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***the Minot Memo e-News***

**MADC’S ANNUAL MEETING: 2020 VISION GOING FORWARD**

The Minot Area Development Corporation’s annual meeting took place on the evening of Feb. 25 at the Sleep Inn & Suites in Minot. Keynote speaker James Leiman, Director of the Economic Development and Finance Division for the North Dakota Department of Commerce, covered key components of North Dakota’s economic development, including the state’s recent activities in the ag, energy, and UAS sectors, as well as Minot’s current position for economic growth.

MADC’s annual meeting also welcomed 2020 Chairman Randy Hauck, General Manager at Verendrye Electric Cooperative.



Chairman Hauck shared insights on MADC’s involvement in the intermodal port, updates on the Industrial Park of Minot, and the exploration of a merger between MADC and the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

**COOPERATIVES CELEBRATE NEW \$20 MILLION TRANSMISSION LINE**

[Verendrye Electric Cooperative](#) and [Central Power Electric](#)

[Cooperative](#) celebrated the completion of a \$20 million transmission line improving electrical reliability and capacity for Minot, the Minot Air Force Base and rural areas.



Central Power, Verendrye's transmission cooperative, completed a 115,000-volt transmission line that is 26.8 miles long. It starts southwest of Minot at a bulk delivery substation, heads north and then connects to a substation east of Ruthville. Verendrye Electric uses the line to serve the area. [Click here](#) to read the full press release, including U.S. Senator John Hoeven's remarks and the tremendous impact this project will have on the region.

## **MADC BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTES TO APPROVE CONTINUATION OF MERGE**

On Monday, Feb. 24, MADC's Board of Directors held a special meeting to discuss the possible merger with the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce. MADC's Board of Directors unanimously voted to continue moving forward, exploring the merging of the two organizations. In depth conversations took place regarding a merger, including the opportunities to utilize member resources together, the desire to provide more services to better serve the business community (such as workforce development), the ability to address business concerns with one voice, and more. Open communication regarding a potential merger process is incredibly important. MADC will continue to provide updates as we pursue the next steps for this process, which includes forming committees to tackle the finer details.

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### **Investor Spotlight**

**Stories contributed by MADC Investors\*****TOWN & COUNTRY INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC WELCOMES BECKY BRAATEN TO THEIR INSURANCE TEAM**

Becky was born and raised on a family farm in Westhope, N.D. After college, her interest in insurance sparked while working as an inquiry insurance specialist for the North Dakota Insurance Commissioner. She and her husband moved back to Westhope in 1998 to take over their family farm and Becky continued her career with a heavy focus in crop insurance. She spent the last 22 years as the SVP of Insurance with a local financial organization.



Becky is a past recipient of the Grain Growers Honorary Kernel Award, the Northern Pulse Grower Excellence Award, and the US Durum Growers Person of the Year for her work in the Personal T-Yield Pilot Program. She is a Certified Insurance Counselor and joins Town & Country Insurance Agency as an Agent. Becky's primary role will be providing local producers with farm and crop insurance services. Learn more about Becky and Town & Country Insurance Agency at [www.tandcinsurance.org](http://www.tandcinsurance.org).

**UNITED COMMUNITY BANK OFFERS 3RD YEAR OF COMMUNITY DRIVEN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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

The Our Community Scholarship Fund has been put in place to recognize and award area high school seniors who have given

their time through non-profit and community service organizations to help make our communities a better place. All UCB locations (Minot, Burlington, Drake, Leeds) will be awarding students in their area. In total, seven \$1,000 scholarships will be given. Applications for each can be found at [www.ucbnd.bank](http://www.ucbnd.bank). In addition to the scholarship, each awarded student in the Minot and Burlington areas has the opportunity to choose a local non-profit organization to receive a \$500 donation on the student's behalf.

"The students applying for this scholarship are truly passionate about their school and community. They can choose an organization within their school, church or town in which they live," says Jennifer Hubrig, UCB VP – Marketing/HR. "We feel so fortunate to have the opportunity to help provide area youth with the chance to give back to organizations they believe in."

Last year, winning students chose to give to the following organizations: Y's Men's Wild West Rodeo, Prairie Grit Adaptive Sports, Trinity Cancer Care Center, Des Lacs Burlington FFA, Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch.

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**Thank you for supporting economic development in the Minot area and investing in Minot's future! The following businesses renewed their yearly investment in February 2020:**

**Aksal Group LLC  
All American Trophies, Inc.  
Century 21 Action Realtors, Inc.  
Connole & Somerville P & H  
Creedence Energy Services LLC  
Electrical Workers Union #714  
Farden Construction, Inc.  
Lewis & Clark Development Group  
Morelli's Distributing, Inc.  
Odney Advertising  
Peoples State Bank of Velva  
Precise Transport LLC  
Ryan Family Dealerships  
The Computer Store**

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