

PROGRESS

MAGAZINE

JULY/AUGUST 2017



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Gail Ochs
Mother of College Student

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Senior Year Checklist

Throughout the year:

- ✓ Keep grades up
- ✓ Participate in extracurriculars
- ✓ Apply for scholarships
- ✓ Review college financing options including federal aid, scholarships and private student loans
- ✓ Add to college dorm collection

February/March

- Start comparing schools and financial aid award letters to finalize college budget plan.
- Search for and submit last minute scholarship applications.
- Register to take the AP exams if applicable.
- Follow up with college admissions offices if still waiting on acceptance letters.

August/September

- Consider taking AP and/or college credit courses.
- Finalize list of colleges.
- Review the application process for prospective colleges.
- Sign up for college visits of finalists.

April/May

- Select the school to rule. Notify winning college of decision.
- Find out the housing requirements/deadlines. Start looking for a roommate or select to be assigned one on housing application.
- If offered financial aid, complete all requirements as outlined in award letter.
- Consider iHELP® private student loans if a gap remains after financial aid and scholarships.
- Prepare for and take AP exams.
- Start planning graduation party, mail graduation invites and order cap and gown.

October/November

- Submit the FAFSA on or after Oct 1st.
- Respond to any corrections needed on the Student Aid Report from your FAFSA.
- Submit applications for colleges early if possible.
- Put extra emphasis on scholarship applications over Thanksgiving break.

Summer before College

- Update resume of activities, awards and community involvement.
- Try to save a little extra money with a summer job.
- Attend summer orientation of selected school; get to know the school and all it has to offer.

December/January

- Triple check with the guidance counselor that all graduation requirements are met.
- Contact each college to ensure they have everything required.



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Get Your Nominations In!



Gail L. Ochs
President, IOM
Aberdeen Chamber

The Chamber is accepting nominations and applications for the 2017 ABBY Awards.

The ABBY Awards, started in 1995, is a project of the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce's Diplomat Committee. The awards were designed to recognize

and enhance the image of the Aberdeen business community by recognizing outstanding business performance, community involvement, and customer satisfaction within the community. All ABBY awards, with exception of the People's Choice, are judged by industry experts throughout the country. The People's Choice Award is voted on by the local public. The awards are sponsored by the Aberdeen Area Development Corporation and the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce.

The ten award categories include: Agribusiness, Bridge Builder, Community Involvement - Not For Profit, Community Involvement - Business, Customer Service - Retail, Customer Service - Service, Health and Wellness, Manufacturing, Professional Services, and People's Choice. Descriptions of each award are listed below:

AGRIBUSINESS: Exceptional performance in the development of agriculture in South Dakota or which relates to the agribusiness sector, including farming and ranching enterprises.

NEW GUIDELINES - BRIDGE BUILDER: Exceptional performance in collaborating with community educational institutions and agencies to expand their workforce to include students, individuals with special needs, veterans and minority groups. The award recognizes a business that has taken the initiative to offer opportunities to an under-served workforce segment.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Exceptional performance in its support of arts and culture, sports, education, voluntary groups, and/or community service.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT - NON PROFIT: A non-profit organization which demonstrates exceptional performance in its support of the community through arts and culture, sports, education, voluntary groups, and/or community service.

CUSTOMER SERVICE-RETAIL: Exceptional performance in providing retail services (wholesale and retail trade, purchasing and distribution, transportation, professional services, communications, financial, etc.)

CUSTOMER SERVICE-SERVICE: Exceptional

performance in providing services (wholesale and retail trade, purchasing and distribution, transportation, professional services, communications, financial, etc.)

HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Exceptional performance in providing healthcare services to the community; or a business/organization that internally encourages health/wellness of company through employee programs.

MANUFACTURING: Exceptional performance in producing manufactured goods. Judging considers the relative size and particular conditions of the business, and the usual evaluation criteria of profitability, growth, and stability.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES: Exceptional performance in providing a service. Judging considers the relative size and particular conditions of the business, as well as criteria of profitability, growth, and stability.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE: Exceptional performance in its support of the community and increases community pride through their efforts. All applicants who apply for an ABBY award in any category are eligible for this award.

Want to nominate a business or complete an application on behalf of your organization? Contact the Chamber at 225-2860 and we will email out correct applications. Or, you can go to our website to download applications at <http://www.aberdeen-chamber.com/121/ABBY-Awards-Program>. Forms must be submitted back to the Chamber, along with business logo and any supporting documentation, to Gail Ochs at gail@aberdeen-chamber.com by August 25, 2017.

The 2017 ABBY Awards will be presented at the annual ABBY Awards Banquet to be held on Thursday, September 21, 2017 at the Dakota Event Center, Aberdeen, SD. All award nominees will receive 1 free ticket to the banquet, but you must contact the Chamber to RSVP for yourself and any additional guests at (605) 225-2860 or info@aberdeen-chamber.com. RSVP's must be received by September 15, 2017. Contact the Chamber at (605) 225-2860 or info@aberdeen-chamber.com if you have questions regarding the application or ABBY Awards banquet.



"I wouldn't be where I am today without Jenny and Ward."

-Sarah, Foster Child

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Give Local to Make an Impact



Dr. Marje Kaiser
2017 Chamber Board Chair; Superintendent SDSBVI

You are undoubtedly familiar with many activities of the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce and with the Chamber web site. I hope you participate in the Chamber events, volunteer for Chamber committees and seek information on the

web site. That on-going connection with your Chamber pays you benefits in many ways, the most important being keeping in touch with your clients and your community.

Today, I want to focus on a relatively new program and encourage you to use it as a tool to serve your community. Research tells us that while membership in many service organizations is down, the willingness to volunteer is at an all-time high. The

Chamber for Good provides a golden opportunity to learn about unmet needs and find ways to serve.

As explained on the web site: "The Chamber for Good system leverages the strength and credibility of our chamber of commerce to shine a bright light on the great charities and causes that labor away on behalf of our fellow community members. All 501c3 organizations that are based in (or have extensive activities within) our community are eligible to have a profile on Chamber for Good and will have the ability to post financial, volunteer and item needs.

Additionally, residents now have a central location where they can browse the needs of local charities. Residents can also make item or volunteer "offers". Chamber for Good makes it easy to GIVE LOCAL and build up those causes that make such an impact in our own community."

Aberdeen has a rich history of

civic involvement and of public/private partnerships. Think about the many changes made to Storybook Land and Wylie Park, which looked very different when we moved to Aberdeen in 1975. Look at the new and improved Capitol Theater, the Family Y, the Boys and Girls Club, Safe Harbor, and soon a new library. Consider the many ways the United Way agencies, local service clubs, fraternal organizations and church groups contribute to the strength of our community. We are very fortunate to have such a strong level of civic engagement.

We now have an opportunity through Chamber for Good to expand our reach and connect organizations that need help with volunteers who are willing to provide it. Take time to add your organization and share your story; visit often to see how you can contribute your time and support. Together we make Aberdeen an even better place to live and do business.



SOCIAL NETWORKING WITH THE CHAMBER



The Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce is on Facebook and Instagram. Connect with us by searching for Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce.

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Chamber Staff

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Lisa Anderson	Director of Public Relations, Committees and Programs
Heidie Holmstrom	Finance Manager
Korine Grismer	Administrative Assistant

www.aberdeen-chamber.com • 605.225.2860



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Northern Happenings



Dr. Timothy M. Downs
President,
Northern State
University

Greetings! It has been one year since I was named president at Northern State University, and what a year it has been. From new buildings to developing an enrollment strategy, it has been a busy 12 months.

Most of you have heard the news about our recent building boom on campus. Three new residence halls will be complete by fall 2018, and our new Regional Science Education Center is scheduled to open in fall 2019. These new buildings will transform our campus, and passionate alumni and supporters helped provide the vision for these projects. In fact, three of the four projects were completely funded by private donors. We are also gearing up to announce a record level of WolfPACT Scholarship dollars and participants. The passion our supporters show toward Northern is phenomenal.

We are finalizing our campus master plan, justified by the addition of four new buildings. A master plan is much more than identifying where a building should go, it's a comprehensive look at what we want our campus to become – now and in the future. We'll announce details soon, but the plan includes more campus signage and details of our new practice field (located east of Jerde Hall).

