



the pulse

News from the Young Professionals Network of Minot

8/3/2010

What's Happening?

Social Team Meeting

August 5, 12pm @ Planet Pizza

Leadership Meeting

August 10, 12pm @ Space Aliens

August YP 5:01

August 12, 5pm @ Baan Rao

Chamber Business After Hours

August 17, 5-7pm @ Minot State University-Swain Hall

Outreach Team Meeting

August 19, 12pm @ Marco's

YP Sand Volleyball Game

August 19, 7pm @ Oak Park

Check out the full YP Minot calendar [here!](#)



Fill the Bus

The Minot YP Network is linking up with [Sunrise Rotary](#) to collect school supplies for the upcoming Fill the Bus event. Sunrise Rotary has done this event in the past and has been able to give backpacks full of school supplies to kids who otherwise would not be able to afford them.

All school supplies need to be collected by Friday, August 6th, to be distributed to kids in need just in time for school to start.

Donation boxes will be available at [First International Bank & Trust](#) (1600 South Broadway and 1705 2nd Avenue SW), [Odney](#) (#7 Third Street SE in the Renaissance Center), [Prudential](#) (400 4th Street SW) and [FMI](#) (1400 31st Avenue SW).

On August 12th, YP volunteers will be needed (one-hour shifts from 10am-6pm) to collect school supplies in the Town & Country Credit Union parking lot. YP volunteers will also be needed to distribute the supplies at Oak Park on August 23rd (one-hour shifts from 4pm-6pm). Please see the [list of shifts](#) and contact [Megan](#) if you are interested in

helping out or donating school supplies.



August 5:01 @ Baan Rao

Join us for the August 5:01 event at Baan Rao, Minot's only authentic Thai restaurant on Thursday, August 12th. This is a casual event to get to know fellow YPs, especially new members. If you have never been to Baan Rao, now is the time to find out what you have been missing. Stop by after work and enjoy good food and great conversation. For

more info about Baan Rao's [website](#).

YP Sand Volleyball Game

Join YP for a friendly game of sand volleyball at 7pm on Thursday, August 19th at Oak Park. This will be a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, get a little exercise and have a lot of fun!

August Power Hour

The Professional Development team is currently finalizing the details for the August Power Hour. Look for more information coming soon. If you are interested in planning future Power Hours or have ideas or recommendations for speakers please contact [Monica](#).



YP/MSU Homecoming Events

The Community Links team is teaming up with MSU for the 2nd annual Community Block Party. This year's event is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, September 22nd. It will be held on campus in front of Old Main and is open to the public. We are looking for 25 to 30 YP volunteers to help work the event in simple, one-hour shifts. Please contact [Scott](#) to sign up to volunteer!

The Minot Young Professionals are again teaming up with the Rotary club to tailgate before the MSU Homecoming football game on Saturday, September 25th. If you are interested in working at the tailgating tent before and/or during the game please contact [Emily](#).

Thanks to the generosity of Reuby and the Barley Pop the Minot Young Professionals are again hosting a social at the Barley Pop after the MSU Homecoming football game. Last year we donated \$770 to the Souris Valley United Way and we are looking to beat that number this year. If you are interested in gathering prizes, working the event or helping in any other way please contact [Sara](#).

Outreach Team Sponsoring Bingo @ 2nd Story

The YP Outreach Team is sponsoring a bingo night at the [2nd Story](#), a social club for adults with developmental disabilities, on October 6th. If you are interested in volunteering that night or providing snacks or bingo prizes, please contact [Colee](#).

Last Chance to Order a YP Shirt

We are now ordering YP t-shirts and polos to sport at all the fabulous events we participate in. T-shirts are \$8.00 for sizes small through XL, \$10.00 for 2X and \$12.00 for 3X. Polos are \$19.95 for small through XL, \$21.95 for 2X and \$25.95 for 3X. The polos are also available in men's tall sizes.

