

PROGRESS

MAGAZINE

MAY/JUNE 2017



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COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

If you pass him on the street, Tim Bergstrom will probably say hi. As Eide Bailly's Partner-in-Charge of the Aberdeen office, Bergstrom meets a lot of people. And that's what keeps him in Aberdeen—serving the community.

At the heart of Eide Bailly is its devotion to clients. The firm is celebrating its centennial this year, and with more than 30 years at the firm, Bergstrom knows a thing or two about client service, innovation and the importance of community involvement.

What have been some of the most significant changes you've seen in tax and audit over the years?

When I started, personal computers were just starting to be used in the office but for only limited functions. For tax preparation we used an IBM System/36. The tax information was entered onto input sheets and then keyed into the software.

In 1991, we started accessing tax software using personal computers versus a main frame. In the early 2000s, instead of keeping paper documents, we moved to storing electronically. We still receive a lot of paper so it's scanned and digitized to our files. Computers (laptops) are used today for every function that we do. We are just now starting to use software with optical character recognition for tax preparation.

What hasn't changed?

Even though there have been a significant number of changes because of technology, the service that we're providing hasn't changed. We still bring trust and honesty to client relationships and a team focused and friendly approach to our client interactions.

What makes Eide Bailly different?

It gets back to meeting the clients' needs and adding value. If we're not doing that, they'll find someone else who does. We want to stay connected with our clients so that we know the services we're providing are not only meeting their compliance needs but enhancing their financial well-being. Helping businesses become more successful and helping individuals meet their financial goals—that's what we strive to do.

What does it mean to you to be part of a 100-year firm?

It means we've had a lot of clients who've had a lot of faith in what we're doing. And we have had a lot of partners and staff who know how to provide a great client experience.

How does Eide Bailly give back to the community?

Eide Bailly encourages everyone to give back to our communities by sharing their knowledge, time and resources. We give time off so partners and staff can volunteer at organizations important to them. We participate in an annual team volunteerism event. We encourage staff to serve on boards,

committees and professional organizations. The firm also provides financial support to numerous nonprofit organizations as well as matching donations made by staff.

How would you sum up Eide Bailly in one word?

Trust.

Why is Eide Bailly a good fit for Aberdeen?

Our culture fits very well in Aberdeen—it just does. I think a lot of businesses here have a similar culture. We believe in Aberdeen. We care about our clients and our people. We trust and support one another and stretch ourselves to be innovative and creative. We recognize the importance of maintaining a balance between work and home life. Our culture says a lot about who we are.



AT A GLANCE

- 29 offices in 13 states
- Top 25 CPA firm in the nation
- Firm started in Fargo in 1917
- Serving 59,000 clients across the nation
- In Aberdeen: 7 partners, 9 assurance staff, 8 tax staff, 5 accounting services staff and 5 administrative support staff
- Provide services beyond tax and audit, like cyber security, health care reform, outsourced services, technology consulting and wealth management



#EIDELIKE

I'D LIKE TO WORK WITH A TEAM I CAN TRUST

Eide Bailly Aberdeen Partners - Left to Right: Don Kainz, David Frank, Holly Engelhart, Chad Weber, Tim Bergstrom, Tara Engquist, Mark Engelhart



Our Vision for NEW Visitor/Welcome Center for Our Community



Gail L. Ochs
President, IOM
Aberdeen Chamber

You may have noticed some information out recently regarding our vision for a NEW Visitor/Welcome Center for our community to be located in the current Alexander Mitchell Library building. The Board of Directors and staff of

both the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce and Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) have discussed the possibility of co-location and the addition of a Visitor/Welcome Center for numerous years. Other properties have been considered in the past, but for one reason or another, those properties were not feasible. Once this facility became available, the Chamber Board of Directors appointed a task force, made up of board members, as well as CVB and Chamber staff, to research the possibility and potential of this project.

Task force members did a considerable amount of work to vet this project, including meeting with the City Manager and City Attorney; touring the facility with city and library personnel; reviewing past improvements to the property; discussing necessary improvements and developing a renovation budget; drafting preliminary renderings of the space; outlining potential revenue sources and anticipated expenses at the facility; discussing the pros and cons of relocating; and meeting one-on-one with members of the council. The Board of Directors considered all this information before agreeing to move forward with this project.

The City of Aberdeen declared the property as surplus at the March 13, 2017 council meeting. This prompted the Chamber Board of Directors to submit a Letter of Intent to the City of Aberdeen offering to purchase the Alexander Mitchell Library for \$350,000. This is the dollar amount budgeted for the sale of the property by the City Manager as part of the overall new library pack-



age, approved by tax payers. State statute allows the city to transfer real property to a non-profit corporation for public, charitable, or humanitarian purposes. The Chamber spoke to the Mayor and council regarding the proposal and Letter of Intent at the council meeting held on Monday, March 20, 2017.

At the March 27, 2017 council meeting, the City approved an appraisal to be done on the property to be completed within 45-60 days. The appraisal is confidential unless the council chooses to make it public after the sale. Once the council has reviewed the appraisal, they can accept our letter of intent and we would enter into an agreement to purchase the property. They can also reject our letter of intent, and open the property up for bid. We would then bid on the property with other interested parties. If our bid is accepted, we will move forward with the project and, if not, we will consider other locations within the community.

Why do we need it?

We are the hub of Northeast South Dakota, serving a population of close to 100,000 within a 100-mile radius and we do not have a Visitor Center. We are missing a huge opportunity to promote our area's attractions, amenities and events. Increasing our

interaction with visitors and hosting group tours will lead to visitors staying longer, attending more events, and increasing their spending. This, in turn, increases Triple B funds used to promote and grow our community.

Our community has worked hard to grow our population over the last several years, and we want to keep that momentum going by being more accessible and accommodating to new and current residents. We will increase our ability to share and promote the opportunities for individuals and businesses to be engaged in community issues, projects and opportunities. Increased engagement leads to higher retention for our businesses and helps support city services.

We can create a one-stop center for visitors, businesses and citizens, by co-locating the offices of the Chamber, CVB, as well as other community-oriented organizations who have already expressed interest. This will allow for stronger communication, increased coordination of efforts, and costs savings between multiple organizations. This is something the council has asked us to consider for several years. We are excited to expand the programs and services we currently provide, while also implementing new ideas and efforts such as an Aberdeen Store,

Home-Grown and Hand-Made Marketplace, community meeting rooms, non-profit/service club storage areas, etc.

How will this benefit the community?

We acknowledge that there are varying opinions in the community on the value of the property and what it should be used for. But, we believe strongly that not only have we brought forth a fair offer, but that it provides for the highest and best use of the facility. We are asking the council to consider the long-term benefits that could be realized, rather than only looking at a one-time return from the sale of the property. We believe it provides an incredible opportunity for the city to invest back into their community, and the organizations who work alongside them to grow and improve our community.

In the Mayor's recent State of the City Address, he discussed the many new public and private developments completed in recent years that have had a positive impact on our community. He encouraged citizens and business to continue moving forward with practices which help facilitate population growth. Some of the practices he encouraged included: encouraging newcomers to join and lead community groups; enhancing quality of life features for all; welcoming newcomers and make

them feel wanted; maintaining and adding to Aberdeen's services to the trade area; providing the routine things for functioning daily lives; and respecting those who resist change and growth, but push ahead. We believe this project addresses these success strategies set forth by our Mayor.

This project is not unusual, as the City of Aberdeen has entered into several partnerships and collaborations in recent years with other non-profit, governmental and educational entities for the betterment of the community, including but not limited to:

- Revitalization of the old Aberdeen Central High School complex where ownership of the property was transferred to the City of Aberdeen by the Aberdeen School District. The School District declared the property as surplus and sold it directly to the city. The facility now houses the City's Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department with space for administrative offices and ARCC programming and activities, as well as the Aberdeen Area Arts Council, etc.
- Collaboration between Parks and Recreation and Forestry Department and the Aberdeen Sertoma Club for the successful operation and continued enhancements of Storybook Land.
- Financial contributions for new facilities to serve the public in-

cluding the Northeast Health and Fitness Center and Youth Development Center of the YMCA; Boys and Girls Club of Aberdeen; Safe Harbor, BMX, etc.

This project also capitalizes on the success of the new library and provide tax payers more "bang for their buck." The facility no longer met the current and expanding needs of the library, but does meet the needs of our organizations. The community will not only have a state of the art library, but also a center that acts as a showpiece for our visitors, as well as a center for information and engagement. This project, unlike others mentioned above, can happen with no additional cost to the tax payer.

Why this property?

It's a perfect location. The property is situated along 6th Avenue, which will greatly increase the visibility of our organizations and the services we provide. With over 30,000 cars driving by per day, we will be better able to direct people to Downtown Aberdeen, Storybook Land, Northern State University, Presentation College, and other businesses and landmarks within the community.

The property would also be eligible for low-interest financing for purchase and renovation through the "Growing Rural Communities Fund" which was developed to spur job creation and economic revitaliza-

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www.aberdeen-chamber.com • 605.225.2860



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COVER: Eide Bailly

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tion in distressed communities. The project qualifies, as it fits within the intended use guidelines, but most importantly fits within the very limited geographical boundaries of the program, whereas another location in the community may not qualify.

In addition, the Chamber has applied for grant dollars to offset purchase and renovation costs. However, our grant request is tied directly to this specific location, based on the opportunity to re-purpose the building by collaborating with local individuals and groups on the artistic design of the center. This grant is very competitive and our project may not be selected. However, if it is selected and we are unable to purchase the building, we would not receive the grant.

Finally, by working with us, the City is assured that sale of the property moves forward in a timely fashion and ensures that the property will not sit vacant or be demolished.

It also maintains the facility as a community-based center, keeping the integrity of the neighborhood intact.

What is the Chamber willing to invest in the project?