An important – if not the most important – endeavor for Northern is our enrollment strategy. Our new Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, Dr. Jeremy Reed, is spearheading efforts to identify, recruit and retain NSU students. By using historical data, we can determine where Northern students have traditionally come from, meaning we can focus marketing budgets and employee resources to exact locations. We also plan to shift resources toward new high schools across the region. We believe this model not only streamlines processes, but will also improve results (which is more students for Northern State).

There is a sense of advancement

around Northern State University. We have recently replaced two new Cabinet-level positions, the previously mentioned Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, and Director of Communications and Marketing. You'll soon notice a new look to our recruitment and marketing efforts, as we gradually reveal the findings from our recent brand survey. Additionally, our new School of Business dean has just started. With new hires come new ideas and strategies. We're working hard to implement growth and retention strategies that allow Northern to continue supplying regional employers the best and brightest minds around, NSU graduates.

Finally, I find it difficult to go anywhere without someone recognizing my NSU lapel pin, which is incredible. I enjoy visiting with and learning about Northern alums and supporters. As I begin my second year at NSU, I look forward to meeting more and more friends of our university within the community and around the region.

Retail Success - Does your Product Pop?



Kelly Weaver
Regional Director,
Small Business
Development Center

Products, even unique products, can no longer be a store's main competitive advantage today as customers desire a retail 'experience', so say "Shops that Pop!" authors Danziger and Lorenzetti. Rather it is the way products are

sold than the products themselves that is the differentiator.

Various principles can be employed to create the unique shopping experience today's shoppers are looking for. Create displays throughout the store, not just in the front window, that tell a story about

how your products can be used. Keep the experience fresh with new product and daily and weekly specials that give customers a reason to come and that showcase something new in your store. Find ways to personalize your product or consider private labeling. Involve customers in the process by offering classes or demonstrations or showing them how things are made. Throughout these activities, create an attitude for your store. Create your brand, your niche, what is unique about your experience.

Here are some easy first steps can you take to implement these ideas. Step outside your front door and look at the display. How long has it been in place? What does it say about your store? What story does it tell your customers? Next,

walk in the front door. What is the first thing you see, and what does it say about your store? Does it relate to the story told in the outside display? What three things could you do to make the inside more inviting or interesting? Lastly, walk through your store and gather 3-5 different things that are related or could be used together and create a display by the front counter. Can you personalize it or make a gift package of it?

The goal is to make a trip to your store an experience. Tell stories that interest the customer and are consistent with your vision of your store. Use your displays to make your business memorable and create connections with customers and you'll be on your way to a 'shop that pops'.

PC Welcomes College's First Graduate-Level Program Director



Tim Beckham
Director of
Marketing,
Presentation College

For Dr. Betty Leslie, PC's first Master of Science in Nursing Program Director, becoming a nurse was a "calling" she felt in high school when she joined a Future Medical Careers Club.

"When the nurses came in and talked about how they needed math, science, and English skills, I was intrigued," she said. "These nurses were smart, talented, and passionate about caring for people. I knew I could pull together all of my strong suits into one wonderful career with nursing."

Dr. Leslie's first project at PC will be to develop the Master of Science in Nursing program. The program will have two tracks: Family Nurse Practitioner, and Nurse Educator. She says there is a growing need for both, especially in rural areas of the

U.S.

"Patients in rural areas have to go without care, wait long periods of time, or drive long distances to be seen," she said. "The Institute of Medicine, in its Future of Nursing Report, charged nursing programs across the United States to educate more Family Nurse Practitioners (FNPs) to help ease the burden of the primary caregiver shortage... There is also a severe nurse educator shortage right now that is intensifying as many nurse educators are nearing retirement."

Dr. Leslie believes Presentation College has a unique asset in the brand-new Avera Simulation Center, "a simulation center that is far more advanced than any in the region. Students will work alongside PC's other healthcare discipline students including radiology technicians, surgical technicians, and medical assistants while working on live simulations."



Dr. Leslie comes to Presentation College with a PhD in Nursing from the University of Phoenix, a Master of Science in Nursing: Leadership in Healthcare Systems with an Education Focus, from Regis University in Denver, CO and a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, NY.

Reinvigorating our Community with Art



Lauren Bittner
Director of Operations
and Business
Development,
Aberdeen Development
Corporation

"Art pulls a community together... Art makes you feel differently." That's what artists are doing all the time, shifting and changing the way you see life." - Lister Sinclair

Have you ever looked at a piece of art and found yourself feeling inspired, motivated and reinvigorated?

For most people, the answer to this question is yes. Those feelings of inspiration and motivation are something that the Aberdeen Development Corporation is working to bring to our downtown by partnering with local artists at the high school, college and professional level.

With the construction of the Workshop on Main Street we have developed two artist-in-residence

programs with Central High School and Northern State University as well as created The Art Gallery on Main which features various artists from the local Art CO-OP. Currently, we have artist-in-residence displays from Molly Fesler, a recent Central High School graduate, and Alexis Doerr, a recent graduate of Northern State University.

These artists and their work bring a certain uniqueness and creative style that challenges the main stream way of thinking. We can learn a lot from these artists and apply their creativity to our everyday lives. Are we thinking creatively about solutions to our problems? Are we challenging the way we see the world and the way those around us see it? Do we revert back to the way it's always been done, or do we think about improving that process and look to the future for our answers?

As we all continue to look for ways to make progress in this great city that we call home, I encourage you to



Alexis Doerr, artist-in-residence at The Workshop

stop in the Workshop and take a few minutes to think creatively. As the newest member of the ADC staff, I would love to see you and hear from you about how we can continue building on our past success. By working with our local artists and channeling their motivation and inspiration, we can reinvigorate our community and ensure that Aberdeen's future is bright!

COLLEGEpalooza Caps Off Busy Summer for NSU

Aberdeen's second annual COLLEGEpalooza will take place Thursday, Aug. 31, 2017.

COLLEGEpalooza is a back-to-school celebration for Northern State University and Presentation College students. Events will take place in downtown Aberdeen and will include:
 4-6 p.m.: Business walk
 5:30 p.m.: Guns 'n Hoses Tug of War
 5:45 p.m.: Scholarship drawings

COLLEGEpalooza is a collaborative effort including the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce, Aberdeen Downtown Association, NSU, PC and Plains Commerce Bank.

NSU will host several other events this summer, including:

NSU Men's Basketball Camps:
 Boys Shooting and Scoring Day/Boarding Camp, 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m., July 9-11; Boys Perimeter and Post Position Day/Boarding Camp, 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m. July 11-13; Boys Team Camp, July 14-15.

NSU Women's Basketball Camp:
 Girls Team Camp, July 17-18.

Arts Education Institute: This annu-

al institute, which offers professional development and learning for South Dakota teachers and administrators, runs July 17-20 on the NSU campus.

NSU Voice Camp: This annual camp for students in grades 7-12 will be held July 19-22 at NSU. Students can take voice lessons and classes exploring many vocal styles – classical, opera, jazz and musical theater – in a fun and creative way.

NSU Jazz Camp: At this camp, also held July 19-22, students in grades 7-12 will have the opportunity to play in various jazz groups, take lessons, learn about improvisation, enjoy social and recreational activities and participate in nightly jam sessions.

NSU Football Camp: 7-on-7 Passing Tournament, July 26, 8:30 a.m. check-in, games start at 9:15 a.m., Swisher Field.

Rushmore National Music Camp:
Junior High Week: NSU welcomes Rushmore Junior High Music Camp, open to band students in grades 6-9, July 30-Aug 4.



South Dakota High School Honors Choir: Honors Choir, which brings 150 auditioned high school students together for a week of intensive singing at a choral camp, is July 30-Aug. 4 at NSU.

Confucius Institute Chinese Camp: This new program for K-5 students will feature Chinese language education, activities and games. The camp will take place 8-11:30 a.m. July 31-Aug 4. Cost is \$25 per student. To register, contact the Confucius Institute at 605-626-3293 or confucius@northern.edu by July 21.

For information on all fine arts camps at NSU, visit www.northern.edu/academics/school-fine-arts/fine-arts-clinics-camps-and-workshops. For information on all NSU Wolves camps, visit <http://nsuwolves.com/sports/2017/5/17/northern-state-summer-camps.aspx?id=365>.

