds a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Mary and brings 11 years of experience in marketing and communications to her new role.

In her new position, she will be responsible for defining and implementing the credit union's online banking growth strategy and providing project management for the associated product launches, in addition to managing public relations, regional community involvement, and internal and external communications for the credit union. She is based in Town & Country's Minot Main location.



Chelsea Gleich

MEMBER NEWS

TWIST AND SHOUT WITH THE MINOT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Minot Symphony Orchestra invites the whole family to its live performance, Twist and Shout, on Saturday, February 5 at 3 pm in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall located inside Old Main on the campus of Minot State University.

“Having the family concert at 3 in the afternoon encourages parents to bring their children, as it won’t interfere with bedtime. It also encourages those who don’t like to drive in the dark to come out and enjoy live music,” said Executive Director Ellen Fenner.

The family concert will feature the winner of the annual MSO North Dakota High School Soloist Competition, Hayden Fredrickson. Fredrickson will perform the first movement of David Gillingham’s Concerto No. 2 for Marimba and Orchestra. He is a junior at Minot’s Magic City Campus and has been playing music for as long as he can remember. His first formal music education was at the Minot Children’s Music Academy at the age of 3, where he learned how to play piano. Hayden has participated in the Northwest Festival of Music since 2017, is a member of the Minot City Band, the Brass Band of Minot, the Magic City Campus Varsity Winds Band, and the Magi Drumline.



Hayden Fredrickson

This family concert will educate patrons of all ages with Benjamin Britten’s famous, Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra. The symphony is thrilled to have as the guest narrator, Minot native and Miss North Dakota USA, Caitlyn Vogel. Caitlyn is pursuing her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing at Minot State University.



Caitlyn Vogel

Pre-concert activities including an Instrument Petting Zoo and a pre-concert talk will begin at 2pm. Eckroth Music of Minot will be on site and will offer an Instrument Petting Zoo which will allow concertgoers of all ages the opportunity to try out a variety of instruments an hour prior to the performance and again during intermission. The 30-minute pre-concert talk will provide an engaging overview of the works being performed, the story behind the music, the composer, and historical context will be presented one hour before the concert by Tim Baumann, Camp Director of the International Music Camp and member of the symphony.

Tickets start at \$25 for adults with senior and student discounts available. Individual tickets, and Flex Passes are available. A Flex Pass, which includes 6 concert tickets for the price of 5, can be used for multiple tickets to the same performance or spread out between performances. All tickets are available at www.minotsymphony.com or through the box office at 701-858-4228. Patrons are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance.

The Minot Symphony Orchestra is a unique blend of student, community, and professional musicians from the Minot area. The symphony is directed by Maestro Efraín Amaya, Associate Professor of Music at Minot State University.

This project is supported in part by a grant from the North Dakota Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.

BEMOBILE LOCAL LOVE CAMPAIGN PROMOTES SHOPPING LOCAL

BeMobile is excited to bring back Local Love for the third year. This program rewards the community when they shop in our neighborhood and spread the local love.

Starting February 1, submit your proof of purchase from a qualifying business to receive a match up to \$25. The campaign runs February 1 – 14, 2022. Learn more at bemobile.com/local-love.

MEMBER NEWS



NORTHERN PLAINS CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

◆ PRESENTS ◆

CHAMPAGNE *AND* ICE

✦ DIAMONDS, BUBBLES & BIDDING ✦

◆◆◆

CHAMPAGNE AND ICE GALA FEBRUARY 26

This year's Champagne and Ice Gala, hosted by the Northern Plains Children's Advocacy Center, will be held on Saturday February 26 at 6 pm. Tickets for this 12th annual event are available at <https://npcac.cbo.io>.

The NPCAC provides a compassionate and effective way to serve children victimized by sexual abuse and other crimes. Families that come to NPCAC are never charged for services. Funding for NPCAC comes from grants and community donations, so events like this are vital in continuing to serve children and families.

"Centers like this significantly reduce the trauma associated with child abuse and assists in holding offenders accountable. Every year, we serve more children than the last; in 2021 we saw more than 400 victims," said Christal Halseth, NPCAC Executive Director. "This gala has grown into our most valuable source of funding."

