

Binde Honored As Top Sales Representative

Jason Binde was recognized as Variety Food's 2011 Distributor Sales Representative of the Year at a sales awards banquet held in Grand Island, Neb., on Jan. 6, 2012.

Jason resides in Scotland with his wife, Staci, and their five children.

Jason has been employed with the Sioux Falls-based food service distributor for four years and has 40-50 accounts in Yankton, Mitchell and surrounding communities.



Binde

Yankton Native Promoted At Bank

Todd "T.J." Hora has been promoted to Vice President/Group Branch Manager at First PREMIER Bank in Sioux Falls.

Todd has been with First PREMIER Bank for more than 17 years.

He is a graduate of the University of South Dakota and is a native of Yankton.



Hora

Shindler Elected To State Examiners Board

Dr. Scott Shindler, DPM, of Yankton was recently elected president of the South Dakota Podiatric Medical Examiners Board.

The board licenses and governs all Podiatric physicians in the state of South Dakota.

All board members are appointed by the governor. There are four members on the board.

Matching Funds For Interns Available

PIERRE — Businesses interested in hiring interns in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) disciplines have until March 20 to apply for the next round of matching funds from the Dakota Seeds program.

"This is an excellent opportunity for businesses to develop a pipeline of prospective employees," said Pat Costello, Commissioner, Governor's Office of Economic Development. "It's also a good way for students to get real-life experience and a better understanding of all that South Dakota has to offer in terms of job opportunities."

Dakota Seeds, which was started as a partnership between the GOED and EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) in 2008, has assisted 127 companies in creating 402 internships.

"This program is doing exactly what it was intended to do," Costello said. "Right now, nearly 40 percent of those who complete internships are offered full-time employment. That means the companies are getting employees who are ready to hit the ground running."

For more information on Dakota Seeds, contact the GOED at 800-872-6190 or go to www.dakotaseeds.com.

One-Stop Jobs Fair Slated For Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS — The South Dakota Business Industry Government (BIG) and Teacher Job Fair will join forces this year to create a one-stop shop for employers and potential employees.

The combined job fair will take place from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. More than 200 state, regional and national employers will attend. These employers are seeking candidates for fulltime and internship positions. The event is open to the public. Candidate registration is \$10 at the door and professional attire is mandatory for job-seekers. Employers are primarily seeking candidates with or pursuing college or technical school degrees.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for employers and employees to find each other in one place," said Jacki Miskimins, director of the Center for Talent Development at Dakota Wesleyan University. Miskimins also serves on the executive board for the South Dakota Association of College Career Centers, which is sponsoring both events. "The job fairs have provided nearly 50 combined years of services to the tri-state area. Some of the employers will be recruiting for national positions – they will send their local office to recruit for Minneapolis or Dallas; and then there are smaller, more hometown businesses who take this opportunity to find local professionals to stay local. There's something for everyone."

The BIG job fair has been in operation for 22 years and the Teacher Job Fair for 27. Further information and a list of companies recruiting at the fair can be found at www.getgrads.com.

Employers who wish to have a booth at the fair still have time to register; online registration for employers is available at www.getgrads.com.

Chronic Kidney Update Held In Yankton

Avera Education & Staffing Solutions (AESS) and Yankton Rural Area Health Education Center (AHEC) hosted the fifth annual Chronic Kidney Disease Update on Feb. 8, 2012 in the Professional Office Pavilion and Education Center on the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Campus in Yankton.

Health care professionals from South Dakota and Nebraska, including diabetic educators, dialysis technicians, dietitians, health-care directors, social workers, pastoral care providers and nursing students, attended this full day conference to explore the latest trends and discuss clinical updates in best practices for the management and support of patients affected by Chronic Kidney Disease. Commercial support for this conference was received from Genzyme, a Sanofi Company.

Sister Elena Hoye began the day presenting the "Value of Spirituality in its Challenges with Chronic Kidney Disease." Hoye, a Sister of the Presentation from Dubuque, Iowa, is Vice President of Mission at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton.

"Prevention of Health Care Associated Infections (HAIs) in Dialysis Units" was presented by Dr. Chuma Mbaeyi, an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Officer with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia. Through his work in the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion at CDC, he has participated in a number of public health response activities involving dialysis facilities and transplant centers in the US.

An energizing session on "Laughter Yoga" was led by Dan and Jill Johnson, laughter professionals and owners of Joyful Living, a business that brings more joy to your personal and business life through laughter.

"Nutritional Challenges of Dual Diagnosis: Chronic Kidney Disease and Diabetes" was presented by Marianne Wolfe-Hutton, a Registered Dietitian, Certified Diabetes Educator and Board Certified in Renal Disease. Wolfe-Hutton shared her expertise developed in her work at four of the largest dialysis providers in the U.S. as well as her experience as a Renal Case Manager for one of the biggest HMOs in California.