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Leadership Aberdeen Graduates 30th Class



On Tuesday, April 25th, 34 individuals graduated as the 30th Leadership Aberdeen class with a ceremony at the Best Western Ramkota. Since the inception of the program, 753 people have completed it and are now Leadership Aberdeen alumni.

The recipient of the Dale Stein Leadership Through Service Award was Steven Huettl of JDH Construction. This award has been presented to one member of the Leadership Aberdeen class since 2004 to honor the memory of Dale and is underwritten by the Leadership Aberdeen Alumni working at Avera St. Luke's. Angie Cleberg with the United Way of Northeast South Dakota was chosen to receive the Honoring Sharon Scholarship, given by Glenn Jakober in memory of his wife, Sharon.

This year's class project was the Day of Distinction, which focused on personal and professional development topics which are vital to individual growth and an organization's success. The main purpose of this "Day" was to allow employers to provide employees with low-cost, high-quality training right here in Aberdeen, without incurring excessive travel expenses. The Day of Distinction was held April 21st at the Best Western Ramkota Convention Center and included five speakers.

Congratulations to the Leadership Aberdeen Class of 2017! Your employers, the Chamber and our entire community are fortunate to have you share your talents with us.



Steve Huettl, JDH Construction, recipient of the Dale Stein Leadership Through Service Award



Angie Cleberg, United Way of Northeast South Dakota, recipient of the Honoring Sharon Scholarship, with Glenn Jakober

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2017 BUSINESS PARTNERS



CHAMBER BIG DATES

Ag Committee

Thursday, July 20, Noon, SDSU Extension
Thursday, August 17, Noon, SDSU Extension

Ambassadors

Tuesday, July 11, Noon, TBD

Business After Hours

Thursday, July 6, 5:15 pm, Parking Lot North of
Dacotah Prairie Museum

CART

Thursday mornings every week, 8:30 am, Chamber

Chamber Executive Board

Thursday, July 13, Noon, Chamber
Thursday, August 10, Noon, Chamber

Chamber Full Board

Wednesday, July 19, 8:00 am, Chamber
Wednesday, August 16, 8:00 am, Chamber

COLLEGEpalooza

Thursday, August 31, Downtown Aberdeen

Community Affairs Committee

Thursday, July 6, Noon, Best Western Ramkota
Thursday, August 3, Noon, Best Western Ramkota

Consumer Ag Breakfast

Sunday, August 20, Clubhouse at Brown County
Fairgrounds

Diplomats

Thursday, July 6, 3:00 pm, Chamber

Health & Wellness Committee

Wednesday, July 5, 8:00 am, NSU
Wednesday, September 6, 8:00 am, TBD

Military & Veterans Committee

Tuesday, July 11, Noon, National Guard Armory
Tuesday, September 5, Noon, National Guard
Armory

New Faculty Luncheon

Monday, August 14, Noon, Dakota Event Center

Partners in Community Pride Committee

Friday, July 7, 9:00 am, Chamber
Friday, August 4, 9:00 am, Chamber

The Connection (Disability Task Force)

Wednesday, July 19, 2:00 pm, The Workshop
Wednesday, August 16, 2:00 pm, The Workshop

Transportation Committee

Tuesday, July 25, 3:30 pm, Chamber

Workforce & Education Committee

Wednesday, July 19, 3:30 pm, Chamber

The Chamber office will be closed
Monday, September 4th,
for the Labor Day holiday.

Congrats!

Health & Wellness Committee Holds Symposium

Cancer and other chronic diseases were the subject of a symposium held at Johnson Fine Arts Center on the campus of Northern State University on Tuesday, June 13th. Approximately 150 people attended the free educational event titled Cancer & Chronic Disease – How to Take Control. Speakers from the SDSU Extension Office, Northern State University and Avera were on hand to share information about chronic disease self-management, the future of re-



search and careers in science fields as well as gene sequencing and how it influences cancer treatment and the possibility of a cure. More events are planned in the future with additional health and wellness topics.



PICP Committee Recognizes Beautification

Each month, the Chamber's Partners in Community Pride Committee recognizes local businesses that have invested in the beautification of our community by making improvements to their property. Advance Auto Parts' west store was chosen in May for improvements made to their property at 612 6th Ave SW.

Recognized businesses receive a window cling to display. Look for them as you visit area businesses and thank them for being a partner in community pride!



CHAMBER COMMITTEES & TASK FORCES:

AGRIBUSINESS COMMITTEE

The mission of the Agribusiness Committee is to promote agriculture as a major segment of the local economy, to address and educate the membership on issues important to agriculture, to unite and network groups through ag-related programs and events, and to recognize outstanding achievements in agriculture.

AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE

The mission of the Committee is to promote a positive community image and serve as goodwill ambassadors at Chamber and community functions such as ribbon cuttings, new business openings, ground breakings, business relocations, and other networking events. (Committee selection done on a nomination basis). The Ambassadors also host the Community Champions Awards Luncheon.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The mission of the committee is to open up a dialogue and provide education on a broad range of issues which affect the business community; increase communication and collaboration between business and governmental entities; break down barriers; and advocate to elected officials on the local, state and federal levels.

DIPLOMAT COMMITTEE

The mission of the Diplomat Committee is to strengthen membership engagement and retention by visiting current members and facilitating communication to and

from members, helping to identify member concerns, and garnering support for the Chamber. (Committee selection is done on a nomination basis). The committee also facilitates the annual ABBY Awards program and raises scholarship funds for the Leadership Aberdeen program.

HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

The mission of the Health & Wellness Committee is to implement business-healthcare partnerships and programs to promote workplace wellness and inspire healthy lifestyle choices through education and initiatives. The committee also produces an annual Health and Wellness Directory for the community.

MILITARY & VETERANS COMMITTEE

The mission of the Military & Veterans Committee is to promote a positive working relationship among the community, employers and area military and veterans' groups while heightening awareness of the military and veteran presence and needs in the community.

PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY PRIDE COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Partners in Community Pride Committee is to coordinate projects that serve to beautify the community and enhance our quality of life; educate the public on related issues which affect them such as regulations, codes, and new efforts; and to recognize and promote business and community development projects.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The Transportation Committee is the Chamber's primary business voice on transportation issues of importance locally, regionally, and nationally. The committee meets monthly to gather information from transportation experts in all areas of transportation including ground, rail, and air; analyze the information presented and determine how the Aberdeen Chamber can have an impact; and to share pertinent information with business people in the community.

WORKFORCE & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The mission of the Workforce & Education Committee is to facilitate and support activities related to business-education partnerships, youth engagement and workforce recruitment and retention. The committee also addresses educational and training needs of the business community.

THE EDGE TASK FORCE

Explore. Discover. Grow. Engage. The mission of the task force is to assist Chamber staff with the development of local educational and networking activities and events targeted at young professionals and start-up entrepreneurs; implementation of social media ideas and concepts for the Chamber and community; and coordinating efforts with the Aberdeen Development and other area organizations working towards common mission.

KEEP IT LOCAL TASK FORCE

The mission of the task force is to assist Chamber staff in promoting Aberdeen businesses, resources, and events through collaborative marketing efforts to include promotion of NEW Aberdeen Gift Card and Chamber For Good programs. The group will also work to continue educating the general public about the economic benefits of shopping and buying locally.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

The mission of the task force will be to evaluate the current Leadership Aberdeen program and discuss additional training opportunities that could be included; develop a scholarship program to offset costs for state-wide leadership opportunities for Aberdeen participants; and to coordinate efforts with other organizations and businesses to grow leadership skills of our citizens and expand leadership training opportunities that will positively impact our community and state.

WOMAN OF SPIRIT TASK FORCE

The task force is made up of previous Woman of Spirit (Athena) winners who now select the winner in Aberdeen. The Woman of Spirit recognizes an individual for business or professional accomplishments, community service and especially mentoring others and providing a role model to encourage women to achieve their full leadership potential. The Woman of Spirit Award is presented at the Community Champions luncheon held in February of each year.