An online auction will begin on February 18, concluding on February 26 at 7 pm. The auction will include baskets donated by area businesses, an autographed Avengers Endgame poster, sponsored by the North Dakota Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #7, and an autographed Carson Wentz Philadelphia Eagles Jersey. The bidding site is located on our Champagne & Ice page at <https://npcac.cbo.io>.

Raffle tickets are available for a shimmering Naledi diamond pendant donated by Knowles Jewelry of Minot. The gorgeous piece is .89 carat diamonds set in 14k white gold valued at \$6,300. Tickets are \$20 each and available through any NPCAC staff or board member. The necklace is showcased at Knowles Jewelry and tickets also are sold there.

The gala will begin with a cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres. Jenna Quinn, author of "Pure in Heart," TED speaker and namesake of Jenna's Law, will tell her true story of how, as a 16 year old, she broke free from years of sexual abuse at the hands of a trusted family friend and coach. Following will be the live auction and raffle for the diamond necklace.

Tickets are \$50/person; guests must be 21 or older to attend. Cocktail attire is encouraged and there will even be a best dressed contest!

Founded in 2007, a Bottineau location was opened in 2020 and in Williston in 2021 making services more accessible for our rural areas.

"Services offered by NPCAC are forensic interviews, specialized therapy, family advocacy and coordination of multi-disciplinary teams," Halseth said. "We work very closely with all levels of law enforcement, child protective services, and prosecution."

Be sure to check out the NPCAC's Facebook page for gala updates. Please call 701-852-0836 or email christal@northernplainscac.org for raffle ticket information.

MEMBER NEWS

EPIC COMPANIES PURCHASES MIDWEST FEDERAL BUILDING IN DOWNTOWN MINOT

EPIC PLANS TO RENOVATE THE BUILDING INTO COMMERCIAL SPACE AND APARTMENTS

EPIC Companies, based out of Minot and West Fargo, ND purchased the Midwest Federal Building in downtown Minot. The building was recently a finalist for the new City Hall, but otherwise has been permanently vacant for nearly 20 years. The M building was last temporarily used by construction managers on the downtown parking ramps, which were finished in early 2016.

Midwest Federal also known as “The Big M and M Building” first opened in 1963 as Minot Federal Bank. Minot residents remember multiple businesses being in this location including: The Shirley Room, Arnold Theater, Embers, Midwest Federal Bank, Blue Cross Blue Shield, New York Life, Minot Center for Family Medicine, and many others. Our current Vice President Kamala Harris was based out of the building in 2011 when she was Attorney General of California while on the disaster relief board when the flood occurred in 2011. Her name tag is still there today!



The Big M on its roof established the eight-story former Midwest Federal Savings Bank as a Minot landmark, and many memories were made by folks who entered the building's doors over the past 58 plus years. Due to its size and height, the M Building is visible from a large portion of the city, making it the focal point of downtown.

“It will be a tremendous boost to the community to have the Big M building revitalized and once again a productive asset for the Magic City,” said Mayor Shaun Sipma.

According to Governor's Burgum's Main Street Initiative, the main goal is keeping a bustling and busy downtown with prosperous businesses and accessible living. Governor Burgum's Main Street initiative pushes for mixed-use properties and walkable districts. The future of this development heads towards action and entertainment providing a better quality of life for the community. The long-term plan for The Big M is to keep the look of the building with black glass and to restore the large, orange Big M that was placed on top in 1971. The original Big M was acquired by Brekka Kramer of Odney and Chuck Kramer with I Keating Furniture World and donated to Magic City Campus in 2001 for Duane Carlson Field after the telemarketing firm Z-Tel replaced the M with a Z.

“The more and more we learn about downtowns, we have realized how important it is to restore the culture and continue to breathe life into the area. It seems downtowns are the heart of many cities and Minot's is no different. With the addition of High Third, The Ironhorse and many more businesses in downtown Minot, we are proud to join other developers who have invested a lot to keep the area successful,” said McKenzie Braaten, Vice President of Communications at EPIC Companies. EPIC received the Main Street initiative award in 2019 at the Main Street Summit for their work in conjunction with the City of West Fargo revamping their downtown area.

