APRIL 2019

Chamber Advantage

A Valley City Area Chamber of Commerce Publication
701-845-1891 www.valleycitychamber.com

Join us for a Lunch & Learn:

Learn How to Increase Your Customer Base while Reducing Your Liability

Learn about the Americans with Disabilities Act, how to reduce your liability, and financial incentives. There will be a Q & A portion and handouts will be available.

When: Tuesday, May 14th
Where: Rosebud Visitor Center
Time: 11:45 AM to 1 PM
Cost: $5 for Chamber members
$10 for non-members

RSVP by May 10th to chamber@valleycitychamber.com or call 701.845.1891

Congrats to Bank Forward

Winner of the 2019
Chili Cook-Off

Ag Essay Contest Winners:

1st: Sam Mehus, 2nd: Amber Knutson,
3rd: Caitlyn Thoreson

Find more Winter Show 2019 pictures on page 6 inside!

A Message From Your President

April showers, bring May flowers. Rain falls from the sky from clouds that often cover the sun and cause a dreary looking day. Those dreary days can affect our moods and our overall outlook on life. What we do not see happening is the growth under the surface.

After the rain, when the sun comes out, the grass turns green and the flowers grow. So, during the dreary days of April we need to be developing under the surface so we grow and flourish when the sun comes out.

At the Chamber, we celebrate our growth each year at our annual banquet. I hope to see you all at the Annual Valley City Area Chamber and Development Corporation Banquet on Tuesday, April 23, 2019. Tickets can be purchased online on the chamber website: www.valleycitychamber.com, or visiting the Chamber office located inside the Rosebud Visitor Center.

Natalie A. Meyer, President

2018-2019 Board of Directors

Natalie Meyer, President
Central Avenue Health Mart Pharmacy

Nathan McGough, President-Elect
John Deere Seeding Group

Carissa Martin, Treasurer
First Community Credit Union

Greg Vanney, Past President
Valley City State University

Aaron Cole, Director
GrandStay Hotel & Suites

Dean Kinney, Director
RKS Sales & Service

Dawn Mathias, Director
Lerud-Mathias Funeral Home

Penny Wolla, Director
Blush Boutique

Tanya Couture, Director
Urban Couture

Tuya Dutton
Noos Shop

Chelsea Langton
Fremstad Law

Tina Olson
Valley City Times Record

STAFF

Kay Vinje
Executive Vice President
Valley City Area Chamber of Commerce

Mikayla Gustafson
Event Coordinator
Valley City Area Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Committee Meeting Dates

Ag Committee
April 11th @ 4:30pm

Ambassador Visits
April 10th & 24th @ 10am

Board Meeting
April 12th @ 8:00 am

Commerce Meeting
April 26th @ 7:30 am

CVB
April 10th @ 9:00 AM
(dates subject to change)

A Message from Your EVP

Along with you, I'm thrilled to be this close to a season of sunshine, spring flowers, green grass and no snow! But before we put all thoughts of this incredible winter behind us, let's take one more appreciative look at the many people in our community who made the tough weather bearable for us all. Thank you to the snow removal crews of Valley City Public works, Barnes County and the many independent contractors who cleared the streets, roads and sidewalks at all hours of the night and day, in all types of conditions. Due to their excellent service after each snowfall, we were soon able to resume our daily lives again. We also thank the Barnes County Sheriffs Department, the Valley City Police Department, Barnes County Ambulance, and others who responded to the many weather-related emergency calls.

Thanks to our local media, i3G Media and Valley City Times Record we were kept informed with all weather-related information. Then there's all the great neighbors with snowblowers or shovels – where would we be without you! It took a great deal of community team work to survive this winter, and we did! Now, on for the warm pleasant days ahead.

The Chamber along with Freedom Resource Center, is offering a Lunch and Learn for all businesses on April 9th. The session is titled, "Is Your Business an ADA Lawsuit Waiting to Happen?" and will be sure to be insightful information to help your business not only comply to regulations but provide suggestions to help be more accommodating and welcoming to the people we serve. Please see the front cover of the newsletter for more details or check out the event page on Facebook. We'd love to have your join us for lunch here at the Rosebud Visitor Center, in the lower level conference area.

Thank you to our renewing members this month! We appreciate your faithful support of the work of the Chamber.

*Kay Vinje, **Executive Vice President***

Thank You Renewing Chamber Members!