Both the t-shirts and polos will be available in either navy blue or red with the Minot Young Professionals logo in white. Please e-mail the number, type and size shirt(s) you would like to purchase to ashley@ndstatefair.com.

Shirt order request deadline is Friday, August 6th. Payment will be collected when you receive your shirts. If you wish to purchase any YP merchandise on your own, Stevicks will have our logo on file.



The August YP of the Month is Jessica Olson

Where do you work?

I work at Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota as a Service Representative. I've been with this organization for over 8 years and I have really enjoyed the opportunity to help our members in all aspects of their insurance needs. Things in our industry are constantly changing and Health Care Reform is proving to be one of the biggest challenges I've encountered in my first 8 years of service. However, I enjoy the challenges and look forward to the positive changes that may take place. My primary responsibility is to work with employer groups to provide customer service and sales support. Many people however may not know that we also offer health insurance to individuals as well. Our current product list for employer groups include: Health, Dental, Vision, Life, Disability, Long Term Care and of course our Voluntary Products such as Cancer and Accident policies.

Why are you a YP member and how are you involved within YP?

I've been involved with YP as an Ambassador, which eventually merged into an Outreach position. Most recently I've accepted the opportunity and challenge to Co-Chair the Professional Development team. I joined YP to meet other professionals my age and it has been a wonderful experience. I've met so many people that I've been able to develop relationships with both professional and personal.

What's your favorite hang-out in Minot or favorite thing to do in Minot?

actually love taking my five and two year old to the Roosevelt Park Zoo. We are so fortunate in Minot to have such an amazing attraction. My husband and I also enjoy attending the ND State Fair, MSU Beaver Basketball games and eating out at our favorite local restaurants.

Now that summer is winding down, what are you looking forward to this fall?

I am really excited to hopefully attend my first NFL game in Minnesota....GO VIKINGS! I am also an avid hunter and looking forward to hunting with my spouse and our English Setters for some upland game. I enjoy gardening in the summer, so my early fall days are filled with canning and freezing our veggies. Last but not least this fall I will be sending my oldest off to Kindergarten and hope to be very involved with his school activities.

We hear that you just started a new business venture. Want to tell us about it?

Yes, www.rentndproperties.com is my web based business that I launched May 1st of this year. With the influx of people moving to our great state I wanted to create an easy way for people to conduct their search for a home. It is very time consuming and can be difficult to search through multiple websites for each property management company in the state. So I created a central location where property management companies can list properties on my site as well as their own. The site also provides links to other websites that may be of interest to people, events going on around the state and a blog that offers tips and articles in regards to North Dakota and or moving. I have to say that in the 3 months that we've officially been on line we've grown our daily hits significantly and the idea is catching on. I get emails regularly from people looking for specific properties and I do my best to match them with a property owner/manager. Scott Louser, Melissa Houston and Carl Lade all from Prudential Properties and all YP members have been a tremendous help to me in listing rental properties on my site as well as driving traffic to us via their websites. I owe them all a huge thanks for their support!

More Events Around Town

- Come out and enjoy a great evening of networking with Chamber members during Business After Hours on Tuesday, August 17th from 5-7pm at the newly remodeled Swain Hall on the campus of Minot State University. There will be a chance to win \$500 in Chamber Bucks and much more. Cost:\$5 per person at the door.
- Tickets for Minot's Downtown Wine Walk will be available for sale August 17th. The Wine Walk will be on Thursday, September 16th from 5-9:30pm. It will also be the September YP 5:01 so make sure to get your tickets early as they do sell out. [Click here](#) for more information.
- Volunteers are needed for the Downtown Fall Festival, planned for Saturday, August 21st. Volunteers will take tickets for inflatables, the petting zoo, and to help run the games. Please contact Clyde Thorne, Coldwell Banker Realty, at 240-98594 or 852-0136, if you are interested in helping.
- The Minot Area Homeless Coalition will be holding a 5k Fun Walk/Run on Saturday, August 21st, at Oak Park. [Click here](#) for more details.