“The sale of the former Midwest Federal Building is a sign of confidence in Minot and downtown. The building is an iconic part of Minot's past and our skyline and we're excited to see plans for its redevelopment and reuse,” said Josh Wolsky, Interim Director of Minot Downtown Business and Professional Association.

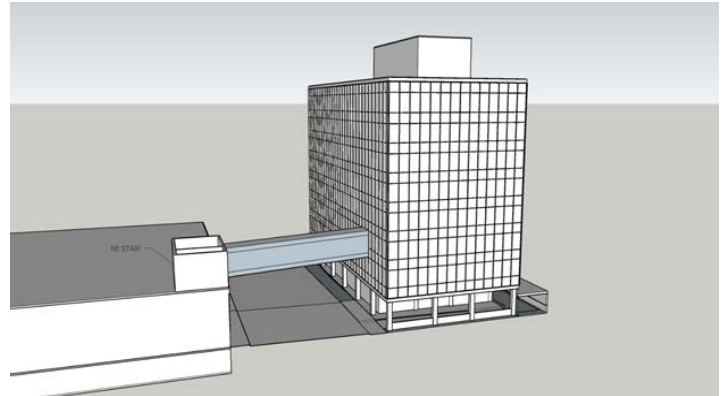
It will bring back an underutilized building in downtown and spark life once again in it, improving the vertical landscape of the area. The Big M will have around 36 residential units, 10,000 square feet of commercial space, and the renovation is valued at \$10+ million. EPIC also plans to develop a skyway connecting to the current Minot parking ramps to better utilize them and provide an enclosed walkway for residential and commercial tenants who want protected parking. Sitting vacant over the last few years, this building has not brought a large taxable value to the community, but after removal of asbestos and other building issues the tax value will be restored for this property.

continued on page 25

MEMBER NEWS

continued from page 24

“The future is mixed-use in order to maximize space and create valuable properties that cater to active communities we need to continue restoring properties we have as well as developing new ones,” said McKenzie Braaten, Vice President of Communications at EPIC Companies. “The EPIC team is proud to be a part of the Minot community with an office in town along with many of us having ties to the community. Charlie Muus, Vice President of Operations at EPIC, dad Dick Muus was the former president at Midwest Federal.”



Other notable Minot projects that EPIC has developed include Beaver Ridge, Park South I & II, Blu on Broadway (recently opened on October 1st) and in development is The Tracks. EPIC Companies has experience developing mixed-use buildings and entertainment spaces including The Lights in West Fargo, The Beacon in Grand Forks, the redevelopment of downtown West Fargo (Sheyenne Plaza, Pioneer Place, the POW/MIA Plaza and The Firm), Gateway by EPIC in downtown Fargo, and EOLA by EPIC in south Fargo just to name a few. EPIC Companies also has other projects in Bismarck, Fargo, West Fargo, Jamestown, Grand Forks, Minot, and Detroit Lakes.

EPIC Events, an offshoot of EPIC Companies, recently announced a partnership with the Norsk Høstfest to help co-promote the 2022 event. Dates for that were announced last month as September 28th, 29th, 30th and October 1st, 2022, with performing acts to be announced soon.

The planned architect of record is Ackerman Estvold with the construction being completed by Construction by EPIC. EPIC Management will be managing the commercial spaces and residential units. For more information or to view EPIC Companies other developments head online at EPICCompaniesND.com.



**THINK
ABOUT IT**

NEW YEAR. NEW POSSIBILITIES. NEW BEGINNING.



Ackerman-Estvold is seeking motivated people who want to be engaged in meaningful projects. We are looking for professional architects, engineers, and support staff. With offices in Minot, Williston, Fargo and Boise, ID, we have exciting opportunities within the region. If you have the drive, talent, experience and would enjoy working alongside an awesome team of like-minded people, apply today. A new year to expand your abilities... think about it!

View available positions on our website. www.ackerman-estvold.com/careers

MEMBER NEWS

MAGIC CITY DISCOVERY CENTER HEX YEAH! TILE CAMPAIGN DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28

You're invited to design HEXagon tiles to be proudly displayed at the new Magic City Discovery Center. The Discovery Center is partnering with Margie's Art Glass Studio to offer endless possibilities of creating personalized 7" tiles for you, your children, grandchildren, friends, or others!