Montana Dakota Utilities
Wade's Service Center
Bobby & Deb Koepplin

Ambassador Visits

Valley City State University
Visit with Dr. LaFave, VCSU President

101 College Street SW
Valley City, ND

800-532-8641

Regular Hours
Monday - Friday: 7:45 AM - 4:30 PM

Summer Hours
Monday - Friday: 7:30 AM - 4 PM

Get to Know More About VCSU President Alan D. LaFave

On Sept. 27, 2018, the State Board of Higher Education selected Alan D. LaFave, D.M.A., as the next president of Valley City State University. LaFave formally began his service to VCSU on Dec. 17, 2018. He previously served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Northern State University in Aberdeen, S.D.

At Northern State, LaFave worked his way though the faculty ranks from instructor to full professor in the music department (1991-2015). He also served as music department chair (1994-97) and associate dean and dean of the School of Fine Arts (1997-15). LaFave served as provost and vice president for academic affairs from 2015-18.

An accomplished musician, LaFave holds doctoral and master's degrees in clarinet performance from Arizona State University, where he studied under the renowned Robert Spring. LaFave also holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Northern State.

LaFave's family includes his wife, Kari; daughters Lexi and Ashley; and son-in-law Logan Fahnhorst.

Allard Trophy

108 East Main Street
Valley City, ND

701-845-3303

Website
www.allardcompany.com

The Ambassadors enjoyed touring Allard Trophy on Wednesday, March 13th. Allard Trophy was founded in 1955 and specializes in making custom awards and signs. The company was purchased by the Bischoff family in 1978. Allard Trophy has been and continues to be a locally-owned, family business that has been offering services and employment to the people of Valley City for over 40 years!

Would you like to host

Business After Hours

at your place of business?

Please let us know so we can get you on the schedule

Call us at **701-845-1891** or email **chamber@valleycitychamber.com**

North Dakota Winter Show Fun

Ag Social, Chili Cookoff, & Community Olympics

A Message from Valley City State University

VCSU to Hold North Star Athletic Association Conference Tournaments for Baseball & Softball

Valley City State University is hosting the North Star Athletic Association conference tournaments for both baseball and softball in early May this year.

The events run from May 2-6 and will bring 14 teams and more than 350 players and coaches to the Valley City community, along with several hundred fans expected to attend the multi-day tournaments.

“With hotel stays, meals and shopping, we estimate the economic impact on Valley City could be at least $100,000 for this week,” said VCSU athletic director Jill DeVries. “We’re excited to provide the student-athletes and fans with a championship atmosphere and introduce them to our great community.”

The NSAA Softball Championship starts May 2 and wraps up May 5. It is an eight-team, double-elimination tournament and will be played at the VCSU Softball Complex. Valley City State’s softball team is currently ranked No. 9 in the country with a 28-1 overall record.

The NSAA Baseball Championship runs from May 3-6 and is a six-team double elimination tournament. The baseball tournament will be played at Charlie Brown Field.

Valley City State has previously hosted the tournaments individually, but has never hosted both at the same time before. If you’re interested in volunteering to work the tournament in some way, contact VCSU athletic director Jill DeVries at 701-845-7160 or jill.devries@vcsu.edu.

Mark Potts
Director for Sports Information
Valley City State University
701-845-7228
mark.m.potts@vcsu.edu
www.vcsuvikings.com

1st ANNUAL JAVA JUMP

Winner

Congratulations to

Sue Carlsrud

She is the winner of $100 in Chamber Bucks from the 1st ever Java Jump in Valley City!

Valley City Area Chamber of Commerce
250 West Main Street
Valley City, ND 58072
(701) 845-1891
www.valleycitychamber.com
www.facebook.com/vcchamber

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUIRED

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Valley City, ND 58072

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, May 14th
Learn How to Increase Your Customer Base while Reducing Your Liability
Rosebud Visitor Center

April 17th - 19th
Bunny Hop & Shop
Downtown & Around Valley City

Tuesday, April 23rd
Chamber & Development Corporation Annual Banquet
Valley City State University
Student Center Cafeteria
5:30 PM Social | 6:30 PM Banquet

Valley City Sales Tax Collections

December 2018: $200,950.29
December 2017: $203,997.47

January 2019: $134,393.11
January 2018: $165,651.26