ADA Signing Celebration at July Event



Eric Vetter
 Century 21 &
 rentaberdeen.com
 Member of the PICP
 Committee

On July 26th, 1990, I was 13-years-old. I'm sure that day was like every other one I had lived prior as a carefree kid in a small town enjoying the activities of summer, like sleeping late and playing Atari. Little did I know that in

Washington, DC, something major was happening which would affect me and my future. It was the day the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed. Just 3 short years after this law was passed, I was in a serious motorcycle accident and became a paraplegic.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a revolutionary piece of legislation designed to protect the civil rights of people who have physical and mental disabilities, in a manner similar to that in which previ-

ous civil rights laws have protected people of various races, religions and ethnic backgrounds. The ADA mandates changes in the way that private business and government agencies conduct business. This ensures that all Americans have full access to, and can participate in, all aspects of society.

Prior to 1990, if I had gone into my favorite department store to shop and needed to use the restroom, chances are it would not be accessible and I would have not been able to use it.

Think about if every time you left your house you had to return home to use the restroom. How often would you go somewhere? One of the aspects of what the ADA did was to tell the general public and the government anytime something was built or remodeled it needed to be accessible for every individual, not just those who were non-disabled.

For the last two years in July, the Aberdeen Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabili-

ties partners with Dan Cleberg, The Red Rooster and the Fallout Creative Community to celebrate the signing of the ADA. The committee provides hotdogs, chips and cotton candy, which are free to the community. There is square dancing in the streets, hula hooping, amazing karaoke performances and other music provided by the Better Ride Band. Better Ride started years ago as a month-long project for people with disabilities to write music and has now grown to over 100 members who are both disabled and non-disabled.

Please watch the Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities' Facebook page for this free event in July. Come celebrate the positive impact the signing of the ADA has had for all of us and learn more about the committee and how we assist individuals in Aberdeen through advocacy, education and awareness. www.facebook.com/Aberdeenmayorsadvisorycommittee

New Weather Program

Weather plays a big role in any outdoor event. When combined with large gatherings of people, it becomes even more difficult. The Brown County Emergency Management office and the National Weather Service have teamed up to help remove some of the guess work and help ensure public safety if severe weather were to strike.



- Components of this program include:
- BCEM Planning – pre-planning and trigger points to help you decide when to make the important call
 - BCEM Logistics – a portable weather radio, lighting detector and portable weather station are available to use during your event
 - NWS Forecast Briefings – meteorologists can provide weather forecast briefings before, during and after your event
 - NWS Weather Watch – you will be notified if hazardous weather is within a designated distance of your event

Sign up is simple and everything is free of charge. Just go to www.weather.gov/abr/eventsupport to get started. Then enjoy your time outside this summer knowing you have taken the initiative to be prepared!

If you have any questions about this program, contact Scott Meints, Brown County Emergency Manager, at 605-626-7122 or Kelly Serr, NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist at 605-229-6884.

Aspire Foundation, Inc

Annual Golf Benefit

Friday ~ August 4th, 2017

Lee Park Golf Course
 Registration begins at 12:00pm. Shotgun start at 1pm.

The Aspire Foundation provides financial support to Aspire, Inc. We are a non-profit organization with a mission to create opportunities for people with disabilities to enhance the community.

Tournament Fees: \$400.00 per 4-person team
 This includes green fees, cart and meal (after tournament).
 For more information or to register, call Janae at 605-229-0263 ext. 1007

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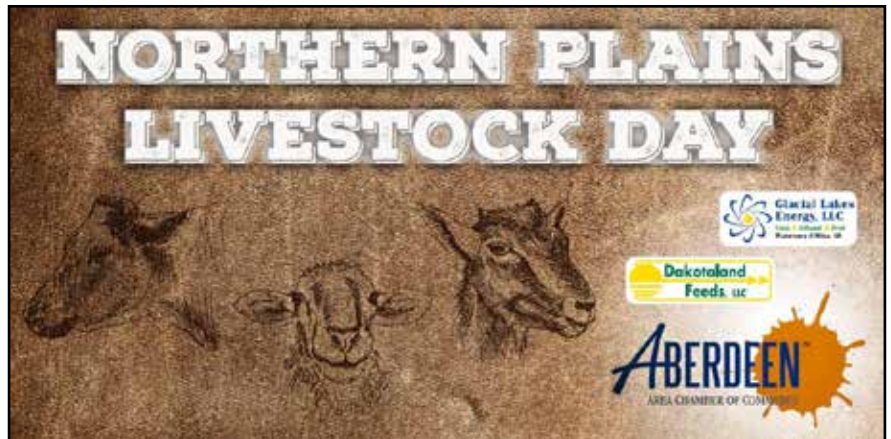
Curt Mitchell
605-725-6200

2017 Northern Plains Livestock Day

The Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce's Ag Committee hosted the 2017 Northern Plains Livestock Day on Saturday, June 3rd, at the Brown County Fairgrounds. NPLD is a beef, lamb and goat show sanctioned by the South Dakota Junior Points Association.

It was a perfect summer day for 63 participants from 34 different communities as they showed 147 head of livestock. Some of the lessons the youth learn from showing livestock competitively include responsibility, confidence, patience and sportsmanship. In addition, they build social relationships and gain knowledge about the ag industry.

NPLD wouldn't be possible without the businesses who understand the importance of this program. Major sponsors this year were Glacial Lakes Energy and Dakotaland Feeds. The Ag Committee also sends a big thank you to supporting sponsors: Artz Equipment, Concord Grain, Crawford Trucks & Equipment, Dacotah Bank, Dakota Broadcasting, Farm Credit Services of America, Farm Forum, First State Bank of Warner, Hub City Livestock, Insurance Plus, Jakob Limousin, North Central Farmers Elevator, Northern Plains Animal Health, Plains Commerce Bank, Premier Tax & Bookkeeping, RDO Equipment Company, Sioux Nation Ag Center, Thorpe Realty & Auction, Traxinger Simmentals and Wells Fargo Bank. We appreciate your support!



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Cody Blegen - Colfax ND



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New Business

Cornerstone Mortgage
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www.cornerstonebanks.net



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Name Change

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<https://www.facebook.com/FringeSalon2017>



New Business

Shine Hair & Lash Boutique LLC
 305 N Main St, Ste 3 • 216-8893
www.facebook.com/shinehairandlashboutique



Expansion

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www.facebook.com/SimplySouthernlady



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www.facebook.com/aberdeenskt



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New Business

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Eric Vetter (right), with Century 21 Real Estate & rentaberdeen.com, was chosen as the May YAAAA Award winner. Presenting the award is Alison Kiesz, Northeast Council of Governments, April YAAAA winner.



TOGETHER FORWARD

SANFORD ABERDEEN MEDICAL CENTER CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS

Sanford Aberdeen Medical Center will celebrate its anniversary in July, marking five years since the hospital opened its doors to patients from across the region.

The full-service regional hospital was designed to meet the growing health care needs of the Aberdeen region, featuring state-of-the-art technology and warm, welcoming patient areas. The 48-bed medical center is directly attached to the

multi-specialty Sanford Aberdeen Clinic, providing easy access for patients and their families.

Over the last five years, Sanford Aberdeen has steadily added services to include new specialties. In addition to family medicine, Sanford Aberdeen offers pediatrics, orthopedics and sports medicine, interventional cardiology, OB/GYN, general surgery, internal medicine,

radiology, nephrology, urology, ENT, oncology, podiatry, emergency medicine, and same day walk-in care.

Recently, Sanford Aberdeen became a verified level III trauma center, introduced a summer POWER sports training program for student athletes, became the official sports medicine provider for Northern State University and Aberdeen Public Schools, and expanded same day walk-in care hours for easier patient access.

“The community has embraced Sanford Aberdeen, and been so supportive of our efforts to provide patient-focused care.”

*- Ashley Erickson,
Executive Director*

“It is inspiring to see how much Sanford Aberdeen has grown in such a short time, and to know that patients and their families

have access to expert care, right here at home,” said Sanford Aberdeen Executive Director Ashley Erickson. “We have an incredible team, from our front-line staff to our medical providers, all working together to offer the best possible experience for our patients and their families.”

Sanford Aberdeen now has nearly 60 providers. As part of Sanford Health, patients also have access to an extended network of expert providers in 81 different specialty areas. Sanford Health providers regularly outreach to Aberdeen for vascular surgery, weight loss surgery, female pelvic medicine, reproductive endocrinology, and a variety of children’s specialties. Offering these services in Aberdeen allows patients to receive treatment closer to home.

For more information about Sanford Aberdeen, visit sanfordaberdeen.org.