How it works:

- 1) Complete the order form at MagicCityDiscoveryCenter.com (\$125 per tile)
- 2) Contact Margie's Studio 701.837.8555 to make your appointment with your tile makers. When choosing names, no appointment is needed – simply submit the order form.
- 3) Use your imagination to create your personalized HEX tiles.
- 4) Join us for the Grand Opening in Fall 2022 to see your special HEX tiles on display.

Place your order before February 28. Questions, call 701.858.7529 for details.

SOUP IT UP!

Ready for a night of great local art and food? Soup it Up will be held Feb. 26, 5:00-8:00 pm at the Taube Museum of Art. This evening social will include a silent auction featuring local artists, food from local vendors, and a raffle. The first 100 attendees will receive a handmade ceramic bowl from the Minot State University Art Department!

Prices are \$20 for non-members and \$17 for members. Sign up for a new membership or renew an expired one and receive a \$10 ticket! Tickets can be purchased online through the Facebook event "Soup it Up! 2022," over the phone, or in person.

Museum and Gift Shop hours: Tues – Fri 10:30 – 5:30 pm, Sat 11:00 am – 4:00 pm or by special appointment. There is no charge for admission, but contributions are accepted to help the Taube Museum fulfill their mission of enriching lives through the visual arts. For more information contact 701-838-4445: Rachel Alfaro, Executive Director



Minot Area Homeless Coalition, Inc.

Have A Heart Food Drive

**18th ANNUAL DRIVE TO SUPPORT
AREA PANTRIES**



SUGGESTED ITEMS

Rice & Pasta
Cereal (hot/cold)
Soup-Canned Veggies, Fruit, Meat
Peanut Butter/Jelly
Flour, Sugar
Coffee
Shampoo/Conditioner
Feminine Products
Men/Women Personal Hygiene Items
Deodorant & Lotion, Razors
Paper Products-Toilet Paper, Paper Towels
Cleaning Products-Dish Soap, Laundry Soap
(Convenience foods (heat & eat) such as hamburger helper, pop top cans, crackers, tuna/chicken salad pouches, granola bars etc. are a big help for those with no means to prepare a meal or need to pack lunches).

DROP SITE LOCATIONS

Christ Lutheran Church
Gate City Bank-Dakota Square
Gate City Bank-Broadway
KMOT TV
MAHC Office
Menards
Rick's Jewelry
Souris Valley United Way
Tuff Trucks

Monetary donations can be sent to: Minot Area Homeless Coalition PO Box 1062, Minot, ND 58702 Or visit our Facebook, or Web Page, Pay Pal link for donations made easy! For questions or more information please contact the MAHC office at 701-852-6300.

**You can help fight hunger, donate now to
support area pantries.**

MEMBER NEWS

BRENDA FOSTER BANK BEAT'S "BANKER OF THE YEAR" 2022

The 340 employees of First Western Bank & Trust likely will not use the term “acquisition” to describe how their bank leapt from roughly \$1.1 billion at the beginning of 2020 to \$1.85 billion by year’s end once it had absorbed Fargo, N.D.-based BlackRidgeBANK. The preferred term — according to Brenda K. Foster, leader of Minot-based First Western Bank & Trust — is “merger.”

The words “merger” and “acquisition” are typically linked in banking, often swapped without thought to their meaning. But the words connote differently, both in action and emotion. Consider the relational impact of using they/them/theirs versus we/us/ours. Which terms divide? Which ones include?

Foster has given a great deal of thought to what it means to choose words carefully. Speaking with intention is a defining characteristic, say those who know and work with her.

And so in 2019, when Foster was two years into the top job at a bank that has been the setting for her 40-year career, Foster led the bank through its first-ever merger, which quadrupled its branch network, grew its presence in Bismarck, opened the bank to growth markets in eastern North Dakota along with the Brainerd Lakes region of Minnesota, and positioned it to plant its flag in 2021 in burgeoning Sioux Falls, S.D.

Throughout that process, Foster — who’s only ever worked at this one bank — has continued to mentor and support her workforce. She’s also delivered on her board’s strategic desire to diversify its portfolio, and has doubled down on her service to the industry in North Dakota, and beyond.