As stated, the Chamber would purchase the property from the city and pay property taxes annually to the City of Aberdeen. The Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will determine how best to fund the purchase and renovation. They have already discussed options including the sale of our current building, securing a mortgage, raising funds through a capital campaign, grant opportunities, leasing space within the facility, etc. The Board of Directors is confident that the project is economically feasible for our organization to move forward in cooperation with the Aberdeen Convention and Visitors Bureau.

How can you help?

The Mayor and members of the Aberdeen City Council will make the final decision on whether or not to sell this property to the Chamber following an appraisal to be completed within the next 30 days. We need your help sharing our vision and its potential with the Mayor and City Council prior to that decision. We are asking you to do a couple things: sign an online letter or support and/or email the Mayor and Aberdeen City Council members directly. You can do both by going to our website - www.aberdeen-chamber.com/visitorcenter or you can email your thoughts to the Chamber at info@aberdeen-chamber.com.

Thank you for your support of this project. If you have any additional questions or thoughts regarding our vision for this center and our proposal, please call the Chamber at (605) 225-2860.

Do You Hear That? It's Opportunity Knocking



Dr. Marje Kaiser
2017 Chamber Board Chair; Superintendent SDSBVI

When opportunity knocks, the best response is to open the door. We want to attract new businesses (both large and small) to NE South Dakota. We want young people to choose to make their homes here. We know that expanding our

workforce and creating job opportunities is a vital part of that process. We know that affordable housing is important and we're making progress on that front. We appreciate the many new public and private investments that make our community inviting and livable. Once you get to know us, we feel certain you will appreciate the

quality of life Aberdeen provides.

Getting to know us, however, is often a challenge for visitors and new residents. We need to connect with visitors to encourage them to stay longer and come back often. We need to connect with new-comers so they learn what the community has to offer and how to get things done easily and efficiently. We want them to take part in activities, shop in our stores, contribute their time and talents, and feel at home here. That brings the Chamber Board to the discussion of a new location for a combined Visitor/Welcome Center. Ideally the Chamber and Convention and Visitor's Bureau could co-locate to enhance the services provided by each entity. A location both visible and accessible with ample parking and room for growth would be ideal. One possible location for such a ven-

ture would be the old library building on 6th Avenue.

The Chamber board established a task force to look at the feasibility of a move and they have done a considerable amount of work. I hope you will take time to visit the Chamber web site and read about our vision for a new Visitor/welcome center. www.aberdeen-chamber.com/291/Our-Vision-for-a-NEW-VisitorWelcome-Cent. Take time to get the facts.

It's time to answer opportunity's knock and move forward to building a welcoming community not only for those who have made their homes here for generations, but also to new comers and visitors who will bring new business, new energy, and new ideas to make Aberdeen and the surrounding area even stronger and more vibrant.



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.

General Election Candidates Forum May 6th

The League of Women Voters of the Aberdeen Area and the Community Affairs Committee of the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce invite you to attend the 2017 General Election Candidates Forum.

The forum will be held on Saturday, May 6th in the community room of the Brown County Courthouse, 25 Market Street. The event will start at 9:00 am with a Candidate Meet and Greet followed by the Aberdeen

City Council and Aberdeen Public School Board Candidate Forum.

The format for the forum will allow candidates to make introductory and closing statements, as well as answering questions asked by forum attendees. The purpose of the forum is to provide candidate exposure to the community and allow citizens a chance to communicate your issues and concerns.



Meet the New Aberdeen Downtown Association Executive Director



Shelley Westra-Heier
Executive Director,
Aberdeen Downtown
Association

Hello! I'm Shelley Westra-Heier, the new executive director for the Aberdeen Downtown Association. I was born and raised here in Aberdeen and am an Aberdeen Roncalli graduate. After high school, I attended North Dakota State

University and then returned to Aberdeen to begin my career. I'm married to Ronn Heier and we have a

son Gavin who's a sophomore and a daughter Victoria who is a freshman, both at Aberdeen Roncalli.

I worked for the Aberdeen Family Y for 16 years and grew to love nonprofit work and investing in the improvement of our community. The opportunity to really make a difference in our community arose with this Executive Director position and I couldn't be happier with my new career. Being able to promote events, businesses and what downtown Aberdeen has to offer all day is exciting, rewarding and always changing. Some of my fondest memories as a child are of running around in my

grandfather's hardware store, Coast to Coast, and visiting my father at then, Farmer's and Merchant's Bank, now Dacotah Bank.

There is a lot going on in downtown Aberdeen these days with the events the Downtown Association puts on as well as a vast variety of shops, service providers and eating establishments lining our streets and I'm extremely excited to be part of it all. If you have any questions about the ADA, please stop in to visit with me. My office is in The Workshop at 208 South Main Street. Or feel free to call me at 226-3441 or email me at shelley@aberdeendowntown.org

Annual Chamber Golf Tournament Tees Off June 5th

This year, we are headed to the Wild West! The annual Chamber Golf tournament will be Monday, June 5th at Moccasin Creek Country Club. "Wild, Wild West" will be the theme for this year. Teams are encouraged to bust out the flannels, chaps and their horses for this year's event! The Chamber is also encouraging business sponsors to take part in the theme and provide a fun game or activity at their coordinating tee box! If you are interested in being a Hole Sponsor contact Bea Fischer at bea@aberdeen-chamber.com.

Registration and lunch will begin at 10:30 am with a shotgun start at 11:30 am. Cost is \$125 per golfer or \$500 for a team of four. The cost includes lunch, golf and an evening meal. Team mulligans are available for \$50.

All teams will receive a team handicap and will be flighted for the scramble format-increasing everyone's change to win and be competitive regardless of skill level.

The tournament is limited to 40 teams. You can register your player

names and handicaps at www.aberdeen-chamber.com/golf or by emailing infor@aberdeen-chamber.com. Carts must be reserved in advance by contacting the Chamber at 605-225-2860.



2017 Chamber Golf Tournament

June 5, 2017
Moccasin Creek
Country Club



Chinese Folk Art Exhibition on Display in NSU Library

The “Vibrant Beauty: Chinese Folk Art from the Shaanxi Region” art exhibition is currently on display in the Northern State University Beulah Williams Library.

A reception for the exhibition will take place 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, in the library. The Confucius Institute of NSU will sponsor the reception, which is free and open to the public.

“Vibrant Bounty: Chinese Folk Art from the Shaanxi Region” invites visitors on a journey through Shaanxi Province, one of the cradles of Chinese civilization. The capital city, Xi’an, was once the eastern terminus of ancient Silk Road, and is famous for its ancient ruins, most notably the Mausoleum of Qui Shi Huang and his Terracotta Army.

In an area outside of the city’s center lies Huxian (or Hu) County, where, since the 1950s, local artists have been producing objects similar to the 25 paintings and 14 objects found in “Vibrant Bounty.” This tradition has achieved great renown in China, culminating in the state Ministry of Culture awarding Huxian the honorary title of a “Village of Chinese Modern Folk Painting” in 1988.

This exhibition, which will be on display at the library through May 25, was organized by ExhibitsUSA, a program of Mid-America Arts Alliance.

About ExhibitsUSA

ExhibitsUSA sends more than 25 exhibitions on tour to over 100 small-

and mid-sized communities every year. These exhibitions create access to an array of arts and humanities experiences, nurture the understanding of diverse cultures and art forms, and encourage the expanding depth and breadth of cultural life in local communities. For more about ExhibitsUSA, email MoreArt@maaa.org or visit www.eusa.org.

About Northern State University Northern State University offers outstanding academics and exceptional extracurricular activities at an affordable price on a safe, welcoming campus. To learn more about NSU, visit NSU Admissions.

Avera Simulation Lab Next Step: Technology & Equipment Installation

Exciting news on the Presentation College campus, where construction of the new, state-of-the-art Avera Simulation Center will be completed in early May, 2017 – ahead of schedule! The rooms are finished and awaiting the next step in the pro-

cess: the installation of highly-advanced medical simulation equipment over the summer months.

The Avera Simulation Center will offer



the most up-to-date technology available for healthcare training and education, setting PC apart from all other Nursing schools in our region. The Center features five rooms with hospital beds, specialized medical equipment, and interactive mannequins. The mannequins include an adult male, adult female, pregnant female, newborn baby, and a male child.



Center also includes a Nurses’ call station, conference rooms and a control center. Students in the Nursing program, as well as those in various Allied Health fields of study, including Surgical Technology and Medical Assisting, will use the Center’s classrooms.

Events planned in the fall will provide opportunities for members of the community to tour the new facility and see a demonstration of this wonderful, new medical technology in action! PC students will take their first classes in the amazing new facility beginning in the fall semester 2017.

The rooms are designed to simulate Trauma, Critical Care/Intensive Care, Medical/Surgical, Pediatrics, and Obstetrics/Delivery hospital units. The

Dinah F. Cohen



Dinah F. Cohen, C.R.C. President of Dinah F. Cohen Consulting, LLC has more than 35 years of experience and is an international speaker on disability and veterans’ issues, including:

- employment,
- assistive technology,
- accessibility solutions, and
- diversity

She currently serves as a consultant to the Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion (EARN).

If you have a disability and need auxiliary aides/services (e.g. sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, materials in alternative format), or other another form of accommodation(s) in order to participate in the meeting please submit a request to Laura Stoltenburg at (605) 626-2398 or laura.stoltenburg@state.sd.us. To ensure auxiliary aides/services are available, please make request(s) at least 10 days in advance of the meeting.

Disability, Diversity, Inclusion: A Formula That Works

Monday, June 5, 2017

Presentation: 10 AM-Noon

Aberdeen Area Human Resource Association meeting to follow from Noon-1 PM
Best Western Ramkota Hotel
1400 8th Ave. NW (Aberdeen, SD)

- Is your business encountering concerns with not being able to fill open positions due to the lack of labor shortages?
- Do you want to learn more about recruiting, hiring, or maintaining employees with disabilities?

Join Dinah Cohen for a discussion on the promising practices to improve diversity and inclusion for people with disabilities, and how to increase employer engagement in each phase of the employment lifecycle.



