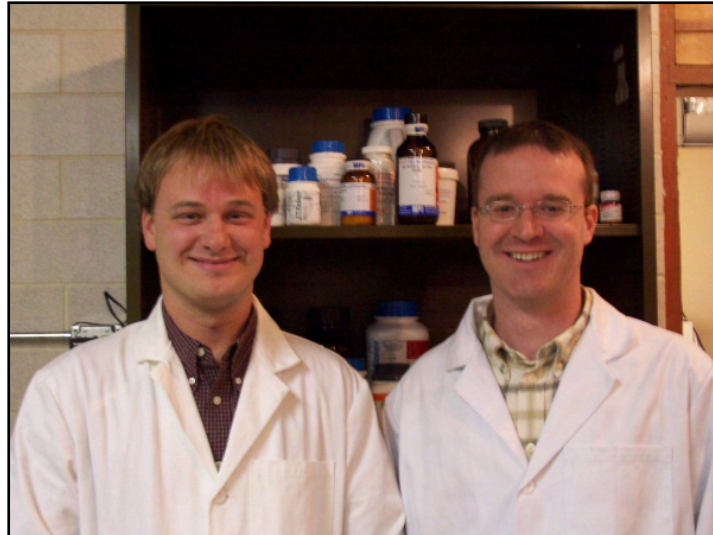




Technology Brought Them Back Home

High on most everyone's holiday wish list is technology. Usually that means smart phones, plasma TVs, or game consoles. But in the case of two friends from Willmar, it means industry-leading biological research and development at the **MinnWest Technology Campus**. Job opportunities at **Life-Science Innovations** brought them both back home to be closer to family, and with the holidays fast approaching, they are grateful for their gifts.

Friends since elementary school and through college, **Bob Poe** and **Jared Huisinga** now work together as colleagues. Forming the Biological Research & Development Department at **Life-Science Innovations**, these two spend their days working on developing and conducting experiments that they once only dreamed about as undergraduates.



Bob Poe and Jared Huisinga work in the Biological Research & Development Department for Life-Science Innovations in Willmar.

Doing advanced research for Life-Science Innovations, Bob and Jared are working on developing a sustained release vaccine delivery system for day-old turkey poults. It is these turkey poults, incubated and hatched at the Industrial Park Hatchery, which are the lifeblood of **Willmar Poultry Company**, an affiliate company of Life-Science Innovations.

Currently these young turkeys are each vaccinated multiple times during the grow-out process at an extensive cost to turkey growers. This sustained release injection can eliminate the need to handle the turkeys in the field which would in turn provide the growers with considerable cost savings. *(continued on page 2)*

BRING THEM BACK HOME

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays!

On behalf of the Kandiyohi County and City of Willmar Economic Development Commission, we'd like to wish you **warm holiday greetings** this year!

We know many of you will be coming home over the holidays to see family and friends. While you're here, we invite you to explore the area and look at all of the new development that is occurring in our area – you might be surprised at our growth! Willmar and Kandiyohi County are a great place to live and work!

Perhaps you've seen enough change that you're ready to move back as well... We'd welcome you back with **open arms and open jobs!** If you're interested, please call the EDC at **320-235-7370** or visit our website @ www.kandiyohi.com for more information on how to get linked up with local employers.

We hope you all have a **safe and happy holiday season!**

A Tremendous View: Prinsburg-based Marcus Construction

Excerpts from a story by Tom Cherveney, West Central Tribune

You can't exactly see Prinsburg from atop the Gateway Arch in St. Louis. But ride the famous arch to its top, and you will get a good look at what a company from Prinsburg can accomplish. **Marcus Construction** recently erected what is believed to be the country's largest fertilizer storage facility along the Mississippi River in St. Louis. At nearly 122,000 square feet, the newly built Lange-Stegmann building is large enough to hold two football fields.

"For us, it's the next-level type of project," said **Bruce Marcus**, vice president of Marcus Construction. Started in 1956, Marcus Construction is well-represented in Willmar by projects ranging from the Bremer Bank building to the Epicenter for the Assembly of God Youth Center. Throughout much of the country and parts of Canada, Marcus Construction is well-known for building ever-larger grain and fertilizer storage facilities. Its biggest example in this region is the massive dry fertilizer facility built for Western Consolidated Cooperative of Holloway.



