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Briefs...

Holmes Murphy, recently named Beau Reid, senior vice president, as Voting Shareholder and added 21 new employee shareholders from six company locations. Omaha based team members joining the existing group of shareholders include: Richard Jungman, Vice President, Property Casualty; Ned Kirklín, Practice Leader, Property Casualty; and Mick McGill, Vice President – Client Service, Property Casualty. Reid, along with the other shareholders, will guide company direction by fulfilling Holmes Murphy’s mission to promote health, protect wealth, and deliver peace of mind.



Reid



Jungman



Kirklín



McGill

Randy Gard, Bosselman Enterprises executive director, has joined the Nebraska Ethanol Board as the petroleum representative. Gard has more than 30 years of business development and management experience. Currently, he serves as executive director of Bosselman Enterprises and is a board member for the Bosselman family of companies. Gard is a former member of the Grand Island City Council, former president of the Grand Island Economic Development Corp., St. Francis board of trustees, president of the Riverside Golf Club Board of Directors, member of the Fonner Park board of directors and former board member of the Hall County Airport Authority.



Gard

NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC (NorthStar), a holding company for several subsidiaries which offer unique services within the financial industry, has added a National Accounts team to support the firm’s rapid growth in assets and relationships among its subsidiaries, including The Gemini Companies (Gemini), Orion Advisor Services (Orion) and Omaha-based CLS Investments (CLS). The National Accounts and Marketing teams will be led by Todd Clarke, formerly the

CEO of CLS. Ryan Beach, formerly president of CLS, will assume the role of CEO effective immediately.

UNICO Group has been selected to be part of a group of independent insurance agencies around the United States participating in the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America (IIABA or the Big “I”) “Best Practices” Study Group. Each year since 1993, IIABA and Reagan Consulting, an Atlanta-based management consulting firm, join forces to study the country’s leading agencies in six revenue categories. The agencies comprising the study groups are selected every third year through a comprehensive nomination and qualifying process and awarded a “Best Practices Agency” designation. The selected “Best Practices” agencies retain their status during the three-year cycle by submitting extensive financial and operational data for review each year. More than 1,800 independent agencies throughout the U.S. were nominated to take part in the annual study, but only 254 agencies qualified for the honor. To be chosen, the agency had to be among the top-performing agencies in one of six revenue categories. The agency was nominated by either an IIABA affiliated state association or an insurance company and qualified based on its operational excellence.

Securities America, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ladenburg Thalmann Financial Services Inc. (NYSE MKT: LTS, LTS PrA), has completed the acquisition of certain assets of independent broker-dealer Wall Street Financial Group (WSFG) of Fairport, N.Y. Sixty-seven WSFG advisors with approximately \$11 million in annual gross revenue and \$2.1 billion in client assets transitioned to Securities America. WSFG President and CEO Victoria Bach-Fink and Vice President D. Robert Anderson will join Securities America and supervise the branch. The branch will operate under the name Evolution Financial Advisors.

Turner Technology is holding a ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of their office remodel and to celebrate 25 years as one of Omaha’s longest serving full service IT providers. The event will take place on Thursday, November 17 at 4 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. The address is 12844 Augusta Avenue. The remodel included a complete restructuring of the 1st and 2nd floors of the office space they have occupied for the past 25 years. A celebration for clients, employees and

family will follow later that day.

Elk Ridge Village Retirement Community in Elkhorn, Neb. was named “Caring Star of 2017” for Service Excellence in Independent Living / Assisted Living / Alzheimer’s Care. Elk Ridge Village was the only retirement to be recognized as a 2017 Caring Star Community in Nebraska. This is the second consecutive year to earn the Caring Star Award – which is based on positive consumer feedback via Caring.com. In ratings and reviews from the residents and resident family members, Elk Ridge Village earned a 5-star consumer rating (the highest possible score) within the last year, while also having a high volume of positive reviews and meeting other qualifying criteria for this national honor.

Seven employees in **Swanson Russell’s** media department have been awarded a Google Partners Specialist individual certification by Google Inc. The employees are Robin Barrett, Rachel Leapley, Ritch Lomeli, Kelsey Pittam, Jenni Schroeder, Kaila Shirey and Kay Wigle. The certification recognizes media professionals who successfully pass the following Google AdWords exams: Fundamentals, Search, Mobile, Video, Display and Shopping. To learn more about Google AdWords, visit www.google.com/adwords.

HTI Plastics, a producer of injection-molded plastic products, has added a new Sodick 60-ton press to its already impressive collection of injection-molding presses. The new Sodick press was added only a few months following the addition of two other new Sodick presses. HTI installed two new Sodick presses, at 40 ton and 100 ton back in June. The new press will be used to expand the company’s services in a variety of areas benefiting of HTI customers. With the addition of the new press along with the two new presses added in June, HTI now has injection-molding presses ranging in size from 40 tons to 1,800 tons. Giving them the capability to serve a wide variety of markets and industries.