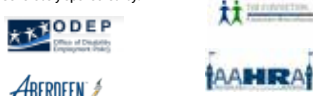
Who should attend?

- HR personnel
- Business owners
- Employees
- Supervisors
- Managers
- Service Providers

Register by **RSVP:** <http://aahra.shrm.org/events/2017/06/june-2017-aahra-meeting> or by contacting Laura Stoltenburg at 605-626-2398



Generously sponsored by:



Training Calendar for May/June 2017

ABERDEEN AREA HUMAN RESOURCE ASSOCIATION

Navigating SDWORKS, South Dakota's New and Improved Job Database

Presented by: Holly Gederos & Felicia Alspach, Employment Specialists with the Aberdeen Department of Labor and Regulation/Job Service
Thursday, May 18, 11 am-1 pm

Best Western Ramkota Hotel, Aberdeen

RSVP: <http://aahra.shrm.org/forms/rsvp-may-2017-meeting>

Training free to AAHRA members

DLR launched a new SDWORKS job database. As an employer or human resource professional, this is great news for you! The enhanced virtual one-stop system will offer greater access to job services and the technology is much more intuitive. This presentation will help you create job listings based on the skills and competencies you need for the position – not generic job titles or job descriptions.

Diversity, Disability, Inclusion: A Formula That Works

Presented by: Dinah Cohen, Consultant, Employer Assistance and Resource Network (EARN) on Disability Inclusion

Monday, June 5, 10 am-12 pm

RSVP: <http://aahra.shrm.org/events/2017/06/june-2017-aahra-meeting>

Free to AAHRA members

The session will cover the promising practices to improve diversity and inclusion for people with disabilities in the workplace. The presenter will provide specific steps to increase employer engagement in each phase of the employment lifecycle.

EIDE BAILLY

Find registration for all events online at <http://www.eidebailly.com/about-us/events/>

World Trade Month Webinar Series: Thinking Beyond the Domestic Market – May 4

World Trade Month Webinar Series: Exploring Exporting & Expansion to Canada – May 12

Tax Trends Webinar Series: Offshore Voluntary Disclosure: A Clean Slate for Business – May 16

World Trade Month Webinar Series: Understanding VAT in the European Union – May 17

Business Insights Webinar Series: Avoid Criminal Prosecution Related to Offshore Accounts – May 18

Tax Trends Webinar Series: Global Mobility Considerations – May 19

World Trade Month Webinar Series: Exploring Exporting & Expansion to China – May 23

World Trade Month Webinar Series: Exploring Exporting & Expansion to Europe Through the Netherlands – May 31

Tax Trends Webinar Series: Innovation and Process Modification: Qualifying for the R&D Tax Credits – June 20

Business Insights Webinar Series: Creating a Culture of Security – June 21

Tax Trends Webinar Series: Transfer Pricing: Impacts on Your Effective Tax Rate – June 22

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Contact: Courtney Dosch, Education Coordinator, 605-773-5445
www.dor.sd.gov

Register at <https://apps.sd.gov/rv23education/classes.aspx>

14 S Main St, Suite 1-C, Aberdeen

ND/SD Border Seminar: Basic Sales Tax

Thursday, June 15, 9:00 am-12:00 pm

ND/SD Border Seminar: Construction Contractor

Thursday, June 15, 1:00-4:00 pm

SOUTH DAKOTA MANUFACTURING & TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Smart Center, 416 Production St N, Aberdeen. Register online at

www.SDManufacturing.com/events or by contacting Kellie at

605-228-0414, Kellie.Ecker@usd.edu

Lunch & Learn: Quick & Easy Kaizen – The Big Deal About Small Improvements

Tuesday, May 2, 11:45 am-1:00 pm

All too often, the non-value added activities become “standard operating procedures”, i.e., become part of the background scenery.

To develop a culture of everyday problem solving by everyone, the first step is being able to recognize and define the problems. How to recognize value-added and non-value added activities. How to identify waste in your processes. The importance of problem solving to the root cause. What on-site Quick & Easy Kaizen Training can do to impact your business. How small improvements can impact your bottom line
COST: \$15 per person / includes lunch

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

QuickBooks: The Basics

Tuesday, May 9, 9:00am–12:00pm

QuickBooks: Inventory & Payroll

Tuesday, May 9, 1:30–4:00 pm

CDL Classroom

Monday, May 22–Wednesday, May 24, 5:30-9:30pm each evening

Excel Beginner

Monday, June 12, 9:00 am–1:00 pm

Excel Intermediate

Monday, June 19, 9:00 am–1:00 pm

Excel Advanced

Tuesday, June 26, 9:00am–1:00pm

CDL Classroom

Tuesday, June 26-Wednesday, June 28, 5:30-9:30pm each evening

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

Customer Service: Meeting Your Customers' Needs in a Changing Environment

Wednesday, May 10, 12:00-1:00 pm

Is Your Business Setup Correctly?

Wednesday, May 24, 12:00-1:00 pm

How Customer Service Defines Your Brand

Wednesday, June 14, 12:00-1:00 pm

Digital and Social Media Marketing

Wednesday, June 28, 12:00-1:00 pm

Beef and Summer Grilling



Eric Payne,
Insurance Plus & Ag
Committee Member

The days are getting longer, the sun is shining brighter, the temps are heating up, and so should your grill. As we are now on a downhill slide into summer, we long for the days of sitting out on the porch, beer in hand, music

playing, and that delicious smell of steaks or hamburgers on the grill.

Hello everyone, my name is Eric Payne and I am a farm and crop insurance agent at Insurance Plus, Aberdeen Chamber Ag Committee member, and an avid griller! I know I have learned from the best in the area...my parents. Obviously I am biased in my opinion, however I grew up all my life around grilling and beef in particular. My folks raise registered Red Angus cattle on a ranch about 9 miles west of Leola, South Dakota in the rolling prairie hills of McPherson County. Growing up, there was no shortage of good,

quality beef in the freezer and my parents always had perfectly grilled steaks, hamburgers, or roasts on the table at dinner time. I had always wanted to know how they did it and so I began to watch and learn from my father. As any good rancher would say, 'the flavor comes from good genetics,' which, along with the cooking process, does have a lot to do with the taste of a good steak. A steak with good genetics can still be ruined with poor grilling technique.

Below is my list of tips when trying to impress your guests around the grill:

1. Thaw the meat naturally- Sounds pretty basic but something so simple can make or break the tenderness of the meat if you try and begin grilling when the meat is still a bit frozen or you have to thaw it in the microwave.

2. Don't be in a rush- The slower the grilling, the better the flavor. Now I am not talking a snail's pace. You still want to heat up the grill right away and then lower that temp down to medium or medium/low so that the fats have an ample amount of time to



break down and spread throughout the meat.

3. Flip the meat only once!- I cannot stress this enough. I've seen many people thinking they are professionals flip that meat left and right and back again only to dry out and ruin the steak. Watch for the blood to start puddling on the top of the steak and then flip.

4. Don't Smash, don't cut, and don't use a fork- Too many times I see someone flip a burger or steak and then take their spatula and smash it into the grill grates. As my dad says, 'In 30 seconds, you just took out what it took me 30 years to put into that meat.' He is right. America's ranchers work so hard for

Continued on page 11

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.

May

- 2..... **Pheasants Forever Spring Banquet**, Eagles Club
- 4..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 4-6 **SDHSAA All State Jazz Band**, Johnson Fine Arts
- 5..... **Leadercast 2017**, Bethlehem Lutheran Church
- 6..... **NSU Spring Commencement**, Barnett Center
- 6..... **Candidate Forum**, Brown County Courthouse
- 6-7 **Aberdeen ABATE/FM Crusaders Bike Show & Dance**, DEC
- 11..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 13..... **Presentation College Commencement**, Strode Center
- 18..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 20-21 **Northeast Area Pari-Mutuel Horse Racing**, Brown County Fairgrounds
- 25..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 27-29 **Northeast Area Pari-Mutuel Horse Racing**, Brown County Fairgrounds

June

- 1..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 2..... **Relay For Life of Brown County**, Brown County Fairgrounds
- 3-4 **Smittys U10/U12 Baseball Tournament**, Players Softball Complex
- 5..... **Chamber Golf Tournament**, Moccasin Creek Country Club
- 8..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 8..... **Downtown Summer Concert Series**, Downtown Aberdeen
- 9-11 **Family Fun Weekend at Wylie Park**, Wylie Park
- 9-11 **Vern Jark Memorial Wood Bat Legion Tournament**, Fossum Field
- 10..... **Princess Party** at Storybook Land
- 10..... **SD State High School Clay Target League**, Aberdeen Gun Club
- 10-11 **Whitetail Bowmen Archery Tournament of Roses**, Outdoor Range
- 15..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 15..... **Aberdeen Aqua Addicts Water Ski Show**, Dahme Lake
- 15..... **Aberdeen City Track Meet**, Swisher Field
- 16-18 **ASC Summer Invitational Swim Meet**, Aberdeen Aquatic Center
- 17-18 **Arts in the Park**, Melgaard Park
- 22..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 22..... **Questers Garden Walk**, Various Locations
- 22..... **Aberdeen Aqua Addicts Water Ski Show**, Dahme Lake
- 23-25 **Dacotah Cup Soccer Tournament**, Moccasin Creek CC
- 24..... **Downtown Summer Concert Series**, Downtown Aberdeen
- 29..... **Aberdeen Farmers Market**, Central Park
- 29..... **Aberdeen Aqua Addicts Water Ski Show**, Dahme Lake
- 30 - July 2... **Hub Area 4-H Rodeo**, Brown County Fairgrounds

Continued from page 10

many years to develop the genetics we have today that provide that flavor whether it's marbling, tenderness, or lean meats. As consumers, when we smash, cut, or poke the meat while on the grill to make sure it's done, we lose a lot of natural juices from the meat that provide the flavor. Try using a set of tongs to flip the steak and gently touching the top to feel its doneness.