**Paid Promotional Space*



The community is invited to a special fifth birthday celebration!

**Tuesday, July 18, 4-6 p.m.
Sanford Aberdeen Medical Center**

This free open house will include root beer floats, inflatables, face painting and more.

sanfordaberdeen.org.

SANFORD
Aberdeen



Aberdeen Health & Rehab
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First United Methodist Church
 502 S Lincoln St • 225-5680
www.aberdeenfirst.org



Hub City Radio
 13541 386th Ave • 229-3632
www.hubcityradio.com



Lutheran Social Services
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www.lsssd.org



Sportsman's Club of Brown County
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www.sportsmansclubofbrowncounty.com

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1 Million Cups is a free, national program designed to educate, engage, and connect entrepreneurs and communities. Developed by the Kauffman Foundation, 1MC is based on the notion that communities discover solutions and network over a million cups of coffee. Drop in to connect and support our local startups and see what's **BREWING** in our community.



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Jennifer Gunckel, Manager
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Shoe Science

Kyle Walz, Manager
3315 6th Ave SE | Aberdeen
Shoe Science is a specialty athletic footwear and apparel shop dedicated to the running, walking and fitness enthusiast.



WIPT Inc.

Randall Waldner, President
18 W 8th Ave | Redfield
Commercial real estate developer.

Footsteps Counseling, LLC

Heide Holmstrom & Jerry Feist, Owners
514 S Main St | Aberdeen



Footsteps Counseling's mission is to provide the highest quality of mental health services to men, women, adolescents and children age 10 and up. Footsteps Counseling has highly qualified and trained Counselors that are licensed by the State of South Dakota.



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Chamber Week 2017 – Building Up Our Community – was celebrated April 17-21. The week included traditions like Chamber member visits as well as the addition of a new event – Day of Distinction. Mayor Mike Levensen helped us kick off the week with an official proclamation declaring it Chamber Week in Aberdeen. Visits were made to 40 different Chamber members on Tuesday and Wednesday as a way to thank them for their membership and learn more about their businesses and what they do for our community. Chamber volunteers (Board and committee members) and staff were on hand for the surprise visits.

On Thursday, a large crowd gathered on campus at Northern State University for the monthly Business After Hours mixer, which was free to Chamber members during Chamber Week. Day of Distinction brought the perfect end to the week as approximately 200 people gathered at the Ramkota to hear from Hugh Weber, Mike Oster, Malcom Chapman, Greg Tehven and VJ Smith on topics from networking and attitude, to leadership and building community. Day of Distinction is the class project of the Chamber’s 2017 Leadership Aberdeen class. Chamber week will continue to be held in April each year. Although Chamber Week is only held one week of the year, the staff at the Chamber appreciates each member every day.



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Super 8 Aberdeen - East



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Winkler Chiropractic



Young Guns

BORNS GROUP ADDS PERRY AS VICE PRESIDENT BUSINESS ANALYTICS

Lee Borns of Borns Group announces the hiring of Carl Perry as the Vice President Business Analytics. Borns Group is a leading commercial and nonprofit VDM Division Service. Borns Group production centers are located in Aberdeen, SD and Watertown SD. Borns Group also has satellites in Sioux Falls, Minneapolis, Boston & Jackson.



Perry comes to Borns Group with marketing and management experience and specialization in client relations. Carl has been in management with three of the great companies identified by Jim Collins in his book published in 2001 'Good to Great.'

His responsibilities include new products and techniques, support to existing Borns Group clients, prospects and team members. "We are excited to add Carl to our promotional and management team," said Lee Borns, Corporate Vice President of Borns Group. "We've

developed the perfect blend of services, and initiatives for nonprofit annual giving strategies. Carl will be a tremendous asset as we train and support an increasing number of clients."

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD



The Boys & Girls Club of Aberdeen Area was honored with the S.O.A.R. Award at the BGCA National Conference held in Dallas, TX, in May. S.O.A.R. (Successive Organizational Achievement & Recognition) recognizes engagement and excellence of the Club's Board of Directors and is presented to Clubs who have achieved the Gold Honor Roll in the

League of EAGLES for three consecutive years. The Gold Honor Roll represents high (95-100%) and prolonged board involvement in the following performance areas: Engage, Ask, Give, Lead, Evaluate and Serve. Only ten Clubs from around the nation have met the criteria for this honor. The Club was represented at the conference by Rodrick Tobin and Mike Herman.

WALDROP NAMED ASSOCIATE PASTOR AT ABERDEEN FUMC

Mike Waldrop began his new duties as a full-time Associate Pastor at Aberdeen First United Methodist Church on July 1st. "Both myself and the Staff Parish Relations Committee are very excited to work with Mike," said Pastor Derek Baum. "The members of the committee found Mike to be a strong addition to our team, one who they believe will fit very well with our vision and direction." Waldrop had been serving as the Youth Pastor at Aberdeen First for nearly eight years.



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Golfers Fire Up Shootin' Irons at MC3

Golfers had a rootin', tootin', golf-ball-shootin' good time at the Chamber's annual golf tournament on Monday, June 5th. Twenty-six teams participated in the Wild, Wild West-themed 4-person scramble held at Moccasin Creek Country Club.

The Chamber is much obliged to the sponsors who made this shindig possible: A&B Business, Aberdeen American News, Climate Control, Dacotah Bank, Dakota Broadcasting, JDH Construction, Marco, Plains Commerce Bank, Profile by Sanford, QQP, Small Business Development Center, Twin City Fan and Western Agency.



Flight 1, 1st - First State Bank of Warner
Brad Seaman, Steve Beare, Bob Hilgeman, Dave Abens



Flight 1, T2nd - Eide Bailly, LLP
David Frank, Don Kainz, Chad Weber, Ryan Weigel



Flight 1, T2nd - Team Perry
Jon Knott, Steve Wik, Dean Munsch, Connie Munsch



Flight 1, T2nd - Alliance Contracting
Eric Brenner, JR Johnson, Steve Stillman, Jeff Casanova



Flight 1, T2nd - Avera St. Luke's
Tom Snyder, Donna Hurley, Mike O'Keefe, Alvin Haugen



Flight 1, 6th - Helms & Associates 2
Corey Helms, Randy Bacon, Bob Babcock, Bob Kieso



Flight 1, 7th - Schwan Financial
Kevin Schwan, Ethan Littlejohn, Lance Mohr, Ryan Patroe



Flight 1, 8th - Hub City, Inc.
Chuck Witte, Dennis Von Eschen, Jim Campbell, Patrick Chamberlain



Flight 1, 9th - My Place Hotel
Tony Lunzman, John Hilton, Terrelle Walker, Shane Glover



Flight 2, 1st - Centennial Management
Lee Kludt, Kees Kennedy, Chad Evaris, Marc Tobin



Flight 2, T2nd - The Six Shooters
Paul McDonald, Barry Winkler, Karl Alberts, Jim Barringer



Flight 2, T2nd - Molded Fiber Glass
Eric Schwan, Kyle Murphy, Brett Dick, Eric Carlson



Flight 2, T4th - JDH Construction
Jack Hollinsworth, Chad Casanova, Jeremy Cramer, Derrick Rieck



Flight 2, T4th - 3M
Jason Jorgenson, Matt Heiberger, Gregg Yonkovich, Andy Rehder



Flight 2, 6th - iHelp Student Loan Finance
John Heier, Mark Constock, Chad Schuldt, Jon Vedvei



Flight 2, T7th - CVB
Casey Weismantel, Lynn Lander, AJ Hoffman, Ryan Schneider



Flight 2, T7th - NVC
Jeff Evenson, Chip Fuhrman, Darren Torrence, Scott Stolle



Flight 2, 9th - Dakota Broadcasting
Devin Reints, Lucas Quail, Paula Krueger, Mike Ferrell



Flight 3, T1st - Cornerstone Mortgage
Dick Groeger, Lorna Johnston, Scott Johnston, MeChelle Lang



Flight 3, T1st - CorTrust Bank
Mark Hahler, Heather Sieh, Connie Kusler, Tim Purintun



Flight 3, 3rd - Helms & Associates 1
Mike Schmidt, Brooke Edgar, Jamie Weisenberger, Brandon Smid



Flight 3, 4th - Plains Commerce Bank 2
Craig Green, Matilda Grobe, Jeff Grobe, Ryan Kast



Flight 3, 5th - Aberdeen Federal Credit Union
Robert Goscicki, Renee Kulesa, Steve Streier, Abby Murano



Flight 3, T6th - Chamber Regulators
Jeff Poppen, Josh Haeder, Tim Downs, Mary Downs



Flight 3, T6th - Climate Control
Cam Schock, Mike Brumbaugh, Mark Mehlhoff, Lorne Serr



Flight 3, 8th - Plains Commerce 1
Rachelle Carrels, Cody Hageman, Lance Vilhauer, Vicki Jorgenson

City of Aberdeen - Comprehensive Plan



Lynn Lander
Aberdeen City
Manager

The City's existing comprehensive plan was prepared in 2004, and since then the City has experienced significant change in the last thirteen years. Planning and Zoning Director, Brett Bill recently recommended to the governing body the need to update the city's comprehensive

plan because of the numerous changes throughout the city. His recommendation to the governing body to lead this task was the team of Stantec Consulting Services and Helms & Associates. Stantec Consulting Services has offices in Bismarck, Fargo, and St. Paul and has worked with several Midwestern cities. Helms & Associates established operations in Aberdeen, SD in 1979 and has worked with the City of Aberdeen on various improvement projects.