A view of the facility by Marcus Construction (Photo from the West Central Tribune)

Bob Poe & Jared Huisinga: Life-Science Innovations

Bobby Poe III grew up in Willmar and graduated from Willmar High School in 1997. He returned after nearly a decade of living in and attending school in Minneapolis. Bob recently received his Doctoral degree in **Analytical Chemistry** from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

But in January of 2007, Bob and his wife **Ann** felt it was time to move back home, closer to their families. The high school sweethearts have three children, **Alison** (age 5), **Samantha** (age 3), and **Bobby IV** (9 mo.). "Both Ann and I grew up in Willmar, so we knew we didn't want our kids to grow up in a big city, we wanted a better-paced life. And the chance to grow up near all of their grandparents here is a great opportunity," Bob said.

After his years of education, however, Bob also knew it had to be a good move for him professionally. "I am very excited to be able to use my training and education in my hometown. What Life-Science Innovations is doing here has given me an opportunity to succeed."



Bob Poe does research at the Technology Campus.



Jared Huisinga works in the research laboratory.

Jared Huisinga also grew up in Willmar. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in Bacteriology, and has completed his M.B.A. program from Capella University. He is putting his education to good use. His work experience includes DNA research at the University of San Antonio and Vaccine Research at Epitopix, LLC here in Willmar and Quality Control at Rhodia, LLC.

After living around the world, Jared recently moved from Europe back to Willmar. "I had heard about the project Bob was working on, and I thought it would be really exciting and fun to get in on the ground floor of something like what they are doing here on the campus," said Jared. "To be part of the MinnWest Technology Campus in my hometown is an awesome opportunity for me personally and professionally," he added.

"I've been lucky enough to experience living in a lot of exciting places, but it's great to be home," said Huisinga. "It's close to family and a slower-paced country lifestyle." At that, Poe chimed in: "And opportunities for hunting and fishing!"

A Flurry of Activity at the MinnWest Technology Campus

The **MinnWest Technology Campus** is currently home to several successful companies, now including **Life-Science Innovations**, **Midwest Data**, **Nova-Tech Engineering**, **Prinsco**, and **Feed Logic**. MinnWest continues to actively recruit technology businesses to the campus, where the combination of on-campus amenities (i.e. day care, cafeteria, fitness center), a skilled labor force, collegial business atmosphere, and tax-free development through the **JOBZ program** are very appealing to prospective tenants.

The Campus also has several new tenants who are in the process of settling into their new offices. **Becker and Fifth Marketing** (www.beckerandfifth.com), **MTM Performance Solutions, Inc.**, (www.mtmps.com), and **Famous Davis Productions** (www.famousdavispro.com) all now call the Multi-Tech building home. Two more tenants will be joining the Multi-Tech building in January: read about **Bollig Inc.** (an engineering & environmental services company) and **Anez Consulting** (an environmental compliance & crop consulting company) at minnwesttechnologycampus.com

Currently Over 100 Area Job Openings to Move Home For:

Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Coop

Chief Financial Officer

Renville MN
SMBSC has annual revenue of \$200 million; CFO is responsible for mgmt. of banking relationships, all financial issues, capital mgmt. & budgeting, etc. Bachelor's in finance or accounting; 5-7 years of executive accounting exp.; leadership & supervisory skills

Contact tracymullin@mtmps.com

Repair Technician

\$22.80 per hr. (\$47,424 annual)
Class A CDL; weld flat or cylindrical objects; electrical & mechanical skills; shop mathematics; metal properties
Contact carol_maurice@smbc.com

Infinia Health at Willmar

Nursing Supervisor (RN, Assoc. deg.)

Licensed Practical Nurse (\$14.50+)

Certified Nursing Assistant (\$9.50+)

Part-time shifts available.

Contact Karen Knapp @ 320-235-3181

or rmalexander@infiniahealth.com

Concrete Products of New London

Plant Manager

\$60,000-\$75,000 plus commission

5 years exp.; personnel mgmt.; etc.