5. Let the meat rest- That meat has been working hard on the hot grill to provide you with a great meal. One of the worst things you can do to lose flavor is to immediately cut into and serve the steak or roast after it is done. The heat from the grill broke down the marbling (fats/ juices) in the meat and spread it out for flavor. By letting the meat rest, you won't lose this all natural flavoring. I would say 5 or 10 minutes should do the trick.

Some of you reading this have known about these easy little tips for years and some of you haven't. My hope is that they will serve as a refresher for the seasoned grillers and educational for the novice. Now get out there, clean those grills up, crack a cold one, and enjoy the summer grilling season! BEEF, IT'S WHAT'S FOR DINNER!

CHAMBER BIG DATES

Ag Committee

Thursday, May 18, Noon, SDSU Extension
Thursday, June 15, Noon, SDSU Extension

Ambassadors

Tuesday, May 9, Noon, TBD
Tuesday, June 16, Noon, TBD

Business After Hours

Thursday, May 11, 5:15 pm, Pierson Ford-Lincoln
Thursday, June 8, 5:15 pm, Sportsman's Club of Brown County

Candidate Forum

Saturday, May 6, 9:00 am, Brown County Courthouse Community Room

CART

Thursday mornings every week, 8:30 am, Chamber

Chamber Executive Board

Thursday, May 11, Noon, Chamber
Thursday, June 8, Noon, Chamber

Chamber Full Board

Wednesday, May 17, 8:00 am, Chamber
Wednesday, June 21, 8:00 am, Chamber

Chamber Golf Tournament

Monday, June 5, 10:30 am, Moccasin Creek Country Club

Community Affairs Committee

Thursday, June 1, Noon, Best Western Ramkota

Diplomats

Thursday, May 11, 3:00 pm, Chamber
Thursday, June 15, 3:00 pm, Chamber

Health & Wellness Committee

Wednesday, May 3, 8:00 am, Northeastern Mental Health Center
Wednesday, July 5, 8:00 am, TBD

Leadercast

Friday, May 5, 7:30 am, Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Military & Veterans Committee

Tuesday, May 2, Noon, National Guard Armory

Northern Plains Livestock Day

Saturday, June 3, 8:00 am, Brown Co. Fairgrounds

Partners in Community Pride Committee

Friday, May 12, 9:00 am, Chamber
Friday, June 2, 9:00 am, Chamber

Retail Theft Coalition

Wednesday, May 10, 10:30 am, Public Safety Building Community Room
Wednesday, June 14, 10:30 am, Public Safety Building Community Room

The Connection (Disability Task Force)

Wednesday, May 17, 2:00 pm, The Workshop
Wednesday, June 21, 2:00 pm, The Workshop

Transportation Committee

Tuesday, May 30, 3:30 pm, Chamber

Workforce & Education Committee

Wednesday, May 17, 3:30 pm, ARCC Alumni Room
Wednesday, June 21, 3:30 pm, TBD

The Chamber will be closed the following dates:
Monday, May 29 • Tuesday, July 4



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www.aberdeenfloral.com



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***YOU ARE AN AWESOME
AMBASSADOR (YAAAA)**



Alison Kiesz (right) with Northeast Council of Governments (NECOG) was chosen as the March YAAAA Award winner. Presenting the award is Judy Vrchota, Senator John Thune's Office, February YAAAA winner.



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Spitzer-Miller Funeral Home
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Partners in Community Pride 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. Both Avera St Luke's and Caribou Coffee were chosen in March for parking lot improvements on their respective properties. In April, New Life Fellowship was selected for renovations made to their building and grounds.



Recognized businesses are now receiving window clings to display. Look for them as you visit area businesses and thank them for being a partner in community pride!



Decade of Change



Lynn Lander
Aberdeen City
Manager

I hope you find this article to be interesting but I wanted to highlight new building construction changes that have happened within Aberdeen from 2008 through 2016. The statistics below show the continuing development occurring in Aberdeen.

Highest Annual Issuance – 2011
89 permits
Lowest Annual Issuance- 2014
51 permits
Latest Annual Issuance – 2016
83 permits

Multi-Family Units
Multi-Family Units (2008-2016)
957 units
Year 2008 to 2016 yearly average
106 units

Commercial Building Permits
New Construction (2008 to 2016)
175 new buildings
Total stated construction value
\$163 Million
Average value of New Commercial Bldg. \$934,566

Single Family Home Permits

New Single Family Permits
(2008 to 2016) 667 permits
Year 2008 to 2016 yearly average
74 permits

The U.S. Census quick facts data estimated 12,158 housing units as of 4-1-2010 for Aberdeen and 363,438 statewide. Persons per household estimated by U.S. Census was 2.24 for Aberdeen vs. the state average of 2.45. A housing unit, as defined by the US Census for purposes for housing data, is a house, an apartment, a group of rooms, or single room intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. The calculated increase in housing units from 2010 to 2016 equals 9.47%. A given takeaway when looking at this statistical data is Aberdeen has grown in housing units.

BETH GEARY OF WHEAT GROWERS NAMED NAMA NEXT GEN AWARD RECIPIENT

Beth Geary of Wheat Growers, Aberdeen, S.D., has been named a 2017 recipient of the Next Gen Award given by the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA).



The Next Gen NAMA Award recognizes young professionals in the agribusiness industry. Nominees must be under 35 years old and have exhibited a strong track record in their profession, be known for promoting innovation in their organization, demonstrated leadership and spearheaded collaboration, contributed to their local community and be active in their local NAMA chapter.

As vice president of the Northern Prairie Chapter of NAMA and marketing coordinator for Wheat Growers, Beth is a dedicated marketing professional who contributes to a vibrant organizational marketing program. She plays a vital role in collaborating across the Wheat Growers culture, working together with suppliers to co-brand marketing materials and cost share. She has initiated several innovations to control expenses while also extending reach of marketing programs. And she provides valuable marketing support to an extended sales agronomy team that spans 40 locations and two states.

Beth is active in the Aberdeen Area of Chamber of Commerce events, is a graduate of the Chamber's 2016 Leadership Aberdeen program, has been involved in fundraising for the local SPURS program, and helps facilitate legislative involvement for Wheat Growers during the annual South Dakota legislative session.

Beth is one of five recipients of the 2017 Next Gen NAMA Award. The other recipients are Tyler Clarke, Advantage Agri-Marketing Services; Cliff Dolbeare, Growmark, Inc.; Colin Pennington, Brighton Agency; and Jennifer Saylor, J.L. Farmakis, Inc.

Winners were selected by the Professional Recognition Committee and Executive Committee liaisons of NAMA. Winners received their award at the 2017 Agri-Marketing Conference, sponsored by NAMA April 26-28, in Dallas, Texas.



DOUBLE DUTY MOVERS & PORTABLE STORAGE WINS AMSA'S ENTERPRISE AWARD

Double Duty Movers & Portable Storage of Aberdeen has been named the winner of the 2016 Enterprise Award, presented to an outstanding small independent mover by the American Moving & Storage Association. The company has shown a commitment to high standards by earning several certifications from AMSA, including ProMover certification for the company, certified packer/loader for their crew, and certified moving consultant for co-owner Emily Heintzman. Double Duty was honored during the AMSA 2017 Education Conference & Expo in Palm Springs, Calif., on February 28.

The Enterprise Award reflects AMSA's and the industry's commitment to recognizing outstanding performance among small, independent movers, which can be demonstrated in a variety of ways, including community service, employee relations, innovative operations, and exceptional customer service practices. The award honors AMSA mover members with less than \$3 million in annual gross revenues and fewer than 25 employees, as selected by a panel of industry experts.

Double Duty Movers & Portable Storage has grown from a one-man operation in the portable storage industry to a multi-line business with multiple family members and employees. Under owners Steve and Emily Heintzman, the business has expanded its services to include containerized moving options. The company offers a wide range of services from self service to full service moves.

Double Duty was nominated by the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce for their annual ABBY Award for Customer Service, and has been named as a Dakota Rising Fellow. The company has supported the local community through free moving services for families in need, fire and flood victims needing storage, and local churches and charities. Double Duty also has provided free transportation for furniture to Habitat for Humanity

and free containers for the Brown County Fair, along with support for other local charities.

"Congratulations to Double Duty Moving & Storage for their outstanding success as an enterprising small mover that makes a big impact on their community," said Scott Michael, AMSA president and CEO. "Double Duty has set high standards for the rest of the industry, and I'm proud to see them honored for their success and dedication."

Each year AMSA recognizes the industry's best performing and highest achieving individuals and companies. More information about the AMSA Awards at ProMover.org/awards.

PRIMROSE OF ABERDEEN IS A BEST PERFORMER

Primrose Retirement Communities, L.L.C. has named Primrose of Aberdeen one of its Retirement Communities of the Year.



The announcement was made on April 5th, during the company's annual Leadership Conference in Austin, TX.

"The Aberdeen Primrose has continued to be one of our best performing communities," said Primrose Retirement Communities President BJ Schaeferbauer. "More importantly, the staff there exemplify the high level of quality service we are proud to provide. Primrose of Aberdeen is a wonderful example which all of our retirement communities around the country should strive to follow."

In addition to the title, Primrose of Aberdeen received a monetary award which will be shared among the employees.

Primrose Retirement Community of Aberdeen has the distinction of being the first-ever Primrose community, opened in 1991.

Primrose Retirement Communities, L.L.C., headquartered in Aberdeen, South Dakota, provides high-quality independent and assisted living communities across the country and specializes in personalized services and resident-focused care.

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Aberdeen Sertoma Club

"Our Mission is to improve the quality of life today, through education and support, for those at risk or impacted by hearing loss. Our passion is to create a world where everyone who chooses can hear us. And our passion will compel us to raise awareness of our cause, educate those willing to understand, and



support those whose lives can be improved through better hearing health."