The Comprehensive Plan process will

help the City identify and prioritize community improvements and bring forth a defined development vision for the future. The Stantec team has committed to a robust community engagement program. The City and Stantec feel if we want a true renewed vision for the future, the citizens of Aberdeen must be involved in the input. Below I have identified some of the inventory analysis and approaches outlined by Stantec and Helms & Associates in their proposal to the city.

Work element one involves the collection of existing conditions data to allow study of existing conditions. Stantec will use infographics and illustrations to present this data in a graphically interesting and easily digestible way. Areas of significant data collection are as follows:

- Population/Demographics-Study and review historic trends to depict population size, distribution, age, gender, household size and income.
- Transportation-Depict the existing transportation system. Transportation items to be included for review would be capacity, traffic, and condition of existing roadways and railways.

based on planned growth.

• **Economic Base:** Utilizing available information, Stantec will summarize and map existing economic activity including number and type of jobs, existing industries and retail uses, industry and occupation of employed residents, workforce migration patterns, and availability of sites for new commercial and industrial development and expansion, as well as existing local economic development efforts.

Work element two involves community participation. The key to any comprehensive plan success is a healthy community engagement. Community outreach will involve stakeholder interviews, citizen visioning workshops, and a community survey. All the data collected during step one will be displayed, showing existing conditions and trends in Aberdeen and the region. Citizens will be asked during this step as to what areas of their community they like and don't like, and other concerns they may relate to future development.

Work element three involves the development of alternative population, housing and employment projections. Alternative growth scenarios will be identified and refined as necessary, including the preferred scenario. Through the participation process, the public and City representatives will select Aberdeen's preferred scenario. The Stantec will develop three illustrative alternative land use scenarios to view.

Work element four and five involves where Stantec and Helms & Associates will work with the City staff to develop a plan to adopt from the results of the Vision, Challenges, and Opportunities Workshop. Subject areas to be addressed include the following:

- Issues and Opportunities
- Land Use Element
- Transportation Element
- Existing Transportation System
- Future Transportation System
- Utilities and Community Facilities Element
- Housing Element
- Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Element
- Economic Development Element
- Implementation Matrix

The time table for the Aberdeen Comprehensive Plan is expected to take eighteen months. The city's management team looks forward to working with the citizens of Aberdeen.

• **Housing:** Describe and depict historical trends in housing, including size, type, tenure mix, vacancy rates, housing prices and rents compared to income (i.e., affordability). Aberdeen's ratios of single-family, two-family and multiple family will be compared to other communities of similar size. Utilities and Community Facilities:

- Review capacity, locations and services areas of City Utilities. Based upon available information, this analysis will also identify any needed expansion of existing facilities or new facilities and their optimal location

Work-Leave, the ADA, and the FMLA



Kim Dorsett
Partner, Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck & Hieb

In my law practice, I handle many calls from employers who are trying to correctly address employee leave for health conditions. The two main laws which cover work leave are the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which generally applies to employers with 15 or more workers, and the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), which generally applies to employers with 50 or more workers within 75 miles. Below I outline answers to some of the most common questions on this topic:

How much leave may employees take under FMLA? Covered employees are allowed twelve weeks of leave in a 12-month period for events such as the birth, adoption, or foster care of a child, to address the employee's own serious health condition, or to care of a spouse, child or parent with a serious health condition.

Does FMLA leave need to be taken all at once? No. If requested, employers must allow intermittent leave for qualified medical treatments or care and must let employees break up their FMLA leave time by working reduced hours.

Do employees have a right to work-leave under the ADA after exhausting FMLA? Probably. If the employee had a medical condition which would constitute a disability

under the ADA, that employee may be entitled to additional leave from work as an accommodation even after FMLA leave has been exhausted.

How much work-leave must be given as an accommodation under the ADA? There is no set amount of work-leave that the employer must allow. An employee's entitlement to additional leave depends on the job and the disability, and requires an interactive discussion with the employee. Employers must allow the leave unless it would cause them undue hardship. Undue hardship is determined on a case-by-case basis and depends on the financial resources of the employer or how much the accommodation disrupts job operations.

May employers require the employee to be completely healed before returning to work? No. A "100% healed policy" has been found to violate the ADA and interferes with an employee's right to an accommodation.

May employers request the employee's medical records to prove he or she has a serious medical condition? No. Under both the ADA and FMLA, employer's requests for medical informa-



tion must be limited to only enough the information to confirm that the employee has an impairment or medical condition, to identify possible accommodation options, and to determine the probable duration of the worker's condition. Additionally, the employer must not demand a diagnosis from a doctor's prior to granting any FMLA leave.

As these questions above demonstrate, the combination of the FMLA and the ADA is very complicated. Improper application of leave and accommodation requirements can easily set up an unwary employer for substantial liability. It is always best to contact a lawyer well versed in employment law prior to making decisions on employee medical leave. Additional questions may be directed to me at Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck & Hieb, 1 Court Street Aberdeen, SD or call 605-225-6310.

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Human Trafficking and My Meeting with Ivanka Trump



Kristi Noem
US Representative
(R-SD)

There are certain issues where no matter how many times you read about them, hear about them, or talk to folks who have lived through them, you just don't understand how they could happen – and in South Dakota of all places. Human trafficking is one of those issues for me.

Recently, I sat down with Ivanka Trump at the White House on this very issue, alongside leaders from both sides of the aisle. Many understood the challenges from an international perspective, but when the conversation turned to what was happening inside our country, few realized that rural areas were as affected as major cities.

Whether I'm speaking on the House floor or in a meeting with trafficking advocates in South Dakota, when I start talking about how local law enforcement conducted a sting operation near Watertown that attracted more than 100 solicitations in just two days,

people are shocked. Most just don't realize this can happen in small towns too. But it does.

Beyond rural versus urban, we had a thorough discussion about survivors' needs. In 2015, existing grants were opened to those who provide housing to trafficking survivors, as a result of legislation I wrote. While experts estimate between 100,000 and 300,000 children are trafficked in the U.S. each year, there are only a few hundred beds available to survivors nationwide. I'm hopeful this additional support will help create more safe spaces for survivors.

But more must be done. Once survivors escape, new challenges arise. Where do they find permanent housing? Or a job? Or a support system? Because traffickers often use drugs and alcohol as a means to control their victims, many survivors have criminal records that limit access to employment, housing, and support.

In 2016, for instance, 80 percent of survivors surveyed by the National Survivor Network had lost or not received employment because of their criminal convictions. To support survivors in getting back on their

feet, I helped introduce new legislation that creates a pathway for them to expunge non-violent convictions and arrests from their records, so long as the crimes were a direct result of being trafficked. I'm hopeful this legislation will help relieve survivors of the past, open doors for them, and offer a path forward where healing can begin.

Still, one of the biggest pieces of feedback I get from South Dakota advocates is that we need to build awareness. Shortly after my meeting with Ivanka Trump, the House passed legislation I cosponsored to enhance the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign. This is an effort to equip the general public and specific groups (such as hospitality workers, who may encounter trafficking more often than others) with better tools to identify and intervene when trafficking occurs.

