



Support for HB 1020 – Mouse River flood protection

The Souris River Joint Board, the City of Minot and others support the Mouse River enhanced flood protection project – and in turn, support HB 1020, which would provide a state match to local funds to pay for early phases of the project. In its current form this bill would provide funding for phases that would go toward providing protection to the flood of record for more than 60 percent of those impacted by floodwaters in Minot during 2011. The state’s financial support for flood protection is greatly appreciated and would allow construction to start yet this summer, pending U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approval. To read more on the flood protection project, go to www.mouseriverplan.com.



Flood risk forecast: Prediction significantly reduced

Recent Mouse River flow forecasts show a sharp decrease in flood risk for the City of Minot. The prediction shows a 50 percent chance the Souris River flow will exceed 3,500 cubic feet per second within the next 90 days, a drop of about 1,300 cfs. Minot’s flood protection is rated to handle up to 10,000 cfs through town. To read more, [click here](#).



City Council approves first allocation of National Disaster Resilience funds

It's the first piece to the National Disaster Resilience (NDR) Program puzzle. The Minot City Council approved in March the allocation of \$1.8 million of NDR funds

towards a \$6 million affordable housing project in Minot. The project will secure 30 rent-controlled low to moderate income apartments for 30 years. The NDR Program has \$34 million allocated to leverage projects much like this one. This is the first step to a six-year program totaling over \$74 million in federal support toward economic resilience. To learn more about the latest progress and the entire NDR Program, go [here on the City's website](#).



MADC meets with governor leading push for a four-lane HWY 52

The Minot Area Development Corporation (MADC) is leading a coalition to four-lane U.S. Highway 52 (HWY 52) in North Dakota from the

Canadian border at Portal to Jamestown. MADC has joined several other communities to support this coalition, which if successful, will alleviate traffic congestion, increase motorist safety, and improve commerce within the state and internationally. MADC met with Governor Burgum in early March to express the importance of four-laning HWY 52. [Click here](#) to read more.



Job fair to help businesses find the right employees

An uptick in oil industry growth means more jobs open for employees in the western half of the state. To aid the various businesses interested in hiring, the Minot Multi-Industry Job Fair will be held on April 11, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Vegas Motel in Minot. This job fair is being hosted by Minot Job Service ND. Ward County and the City of Minot continue to see low unemployment rates, sitting at 3.7 percent and 3.4 percent respectively, just below the national average.

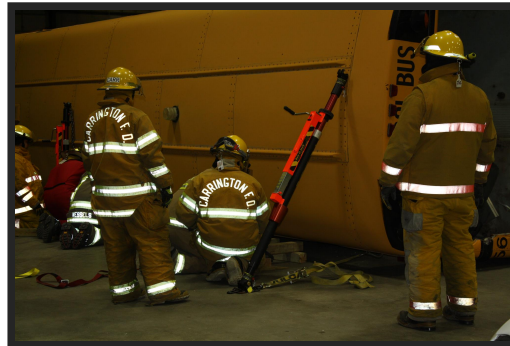
City of Minot hires local CPA as new finance director



New leadership will take the reins of the City of Minot Finance Department in April. David Lakefield, a local Certified Public Accountant, has been named the new finance director. The small business owner, former educator and former police officer will begin his newest title for the City on April 3. To read more about this new hire, [go here](#).

Another February, another State Fire School in Minot

Minot hosted the 63rd annual State Fire School in late February at the North Dakota State Fair Center and Holiday Inn-Riverside Conference Center. The estimated economic impact of the North Dakota State Fire School on the Minot



community is \$250,000. Firefighters had the opportunity to attend a number of classes including hazmat operations, responding to oil field emergencies, and a vehicle operations course, just to name a few. Each participant had hands-on experiences, including at the Minot Training Tower.

MSU students and senior citizens learn from each other

Minot State University freshmen enrolled in Leisa Harmon’s University Studies 110 class are facilitating a book club, which is reading Laura Ingalls Wilder’s *Little House in the Big Woods*, at the Parker Senior Center.



The university students lead the group, which is attended by senior citizens who discuss their memories of themes related to the book.

"It has been amazing watching the generations interact and share experiences," Harmon said. "This has been a great experience for both the students and the seniors."

The University 110 class is part of a First-Year Learning Community cohort, which is three separate classes tied together by a common theme. The three classes are "Survey of Communication Disorders," "Children's Literature" and "First Year Seminar." The student cohort is enrolled in all three classes. The book club is the community-based service learning project that integrates the content of the classes.

Berthold High School wins Tech Day

Berthold High School, which received the most points for placements in all competitions, won the Sweepstakes Team Traveling Trophy during the MSU Department of Business Information



Technology's 19th annual Technology Day. Other participating high schools included Bowbells, Burke Central, Des Lacs-Burlington, Kenmare, Max, Nedrose, Powers Lake, Stanley, Surrey, TGU Granville, TGU Towner, Tioga, Underwood and Westhope.

The high school students competed in accounting, business communication, business law, desktop publishing, document production, business principles, spreadsheet applications and webpage design. Every school was eligible to enter one student in each of the seven individual events. For a list of the event winners, [click here](#).

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