Angelhaus & Angelhaus North

Nathan Gellhaus,
Owner
1717 E Melgaard
Road | Aberdeen



We offer the highest quality care in a warm, nurturing environment that you can't get in a large institutional setting. We were the first assisted living facility in Northeastern South Dakota to bridge the gap between residential care and nursing homes, and now we even go beyond that. With a strong belief in "Aging in Place", and licensure including hospice care and full assistance with ADL's, our center has become a viable nursing home alternative.

Anthony's Jewlers

Anthony
Schwan,
Owner
923 6th Ave
SE | Aberdeen



Anthony Jewellers is a personable jewelry store with unique one of a kind pieces hand made. Increasing my love for jewelry beginning 30 years ago.

CBMC of Aberdeen

"We welcome every business-man no matter what your background is or how much you know. We're more interested in how much passion you possess for learning. We're a group of men in the marketplace living out our faith in authentic relationships."



Rotary Club

"The mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders."



INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Connie Groop



CANCER & CHRONIC DISEASE

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Tuesday, June 13
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Refreshments available following speakers

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Register by emailing
info@aberndeen-chamber.com

Featured Speakers

Brian Leyland-Jones, MB BS, PhD
Avera Cancer Institute Center for Precision Oncology
Dr. Leyland-Jones specializes in genomic medicine.

Megan Jacobson, MS, LN, RDN
South Dakota State University Extension Nutrition Field Specialist

Andrew Russell, PhD
Northern State University





It's Time For
DOWNTOWN
ABERDEEN

EVENTS ON MA



The Aberdeen Downtown Association is ready to kick off summer so make sure you take a stroll down Main Street. You'll find fantastic shopping and services, amazing places to eat and special events happening at night as we present some incredible entertainment once again this summer in downtown Aberdeen.

We are gearing up for the Free Summer Concert Series that has brought fun and excitement to main street the past couple of years. We have four nights of concerts on tap with two in June, one in July and one in August from 6:00 pm until 11:00 pm. Besides great music from our headliners and local openers, food and beverages will be on hand and all are welcome.

And it wouldn't be summer without Sizzlin' Summer Nights. Mark it on your calendar to be down on Main Street, Saturday August 26th as food vendors, musicians and of course amazing cars and bikes will line the streets.

But before all the summer fun hits main street we kick off our Farmers Market season on May 4th at Central Park. Join us each Thursday just north of old Central High School to stock up on fresh produce, baked items, pasture raised beef, eggs, craft items and much more. The Farmers Market will run every Thursday from 2:30 pm – 6:30 pm in May through October and we plan to be open a few Saturdays as well throughout the summer.

Keep your eyes open for more exciting events from the Aberdeen Downtown Association like our Wine Walk, Crazy Days and much more as we show you why it's once again time for you to visit downtown Aberdeen!

Be sure to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @DowntownABR and of course checkout our website www.aberdeendowntown.org for more information about these and other events. To speak to someone about how you can get more involved or how to become a member of the Aberdeen Downtown Association, contact Shelley Westra – Heier at 605-226-3441 or shelley@aberdeendowntown.org.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE ABERDEEN DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

IN STREET

ALL SHOWS
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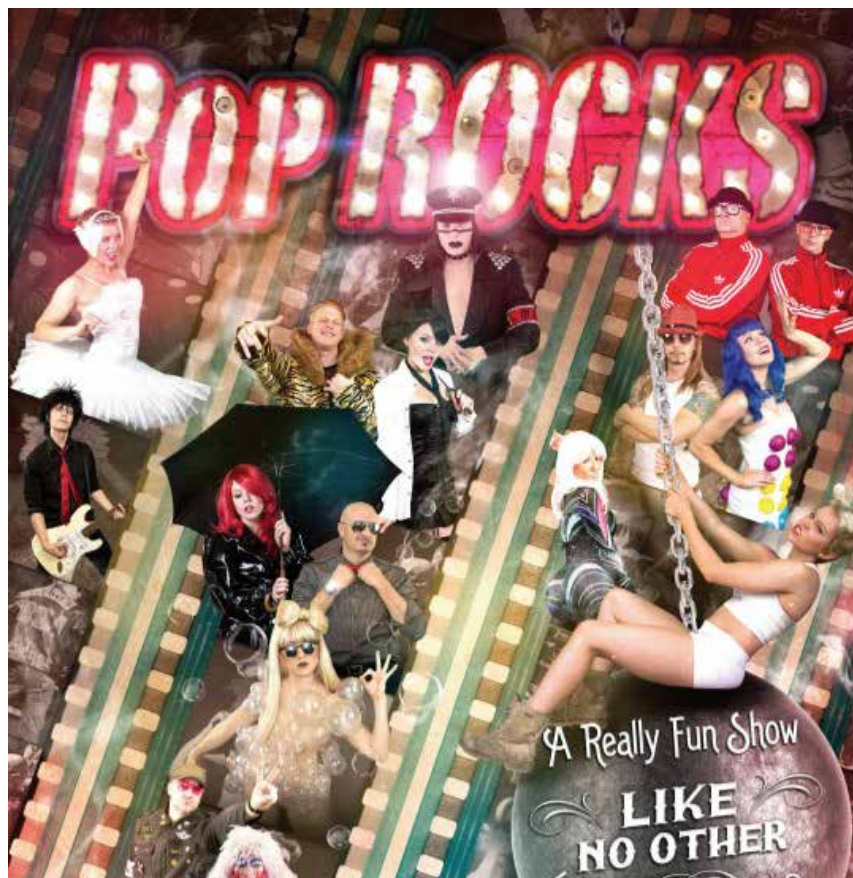
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DEEN DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

Arts in the Park Coming June 17th and 18th

Each year on the third weekend in June, Melgaard Park in Aberdeen is transformed from a typical city park to a shopper's delight of original, handmade arts and crafts, entertainment for all ages and the aroma of yummy food! We are proud to be one of the very few outdoor art and craft Festivals that have been happening for over 40 years. Arts in the Park will be held on June 17 and 18. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

One hundred and fifteen booth spaces will be filled with unique, hand crafted items from exhibitors that come from over 14 states. Food booths fill the air with aromas that welcome attendees to the park.



Inflatables and barrel train rides entertain the young attendees. Musical entertainment happens all day under the big tent.

When the Aberdeen Arts Festival first started 42 years ago, attendees were encouraged to "spend a happy day in the park". Attendance at the first festival was estimated between 3,000 and 4,000. Those early years, artists showed up, opened the trunks of their car, unloaded some wooded crates, maybe a tarp and their artwork. Marketing consisted of

a couple of sons of the committee members walking up and down Main Street wearing sandwich boards and the logo being printed on side-panels of half-gallon milk cartons. Today, EZ Up tents, side panels and display shelving are a standard

set up for artists to spend the weekend in the park. It is estimated that between 18,000-20,000 attend the two day event.

Throughout the years, the general public referred to the event as "Arts in the Park" even though the formal name was the "Aberdeen Arts Festival." In 1998, the volunteer planning committee that organized the event each year started the process of turning the event over to the Aberdeen Area Arts Council. In 1999, the Aberdeen Area Arts Council voted to change the name officially to "Arts in the Park".

Even if you are not a shopper, Arts in the Park provides a great opportunity to meet up with friends, grab a bite to eat, enjoy the entertainment and spend a relaxing day at the park. The same holds as it did years years ago – "Come spend a happy day in the park". For additional information about Arts in the Park, please contact the Aberdeen Area Arts Council at 605-226-1557 or visit www.AberdeenAreaArtsCouncil.com.



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Summer Fun Starts Here

The Aberdeen Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department have been busy making plans for a wide variety of summer activities. The Summer Brochure is available now and also is posted online at www.aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec. The first opportunity to register for Summer Programs is the Summer Registration Kickoff Day on Tuesday, May 2 beginning at 7:00 am at the ARCC. On Line Registration is also available beginning that morning also at 7:00 am by going to website listed above, or By Phone at 605-626-7015 with a credit card.

Registration continues after May 3 at the Parks & Rec Offices and can be reached at 626-7015. The Department offers many programs for youth of all ages. Tee Ball, Baseball, Softball, Tennis lessons, Swimming Lessons and the First Tee Golf Lesson Program continue to be popular activities. Just a reminder that registration for all Golf activities is done at the Lee Park Pro Shop. The Aberdeen Recreation and Cultural Center (ARCC) offer the Discovery Program from preschool to 6th grade. It consists of a variety of fun activities relating to a theme topic through visual, performing, literary and cultural arts. The ARCC offers an extensive list of activities for Middle School aged youth as well. In addition there are Dance and Theatre Camps. The YAPatorium provides a great place for teens to spend the summer.

Summer Fun starts with a visit to Storybook Land. There are activities almost on a daily basis there. Storybook Land Theatre performs on Tuesday Mornings, Wednesday and Friday nights beginning June 20. Their shows are truly fun for the whole family. There are Storybook Land Activities for youth on Mondays beginning on June 5 and Friday Mornings beginning on June



23. Don't forget the Storybook Land Festival on Friday & Saturday, July 21 & 22.

Adults are not left out either! The Coed Kickball League and Tennis Leagues are being formed and a variety of Tennis lessons are offered. Golf lessons and leagues continue to be extremely popular. The ARCC offers several adult classes during the summer and the Aberdeen Area Senior Center has their Mystery Trip and a wide variety of special events planned. Don't forget to make time for a relaxing Thursday evening with the Aberdeen Municipal Band. It does not get much better than that!

The Aberdeen Aquatic Center is the place to be for your Summer Fun!! This is great entertainment for the whole family, including grandpa

and grandma. The zero depth pool allows access even for non-swimmers. 3 water-slides and the Lazy River provide hours of fun. You can even rent the shelter for family picnics or the new Cabanas!

A picnic or a walk through one of our many parks, a bike ride on our miles of trails or Disc Golf at Melgaard Park is a great way to enjoy the summer. The list goes on and on. Check out

the Summer Brochure and sign up for one of our programs. Summer Fun begins with the Aberdeen Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.