The fight against this inhumane crime requires action from each of us, so I encourage you to take a minute to learn more about the issue and spread the word. The more eyes we have out there looking for signs of distress, the faster we can move toward ending human trafficking altogether.

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Fighting for South Dakota's Farmers and Ranchers



John Thune
US Senator
(R-SD)

If I've said it once, I've said it a hundred times: it's never too early to start working on the next farm bill. That's why earlier this year, I decided to get a head start on the 2018 farm bill by introducing several marker bills well

before the current legislation expires. I've already written three farm bills during my time in Congress, and with the help of farmers and ranchers throughout South Dakota, I'm eager to hit the ground running on my fourth.

In March and April, I unveiled several modifications to the conservation title of the farm bill, including creating a new income protection program for farmers. The Soil Health and Income Protection Program – or SHIPP, for short – would provide farmers greater flexibility with their land by giving them the opportunity to enroll in this new short-term conserving use program. Another proposal I've introduced would increase the Conservation Reserve Program acreage cap by 25 percent to 30 million acres.

In May, I proposed several updates to the commodity title of the farm bill, specifically the process by which the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) allocates commodity assistance for grain farmers. First, I codify a common-sense payment method for the Agriculture Risk Coverage-County (ARC-CO) program, which was designed to be a safety net for farmers and ranchers. Under my proposal, ARC-CO payments would be determined by the payment rate for the county in which the participating land is physically located, instead of USDA's current inequitable payment process that for some farmers can result in higher and unearned payments than Congress intended.

I also included a provision that would update hundreds of millions of base acres in the United States – portions of land that have been planted or were considered planted at one time or another. Based on old rules, farmers could use base acres

that were calculated as far back as 1991 to determine commodity payments they receive in 2017. Essentially, a farmer who hasn't planted his or her land to a commodity crop in 26 years could still receive a payment for that land today. I think we need to update this payment process with more recent data, which would likely save taxpayers more money.

Fighting for farmers and ranchers doesn't end with the farm bill. I also think we need to reform our tax code so it does a better job of working for, rather than against the hard-working people who make agriculture South Dakota's top industry. I recently introduced a major tax reform proposal that would help farmers and ranchers recover investment costs – tractors, combines, or even the farm's pickup truck, for example – more quickly. Accelerating cost recovery means farmers and ranchers have more money to keep the operation running, which helps them stay on their land and hopefully pass it from one generation to the next.

Agriculture policy is always important to farmers and ranchers, but particularly now in today's weak agriculture economy. These farmers and ranchers know their stuff, and they aren't afraid to share their opinions either. That's why I was glad USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue joined me in South Dakota so he could hear directly from the folks who help feed South Dakota and the rest of the world. They had a lot of great ideas on how to improve agriculture policy, and



I know the secretary left with a better understanding of what South Dakota farmers want and need.

The hard work and dedication that farmers and ranchers tirelessly invest in their operations is not entirely understood by folks who've never tilled the land, cared for livestock, harvested a crop, or prayed for a rainy forecast. We can all learn a thing or two from what they do for our country, and I will never tire in my mission to defend them in Congress.

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A Big Win for South Dakota Veterans



Mike Rounds
US Senator (R-SD)

South Dakota veterans and doctors who participate in the Choice program received some good news recently. President Donald Trump signed into law legislation that includes a provision of a bill I introduced which,

in essence, makes the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) the primary payer for services under the Choice Act.

This is important because now veterans will no longer have to pay higher health care costs when they seek care at a non-VA facility when using the Choice Act. This is especially great news for those who live in rural areas, as it will make sure that their cost of visiting a physician is the same regardless of if they see their own local doctor under the

Choice Act or travel to get care at a VA facility. It is also a win for doctors in the private sector who serve our veterans, as it will eliminate the bureaucratic reimbursement process so they can get paid in a timely manner by the VA when they care for veterans under this same act.

The intent of the Choice Act, which is to provide relief to those facing long appointment wait times and those who live far from VA facilities, had been undermined because of higher out-of-pocket costs to veterans and reimbursement issues for providers. By eliminating the so-called 'secondary payer clause' and essentially making the VA the primary payer under the Choice Act, South Dakota veterans will no longer be forced to pay more for health care services they receive in the community than they would for the same care at a VA facility.

In addition to hearing from veterans, our office has heard from doctors who were struggling to be reimbursed for the care they had provided. We heard from one doctor who was waiting up to nine months

to be reimbursed by the VA and was owed millions of dollars. In one case, a hospital had refused to accept referred veterans for physical therapy due to non-payment from the VA. They simply can't afford to see patients when they know there is a strong chance they will not be paid for services rendered. The intent of the law is good, but the manner in which the 'secondary payer' provision was originally written failed both our veterans and the private-sector doctors who treat them under the Choice program. I'm glad we were able to fix this section under the extension, and I will work to include the fix as a permanent component of Choice in the future.

My staff and I heard time and again of the hardship caused by the 'secondary payer' provision. My interest in introducing this legislation was a direct result of the feedback we received from South Dakota veterans, their families and medical providers in South Dakota. I thank them for alerting us to this glitch in the system, and I look forward to working with the VA on its implementation. Our veterans make incredible sacrifices for our freedoms; they shouldn't have to worry about reimbursement issues for the care they have earned upon retirement.



Barnett Center Addition - Aberdeen, SD

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Name the Calf Contest



Ginger and Trail Blazer prevailed as the winning names in the Chamber's annual Name the Calf Contest, which was part of the Ag Committee's 4th Grade Ag Fair held in April. Glenn Jakober, representing the Ag Committee, presented prizes to Ashlinn Hartwell from Lincoln Elementary and Will Ewalt from May Overby Elementary. Ashlinn submitted the name Ginger for the red heifer calf and Will submitted Trail Blazer for the black bull calf.

Visitors Will Find Summer Fun in Aberdeen



Laura Ptacek
Convention Sales & Marketing Coordinator, Aberdeen Area CVB

Summer is a busy time for the Aberdeen Area Convention and Visitors Bureau! This is when we see the results of our marketing efforts, by welcoming our THOUSANDS of visitors to our beautiful community!

There is absolutely no reason to be bored in Aberdeen this summer! If you hear someone say they are, then you need to send them our way! Our online events calendar lists literally dozens of things to do – downtown concerts and live music around town, educational experiences in our state parks, waterski shows, theater performances, special activities at Storybook Land and Wylie Park all summer long, the Brown County Fair in August...I could seriously go on and on and on all day, but it would

be much easier for you to just look at our calendar at www.visitaberdeensd.com. And don't forget to keep submitting your events so we can help you get some extra publicity.

We have some large sporting events coming to town this summer, too. Hundreds of area children already participated in the Dakota Cup Soccer tournament, and the Aberdeen Swim Club hosted their Summer Invitational in June. The swimmers will be back July 28-30 for the SD Long Course State Swim Championship. Go Stingrays! That same weekend, the Aberdeen Aqua Addicts will be hosting the Midwest Regional Waterski tournament – this is one HUGE event you don't want to miss! Waterski teams from all over the Midwest will be coming to compete for the championship title. Go Aqua Addicts!

Along with all of that, Convention and Visitors Bureau staff will be hosting various tour groups, including Governor Dennis Daugaard and Sec-

retary of Tourism Jim Hagen.

We also host travel writers, meeting planners, and many others who just want to experience Aberdeen for themselves. We are more than happy to help make their trip to Aberdeen a memorable one-we love what we do!

We also want to mention that it is easy to integrate our events calendar into the calendar software you use on your smart phone or computer. Within our calendar, located at www.visitaberdeensd.com, there is a link for iCalendar that will tell you exactly how to do set it up. This way you can have all the events, or just the categories you choose, populate the calendar you refer to every day. If you have trouble or need help, give us a call at 225-2414. (Quick tip-it is much easier to set this up on a computer than on the phone itself, but the events should show up on your mobile device as well.)