Brenda K. Foster is BankBeat’s 2022 “Banker of the Year.”

Foster was 17 and still in high school when she started at the bank. “My first job here was filing checks manually. Really, I was the errand girl,” said Foster, the oldest of three daughters raised by parents who focused their lessons on working hard and doing your best, getting along, being honest, and treating people with respect. “Both my parents taught us to remain humble.”

Foster earned an associate’s degree in 1984 by focusing on general legal studies, but opted to accept a full-time job at the bank instead of working in a law firm. She started in customer service, worked in proof, in safe deposit, opened CDs, migrated to the trust department, typed up loan documents (on a typewriter!), and earned the notable distinction of working on the bank’s first computer (a RadioShack TRS-80).

By the end of the 1980s, Foster was married and contemplating career advancement and/or having children. The future Sen. Hoeven, who was in charge of the bank’s trust department, encouraged Foster to look more broadly at what banking could provide. The path he suggested compelled Foster to enroll at Minot State University, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting with a banking and finance concentration in 1992.

Foster credits the bank and her managers for ensuring she had room to be the mom she wanted to be to daughter, Danielle (27), and son, Dustin (24). “I obviously have never been a job hopper,” she laughed. “When I make a commitment, I follow through.”

Today, First Western has nearly 44 percent of its loans in commercial real estate across its now three-state footprint. One-fifth of its portfolio is in commercial and industrial loans. Its leasing operation, which is national, comprises 11 percent, or \$147.5 million, of the portfolio. Residential real estate accounts for 14 percent of the pie, with ag (nearly 7 percent) and consumer lending (nearly 4 percent) the last two slices of the pie.

A central focus for Foster, beyond providing the best possible customer experience, is continuing to diversify the bank’s already varied portfolio, and its view beyond the immediate horizon. Her legacy remains inextricably linked to the bank. “I just want to be remembered as a good mentor,” she said. “Part of the team.”



Brenda K. Foster

MEMBER NEWS

MINOT AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S POWER OF THE PURSE GRANT FUNDS TO AREA ORGANIZATIONS

The Minot Area Community Foundation's Power of the Purse Giving Circle held their annual grant meeting in November and granted a total of \$46,748.47 back into the Minot community.

Organizations receiving funds were The Sanctuary Sober Living Home, Domestic Violence Crisis Center, Jim Hill Middle School, Sunnyside Elementary School, Prairie Grit Adaptive Sports, and Minot Public School Foundation.

"The last few years, our group has been extremely passionate about supporting programs that provide food, clothing, and basic essentials to the youth in our community," says Chelsea Kirkhammer, Power of the Purse President. "It's exciting for all of us to see these programs continue to grow and we are eager to support them on their journey."

Programs that will benefit from these grant funds include bus passes for students through Jim Hill Middle School, campus enhancements at Domestic Violence Crisis Center, a Summer STEAM Academy for girls through Sunnyside Elementary School, two additional sleds for sled hockey through Prairie Grit Adaptive Sports, and the "Back to Basic" hybrid school pantries through the Minot Public School Foundation.



New this year, organizations submitted videos with their grant applications. These videos can be viewed in the coming weeks on Power of the Purse's Facebook page @powerofthepurseminot.

UNITED COMMUNITY BANK OFFERS COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

United Community Bank has launched their fourth annual Our Community Scholarship Program which focuses on students who believe in giving back to their school and community.

The Our Community Scholarship Fund has been put in place to recognize and award area high school seniors who have made it their mission to help make our communities a better place. Three UCB locations (Minot, Burlington, Drake) will be awarding students in their area. In total, six \$1,000 scholarships will be provided. Applications for each can be found at www.ucbnd.bank. In addition to the scholarship, each awarded student in the Minot and Burlington area has the opportunity to choose a local non-profit organization to receive a \$500 donation on the student's behalf. The application process closes March 18, 2022.

"The students applying for this scholarship are truly passionate about their school and community," says Jennifer Hubrig, UCB Marketing Officer. "United Community Bank is thankful to have the opportunity to support these area youth with their future education and the chance to give back to local organizations they believe in."

Last year, winning students chose to give to the following organizations: Prairie Grit Sports, Dakota Hope Clinic, Velva FFA Chapter, American Red Cross and the Burlington Recreation Committee.

