



Look Who's Happening

Alumni of the Billings Catholic Schools are doing extraordinary work around the nation and around the world. Each month we recognize an amazing individual who is a product of our schools.



Ed Garding, Class of 1967

CEO of First Interstate Bank

Ed Garding may sit in a lofty office on the top floor of the First Interstate Bank building, but the man could not be more grounded. In 1971, Ed began his career here in Billings as their first Management Trainee; forty-four years later he is the CEO of what is now an 8.5 billion dollar company. Through a great deal of hard work and dedication, Ed found his way to the top of a company whose values and ethics mirror his own. Quick to talk about the philosophy and mission of the bank, he sidesteps questions regarding his own success. As the CEO of the largest, most successful bank in the region, it was not chance that landed him this position.

Ed began his studies with BCS as a first grader at Holy Rosary, transferred to St. Pius shortly after it was built, and graduated from Central in 1967. When asked how the Billings Catholic Schools influenced him, he explained he truly learned discipline in the Catholic schools. His drive and work ethic are evident. Looking over his desk, the only thing resting on top of it was his phone. When asked why he had such a meticulous desk, he explained, "a desk is for doing work, not storing it." His employee, Bob Cerkovnik, SVP/Chief Credit Officer, notes, "Ed is known for getting it done. He took this bank to the next level." After the banking crisis in 2008, Ed was known at First Interstate as a steady hand while everything in the industry was changing. He is a former chairman of both the Montana Bankers Association, and the Wyoming Bankers Association, and continues to work with the legislature to improve Montana's regulatory environment. With 79 bank branches, in three states, recent changes in banking laws, the transition into online banking, and 1,720 employees, Ed has no shortage of work on his plate.

Ed's constant focus on what it means to be a community bank separates him from his peers.

He explains the bank continues to build on Homer Scott's legacy of philanthropy. The bank and employees are both incredibly philanthropic; he notes, "a strong community is the key to building a strong bank." Last year First Interstate BancSystem donated \$100,000 to the Billings Catholic Schools Foundation's Capital Campaign aimed at building a new K-8 school. Additionally, employees of FIB directed another \$40,000 from the matching funds program supported by First Interstate BancSystem. Ed's leadership has made an impact on the bank, but most notably his leadership continues to make an impact on our community.

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

7.25.15

Full Moon Open

Join us at the Foundation's Full Moon Open! It is going to be an awesome evening of golf benefiting the Billings Catholic Schools Foundation.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER - contact [Nikki Burke](#).

8.6.15

BCS Night of Baseball

Don't miss out on an evening of baseball at Dehler Park! Call or email now to get your FREE tickets.

ONLY A FEW FREE TICKETS LEFT! Contact [Keziah Efta](#) to reserve yours today!

8.12.15

Ram Scramble

Get in on the fun! Register now for the Billing Catholic Schools Annual golf scramble!

For more information or to register contact [Lynn Caravau](#).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Update your information to stay connected on all the latest news. Enter current info [here](#).

Like us on Facebook 