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Aberdeen Gift Card Six-Month Recap



Bea Fischer
Director of Member Services & Events, Aberdeen Chamber

The Aberdeen Gift Card, a pre-paid MasterCard credit card, was introduced mid-September 2016. This closed-loop system – meaning participating merchants must be active members of the Chamber to accept the card – has been well-received by all.

There are currently 193 business-

es authorized to accept the card. Over 1,802 cards have been activated, totaling nearly \$80,000 being added to the cards. 104 businesses have accepted the cards, totaling \$49,868 that have been redeemed.

Gift cards are sold at the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce in increments from \$10 - \$500. The cards are provided to purchasers at no charge to them, thanks to our sponsor, Dakota Broadcasting. Merchants do not incur any fees for accepting the cards outside their normal credit card fees and no

additional software is needed to redeem the cards.

If you are not a Chamber member, but are interested in receiving Chamber membership information, contact Bea Fischer at bea@aberdeen-chamber.com or 605-225-2860.



Garden Plotter's Annual Plant Sale



Each year the Aberdeen Garden Plotters host an annual plant sale. This year's plant sale will be held Saturday, June 3, 2017 from 8 A.M. to Noon, at 911 11th Avenue Northeast in Aberdeen. The sale features a wide variety of perennial and annual plants, bulbs, rhizomes, and seeds from the members' own gardens. This will be the 9th annual plant sale, with over \$12,000 being



raised to date.

Proceeds benefit the development of the Kunhert Arboretum located in the southeast part of Aberdeen. The club's first donation was a concrete bench located near the Rose Gardens. Recently a beautiful bronze statue has been purchased and is to be placed at the entrance to the Children's Gardens to welcome visitors.

Aberdeen Garden Plotters started



in August of 2006. Garden Members are Steph Aas, Darlene Aho, Deb Bures, Stacey Frink, Renita Kainz, Myrna Kokales, Cindy Kraft, Lori Liedle, Renae Mettler, Kelly Miller, Shirley Shanley, Janet Simon and Gloria Wilson.

For more information and updates visit us on our Facebook page: Aberdeen Garden Plotters.

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Nearly 600 Attend 4th Grade Ag Fair



The morning of Tuesday, April 11th dawned bright and beautiful – although a bit chilly – as the Aberdeen Chamber’s Ag Committee and Groton FFA members worked diligently to put the finishing touches on the 2017 Ag Fair. Piglets squealed and goats bleated as the featured attractions were ushered into the arena that would soon be filled with hundreds of 4th graders. Throughout the morning and early afternoon, 543 students and 49 teachers & helpers from 13 different schools converged on Prairie Hill Farms to learn about beef cattle, horses, crops, dairy products and farm safety.

Groton FFA students simulated a grain dust explosion, showed the children how to make butter, demonstrated just how powerful

a power takeoff is and more. The grain dust explosion and friendly (and extremely patient) dairy goats were popular with the youngsters and adults alike. The Wheat Growers Technical Rescue Trailer made an appearance, and employee Beth Locken enthralled the participants with a simulation of how quickly one can get trapped in grain.

Even though ag is the number one economic driver in this area, it’s amazing how many of these children have not even stepped foot on a farm to learn first-hand how these crops and livestock affect us daily. Each student received a goodie bag with even more information from the South Dakota Beef Industry Council, Pork Producers, Sheep Producers, Soybean Research & Promotion

Council, Wheat Commission & Corn Utilization Council as well as the Midwest Dairy Association.

The Ag Fair experience would not be possible without our sponsors. The Ag Committee sends a big thank you to Farm Credit Services of America, Groton FFA, Roncalli FFA, Prairie Hill Farms, Wheat Growers, Brown County Fairgrounds, Midwest Dairy Association, Arby’s, Artz Equipment, CorTrust Bank, Dacotah Bank, Diesel Machinery Inc, Farm Forum, First State Bank, Glacial Lakes Energy, Hub City Livestock, Jakober Limousin, John Sieh Agency, Kippley Tax Service, Midwest Ag Supply, Northern Electric Coop, Plains Commerce Bank, Prescription Agronomics, RDO Equipment and Wells Fargo Bank.



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(Suggested \$4 per box/bag)

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Thanks for the Memories Aberdeen



Dr. Bill Broucek
Business Dean
Northern State
University

This is my last Progress report as I am retiring from NSU early this summer. I've lived in South Dakota for nearly 25 years and have been commuting from Huron for 17 of those years – driving up Sunday night and returning to Huron

on Friday after work. Before joining NSU I rarely visited Aberdeen. I think I had a job interview at PC once and another time my wife and I drove up one summer Sunday. The only other time I was in Aberdeen before 2000 was to catch a plane at the old airport. I think we stayed at the Ramada overnight.

The past seventeen years, living in two places at once, has been interesting to say the least. I would often see someone and say to myself "Where do I know that person from?" "Is that an Aberdeen person, a Huron person, an Aberdonian in Huron, a Huronite in Aberdeen, a stranger?" Yes, it was confusing at times. Aside from Chamber After Hours gatherings, people don't wear name tags nor do they have roster numbers that one can look up. "Who the heck is that guy? He seems to know me." It's hard enough getting old and senile let alone living a double life on top of that.

Last Sunday as I drove up on 281, a road which I swear I could drive blindfolded, (93.5 miles from my house south of Huron to my house on south Lincoln) it occurred to me that I won't be making the trek much anymore. I'll miss the lighted cross on the Bonilla church. It reminds me of a skid row mission I used to see in Chicago. I'll miss Tulare. Early on I turned off 281 to downtown Tulare to see its prehistoric rock though now, I just barrel through seldom slowing my speed.

In Aberdeen, I'll miss a bunch of places. We have grocery stores in Huron but I'll miss Kessler's, a unique independent with a great meat and liquor selection. I bought

my first wedge of Parmigiano Reggiano there many years ago. I'll miss Ken's lemon filled birthday cakes and Menards. There's no Menards in Huron. There is a Walmart there but it's much smaller than Aberdeen's and charges a dollar more for a gallon of milk. I never ate out much in Aberdeen but I'll miss the Ramkota and Maverick's and Palm Garden. I'll also miss Monday Monster burgers at the Eagles and the people-watching that went with waiting 30 minutes for one's number to be called. I don't know what I'll do without the 3rd floor ladies at Brides and Belles who did my sewing. I'll miss the bike path that goes from Melgaard to Presentation and to Wiley park. The soccer fields, baseball fields, the dip behind Snap that goes to the Lutheran Church – I could be blindfolded for that route too.

We also bought a few items in Aberdeen. My wife and I bought a small house on Lincoln which my daughter and I shared while she went to NSU. She got a scholarship but in addition to that and the biology program here, I think a big reason she chose Northern was El Jo Mar stables where she rode horses with Chris. Besides the house, my wife and I bought a Celica at Harr's for our daughter while she attended high school. Harr's was located then on the west end of 6th by the elevator. When our daughter graduated NSU, I bought myself a Sienna at the airport location. A few years later my wife and I bought a Chevy at Lust's.

Most of all, I'll miss the people. I won't single out any body because I don't want to leave any one out. My neighbors on south Lincoln were top notch. I'll miss the folks at the Chamber – the committee members I served with and the people who attended the mixers, awards banquets, and community presentations. I'll miss the Capitol theater people. I'll miss the cast of "Inherit the Wind" and the members of the Improv group. There's a lot of talent in this town. I'll also miss the Capitol marquee. I saw it one evening when I was new to town and it's still impressive.

I'll miss the people at the Y. I

started there at the old location on Lincoln then moved to the new spot. I met some great people there through the years both staff and patrons. We talked about many things in the men's locker room but I don't recall anyone ever speaking like our President and that TV reporter.

I'll miss the men and women who taught me how to play Texas Hold 'Em at various venues around town. New York New York, The Zoo, The Eagles, The Elks, Erika's, Lagers, Shenanigans, Bully's were all places where the Dakota Poker League called home. The night I won my first tournament at New York New York and received a bottle of Lord Calvert I cradled it as if it were the Nobel Peace Prize.

Finally, I'll miss Northern State. The campus, the buildings, the classrooms, the people. I met some memorable students through the years. They were wonderful. Some I still see working around Aberdeen. I also was fortunate to be surrounded by great staff and faculty.

I don't want to do a brag list but while I was Dean the Business School was accredited by both ACBSP and the Network of International Business Schools, pioneered online education to the point that we accounted for nearly 50 percent of online students, established Advisory Boards for our programs, and inaugurated business week festivities in both the fall and spring semesters. Our Shark Tank competition is a candidate for a Best Practices Award in Leeds, UK. Our Lamont Rhodes Speaker attracted over 250 community leaders each of the last two years. Last November, our International Business Conference became truly international when we held the 24th annual conference in Jinan, China. Finally, we started the practice of formally recognizing our graduates the evening before graduation with a reception for them and their families and the recitation of the Oath of Ethical Business Conduct which all our graduates take.

Aberdeen will always have a place in my heart. Thanks for the memories.

Tips for Avoiding Critical I-9 Violations



Kim Dorsett
Partner, Richard-
son, Wylie, Wise,
Saucik & Hieb

All employers are required to contend with I-9 employment verification and compliance requirements. For small businesses, this can present particular challenges because there are a variety of unfamiliar employment authorization situations that human resources personnel may not have seen before. The current administration is expected to focus on increasing employer compliance with immigration regulations, which includes increasing I-9 investigations and enforcement. Fines for future Form I-9 violations were also increased, making it more imperative than ever that employers ensure hiring processes are compliant. Here are three tips for all businesses to consider in ensuring hiring practices are completed properly.

one of the key steps that small businesses can take to ensure the correct completion and retention of I-9 records. This training should include an introductory overview of typical employer authorization and identity documents held by both domestic and foreign workers, so that human resources personnel can recognize some standard situations and also be alerted to any situations that required further scrutiny. Businesses can also institute a practice of self-auditing their I-9 records. Such audits will assist in identifying common errors that can be corrected before your business faces a federal audit. Violations of the I-9 process can be costly. In the past, first offender fines ranged between \$375.00 - \$3,200.00 per individual. Under the new regulations, those fine ranges will be increased to \$539.00 - \$4,313.00 per individual. Repeat offender fines were increased from a range of \$4,300.00 - \$16,000.00, to now anywhere from \$6,469.00 - \$21,563.00. Compliance is thus extremely critical.