Contact concreteproducts@tds.net

Marketing Concepts - Spicer

Quality Assurance Specialist

HTML/Graphic Designer

Bachelor's degree in IS/IT; e-commerce skills; SQL experience; HTML; etc.

Contact HR@marketingconcepts.com

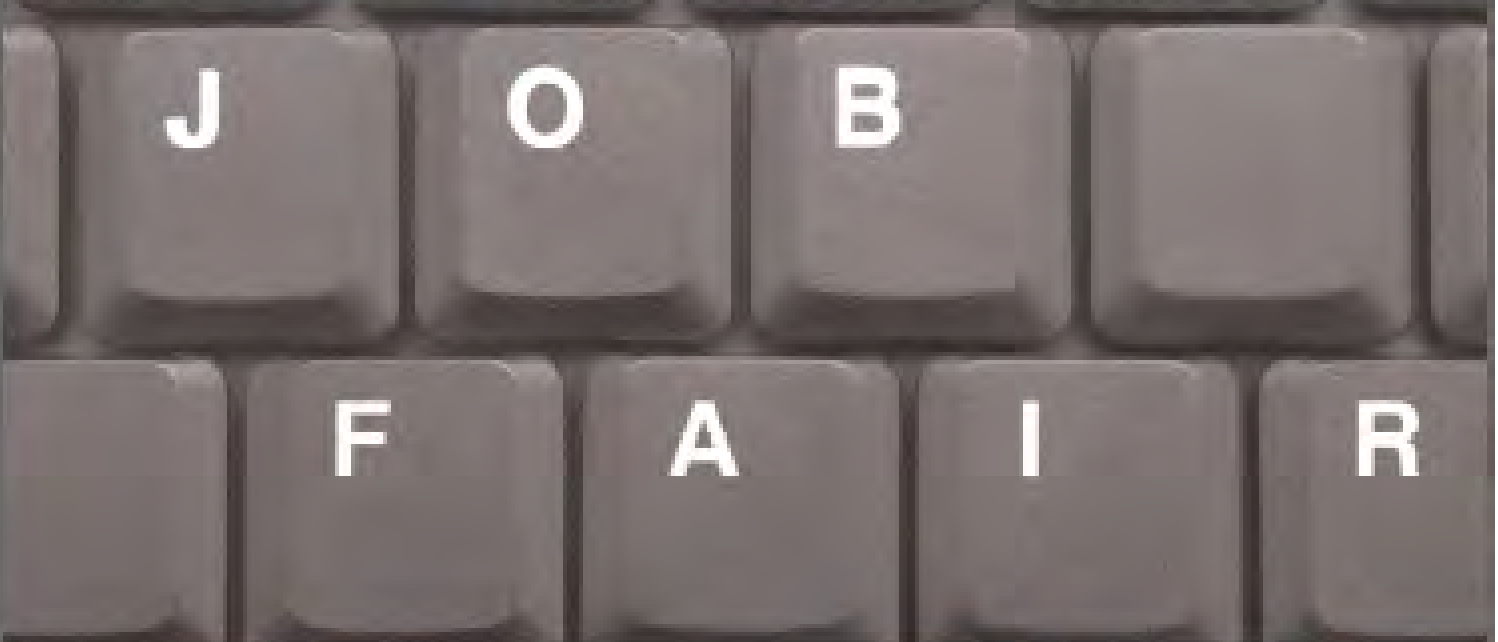
Ready to move home?

Opportunities for growth are everywhere, even while our residents maintain our better pace and quality of life. If you're ready to move here as well, please call the EDC at **320-235-7370** or **888-815-7370** or visit our website @ www.kandiyohi.com to learn how to get matched up with local employers!



Lighted Floats in the Holiday Parade

You are invited to the
WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA AREA BUSINESS EXPO



Thursday • February 28, 2008 • 2 pm – 7 pm
Willmar Holiday Inn Conference Center
Over 50 employers and 300 jobseekers expected to attend!

Job Fair Sponsored by:



Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar
Economic Development Commission

