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the Minot Memo e-News

NEW LOOKING, LEANER MINOT CITY COUNCIL

City of Minot voters have spoken on who they want to become the new 6-person council. Unofficially, 3,494 ballots were cast this past Tuesday, to determine which of the nine candidates would become the first group of six for Minot’s new-look council. The following individuals were elected, pending the canvassing committee report: Shaun Sipma with 2,873 votes; Shannon Straight with 2,715 votes; Josh Wolsky with 2,343 votes; Mark Jantzer with 2,181 votes; Lisa Olson with 2,123 votes and; Stephen Podrygula with 1,880 votes. To appropriately stagger the terms, the top three vote getters will serve three-year terms, while the bottom three will serve one-year terms. With the new city council makeup the mayor, currently Chuck Barney, now becomes a voting mayor.

ADVANCING THE MAGIC SKY INITIATIVE IN MINOT

The Minot Area Development Corporation is continuing to achieve its MAGIC Sky Initiative, after attending the Drone Focus Conference in Fargo from May 31 to June 1. Thanks to the networking opportunities, guest speakers – including U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao, U.S. Senator John Hoeven and North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum – and workshops, the effort to bring Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) businesses and partners to Minot is growing. This was the first year that MADC attended the two-day conference, joining more than 600 other attendees. For more information on MADC’s

MAGIC Sky Initiative, [click here](#).

SUMMER CONFERENCE OFFERS CHANCE TO SHARPEN SKILLS

Economic development representatives from across the state will meet at the end of June for an annual conference, geared toward promoting the creation of new wealth throughout North Dakota and improving the quality of life. The Minot Area Development Corporation plans on attending the [2017 Economic Development Association of North Dakota Summer Conference](#) to sharpen their skills and glean from the best practices being done in the state. [Jay Schuler](#), Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Commerce and founder of GIANT Sunflower Seeds, will be speaking about "Inspiring Opportunity: North Dakota Entrepreneurs Speak Out." The schedule also includes a review of the 65th Legislative Session and changes to the PACE/Flex PACE programs available from the [Bank of North Dakota](#).

GROWING THE ND WORKFORCE THROUGH APPRENTICESHIPS

Statewide informational meetings will be held this summer, to help businesses grow their workforce through apprenticeships. The meetings will be held through the North Dakota Department of Commerce with the aim of growing highly-skilled employees in many industries through the development of new apprenticeship programs. The focus will be on creating non-traditional apprenticeships in the manufacturing, energy, IT and healthcare industries. To find out more, or to register to attend a free meeting, [click here](#).

Thank you for supporting economic development in the Minot area and investing in Minot's future! The following businesses renewed their yearly investment in May:

Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND

Bremer Bank
Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Conlin's Furniture, Inc.
First Western Bank & Trust
Houston Engineering Inc.
Jerome C. Jorgenson, CPA
KLJ
KMOT-TV
Lowe's Garden Center
Midco
Mindt Construction Inc.
Minot Daily News
North Hill Bowl, Inc.
Northern Bottling Company
Northstar Steel, Inc.
Northwestern Electric
Prairie Engineering
SRT Communications, Inc.
Stein Construction, Inc.
Tollefson's Retail Group, Inc.

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