Further questions on this topic should be directed to an attorney well versed in employment and labor law, or you may direct questions to me at kdorsett@rwwsh.com.

1. Understand the importance of I-9 compliance: Every employer hiring an individual for employment must complete a Form I-9, which is intended to verify that new employee's identity and authorization to work in the United States. The Form I-9 must be completed by both the employer and the employee within three days of the employee starting work. It is very important to strictly follow all rules regarding the timing for completing and retaining the form, how and by whom identity and employment authorization documents must be reviewed, and how the form must be signed.

2. Stay informed on updates and changes. The federal agency responsible for releasing the I-9 form and providing guidance on the employment verification process periodically develops updates to the form and its instructions. For year 2017, a new updated I-9 form is mandatory, which can be found at www.uscis.gov/I-9. If you need assistance completing the form, there is a web page dedicated to providing resources, called "I-9 Central". This website includes access to the "Handbook for Employers", which provides detailed information on how to complete the I-9 form in a variety of employment authorization situations. It is very important that all employers are currently using the new form mandated in 2017.

3. Audit current files and provide forward-looking training: Job training for personnel charged with I-9 completion and maintenance is

3. Audit current files and provide forward-looking training: Job training for personnel charged with I-9 completion and maintenance is

Thank You!

The Chamber Board of Directors and staff thank the following Board member whose served faithfully through 2016 to support our mission. Your dedication and commitment are appreciated.



Jerry Glatt
CVB Board Liaison
1 year



Nadine Gropp
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2 years

Better Speech & Hearing Month - Noise in the Workplace



Elizabeth Schwab
 Owner, Schwab
 Audiology and
 Health & Well-
 ness Committee
 Member

There is only one type of hearing loss that is 100 percent preventable: noise-induced hearing loss. The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) estimates that 18 percent of Americans (26 million people) between the ages of 20 and 69

have high-frequency hearing loss due to exposure to noise at work or during leisure activities (2016).

The amount of time a person is exposed to noise makes a difference. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has recommended that all noise exposure should be controlled below 85 decibels for eight hours in order to minimize occupational noise-induced hearing loss. For every three decibels the noise increases, the recommended exposure time is cut in half (88 dB for 4 hours). Noise-induced hearing loss

can be caused by a one-time exposure to loud sound as well as by repeated exposure to sounds at various loudness levels over an extended period of time.

- Examples of noise levels
- 194 dB Loudest possible tone
 - 180 dB Rocket launch
 - 165 dB 12-gauge shotgun
 - 140 dB Jet engine at takeoff
 - 120 dB Ambulance siren
 - 119 dB Pneumatic percussion drill
 - 114 dB Hammer drill
 - 110 dB Concerts
 - 108 dB Chain saw
 - 108 dB Continuous miner
 - 105 dB Bulldozer, spray painter
 - 103 dB Impact wrench
 - 98 dB Hand drill
 - 96 dB Tractor
 - 93 dB Belt sander, blender
 - 90 dB Hair dryer, power lawn mower
 - 80 dB Ringing telephone
 - 70 dB Vacuum
 - 60 dB Normal conversation
 - 30 dB Whisper
 - 0 dB Weakest sound heard by the average ear

We live in a noisy world and often that noise is unavoidable. However, there are simple steps to prevent noise-induced hearing loss before it starts.



1. Remove yourself from the noise and decrease the volume when possible.
2. Wear hearing protection. Examples include: disposable foam earplugs, reusable plastic earplugs, earmuffs, or custom devices molded to your ear.
3. Monitor hearing levels for those who are exposed to high levels of noise regularly in occupational or recreational settings.

The damage of noise-induced hearing loss is permanent. You may download a free app on your smart device to learn the sound levels of your everyday environments. The NIOSH Sound Level Meter mobile app is designed to measure sound levels in the workplace and provide noise exposure parameters to help reduce occupational noise-induced hearing loss. Search "NIOSH SLM" to download the free app!

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Retail Success - Does Your Staff Pop?



Kelly Weaver
Regional Director,
Small Business
Development Center

Recently, I shared an article about the 7 steps that can 'make your shop pop' based on the book, "Shops that Pop!" by Pamela Danziger and Jennifer Patterson Lorenzetti. While retail may appear all about products, it is primarily a

people serving business. The right people are key. Based on just a few steps identified by the authors, how does your staff stack up?

1. Employ your expertise. Avoid the temptation to implement ideas outside your mission – keep your focus on your niche and become known as an expert in your area. Create/hire staffs who are experts. Expertise is missing at big box competitors and is desired by customers.

2. Surround yourself with people

who are as passionate about your store as you are. Successful shops exude a vibe and that starts with you and your staff. When looking to fill a position on your team, look for a person who is high energy and enthusiastic. Pair that energy with training on product knowledge and fun and your employees will be able to talk confidently about products and pass that sense of energy and fun to your customers.

3. Train your staff to give a special greeting. The key here is to make customers feel welcome, like guests in your home. Create a greeting that is unique to your store and your mission and that lets customers know you are glad they came. Think what a great impression you can make and how it can become a hallmark of your business if everyone is trained and consistent.

There are many other 'people principles' identified by the authors. The goal is to make your business memorable and create connections



with customers. This requires engaged staff and as such you should expect to pay staff accordingly. Look for the right personality traits and then train, train, train on the product knowledge and store expectations. Look for potential great employees among your customer base. If you identify current staff members that don't fit the mold, find roles for them that are not customer-facing. Retail employees are often viewed as low skilled work force but nothing could be farther from the truth if you want to be successful. Put "Shops that Pop!" on your reading list to learn more and see examples of businesses doing it right.

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Opportunity at the Click of a Mouse



Kristi Noem
US Representative (R-SD)

When a young woman wanted to turn a love of fashion into a gainful career, she didn't have to leave South Dakota's landscape for New York's cityscapes. She could start her business here and sell nationwide with just the click

of a mouse.

The internet is a powerful tool, connecting small businesses to their customers, doctors to their patients, students to their professors, and curious minds to the world. Despite tremendous strides in recent years, however, many in rural South Dakota still lack adequate access. And even for those who do have access, the challenge becomes keeping service affordable and in line with industry standards.

Part of the challenge is the

expense of servicing rural consumers. In large communities, dozens of families can be connected with every mile of cable, but in some areas of South Dakota, the population density falls to just two people per square mile. With the goal of offering internet connectivity to everyone, rural broadband providers receive support through the Universal Service Fund (USF), a self-sustaining account that does not require taxpayer dollars. This support helps compensate for higher costs so they can offer people more affordable rates.

Until very recently, however, USF support was only offered for customers who purchased traditional phone service and internet access together, which is why bundling services was often cheaper than stand-alone internet. The arrangement didn't make sense in the 21st Century. After significant pressure from me and others, the rules were updated, but challenges remain in making sure they are implemented properly.

Unfortunately, internet access isn't the only communications challenge facing rural South Dakota. Companies in the business of routing voice calls

sometimes purposefully drop long-distance calls headed for rural areas as a means to save money. Maybe you've experienced this at some point. While even the sheer inconvenience of it is inexcusable, some of these calls involve emergencies, leaving rural families in an unnecessarily dangerous situation.

To address this issue, I've helped introduce H.R.460, the Improving Rural Call Quality and Reliability Act. Among other things, this legislation would require companies to abide by basic call completion standards. The House of Representatives passed the bill in January. I'm hopeful we'll see the Senate act soon, so we can better ensure calls are no longer dropped just because the person on the other end lives in rural South Dakota.

Young people should never feel as though they need to leave South Dakota in search of opportunity. Even in the most rural parts of the state, people should be able to stream movies and TV, participate in interactive classroom discussions, access world-class health care, and even start a new business that hires locally but operates globally. By keeping the channels of communication open, all of this is possible with the click of a mouse.

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The Aberdeen Chamber's 2017 Membership Directory and Resource Guide and the 2017 Healthcare Directory and Resource Guide have been distributed to members.

If you didn't get yours, or you need additional copies, please stop by the Chamber to pick them up. Thanks to Nathen Cantwell for Designing the covers, including artwork that depicts life in our great city!

Don't Be a Stranger



John Thune
US Senator
(R-SD)

South Dakotans are well aware of the uniqueness that each season of the year brings to the state. From spring's planting season to fall's hunting season and everything else in between, there's always something to do

or see. South Dakotans who travel to our nation's capital in the spring or summer, or any of time year for that matter, will discover similarly unique experiences. You won't find any corn fields to plow or ringneck's to flush, but there are plenty of historical sights to see that rival (but clearly won't ever exceed) South Dakota's own Mount Rushmore.

I particularly like spring and summer because I get to enjoy the best of both worlds. I spend nearly every weekend back in South Dakota attending local community events and

getting important feedback on my work in Washington. And because there are so many annual conferences, conventions, and school groups that travel to Washington this time of year, I get to see a lot of familiar faces when I head back to D.C., too.

This spring, I've already had the chance to meet with South Dakotans who represent groups like the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, Outstanding Farmers of America, South Dakota's Telecommunications Association, South Dakota Sheep Growers, the American Lung Association, the Military Officers Association of America, and many others. I've chatted with student groups from around the state, including Close Up students from Pierre, Hartford, Sturgis, and Lemmon. Whether you're in town for a conference or a convention or a vacation with your family, I always enjoy when you stop by to say hello.