So get out there! Have some fun! And then tell all your out of town friends what a great place Aberdeen

2017 Free Spring Residential Cleanup Summary

April 28 – May 13, 2017



TRASH METALS TIRES TREES TOTALS

Aberdeen CITY	154,920 lbs. (2017) 156,120 lbs. (2016)		49,240 lbs. (2017) 15,840 lbs. (2016)		204,160 lbs. (2017) 171,960 lbs. (2016)
BC LANDFILL	3,355 vehicles (2017) 808,800 LBS. (2017) (404.4 TON) 742,000 lbs. (2016) (371.03 TON)	148,820 lbs. (2017) 151,540 lbs. (2016)	500,500 lbs. (200.25 ton) 107 loads (94 to 5-11-2017) 57,180 lbs. (2016)	151 actual loads trees (2017 actual) 107,200 lbs. estimate (2017) 100,000 lbs. estimate (2016) 90 loads (51 x 200 lbs. (2016)	1,725,320 lbs. (2017) 962.66 ton 1,130,700 lbs. (2016) 565.39 ton
TOTALS	963,720 lbs. (2017) 898,180 lbs. (2016)	148,820 lbs. (2017) 151,540 lbs. (2016)	629,740 lbs. (2017) 504.67 ton / 50.467 PTE's * 72,220 lbs. (2016) 36.11 ton / 3.611 PTE's *	187,200 lbs. (2017) 936 vehicles x 200 lbs. 180,000 lbs. (2016) 900 vehicles x 200 lbs.	1,929,680 lbs. (2017) 964.74 ton 1,301,540 lbs. (2016) 650.97 ton

VEHICLE COUNT LANDFILL: 4,592 (2017) : 3,911 (2016) : 3,866 (2015)

*PTE's: Passenger Tire Equivalents / 20 lbs. per tire



Friday, August 11, 2017
Lee Park Golf Course - Aberdeen

18 hole, 4-Person Scramble Format
11 AM - Registration & Lunch / 12:30 PM - Shotgun Start

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Hole sponsorships available for \$100

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www.SDManufacturing.com/events

Info: Kellie.Ecker@USD.edu

Proceeds Benefit: WHAT'S SO COOL ABOUT MANUFACTURING?
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Training Calendar for July/August 2017

EIDE BAILLY

Find registration for all events online at <http://www.eidebailly.com/about-us/events>. Each seminar lasts one hour.

- July 19, 2 pm - Tax Trends Webinar – Energy Efficiency Tax Benefits: 179D & 45 L
- July 20, Noon - Business Insights for Attorneys/Advisors: Assisting Clients with Employee Theft Issues
- July 21, 10:30 am - Tax Trends Webinar – Maximize Your Cash Flow Through Cost Segregation
- August 16, Noon - Business Insights for Attorneys/Advisors – Mergers and Acquisitions: What Your Clients Need to Know
- August 21, 2 pm and August 22, Noon - Tax Trends Webinar – What's Hot in Sales Tax
- August 23, Noon - Tax Trends Webinar – Reducing Your Tax Liability Through IC-DISC

THE TRAINING PLACE

For more information call Jill at 725-1833. www.training.adcsd.com

Classes at the Smart Center, 416 Production Street North, Aberdeen

- July 17-19, 5:30-9:30pm – Commercial Driver License Classroom
- July 10, 9:00am -1:00pm – Word Beginner
- July 24, 9:00am -1:00pm – Word Intermediate
- July 31, 9:00am -1:00pm – Word Advanced
- August 8, 9:00am -12:00pm – QuickBooks: The Basics
- August 8, 1:30 - 4:00pm – QuickBooks: Inventory & Payroll
- August 14, 9:00am -1:00pm – PowerPoint Beginner
- August 21, 9:00am -1:00pm – PowerPoint Intermediate
- August 28, 9:00am -1:00pm – PowerPoint Advanced
- August 28-30, 5:30-9:30pm – Commercial Driver License Classroom;

Power Hours: classes at The Workshop, 208 South Main Street, Aberdeen

18 persons max; reserve your spot at training/adcsd.com/events under The Training Place

- July 12, 12:00 -1:00 pm – Get the Word Out, The Power of TV Advertising
- August 9, 12:00 -1:00 pm – Understanding Business Financials

August is National Breastfeeding Month



Megan Erickson
Nutrition Field
Specialist, SDSU
Extension and
Health & Wellness
Committee Member

World Breast-feeding Week

Although, celebrated each year during the first week of August, many organizations choose to celebrate breast-feeding throughout the entire month. August 1-7 marks the 2017 National Breast-

feeding Week with the goal to raise awareness of the numerous benefits of breastfeeding and to support and strengthen individual, family and community support of breastfeeding.

83.6% of South Dakota mothers breastfeed—way to go South Dakota moms!

But that percentage significantly drops at 6 and 12 months of age, as does the rate of exclusive breast-feeding. Moms may want to breast-feed longer but face many challenges. It is important for working moms

to communicate their breastfeeding needs to their employers prior to returning from maternity leave. This enables employers to better support breastfeeding women.

There are numerous benefits to breastfeeding—for both baby and mom.

Breastfed babies get more than 200 nutrients and specific ingredients to bolster their health. Breast milk changes as the baby grows, which is one reason the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends babies be breastfed at least a year and as long as moms and babies want after that. Mothers who breast-feed lose pregnancy weight more easily and reduce their risk of breast, ovarian and, uterine cancer, and osteoporosis.

Breastfeeding is also economical, saving as much as \$1,000 in formula costs during baby's first year. Businesses can also benefit financially, as breastfed babies are sick less resulting in fewer absences from employees.

SD State Law – Let's make breast-feeding a non-event.

"A mother may breastfeed her child in any location, public or private, where the mother and child are otherwise authorized to be present as long as the mother is in compliance with all other state and municipal laws. However, no municipality may outright ban breast feeding in public places."

One way businesses in Aberdeen can show their support is by learning about and taking the Breastfeeding-Friendly Business Pledge at <http://www.healthysd.gov/breastfeeding>. Join the 133 businesses in Aberdeen and a total of over 300 businesses state-wide who have already taken the pledge to be a Breastfeeding-Friendly Business!





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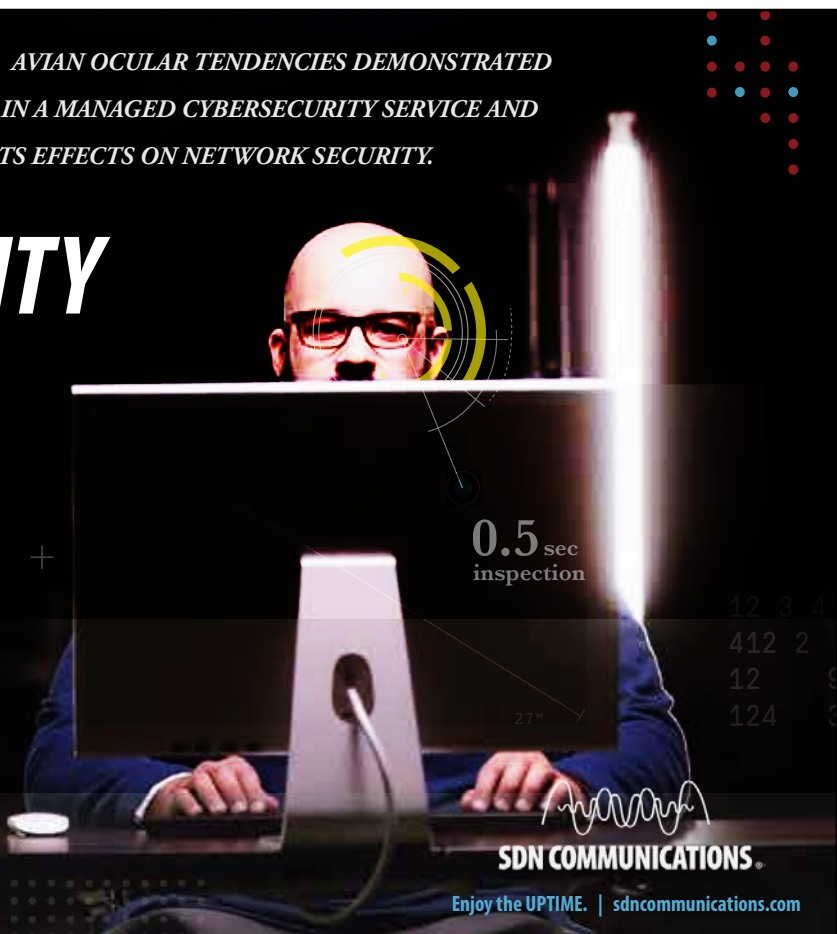
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