



# ENTREPRENEURS & MONEY

Katharine Grayson covers entrepreneurs, tech, money and health care.

KGRAYSON@BIZJOURNALS.COM

612-288-2106

@MSPBJGRAYSON

## CLOSER LOOK

### For eye docs, an easy-to-see office

Another medical specialty practice is targeting Woodbury for expansion.

Ophthalmology group Minnesota Eye Consultants has teamed up with Eagan-based developer MSP Commercial to propose a 41,000-square-foot medical office building near the southeast corner of Tamarack Road and Weir Drive. The site is on the opposite side of Interstate 494 from where several orthopedics practices are planning clinics.

Minnesota Eye is consolidating and expanding two facilities — a small office in Maplewood and a clinic in Falcon Heights — at the Woodbury site, said President Candy Simerson. The practice plans to fill the entire building with a clinic and surgery center.

It selected the site partly because it's easy to see, she said. "Many of our patients don't see real well — we need to create spaces that are visible and accessible."

The demographics of Woodbury as a whole are also appealing, she said.

Minnesota Eye is still finalizing cost estimates for the project. The practice plans to open the clinic next year.

Minnesota Eye has six clinics, includ-



MINNESOTA EYE CONSULTANTS

Minnesota Eye Consultants plans to move two locations to this larger one.

ing locations in Minneapolis, Blaine and Bloomington. The firm has no immediate further expansion plans, though Simerson said the aging population is fueling strong demand for ophthalmology services.

Simerson said the medical office development activity in Woodbury is reminiscent of what happened in Maple Grove.

Golden Valley-based Twin Cities Orthopedics recently submitted plans for a roughly 50,000-square-foot facility at the southwest corner of Radio Drive and Bailey Road in Woodbury. That site is near where Tria Orthopaedics and Woodbury-based Summit Orthopedics also are opening clinics.

## DEAL OF THE WEEK

### NBC SPORTS BUYS SOFTWARE MAKER SPORT NGIN

**Sold:** Sport Ngin, a Minneapolis-based maker of software that youth sports leagues and other organizations use to manage their websites.

**Buyer:** NBC Sports Group, a Stamford, Conn.-based sports broadcaster.

**Terms:** Undisclosed, but the company is called SportsEngine now.

**What it means:** For now, it's business as usual at Sport Ngin, whose 250 employees and leadership team, including CEO Justin Kaufenberg, will remain intact, a company spokesman said. The deal is surely a win for several Minnesota investors, including



Justin Kaufenberg

Twin Cities Angels venture capitalist Jeff Hinck and several funds he co-led, and Minneapolis-based Piper Jaffray & Co.'s merchant banking unit. The deal also is a win for the Twin Cities sports-tech scene, marking the second notable

exit in that arena since 2014, when startup SportsData was sold to Sportradar.

## BY THE NUMBERS

### MED-TECH, BIOTECH FUNDRAISING TOTALS

Health care technology trade association Medical Alley released its quarterly analysis of startup-investing activity this week. The report includes med-tech and biotech companies, plus digital health and other health care related firms. Here are some stats covering the second quarter of 2016:

**\$166 million**  
Total investment

**\$101 million**  
Amount raised by digital health companies

**50%**  
Share of digital health companies that raised \$1 million or more