If you happen to be in Washington on a Wednesday when the Senate is in session, I host

a morning coffee with Sen. Rounds and Rep. Noem. All South Dakotans are welcome to attend. It's become so popular that Arizona Sen. John McCain recently stopped by to visit with folks who were in town. If you're interested in attending or just looking for more information about our Wednesday "Sunrise Coffee," feel free to call any of my offices or visit my website where you can also sign up.

My offices – throughout South Dakota and in Washington – can be helpful if you have questions about visiting the area before you book your trip or after you're already in town. We can help point you in the right direction for places to stay or visit and arrange tours for federal buildings like the Capitol, Supreme Court, and Library of Congress, among others. We want to help make your visit as fun and memorable as possible, so don't be a stranger. Give us a call, email, or stop by in person. I look forward to hearing from you!



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Memories from the Retiring Assistant Public Works Director



Clarence Feldheim
Assistant Public Works Director, City of Aberdeen and PICP Committee Member

“Through the Years” those are words from an old Kenny Rogers song.

These words are very fitting, I think, regarding my time with the City of Aberdeen, and the support that the City and my life-long partner have given me. Believe me, some things that happened--- more

than once I wanted to just cry, and would have done anything if I could have changed the outcome. However, also because of experience, some major negative results have been avoided.

I grew up on a farm on a dairy farm in the Herreid area, doing what most farm kids do: working, fixing and being a contributing member of the family. From 1969-1973 I attended college and received my Bachelor’s degree in Industrial Arts and a minor in Business from NSU. In 1973 after graduation, I started my career with Clark Engineering Company, a consulting civil engineering firm in Aberdeen. That job gave me the background in roads, water systems, sewer systems, construction surveying, etc. I started at the bottom of the heap: drafting, surveying, construction staking, inspecting and a little design work.

In 1985 the Aberdeen City Engineer, Fran Brink, offered me a position in the city’s Engineering Dept. and for the next four years, I learned policies, procedures, and the city’s infrastructure.

In 1989 Fran and other City officials believed in me enough to hire me as Assistant Public Works Director. The previous 16 years had helped prepare me very well for that transition. I said “helped”. Until a person experiences the very broad spectrum of what Public Works involves for any town or city, you can’t begin to imagine the many unique situations and problems that arise. As my wife would say, sometimes

“we don’t know what we don’t know”. Or my 2 cents worth is: “the older I get, the more I realize what I don’t know” --- there is always more to be learned.

A few key events made lasting impressions and are still vivid in my mind:

1. A major sewer collapsed at 11th Avenue and South State Street that affected one-half of the town’s sanitary sewer system. We could have had sewage backed up into half the homes in Aberdeen! I remember the call I made to Gary Dahme at 1 am that morning. I said “Gary, we are in trouble and we need help.” His response was “Whatever you need.” Aberdeen truly had a special place in Gary’s heart and he proved that more than once. With the help of Dahme Construction and our city employees at 2 am that morning, and days and weeks after, hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage was avoided.

2. The winter of ’96-’97 was the winter that sticks in my memory. Snow started the first week of November and continued throughout the winter. If I recall correctly, the department had official snow removal operations 6-8 weekends in a row, in addition to plowing snow during the week. Every day the wind blew and roads were plugged. As spring grew closer, another bigger problem loomed more evident. Not that we weren’t aware of the possibilities, but our attention had been focused on keeping the roads open. Soon the major concern was how bad the flooding was going to be.

We were called to a meeting in Huron at the request of the Governor and the Corp. of Engineers. The possibilities and the predictions that were made were potentially devastating to the city of Aberdeen if the predictions of snow melt held true. We had many long nights and days of work, planning, preparing Plan A, Plan B, and Plan C. We scrambled and scrambled when the flooding started! One morning at 3:00 am when I came home to change clothes and go back to work, I told my wife “when this is over, I’m going to find another job!” Through the 24-hour-a-

day shift work of the employees and Mother Nature cooperating by giving us several freeze/thaw cycles, the spring flooding disaster was minimized.

3. May of 2007 had a different outcome. I don’t believe that there are many towns/cities that can withstand 8”-10” of rainfall in a single event and not have some major flooding. Personnel were out through the event trying to keep facilities functioning. This wasn’t just Public Works, it involved power companies, Fire Dept., Police Dept., emergency personnel, etc. All were working together. Conditions continued to worsen to the point where all we could do was pray that it would quit raining! Holding ponds are constructed to hold excess run-off during major events. That night, ponds were overflowing, water was running OUT instead of IN. Entire neighborhoods became holding ponds, and many neighborhoods received extensive damage.

Hopefully events such as these never happen again in our lifetime or the next. Over the past 30+ years, many improvements have been made to the city’s water system, sanitary system, storm sewer system, roads, parks, buildings, equipment, personnel, etc. Are we done yet? By no means! But the city is much better equipped to deal with major events today than it was 30 years ago. First-hand experience is a tough teacher.

I have been privileged to make so many personal and business acquaintances because of this career. The City of Aberdeen has been very good to me and my family. I think it should be everyone’s objective to make this world a better place to live, and leave it better than we found it. I hope I have done that.

Thank you everyone. It’s time for me to step aside and let the next generation take over. Take good care of Aberdeen for us and our children!

Note: Clarence will be retiring June 30, 2017. The Chamber appreciates all he has done for the Partners in Community Pride Committee and the City of Aberdeen.

Relay For Life Event Runs June 2nd & 3rd, 2017

In the classic movie, The Wizard of Oz, Dorothy Gale goes on an adventure through a magical world to find out in the end that there is "no place like home". This year, at the Brown County Relay For Life, our teams and participants will go on a similar adventure but we already know that there is "No place like Hope".

Relay For life is a 12 hour walk throughout the night to raise funds for the American Cancer Society and bring awareness to the disease. The idea is to have someone from your team or group on the track at all times. But we have so much more going on as well!

Our Wizard of Oz theme will

hopefully bring about creative campsites, decorations and maybe even a few costumes. There is music and games too. But what we really want to focus on this year is hope.

The hope to educate, the hope to remember, the hope in celebrating successes. And most importantly - the hope that what we are doing will bring an end to cancer altogether someday.

For anyone interested in Relay For Life our event this year is June 2nd and 3rd. Our event kicks off with our Survivor dinner. Registration starts at 5 pm and dinner is served at 6pm. The Opening Ceremonies begin at 7pm and the walk goes throughout the night and ends with

Closing Ceremonies around 5:00am. The Survivor dinner is in the Odde Building and the Relay is in the Holum Expo Building at the Fairgrounds.



For more information or if you are a survivor and would like to be included please contact Amanda Twete - 228-1072, amandatwete@gmail.com or Allison Disbrow - 290-0332, allison.disbrow15@gmail.com.

Otherwise please come out and check out our Relay - Wizard of Oz, There's no place like hope! It is open to the public and free of charge.

Teaming Up With The APD

Want to help the Aberdeen Police Department? It's as easy as teaming up with them for a fun and engaging social media campaign. The APD recently joined forces with Buffalo Wings & Rings to give away gift certificates to the restaurant. They received a large response to the Facebook giveaways and would like to continue to do these types of promotions. One post alone reached over 35,000 people in less than 24 hours.

What does this have to do with the APD's work in the community,

you ask? They have found their Facebook site extremely useful to help identify suspects, issue public safety alerts and promote community policing projects. This has been a great way for the APD to connect with a large segment of our community.

With over 13,000 likes and growing fast, promotions like this are a win/win endeavor. The community is helped by the strengthening of the APD's social media base and the businesses partaking will receive



massive exposure in a very short period of time. If you are an Aberdeen business that believes this is a worthwhile endeavor, contact Captain Eric Duven directly by email at 215.apd@aberdeen.sd.us or phone at 605-626-7062.

rally function event workshop think tank committee reunion assembly training panel event round table
 town hall exhibition lecture powwow forum seminar meeting symposium
 regional summit expo class session
 conference team building tradeshow
 brainstorming presentation

No matter what you call your get-togethers, we are here to help make it happen!



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What's New at the Aberdeen Development Corporation



Mike Bockorny
Chief Executive
Officer, Aberdeen
Development Corp.

Greetings from the Aberdeen Development Corporation (ADC)! As we usher in the spring and summer seasons, the ADC is humming with activity. This activity includes some personnel changes within the ADC. First, we

welcome Lauren Bittner to the ADC as the Director of Operations and Business Development. Lauren is a native of Aberdeen, graduate of Roncalli, NSU (undergrad) and U Mary (MBA). She will be responsible for ADC Operations (including workforce development) and Business Development. Lauren will office at the Workshop, located at 208 South Main Street. Additionally, Jill Vining has been promoted to the Director of Training and Educational Programming and Heidi Barclay has been promoted to Vice President of

Finance for the ADC. A few other updates and exciting items of note are:
The Ag Processing Inc. soybean processing plant construction has begun in earnest. This project is scheduled to be complete in the Fall of 2019.

Centennial Commons is under development and will be ready for use by late summer.
The Workshop continues to see increased use from permanent members and intermittent meetings of various groups. Also, the Power Hours have had excellent attendance.
StartHUB is back! With the assistance of Nicole Johnson and Josh Latterell (a huge thank you to the both of them), StartHUB is now hosting meetings again, rotating between the Workshop and various businesses in the BID District.
NSU's Center for Creativity and Entrepreneurship will be located in the Workshop. The ADC and NSU are proud and excited about what

this partnership will yield in the future.



The Aberdeen SCORE Chapter's home is now the Workshop.
We continue to see strong interest in Aberdeen from outside businesses looking at Aberdeen as a potential location. Furthermore, we see interest in expansion with the businesses who already call Aberdeen home. Even with the questions surrounding the worldwide economy, there is certainly opportunity for growth in the months ahead and we look forward to doing our part in the continued growth of Aberdeen's economy.
Finally, and as always, we keep our focus on our mission statement - "Recruit, retain and expand economic opportunity in Aberdeen and our surrounding region." We wish you all a great spring and summer!
For information or questions please contact our office at 605-229-5335 or check out our website at www.adcsd.com.



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