"Organ Transplantation of the Person with Diabetes and Kidney Failure" was presented by Catherine Garvey, Clinical Director of Transplant at the University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview, Minn. As a nurse and clinical transplant coordinator, Garvey has presented widely on living donation and transplant topics.

Conference attendees described the success and personal impact of this workshop as ... "I learned a lot from this conference. I will take this information back (to my facility) to improve the quality of patient care."

March is National Kidney Month and this education is important to support CKD patients. Avera Education & Staffing Solutions has successfully provided health care education, training, consulting and staffing solutions for more than 35 years. For more information on upcoming programs, such as the Healing Touch Level 1 class, visit www.averasolutions.org.

Prairie Family Business Conference Set For S.F.

VERMILLION — The Prairie Family Business Association (PFBA) will present its 20th annual Prairie Family Business Conference, March 29-30, at the Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center in Sioux Falls.

A highlight of the conference during the awards banquet on March 29 is the 2012 Vicki Clarke Prairie Family Business of the Year Award, which will be awarded to one of two local award finalists: the Shafer family of Shafer Memorials in Mitchell and the Larson family of Starion Financial in Bismarck, N.D. The coveted Heritage Award will be presented to the Gonzenbach and Nef families of Valley Queen Cheese in Milbank.

A special luncheon program on March 29 will celebrate the two decades of family business education success in the Midwest. From the Sons of Bosses in eastern South Dakota, the Black Hills Family Business Council, the South Dakota Family Business Initiative and now the Prairie Family Business Association, community and state leaders have recognized the important role family businesses play in South Dakota's economic development. Founders of the first university-run program, Jerry Johnson, Bob Tosterud, Robert Reinke and Tim Habbershon, will all be recognized.

Conference attendees will also have an opportunity to choose from several educational sessions, including "The 'Values' of Transition," "The Balancing Point," "Increasing Productivity by Aligning Talent," "Culture and Strategy," and "Creating Effective Policies in the Family Business." "Stories of Success" will feature fourth generation family leaders from the Haws Corporation in Nevada and the Palmer Candy Company in Iowa.

In addition to the awards banquet, the Prairie Family Business Conference includes a keynote address from Doug Box, son of industrialist Cloyce Box whose family owned the SouthFork Ranch that was used in filming the TV show "Dallas." Box

pursued a career in family business advising following a disputatious four-year family ordeal resulting in the sale of his family's oil and gas interests. His presentation on Thursday, March 29, "The Constructive Use of Conflict," will encourage participants to embrace the notion that the practice of constructive conflict is an essential skill set in managing the family firm. Box's session on Friday, March 30, "The Strategic Use of Advisors," will show family business leaders how to carefully manage their relationship with their advisors.

"Understanding the family business system as well as the unique dynamics presented in this system is critical to beating these odds," commented Beth Adamson, executive director of the Prairie Family Business Association. "The conference is recognized as the number one family business networking event in the region. Business-owning families have the opportunity to learn from top educators, but more importantly, they meet other business-owning families who are tackling some of the same issues, find new resources, and develop great friendships and business relationships as well."

For more about the 20th annual Prairie Family Business Conference, including an agenda and detailed session information, or to register please visit www.fambus.org. Participants can also register for the conference by calling the PFBA office at (605) 782-3225.

USDA Seeks Applications For Economic Development Funding

WASHINGTON — The USDA is seeking applications for loans and grants to help rural businesses create jobs and spur economic development. The funding is being provided under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program.

"Boosting access to capital sparks job creation and revitalizes the rural economy," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "USDA works in partnership with cooperatives and utilities across America, and we intend to utilize this program to leverage federal and private investments to put rural residents to work."

Eligible recipients are USDA rural utilities program borrowers. Those recipients pass the funds to local organizations. The funding is leveraged to create projects that retain or create jobs and upgrade public infrastructure. The maximum amount of funding for any one project is \$1 million for loans and \$300,000 for grants.

Organizations use REDLG funds to create jobs and improve services. For example, the Utilities District of Western Indiana received a REDLG loan and grant in 2011 to construct an elevated water storage tank and supply lines. The project will serve a technology park and two communities, creating nearly 400 jobs.

USDA plans to award up to \$79 million in loan and \$10 million in grants through the program. The deadline for submitting applications is the last business day of each month through Sept. 30, 2012. Applications must be submitted to the Rural Development state office where the project will be located. A list of these offices is available on the USDA Rural Development web site, <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/StateOfficeAddresses.html>, or on page 12792 of the March 2 Federal Register, <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-03-02/pdf/2012-5043.pdf>.

Since taking office, President Obama's Administration has taken historic steps to improve the lives of rural Americans, put people back to work and build thriving economies in rural communities. From proposing the American Jobs Act to establishing the first-ever White House Rural Council — chaired by Vilsack — the President wants the federal government to be the best possible partner for rural businesses and entrepreneurs and for people who want to live, work and raise their families in rural communities.

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, administers and manages housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs through a national network of state and local offices. Rural Development has an active portfolio of more than \$165 billion in affordable loans and loan guarantees. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America.

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