MEMBER NEWS

APPLICATIONS SOUGHT FOR AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE GRANT

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 22

AARP North Dakota invites local organizations and governments across the state to apply for the 2022 AARP Community Challenge grant program now through March 22, 2022. Grants fund quick-action projects that help communities become more livable in the long term by improving public spaces, transportation, housing, civic engagement, coronavirus recovery, diversity and inclusion, and more.

The grant program is part of AARP's nationwide Livable Communities initiative, which supports the efforts of cities, towns, neighborhoods and rural areas to become great places to live.

"The program has proven that quick-action projects can lead to long-lasting improvements right where North Dakotans live," said Janelle Moos, associate state director of advocacy for AARP North Dakota.

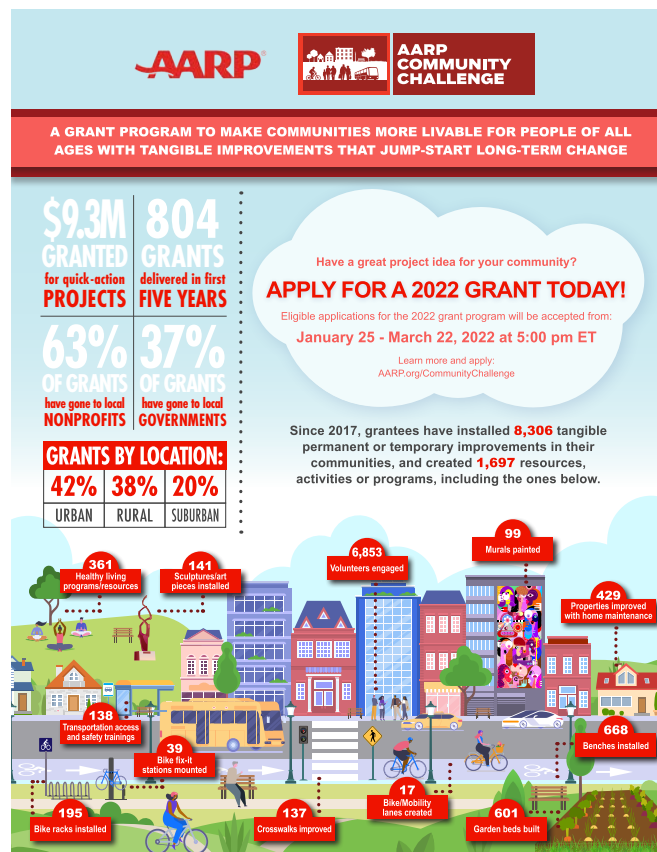
AARP will prioritize proposals that are inclusive, address disparities, directly engage volunteers, support residents age 50 and older and aim to achieve one or more of the following outcomes:

- Support communities' efforts to build engagement and leverage funding available under new federal programs through laws like the American Rescue Plan Act, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and more.
- Create vibrant public places that improve open spaces, parks and access to other amenities.
- Deliver a range of transportation and mobility options that increase connectivity, walkability, bikeability, wayfinding, access to transportation options and roadway improvements.
- Support a range of housing options that increases the availability of accessible and affordable choices.
- Ensure a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion while improving the built and social environment of a community.
- Increase civic engagement with innovative and tangible projects that bring residents and local leaders together to address challenges and facilitate a greater sense of inclusion.
- Other community improvements including health services, community development and coronavirus pandemic recovery.

Since 2017, AARP has awarded 15 in North Dakota through the Community Challenge. Previous projects have enabled long-term progress by garnering additional support from public and private funders, encouraging similar improvements throughout the community, advancing local policy, and generating engagement among residents and local leaders to advocate for change.

The Community Challenge is open to 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4) and 501(c)(6) nonprofits and government entities. Other types of organizations are considered on a case-by-case basis. Grants can range from several hundred dollars for small, short-term activities to tens of thousands for larger projects.

The application deadline is 4 p.m. March 22. All projects must be completed by Nov. 30, 2022. To submit an application and view past grantees, visit www.AARP.org/CommunityChallenge.



