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DAKOTA DOWNLOAD

Governor Burgum's weekly update | May 11, 2018



NDDOT SELECTED FOR UAS INTEGRATION PILOT PROGRAM

U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao announced Wednesday that the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) has been selected as one of 10 participants in the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Integration Pilot Program, an initiative aimed at shaping the future of drones in America. Lt. Gov. Brent Sanford, who chairs the Northern Plains Unmanned Systems Authority, joined officials from the USDOT and NDDOT, industry leaders in Bismarck, as well as other lawmakers in Washington, D.C., for the announcement.

GOV. AND LT. GOV. VISIT WILLISTON STATE COLLEGE

Williston State College hosted Gov. Doug Burgum and Lt. Gov. Sanford on Tuesday. The duo came to tour campus and meet with stakeholders as part of the administration's commitment to visit all 11 North Dakota University System institutions, which Burgum announced at the 2018 State of the State Address. The open forum portion of the visit saw some of the strongest attendance from administration, faculty, staff and students of any of the previous five visits.



MAIN STREET TOUR ROLLS THROUGH WILLISTON



Gov. Burgum and Lt. Gov. Sanford brought their #MainStreetND tour to Williston on Tuesday. The two toured the community with members of city government, economic development professionals and city staff. Community leaders, business owners, students and others then shared their hopes and concerns during a roundtable discussion downtown. To cap off the night, Burgum spoke at the third public meeting for the Sloulin Field Redevelopment project, an effort to transform the current airport site once an updated airport facility opens across town next fall.



Photo credit: Bismarck Tribune



FERTILIZER HAULERS RECEIVE RELIEF

On Wednesday, Gov. Burgum issued an executive order waiving hours of service restrictions on truckers hauling anhydrous ammonia and other fertilizers. The Order, requested by Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, numerous producers and industry groups, comes as farmers face a dramatically shorter planting season due to a late spring. Coupled with unexpected late-winter snowfall in other parts of upper Midwest, producers have been scrambling to find an adequate supply of fertilizer to keep up with the rapid pace of planting.

STRATEGY REVIEWS BEGIN

Gov. Burgum outlined the beginning of the strategy review portion of the budget process at a meeting of state leaders on Thursday. The reviews are part of a new approach to state budgeting, outlined by Burgum last month.



GOV. HONORS HERITAGE CENTER DONORS

The State Historical Society and its Foundation honored contributors to the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project, with Gov. Burgum among those speaking at Thursday's recognition event. Burgum shared how his great-grandmother, Linda Warfel Slaughter, formed the Ladies' Historical Society, a predecessor to the State Historical Society, in 1889. He and other speakers also paid tribute to the Tom and Frances Leach Foundation, the late Gov. George Sinner and many others who helped realize the vision of a world-class heritage center and museum in North Dakota.