MEMBER NEWS

NORTHLAND HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE APPOINTS LYNN GRIMM AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Northland Healthcare Alliance, along with our partners, Northland PACE, Northland Imaging Services, and Northland Management Services, is pleased to announce the promotion of Lynn Grimm to Chief Executive Officer. Lynn was formerly the CFO of Northland Healthcare Alliance and, most recently, served as the interim CEO. She joined the organization in 2008 and has proven her leadership throughout those years. We are excited for Lynn to lead our company and partners in providing quality, supportive healthcare services to our members.

As CEO, Lynn is responsible for providing strategic, financial, and operational leadership for Northland Healthcare Alliance and all partners. She will closely coordinate and work with the Board of Directors and the senior leadership team to achieve strategic and performance goals. She is responsible for the overall success of the organization and for making top-level managerial decisions.



Lynn Grimm

Lynn received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting and her Master's Degree in Business Administration from University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D. and she was also a Harold Schafer Leadership Honors Program Graduate.

Northland Healthcare Alliance is a Catholic-led union of healthcare providers linked through a strategic partnership for the purpose of providing quality supportive healthcare services for its members. Northland Healthcare Alliance consists of the following three partners: -Northland PACE Senior Care Services: Their core goal is helping people age 55 and older stay healthy, independent, and remain in their homes and communities as long as possible. -Northland Imaging Services: Mobile Imaging services to rural healthcare facilities that do not have MRI units on site. -Northland Management Services: Provides high quality biomedical equipment performance verification, electrical safety inspections and repair services to ensure compliance with all regulatory agencies.

TOWN & COUNTRY PROMOTES TWO

Recently, Town & Country Credit Union promoted two employees in Minot.

Jessica Henderson was promoted to Vice President, Finance & Accounting. A Burlington native, Henderson joined the credit union in 2020 and most recently held the position of AVP, Accounting. She brings 20 years of financial institution experience and a bachelor's degree in Accounting from Minot State University to this new role.

As the Vice President, Finance & Accounting, Henderson will be responsible for leading the finance and accounting department, analyzing and preparing financial statements, and strategic financial planning. She is based in the credit union's Minot Main office.



Jessica Henderson

Stephanie Silverthorn was promoted to Vice President, Human Resources. Silverthorn joined the credit union in 2014 and most recently held the position of AVP, Human Resources. She holds a bachelor's degree in Marketing, Management and International Business from Minot State University and brings 11 years of human resources experience to her new role. She is also a Society of Human Resource Management Certified Professional recognizing knowledge and leadership in the human resources field.

In her new position, Silverthorn will be responsible for leading the HR department and developing people-related services, policies and programs to create an employee-oriented, positive culture that emphasizes empowerment, quality, productivity and goal attainment with a focus on recruiting and developing a high-performing workforce. She is based in the credit union's Minot Main office.



Stephanie Silverthorn



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

February 2022 - Chamber EDC Meetings and Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Military Ball Planning Committee Noon Grand Hotel	3 Start Up Minot Academy 8:30 am Carnegie Center Military Affairs Committee Noon Sleep Inn & Suites	4 Ambassadors Committee 7:30 am Broadway Bean & Bagel Agribusiness Committee Noon North Central Research Extension Center	5
6	7 Ribbon Cutting 4:00 pm Ascend Wellness #2 Main St. S Suite 115	8 Eagle Award Presentation 10:00 am Chamber EDC Office	9	10 Start Up Minot Networking 7:30 am Carnegie Center Start Up Minot Academy 8:30 am Carnegie Center	11 Infrastructure Committee 7:30 am Homesteaders Restaurant Board of Directors 9:00 am Chamber EDC Office	12
13	14	15 Ribbon Cutting 11:00 am Creative Dimensions 2705 4th Ave. NW	16	17 Start Up Minot Academy 8:30 am Carnegie Center Gov. Affairs Committee 11:30 am Badlands Restaurant Business After Hours 5:00 - 7:00 pm Army's 2.0 12 3rd St. SE	18	19
20	21 Annual Meeting 5:30 pm Sleep Inn & Suites	22	23 Right Start Presentation 9:50 a.m. Minot Air Force Base	24 Start Up Minot Academy 8:30 am Carnegie Center Energy Committee 11:30 am Badlands Restaurant	25	26
27	28					